



Next Generation

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

Benefits of livestock judging

When entering college, students have countless opportunities to get involved. Regardless of whether they are professionally oriented, service-bound or just for fun, clubs and activities across campus help expand students' diversity. For me, there is no question where students should invest their time at their respective universities. Livestock evaluation best affords the opportunity for students to enrich their lives later on in the industry.

Building on fundamentals

Being a member of the livestock judging team offers kids a competitive edge in many different aspects compared to students who



Jennifer Ewing

choose different activities. First off, they should understand selection practices. By learning the basic principles behind functional, productive cattle, as well as developing a better understanding of

expected progeny differences (EPDs), they can go back to their own farms and retain replacements that will better cater to the goals of their operations.

Perhaps the greatest aspect of livestock judging is the ability to teach self-confidence. Even when a class is challenging, students must take a stand for their own priorities and then go look an official in the eye and defend their placing in the reasons room. By being coached in reasons, they also enhance their public speaking skills, learn how to project their voice and emphasize key points to really

bring their message home. It's apparent when being interviewed, delivering presentations or even just talking in groups who has had reasons experience.

Every contest has its own unique twist that throws a new challenge at students. Meat animal evaluation contests are a great example. This event uniquely challenges students to understand all facets of the beef industry. Contestants are faced with breeding animal selection, which is vital to understand the traits producers seek for their operational goals. Yet, students are also asked to evaluate market animals to determine a performance rank and price, as well as call fat thickness and *Longissimus* muscle areas. These are crucial aspects for understanding the factors that influence profitability in the feedlot/packer sector. This contest brings real-world practicality to the forefront as students leave there recognizing what profitable livestock look like, while at the same time having a better understanding of the meats cooler.

Experiences gained from the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) prepare members for successful careers in livestock

judging. Between the public speaking, career development, judging and the *Certified Angus Beef*® Cook-Off contests, members have been given an upper hand as opposed to students who were not part of an organization as focused on developing future leaders in our industry. The NJAA offers members opportunities that will assist them wherever their lives happen to lead, whether it be livestock judging or not; however, the skills we gain from this great organization boost our confidence to step out of our comfort zone and take chances that will lead to success in and out of our industry.

— Jennifer Ewing, Illinois

Juniors Earn Bronze and Silver Awards

Garrett Jacobs-Smith, Osceola, Neb.; **Shyla Kreager**, Newark, Ohio; **Maci Lienemann**, Princeton, Neb.; and **Emily Velisek**, Gaithersburg, Md., have earned the NJAA Bronze and Silver awards. **Sarah Wogan**, Hebron, Ohio, has earned the NJAA Silver award.

Jacobs-Smith, the 17-year-old son of Allen and Heather Smith, is a senior at Cross County High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Nebraska Junior Angus Association, where he has served as a director. He has participated in local, state, regional and national shows, as well as showmanship contests. At the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), Garrett participated in the team fitting and team sales contests. He has submitted records to the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) and has consigned cattle at the BM Angus sale.

Kreager, the 18-year-old daughter of Dean and Becky Kreager, is a senior at Licking Valley High School and is a member of the NJAA, Ohio Junior Angus Association (OJAA) and Eastern Ohio Junior Angus Association. She has served as vice president for the Eastern Ohio Junior Angus Association and secretary and reporter for the OJAA. She also serves as royalty for the Ohio Angus Association. She has participated in local, regional and national shows, as well as showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Shyla participated in the livestock judging contest. She also participated in the mentoring program in 2006.

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

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

Lienemann, the 17-year-old daughter of Trevor and Torri Lienemann, is a member of the NJAA and the Nebraska Junior Angus Association. She has participated in local, state, regional and national shows. At the NJAS, she participated in the team sales, quiz bowl, photography, public speaking and team sales contests. She also participated in the mentoring program in 2008. She has submitted data to AHIR and has consigned

cattle at the Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic and Lienetics Royale Bull Sale.

Velisek, the 17-year-old daughter of Doug and Pam Velisek, is a senior at Damascus High School and is a member of the NJAA and Maryland Junior Angus Association (MJAA). Emily currently serves as the secretary and has served as historian for the MJAA. She also serves as royalty for the

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▣ **Raising the Bar Officer Training**, Columbus, Ohio, March 30-April 1



►Angus youth from eight states gathered at the 2012 National Jr. Angus Ass'n Raising the Bar Officer Training March 30-April 1 in Columbus. Pictured are (seated, from left) **Shane Clary**, Brodnax, Va.; **Katherine Hopkins**, Royaltown, N.Y.; **Emily Bannister**, Kent, N.Y.; **Morgan Wagner**, Lockport, N.Y.; **Drew Williams**, Milan, Ga.; **Anna Scott**, Douglas, Ga.; (standing, from left) **Mark Alexander**, Berryville, Va.; **Lindsey Grimes**, Hillsboro, Ohio; **Morgan Alexander** and **Catie Hope**, both of Berryville, Va.; **Connor Orrock**, Woodford, Va.; **Taylor Clarke**, Rocky Ridge, Md.; **Michaela Clowser**, Milford, Neb.; **Katherine Throne**, Lexington, Ga.; **Caroline Miller**, Lindsey, Ohio; **Cody Boden**, Clear Brook, Va.; **JanLee Rowlett**, Hurricane Mills, Tenn.; **Jessica Clarke**, Rocky Ridge, Md.; and **Sally Yon**, Ridge Spring, S.C.

▣ **Western Regional Jr. Angus Show**, Reno, Nev., April 22-23



►**Lauren Casdorff** (center), Twin Falls, Idaho, is crowned the 2012-2013 Western States Angus queen. Also pictured are Western States Angus Auxiliary representatives **Carla Malson** (left) and **Elsie Covey**.



►**Katie Bartholomew** (center), Bend, Ore., receives the Western States Angus Auxiliary scholarship from **Malson** (left) and **Covey**.



►**Michelle Malson** (center), Parma, Idaho, receives the Grand Sierra/Western States Angus Auxiliary scholarship from **Covey** (left) and **Malson**.



►**Jena Wagner** (left), Billings, Mont., receives the Western States Angus Auxiliary Perpetuating Memorial scholarship from **Malson**.

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MJAA. She has participated in local, state, regional and national shows, as well as showmanship contests. At the NJAS, she participated in the livestock judging, quiz bowl, the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off and scrapbook contests. She also participated in the mentoring program in 2005 and the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference in 2009 and 2010. She has submitted data to AHIR and has consigned cattle at the Maryland Angus Association Sale.

Wogan, the 20-year-old daughter of Leonard and Chris Wogan, attends Otterbein

University and is a member of the NJAA and OJAA. Sarah has served as the junior vice president and news reporter for the OJAA. She has participated in local, state, regional and national shows, as well as showmanship contests. At NJAS, Sarah participated in the quiz bowl contest.

She has submitted data to AHIR and has consigned cattle at the Muskingum Fall Cow & Bull Sale and Ohio Beef Expo.

Applications for sponsorship to 2012 AFA Leaders Conference now available

Agriculture Future of America (AFA) is pleased to announce students can now apply for sponsorship to the 2012 AFA Leaders Conference, Nov. 1-4, in Kansas City, Mo.

AFA Leaders Conference provides personal and professional development to

college men and women pursuing agricultural degrees. As a four-track program, Conference offers four different learning opportunities, spread across and matched to a student's year in college.

Sponsorship to the AFA Leaders Conference includes program registration and materials, lodging and meals throughout the conference. Travel is not included as a part of this sponsorship. Sponsorship applications and further information about AFA Leaders Conference can be found by visiting www.agfuture.org/leadersconference. The deadline for sponsorship application is Sept. 7.

Agriculture Youth Awarded Missouri State Fair Scholarships

Twenty-five Missouri high school seniors,

▶ Missouri Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Columbia, Feb. 25



▶Curtis Long of Briarwood Farms sponsored additional premium checks to these members for exhibiting in the junior carcass show. Pictured are (from left) Curtis Long, Briarwood Farms, sponsor; **Tevin Taylor**, Butler; **Tanner Drechsel**, Boonville; **Kendra Pryor**, Pleasant Hill; and **Hannah Moyer**, Lamar.



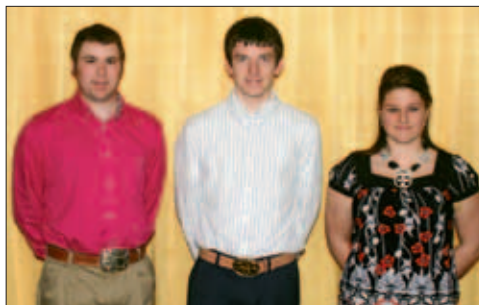
▶Angus Foundation scholarships were awarded to (from left) **Shannon Yokley**, Jefferson City; **Sadie Kinne**, Eagleville; **Jacob Heimsoth**, Lathrop; and Hope Herd, presenting the awards.



▶**Dereck Washam**, Pierce City, received the Member of the Year award.



▶American Angus Auxiliary scholarships were awarded to (from left) **Austin Thummel**, Sheridan; and **Sadie Kinne**.



▶Austin Thummel (left), presented the Bronze and Silver Awards to **Chris Kahlenbeck**, Union, silver (center); and **Kendra Pryor**, bronze and silver (right).



▶Elected to serve as Missouri Angus Ass'n royalty are (from left) **Reba Colin**, Butler, princess; **Chase Thummel**, Sheridan, ambassador; and **Kathryn Coon**, Bethel, queen.

▶**Right:** The Missouri Jr. Angus Ass'n officers and board members are (from left) **Hannah Bartholomew**, Archie, president; **Sadie Kinne**, first vice president; **Shannon Yokley**, second vice president and scrapbook; **Ashlyn Richardson**, Lincoln, secretary; **Chris Kahlenbeck**, assistant secretary; **Brittany Eagleburger**, Buffalo, treasurer; and **Jera Pipkin**, Republic, newsletter.



▶**Dereck Washam** received the Show Heifer of the Year award.



▶**Jera Pipkin** received the Show Bull of the Year award.

► **Missouri Angus Breeders' Futurity**, Columbia, Feb. 25



► Winning junior showmanship are (from left) **Kathryn Goforth**, Savannah, champion; and **Cole Murphy**, Houstonia, reserve champion.



► Winning intermediate showmanship are (from left) **Brittany Eagleburger**, Buffalo, reserve champion; and **Sydney Thummel**, Sheridan, champion.



► These individuals won top senior showmanship honors and will represent Missouri at the national level during the 2012 National Junior Angus Show in Louisville, Ky. Pictured are (from left) **Ashlyn Richardson**, Lincoln, alternate; **Clayton Smith**, West Plains, representative; **Gregory Connell**, Eugene, representative; and **Tanner Drechsel**, Boonville, alternate.

including four NJAA members, planning to enter agriculture-related fields were awarded Missouri State Fair Youth in Agriculture (YIA) scholarships during the State FFA Convention in Columbia April 20.

Missouri State Fair Director Mark Wolfe said that FFA and 4-H students are evaluated in a variety of areas including State Fair participation, grade point average, community involvement and leadership roles. Of the scholarship winners, one student will receive a \$2,500 supreme scholarship and 24 will receive \$1,000 awards.

"The scholarships help support our next generation of agriculture leaders," Wolfe said. "They are funded from the Fair's annual Sale of Champions Auction, Advanced Marketing International/Kitchen Craft and Missouri State Fair Youth in Agriculture sponsors."

During the State FFA Convention, **Ryan DeHaan** of Taylor received a \$1,000 scholarship.

Also receiving \$1,000 scholarships were **Nicole Hagenhoff** of Holliday, **Cory Hudson** of Middletown, and **Katie Martin** of Centralia.

Stockgrowers & SD CattleWomen accepting applications for scholarship

The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association and the South Dakota CattleWomen are currently accepting applications for a \$1,000 scholarship in memory of Guy Ham. The scholarship is available to any South Dakota student having completed at least one year of post-secondary education and pursuing a career in an agriculture or agribusiness related field.

This \$1,000 scholarship is made possible by the generosity and gift of the Guy E. Ham Beef Industry Scholarship in memory of Guy Ham and his commitment to the future of the agriculture industry in South Dakota.

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Application information and details can be found by visiting www.southdakotastockgrowers.org or by contacting the SD Stockgrowers Association at 605-342-0429. Applications will be accepted until Aug. 1, and the scholarship will be awarded during the Stockgrowers Annual Convention Sept. 22.

LEAD early registration deadline June 15

Youth from across the country will travel

to Fort Collins, Colo., for the NJAA annual Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference, Aug. 2-5. Themed “Peak Performance,” the leadership event, sponsored by the Angus Foundation, is designed for members 14-21 years of age.

Conference space is limited, and early registration is encouraged by the June 15 deadline. The early registration fee for NJAA members is \$200.

After June 15, registration will be \$225 and accepted based on space availability.

Registration for adults, state advisors and chaperones is \$250; no early registration deadline applies.

Registration is available online at <http://www.angus.org/njaa>. For more information, contact the Junior Activities Department at 816-383-5100.



Editor's Note: *This column is compiled by Associate Editor Kasey Miller. To submit your “Next Generation” item, email kaseymiller@angusjournal.com or call 816-383-5277.*