

DIRECTIONS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS ASSOCIATION

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WHAT'S INSIDE

- Page 2** Meet the New Six
- Page 3** NJAA Loses A Friend
- Page 4** LEAD 2001
- Page 6** Where Are They Now?
- Page 6** Regional Manager Profile
- Page 7** Outstanding Leadership Award
- Page 8** State Jr. Association Spotlight
- Page 9** Advisors of the Year



TERMS UP IN 2002

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TERMS UP IN 2003

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A Western Experience

The 2001 National Junior Angus Show appropriately themed "Under the Western Sky" was hosted in Denver, Colo., by the Western states of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) July 9-14. This event is continually the largest single-breed show in the world, and the National Western Complex was a perfect setting to begin the new millennium with top-quality cattle from across the nation.

Over the course of the week, there were a record number of entries in contests, such as the prepared and extemporaneous public speaking contests, the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American Certified Angus Beef® Cook-Off, and the always popular team sales contest. In addition, the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest was extremely competitive. Rachel Postin of Georgia walked away with top honors, followed by Robbie Smith, Tennessee; Sarah Fuller, Idaho; Lana Myers, Louisiana; and Lacey Robinson, Missouri.

In the show, Amanda Penner, Mill Creek, Okla., led PR Lady Blackbird 496 to the grand champion bred-and-owned



female honors. Jenny Davis, Gallipolis, Ohio, won the owned heifer show exhibiting Gamble Dutchess Saugahatchee. The champion cow-calf pair was Champion Hill Lady 1629 shown by Robbie Smith, Lebanon, Tenn., grand

champion bred-and-owned bull was TLC Black Jack 240 led by Laura Hooper, Bliss, Idaho, and the champion steer was BT Twister 281K shown by Zane Barragree, Absarokee, Mont. The champion steer in the carcass contest was exhibited by Brandon New, Leavenworth, Kan.

Each year six new members are elected to the NJAA Board of Directors to help coordinate ideas and events for the NJAA in coordination with James Fisher, the director of activities & junior activities. This year's new Board members include Mercedes Danekas, Wilton, Calif.; Brandon Walker, Lexington, Ga.; Lacey Robinson, Montgomery City, Mo.; Lana Myers, Jennings, La.; Brian Howell, Union City, Ind.; and John McCurry, Burrton, Kan.

— Heath Johnson

2002 Angus Foundation Heifer Package

It is that time again! Time to rally support for the major event that makes so many junior Angus events possible. Juniors, if you don't know the importance of the Angus Foundation heifer package, think of all the events that are made possible for you each year.

More important than the income of the package is the supporters and contributors to the Angus Foundation. I encourage each of you to log on to the Web site www.angusfoundation.org and look at the list of past buyers who have kept this tradition running now for the 22nd year.

Since the beginning of the Foundation, the heifer package has brought in approximately \$555,650 from heifer package purchases by 44 different operations and individuals.

As a junior board member, I encourage you to look up the people who have helped out Angus juniors and thank them. Also, help yourself and the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) by inviting them to the sale at the National Western Stock Show on January 17, 2002 at the beginning of the Angus Bull Sale.

The 2002 package comes to us from Shady Brook Angus Farm, Leoma, Tenn. It is the pick of the 2001 fall heifer calf crop. Many special, valuable matings are available. I personally would like to thank the Santini Family, owners of Shady Brook, for their support of the Angus Foundation and junior programs.

I hope everyone takes the time to thank those individuals who make numerous activities possible for you and me, such as educational programs, junior board expenses and most importantly, the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference.



— John McCurry

Meet the New Six

Six new NJAA Board of Directors were elected at the 2001 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Denver, Colo. Here is some information about each of them.



Serving on the Board of Directors for the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) for 2001-2002 are (seated, from left) **Tom Patterson**, Columbus, Mont.; **Ryan Sweeney**, Mason, Mich.; **Heath Johnson**, Corinth, Miss.; **Christy Walther**, Mount Crawford, Va.; **Brittney Burns**, Kickapoo, Ill.; and **Jessica Sawyer**, Basset, Neb. New directors elected to serve a two-year term are (standing, from left) **Lacey Robinson**, Montgomery City, Mo.; **Lana Myers**, Jennings, La.; **Mercedes Danekas**, Wilton, Calif.; **John McCurry**, Burrton, Kan.; **Brian Howell**, Union City, Ind.; and **Brandon Walker**, Lexington, Ga.

Mercedes Danekas

Age: 19

Hometown: Wilton, Calif.

Family: Parents, James and Sherry; Sister, Danielle

Education: Delta College, Stockton, Calif., sophomore in ag communications

Future Plans: Mercedes will transfer to Cal Poly next fall and hopes to work in the family business.

Years in the NJAA: 10

Food: Chinese

Favorite Calf: Missie, because of her sweet personality.

Motto/Quote: "Carpe Diem." (Seize the Day)

What you hope to accomplish as a Board member: To meet as many junior members as possible, help them become involved and establish the roots to their success.

Song: "Immigrant Song," by Led Zeppelin
Accomplishments: Dean's list; 3rd place national Auxiliary scholarship winner, 2000; being elected to the NJAA Board; numerous show champions.

Current officer positions: California Junior Livestock Association Director

Best thing about being on the Board: Getting to know the membership and assisting them when needed.

John McCurry

Age: 19

Hometown: Burrton, Kan.

Family: Parents, Andy and Mary; Sister, Emily

Education: Butler County Community College (BCCC), El Dorado, Kan., sophomore in agribusiness and animal science

Future Plans: John hopes to hold a job in production agriculture and continue operating his own cattle operation.

Years in the NJAA: Since 2 months old

Food: Certified Angus Beef® steak

Favorite Calf: Sofie, because she was ill as a calf then went on to win the state fair two years in a row and was reserve at Regionals.

Motto/Quote: "You only get as much out of it as you put into it."

What you hope to accomplish as a Board member: Increase membership, increase activity participation, touch every member.

Song: "Bad Day," by Fuel

Accomplishments: 2001 Outstanding Leadership Award; team sales winner, 1999-2001;

extemporaneous speaking winner, 2000-2001; being elected to the NJAA Board.

Current officer positions: BCCC Agricultural Club President, 2002 Central Regional Preview Show Co-Chairman

Best thing about being on the Board: The opportunity to be a role model and touch the members' lives in a positive way.

Lacey Robinson

Age: 19

Hometown: Montgomery City, Mo.

Family: Parents, Allen and Stephanie; Sister, Kera; Brother, Layne

Education: Black Hawk East Junior College, Kewanee, Ill., sophomore in animal science

Future Plans: Lacey plans to transfer to a university to complete her bachelor's degree, then go to vet school.

Years in the NJAA: 14

Food: Oreo cookies

Favorite Calf: Phoebus, because he had the disposition of a puppy and was the 1997 Missouri State Fair Grand Champion Steer

Motto/Quote: "Success comes in cans; Failure comes in can'ts."



Richard L. Spader

Jan. 31, 1945 — Oct. 13, 2001

Richard L. Spader, Rosendale, Mo., was born Jan. 31, 1945, to Leo and Helen Spader in Howard, S.D. He attended Saint Agatha High School in Howard and was active in 4-H during

his youth. He died Saturday, Oct. 13, of a massive heart attack at his home, while in the pasture tending to his Angus herd.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1962-1965 and served in the Vietnam War. He attended South Dakota State University, graduating in 1969 with a degree in agricultural journalism and a minor in animal science.

In 1973 he married Sheri Coulter, an Angus girl from Congerville, Ill., and together they had three children, Jared, 24, Brett, 21, and Alyssa, 14. The family maintains a herd of registered Angus cows and a small band of Quarter Horses.

His career with the American Angus Association began in 1969 as the assistant director of public relations. In 1973 he was appointed the assistant director of performance programs and in 1976 was chosen to head up the department as its director. Under his direction the Association issued its first *Sire Evaluation Report* and *Pathfinder Report* and initiated the use of estimated breeding values (EBVs) by Angus breeders.

He was named executive vice president by the board of directors in 1981 and served in that capacity until his death. Spader's love for the junior programs was evident during his tenure. He played an active role in the growth of the Angus Foundation, which supports junior programs, leadership development and scholarships.

He worked closely with the Association's officers and board of directors and the staffs of the Association, Angus Productions Inc., and Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB). He took pride in being accessible to the membership and in being a team player, working side-by-side with his employees. He led by example and took great pride in the Angus breed, the Association and its members. He was a man of integrity and was admired and respected by his peers in all parts of his life.

His position allowed him to serve as director and co-chairman of CAB and director and past president of Angus Productions Inc. He was an active member and leader of several local, state and national beef industry organizations. He received the Andrew County Cattleman of the Year Award in 1986 along with his wife, and in 1994 the Spaders received the Missouri Farm Family of the Year award.

Spader's love for horses was one of his favorite pastimes that became a bigger part of his life during his final years. He was a lifetime member of the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) and was a founding member of the Heartland Horse Breeders Association, serving as co-chair of its first sale in 2001.

He and his son, Brett, also raised AKC registered blue heeler dogs and marketed them to other breeders and dog lovers throughout the world.

The family has requested memorials to the Angus Foundation for scholarships in memory of Richard L. Spader. Contributions can be made payable to the Angus Foundation and mailed to the American Angus Association at 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506. Cards of sympathy for the Spader family can also be directed to the American Angus Association.

What you hope to accomplish as a Board member:

To leave the NJAA stronger than when I became involved.

Song: "Crazy," by Patsy Cline

Accomplishments: 2001 Miss American Angus; 2000 FFA State Proficiency Winner in Beef Production.

Current officer positions: Missouri Junior Angus Association Vice President, Black Hawk Agribusiness Club President

Best thing about being on the Board: The chance to work with the outstanding youth of our organization from all across the country.

Brian Howell

Age: 20

Hometown: Union City, Ind.

Family: Parents, Phil and Judy; Sister, Emily; Brother, Andy

Education: Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., junior in animal science products

Future Plans: Brian plans to receive a Masters in Extension or Meat Science and continue to raise cattle.

Years in the NJAA: 11

Food: Broccoli and spaghetti

Favorite Calf: Heifer shown at 1999 NJAS because she placed well and produced a calf that was exhibited this year in the bred-and-owned show.

Motto/Quote: "One learns more lessons from their failures than their successes."

What you hope to accomplish as a Board member:

Help plan and organize events to improve the NJAA, meet as many people as possible and make a difference in the life of a junior member.

Song: "Why Walk When You Can Fly," by Mary Chapin Carpenter

Accomplishments: Becoming an NJAA Board member; Eastern Regional & Atlantic National Showmanship Winner; meeting so many great people from across the country.

Current officer positions: Indiana Junior Angus Association 3rd Vice President, Purdue Block & Bridle Publicity and Scrapbook Chair, Indiana Junior Beef Cattle Association Board of Directors

Best thing about being on the Board: Meeting people and traveling to neat places.

Lana Myers

Age: 20

Hometown: Jennings, La.

Family: Parents, Charles and Linda

Education: Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, La., senior in agricultural business

Future Plans: Lana plans to attend graduate school and become employed in the agriculture industry while managing her herd of Angus cattle.

Years in the NJAA: 13

Food: Spaghetti

Favorite Calf: Lady Royce, because she was my first calf. She acted well in showmanship and placed well in her class.

Motto/Quote: "If you have tried to do something but couldn't, you are far better off than if you had tried to do nothing and succeeded."

What you hope to accomplish as a Board member:

To get to know as many juniors as I can and to let my knowledge and experiences benefit all Angus juniors.

Song: "I Hope You Dance," by Lee Ann Womack

Accomplishments: Fourth place 2001 National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest; Louisiana Junior Angus Association Queen; Gold Award; NJAA Board of Directors.

Current officer positions: LSU Block & Bridle Treasurer, LSU Les Voyageurs Student Speakers Bureau

Best thing about being on the Board: Being able to work with 11 other Directors from all over the country with the same interest of improving the NJAA.

Brandon Walker

Age: 20

Hometown: Lexington, Ga.

Family: Parents, Barry and Iris; Brother, Lee; Sister, Katie

Education: University of Georgia, Athens, Ga., Junior in agricultural education

Future Plans: Brandon hopes to teach high school agriculture and coach wrestling.

Years in the NJAA: 11

Food: Prime rib

Favorite Calf: 1997 bred-and-owned steer that weighed nearly 1,400 lbs. and made me a lot of money.

Motto/Quote: "...he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." (2 Corinthians 9:6)

What you hope to accomplish as a Board member:

To uphold the Association's great reputation, establish new programs that will lead to improved participation, create greater interaction between junior and adult Associations, and help develop young people's leadership qualities by example.

Song: "Only Natural," by Steven Curtis Chapman

Accomplishments: Being accepted to the University of Georgia.

Current officer positions: President of the Georgia Junior Angus Association

Best thing about being on the Board: Meeting so many great people and the opportunity to make so many new friends.

— Lana Myers



LEAD 2001

Nearly 125 junior Angus members and advisors representing 25 states met in the “Music City,” Nashville Tenn., for the 2001 Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference, August 2-5. The conference, “A Cut Above the Rest,” challenged the attendees to learn and discover more about the beef industry, strengthen and develop leadership skills, and encounter some of Nashville’s renowned musical heritage.

Thursday morning, fellow Georgia junior Angus member Shelly Ansley and I arrived at the hotel headquarters of the conference just before check-in began. As juniors began to pour into the hotel lobby I could see the anticipation of a great weekend on everyone’s face. The conference began Thursday afternoon as we “broke the ice” by matching jelly beans by color and making a lot of noise as we grunted, meowed, crowed and mooed blindly around the room trying to create groups with common fellow animal callers.

The night’s events began as Jim Hopper, director of regulatory affairs for the state of Tennessee, welcomed the group and discussed agriculture in the state of Tennessee. Joe Elliot, an Angus breeder and sixth generation farmer from Adams,

Tenn., enthusiastically talked about the future of the Angus industry and challenged the junior members to make a difference by being active learners and educators. He encouraged us to educate our peers not involved in agriculture about the importance of the industry.

American Angus Association Director of the Angus Information Management Software (AIMS), Scott Johnson, informed the group about the variety of Association programs including AIMS, the Angus Beef Record Service (BRS), and the resources available on the Angus Web site, www.angus.org. Johnson also discussed current beef industry issues such as electronic and national animal identification, ultrasound body composition and DNA.

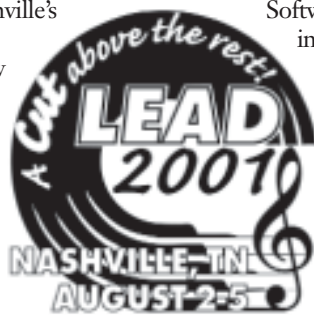
Motivational speakers Stewart and Casey Kennedy, Edmond, Okla., put electricity in the night’s atmosphere as they began a series of impelling talks about developing leadership and goal setting with the incredibly amusing Stewart making us laugh until we cried. To end the evening, the Board members put together a series of skits that revealed a most interesting side of the Angus enthusiast. “The Deliverance People,” “The Backwoods Boys,” and the “Dixie

Hicks” had a showdown for the best, or should I say the most bizarre entertainment for the night.

Friday morning, juniors departed for a tour of the Hermitage, home of President Andrew Jackson. The tour continued with lunch on the General Jackson river boat while being entertained by live bands cruising down the Cumberland River. The night was concluded with some of Nashville’s country music heritage at the Grand Ole Opry.

Saturday would prove to be the most involved and fundamental day of the conference. The morning began when Shelia Stannard, American Angus Association assistant director of public relations, talked about ways we can promote the beef industry. The Kennedys spoke about goal setting and shared their personal experience of how they reached their goal earlier in the summer developing and marketing the P.B. Slice. The Peanut Butter Slice, a thin slice of peanut butter wrapped in plastic, much like a cheese slice, was distributed to stores in mid-July in parts of Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas. However, the P.B. Slice didn’t just happen, it took close to four years of intense planning, research and testing and 6,000 pounds of peanut butter. Stewart told the group, “A good idea is worth one dollar. Planning to make the idea happen is worth a million dollars.”

The highlight of the day’s events was the four workshops developed by the National Junior Angus Board of Directors. Junior board members, Sonya Smith, Brittney Burns and Brandon Douglas, dramatized



proper and improper dining etiquette in the initial workshop. Following their hilarious yet informative performance, Sy Olson, Christy Walther and Tom Patterson attempted to instruct juniors on “breaking it down” southern style with various forms of swing dancing and urban dance movements. The third workshop led by Miranda Grissom, Allison Porter and Jessica Sawyer encouraged participants to think about how different people from other regions of the country and contrasting cultures think, talk and act. For the fourth workshop, Board members Ryan Sweeney, Heath Johnson and Jamie Meyer developed a board game called the “Angus Dash,” which allowed everyone to test his or her Angus and cattle industry knowledge while working together as a team.

Saturday night, an anxious group of junior Angus members got to show off their newly acquired dance moves as the group headed over to KMK Acres for a dinner and dance. Mouth-watering CAB® steak was served, and delicious homemade pies, made by Sonya’s mother, Vicki, were the featured dessert. As the sun went down on the farm, the DJs turned up the music and juniors enjoyed a night full of fun and fellowship.

Sunday arrived all too soon, as many new and renewed relationships were established. The morning began with the six retiring Board members talking and reflecting on their experiences as junior members and issuing a variety of challenges to ensure a strong future for the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). Vespers followed, with the very talented and inspiring Jill and William Donnell, performing songs and hymns of praise and worship. William, a former NJAA Board member, along with his wife, travel around the United States speaking and singing about what God has done in their lives and about His grace and love for all people. To conclude the conference, a final challenge was issued by the keynote speakers, Stewart and Casey Kennedy, to be “A Cut Above.”

This was my first LEAD conference and my only regret as a junior Angus member is not attending the conference sooner! Thanks to all the participants and coordinators for one of the best ever LEAD conferences. The 2002 LEAD will be in Sacramento, Calif. For more information, contact James Fisher at the American Angus Association.

— Brandon Walker

Leadership Principles

Everyone has the ability to be a leader! Whether it be at school, work, on an athletic team or in an academic club there is always an opportunity to guide. Read “The Top 7 Character Traits of Extraordinary Leaders” below and see how you can acquire character traits that can help you become an extraordinary leader.

— Brittny Burns

Top 7 Character Traits Of Extraordinary Leaders

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When people make a decision (either consciously or subconsciously) to follow your leadership, they do it primarily because of one of two things: your character or your skills. They want to know if you are the kind of person they want to follow and if you have the skills to take them further. Yes, there are other variables but these are the bulk of the matter. Now we’re going to focus on the kind of character that causes people to follow your leadership.

1. Integrity.

Integrity is that you do what you say you will. You are trust worthy. People can rely on you. You keep your promises. The one thing that will most keep people from following you is if they can’t know for sure if you will actually take them where you say you will. Are you known as a person of integrity? If so, you will become an extraordinary leader!

2. Optimistic.

People don’t want to follow others who think the future is bad! They want to follow those who can see the future and let them know that there is a better place and that they can get them there! Do you see the cup as half empty? Then you are a pessimist. Do you see it as half full? Then you are an optimist. Do you see it as totally full – half air and half water? Then you are a super optimist! Are you known as an optimist? If so, you will become an extraordinary leader!

3. Embraces change.

Leaders are the ones who will see the need for change and willingly embrace it. Followers, will at first, desire to stay where they are. Leaders need to see the benefits of change and communicate them to followers. If you don’t change, you won’t grow! Are you known as a person who embraces change? If so, you will become an extraordinary leader!

4. Risk taker.

Whenever we try something new, we are taking a risk. That is part of growing though and it is imperative. Most people are risk averse. Not the leader! They calculate the risk and what is to be gained from taking the risk. Then they communicate that to the followers and away they go to a better tomorrow! Are you known as a person who is willing to take risks? If so, you will become an extraordinary leader!

5. Tenacious.

The tendency of the follower is to quit when the going gets tough. Two or three tries and their motto becomes “If at first you don’t succeed, give up and try something else.” Not the leader! They know what good lies beyond this brick wall and they will go and get it. Then they will bring others with them! Are you known as a person who is tenacious? If so, you will become an extraordinary leader!

6. Catalytic.

A leader is ultimately one who gets people going. They are able to move others out of their comfort zone and on toward the goal! They can raise the passion, enthusiasm and the ACTION of those who would follow. Are you known as a catalyst? If so, you will become an extraordinary leader!

7. Dedicated/committed.

Followers want people who are more devoted and committed than themselves. At the first sign of lack of commitment, followers scatter for the doors. If the leader sees the end and is bailing out, they better get out first. Followers follow those who will stick it out because they see the importance of the task and the goal. Are you known as a person who is committed and devoted to the goal? If so, you will become an extraordinary leader!

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Where Are They Now?

For the past two years, six individuals have dedicated their time to the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). Now that they have graduated from the junior ranks, it is our goal to keep up with their activities. Some are still attending school while others have moved on to the work world.

Sonya Smith, Lebanon, Tenn., former chairman, is now located in Atlanta, Ga., and is attending her first year of law school at Emory University. Prior to Emory, she graduated from Cumberland University.

Brandon Douglas, former vice chairman, has residence in Wyoming but is currently in the Marines. He is now located in California and will soon be stationed in Florida with the U.S. Marine Corps.

The former communications director, **Allison Porter**, Jefferson, Ga., will graduate in May 2002 with a bachelor's of science in nursing. She is finishing up her classes at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. She worked this summer in a

hospital in the 24-hour observation unit and had the opportunity to work the 12-hour night shift. She hopes to never experience working those hours again.

The Hereford, Texas, native, **Sy Olson**, was this past year's Foundation director. He graduated this past May from Texas A&M and went to work at Cactus Feeders in Texas. This prepared him to go back to graduate school this fall in College Station.

Leadership director **Miranda Grissom** of Prague, Okla., is now in Oklahoma City. This past summer Miranda was an internal audit intern for the Oklahoma state treasurer. She is currently working and attending school where she will graduate in May with ag economics and accounting degrees from Oklahoma State University (OSU).

Jamie Meyer, Douglass, Kan., was the membership/information director. She is now in Wichita. She graduated this May in human resources management from OSU



Past Board members are (seated, from left) Sy Olson, Jamie Meyer, Sonya Smith, (standing, from left) Brandon Douglas, Miranda Grissom and Allison Porter.

and is working for Farmland as an assistant human resources manager.

We were very fortunate to have such great individuals guide the NJAA, and we wish all of them the best of luck while they pursue their dreams.

— Christy Walther

INTERVIEW WITH A REGIONAL MANAGER *John Dickinson*



National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members have many people to thank for their contributions. Of special importance to juniors are our 12 regional managers who help with many behind-the-scenes efforts to ensure meetings and shows run efficiently and according to Association rules. Other roles regional managers play include promoters for the Angus Foundation and of the welfare of local and state organizations. In order to learn more about our regional managers and the Association

staff, this column has been formed to spotlight someone who is active with junior activities from American Angus.

Age: 25

Hometown: Congerville, Ill.

Family: Father, Rick; mother, Cyndee; and brother, Rich.

College: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Graduated in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in agriculture, major in animal science

College Involvement: Member of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, Student Advancement Committee, College of ACES Student Council, Hoof 'N Horn, and the livestock judging team

Current Employment: Started with American Angus Association in July 1998 and currently lives in Sacramento, Calif. His territory includes California, Nevada and Arizona.

Angus Background: John comes from an Angus background.

His family has one of the oldest Angus farms in Illinois. Lantz & Dickinson started raising Angus cattle in 1896. The herd was started by John's great-great grandfather Simon E. Lantz. Simon is a past Illinois state senator and served as president of American Angus Association in 1941.

National Junior Angus Association Involvement: Elected to NJAA Board in 1995 in Louisville, Ky.; served on the Board from 1995-1997; elected chairman in 1996 in Kansas City, Mo.

Favorite memory of being a junior exhibitor: All the travels and meeting new junior members from all over the country.

Favorite NJAS: Perry, Ga., in 1997

Favorite Color: Green

Favorite Movie: *Hoosiers*

Favorite Song: "Yellow Ledbetter" by Pearl Jam

Favorite Group: Pearl Jam

Favorite Quote: "Do something for me and I am thankful, do something for my child and I am indebted." (note to John from Sammy Ayres after the 1997 LEAD conference)

Favorite part of being a Regional Manager: The fact that he has the luxury of working in the cattle industry, even more working with Angus industry. "I love going to work, and not too many people can say that. I love the people," he says.

Advice for junior Angus members: You will get out of this organization what you put into it. Take advantage of every opportunity, especially the scholarships.

— Brittney Burns

Juniors on the MOO-VE



2001 Outstanding Leadership Award

The Outstanding Leadership Award recognizes a junior Angus member for his or her service and contributions to the junior program, their community, school, and other livestock organizations. The award was first given in 1994 in memory of Barbara Smalstig. The winner receives a \$500 cash

prize and an eagle statue which is awarded at the American Angus Association's Annual Banquet in Louisville, Ky.

Among the very accomplished applicants, John McCurry, a Kansas junior Angus member, was selected as this year's recipient. John has served in virtually every leadership position within his state Angus association. While serving in these leadership positions, he has strived to enhance the involvement and responsibilities of his fellow officers. Under his direction his state junior Angus association membership and

involvement has tripled. The Kansas juniors have won the sweepstakes award at the National Junior Angus Show five consecutive years which is a direct reflection of participation John has promoted among the membership.

In addition to John's junior Angus involvement, he has also been an inspiring youth livestock advocate. John has organized and hosted several beef clinics that reached approximately 225 area 4-H members. Also, he had a huge impact on the life of a teenage foster child. John introduced and assisted the boy with his first beef project which was grand champion Angus steer at the county fair. Jan Lyons says, "John is exactly the kind of person our industry requires to face the challenges of the future."

Congratulations to John for being an exceptional leader!

—Jessica Ann Sawyer

Spotlight on ARKANSAS Junior Angus Association



To Arkansas Junior Angus, Success Comes Naturally

The Arkansas Junior Angus Association (AJAA) knows how to make an appearance. Perhaps the best example of this was displayed at the 2000 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Des Moines, Iowa.

To go along with the show's theme "Tracking the Millennium," the Arkansas juniors decided to revisit the past century. The colorful decade of the 1960s provided many opportunities for a theme with tie-dyed T-shirts and peace signs. But the Arkansas juniors decided to push the envelope in a very creative way. In addition to wearing tie-dyed shirts, hanging peace signs in the state display, and painting all pitchfork and broom handles to look like the psychedelic design, many people were shocked to see the Arkansas juniors lead a tie-dyed heifer in the opening ceremonies!

"When we started thinking of bright colors, tie-dyed shirts, and peace signs, we were on a roll and there was no going back," member Allyson McGuire says. "We got the creative juices flowing and came up with all sorts of ideas, including the heifer."

The AJAA is definitely on a roll. The program has grown and expanded, especially in the past five years. There are currently 65 members and three sets of advisors, who are on a rotational term. New bylaws, which were recently revised, contribute to the group's success by providing a clear outline of what needs to be done and by whom.

The Association also has a very strong

financial base. In addition to the support of several farms, the state has a very successful foundation heifer program. Junior members are responsible for selecting the heifer to be raffled off, and are then responsible for selling tickets priced at \$100 each. This past year the group was able to raise \$9,500 on the heifer package.

"(The strong financial base) allows us to send members to LEAD (Leaders Engaged in Angus Development) conference and conduct other leadership trainings and social events for our members," advisor Michelle Rieff says. Arkansas sent the largest delegation of members to this year's LEAD in Nashville, Tenn.

In addition to fundraising, the state also holds a successful field day in the summer. The day is the state's summer preview show, but it also provides the kids a chance to prepare for the NJAS.

"We encourage our members to be active on the national level in the NJAS and other competitive events. At the field day, we hold all of the contests held at the NJAS in order to prepare our members for those events," Rieff says.

Arkansas has been very active and successful at the national level. At this year's NJAS in Denver, Colo., the state won the scrapbook competition, as well as herdsmanhood for their level. Their booth was an interactive display measuring the trail west. An antique map was displayed and anyone passing by could put a marker

at their starting point. People from Washington to Florida were able to see how far everyone else traveled to the event. The state also posted humorous and encouraging sayings around the barn. "We tried very hard to make this year's booth educational and interactive," McGuire says.

The adult association allows the junior program to be active in many aspects on the state level also.

"We help with the sales the adult association puts on in the fall. They just added a spring sale in 2001, and it went very well," AJAA President Robby Shofner says.

Perhaps the biggest contributing factor to the group's success is members' willingness to work together and be friends.

"We have so many creative people in our Association. All of the moms come together and always make something happen," Shofner says.

"Our advisors and parents do a great job of organizing, planning, and keeping order. We couldn't do *anything* without them," McGuire adds.

"I don't know how great our group really is, but what makes the difference is that we are all friends," McGuire says. "I have made some of the best friends I will ever have through this organization, and I hope to continue making friends. I hope this will help other states realize that we are just kids. If everyone would stop fighting, excluding the new kid, or worrying about who is winning all of the shows they could realize that they can work together and make something of their association. It isn't all about the Angus industry, but it is about the experiences you have, the people you meet and the learning that takes place."

With this recipe for success, the Arkansas Junior Angus Association should continue to thrive in the future.

— Brian Howell

American Angus Auxiliary Update

Dear Angus juniors,

My year as the 2001 American Angus Auxiliary president has been wonderful because of all of you. It is through you and your programs that the Auxiliary can be a partner in your future. Partnering is so very important when it is realized that goals are more easily accomplished with collective group dynamics. As you grow personally and organizationally, the Auxiliary stands ready to support you.

Contact your state Angus auxiliary to incorporate our programs in more of the state level functions and plans. Search the Web site or make a personal call to the national officers for state auxiliary leadership.

On the national level, the Auxiliary provides leadership to the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) in the following program areas: scholarship, Silver Bowl showmanship awards, Crystal Awards, Silver Pitcher Awards, Achievement Awards, Miss American Angus, and the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American Certified Angus Beef® Cook-Off. Questions about any of these sponsorships can be found online at www.angus.org/auxiliary or by contacting any Auxiliary member.

My challenge to you is to "Look Unto The Hills From Whence Cometh Your Help," believe in yourself and accept the challenges. You are special!

Sincerely,
Jane Ebert, President

THE CHAIRMAN'S PERSPECTIVE:

Hard Work PAYS Off

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



DONETA BROWN ILLUSTRATIONS

Any goal is achievable with a little bit of work and dedication. I'm sure most of you have heard the story of American inventor Thomas Edison and his goal of developing the first electrical light bulb. It took him more than two years of trial-and-error testing and 6,000 different materials before he found the ideal combination to bring his invention to life.

Too often we find ourselves saying "I can't" or "I don't know how." This is when it is time to put forth some effort, dig deep within ourselves and turn a weakness into a strength.

Maybe you want to learn to be a better fitter, maybe you want to become a better public speaker, or maybe you want to become a better student. The one thing that will help you achieve these goals is hard work. By working hard at the things you want to succeed in, you will be sure to gain more confidence in yourself, and be better able to conquer new challenges that you used to think were out of your reach.

— Tom Patterson

2001 Advisors of the Year *Jane and Teddy Morelock*

In order for any state junior program to be successful they must first have a desire to accomplish their goals and strive for excellence as a team. Everyone knows that a successful team is guided by the leadership and wisdom of great coaches. Like any dedicated coach, state advisors willingly give their time, experience and enthusiasm to help youth excel. Jane and Teddy Morelock exemplified this, generously going above and beyond the call of duty to help others succeed. Their excellent leadership is reflected in the lives of juniors they influenced not only in Arkansas, but across the nation.

For 20 years, the Morelocks have been instrumental in organizing events, shows, and programs for Angus youth. They became advisors in 1981, and have served their state ever since. Teddy and Jane have donated countless hours and miles to the Angus juniors.

"Teddy and Jane were always 'there.' You could count on seeing a petite, smiling woman with long blonde hair, flanked by a smiling big man who was standing ready to help in any way," says Susan Taylor, Arkansas Angus breeder. "They were fixtures in our group. Thank goodness."

Jane was instrumental in the creation of the Arkansas juniors' logo, a Razorback hog showing an Angus heifer. Together the couple helped create the Razorback Regional Preview Show. Teddy has served as Arkansas Angus Association president and director, developed the "Exhibitor of the Year" award and chaperoned juniors attending the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference. Jane held several leadership positions including a position on the Arkansas Angus Association board of directors, Arkansas Angus Auxiliary president and secretary/treasurer, and scholarship chairwoman.

The Morelocks' efforts haven't been limited to Arkansas. Teddy and Jane organized an eastern regional Angus show in Arkansas. This was the first time an Eastern Regional show was held west of the Mississippi River.

Teddy and Jane also have organized several meals at various

National Junior Angus Shows (NJAS). At the 1985 NJAS show in Tulsa, they organized the very first out-of-state sponsored meal for all participants served entirely with Arkansas products. An ice cream social was held in Missouri thanks to the Morelocks. After the death of Jane in January 1999, Teddy and their daughter, Leslie, organized a breakfast at the 1999 NJAS in Tulsa.



When they weren't devoting their time to Angus events, the Morelocks were making a positive impact in the lives of other people around Arkansas. The Morelocks were firm believers in the power of education. Jane was an elementary school teacher for 27 years and Teddy is a professor of agronomy at the University of Arkansas. In memory of Jane, Teddy has set up a scholarship at the University of Arkansas for an Arkansas Angus junior. If an Angus junior doesn't apply, the scholarship will be awarded to a 4-H member with a beef project.

Their daughter, Leslie, and her husband, Nick Roye, had a daughter, Hailey Ann, last November. Arkansas Junior Angus Association advisor Cindy Long says the birth of Hailey has kept Teddy recruited with activities for another 20 years.

"For so many years they gave themselves to Junior Angus ... not only in Arkansas, but nationwide," Taylor says. "They and their daughter, Leslie, shared their love and commitment with so many children ... for 20 years and still counting."

— Lacey Robinson

CAB on Countdown to Winter Olympics

Olympic athletes are not the only ones training hard for the 2002 Winter Games. Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) is also working hard as it prepares to serve the brand to a worldwide audience at the Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah, this winter.

Featured products will include *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) frankfurters, barbecue beef and Quick-N-Easy, Pot Roast, along with a variety of CAB deli items. In addition, a new product, will be introduced at the Games, CAB Chili made by Advance Food Company, Enid, Okla. This American food favorite features CAB steak chunks, ground beef, and enough spice to keep spectators warm at the Games.

The chili fits well with the western theme of the menus for the Games. It will also be sold through licensed foodservice distribution companies throughout the United States.

Just over a year ago, CAB joined the team of Olympic Suppliers as the Official Branded Beef Supplier for the 2002 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. In conjunction with its involvement in the Olympics, CAB launched its first-ever national consumer promotion to send a consumer to the event.

"We're proud to be a Salt Lake 2002 Games Supplier, and we wanted to share some of that excitement with our licensed

retailers and the public," says Deanna Scrimger, CAB's Olympic Coordinator. "The CAB Sweepstakes was a way to involve everyone in the 2002 Olympic Winter Games."

The grand prize winner will receive a five-day, four-night trip to Salt Lake City. Tickets to five premium events and the closing ceremony, along with airfare, transportation, lodging and a majority of the meals are included in the package. In addition, 25 first prize-winners will receive CAB product gift boxes, and 100 second place winners will receive CAB merchandise.

With the Olympic Games just a few months away, the excitement is growing. While athletes prepare to compete for gold medals, retail stores and foodservice distributors are working to increase awareness and demand for the CAB brand and Angus.

CAB is the leading brand of fresh beef. For producer information, consumer tips, and grocer or restaurant locations, visit www.2eatcab.com or call 1-877-2-EAT-C-A-B.



— Ryan Sweeney

THE COWMEDIAN'S CORNER

Q Why did the grown-up cow worry about the little cow?

A Because she was so moo-dy!
— Megan McLoud, Georgia

Q What does a cow make during an earthquake?

A A milk shake!
— Josh Burton, Kansas



Do you have a joke for "The Cowmedian's Corner?" Send us your favorite cow jokes and riddles for the next issue of Directions. If we use your stuff, we'll send you a cool NJAA T-shirt. Send jokes to: Cowmedian's Corner, % James Fisher, 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506-2997.

NJAA Board of Directors By-law Revision

On July 9, 2001, during the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), the National Junior Angus Board of Directors met at the DoubleTree Hotel in Denver, Colo. An important topic discussed over the course of the evening was a possible amendment to Article IV, Section 2 of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) by-laws.

The article currently reads as follows:

Numbers, Terms, Qualifications, and Election of Directors. The directors of the Association shall be twelve (12) in number, each of those serving at any one time having been elected from different states. Directors shall serve for one two-year term. Each state junior Angus association shall be entitled to nominate no more than one candidate for national director at each annual meeting of the members. Directors shall be elected by a plurality vote of the delegates entitled to vote and shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and qualified. To be eligible for election,

board candidates must not have reached their twenty-first birthday before January 1 of their election year.

The proposal that was brought to the table would allow one person to run for a position on the NJAA Board from each state each year even if a junior member from their state is currently serving on the Board. For example, two people from the same state could potentially serve on the Board at the same time.

The by-law proposal is printed in this edition of *Directions* because the delegates to the 2002 NJAS in Milwaukee, Wis., will be voting on this amendment. I encourage each state association to give this proposal serious consideration, as well as choosing delegates that are familiar with the content of the current NJAA by-laws, and how this change could affect the future of the NJAA.

— Heath Johnson



Stay **STRONG**

As I write this article I am plagued with a thousand thoughts. This week I woke up on Tuesday morning to find our world turned upside down by the terrorist acts committed upon the United States. I'm sure that there is not one of us who was not glued to our television sets as each reporter painted a sadder picture of the catastrophic events that took place on Sept. 11, 2001. How many of us asked each other "How does this happen," and even more frightening "What else could happen?" I can't imagine one of us involved in the beef industry at some point voicing the question if these terrible types of acts can take place, how sound are the safeguards in place to protect the U.S. borders from Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD).

From the first moment the events took place on Sept. 11, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) began a heightened alert. Training for this type of event has been going on for sometime now. Foreign animal disease training for federal and state veterinary personnel has been simulating border exercises for many months. "These professionals are trained in recognition of the disease and in migration and containment measures should the virus be detected," says Dr. Ken Thomazin, an animal health official from California. Glenn Slack, chief executive officer of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA), says, "The animal health infrastructure in the U.S. is highly sophisticated and works daily in preventing the introduction of FMD and other animal diseases foreign to the U.S."

The NIAA has developed and advocated educational, technical, scientific and financial support necessary to establish and operate the National Animal Health Emergency Management System, which is similar to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approach to handling natural disasters. Such a system for animal health emergencies would allow animal health officials and the industry to mobilize a response to a foreign animal disease outbreak.

Slack says, "New facilities are urgently needed to achieve a world-class infrastructure, to meet new international accreditation standards, and to be able to meet the growing challenges of infectious animal diseases and bio-terrorism, deemed to be a very real food security threat."

As this is the case, it should become prudent of every beef producer in the United States to be aware of how the state and federal governments are using funds to manage these dire concerns.

The USDA indeed acted quickly on Tuesday, Sept. 11, releasing a notice to its field people warning to increase their surveillance due to the terrorist activity. While we have many monitors in place, my feeling is after the unthinkable took place upon our shores, crumbling the very fabric of our security, it should now become the duty of everyone of us to question and inspect the sanctuary of our borders.

— Mercedes Danekas

Champions

I will never forget my first National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Omaha, Neb. I remember watching a very emotional and rewarding event. As a nine year old, I stood in the crowd and witnessed the selection of the champion owned female. As Lori Franklin led her heifer to the winner's circle, I saw her family sharing tears of joy from the reward of years of hard work and perseverance.

From that moment on, my goal was to exhibit a champion heifer at the NJAS someday. This is somewhat comical to think about as my heifer placed 16th in her class that first year.

But the idea gave me the determination and drive to spend hours in the barn every day, year after year working with heifers that were "potential champions." I recently concluded my career as a junior member at the NJAS in Denver, Colo. Although I have been blessed with many thrilling moments, I never did show that champion heifer I had dreamed about.

I realize now though that actually having the champion trophy is not as important as the effort one puts in to it. The real value of champions is in doing your best to achieve the goals you set, even if you do not attain them. While ribbons fade and trophies get dusty and tarnished, the reward from working hard is never worn with time.

As junior members, I urge you to always do your best. I also challenge you to remember to recognize others who do their best and are fortunate in attaining their goals. Whether you win or lose, you need to congratulate those around you for the efforts they have put in, and remember to congratulate yourself as well.

I wish all of you the best of luck this upcoming year.

— Jessica Ann Sawyer

Shop the Web at www.angus.org/njaa for all your gift-giving needs

Looking for a perfect gift for upcoming holidays or birthdays? The Angus Foundation has T-shirts, hats, wind jacket pullovers and gloves for sale that will suit everyone on your list. These items are available in a variety of styles and colors.

The Foundation also offers a set of four black-and-white grease-pencil drawings from a series of works by Angus artist Frank Murphy. The 11-by-14-inch prints were used in the Association's advertising campaign from 1966 to 1970.

New! *A Historic Angus Journey – The American Angus Association, 1883-2000* is now available. The book was written by Keith Evans, former director of public relations for the American Angus Association, and contains more than 350 pages of history and photographs that track the evolution of the world's largest beef breed organization and highlights the people and events that made the Angus breed a success.

Visit the Web site, www.angus.org/njaa, for more details, including photos and prices of the merchandise or contact the junior activities department at (816) 383-5100.



Important dates and deadlines

NOVEMBER 2001

10-13 NAILE; Louisville, Ky.

JANUARY 2002

4 Deadline for entering Cow/Calf Game

16-19 National Western Stock Show; Denver, Colo.

17 Angus Foundation Heifer Package Sells; Denver, Colo.

FEBRUARY 2002

1 Ownership and entry deadline for the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic

1 Spring *Directions* article deadline

15 Ownership deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show

MARCH 2002

1 Entry deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show

14-16 Youth Beef Industry Conference (YBIC); Denver, Colo.

16-18 NJAA Board Meeting

9-10 Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic Regional Preview Show; Harrisonburg, Va.

APRIL 2002

15 Ownership and entry deadline for the Atlantic National

19-20 Western Regional; Reno, Nev.

MAY 2002

1 Deadline for Honorary Angus Foundation and Advisor of the Year nominations

1 Ownership deadline Central Regional Preview Junior Angus Show

1 Ownership deadline Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show

1 Ownership deadline Northwest Regional Junior Angus Preview Show

15 CAB/NJAA scholarship applications due

15 Angus Foundation scholarship applications due

15 Ownership deadline for the National Junior Angus Show

15 Entry deadline for Central Regional Preview Junior Angus Show

15 Entry deadline for Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show

15 Entry deadline for Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show

24-26 Atlantic National Regional Preview Junior Angus Show; Timonium, Md.

JUNE 2002

1 Entry deadline National Junior Angus Show

1 Outstanding Leadership Award applications due

14-16 Central Regional Preview Junior Angus Show; Hutchinson, Kan.

15 Deadline for submitting names of state candidates and delegates for NJAA elections

15 LEAD registrations due (early registration deadline)

15 Entry deadline for the All-American Angus Breeders Futurity Junior Show

21-23 Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show; Timonium, Md.

24-26 Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show; Wash. (tentative dates)

JULY 2002

8-13 National Junior Angus Show; Milwaukee, Wis.

27-28 All-American Angus Breeders Futurity Regional Preview Junior Angus Show; Louisville, Ky.

AUGUST 2002

1 Ownership deadline (issue date) for NAILE Junior Show and American Royal Junior Show

1-4 LEAD Conference; Sacramento, Calif.

SEPTEMBER 2002

1 Fall *Directions* article deadline

20 Entry deadline for American Royal Junior Heifer Show

OCTOBER 2002

1 Entry deadline for NAILE Junior Heifer Show

1 Ownership deadline (issue date) for National Western Stock Show – Junior Show

TBA American Royal Junior Show; Kansas City, Mo.

TBA American Royal Open Show; Kansas City, Mo.

2003 Dates and Sites

April Western Regional; Reno, Nev.

June Eastern Regional; Lewisburg, W. Va.

July National Junior Angus Show; Kansas City, Mo.

2004 Dates and Sites

July National Junior Angus Show; Louisville, Ky.



Note: American Royal, NAILE and the National Western ownership deadlines are ISSUE DATES. All other deadlines are POSTMARK DATES.



Each household with one or more active NJAA members is to receive one copy of each semiannual youth-oriented issue of the *ANGUS JOURNAL* (May and September) and one copy of each semiannual NJAA *DIRECTIONS* newsletter (Spring and Fall). If you, a brother or sister do not receive these issues, contact the *ANGUS JOURNAL* Circulation Department or the American Angus Association Junior Activities Department.