

# Christmas in July

The 2008 National Junior Angus Show is set for July 13-19.

by *Shelia Stannard*

Angus enthusiasts across the nation won't want to miss the 2008 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) July 13-19 in Des Moines, Iowa. The Iowa Angus and Iowa Junior Angus associations will host "Christmas in July" at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. The weeklong event features the largest single-breed beef cattle show in the world, with more than 1,000 head of cattle exhibited by youth ages 9-21 years old — all members of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA).

Youth will compete for top prizes in several divisions within the cattle show.

Judges for the cattle show include Chris Sankey, Council Grove, Kan., who will evaluate the owned heifers. Mark Duffell, Aldie, Va., will judge the bred-and-owned heifers, bulls and cow-calf pairs; and Blake Bloomberg, College Station, Texas, will evaluate the steers.

In addition to the cattle show, numerous educational competitions take place during the week. Contests allow the youth to showcase their skills outside of the showring, and include prepared and extemporaneous public speaking, a quiz bowl, team sales, team fitting, livestock judging, photography, posters, writing and graphic design. Another feature

of the week is the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off.

This year marks the 42nd Annual National Junior Angus Showmanship contest. Limited to two youth from each state per year, a young person may compete only once in their junior career in this prestigious event. Showmanship judges include Donnie Robertson, Yukon, Okla.; Holly Gamble Meier, Clinton, Tenn.; and Jim Pipkin, Republic, Mo.

Besides the cattle shows and competitions, the NJAA conducts a mentoring program, and a showmanship clinic will be presented. Six members will be elected to the NJAA Board of Directors at the annual meeting during the week.

Exhibitors and contestants at the NJAS must be NJAA members and be 9 years old, but not yet 21, by Jan. 1, 2008, to compete in the activities. The ownership and entry deadline for cattle is June 1. Late entries are not accepted.

Juniors members are encouraged to send their entries so delivery can be confirmed, or enter online.

For more information about the 2008 NJAS or junior Angus programs, including overviews of the contests, turn to page 142, log on to [www.njas.info](http://www.njas.info) or contact the Junior Activities

Department at 816-383-5100.



## Deadline Approaching June 1

Junior Angus members interested in entering this year's photo contest must have entries postmarked by June 1. Late entries will not be accepted.

- ▶ This year's deadline has been moved back to June 1, allowing adequate time for judging and prepping the photos for display at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Des Moines, Iowa, July 13-19.
- ▶ An 8×10-inch (in.) or 10×8-in. print mounted according to the rules is required. In addition to the mounted print, digital photo entries must be submitted electronically on CD or DVD as well.
- ▶ The rules also specify that photos be mounted on a 10×14-in. black foam core board.

All National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members are invited to enter the annual photography contest co-sponsored by the NJAA and the *Angus Journal*. The purpose of this contest is to help NJAA members increase their communication skills through the creative display of a message or feeling through photography.

Photos of Angus cattle or breeders, farms, ranches, shows, sales



or scenes will be judged on creativity and composition. The "around the farm or ranch" category provides the opportunity to enter photographs that highlight activities and scenes around the farm or ranch, but that do not necessarily have Angus cattle in the photograph.

The other three categories — Angus cattle, landscape and people — are intended for photos that focus on Angus cattle or people.

A panel of qualified judges will critique the photographs using the following criteria:

- ▶ 60% — creativity, communication power and composition of photo;
- ▶ 40% — technical quality of the photo, such as proper light exposure, true color, sharp focus and correct cropping.

Winners will be selected in three age divisions: 9 to 13; 14 to 17; and 18 to 21 years (as of Jan. 1 of the current year).

Prizes will be: 1st, \$30; 2nd, \$20; and 3rd, \$10. All photographs will be displayed at the 2008 NJAS in Des Moines. As space allows, winning photos will be printed as part of the 2008 NJAS coverage in the *Angus Journal*.

In 1992, the NJAA and the *Angus Journal* collaborated to create this contest. It was instituted to give NJAA members an opportunity to submit photos for publication. Editor Shauna Rose Hermel will select from all entries photos to be scanned and kept as stock photos for possible use in future issues of the *Angus Journal*.

**Editor's Note:** Contest rules and an entry form were published in the February & March issues of the *Angus Journal* and can be found online at [www.njaa.info/njaa\\_contests.html](http://www.njaa.info/njaa_contests.html).

