

# Association Link

compiled by

**SHAUNA ROSE HERMEL**, editor

## Note amendments to bylaws

Members should be aware of a few important bylaws that were amended at the Annual Convention of Delegates in November 2015. Most notably, two amendments affect the nomination period and who can participate in the election process or be voting delegates.

Because the annual meeting's dates shift with the Angus Convention, the amendment shifts the nomination period to floating days — starting no later than 210 days before the Annual Convention of Delegates and ending no later than 150 days prior to the Convention. This ensures that there is enough time for office staff to prepare, process and mail ballots once nominations are received. Also, the nomination period is 60 days instead of 90 days.

Another amendment approved says that eligible voting members must be 18 years of age and have either registered at least one animal or done a set amount (currently \$250) of business with the American Angus Association or Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) in the 12 months prior to the nomination period. This change ensures that voting members have a vested interest in the Angus business.

So, for the current delegate election process, the eligibility period — the 12 months during which members must register an animal or do \$250 of business — is April 11, 2015, through 4:30 p.m. April 8, 2016. The nomination period will begin April 11, 2016, and conclude at 4:30 p.m. June 10, 2016.

For more details on the changes and to read the section of the bylaws as amended, see "Association Bylaw Changes" on page 18 of the February *Angus Journal*.

## Look for delegate petitions in the mail

Preparations are being made for the 2016 Annual Convention of Delegates this November in Indianapolis, Ind. Forms to nominate delegates to the annual meeting will be mailed to every eligible voting active life and regular Association member prior to April 11 according to the Bylaws as amended at last November's convention.

The nomination period is April 11-June 10. Each eligible voting member is allowed to nominate one eligible voting active life or regular member who resides in the same state or district, including himself or herself, who meets the new qualifications for eligible voting members. The candidate should be highly involved in the Angus business,

willing to attend the meeting and able to represent Angus breeders.

Signed nomination forms must be received in the Association office no later than 4:30 p.m. CDT on June 10, at which time every qualified nominee will be included on a state ballot. State ballots will be mailed to the membership in July to vote for the final slate of state delegates. When you receive the petition, please return it promptly.

## NJAA Ambassador Program

Funded by the Angus Foundation, the NJAA Ambassador program is an educational experience designed to recognize one outstanding junior Angus member who will support the production of the Angus breed and the consumption of Angus beef on a national and international level.

The selected person will represent the NJAA at major beef industry conferences and events across the United States for one year.

American Angus Association members, ages 17-20, of good standing who own purebred cattle are eligible to apply. A cover letter, résumé and responses to essay questions are due June 15 to the Events and Education Department, 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506. For more information and the essay questions, contact the Events and Education Department at 816-383-5100.

## Manhattan to host BIF Convention June 14-17

Preparations are being finalized for the 2016 Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Annual Meeting and Research Symposium themed "Progress on the Prairie." The annual event will be June 14-17 in Manhattan, Kan., headquartered at the new Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center.

The BIF conference routinely draws a large group of leading seedstock and commercial beef producers, academics and allied industry partners. The attendance list is a who's who of the beef value chain, offering great networking opportunities and thought-provoking conversation. Program topics focus on how the beef industry can enhance value through genetic improvement across a range of attributes that affect the value chain.

The event features two and a half days of educational programming and a

full day of tours visiting regional seedstock and commercial producers.

For more conference details, see page 70 of this issue or contact Kansas State University hosts Bob Weaber, [bweaber@ksu.edu](mailto:bweaber@ksu.edu), 785-532-1460; or Lois Schreiner, [lschrein@ksu.edu](mailto:lschrein@ksu.edu), 785-532-1267. Angus Media will provide online coverage of the event at [www.bifconference.com](http://www.bifconference.com).

## Sire Evaluation Report released

The printed version of the *Spring 2016 Sire Evaluation Report* is available upon request. Active members who

returned their blue request cards to receive a printed copy of the report should have received it automatically. Other members and commercial producers who want a printed report should request it via email or by calling the Association. All requests should be submitted to Brenda Weigart at [bweigart@angus.org](mailto:bweigart@angus.org)

or 816-383-5144.

The searchable online version of the *Sire Evaluation Report* is available at [www.angusonline.org/Nce/SireSummarySearchCriteria.aspx](http://www.angusonline.org/Nce/SireSummarySearchCriteria.aspx).

## Angus Convention dates announced

Dates and locations for the American Angus Association's upcoming Angus Convention have been determined for the next four years. The convention

allows producers and industry leaders opportunities for networking, education and breed improvement.

The trade show has grown to be a true highlight of the event. Booth spaces are currently available for the 2016 Angus Convention this fall in Indianapolis, Ind. More information about exhibiting at and attending this year's event is available at [www.angusconvention.com](http://www.angusconvention.com).

Convention dates to mark on your calendar include:

- Nov. 5-7, 2016 — Indianapolis, Ind.
- Nov. 4-6, 2017 — Fort Worth, Texas
- Nov. 3-5, 2018 — Columbus, Ohio
- Nov. 2-4, 2019 — Reno, Nev.

## Report new association, auxiliary officers

State and regional Angus associations should submit their officer

listings to the Association by May 1 to ensure correct listings on [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org). Listings will include association name, current officers, contact information and website, if applicable. If you haven't received a form to update your association's officer listing, contact Amber Wahlgren or LeAnn Maudlin at 816-383-5200 or [prphotos@angus.org](mailto:prphotos@angus.org).

State auxiliary information is requested in the same mailing. Please be sure to complete both forms and return them in a timely manner.

## Grand Island, Neb., to host 2016 NJAS

The National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) is an annual highlight for hundreds of Angus youth and their families. In 2016, the big event takes place July 3-9 in Grand Island, Neb. The Nebraska Junior Angus Association is partnering with the South Dakota Junior Angus Association to coordinate and raise funds for this year's event.

## Western National

The 64th Western National Angus Futurity (WNAF) and 42nd Western Regional Junior Angus Show will be April 1-3 at the Reno Sparks Livestock Events Center, Reno, Nev. The Grand Sierra Resort and Casino will serve as the headquarters hotel.

Frank Ward, Orland, Calif., will judge the junior regional Saturday. Tyler Cates of Modoc, Ind., will evaluate the WNAF open classes Sunday. Other activities include the Western States queen competition, junior showmanship contest, educational program, junior social, WNAF Committee meeting, and both board and general membership meetings of the Western States Angus Association.

For more information, visit [www.wnaf.org](http://www.wnaf.org) or contact Rod Wesselman, WNAF show manager, at PO Box 746, Moses Lake, WA 98837; [info@wnaf.org](mailto:info@wnaf.org); or 509-750-2185.

## Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship

If you have purchased Angus genetics and had the registration(s) transferred to your name, your children may be eligible to apply for the Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship through the Angus Foundation. 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.

Applicants must be enrolled in a junior college, four-year college/university or other accredited institution for the fall of 2016. They can be an

(Continued on page 10)



## Association Link *(from page 8)*

entering freshman or a continuing student in any undergraduate program. The applicant or applicant's parents/guardians must have transferred or been transferred a registration paper in the last 36 months (on or after May 1, 2013).

Full details of eligibility can be found

online at [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org). Information can be found in the resources section on the home page. The Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship application deadline is May 1. Scholarship winners will be notified in July 2016.

### **Future Angus Stockmen, Select Sires offer sponsorship to AI school**

Future Angus Stockmen is offering a sponsorship for one enrollee to attend artificial insemination (AI) school, courtesy of Select Sires. Applications are

available for download online ([www.angus.org/Performance/Documents/FAS\\_AISchoolApplication.PDF](http://www.angus.org/Performance/Documents/FAS_AISchoolApplication.PDF)) and are due April 30. A recipient will be announced by May 16.

"At Select Sires, we look forward to supporting a Future Angus Stockmen participant in attending an AI school of their choice, and contributing to their future goals and quality of their cow herd," says Brian House, vice president, beef program and product manager for Select Sires.

Future Angus Stockmen is aimed toward college-age or recent graduates who want to raise high-quality Angus-based commercial cattle. The program offers educational opportunities that teach participants how to thrive in the cattle industry, social networking to connect them with fellow producers, and leadership development to instill an entrepreneurial spirit and drive to improve their businesses.

"Future Angus Stockmen is all about connecting young producers with new technology and ideas to improve their cattle operations for years to come," says Ginette Gottswiller, Association director of commercial programs. Enrollment can be completed at any time, and enrollment forms can be found in the commercial programs section at [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org).

### **Association can help with junior transfers**

If you know of a junior member who has purchased or raised a heifer that he or she wants to show, please make note of all ownership deadlines. If a deadline is fast approaching and you haven't received the transferred registration, the Association can help.

Contact the Association at least two weeks prior to the show ownership deadline. Every effort will be made to get the transfer processed in time. Remember, late transfers are never accepted, regardless of the reason.

### **Cattle Industry Coverage available online**

The 2016 Cattle Industry Annual Convention & National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Trade Show was in San Diego, Calif., Jan. 27-29. Full event coverage by the Angus Media editorial staff is available at [www.4cattlemen.com](http://www.4cattlemen.com).

Coverage includes general session business; keynote speakers; Cattlemen's College<sup>®</sup> summaries; CattleFax outlook summaries; policy updates from NCBA, the Cattlemen's Beef Board (CBB), the Federation of State Beef Councils, the American National CattleWomen Inc. (ANCW); and much more.

### **View Central Bull Test listing on Virtual Library**

Bull sales are abundant this time of year, and so are performance bull tests. The Angus Media editorial staff keeps

*(Continued on page 12)*

**Association Link** *(from page 10)*

an updated list of central bull test stations on the Virtual Library at [www.api-virtuallibrary.com/CentralBullTests](http://www.api-virtuallibrary.com/CentralBullTests). It lists tests by state, and provides test contact information, test on and off dates, required bull birth dates, and sale dates, plus additional

information provided by the specific bull test.

From the Virtual Library homepage, the listing can be found under “Angus Resources.” Hover over the “Industry” option in the drop-down list, and “Central Bull Test Stations” will be the first option.

**D designated for permanent ID in 2016**

International letters are designated for each year of birth for livestock ID. These designated letters are an easy option to use in conjunction with numbers when permanently identifying animals. For example, D001 and D002 could designate the first two calves born into your herd in the year 2016. C was the

designated letter for 2015, while E will be the designated letter for 2017, F for 2018, G for 2019, etc. Note that the letters I, O, Q and V are not used.

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) in accordance with American Angus Association rules, access the online *Breeder's Reference Guide* available on [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org). To access, 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 herd should visit [www.customcattletags.com](http://www.customcattletags.com), a service provided by the American Angus Association. Anyone can order ear tags, applicators, syringes and accessories.

Custom Cattle Tags provides high-quality, low-cost, customized ear tags, blank tags and prenumbered tags for cattle producers across the United States.

**Download the Angus App**

Angus Mobile is a free, smartphone application for the 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](http://www.angus.org) for more details.

**Download foot-scoring spreadsheet**

American Angus Association members can download a spreadsheet to submit foot scores via their AAA Login account. Details of the Association's foot-scoring system were outlined in the February 2015 *Angus Journal* in the “By the Numbers” column (see page 142) and the article “Solid Footing” (see page 162). Both articles are available via a back-issue search at [www.angusjournal.com](http://www.angusjournal.com).

To download the spreadsheets in AAA Login, click the “Spreadsheet Entry” tab. From that menu select the “Foot Score Spreadsheet.” Click the “Instructions” link for step-by-step procedures explaining how to select a group of animals, download the Excel spreadsheet, fill it out and return it to the Association for processing. The instructions also provide a description of phenotypes warranting each score, links to the *Angus Journal* stories and links to other pertinent information.

The data will be compiled in a data set that could lay the foundation of a genetic prediction tool for foot structure and soundness. Additional educational tools will be available soon. For more information, contact Dan Moser, AGI president, at [dmoser@angus.org](mailto:dmoser@angus.org).

## **Foundation scholarship applications available**

The Angus Foundation will award a number of undergraduate and graduate scholarships this year to young men and women raising purebred and commercial Angus cattle. Scholarships offered include:

- General undergraduate scholarships — for Angus youth who are graduating from high school or in college currently;
- General graduate scholarships — for young men and women actively involved in the Angus breed who are pursuing advanced degrees; and
- Permanently endowed and non-endowed donor-named scholarships — for young men and women actively involved in the Angus breed.

Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the 2016 NJAS in Grand Island, Neb.

Full details of eligibility and applications are available at [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org). Application deadline is May 1. For more information or questions, contact the Angus Foundation at 816-383-5100.

## **CAB/NJAA Scholarship application due May 1**

A long-standing scholarship awarded through the Angus Foundation is the \$1,000 Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB)/ National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Scholarship. Applicants must have at one time been an NJAA member and must currently be a junior, regular or life member of the American Angus Association, along with being an incoming sophomore, junior or senior in college majoring in animal science, meat science, food science, agricultural communications or a related field of academic study. Applications are due May 1. A recipient will be honored at NJAS in July. Visit [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org) for additional eligibility requirements and guidelines.

## **Apply for Auxiliary scholarships now**

The American Angus Auxiliary annually awards scholarships to graduating high school seniors. The postmark deadline for the national contest is May 1.

Junior Angus members must first be chosen as a state auxiliary scholarship winner before advancing to the national competition. Applications are available at [www.angusauxiliary.com](http://www.angusauxiliary.com). For more information, contact Julie Murnin, American Angus Auxiliary scholarship chairman, at 406-850-0508 or [juliemurnin@cattledesign.com](mailto:juliemurnin@cattledesign.com).