

Association Link

compiled by
SHELBY METTLEN, *assistant editor*

Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship

The Angus Foundation Board of Directors approved funds to provide \$1,000 scholarships to three youth who use Angus genetics in their seedstock or commercial operations. Awards will be given out in July 2017.

Applicants must be enrolled in a junior college, four-year college/university or other accredited institution for the fall of 2017. They can be an entering freshman or a continuing student in any undergraduate program. The applicant or applicant's parents/guardians must have transferred or been transferred an Angus registration paper in the last 36 months.

Details of eligibility can be found at www.angusfoundation.org. Information can be found in the resources section on the home page. The Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship application is available online.

Bulls will be offered at NWSS Bull Sale

The 2017 National Western Angus Bull Sale will be Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017, at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo. All consignments will have Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) performance information and a complete set of genomically enhanced EPDs.

All bulls born before Jan. 1, 2016, must have passed a complete breeding soundness examination (sometimes referred to as a BSE), including both physical and semen, within 30 days of the sale.

For more information about the sale, contact David Gazda, sale manager, at 706-296-7846.

Angus Foundation auctioning heifer package, other exciting items at NWSS

Come support youth, education and research at the 2017 NWSS in Denver, Colo.

On Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017, at 5 p.m. Mountain time in the Stadium Arena, the Angus Foundation, in conjunction with the NWSS Angus Bull Sale, will be offering many exciting items to the highest bidders:

- The 2017 Angus Foundation Heifer Package, including Basin Lucy 6265, donated by Basin Angus Ranch, Doug and Sharon Stevenson, Joliet, Mont.; 30 days free insurance from American Livestock Insurance Co., Geneva, Ill.; free transportation to the buyer's ranch provided by Lathrop

Livestock Transportation, Dundee, Ill.; and an advanced reproductive technology package from Trans Ova Genetics and its cloning division, ViaGen, Sioux Center, Iowa.

- Confirmed heifer pregnancies from esteemed breeders, including 44 Farms, Dameron Angus, Express Ranches, Pollard Farms and Vintage Angus Ranch.
- Angus Foundation elite packages: Biltmore Estate; Angus Foundation Golf Tournament; a cruise package; a Jackson Hole, Wyo., vacation package donated by the Schnoor family; a one-day ranch photo shoot by Legacy Livestock Imaging; and an Amana Farms clock and original artwork donated by the 2017 National Junior Angus Show/Iowa Junior Angus Association.



It's going to be an event you won't want to miss! For more information, turn to page 230 in the January *Angus Journal*, contact the Angus Foundation or visit the Angus Foundation's website at www.angusfoundation.org.

Visit with Association staff in Denver

Producers attending the NWSS are encouraged to stop by the Association's Listening Post in the Yards. Association and Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) staff members will be available daily to visit with producers about Association programs and the cattle industry. Be sure to stop by to chat and to have a cup of coffee.



Catch convention coverage

The Angus Media communications team was on hand in force to cover the Angus Convention Nov. 5-7 in Indianapolis, Ind. From the tours hosted Friday to the Annual Convention of Delegates convened Monday morning, Angus Media captured the highlights to share with those who couldn't attend — or who attended, but couldn't get to every session they wanted to.

See the announcement of the
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Association's new leadership on page 24 of the December issue of the *Angus Journal*. For more news from the convention, visit www.angus.media/news/Angus-Convention, where you can access *The Angus Report's* Nov. 21 program featuring the convention, as well as

coverage of general sessions, educational programming, award winners, video features and more.

Reserve date for 2017 Angus Convention

Mark your calendars to attend the 2017 Angus Convention at the Fort

Worth Convention Center in Fort Worth, Texas, Nov. 4-6. For an invitation to the convention from American storyteller Red Steagall, visit www.angusconvention.com. Registration and hotel blocks open July 1.

As you can see by the highlights in this issue and online at www.angus.

[media/news/Angus-Convention](http://www.angus.media/news/Angus-Convention), the convention offers producers and industry leaders opportunities for networking, education and breed improvement in addition to conducting the business of the American Angus Association.

Sire Evaluation Report released

The printed version of the American Angus Association *Spring 2017 Sire Evaluation Report* will be available mid-January. Containing the EPDs and \$Values released Friday, Dec. 9, 2016, the evaluation includes 2,346 sires in the main report with another 2,651 bulls listed in the Young Sire Supplement. For information about the report and the Association's national cattle evaluation, visit <http://www.angus.org/nce/>.

Active members who return their blue request cards to receive a printed copy of the report will receive it automatically. To request a copy, contact Brenda Weigart at the Association at bweigart@angus.org or 816-383-5144.

Summer internship deadline Feb. 6

The Association offers several opportunities for college students hoping to further their education and gain valuable real-world experience with the world's leading beef cattle association. Paid summer internships offer goal-oriented students a chance to build upon writing, editing, photography and organizational abilities while developing knowledge of agriculture and the beef industry.

- The Events & Education Department is offering college sophomores, juniors or seniors the opportunity to assist with the planning and execution of junior shows and leadership events, and to gain experience in Association work.
- The Public Relations & Communications (PR) Department is accepting applications from college juniors or seniors studying communications, ag communications or a related field. Applicants with strong writing, editing and design backgrounds are encouraged to apply.
- The *Angus Journal* offers a college student the opportunity to be part of its editorial team. The 10-week, writing-intensive internship offers the selected intern an opportunity to participate in producing various publications.

E designated for permanent ID in 2017

International letters are designated for each year of birth for livestock identification (ID). These designated letters are an easy option to use in conjunction with numbers when permanently identifying animals. For example, E001 and E002 could

designate the first two calves born into your herd in 2017.

Using the international letter code is optional for Angus breeders.

For complete information about permanent ID (Rule 105) and naming animals (Rules 102 and 107), access the online *Breeder's Reference Guide*. To access from www.angus.org, click on "Rules and Forms" in the pull-down menu under "About."

Custom Cattle Tags offers affordable ID

Cattle producers looking for affordable ways to identify their herds can visit www.customcattletags.com, a service provided by the American Angus Association. Custom Cattle Tags provides high-quality, low-cost, customized ear tags, blank tags and prenumbered tags for cattle producers across the United States.

Black books available for 2017

You can still order 2017 AngusSource®/Beef Record Service (BRS) black books. Featuring the American Angus Association logo on the back, the pocket-sized books include a calendar, as well as space to keep management records on your cow herd.

Producers can request two free books and can purchase additional books for \$3 each. To place orders, contact the AngusSource Department at 816-383-5100 or blackbooks@angus.org.

Single-step evaluation testing continues

Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) continues to test single-step genetic evaluation, the method the company plans to soon implement in order to calculate the American Angus Association weekly expected progeny differences (EPDs).

This is an ongoing effort and the top priority for AGI. Therefore, the Association plans to move to this updated statistical model only after thorough internal measures are complete. AGI will continue to fine-tune the required software to ensure the procedures used for implementation offer the utmost accuracy and valuation for members.

Meanwhile, the Association will rely on the current Angus genetic evaluation based on the latest calibration released earlier this year, which is the largest and most accurate beef genomic calibration ever conducted in the global beef cattle industry.

While AGI continues to refine the single-step methodology for targeted implementation in spring 2017, Angus breeders can be confident the current evaluation provides the most accurate, comprehensive values available.

For more about single-step genetic evaluation contact AGI at 816-383-5100.

Applications being accepted for 2017 BLI

Applications for the 10th annual Beef Leaders Institute (BLI) June 19-23,

2017, are now being accepted. BLI is designed for American Angus Association members 25-45 years old as a means to provide participants insight to all segments of the beef industry. Attendees will be stronger, more effective leaders for the Angus breed and for the beef industry now and in the future.

The Angus Foundation and Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) will provide transportation, lodging, meals and materials during the BLI. Attendees will be responsible for round-trip transportation between their home and the beginning and ending points.

The BLI is limited to 20 attendees each

year. Applications are available online or by contacting Chelsey Smith in the Events & Education Department at 816-383-5149. March 1 is the application deadline.

2016 Annual Report available upon request

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The 2016 American Angus Association *Annual Report* is now available. The report features the business, progress and activities of the Association and its entities for fiscal year 2016, which ended Sept. 30, 2016. It is available online at www.angus.org. Printed reports are available upon request by

contacting 816-383-5100 or lmaudlin@angus.org.

Foundation to sponsor YCC participant

The Angus Foundation will nominate and sponsor an Association member between the ages of 25 and 50 to attend the 2017 Young

Cattlemen's Conference (YCC) — the beef industry tour sponsored by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA).

Sponsorship and program nomination is granted to an active Association and NCBA member using an application process. Applications are available at

www.angusfoundation.org and should be returned to the Angus Foundation no later than Jan. 11, 2017. Learn more about the YCC and the program's educational and networking opportunities at www.beefusa.org.

Harris Ranch

Coalinga, Calif., beef staple Harris Ranch is the newest CAB-licensed processor. CAB Director of Packing Clint Walenciak says it's been positive to foster that relationship, providing opportunities for growth and greater value with two brands combining their strengths.

"From a producer standpoint, hopefully this will put Harris Ranch in a position to be more aggressive in pursuing the kinds of cattle that fit the program," Walenciak says of the system that buys, feeds, finishes and processes cattle in California. Much of their production was already in line with CAB, he adds.

"The highlight becomes the end user's return on this whole project," Walenciak says, noting the appeal is especially great at the foodservice level in the Golden State. "In particular, their abilities to now go talk with chefs, it creates a really appealing combination for them."

It pays to know in advance

There's no reason to guess about replacement heifers or feedlot steer prospects, says David Thompson of Creekside Veterinary Clinic, Mitchell, S.D.

For the last three years, he's helped commercial Angus clients collect samples for genomic tests that can better their herds.

"They take the results from the test and use it to figure out which heifers to keep," he says, noting that helps in making focused changes.

"Clients then feed all their home-raised calves and retain ownership," Thompson says. The carcass data from packers lets producers breed for marbling or any other complementary traits.

"GeneMax Advantage®, a two-part test, lets us see results from the cow side and calf side, or what the potential of that dam's calf could be," he says. "From the cow side, we get to look at docility, the size of the cow, how much she is going to cost for her lifetime. So they choose a more moderate-framed, more efficient cow."

Similarly, they can select heifers that will produce calves with "the most marbling, the most tenderness — or if they like the heifer and she doesn't have those traits, breeding decisions can be made to get that into the calf," Thompson says.

Among several alternatives for collecting samples to test, Thompson and his clients use an ear notch and the occasional hair follicle sample.

"Typically, producers will do it at vaccination time so that they can figure out what to breed to that first round,"

he says. Clients get the test on heifers that will be artificially inseminated (Aled).

“We get a lot of good information, and with the market being a little softer, it’s an important tool to make your herd more efficient,” Thompson says.

Ohio FFA chapter feeds farmers

Smithville, Ohio, FFA found ways to help busy soybean farmers with lunch during harvest, with a little help from CAB and the Smithville Town & Country Co-op.

At last summer’s retreat, the FFA officers set goals to conduct a community service project every nine weeks, said chapter advisor Amanda Atterholt.

“This nine weeks they decided that they were going to do something in the local community for the farmers.”

That took the form of meals for those bringing in the grain.

“We gave them a free meal; we didn’t accept donations. It was a surprise for them since they aren’t taking breaks for lunch or dinner. We gave them a frankfurter donated by CAB, chips and an apple. The officers made cookies and gave them a bottle of water donated by a local financial firm,” Atterholt said.

Her family raises Angus cattle 30 miles from CAB’s headquarters and has developed a relationship with the brand.

“They have opened their gates to countless media guests, including being the farm host when Andrew Zimmern with *Bizarre Foods* visited the Education & Culinary Center a couple of summers ago,” said Deanna Walenciak, CAB marketing director. “They hosted more than 75 guests for a one-day Giant Eagle grocery store training and are always willing to share their story and passion when we call and ask.”

The FFA chapter gave out 100 meals one Monday, and the co-op stayed open two hours later to help them reach more people.

“It was really neat for the kids to be able to meet face to face with people in agriculture within our own community,” Atterholt said.

Important junior information

A comprehensive booklet will soon be mailed to active Angus junior members, including show schedules, rules and entry forms. This booklet will include information on all regional preview shows, regional shows, the NJAS and the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference.

The information will also be available online at www.njaa.info.

Help support NJAS 2017

The National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) is just around the corner, and the Iowa crew is excited to be hosting the event. The 2017 NJAS Committee reminds you of its Embryo Lottery, which began in July. If you haven’t purchased a ticket yet, please contact

Ted or Mary Greiman, Tricia or Colby Holmes, or any of the Iowa juniors.

On Jan. 19, 2017, an online auction fundraiser will be hosted through www.AngusLive.com. Auction items include units of semen, bull collection and freezing services, embryo flushing and transfer services, and advertising in

key publications.

The NJAS Iowa Show Committee will be offering two specially made items during the Angus Bull Sale and Angus Foundation events in Denver during the NWSS. The items include a “Lotus clock,” a hanging wall clock made at the Amana Furniture Shop of eastern Iowa, and a

piece of original artwork by Sticks Gallery in Des Moines, Iowa.

If you have any questions or would like to consign an item to the online auction, please contact Ted or Mary Greiman at tmkcg@ncn.net or Tricia or Colby Holmes at cholmes@iowatelecom.net.

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Download the Angus App

Angus Mobile is a free, smartphone application for iPhone, iPad and Android devices that allows app users to update herd data no matter where they are on their farm or ranch. Download the easy-to-navigate app and gain access to the latest

news, sale reports, show results, EPDs and \$Values, percentiles and much more. Visit www.angus.org for more details.

CAB staff recognized

For the November issue, *The National Provisioner* showcased its 125th anniversary with a focus on icons who played a large role in the meat and

poultry industry in the last 25 years, and those likely to have an impact in the years to come.

Included on the list of Future Icons are CAB President John Stika and Phil “Dr. Phil” Bass, CAB meat scientist. *The Provisioner’s* editorial board nominated candidates with a final list chosen by the

editors.

“I come in every day and try to promote animal agriculture,” Bass says. “That helps with the messaging that I have and the communications that I have outside the office. I’m definitely here for *Certified Angus Beef*, but it’s more than that. I am here for the whole beef community.”

November’s issue included a story on both CAB leaders.

“It is definitely very humbling to be what *The Provisioner* sees as a future icon,” Bass says. “It sounds to me like a lot of responsibility, so hopefully I can live up to the expectations.”

He plans to continue to tell the story of animal agriculture and its importance to the world.

“Honestly, I’m just going to keep doing what I do,” he says. “I think that’s how I got to where I am. I’m hyperfocused on growing animal agriculture and honored to be selected.”

Bass says he hopes the awards will bring more recognition to the CAB brand itself, beyond the beef it markets.

Chilean partner covers it

The nation of Chile stretches from the northern tropics to near Antarctica, its vast landscape dotted with mountain ranges — and now a CAB distributor.

ICB S.A. Food Service was officially launched as a brand partner with a VIP event that hosted more than 60 dignitaries and restaurant and hotel customers.

“It was a great, great week of building momentum for the brand,” said Ivette Cortes de Farias, CAB executive account manager for that region.

How can the Ohio-based branded beef company choose a company that’s a good fit so far from its base?

International Director Geof Bednar said it all begins with identifying the best partners worldwide.

“It starts with those that have a true passion for food, and specifically that desire to focus on high quality,” he said. “We spend time in markets such as Chile looking to find who has those qualities, along with the infrastructure to serve the population.”

The latter is particularly important, given the geographic challenges.

“Our licensed partner ICB is one of the few that is vested and continues to invest in its people and distribution facilities throughout Chile,” Bednar said. “The coastline and mountain ranges present a unique challenge, but ICB truly has the distribution.”

The partnership opens new doors for CAB, and Bednar looks forward to developing brand loyalty in an important market.

“This is a family-owned company with a lot of passion and enthusiasm,” he said. “They are good people.”