

DIRECTIONS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS ASSOCIATION

3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506-7000
816-383-5100 • www.angus.org/njaa • info@njjaa.org

Spring 2015



“Do your best and let God do the rest.” — Cory Watt

National Junior Angus Board Chairman
July 18, 1992 – Feb. 19, 2015

What Really Matters

As I look back at my last 18 months on the National Junior Angus Board of Directors, there are a lot of things that come to mind. All Angus juniors can relate to the hard work that goes into everything we do. My own unique experience has led me to understand what really matters.

Always live in the moment that you are in at this time. You cannot change what has happened in the past and do not spend time worrying about the future.



Just enjoy where you are right now. Make this moment count.

Always be happy, whether you place first, last or anywhere in between. Happiness is a mental state that always attracts more things to be happy about.

Always be yourself and look to your values of faith, hope and love, with the greatest being love. Identify your values every day and live by them.

Always be true to yourself and true to others. This will allow you to always make the right decisions in life.

Lastly, but most importantly, is your relationship with the Lord, “for what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and lose his soul?” (Mark 8:36).

So it doesn't matter if you have a national champion or sell a bull or heifer for thousands of dollars, what matters is you have Jesus in your heart. Always do your best, and let God do the rest. “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13) Thank you and God bless.

— by Cory Watt

A True Leader — Cory Watt

Leadership qualities are developed over one's career. Some of these abilities are learned and some are part of one's personality. Dwight D. Eisenhower, our 34th president and Angus breeder, once reflected, “The one quality that can be developed by studious reflection and practice is the leadership of men.”

The last few months have been challenging for the NJAA and National Junior Angus Board. On February 19th, the NJAA lost a true leader in our junior organization. Cory Watt, NJAB Chairman, of Iva, South Carolina, defined and encompassed all the qualities of a leader.

Cory was motivated. He was constantly striving to encourage junior members to participate or become involved with the NJAA or other activities he was involved in. He challenged his fellow board members to complete their tasks before having fun.

Cory encompassed integrity. Honesty and faith was the basis of Cory's character. His faith never wavered; he held true to

his principles. He always tried to show his faith in all his endeavors.

Cory listened. No matter if he did not agree on the topic or subject, he listened to all discussion before giving his opinion. This is a powerful quality of a true leader.

Cory was passionate. When you talked or interacted with Cory, you could always see his passion in everything he did. He made sure to instill his enthusiasm in the junior members he impacted.

Through Cory's efforts, reflections, passion and character, he encompassed the definition of a leader. We are all grateful to have had the many moments and memories with Cory and hopefully he inspired you to dream and achieve to be a true leader.



— by Jaclyn Upperman

NJAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TERMS UP IN 2015

CORY WATT, South Carolina, **chairman**

SHANE KERNER, Idaho, **vice chairman**, skcattleco@icloud.com

TYLEE JO WILLIAMS, Texas, **communications director**, tylee.williams@ttu.edu

WILL FISKE, Virginia, **Foundation director**, willf3@vt.edu

JESSICA RADCLIFFE, Wisconsin, **leadership director**, radclff2@illinois.edu

LINDSAY UPPERMAN, Pennsylvania, **membership director**, lupperman20@gmail.com

TERMS UP IN 2016

MICHAEL CROPP, Maryland, mscropp@ksu.edu

LAUREN GRIMES, Ohio, l-grimes@onu.edu

JAKE HEIMSOTH, Missouri, jacob2626JH@gmail.com

ALEX ROGEN, South Dakota, alex.rogen@jacks.sdstate.edu

KATY TUNSTILL, Arkansas, katy.tunstill@okstate.edu

EVAN WOODBURY, Kansas, evanwoodbury16@ksu.edu



Extended Intern

I hope that a few of you recognize my picture, but for those who do not, my name is Jena Lee Wagner. I am serving as your extended intern for the next eight months. I am from

the Big Sky Country, also known as Montana. I have been involved in raising and showing cattle since I was nine years old.

I attended my first National Junior Angus Show in 2005 where I told my mom I wanted one of those green jackets. As some of you know, I recently completed my two-year term on the junior board this past summer. Since I was little, I have believed that I have had Angus in my blood and I did not think just because I reached the age of 21 that my Angus career would be over.

This internship gives me the greatest opportunity to give back and create opportunities for other juniors who are very much like myself. I am looking forward to seeing you all at shows and conferences. Good luck with all your Angus events this year. If you need anything or if I can be of assistance, do not hesitate to call!

— by Jena Lee Wagner

Education That Lasts a Lifetime

As I wrap up my final year as a junior Angus member, I look back and realize how the National Junior Angus Association helped prepare me for the world ahead. As we grow older and venture off into our future jobs, more emphasis begins being placed on our career skills, such as public speaking and how to present ourselves to the world. The National Junior Angus Association offers all the necessary activities to help propel you into your future career and I urge every junior member to take full advantage of these opportunities.

During the National Junior Angus Show in July, contests take place allowing junior members to compete on teams in contests such as team sales, CAB Cook Off, and team fitting. These contests offer the most helpful skill needed in a future career — how to work productively with one another. Juniors are also given the opportunity to compete in solo contests such as prepared speaking, extemporaneous speaking and career development. These solo contests help strengthen and fine-tune our communication skills and help juniors ease into situations like interviewing for a scholarship or future job. I strongly urge every junior member to capitalize on all the opportunities offered.

— by Jake Heimsoth

Getting Involved with NJAA

What makes our association so great? Junior involvement. With nearly 6,000 junior members across the nation, we are one of the leaders in agriculture youth involvement. What does that mean to you?

It is the opportunity to be a part of the greatest experiences offered for youth in our industry. Our junior members impressively strive for excellence by continuously taking on the opportunities offered through our association. The future leaders of agriculture are being shaped right before our eyes, whether you realize it or not. There is really no better time to expand your knowledge and jump into all the excitement just like so many juniors are already doing.

The National Junior Angus Association offers shows, events and contests year-round. Helping educate juniors and honing their skills has become a cornerstone of our breed association. So many passionate people work hard to make these things possible and it is easy to get involved!

Visit the NJAA website for applications for Raising the Bar, Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD), Mini LEAD, information on *Green Coats: Coast to Coast*, and show schedules. The contests and experiences offered by the National Junior

National Junior Angus Association



Angus Association will not only give you an immense education and experience about the entire beef industry, but they also give you the opportunity to make connections across the nation with other Angus enthusiasts.

These connections made at a young age is why Angus juniors are among the most advanced and notable in the agriculture industry. The NJAA, through the connections, education and knowledge you take away from these experiences, gives you the skills you need to be a leader and innovator for the future.

We encourage you to take as many opportunities and get involved in as much as possible at the many Angus events offered throughout the year. Be sure to check your Green Book, watch the Facebook page, or get on the website to find your next Angus adventure! We will see you there!

— by Tylee Jo Williams



The Green Jacket

Wearing the green jacket is an honor many of us strive to achieve during our junior membership. However, such a prestigious position takes a lot of preparation! If you are thinking about running for the National Junior Angus Board of Directors this summer, next summer or a few years down the road, here are a few helpful tips to consider while you prepare for the week we all wait for at the National Junior Angus Show.

Find your spark

Whatever it is that inspires you, whether it is a quote, song, role model, family heritage...surround yourself with positive influences. Being around positive energy will make you feel good about yourself and what you aim to do. Staying inspired makes projects easier to get done efficiently and your best work will come forward.

Prep, prep, prep

Do not procrastinate! Waiting until the last minute to get things done will only add stress. Give yourself plenty of time

to review and edit your résumé, candidate packet and speech. It's much easier to sit down and work on a little "chunk" at a time rather than doing it all at once. Have someone read over your work for input or suggestions. Sometimes the most useful editing can come from someone else's perspective. Practice reading your speech out loud and brush up on your interview skills. You will be surprised how far a little practice can go!

Stay true to yourself

Running for the board can be overwhelming! Be confident in who you are, where you are from and all you have accomplished. It does not matter what your background is, how many cattle you have or the ribbons you have won. When you exemplify your passion for what you love to do, people will notice! Running for the National Junior Angus Board of Directors is a great opportunity to meet new people and develop professional skills that will help you later in life. Just remember to relax and enjoy the journey!

— by *Shane Kerner*

NJAS 2015: Leading the Way

Tulsa, Okla., July 13-18

Juniors, as we dive headfirst into this upcoming year, don't forget to mark your calendars to join our Angus family in Tulsa, Okla., for the 2015 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), July 13-18! The theme this year is "Leading the Way," and it is sure to be a busy, action-packed week of contests, shows, socialization, and creating new friendships and renewing the old.



Be sure to read through the NJAA Green Book or get online to check out rules for contests online or get the latest information from your advisors. There have been several changes in the daily schedule, the rules of the team sales contest, and also the addition of the team marketing contest. Be sure to check out the article about this new contest in this *Directions* issue!

Apart from the show, do not forget to go check out some local attractions, all without having to leave Expo Square! The Tulsa Drillers Minor League Baseball Stadium, the Golden Driller Statue, and the Big Splash Water Park are all located on the grounds and within walking distance of the barns. We hope everyone has a great spring and summer at regional and preview shows. Safe travels to the NJAS and see you in July!

— by *Evan Woodbury*

She's Beauty and She's Grace, She's Miss United States... Well, Close Enough!

This past November five extremely qualified young ladies competed for the title of Miss American Angus. The American Angus Auxiliary's annual meeting was held in conjunction with the Angus Means Business National Convention & Trade Show. This week was filled with speeches, interviews and tests for the young ladies before the anticipated crowning could take place.

On Nov. 6, 2014, Miss Madison Butler, a 19-year-old Hutchinson Community College student from Vincennes, Ind., was named our 2015 Miss American Angus. Madison is a once devoted pig showman turned Angus enthusiast due to her family's strong roots in the Angus breed. Fortunately for me, I had the chance to get to know Madison a little better and hear her personal reflections on her experience and future endeavors as Miss American Angus.

What motivated you to run for Miss American Angus?

I have always thought it was really awesome that one girl in a red jacket got to serve as Miss American Angus (MAA) and spend the year traveling and promoting the Angus breed. I have never been involved with any other breed of cattle, so of course I think Angus are the best! The opportunity to spend the year promoting a breed of cattle that can have such a positive impact in the beef cattle industry seemed like such a great opportunity.

What has been your favorite part about serving as Miss American Angus?

My favorite part of being Miss American Angus has been getting to travel to so many places and meeting a lot of new juniors. Before this year I had never been to Denver or Texas, and now

I can say I have been to both. I also enjoy serving as an ambassador for our breed, and I look forward to promoting the Angus breed throughout the year.

What are you most looking forward to during your reign as queen?

During my year I will be visiting grocery stores, schools and public events promoting Angus cattle. I look forward to educating

children and consumers not only about our breed and association, but also about agriculture.

If you could leave one impression on the National Junior Angus Association, what would it be?

I have had so many role models growing up in this association, and younger members have always been important to me because they are our future! I hope to have a positive impact on

our younger members and serve as a role model. I hope juniors in our association remember me for the passion I have for promoting Angus cattle and agriculture.

What skills helped you most during your journey of becoming Miss American Angus?

I have always been a detail-oriented person who strives to always do my best. Those characteristics really helped in the application process. After being selected as a candidate for MAA, I set my goal to become Miss American Angus. I have always enjoyed public speaking, so that part was very natural to me. Being MAA was something I wanted very badly, so by setting my goal, I worked very hard to accomplish it.

What advice do you have for potential Miss American Angus contestants?

When competing for Miss American Angus, you just need to be yourself! The judges are looking for someone who will represent the breed. The National Junior Angus Association gives you so many resources throughout your junior career that by the time you run for MAA, you know all about the Angus breed and have plenty of good life skills. You have to be confident and be able to convey to the judges why you would be the best ambassador for the Angus breed.

What tips would you give juniors when filling out the scholarship application?

The scholarship application takes time to complete it correctly! Make sure to give yourself plenty of time to read the questions and answer them to the best of your ability. It is also good to put lots of thought into each answer. If you have any questions or need help, be sure to contact your state advisors. They can be a big help!

— by Lauren Grimes



Madison Butler



Getting to Know You



Cory Watt

What is your most memorable NJAA experience?

They were all memorable, but it would have been a close race between having reserve champion cow-calf pair in 2012 in Louisville and being elected to the National Junior Angus Board (NJAB) in 2013 in Kansas City.

What have you gained from your National Junior Angus Board experience?

What I gained just helped me to realize how much work goes on behind the scenes to make all the junior events happen. It just showed me how much that the American Angus Association cares about its junior members and what great effort that is put into all the events to make it a memorable experience for all who attend.

What is your life quote or motto?

"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." Philipians 4:13

What advice would you give to juniors?

Live life to the fullest and meet as many people and make as many friends as you can. Always thank the people that helped you along the way. Do your best and let God do the rest.



Shane Kerner

What is your most memorable NJAA experience?

I honestly have too many great memories to pinpoint one specific experience. I'd say some of my favorite experiences happen at the LEAD conferences. Having the opportunity to travel the country and visit places I would never have the chance to see is really cool, especially with friends that

you only get to see a few times a year!

What have you gained from your National Junior Angus Board experience?

I feel very blessed to be a part of the NJAB. We have a great team and work hard for our juniors! I have gained valuable life skills and lessons that I could not have experienced anywhere else. Being a part of this team has showed me firsthand the dynamics of leadership, teamwork, dedication and how much of an impact a group of leaders can make.

What is your life quote or motto?

"Do your best and let God do the rest." — Cory Watt

What advice would you give to juniors?

Get involved! The best part of the NJAA is that our organization will set you up for success both in and out of the showing. Take advantage of every opportunity that you can. Not only will you gain life lessons and skills, but also friendships and memories that you'll cherish forever.



Tylee Jo Williams

What is your most memorable NJAA experience?

My most memorable experience would definitely be the moment I was announced as a member of the junior board. It felt so good to have all my hard work pay off and see all the people surrounding me who supported me throughout my whole NJAA career and how proud they were of me.

What have you gained from your National Junior Angus Board experience?

My position on the national board has taught me many things and more life skills than I can count. Most importantly I have been able to strengthen my relationship with and get to know so many great Angus juniors. Being able to connect and give back to the awesome juniors that make this association so great is the most fulfilling part of being on the board.

What is your life quote or motto?

"You build on failure. You use it as a stepping stone. Close the door on the past. You don't try to forget the mistakes, but you don't dwell on it. You don't let it have any of your energy, or any of your time, or any of your space." — Johnny Cash

What advice would you give to juniors?

My advice to juniors would be to get involved with this association every chance they get; to fearlessly participate in every opportunity in front of them. The things you learn and the people you meet in the NJAA will benefit you for the rest of your life. You'll only regret the chances you don't take!



Will Fiske

What is your most memorable NJAA experience?

One event that I often reflect on took place at the 2013 Eastern Regionals Show in Harrisonburg, Va. I have always enjoyed the socials and dances at shows, but this particular year was something special. Cory Watt and I were having a blast singing and dancing when we noticed

a young junior standing off by himself. At that time we reached out to the young man and brought him front and center to sing karaoke with us. By the end of the song you would have never known that it was a junior on the end of the microphone and not George Strait. The young man was Wyatt Walker, and ever since that evening I have enjoyed staying in contact with him and watching his involvement grow as a junior. The pure amount of fun I had with Cory and seeing a junior develop as a person is something I will always remember.

What have you gained from your National Junior Angus Board experience?

Being able to serve the junior membership has been an experience like no other. Through the past two years of service, I have gained a greater appreciation of how much the American Angus Association has impacted the industry. I was previously not aware of the extent in which the Association invests in research and education to further not only the Angus producer, but the entire beef industry. In addition, traveling across the country while on the board has allowed me to develop friendships that I will always hold near and dear to my heart. I feel blessed to have interacted with the juniors and people of our association because it's those experiences that have continued to shape and sharpen my character as a young person.

What is your life quote or motto?

Even in the toughest of times I have always found a peace of mind in the fact that no matter what happens "It's all in the Lord's plan."

What advice would you give to juniors?

To juniors of all ages, I'd say to never ever take no for an answer. If you're passionate and committed towards a goal, then there is nothing that can stand in your way from accomplishing it. Our association presents us with so many outstanding opportunities that it's easy to take them for granted. Push yourself to be involved and try new things; as long as you're learning, you're never failing. However, in the midst of all the passion and determination, make sure that you're having fun and enjoying each day, because every day gone is another you won't get back.



Jessica Radcliffe

What is your most memorable NJAA experience?

I don't feel that I have just one memorable experience, my entire NJAA career has been a memorable one. I will not forget the individuals I have met and the places I have been. Being able to make connections and travel to different areas of the country

has been amazing and I am so thankful I have been able to do so many different things. I would have to say it is all the little things together that makes it such a memorable experience.

What have you gained from your National Junior Angus Board experience?

From my experience, I have gained appreciation for all the work and generosity of the Angus Foundation, the juniors, the advisors and all of the supporters of the National Junior Angus Association who have allowed me to have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. In addition, I have seen all the work and effort it takes to run a great organization, which has instilled in me the importance of a good work ethic. My experiences will allow me to continue to grow and develop as an individual as I start my future and build a career.

What is your life quote or motto?

"Opportunity is missed by most because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work." — Thomas Edison

What advice would you give to juniors?

My advice to juniors would be to do what you love and don't let anyone hold you back. Sometimes, times get tough and it can be hard to see the end, but always pick yourself back up and keep trying. As noted in the quote by Thomas Edison, don't miss out on the opportunities, because as juniors involved in this organization, you have so many readily available to you. If you take on opportunities you can achieve many great things, but as you achieve them be humble and thankful for what happens. Always remember who helped you along the way and appreciate everything they have done for you.



Lindsay Upperman

What is your most memorable NJAA experience?

My most memorable NJAA experience would have to be Tulsa, Okla., in 2007. As my first NJAS, I couldn't believe how many people and activities went on each day. Also, in the first bull class, Daniel McFarland and I bonded over how bad our cattle were! Daniel, I think we have improved in our cattle-raising skills!

What have you gained from your National Junior Angus Board experience?

I have gained not only some of the best friends I never would have had, especially with my six, but more importantly the skills that will allow me to pursue a career within this industry.

What is your life quote or motto?

"The path of passion leads to the place of purpose." — Dean Jackson

What advice would you give to juniors?

Juniors, never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game. I may not have started getting heavily involved in the NJAA until 2007, but I never let that stop me from pursuing my dreams. You can achieve *anything*, if you just believe! It's your life, so go out into the world, and make the most of every day!

— by Jena Lee Wagner



National Junior Angus Association

State Spotlight: Washington

The National Junior Angus Association is proud to have members that come from all edges of the country. In the far northwest corner, Washington is home to about 80 junior Angus members. I was able to catch up with Washington Junior Angus Association (WJAA) members JD Rosman and Alyx Hanson to get an inside look at their association and what their juniors do throughout the year.

Though a small state, their association works hard to keep up with the rest of the larger states. “As a state with a small association, we hope to always have high-quality cattle and stay current with industry trends,” says JD, WJAA president. Not only do juniors work hard with their cattle, but they also work very hard to run shows, meetings and other events during the year. Their biggest

event is the Washington State Evergreen Challenge, which is an Angus show in conjunction with an ultrasound steer show. This event is very educational for juniors.

Alyx, WJAA vice president, says they hope to incorporate more junior activities at their state shows in the future and hopefully plan a *Green Coats: Coast to Coast* event for 2016. They are also working diligently to become more involved in their adult association and to bridge the gap between the two groups. “Even though we are a small state, our members know each other really well and work [well] together,” says Alyx.

Washington juniors are very excited to be from the 2015 LEAD host state! “LEAD in Washington will give us a chance to show off the diversity of Washington ag. From seafood to orchards and wheat to hay, we have it all,” says JD.

Already planning their trip to the National Junior Angus Show in Tulsa, Okla., this summer, JD and his family will have to travel 1,940 miles from their home in eastern Washington. This will be a long 25-hour journey for Washingtonians. We wish them safe travels and good luck at the rest of their events during the year!

— by Katy Tunstill

LEAD: Success in Seattle

This year we are headed to the big city of Seattle, Wash., for the 2015 LEAD conference! Plans have been in the making for this event in hopes to provide a different outlook into the agriculture sector. Washington is known for several different agriculture industries. During this conference, we cannot wait to showcase these different sectors, which include apples, cherries, fish hatcheries and many more.

The area is also very connected to its history and the Native American founders of the city—the city is named after Chief Seattle. In addition, the West Coast is an area of the country most kids don't have the chance to see. The landscape is beautiful there by being close to both the mountains and having an ocean-front view.

With the different landscape, farming and raising livestock is a little different compared to the central and Midwest parts of the country. Juniors will be able to understand how cattle are raised in this area of the country and be able to talk with farmers and ranchers one on one.

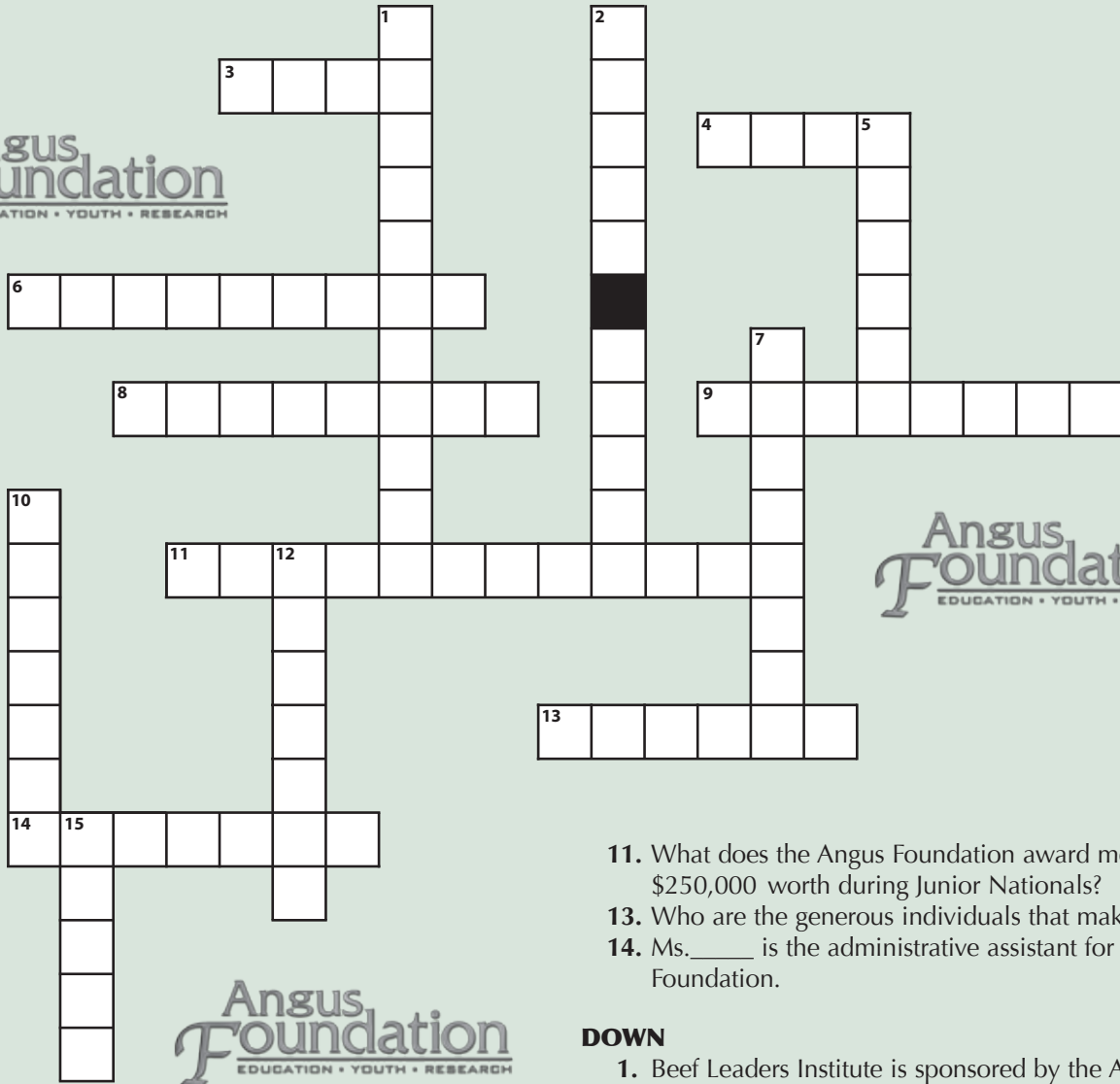
We are excited to host the conference in the rainy city and hope many juniors make plans for this event August 6-11, 2015. Registration and travel information are up on the NJAA webpage. Don't miss out on Success in Seattle!

— by Jessica Radcliffe



Angus Foundation Fun!

Use the clues to complete the crossword as it relates to the Angus Foundation



ACROSS

3. Mr. _____ is the chairman of the 2015 Angus Foundation Board of Directors.
4. What type of tournament does the Angus Foundation host during Junior Nationals?
6. The Angus Foundation is an _____ of American Angus Association?
8. The Angus Foundation was established in 1980 as a not-for-profit under which state law?
9. What role of the three in the Angus Foundation's mission will enhance the Angus and beef cattle industry?

11. What does the Angus Foundation award more than \$250,000 worth during Junior Nationals?
13. Who are the generous individuals that make it possible?
14. Ms. _____ is the administrative assistant for the Angus Foundation.

DOWN

1. Beef Leaders Institute is sponsored by the Angus Foundation and is an example of what type of opportunity?
2. A primary focus of the Angus Foundation has been to provide who with numerous opportunities?
5. The Angus Foundation is advancing the _____ of the Angus breed?
7. This Angus farm bought the Foundation Heifer package for the third year in a row.
10. Mr. _____ is the president of the Angus Foundation.
12. Ms. _____ is the director of marketing and public relations for the Angus Foundation.
15. The 2015 Angus Foundation Heifer was donated from 44 Farms. In what state does 44 Farms reside?



Georgia Bulldogs & Illinois Fighting Illini

That's right, get ready juniors! This spring we are having not one, but two Raising the Bar conferences. Hopefully, you can attend both, but if not, I'm sure one will do!

If you have not attended a Raising the Bar yet, here is what you should expect from your trip. These conferences are hosted with universities that would like Angus juniors as some of their future students. The first day the group tours the campus to visit with professors and current students. The second day is usually visiting Angus farms around the area or seeing the amazing sights outside of the campus. The last day the group usually participates in workshops before the conference comes to a close.

The first of the Raising the Bars will be at the University of Illinois March 20-22. Farm visits will include Prairie View Farms, Dameron Angus and Top Line Farms. I have no doubt that whether you are interested in the Angus farms or the University of Illinois, you should have a great experience each day you are present.



Your second opportunity for Raising the Bar may interest some of you wanting to travel a bit more. April 10-12 we will be at the University of Georgia. There are certainly some exciting sights to see, including the Coca-Cola Factory and the Georgia Aquarium. I've been there myself, and I promise it is worth seeing!

I better stop writing or I may give all the conference details away. I hope you are all as excited as I am to get together with your fellow Angus juniors to see some amazing schools that you may one day attend, while also touring the surrounding towns and their breathtaking sights. Looking forward to seeing you all there. Get signed up now!

— by Lindsay Upperman

Team Marketing

This coming year at junior nationals, there is a new contest called team marketing. The team marketing competition is designed to promote team organization, creativity, communication skills and marketing techniques. The fundamental idea is to give teams the opportunity to work as a team to create a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation based on a scenario.

This year's scenario is "You are an Angus producer who will hold a female production sale. Develop a one-year marketing plan for your upcoming production sale."



Dale Eastin, Gretna, Va. (center, talking to judges), was a participant in the team sales contest at the 2014 National Junior Angus Show. For 2015, team sales is more focused on the emphasis of selling the animals without the fancy presentation or any associated accessories, due to the introduction of a new team marketing contest. (photo by Kasey Brown)

The idea behind team marketing is to allow kids to learn similar skills taught in team sales; however, team marketing allows the usage of extra materials such as a PowerPoint and printed materials, which must be included in the presentation.

With adding this new contest that promotes similar skills, we changed the team sales contest rules. Now team sales is more focused on the emphasis of selling the animals without the fancy presentation or any associated accessories. This year only three copies of registration papers will be allowed.

— by Michael Cropp

Enter Online

Do you worry about whether we've received your entries for a show or registration for leadership conferences? Save time and headaches by entering online at www.njaa.ifo. You will have immediate response once your entries and registrations have been received by the AAA office.

Punctuality Pays Off

I remember the tremendously long trips to junior nationals quite well. They usually involved beautiful views, some light snacking, and a Cook Off script or quiz bowl study guide. I have always and continue to struggle with procrastination. Procrastination is putting off a task until the last possible moment. When it comes to NJAS contests, try your best to come prepared!

The week is short enough between catching up with old friends, cattle shows and other events that you don't want to be holed up somewhere on the grounds trying to solidify a skit, memorize a speech or finish a poster. Here are a few tips.

Chip away at the task instead of cramming

Memorizing is not an instant accomplishment for most people. I can only speak for myself, but dedicating a little time here or there can work a lot better than cramming a few days prior to the event. With summer coming up, it can be difficult to buckle down on NJAS contest material, but time management will pay off. Having your contest preparation complete on arrival to Tulsa means that you can have more time for water fights, corn hole and catching up with friends.

Know your deadlines

Entry dates are important! That poster, picture or career development résumé will not get scored if it is not turned in on time. Not having a project done until the day before it is due is not worth the stress of phone calls, express shipping or "that look" from your mom. Make your beautiful



project (I'm sure it's a masterpiece!), postmark it, and get it scratched off the long list of things to do. Life is easier without having to work with a time crunch and the pressure of an approaching deadline.

Try a spring workshop

Things can get hectic when the summer rolls around. Try to get some juniors within your state together to put on a spring workshop. It makes for a great atmosphere to toss around

ideas for Cook Off scripts, sales ideas and speech topics. You can also have practice rounds for quiz-bowl teams and résumé-building clinics for scholarship applications.

As any college student knows, it is better to get your scholarship application done in a timely fashion. A good application requires time to initially fill it out, send in transcripts, and get it peer reviewed. Getting an early start can make life a little less stressful. The possibilities are endless, and helping out other state members is a bonus.

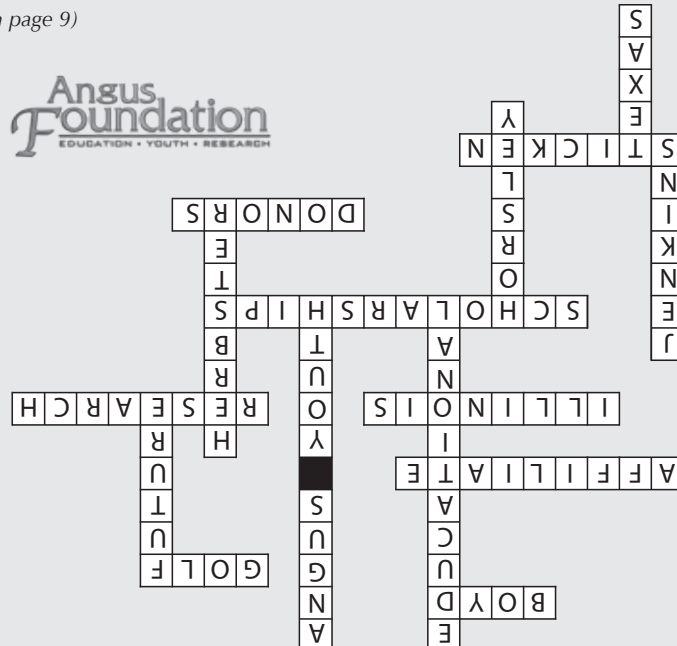
Life seems to move faster and faster as July gets closer. Make sure you are ready so you can make the most of what will be a great week in Tulsa!

Good luck and I'll see you there!

— by Alex Rogen

Angus Foundation Fun! solution

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Important Dates and Deadlines for Juniors

JANUARY 2015

- 1 Spring Directions article deadline
- 15 National Western Stock Show Junior Heifer Show, Denver, Colo.

FEBRUARY 2015

- 2 Ownership and entry deadline for the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic (MAJAC) Show
- 5 Application deadline for the junior activities summer internship

MARCH 2015

- 1 Deadline for Honorary Angus Foundation and Advisor of the Year nominations
- 2 Ownership & Entry deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show
- 6-8 MAJAC Show, Harrisonburg, Va.
- 9 Raising the Bar (Univ. of Illinois) registration deadline
- 20-22 Raising the Bar: University of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana

27-29 NJAA Board Meeting

APRIL 2015

- 1 Raising the Bar (Univ. of Georgia) registration deadline
- 10-12 Raising the Bar: University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.
- 15 Ownership and entry deadline for the Atlantic National Junior Angus Show
- 16-19 Western Regional, Reno, Nev.

MAY 2015

- 1 Deadline for Gold Award applications
- 1 Outstanding Leadership Award applications due
- 1 Ownership & Entry deadline Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show
- 1 Ownership & Entry deadline Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show
- 1 CAB/NJAA scholarship applications due
- 1 Angus Foundation scholarship applications due

4 Entry deadline American Angus Breeder's Futurity Junior Angus Show

- 15 Ownership & Early Entry deadline National Junior Angus Show
- 15 Ownership deadline American Angus Breeder's Futurity Junior Angus Show
- 15 Entry deadline for NJAA Creative Writing, NJAA/AJ Photography, and NJAA Graphic Design Contests
- 15 Entry & recipe deadline for All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® Cook-Off
- 21-24 Atlantic National Junior Angus Show, Timonium, Md.
- 25 Deadline for NJAA Public Speaking Contest speech outlines
- 25 Deadline for Career Development Résumés
- 25 Late Entry Deadline National Junior Angus Show (ONLINE ONLY)

JUNE 2015

- 1 Angus Ambassador application deadline
- 1 NJAA Board Candidates information due
- 1 Deadline for submitting names of state delegates and showmanship contestants for NJAA elections
- 10-14 The American Breeders' Futurity Junior Preview Show, Louisville, Ky.
- 15 LEAD registrations due (early registration deadline)
- 17-20 Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show, Idaho
- 19-21 Eastern Regional, W.Va.

JULY 2015

- 12-18 National Junior Angus Show, Tulsa, Okla.
- 15 LEAD registration deadline (if not already full)

AUGUST 2015

- 1 Fall Directions article deadline
- 6-9 LEAD Conference, Seattle, Wash.