

# DIRECTIONS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS ASSOCIATION

3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506-2997  
(816) 383-5100 • www.njaa.info • jfisher@angus.org

Fall 2002

## WHAT'S INSIDE

- Page 2 Meet the Six New Directors
- Page 3 Developing Leaders
- Page 4 Spotlight on Kentucky
- Page 5 Juniors on the MOO-VE
- Page 6 The Chairman's Perspective
- Page 7 2002 Advisors of the Year
- Page 8 Regional Manager Profile
- Page 9 Angus Events = Family Vacations

### TERMS UP IN 2003

**MERCEDES DANEKAS, chairman**—10660 Gay Rd., Wilton, CA 95693; phone: (916) 687-4679; e-mail: pheasanttrek@aol.com

**LANA MYERS, vice chairman**—4716 Highland Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70808; phone: (225) 819-0522; e-mail: lana\_myers@hotmail.com

**BRIAN HOWELL, communications director**—241 Sheetz St., Apt. 7, West Lafayette, IN 47906; phone: (765) 743-3796; e-mail: howellbm@purdue.edu

**BRANDON WALKER, Foundation director**—825 Gaines School Rd., Apt. 236, Athens, GA 30605; phone: (706) 543-6686; e-mail: sngmag@yahoo.com

**LACEY ROBINSON, leadership director**—2215 College Ave., Apt. 113, Manhattan, KS 66502; phone: (785) 565-0402; e-mail: robinson\_lacey@hotmail.com

**JOHN McCURRY, membership director**—805 Bertrand, Manhattan, KS 66502; phone: (785) 776-2026; e-mail: johnmccurry57@yahoo.com

### TERMS UP IN 2004

**JENNIFER BECK**—1000 Smith Level Rd., Apt. 04, Carrboro, NC 27510; phone: (919) 968-7916; e-mail: beckfmlly@aol.com

**CORTNEY COLLINS**—#47 Copperfield Court, Morgantown, WV 26505; phone: (304) 462-7747; e-mail: cortneycortney@yahoo.com

**JAMIE HOWER**—4897 Hanoverville Rd., Bethlehem, PA 18020; phone: (610) 837-0443; e-mail: justenuffangus@enter.net

**JAMIE KING**—1975 Indianola Ave., Columbus, OH 43201; phone: (614) 294-4794; e-mail: king.659@osu.edu

**TREVER KUIPERS**—2311 S. First, Apt. 203, Champaign, IL 61820; phone: (815) 791-9549; e-mail: tkuipers@uiuc.edu

**AMY WOLFREY**—410B Patchin Hall, Stillwater, OK 74077; phone: (405) 332-1910; e-mail: hull\_cove@yahoo.com

## FUN Under the Big Top

The 2002 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) was held July 8-13 in Milwaukee, Wis. The Wisconsin juniors did a wonderful job of creating a circus atmosphere throughout the week, with good food, family events, and even a parade of circus animals during opening ceremonies. Junior Angus members competed in numerous contests during the week, including the All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® Cook-Off and team sales. They also participated in the brand new mentoring program.

One of the most popular contests annually is the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest. It was extremely competitive this year. The overall winner



was Brittania Carlson of Iowa, followed by Kara Claeys, Indiana; Karl Holshouser, North Carolina; Morgan Woodward, Ohio; and Dusty DeRycke, Illinois.

During the show, 949 head of cattle were exhibited by 550 exhibitors. Morgan

Woodward, Gallipolis, Ohio, led Sunset Valley Phyllis 1201 to the grand champion bred-and-owned female honors. Amy Bussmus, Mitchell, S.D., won the owned heifer show exhibiting Roth Elba 1017. The champion bred-and-owned cow-calf pair was BC Pierres Dr Blkbd Girl 017 shown by Kyle Conley, Clarksdale, Mo.; grand champion owned cow-calf pair was Dameron PVF Proven Queen 010 led by Megan Weisel, Louisville, Ohio; and the

grand champion bred-and-owned bull was DAJS Drover L111 shown by Katy Satree, Montague, Texas. The champion steer named Sandy Ridge Yukon 117 was exhibited by Justin Lindgren, Paton, Iowa. John Pfeiffer, Mulhall, Okla., entered the champion carcass steer.

The six new members elected to the National Junior Angus Association Board of Directors who will serve for the next two years include Jennifer Beck, Louisburg, N.C.; Cortney Collins, Tanner, W.Va.; Jamie Hower, Bethlehem, Pa.; Jamie King, Tiffin, Ohio; Trevor Kuipers, Onarga, Ill.; and Amy Wolfrey, Frederick, Md.

Congratulations to all of the juniors who competed at nationals! Make sure to mark your calendar for the 2003 NJAS in Louisville, Ky.

—Lana Myers



Gus Gnorski, a reporter with the Fox television affiliate in Milwaukee, interviewed Keela Retallick, a Wisconsin junior Angus member, in the barns during the NJAS for the morning news show.

# Meet the Six New Directors

Six new National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Board of Directors were elected at the 2002 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Milwaukee, Wis. Here is some information about each of them to help you get to know them better. As directors they will develop programs for the future of the NJAA.

## Cortney Collins:

**Hometown:** Tanner, W.Va.

**School/Major:** West Virginia University/ agriculture biochemistry

**Favorite color:** blue

**Favorite food:** Chinese

**Favorite song:** "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen

**Favorite cut of meat:** Once you've had tri-tip, you never go back!

**Favorite NJAS competition:** quiz bowl

**If you could be any cartoon character, who would you be:** a stickperson

**One word to describe yourself:** happy-go-lucky

**Most cherished Angus memory:** Attending my first national show and meeting all the people from around the United States.

**Words of inspiration:** Be happy, enthusiastic, and have fun!



often come well disguised. And, when you find them, run with them!

## Trever Kuipers:

**Hometown:** Onarga, Ill.

**School/Major:** University of Illinois/animal science and pre-veterinary medicine

**Favorite color:** orange

**Favorite food:** enchiladas

**Favorite song:** "Wherever You Will Go" by The Calling

**Favorite cut of meat:** porterhouse

**Favorite NJAS competition:** team sales

**If you could be any cartoon character, who would you be:** Taz

**One word to describe yourself:** hard-working

**Most cherished Angus memory:** The 1999 NJAS in Tulsa, Okla.

**Words of inspiration:** Don't be afraid to get involved. You never know what you might get out of it.



## Jamie King:

**Hometown:** Tiffin, Ohio

**School/Major:** Ohio State University/ animal science

**Favorite color:** red

**Favorite song:** anything by the Dixie Chicks

**Favorite cut of meat:** any kind of steak

**Favorite NJAS competition:** poster contest

**If you could be any cartoon character, who would you be:** any Disney character

**One word to describe yourself:** enthusiastic

**Most cherished Angus memory:** My first NJAS! It was in Columbus, Ohio, in 1992. During the opening ceremony, I was honored to carry our state flag.

**Words of inspiration:** Always believe in your ability and never that something cannot be done!



## Jennifer Beck:

**Hometown:** Louisburg, N.C.

**School/Major:** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill/political science

**Favorite color:** green

**Favorite food:** steak

**Favorite song:** "One Friend" by Dan Seals

**Favorite cut of meat:** strip steak

**Favorite NJAS competition:** team sales

**If you could be any cartoon character, who would you be:** me, only animated and indestructible

**One word to describe yourself:** intense

**Most cherished Angus memory:** The 1992 Eastern Regional in Fayetteville, Ark., when I led my first bred-and-owned heifer into the ring. She ended up being reserve in her division.

**Words of inspiration:** Always keep your eyes open for the opportunities that the NJAA provides each of its members on a daily basis. The most life altering opportunities can



## Jamie Hower:

**Hometown:** Bethlehem, Pa.

**School/Major:** large-animal science degree

**Favorite color:** black

**Favorite food:** macaroni and cheese

**Favorite song:** "Peace Frog" by The Doors

**Favorite cut of meat:** filet mignon

**Favorite NJAS competition:** photo contest

**If you could be any cartoon character, who would you be:** Tigger

**One word to describe yourself:** dedicated

**Most cherished Angus memory:** The 2002 MAJAC Show! A young girl was washing her heifer as well as everyone else around her. I showed her how to rinse her heifer and not the entire crowd. I loved her smile!

**Words of inspiration:** Always give it your best and have fun!



## Amy Wolfrey:

**Hometown:** Frederick, Md.

**School/Major:** Oklahoma State University/animal science

**Favorite color:** purple

**Favorite song:** "Three Days" by Pat Green

**Favorite cut of meat:** New York strip

**Favorite NJAS competition:** prepared speech contest

**If you could be any cartoon character, who would you be:** Supergirl

**One word to describe yourself:** motivated

**Most cherished Angus memory:** My first LEAD conference in 1997, East Lansing, Mich.

**Words of inspiration:** Take advantage of all your opportunities and don't be shy!



— Mercedes Danekas



# Developing Leaders

Nearly 100 junior members and advisors attended the 2002 Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference in Sacramento, Calif., in August. The Conference, themed “From St. Joe to Sacramento - On the Rail to Success” brought juniors from 26 states together, providing an opportunity to expand their leadership abilities, learn more about the beef industry, and experience agriculture in a part of the country very different from what most participants were used to.

The attendees heard presentations from numerous speakers. Several speakers highlighted California agriculture and the California beef industry. John Dickinson, regional manager, challenged juniors to use the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) as a stepping stone to success, by getting involved and taking advantage of all the opportunities this organization has to offer. Keynote motivational speaker for the conference was Scott Vernon, who defined leadership and encouraged participants to develop their leadership potential and to take an active part by writing either a press

release or a letter to the editor of their local newspaper.

On Friday the group set out on buses for a day of tours and more fun activities. At a Raley’s supermarket the retail side of the beef industry was showcased, and at G Bar Angus a completely different side of production agriculture was presented as attendees saw groves of fruit trees. Five Star Land and Livestock hosted the group for lunch and several speakers. The group also toured Raley Field, home of Sacramento’s minor league baseball team.

The NJAA Board of Directors put on workshops, teaching everything from public relations with people not involved with agriculture to the packing industry to résumés and even one on dancing. Thursday night they presented a skit, “The Angus Huntah,” showcasing the “elusive Angus” while avoiding pitfalls along the way. Throughout the conference the six

retiring board members gave retiring addresses, summing up their time not only as board members, but also as junior members, sharing lessons they had learned during those years.

LEAD is about meeting new people and seeing old friends as well as educational workshops and speakers. Friday evening was spent at Discovery Park for time to unwind, play a game of kickball with new friends, and listen to vespers. Saturday evening the Danekas family welcomed the group for dinner and a social to wind down the weekend. Sunday morning was a devotional service featuring several junior members, before Scott Vernon sent the group off with “The Charge” challenging them to go back to their state associations with what they had gained from the weekend and make them all the better for it.

Next year’s LEAD Conference will be held in Fort Worth, Texas, and I encourage any junior Angus member 14-years-old or older to attend, especially if they have never been before. It’s a great opportunity to learn about our industry, see new places and meet new friends and, as in the past, promises to be a lot of fun. So make plans to come and “Discover Your Worth” in the Lone Star State next summer!

— Amy Wolfrey



**Left:** LEAD participants toured Raley’s supermarket, where Certified Angus Beef® is featured in their retail meat cases.



**Right:** Speaker Scott Vernon hands out balloons to LEAD participants during his motivational talk.

## Advisor Profile: Paul Hill

The National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Board of Directors is privileged to be advised by a few great individuals every year.

Along with the director of activities and junior activities, James Fisher, the Board has an advising team that is made up of an



American Angus Association staff member, a director from the Association Board of Directors, and an active American Angus Auxiliary member. Paul Hill, who represents the Association Board, is a member of the NJAA Board's advising team. The following is a profile of Paul.

**Q:** How long have you been involved in the Angus industry?

**A:** 36 years

**Q:** If you weren't involved in the Angus industry, what would be your dream profession?

**A:** Working with youth.

**Q:** What is your all time favorite movie?

**A:** "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid"

**Q:** Who was your role model while you were growing up?

**A:** My father and Jack Phillips.

**Q:** Where is your favorite vacation destination?

**A:** Florida

**Q:** Do you have any special goals?

**A:** Breeding better Angus.

**Q:** When did you start wearing your signature hat?

**A:** When I was eight or nine years old.

**Q:** What is your favorite season of the year?

**A:** Spring

**Q:** What is the most important issue that you would address to junior Angus members today?

**A:** Stay focused with an open mind.

**Q:** What was the title of the last book you read, and would you recommend it?

**A:** "Ronald Reagan" by Dinesh D'Souza. Yes, I recommend reading it.

—Mercedes Danekas

## Spotlight on KENTUCKY

### Junior Angus Association

Kentucky is known as the "Bluegrass State" and is also well known as home to the Kentucky Derby. However, Kentucky also will be the home of the 2003 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). The Kentucky Junior Angus Association (KJAA) has been working very hard to plan this event, and they hope it will be the best NJAS yet.

Currently the KJAA has 144 members who are led by a team of five officers, four reporters and four directors. They also have advisors they look to for support. They have an annual meeting each March at the Kentucky Angus Sweepstakes. At this meeting they elect new officers and select their queen and princess. They also award the KJAA leadership award at this meeting. Their state show is held in June when they have a meeting and an activity that includes both new and old members. Kentucky juniors have always represented their state well at the Eastern Regional and NJAS. They are very proud to have brought home the herdsman award the past three years from the NJAS. The KJAA has hosted its own state Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conferences as well as sending representatives to the national LEAD Conference.

The KJAA has been working very hard to

plan next year's

NJAS. They have held extra meetings as well as numerous fundraising events. The KJAA is not new to hosting the NJAS; they have hosted the event in 1977, 1989 and 1995. The theme for the 2003 NJAS is "Kentucky...Kool as can be in 2003!" The Kentucky juniors decided on this theme because they wanted to focus on their great facilities as well as keeping people cool during the July heat. Throughout the year KJAA has been selling t-shirts, afghans, candles, jewelry and many other items. They will also hold fundraisers at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in November and at the National Western in January.

The Kentucky juniors are working very hard to plan a great event, but they know they haven't been able to do it on their own. "The backbone of the Kentucky Junior Angus Association is the Kentucky Angus Association. Without their support and guidance we would not be the great association that we are today," says Lindsay Pennington, KJAA president.

For more information about the 2003 NJAS and how you can get involved visit [www.angusjournal.com/2003njias](http://www.angusjournal.com/2003njias).

—Jamie King

## Lampe Named Outstanding Leader

Every year there are many individuals who stand out as leaders within their state associations as well as the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). The winner of the 2002 NJAA Outstanding Leadership Award is definitely no exception. Garrett Lampe, the 17-year-old son of Mark and Anne Lampe of Scott City, Kan., has been actively involved in the Kansas Junior Angus Association (KJAA) for nine years. He is currently serving as secretary of the KJAA, and has also held the offices of director, reporter, and treasurer. In 2001 Garrett served as chairman of the KJAA chute raffle.

Garrett has participated in many events at the National Junior Angus Show. His leadership is additionally proven by his willingness to assist other junior Angus members. He has helped coach and lead three KJAA team sales teams, and five Auxiliary-sponsored All-American Certified Angus Beef® Cook-Off teams.

Garrett is also actively involved in 4-H, FFA and the Kansas Junior Livestock Association. Garrett says that one of his greatest role models throughout his life has been his grandfather, who introduced him to the Angus industry. "Being a leader and helping others allows me to give back to an industry and the organization that has given me so much," he says.

Congratulations, Garrett!



Garrett Lampe receives the 2002 NJAA Outstanding Leadership Award from former NJAA leadership director Brittney Burns.

—Trevor Kuipers

# Juniors on the MOO-VE



# Don't Miss this Piece of History

While the American Angus Association is an organization that appears to an outsider to be focused only on Angus cattle, insiders attest that it is, in fact, an organization that revolves around its people. In 2001, Keith Evans published *A Historic Angus Journey — The American Angus Association, 1883-2000*. Upon his retirement from the Association in 1998, following 19 years of service as director of communications and public relations, Keith set out to complete his chronicle of the Angus breed from the perspective of its leadership.

Acknowledging that an understanding of the Association's history will be essential to designing a successful future, Keith has compiled a chronology of the largest beef breed association in the United States from its starting point in our country at Victoria, Kan., to the present day. This historical

Angus account details everything from the Angus struggle during the Great Depression to the beginning of the Angus Herd Improvement Records Program and the organization of the Junior Activities Program and the first National Junior Angus Show that was held in Columbia, Mo., in 1969.

As members of the National Junior Angus Association work to write the pages of the future of the Angus breed, it is essential that we understand the past of our parent organization. Keith has compiled a comprehensive historical profile that serves as a fundamental tool for every junior seeking to understand the Angus breed and the foundation upon which its success has been



built. *A Historic Angus Journey* is an excellent one-time investment available for purchase from the Angus Foundation that offers an endless supply of Angus information for both juniors and their parents.

To order your copy, contact the Angus Foundation at (816) 383-5100 or order on-line at [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org). The leather-bound version is \$50 and the cloth-bound is \$25. A \$5 shipping and handling charge is added to each order. There are also signed and numbered copies by the author available for \$150.

—Jennifer Beck

## ATTENTION!!

The American Angus Association Board of Directors adopted a new rule for all junior shows. Junior exhibitors must wear a tucked-in, collared shirt while in the showing. This will be effective for all regional preview shows, regional shows and the National Junior Angus Show.

## THE CHAIRMAN'S PERSPECTIVE:

### The Next Step

*"When we walk to the edge of all the light we have and take the step into the darkness of the unknown, we must believe that one of two things will happen. There will be something solid for us to stand on or we will be taught to fly"*

—Patrick Overton

There is always a challenge in making the decision to take the next step. Whether that step is setting new goals, or deciding to take on that difficult class you've been putting off, it is always a challenge. No matter the step, large or small, it always takes a dose of courage to step out of our comfort zones into the unknown. It is the single step that is so important. Nothing can be gained without taking it, and everything and more can be achieved when you make the effort. It is that next step that the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Board of Directors is striving to reach for your association, but it can't be accomplished without you. Your input and enthusiasm are the key components to not only keeping this the strongest junior beef breed association but also making us the most progressive.

Knowing what you're thinking and hearing your ideas are very important. I want to encourage the membership to please contact any of us about your ideas and thoughts regarding all of the programs the NJAA offers. You don't have to wait to see us at events — please make use of the NJAA Web site, [www.njaa.info](http://www.njaa.info), and contact us by e-mail or phone. If you have new ideas for programs or ways you feel things could be changed for the better, let us know. It is those next possible steps that we need to hear about.

Your enthusiasm may be the most important ingredient in the steps we take as an Association. As Ralph Waldo Emerson said "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." As we head into the year and the many steps we'll take individually and as an Association, it will be solid and sound staircase and one from which we can also learn how to fly. I look forward to hearing from you.

— Mercedes Danekas

## Bylaw Revision Fails

State voting delegates were kept busy at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). Not only were the delegates responsible for voting for the new National Junior Angus Association Board of Directors, but they also had a bylaw revision to consider. The bylaw revision, which would have allowed two members from the same state to be members of the Board at the same time, did not pass the required two-thirds vote. Therefore, Article IV, Section 2 of the bylaws stays the same and reads as follows:

*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.*

— Lana Myers



# James' Junction

I am often asked by people not involved with the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) - "What makes the NJAA a great organization?" I can answer that question very simply by saying - it is the people involved in the program. However, I think that statement alone would be interpreted by most people as the members, but my definition of "the people involved" goes well beyond the members.

The people involved in making the NJAA a great organization does start with the membership; however, that is just a small portion of the people involved. I think we must look beyond the membership to see who else is involved. My list includes parents, advisors, the state and national Angus Auxiliary, your state, regional and national adult Angus associations, Angus breeders and corporate sponsors.

No junior Angus activity could take place if these people were not willing to support the NJAA program with their time, experiences and funding.

I would like to pay tribute to one such sponsor in this newsletter.

Starting in 1999 Merial stepped forward and offered sponsorship for the Awards Function at the National Junior Angus Show. Merial's commitment was to provide funding to support the awards for those contests and competitions that are designed to help develop the personal and leadership skills of the membership.

We thank Merial for their belief in the NJAA programs.



— James Fisher

## Shop the Angus online store for 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 Angus 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.

Visit [www.angusonline.org/store](http://www.angusonline.org/store) for more details, including photos and prices of the merchandise or contact the Junior Activities Department at (816) 383-5100.

## 2002 Advisors of the Year — Connie Robbins and Cary Childs

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. Connie Robbins and Cary Childs 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 have influenced in Mississippi and across the nation.

During the past six years, Connie and Cary have been key instruments in the Mississippi Junior Angus Association (MJAA). They have organized shows, contests, fundraisers and increased membership. They have devoted countless hours helping juniors rehearse lines, design costumes, paint backdrops and try out new recipes for the cook-off.

During their term as advisors, Mississippi has placed high in contests at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). They have also helped prepare a young man to serve on the National Junior Angus Board. Connie and Cary's unselfish attitudes show their desire to see youth succeed and develop into tomorrow's leaders.

"Connie and Cary's motivation seems to get kids believing they can compete with anyone on any level and perform just as well," said Kirk Johnson, MJAA president.

They helped Mississippi juniors raise \$50,000 in order to host the 2001 Eastern Regional. Connie and Cary's leadership, organizational skills and ability

to make things run smoothly helped them make the show a huge success. Also, they produced educational activities for juniors to enjoy during the show.

It seems Connie and Cary attempt to make every opportunity an educational one. They enjoy teaching and helping juniors in cattle selection and public speaking just to name a few. Both advisors dedicate time to encouraging youth to apply for scholarships and the Gold, Silver and Bronze awards. They help juniors to highlight weaker areas they need to work on to become successful livestock producers.

Connie and Cary's contributions and sacrifices have not gone unnoticed. They have impacted youth locally, on the state level and nationwide.

"Their primary goals are for kids to succeed as Angus producers, to become responsible, ethical adults who are willing to 'take charge when given the command' and to become good citizens promoting and abiding by the laws of this great country," said Johnson.

I encourage you to let your state advisors know just how much you appreciate all that they do. It is because of advisors like Connie and Cary that the youth of our organization continue to be influential leaders in not only the beef industry but also wherever life may take them.

—Lacey Robinson



Connie Robbins



Cary Childs

## Whitestone Donates Foundation Heifer

**foun-da-tion** Pronunciation: faun-'dA-shun; Function: *noun*

- 1: a basis (as a tenet, principle, or axiom) upon which something stands or is supported
- 2: funds given for the permanent support of an institution
- 3: an underlying base or support
- 4: a body or ground upon which something is built up or overlaid

Webster hit the nail on the head when defining such a powerful word. Yet, I think if alive today he would have included the words "for example see 'Angus Foundation.'" As many of you know the Angus Foundation is responsible for providing funding for scholarships, the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference, and numerous programs aimed at developing the full potential of junior Angus members.



So who's funding all of these great programs and activities? That's one question that the Angus Foundation Heifer Package can help answer. Since the creation of the Angus Foundation, the heifer package has raised more than \$580,560 from package purchases by 45 different operations and individuals.

The 2003 package features a February 2002 heifer from Whitestone Farm, Aldie, Va. She is a daughter of Eila Eila of Conanga and sired by DHD Traveler 6807. She is a full sister of the popular AI sire Connealy Dateline. To accompany the heifer, the buyer will receive 30 days of free insurance from American Live Stock Insurance Co., free transportation to the buyer's farm or ranch provided by Lathrop Livestock Transportation, a flush and three embryo implants into the buyer's recipient cows from Trans Ova Genetics, Ivomec® donated by Merial, and an Angus Information Management Software (AIMS) package from the American Angus Association AIMS Department.

This year, let's show our appreciation and support of the Angus Foundation by getting the word out about the heifer package and taking every opportunity to thank previous donors and buyers for their vital role in making the National Junior Angus Association what it is today.

— Brandon Walker



## John's Viewpoint

As the agriculture industry, but more specifically the beef industry and the Angus breed are constantly changing and developing, I encourage all of you to take an active role in ensuring our future. To do this, it's essential to educate yourselves about our livelihood and way of life. To put it more simply, YOU are the spokesperson and voice of the ag industry and the beef business. Even more, if you don't know answers about meat products and the industry as a whole, how should we expect the consumer or urban society to know the advantages of eating beef and other protein products?

I encourage each of you to read local and national publications to keep abreast on current topics and buzz words so you are qualified to talk and preach about our industry. Publications that I suggest and that will help our cause are the *Angus Journal*, *National Cattleman*, and *Drovers*.

I strongly suggest that you open your horizon beyond the showing and just the Angus breed and look at the industry from start to finish and learn all the aspects. Finally, when answering questions or educating others I suggest that you make and present yourself as professional as possible. Also, keep a cool head if you ever come across an activist or vegetarian.

Again, I can't stress to you how important it is to become educated in all facets of this industry and business.

—John McCurry

## REGIONAL MANAGER PROFILE: *Bill Powell*

*National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members have many to thank for their contributions. Of special importance to juniors are the 12 regional managers who help with many behind-the-scenes efforts to ensure meetings and shows run efficiently and according to the American Angus 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 from the Association who is active with junior activities.*



Bill Powell grew up on Arrowhead Farms, an Angus operation near Walkersville, Md. After attending the University of Maryland, he was executive secretary/fieldman for the Virginia Angus Association. He then managed Rea Ranch, an Angus operation in Simonton, Texas. For the next six years he worked for *Drovers Journal* as a field representative, and he then spent seven years in a similar position with *Livestock Breeders Journal*. In the fall of 1980 he joined the Association staff.

As a regional manager for 22 years, Bill recalls the best

memories while working with families for two and three generations. He believes his job is made easy because he truly believes in Angus. "I believe that Angus cattle are the most superior beef animal in the world," he says.

One experience that has really proved to be meaningful is his work with the *Angus Journal*. Bill enjoys working sales, visiting farms, keeping track of records, and helping with breeding decisions. "It's exciting to see good, high-quality cattle sell for top-dollar prices."

His involvement with the commercial industry is also enjoyable. He enjoys helping commercial breeders see the value in Angus as compared to other breeds. He is always encouraging breeders to switch to Angus.

Bill admits that it's nice to see some representation from the East within the NJAA Board of Directors, however acknowledges that it's gratifying to see all the good quality youth from all over the country. "They all do an excellent job," he adds.

The best part of working for the Association is all the good people, the strong staff in Saint Joseph, Mo., and the teamwork to get an enormous amount of work accomplished. The junior members really play an important role as well, "they're stronger than ever," Bill says. When asked what memories are the most meaningful for Bill, he said breeder's success when switching to Angus and watching junior members become today's leaders.

—Jamie Hower



# Angus Events = Family Vacations

Upon answering the question, “Where did you go on vacation this summer?” when returning to school earlier this fall, many National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members probably received funny looks from their peers. While many of our friends spend their vacation time visiting national parks, the beach, or foreign countries, numerous Angus families allow the location of Angus shows and conferences to determine their travel destinations.

The American Angus Association hosts many events during the year at various locations throughout the country. By participating in the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference, regional and Roll of Victory (ROV) shows, or your state preview show, it's easy to log miles on the truck and trailer while seeing much of the United States.

“There is nothing like pulling your cattle 30 hours in the middle of the summer to attend the junior national,” said North Carolina junior Angus member Callie Birdsell. By attending the 2001 NJAS in Denver, Colo., Birdsell and her traveling family had many unique experiences her jet-setting friends could only imagine.

“At one point we got the cattle out at a rest stop and started walking them down the dog paths to let them stretch,” Birdsell said. Memories are also made during the worst of experiences. “We broke an axle on the truck on our way home from Denver and had to spend the night in a truck stop.” Although it was frustrating at the time, Birdsell laughs about the experience now.

By walking around the barn at shows you will likely hear of unique places people saw on the way to the show, unique characters encountered at truck stops, moments of insanity in the back seat of a vehicle as a result of being on the road too long, or good places to stop for a refresher. Caravanning with other families for long distances almost always provides memories and helps build friendships.

“One of the great things about spending your vacation at Angus events is getting to see your friends from across the country. On other vacations you are often surrounded by strangers,” Birdsell said.

NJAA events are often held in cities that have many neat attractions. This past year at the NJAS in Milwaukee, several families

spent an evening watching the Brewers Major League baseball team, toured the brewery, or visited the shores of Lake Michigan. LEAD Conference participants were able to travel around north-central California. Every year the Atlantic National is held in Timonium, Md., a suburb of Baltimore, Md., and a short drive from our nation's capital, Washington, D.C.

Events for 2003 will provide many opportunities to visit unique places. The 2003 NJAS will be held in Louisville, Ky. Just a short drive from the fairgrounds is the Churchill Downs Horse Racing

Museum. This museum provides people with an elaborate history of the Kentucky Derby and the Triple Crown through many interactive displays and a fascinating movie shown in a rotunda. On the fairgrounds is the Kentucky Kingdom amusement and water park.

Although the cattle are sure to keep you busy, take some time to visit area attractions and savor every moment spent with friends and family. More than likely your friends will be jealous of the stories you tell about your Angus vacations.

—Brian Howell

## New Events Are Big Hits at Nationals!

Thanks to last year's membership committee, lead by Jessica Sawyer, two new contests and one new program were added to this year's National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) lineup.

The first spotlight is on the mentoring program. This year, all first-time NJAS exhibitors had the opportunity to pair up with a previous NJAS exhibitor for the week. Mentors showed them the ropes, answered questions, and introduced their protégés to new friends. All protégés were given an “autograph book” so they could collect signatures of other National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members, NJAA Board of Directors, regional managers, and various other people. This was a great way for first year exhibitors to meet key leaders in the Association.

I can tell you firsthand about being a mentor and having a protégé (Hi, Laura May!!) to buddy around with for the week is a great experience. It's definitely a great way for newcomers to become more involved at the national level.

Another new event was the project of the year contest. This contest is one that can involve

the entire state or region, and highlights a special project undertaken by the local associations during the year. This year there were projects involving semen auctions, raffles, and others. It's also a place to get ideas for your own state junior Angus association. If you didn't get a chance to check out these great projects this year, be sure to make it a first-stop priority at next year's NJAS. Each group developed a brochure that told about the project.

A third new event introduced this year was the creative writing contest. Juniors were encouraged to write a creative story about a current beef industry topic, and all entries were prejudged. This is a great way to be involved in a contest even if you can't attend the NJAS.

For more information or contest rules so you can start preparing for next year, visit the NJAA Web site at [www.njaa.info/njaa\\_contests.html](http://www.njaa.info/njaa_contests.html).

—Cortney Collins



The mentoring program gave junior Angus members opportunities to meet and make friends with others from many different states.

## Important dates and deadlines for juniors

### NOVEMBER 2002

- 1 Ownership deadline (issue date) for National Western Stock Show – Junior Competition
- 15 Entry deadline National Western Stock Show
- 16-19 NAILE, Louisville, Ky.

### JANUARY 2003

- 14-18 National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.
- 16 Angus Foundation Heifer Package sells, Denver, Colo.

### FEBRUARY 2003

- 1 Ownership and entry deadline for the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic (MAJAC) Regional Preview Show
- 15 Ownership deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show

### MARCH 2003

- 1 Entry deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show
- 8-9 MAJAC Regional Preview Show, Harrisonburg, Va.
- TBA NJAA Board Meeting

### APRIL 2003

- 15 Ownership and entry deadline for the Atlantic National Regional Preview Junior Angus Show

- 25-27 Regional LEAD Conference, Harrisonburg, Va.
- 26-27 Western Regional, Reno, Nev.

### MAY 2003

- 1 Deadline for Gold Award applications
- 1 Deadline for Honorary Angus Foundation and Advisor of the Year nominations
- 1 Ownership deadline Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show
- 1 Ownership deadline Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show
- 1 Ownership deadline North Central Regional Preview Junior Angus Show
- 15 CAB/NJAA scholarship applications due
- 15 Angus Foundation scholarship applications due
- 15 Ownership deadline National Junior Angus Show
- 15 Ownership deadline All-American Angus Breeders Futurity Regional Preview Junior Angus Show
- 15 Entry deadline Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show
- 15 Entry deadline Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show

- 15 Entry deadline North Central Regional Preview Junior Angus Show
- 23-25 Atlantic National Regional Preview Junior Angus Show, Timonium, Md.

### JUNE 2003

- 1 Entry deadline National Junior Angus Show
- 1 Entry deadline for NJAA Writing, NJAA/AJ Photography, and NJAA Graphic Design Contests
- 1 Entry & Recipe deadline for All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® Cook-Off
- 1 Outstanding Leadership Award applications due
- 15 Deadline for submitting names of state candidates and delegates for NJAA elections
- 15 LEAD registrations due (early registration deadline)
- 19-22 Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show, Lewisburg, W.Va.
- 19-22 North Central Regional Preview Junior Angus Show, Lincoln, Neb.
- 20-22 Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show, Filer, Idaho
- 20 Ownership deadline All-American Angus Breeders'

- Futurity Regional Preview Junior Angus Show
- 25 Deadline for NJAA Public Speaking Contest speech outlines

### JULY 2003

- 11-16 National Junior Angus Show, Louisville, Ky.
- 25-27 All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity Regional Preview Junior Angus Show, Louisville, Ky.
- 31-Aug. 3 LEAD Conference, Fort Worth, Texas

### AUGUST 2003

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

### SEPTEMBER 2003

- TBA NJAA Board Meeting
- 20 Entry deadline for American Royal Junior Heifer Show

### 2004 DATES AND SITES

- July 12-17 National Junior Angus Show, Kansas City, Mo.

*Note: American Royal, NAILE, & 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 Membership Department.

(816) 383-5100 • www.njaa.info • fisher@angus.org  
3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506-2997



Nonprofit Org.  
US Postage Paid  
Olathe KS  
Permit No. 189