



# Next Generation

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

## Striving for a sound future

*With the start of 2014, cattle producers are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the new calf crop. Will the new genetics we used outperform their counterparts? We depend on information and guidance from many different sources to help us make sound breeding decisions so we can produce better cattle than the previous generations. This can only be accomplished by managing the many different aspects in the life of the animal.*

### Overcome challenges

Along the way we will continually meet challenges in our business, as well as in our own lives. For example, the new Angus genetic condition, developmental duplication (DD) has become an obstacle that we must work through to move forward. Our American Angus Association has handled this in the most professional way possible, assuring the Angus breed will not be jeopardized. The Association continues to use every resource possible to overcome this and any roadblocks along the way to success.



Luke Nord

As a junior member, you will likely experience some of your own struggles. It may be with a show calf, in school or in your family. Whatever it may be, I encourage each of you to use the resources the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) has available to help you. Your Angus family will do all we can to help guide and support you.

As stated earlier, I am excited about our new calf crop and equally anticipating

the new crop of state and national junior members. Just as members have access to tools through the Association to make sound breeding decisions for their herds, our juniors have access to information and guidance to help them achieve and accomplish their many goals. Each year it is fun to see the enthusiasm our new members bring, and to watch them gain knowledge and confidence. As we celebrate their accomplishments and contributions, we know our job as “senior” board directors is nearly complete. We are very proud to leave the junior association in the hands of the new crop. Their love of cattle, knowledge and respect for each other will keep the NJAA and the American Angus Association leading the future.

— Luke Nord, Minnesota

### Kansas Angus youth receive \$16,000 in scholarships

Fourteen scholarship winners for the 2013-2014 school year were recognized during the annual Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) Convention Dec. 6 in Wichita. The Kansas Livestock Foundation (KLF) presented a total of \$16,000. Three were awarded to Angus juniors.

**Evan Woodbury** has been awarded the \$2,500 Cattlemen’s Scholarship from GoBob Pipe & Steel and KLF. Woodbury is the son of Howard and Elise Woodbury from Quenemo. He is attending Kansas State University (K-State) and majoring in agricultural education.

**Brady Jensen**, the son of Kevin and Sheila Jensen of Courtland, was awarded through KLF a \$1,000 Wheels for Bucks Scholarships. He is a junior at K-State majoring in animal science.

**Esther McCabe**, daughter of Randy and Varea McCabe from Elk City, is a sophomore majoring in animal science at K-State. She received a \$1,000 “Youth in Agriculture” scholarship from KLF.

KLA is a trade organization protecting the business interests of independent ranchers, feeders and dairy farmers. Members of the association are involved in all segments of the livestock industry, including cow-calf production, backgrounding, cattle feeding, swine, dairy and sheep.

### CHS Foundation grant supports new student program

A new program to allow university students to interact with industry leaders is being launched by Farm Foundation, NFP through a grant from CHS Foundation.

The \$8,800 grant will make it possible for six undergraduate and graduate students to spend two days with agricultural and food system leaders at the January meeting of the Farm Foundation® Round Table.

“The opportunity to meet and visit with agricultural leaders is a valuable opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to gain insights into the industry,” says William Nelson, CHS vice president for corporate citizenship and president of the CHS Foundation. “This program is a good fit with the CHS Foundation focus on education and leadership development to build a strong rural America.”

In operation since 1946, the CHS Foundation is the major giving entity of CHS, an energy, grains and foods company with a stewardship focus of building vibrant communities.

The grant funds provided will cover expenses for six students to participate in the Farm Foundation Round Table in Houston, Texas, in early January 2014. A

## 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
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- PAIGE WALLACE**, Missouri, **leadership director**, paigewallace@gmail.com
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NJAA ON FACEBOOK:  
<http://on.fb.me/p2sldu>

Visit the NJAA web site  
at [www.njaa.info](http://www.njaa.info).

Round Table member will serve as a mentor to each student, introducing them to other leaders and encouraging their participation in discussions. The students' work will be highlighted at a reception during the meeting.

"The Cultivators' Program provides a link for students about to enter the workforce to connect with the men and women leading agriculture and food businesses across the value chain," explains Farm Foundation President Neil Conklin. "This academic-to-real-world linkage allows students to see their potential role in the industry, and the opportunities ahead."

The program began in June 2013 when six students attended

the Round Table meeting in Ames, Iowa. Among these new six students is Angus

Ambassador **Maci Lienemann** from the University of Nebraska.

To be selected as a Cultivator, students must be nominated by their college Dean or academic advisor. Final selection is made by a committee of Farm Foundation Round Table members.

### AFA offers scholarships and training to ag students

When it comes to a successful career, soft skills like communication and project management are just as vital as an academic degree. This is why Agriculture Future of America (AFA) and its partners offer a unique scholarship program to students pursuing careers in agriculture that provides access to premier soft-skill training and financial assistance for college education.

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### Oregon Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Oct. 26, Redmond



► Elected to serve as officers on the Oregon Jr. Angus Ass'n board are (from left) **Lauren Martin**, Corvallis, president; **Megan Albers**, Bend, vice president; **Mariam Horton**, Christmas Valley, secretary; and **Steven Bartholomew**, Bend, treasurer.

### Eight juniors earn Bronze and Silver awards

**Joshua Brannon**, Ellsinore, Mo.; **Reba Colin**, Butler, Mo.; **Kyle Livingston**, Dover, Pa.; **Benjamin Marsh**, Union, Ill.; **Ruby Monn**, Shippensburg, Pa.; **Allyson Stanek**, Hayward, Minn.; and **Courtney Younge**, Ventura, Iowa, have earned the National Junior Angus Association's (NJAA) Bronze and Silver awards, according to Jaclyn Upperman, junior activities director of the American Angus Association in Saint Joseph, Mo.

**Brannon**, the 12-year-old son of Dwayne and Virginia Brannon, attends East Carter R-II Middle School and is a member of the NJAA and Missouri Junior Angus Association, for which he has served as a district 9 representative.

Brannon has participated in local, state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), he participated in the livestock judging, public speaking and quiz bowl contests. He also participated in the mentoring program in 2012.

Brannon has submitted weight data to the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) program and consigned cattle at the Heart of the Ozarks Angus Association Spring Sale.

**Colin**, the 16-year-old daughter of Brad and Myra Colin, attends Appleton City High School and is a member of the NJAA; the Southwest Missouri Angus Association; and the Missouri Junior Angus Association, for which she currently serves as director and previously served as royalty.

Colin has participated in local, state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, she participated in the photography, quiz bowl, livestock judging and creative writing contests. She also participated in the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off Contest.

Colin is also actively involved with her local 4-H club, where she has competed in the state livestock judging contest for six years.

**Livingston**, the 17-year-old son of Tim and Nancy Livingston, attends Dover Area High School and has a dual enrollment at Penn State University, where he is majoring in agricultural science. Livingston is a member of the NJAA and Pennsylvania Junior Angus Association, in which he has served as a director.

He has participated in local, state, regional and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Livingston participated in the livestock judging, photography, quiz bowl, team fitting and team sales contests. He also participated in the Cook-Off. In 2008 and 2009 he was a participant in the mentoring program.

**Marsh**, the 15-year-old son of Jim and Julie Marsh, attends Huntley High School and is a member of the NJAA; the Illinois

Junior Angus Association, for which he serves as director; and the Northern Illinois Angus Association, for which he serves as vice president and has served as show secretary.

Marsh has participated in local, state, regional and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, he participated in the photography contest and, in 2008, the mentoring program.

Marsh has submitted weight data to the AHIR and has consigned cattle to the Midwest Roundup, Illinois Angus Futurity, Illinois Performance Tested (IPT) Bull Sale, and the Indiana Bull Evaluation Program (IBEP) Bull Sale.

**Monn**, the 18-year-old daughter of Rodney and Jennifer Monn, attends Shippensburg Area Senior High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Pennsylvania Junior Angus Association, which she currently serves as secretary and royalty and has served as assistant secretary.

Monn has participated in local, state, regional and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, she participated in the photography, quiz bowl, livestock judging and writing contests.

**Stanek**, the 13-year-old daughter of Mike and Laurie Stanek, attends Albert Lea High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Minnesota Junior Angus Association.

Stanek has participated in local, state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, she participated in the photography, poster, quiz bowl, livestock judging and writing contests. She also participated in the mentoring program in 2012 and 2013.

Stanek has submitted weight data to the AHIR.

**Younge**, the 17-year-old daughter of Marc and Robin Younge, attends Garner-Hayfield/Ventura High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Iowa Junior Angus Association, for which she currently serves as treasurer.

Younge has participated in local, state, regional and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, she participated in the photography, quiz bowl, livestock judging and creative writing contests.

The Bronze and Silver awards are the first two levels of the NJAA Recognition Program that was initiated in 1972. Junior Angus breeders must apply for the awards, then meet point requirements in many areas of participation before receiving the honors. Applicants are evaluated in areas of junior Angus association activities and leadership, participation in showmanship, contests and shows, using performance testing to improve their herd and their progress in producing and merchandising Angus cattle.





AFA Leader and Academic Scholarships have two components. The leader component sponsors the student's entrance into AFA's leader-development program, including registration to the AFA Leaders Conference, a professional- and personal-development experience for elite agriculture students across the nation. The academic component provides financial support for student tuition and fees. These scholarships are available to students across the country. Listed below are scholarships currently available through AFA and its partner organizations.

**AFA National Leader and Academic Scholarship**

AFA Leader and Academic Scholarships seek to identify young leaders in the agriculture and food industry to enter AFA leader-development programming and receive an academic scholarship the second semester of their freshman year. While most of these opportunities are targeted toward college freshmen, a few scholarships in this program also include current college students. These AFA scholarships, with the exception of the Belles of the American Royal (BOTAR) scholarship, are \$2,600 awards — \$1,000 leader development award to attend the AFA Leaders Conference and a \$1,600 academic scholarship upon successful attendance. Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of career vision and goal, leader and community involvement, and financial need. Applications are due March 14, 2014. Learn more and apply at [www.agfuture.org/scholarships](http://www.agfuture.org/scholarships).

Other contributors or designations to the National Leader and Academic Scholarship program are:

- ▶ Water Street Solutions provides three AFA Leader and Academic Scholarships to students from the following states: Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Nebraska and Ohio. These students are identified through the general AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship application. High school seniors, as well as current college students, are eligible to apply for these scholarships.
- ▶ DFA Cares Foundation provides two AFA Leader and Academic Scholarships to

**▶ North Dakota Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Nov. 23, Mandan**



▶ **Renae Tokach** (left), Saint Anthony, was the winner of the heifer raffle donated by TLC Vetsch Angus Ranch. Also pictured are Charlet, Lee and Thomas Vetsch of TLC Vetsch Angus Ranch, Hazelton.



▶ North Dakota Angus royalty are (from left) **MaKayla Koski**, Wing, 2014 North Dakota Angus queen; **Sara Hatlewick**, Jamestown, 2014 North Dakota Angus princess; and **Renae Tokach**, Saint Anthony, 2013 North Dakota Angus queen.

students from throughout the country who express an interest in a career in the dairy industry. Incoming freshmen and current college students are encouraged to apply.

- ▶ The Stanley H. Durwood Foundation provides five AFA Leader and Academic Scholarships to students identified and selected by AFA. Founder of AMC Theaters and active philanthropist, Durwood believed in access to education and his trust is providing for these five scholarships to deserving AFA delegates.
- ▶ The Cyr Foundation provides three AFA Leader and Academic Scholarships. The Roderick J. and Jo Anne Cyr Foundation is proud to support this initiative for its long-standing belief in youth and education. Rod grew up on a farm in Maine and the family is still supportive of his interests and agrarian initiatives. High school seniors, as well as current undergraduate college students, are eligible to apply.
- ▶ The BOTAR Organization provides one AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship to a female, Midwest agriculture student with a special interest in agriculture education. This scholarship provides a \$3,200

academic tuition/fees scholarship, \$1,000 registration fee for AFA Leaders Conference and a \$200 travel stipend for the student to attend the BOTAR General Membership Meeting in January of her scholarship year.

- ▶ The William J. Collins Scholarship was established to honor Mr. Collins upon his retirement from AgriBank, recognizing his many years of service. This scholarship is awarded to children of AgriBank district employees (board of directors excluded) who are graduating high school seniors planning to pursue a bachelor's degree in an agriculture-related program.

Applications are due March 14. Learn more and apply at [www.agfuture.org/scholarships](http://www.agfuture.org/scholarships).



**▶ Nebraska Jr. Winter Angus Show, Dec. 8, Kearney**



▶ Winning top showmanship honors are (front row, from left) **Taylor Nichols**, Chambers, reserve senior champion; **Michelle Keyes**, Springfield, reserve intermediate champion; **Caitlin Havelka-Nelson**, Anselmo, reserve junior champion; (back row, from left) **Jennifer Keyes**, Springfield, senior champion; **Austin Vieselmeyer**, intermediate champion, and **Alex Vieselmeyer**, junior champion, both of Amherst, Colo. Also pictured is Douglas Smith, judge.