



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights. Compiled by *Kasey Brown*, special projects editor.

The road traveled

Since January, the National Junior Angus Board (NJAB) has allowed me to travel 9,192 miles. From Denver, Colo., to Harrisonburg, Va., and from Edmonton, Alta., Canada, to Baton Rouge, La., I've been north, south, east and west. Reflecting back on the places I've traveled this spring reminded me of one of my favorite childhood books. Several nights, Dr. Seuss told me about all the places I'd go.

Oh, the places you could go

As a child, I dreamed of getting to see new places, but I certainly didn't know the opportunities I would have and the experiences I would get. Being a member of the NJAB has been a long-time goal for me. Now, I'm having the opportunity to have once-in-a-lifetime experiences, and my favorite childhood book, *Oh, the Places You'll Go*, means so much more.

While in Edmonton at the Canadian Junior Angus Association GOAL conference, I learned how beef production differs in Canada. Cattle producers focus more on product traceability because that's what their consumers demand. Vaccine and medicine protocols are a little bit different, and they have much longer withdrawal times. Interacting with Canadian junior Angus members gave me a chance to learn about what their association is doing to impact their juniors and also how they are recruiting more juniors to get involved.

The first weekend of March, I traveled to Baton Rouge, La. I ate my first king cake,

visited my first alligator ranch and got to see lots of Brahman cattle. Yes, I did experience a lot of firsts, but the most rewarding part of my travels to Louisiana was encouraging junior members to grow their skill set and develop better communication, networking and goal-setting skills.



Madison Butler

After that, I traveled to Harrisonburg, Va., for the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic. On Friday, the NJAB members led ice-breaker activities for junior members. I couldn't believe how many juniors came to participate, and I was glad to see all the members meet new people and make new friends. After the icebreakers, all the juniors grabbed their pitch forks and headed to the showing. It was all hands on deck to get the ring ready for showmanship the next day. Our junior members are always willing to help each other, learn new things and be great role models.

To wrap up my spring travels, I went to the NJAB meeting in Knoxville, Tenn. The 12 board members had the opportunity to gather together and collaborate our ideas to make the association improve and grow.

As you read through *Oh, the Places You'll Go* you will come to one of my favorite quotes.

"Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting ... so get on your way," said Dr. Seuss.

This quote has always encouraged me to set goals for myself and personally achieve new heights. Life is full of successes and failures. I want to encourage members of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) to take opportunities to grow. Whether it is attending your first Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference, participating in a new contest at junior nationals, or raising your own heifer to show in bred-and-owned classes, I encourage you to always strive to achieve new personal heights.

So far my travels with the NJAA have taken me many new places and allowed me to have so many new experiences. Although I've had the opportunity to impact NJAA members, our members have also impacted me. Members of the NJAA push me to think outside of the box and brainstorm new ways to improve our association and impact our members.

When a new opportunity comes your way, just remember Dr. Seuss's words of wisdom. Your mountain is waiting, so set a goal and strive to achieve it, because you never know the places you'll go.

— **Madison Butler, Indiana**

National Junior Recognition Program

Joshua Birge, Graceville, Fla.; **Alexandria Cozzitorto**, Lawrence, Kan.; **Brianna Erdmann**, Leola, S.D.; **Greyson Fernandez**, Pine Mountain, Ga.; **Caleb Flory**, Baldwin City, Kan.; **Cale Hinrichsen**, Westmoreland, Kan.; **Jordan Johnson**, Fort Dodge, Iowa; **Dalton Lemenager**, Clifton, Ill.; **Lane Smith**, Loxahatchee, Fla.; and **Emma Troyer**, Kalona, Iowa, have earned the NJAA Bronze and Silver awards, according to Jaclyn Clark, education and events director of the American Angus Association.

Joshua Birge, the 17-year-old son of Scott and Rhonda Birge, attends Cottontale High School and is a member of the NJAA, the Florida Junior Angus Association, which he has served as chaplain, and the Alabama Junior Angus Association, which he serves as southeastern director.

He has participated in local, state, regional

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

and national shows and showmanship contests. At the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), Joshua participated in quiz bowl, livestock judging and team fitting contests. He also participated in the mentoring program in 2016.

He has submitted data to the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) program.

Alexandria Cozzitorto, the 16-year-old daughter of Rick and Melissa Cozzitorto, attends Saint James Academy and is a member of the NJAA and the Kansas Junior Angus Association, which she has served as first vice president and secretary. She has also served as Kansas Angus Ambassador.

She has participated in state, regional and national shows. At the NJAS, Alexandria participated in prepared public speaking and photography contests, and the 2010, 2012 and 2015 mentoring programs. She was also a participant in the LEAD conferences in 2015 and the Raising the Bar conference in 2015 and 2016.

Brianna Erdmann, the 18-year-old daughter of Daniel and Anne Jo Erdmann, attends Leola High School and is a member of the NJAA and the South Dakota Junior Angus Association, which she serves as secretary and director.

She has participated in state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Brianna participated in the All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off.

She has also submitted weight data to AHIR and consigned cattle in a private-treaty sale.

Greyson Fernandez, the 19-year-old son of Ed and Cindy Fernandez, attends the University of Georgia, where he is studying animal science, and is a member of the NJAA and the Georgia Junior Angus Association, which he has served as director, historian and reporter.

He has participated in state and national shows. At the NJAS, Greyson participated in the quiz bowl, team sales, livestock judging and the extemporaneous speaking contests and was a voting delegate in 2015 and 2016. He also participated in the Raising the Bar conference in 2015 and the LEAD conferences in 2015 and 2016.

He has consigned cattle in the Alabama BCIA Fall Round Up Bull Sale and the Roanoke Stock Yards Sale.

Caleb Flory, the 18-year-old son of Jason and Wendy Flory, attends Baldwin High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Kansas Junior Angus Association, which he has served as membership director and reporter.

He has participated in state and national shows. At the NJAS, Caleb participated in the Cook-Off. He also participated in the Raising the Bar conference in 2013.

■ Illinois Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet, Feb. 24, Springfield



► Receiving Illinois Angus Auxiliary Sweepstakes Awards are (from left) **Keegan Cassady**, Bloomington, senior division; **Lindsey Decker**, Philo, intermediate division; and **Lizzie Schafer**, Owaneco, junior division.



► Receiving the Illinois Angus Auxiliary Scholarship are (from left) **Sierra Day**, Cerro Gordo, and **Keegan Cassady**.



► Illinois Angus royalty are (from left) **Lizzie Schafer**, princess; **Morgan Hutchins**, Charleston, ebonette; **Amber Schiffbauer**, Tonica, ebonette; **Lindsey Decker**, Miss Illinois Angus; **Holly Marsh**, Union, ebonette; and **Amelia Miller**, Gridley, princess.



► **Sierra Day** receives the Illinois Junior Angus Association Outstanding Junior award.



► Receiving Bronze and Silver awards are (from left) **Katelyn Eathington**, Avon; **Lizzie Schafer**; **Morgan Hutchins**; and **Reese Anderson**, Chrisman.

Cale Hinrichsen, the 18-year-old son of Ron and Lynne Hinrichsen, attends Rock Creek Junior/Senior High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Kansas Junior Angus Association, which he has served as reporter, historian, membership director and district director.

He has participated in local, state and national shows. At the NJAS, Cale participated in quiz bowl, prepared speech, extemporaneous speech and team sales contests and the Cook-Off. He participated in the mentoring program in 2011-2012. He was also a participant in the LEAD conferences in 2014-2015 and the Raising the Bar conference in 2016.

Jordan Johnson, the 16-year-old daughter of Lacy and Brian Johnson, attends Southeast Valley High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Iowa Junior Angus Association,

which she has served as director and currently serves as royalty, and the North Central Iowa Angus Association.

She has participated in local, state and national shows. At the NJAS, Jordan participated in the mentoring program in 2011, 2012 and 2016.

She has also submitted weight data to AHIR and consigned cattle in the MPJ Cattle Co. sale.

Dalton Lemenager, the 18-year-old son of Robert Lemenager, attends Central High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Illinois Junior Angus Association, which he has served as director and currently serves as first vice president.

He has participated in local, state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Dalton participated in quiz bowl,

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extemporaneous speaking, livestock judging and team sales contests and the Cook-Off.

Lane Smith, the 14-year-old son of Bobbi Jo Smith, attends Western Pines Community Middle School and is a member of the NJAA and the Florida Junior Angus Association, which he has served as chaplain and currently serves as treasurer.

He has participated in local, state and national shows. At the NJAS, Lane participated in photography, quiz bowl, livestock judging and team fitting contests and the Cook-Off. He participated in the mentoring program in 2015 and 2016.

He has submitted weight data to AHIR.

Emma Troyer, the 18-year-old daughter of Anne Troyer, attends Iowa State University where she studies biology and is a member of the NJAA and the Iowa Junior Angus Association, which she serves as director.

She has participated in state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Emma participated in team fitting and livestock judging contests.

She has submitted weight data to AHIR.

Angus youth awarded

Missouri State Fair scholarships

Ashton Brockman, Brookfield; **Caleb Hudson**, Middletown; and **Davis Washburn**, King City, were among 32 4-H and FFA youth who were awarded \$1,500 scholarships by the Missouri State Fair Foundation Youth in Agriculture (YIA) committee. These students are seeking higher education at a Missouri university/college, and received their scholarships April 21 during the annual State FFA Convention in Columbia.

“The Youth in Agriculture scholarship is a 25-year tradition that financially assists Missouri’s next generation of agriculture leaders,” Missouri State Fair Director Mark Wolfe said. “Year after year, Youth in Agriculture supporters open their wallets to support the future of the ag industry.”

Scholarship applicants were evaluated in a variety of areas, including Missouri State Fair participation, grade-point average, community involvement and leadership roles. Since 1992, the YIA committee has awarded 570 scholarships totaling \$558,000.

The scholarships are funded through Youth in Agriculture sponsors and buyers of the livestock sold during the annual Sale of Champions. A portion of each animal’s sale price is allocated to the scholarship program. The Missouri State Fair Foundation also provides significant support of the scholarship program through fundraising efforts including the Governor’s Ham Breakfast.

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▶ Western Regional Jr. Angus Show, April 1, Reno, Nev.



▶ Presented by Miss American Angus Keegan Cassidy, junior A showmanship winners are (from left) **Orion Helberg**, Chico, Calif., reserve champion; and **Taylin Harthun**, Kremmling, Colo., champion.



▶ Presented by Cassidy, junior B showmanship winners are (from left) **Carly Wheeler**, Paso Robles, Calif., champion; and **Sydney Franks**, Grass Valley, Calif., reserve champion.



▶ Presented by Cassidy, intermediate showmanship winners are (from left) **Corrie Falleur**, Gearhart, Ore., champion; and **Madison Cox**, Eagle Point, Ore., reserve champion.



▶ Presented by Cassidy, senior showmanship winners are (from left) **Sydney Schnoor**, Chowchilla, Calif., reserve champion; and **Emily Pi-land**, Rescue, Calif., champion.



▶ Presented by Cassidy, receiving Bronze and Silver awards are (from left) **Thomas Kinder** and **Johnathon Kinder**, both of Hagerman, Idaho, recipients; **Matt Rosman**, Creston, Wash., recipient; Katelyn Corsentino, National Junior Angus Board membership director, presenting; and Cassidy Moore, Idaho Angus queen, presenting.



▶ **Jordyn Wagner**, Billings, Mont., received the Western States Angus Auxiliary Grand Sierra Scholarship. Pictured are (from left) Rod Wesselman, show manager; Kathleen Buchanan, Western States Angus Auxiliary (WSAA); and Graham Hooper, Western States Angus Ass’n outgoing president, all presenting; Jordyn Wagner, recipient; Martin Deaver, Grand Sierra Resort and Casino representative, and Carla Malson, WSAA, both presenting.

Angus juniors 'Raise the Bar' in Ames, Iowa

Angus juniors have the opportunity to travel the country with the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) and learn from knowledgeable experts in the beef business. Most recently, NJAA members met April 6-9 in Des Moines, Iowa, to participate in a Raising the Bar conference.

"Not only is Iowa the host of the 2017 National Junior Angus Show, but it also played host to a Raising the Bar conference this spring," says Caitlyn Brandt, American Angus Association Events and Education Department. "Raising the Bar conferences give NJAA members a chance to become more involved in the Angus breed, build on leadership skills and learn more about agriculture, while meeting other junior members from across the country."

The conference hosted 29 Angus junior leaders from 12 state junior Angus associations and New Zealand. Participants toured the Iowa State University (ISU) campus, heard from industry experts, took part in leadership training workshops and spent an evening playing laser tag.

The group also made stops at Hawkeye Breeders, Blood Dairy and

two Angus operations, Nichols Farms and Glenn Rowe's.

While at ISU, juniors were able to tour the Iowa State Meat Lab, Hansen Ag Center, and the Iowa State Beef Teaching Farm. Participants also heard from former NJAA members Michael Cropp, a graduate student at ISU, and Chris Cassady, ISU professor and livestock judging team coach. Mike Anderson, with 4-H Youth Development, talked about the use of retinal scanning in Iowa. Patrick Gunn, ISU cow-calf specialist, also spoke.

"A special thanks to those who make this event possible and helped put together a quality educational experience for our junior members," Brandt says.

Now in its 10th year, Raising the Bar conferences continue to foster the development of Angus youth by hosting events in two regions across the country. The NJAA, with sponsorship from the Angus Foundation, has conducted Raising the Bar conferences in cities such as Champaign-Urbana, Ill.; Athens, Ga.; Fayetteville, Ark.; and Sioux Falls, S.D. To learn more about how to participate in an upcoming Raising the Bar conference, visit <https://njaa.info>.



► Angus youth gathered at the 2017 National Junior Angus Association's Raising the Bar Officer Training April 6-9 in Des Moines, Iowa. Twenty-nine juniors from 12 state junior Angus associations and New Zealand attended. Pictured are (front row, from left) **Bev Rowe**, Lorimor, Iowa; **Jera Pipkin**, Republic, Mo.; **Amber Schiffbauer**, Tonica, Ill.; **Lindsey Decker**, Philo, Ill.; **Morgan Knapp**, Bloomfield, Iowa; **Alexandria Cozzitorto**, Lawrence, Kan.; **Abigail Smoot**, Campbellsville, Ky.; **Catherine Cowles**, Rockfield, Ky.; **Lauren Mosher** and **Leah Mosher**, both of Conrad, Iowa; (second row, from left) **Glenn Rowe**, Lorimor, Iowa; **Nancy Crawshaw**, Napier, New Zealand; **Sierra Day**, Cerro Gordo, Ill.; **Katrina Lowry**, Oregon, Ill.; **Olivia Johnson**, Prole, Iowa; **Dylan Denny**, Lubbock, Texas; **Avery Mather**, State Center, Iowa; **Lauren Parks**, Brookfield, Mo.; **Kassidy Moore**, Mountain Home, Idaho; **Carrie Rutledge**, Red Lion, Pa.; **Michaela Clowser**, Milford, Neb.; (back row, from left) **Reese Tuckwiller**, Lewisburg, W.Va.; **Haley Greiman** and **Abigail Greiman**, both of Perry, Iowa; **Corbin Cowles**, Rockfield, Ky.; **Lucas Moser**, Larchwood, Iowa; **Baxter Knapp**, Bloomfield, Iowa; **Derek Wolf**, Windthorst, Texas; **Logan Johnson**, Esmond, Ill.; **Will Pohlman**, Prairie Grove, Ark.; and **Caleb Scharpe**, Arlington, Minn.

