

Dust Off Your Boots, We're Headin' to Town

Angus enthusiasts prepare for the 2008 National Angus Conference & Tour this October.

by *Shelia Stannard*

Don't forget about an exciting opportunity to explore "Cowboy Country" during the 2008 National Angus Conference & Tour (NAC&T) set for Oct. 7-9 in Oklahoma City. The conference, "125 years — the Challenges of the Next Decade" will focus on production, marketing and performance. The Oklahoma Angus Association will host "An Angus Gathering," a two-day tour of Angus operations, along with a museum and reining horse training facility. Purina Mills LLC and Alpharma Animal Health are again the major sponsors of this year's event.

A slate of industry speakers will address the state of the beef industry, performance information, selection tools, branded beef programs and marketing. Speakers include John Lawrence, Iowa State University; Mark Allan, U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (MARC); William Herring, Smithfield Premium Genetics Group; Paul Roach, Reasor's Stores; and Rod Nulik, Purina Mills.

Deb Norton, Graphic Arts of Topeka, will moderate a marketing panel that will include Don Meador, Dreamcatcher Ranch; Dick Beck, Three Trees Ranch; and Leo McDonnell Jr., Midland Bull Test.

A two-day tour of scenic Oklahoma will begin Wednesday, Oct. 8. Stops include Smith Land & Cattle, Claremore; Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve, Bartlesville; Buford Ranches LLC, near Hominy; and Limestone LLC, Perkins.

On Thursday, the tour will travel to Oklahoma State University (OSU), Stillwater; Big Lake Ranch, home of Brainard Cutting Horses,

Mulhall; Pollard Farms LLC, Enid; and Express Ranches, Yukon. The Smith family and OSU will also host cattle from other producers from the state.

The early registration deadline for the NAC&T is Sept. 1. Cost of registration is \$75 before Sept. 1 or \$125 afterward. Registration includes the conference program, meals and transportation for the tour.

The Clarion Meridian Hotel and Convention Center is the headquarters for the 2008 NAC&T. A block of rooms has been reserved for \$73, plus tax, per room. All attendees must make their own room reservations by calling the hotel directly at 405-942-8511. Rooms in the Angus block will be available until Sept. 22. After that date, reservations will be made on a space-and rate-available basis. The hotel offers transportation to and from Will Rogers World Airport.

For a more detailed schedule, reference the insert magnastripped between pages 96 and 97 in the July *Angus Journal* or visit the conference

web site at www.nationalangusconference.com. For additional information, contact Shelia Stannard at ssannard@angus.org or Monica Jordan at mjordan@angus.org, or call 816-383-5100.

While it is certainly not the same as being there in person, Angus Productions Inc. (API) will provide online coverage of the event at www.nationalangusconference.com. Visit the site following the conference for summaries and photo galleries of the sessions.



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2008 National Angus Conference & Tour

sponsored by Purina Mills and Alpharma Animal Health

Conference and tour registration is \$75 before the Sept. 1 early registration deadline. After Sept. 1, the cost is \$125.

No. of people × Cost before Sept. 1 = Total enclosed
 _____ × \$75 = \$ _____

Refunds will be issued at 50% of the registration fee prior to Sept. 1. After Sept. 1, no refunds will be issued.

Check enclosed Make checks payable to the American Angus Association.

Visa **MasterCard**

Card # _____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

The Oklahoma Angus Association is providing vests to each preregistered participant. Please indicate vest size — Small thru XXX-Large — when completing name badge information.

Name badge information (please print)

1. Name _____ Size _____

2. Name _____ Size _____

3. Name _____ Size _____

4. Name _____ Size _____

Send registration confirmation to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Send this completed form and payment to:

American Angus Association

Attn: Monica Jordan

3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506-2997

Fax: 816-233-9703