



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights. Compiled by Kasey Brown.

Thankful for agriculture

The month of November is dedicated to looking back on America's history of the pilgrims and Indians that we each learned about in elementary school. Agriculture has been a part of the Thanksgiving holiday since the very beginning, and this year should be no different. Our circumstances in 2013 greatly differ from that initial Thanksgiving in 1621, which was a feast that celebrated the first successful harvest in the New World.

We are each so fortunate to live in a nation that is blessed with an abundance of food and fiber. Few of us know the true meaning of hunger, because we live in a country with grocery stores containing stocked shelves and restaurants on every street corner. With this in mind, I want to share just a couple of reasons why I am thankful for agriculture.

Diversity

A mentor once shared with me that it is best to know information an inch deep and a mile wide. In this country we have many different aspects that make up the agriculture industry. It is important that we are knowledgeable about each sector, so we are able to speak intelligently to others about important agriculture issues.



Jacy Alsup

Growing up on a cow-calf operation in Arkansas without ever being exposed to any type of crop farming, I was a little overwhelmed my first semester in plant and soils class at college. I got the chance to travel to western Oklahoma and ride in the combine during wheat harvest this summer. This was a great learning opportunity for me, and because of this hands-on experience, I am now able to speak confidently about wheat production to consumers.

I would encourage you to take every

opportunity you can to learn about different sectors of the agriculture industry. It is a great thing that agriculture is so diverse, with many different sectors, but it is our job to stay informed and educated on these different segments.

Youth involvement

The second reason I am thankful for the agriculture industry is the focus on youth involvement and education. Many of us are products of 4-H, FFA and the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). It is through organizations like these that youth are able to gain important skills that will make them successful individuals. I am thankful I was raised on a farm where I was taught about work ethic and the determination to never give up, and that life isn't always fair.

As we sit down this Thanksgiving with a great meal, we do not need to forget the hardships of those who celebrated the first Thanksgiving so many years ago. Be thankful

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

NJAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TERMS UP IN 2014

JACY ALSUP, Arkansas, **chairman**, jacy.alsup@okstate.edu
DANIEL MCFARLAND, Louisiana, **vice chairman**, daniel_mcfarland@yahoo.com
MAGGIE JASPER, Kentucky, **communications director**, jasper_maggie@yahoo.com
LUKE NORD, Minnesota, **Foundation director**, lnord5@hotmail.com
PAIGE WALLACE, Missouri, **leadership director**, paigeawallace@gmail.com
JENA WAGNER, Montana, **membership director**, jenalee.wagner@gmail.com

TERMS UP IN 2015

WILL FISKE, Virginia, willf3@vt.edu
SHANE KERNER, Idaho, skcattleco@icloud.com
JESSICA RADCLIFFE, Wisconsin, radcliff2@illinois.edu
LINDSAY UPPERMAN, Pennsylvania, lupperman20@gmail.com
CORY WATT, South Carolina, jcwatt@g.clemson.edu
TYLEE JO WILLIAMS, Texas, tylee.williams@ttu.edu



NJAA ON FACEBOOK:
<http://on.fb.me/p2sldu>

Visit the NJAA web site
at www.njaa.info.

► Western Idaho Fair Jr. Angus Show, Aug. 16-17, Boise



► Zack Helmick (left), Emmett; and Zane Nichols (right), Parma, won peewee showmanship.



► Junior showmanship was won by (from left) Trista Bates, Manhattan, Mont., reserve champion; and Madison Cox, Eagle Point, Ore., champion.



► Intermediate showmanship was won by (from left) Mariam Horton, Christmas Valley, Ore., champion; and Kelsey Stimpson, Melba, reserve champion.



► Senior showmanship was won by (from left) Lauren Martin, Ridgefield, Wash., reserve champion; and Bridon Curtis, Twin Falls, champion.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMERICAN ANGUS ASS'N

▣ NEXT GENERATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32

for the diversity of agriculture throughout this nation and the youth programs that are ensuring the next generations of agriculturalists are prepared to enter their next phase of life successfully. Farmers and ranchers are truly the foundation of all we have to be thankful for.

— **Jacy Alsup, Arkansas**

Junior cattlemen participate in elite industry conference

The Missouri Junior Cattlemen's Association (MJCA) hosted its 2013 Leadership Conference, "Meat Me in Columbia; Pasture to Plate," Sept. 5-7 at the

Missouri Cattlemen's Association (MCA) headquarters. The conference was a three-day educational event for junior members, including many Angus juniors.

Students enjoyed touring the stops between the pasture and the plate by starting at a cow-calf facility and concluding at a gourmet restaurant. MJCA Board Member **Nathan Beach**, Pilot Grove, said the opportunity allowed him to meet cattlemen his own age and gain better insight into the cattle industry.

"This conference allowed me to see how other farms and ranches work. I can take this information home with me to use everyday, so I may improve our family's farm," said Beach. "I learned how to better care for my livestock, feed them more efficiently

and prepare them for the next step in production."

The participants also had the opportunity to engage in discussions about advocacy, meat science and leadership.

"This was a great opportunity to learn about our industry from start to finish," said Beach. "I encourage anyone who has interest in beef cattle and would like to gain leadership skills to attend next year's event."

Other Angus juniors attending the conference included **Chris Kahlenbeck**, Union; **Cooper Sadowsky**, Eagleville; **Sydney Thummel**, Sheridan; **David Warfield Jr.**, Butler; **Hannah Bartholomew**, Archie; and **Kendra Pryor**, Pleasant Hill.

▣ Washington State Fair Jr. Angus Show, Sept. 7, Puyallup



► **Preston Rusher**, Wilsonville, Ore., won first-place peewee showman.



► **Trista Bates**, Manhattan, Mont., won champion junior showman.



► **Zach Wilson**, Stanwood, won reserve champion junior showman.



► **Cory Predoehl**, Omak, won champion intermediate showman.



► **Jake Smith**, Sequim, won reserve champion intermediate showman.



► **Cole Page**, Kalama, won champion senior showman.

▣ Western Idaho Fair Jr. Angus Show, Aug. 16-17, Boise



► **Betsie Garcia**, Alfalfa, won first-place peewee showman.



► **Tyler Gifford**, Eagle Point, won champion junior showman.



► **Dawson DalPorto**, Brentwood, Calif., won champion intermediate showman.



► **Shannon Tower**, Copperopolis, Calif., won champion senior showman.

Junior Bronze and Silver awards earned

Genesis Brannon, Ellsinore, Mo., and **Leslie Craig**, Harrodsburg, Ky., have earned the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Bronze and Silver awards, according to Jaelyn Upperman, junior activities director of the American Angus Association.

Brannon, the 13-year-old daughter of Dwayne and Virginia Brannon, attends East Carter Middle School. Brannon is a member of the NJAA and the Missouri Junior Angus Association, where she currently serves as a regional representative.

She has participated in local, state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS),

Brannon participated in the livestock judging, public speaking, quiz bowl, team sales, and essay contests. She also participated in the All-American *Certified Angus Beef*[®] (CAB[®]) Cook-Off, and in 2012 participated in the mentoring program.

Brannon has submitted information to Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR[®]) and consigned cattle to the Heart of the Ozarks Angus Association sale.

Craig, the 17-year-old daughter of Dan and Katrina Craig, attends Washington County High School. Craig is a member of the NJAA and the Kentucky Junior Angus Association, where she currently serves as queen.

She has participated in local, state, regional and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Craig participated in the quiz bowl and the All-American CAB Cook-Off.

She also has submitted information to AHIR[®].

NCBA hosts National Anthem contest

Oh, say, can you sing? Are you 18 or younger and related to the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), the American National CattleWomen (ANCW) or the Cattlemen's Beef Board (CBB)? If so, you could win terrific prizes at the 2014 Cattle Industry Convention and NCBA Trade Show in Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 4-7. NCBA

is hosting its inaugural National Anthem Singing Contest to determine the singer of the Star Spangled Banner at the 2014 Opening General Session Tuesday, Feb. 4, and at the Grand Ole Opry House during the Cowboy's Night at the Opry II.

The winner of the contest will receive round-trip airfare for two to Nashville, a hotel room for three nights at the Gaylord, free registration for two to the convention and Western wear from Roper and Stetson. The deadline for entry is Nov. 1, and the top four finalists will be selected by Nov. 15. Online voting will take place to determine the winner until Dec. 13, with the winner announced on Dec. 20.

"The 2014 Cattle Industry Convention and NCBA Trade Show is the place to be in February. The singing of the Star Spangled Banner is an important part of the event as we kick off the convention, not to mention the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to sing at the Grand Ole Opry," said NCBA President Scott George. "I encourage all talented youth who are 18 or younger and related to a member of NCBA, ANCW or CBB to submit an entry for this contest."

If you know a stage-worthy singer, or if you are interested in entering the contest, visit www.beefusa.org for more information.



► **Lauren Martin**, Ridgefield, won overall showmanship and reserve champion senior showman.