

Angus Producers to 'Meet in Montana'

Mark your calendars for the National Angus Conference & Tour, set for Bozeman, Mont., Sept. 15-17.

by
CRYSTAL ALBERS

The popular National Angus Conference & Tour (NAC&T) returns this fall and is set to draw a crowd. Following a one-year hiatus for last year's World Angus Forum — which was in Calgary, Alberta, Canada — the NAC&T will resurface Sept. 15-17 in Bozeman, Mont.

The American Angus Association and the South Montana Angus Association will host the conference and tour, themed "Meet in Montana" and sponsored by Land O'Lakes Purina Feed LLC and Alpharma Animal Health.

"Angus members and enthusiasts are going to thoroughly enjoy the tour planned for this year in Big Sky Country," says Shelia Stannard, Association director of activities and events. "We've also put together an outstanding slate of conference speakers, covering an array of topics from marketing to being a spokesperson for the agricultural industry."

An optional golf tournament sponsored by the South Montana Angus Association will take place beginning at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 14, at the Bridger Creek Golf Course in Bozeman.

Speaker lineup

The official conference will kick off Wednesday, Sept. 15, at the GranTree Inn in Bozeman, Mont., with a welcome by Association President Bill Davis.

Tracey Erickson, Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) vice president of marketing, will discuss bridging the gap from producer to consumer and will share insights on how the world's most successful branded beef program goes to market and engages consumers.

Chef John Doherty, CAB quality ambassador and former executive chef of The Waldorf=Astoria New York, will discuss how he inspired a culinary team to greatness and relied on the *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) brand as a pillar of quality.

Participants will then hear from Charlie Powell, a 20-year senior public information officer for Washington State University (WSU) College of Veterinary Medicine. Powell will discuss his experiences in crisis and risk communications as well as media relations during his time at WSU and as a longtime public information director for the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association.

Lee Dickerson, Purina director of

national accounts and cattle distribution, will explain sustained nutrition strategies; while Randy Blach, CEO of Cattle-Fax, will discuss the state of the beef industry and opportunities ahead.

"We are pleased to have established a tradition of sponsoring the National Angus Conference and Tour," says Rod Nulik, marketing manager for Land O' Lakes Purina Feed. "We greatly enjoy our continued partnership with the American Angus Association, its fine staff, along with dedicated volunteer leaders and the membership.

"If 'Meet in Montana' holds true to previous events, it will be packed with helpful information accompanied by great food and fellowship. We share the sponsorship again with one of our excellent corporate partners, Alpharma Animal Health."

The tour

The tour will begin Wednesday afternoon following the conference, with an initial stop at KG Ranch near Three Forks, where guests will survey the ranch and other cattle on display before enjoying dinner.

The tour will begin again Thursday, with stops throughout southern Montana, including Hyline Angus, Bozeman; Armstrong Angus Ranch, Cardwell; Wheeler Mountain Ranch, Whitehall; Split Diamond Ranch, Whitehall; and Van Dyke Angus Ranch, Manhattan.

Friday's tour stops include the Montana State University Biosciences Lab,

Bozeman; Leachman Angus Ranch, Toston; Sitz Angus Ranch, Harrison; and an optional South Montana Angus Association Elite Female Sale at KG Ranch. Other herds throughout the region will also be on display at many of the stops, and CAB will sponsor a portion of tour meals.

Registration is available online at www.angus.org. Early registration is \$125 per person if paid on or prior to Aug. 13. Registration is \$150 if paid after Aug. 13. Registration for the optional golf tournament Sept. 14 costs \$60 per golfer and includes 18 holes and a cart. Contact Patti Davis at 406-570-1541 to register or for more information about the tournament.

Attendees should make their own hotel reservations. The GranTree Inn will serve as hotel headquarters. Call 406-587-5261 to make reservations, and ask for the Angus block 804948. Other hotels with Angus room blocks near the headquarters include: Holiday Inn, 406-587-4561; and Days Inn & Suites, 406-587-5251.

For more information or to request a registration brochure, visit www.nationalangusconference.com; or contact Shelia Stannard at 816-383-5100 or [sstannard@angus.org](mailto:ssannard@angus.org).



Editor's Note: Crystal Albers is assistant director of communications and web editor for the American Angus Association.

2010 NAC&T Schedule

Tuesday, Sept. 14

10 a.m. South Montana Angus Ass'n Golf Tournament, Bridger Creek Golf Course, Bozeman, Mont.
2-5:30 p.m. Registration, GranTree Inn
6-8 p.m. Welcome reception, GranTree Inn

• Split Diamond Ranch, Whitehall
• Van Dyke Angus Ranch, Manhattan – Dinner
Guests: Yadon Angus Ranch, Kimm Angus, PAPA Livestock, Westra Angus
7 p.m. Arrive GranTree Inn

Wednesday, Sept. 15

6:30 a.m. Breakfast
7 a.m. Registration opens
8 a.m. National Angus Conference begins
12:15 p.m. Lunch
National Angus Conference continues
3:15 p.m. Load buses to depart for KG Ranch, Three Forks — dinner, kick off of National Angus Tour
7 p.m. Load buses to depart KG Ranch
8:15 p.m. Arrive GranTree Inn

Friday, Sept. 17

6:45 a.m. Load buses at GranTree Inn for Day 2 of National Angus Tour
• Montana State University Bioscience Lab – Breakfast
• Leachman Angus Ranch, Toston
Guests: Thousand Hills Angus, GaLor Angus, Reyher Embryonics
• Sitz Angus Ranch, Harrison – Lunch
2:30 p.m. Buses depart for either GranTree Inn or KG Ranch (South Montana Angus Ass'n Elite Female Sale)
3:30 p.m. Buses arrive at GranTree for afternoon departures
4 p.m. Sale at KG Ranch
6 p.m. Buses depart KG Ranch after sale
7 p.m. Buses arrive at GranTree Inn following sale

Thursday, Sept. 16

7:15 a.m. Load buses at GranTree Inn for Day 1 of National Angus Tour
• Hyline Angus Ranch, Bozeman – Breakfast
• Armstrong Angus Ranch, Cardwell
• Wheeler Mountain Ranch, Whitehall – Lunch
Guest: South Boulder Angus