

2015 Cattle Raisers Convention Scheduled for March 27-29 in Fort Worth

The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) announced that the 138th annual Cattle Raisers Convention, the organization's biggest ranching industry event of the year, is scheduled for March 27-29, 2015, at the Fort Worth Convention Center in Fort Worth, Texas.

Vicente Fox, president of Mexico from 2000 to 2006, will be the keynote speaker at the opening general session. He will share stories of his prior experiences working to build a strong relationship between the United States and Mexico. Fox will also take questions from cattle raisers at the close of his speech.

Former First Lady Laura Bush has been invited to speak at the opening general session of the convention. Bush is actively involved in issues of national and global concern, with a particular emphasis on education, health care, human rights and the preservation of our nation's heritage. Bush will discuss her role as a founder of

"Taking Care of Texas," which is an organization that promotes successful land, water and wildlife conservation practices.

Sylvia Longmire, author of *Border Insecurity*, will also speak at the general opening session on the challenges of border security and illegal immigration issues. Longmire is a retired Air Force captain and former special agent with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

Additionally, the School for Successful Ranching and issues sessions will feature 25 educational programs and a world-class lineup of subject-matter experts who will provide insights into current ranching topics and practical tools attendees can take back to their ranch.

The Cattle Raisers Expo is the largest annual ranching exposition in the region

AgriLife Extension classes tackle how to profitably get involved in the family ranch

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has arranged two-day schools this spring for adult children and grandchildren of landowners who want to get involved in the family ranch.

Generation Next: Our Turn to Ranch School will be hosted at three locations in the state beginning in early March, according to Megan Clayton, AgriLife Extension range management specialist, Corpus Christi.

"The schools are for anybody interested in starting an agricultural business," Clayton said, "but we especially want to provide this opportunity for children and grandchildren of landowners. Staying connected to the family ranch is difficult, especially when there's not an obvious way to make a profit."

Many end up needing to find careers outside the property, making it difficult for them to return to the ranch when their parents or grandparents are ready to retire, she said.

"As a result, we've seen a decline in the number of agricultural properties staying in the family," Clayton said. "So this school helps heirs explore profitable enterprises to supplement existing ranching operations. This two-day school is a great place to start for those wanting to get into or stay involved in the ranching business."

The schools will take place March

and will play host to more than 200 companies bringing the newest products and services to ranchers and landowners. A new addition for the 2015 Expo will be live cattle-handling demonstrations, which will take place inside the Fort Worth Convention Center. The demonstrations will teach attendees how to handle cattle in a safe, low-stress manner.

Rounding out the program are entertainment options such as the Cattle Raisers Dinner and Dance, Young Cattle Raisers' After Party, the Texas Beef Council Fun Run and Walk, and the closing Luncheon Swing Riders Show featuring Doc and Mike Blakely.

"We're looking forward to another great Cattle Raisers Convention," said Pete Bonds, TSCRA president. "The unique combination of speakers and educational programs, focused on issues of importance to ranchers, makes this a

5-6 in San Angelo, March 12-13 in Stephenville, and April 9-10 in Corpus Christi.

The registration fee is \$100 per school until two weeks prior to the course; \$175 thereafter. College students currently enrolled can attend for \$75. The fee includes two days of classes from expert instructors, a resource notebook and a jump drive containing resource publications and materials, five meals and a certificate of completion at the end of the course.

Registration will be limited to the first 50 participants, so early signup is encouraged.

Topics to be addressed by expert speakers include:

- How to start an agricultural business;
- Understanding business taxes;
- Marketing your products and yourself;
- Using technology to your benefit;
- How to set up grazing and wildlife management leases;
- Multi-generational ranching;
- Understanding market fluctuations;
- Land management techniques;
- Coping with invasive species; and
- Alternative operations to add to the business.

"Staying connected to the land and finding your place in the family ranch can be difficult, but these schools are specifically designed to provide ideas and direction to make multi-generational ranching successful."

To register, go to <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/ESSM> or call 979-845-2604.

— by Rod Santa Ana,
Texas A&M AgriLife Today

can't-miss event for any cattle raiser or landowner."

Day registration begins at only \$100. The Cattle Raisers Convention full registration includes:

- Access to the Cattle Raisers Expo, including lunch on Friday and Saturday, and Friday's welcome reception;
- Opening general session and closing general session luncheon;

• All School for Successful Ranching programs;

• All information sessions hosted by TSCRA committees; and

• Cattle Raisers Dance and Dinner.

The Cattle Raisers Convention hotels are within easy walking distance of the Convention Center. Rooms are expected to book quickly, so those interested should register as soon as possible.

More information and registration links are available at www.tscra.org/convention.

All members of the media are invited to attend. For media registration, please contact Laramie Adams at ladams@tscra.org.



Editor's Note: This article is from the TSCRA.



AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION
The Business Breed

APPLICATION FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP
American Angus Association, 3201 Frederick Avenue, Saint Joseph, Missouri 64506
(816) 383-5100 • Fax: (816) 233-9703 • www.angus.org

I (we) hereby make application to the Board of Directors of the AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION for Regular Membership and, in consideration of acceptance, agree to conform to and abide by the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Association and Amendments or Modifications thereto which may, from time to time, be adopted. By signing this application for membership, applicant irrevocably waives any claim against and grants an absolute release to the American Angus Association, any member, employee or agent of the Association, for any act or omission in connection with the Association, including but not limited to, any enforcement of the rules and regulations presently in effect or hereafter adopted by the Association. It is requested that the Membership be entered as follows:

Membership Name _____ **Location of Herd** _____
PLEASE PRINT (Limit Name to 24 Spaces) (City) (County) (State)

Mail Address _____
(P.O. Box, or Street) (City) (County) (State) (Zip)

E-Mail _____ **Date of Birth (if under 21 years of age)** _____

Phone # Home () _____ **Signed** _____

Phone # Business () _____ **Printed** _____

Fax # () _____ **Date** _____

- Fee of \$130.00 is enclosed and includes a one year subscription to *The Angus Journal*
- Certificates enclosed for correction
- Enclosed is my membership fee of \$80.00. I understand this membership does not include subscription to the *Angus Journal*. Initial here _____.

Corporations — In case of a corporation, the corporate name shall be entered on the application, which is to be signed by a duly authorized officer, and below, on this side, at least two officers of the corporation shall sign their names.

Partnerships — In case of a firm or partnership, the name of the firm or partnership shall be entered on the application, which is to be signed by one of the partners, and below, on this side, all partners shall sign their names.

President _____

Vice Pres. _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING BEFORE FILLING IN APPLICATION; THEN DETACH

Regular membership may be applied for in the name of a person; a farm or ranch name; a partnership; or a corporation. Membership fees are payable at the time the application is submitted.

Your regular membership is good for one year. Thereafter, annual dues are required for all regular memberships.

Application should show the name in which the membership is to be entered. If animal registrations are to be applied for in an individual's name the membership should be in the name of the individual; if by a partnership the membership should be in the exact name of the partnership; if by a corporation the membership should be in the exact corporate name. All partners in a partnership, and at least two officers of a corporation must sign their names on the back of the application.

The length of the membership name and location must not exceed 40 spaces, for example:
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40
 Jones & Smith Cattle Co Rock River IA

WHEN SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION PLEASE ENCLOSE THE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES OF THE ANGUS CATTLE YOU NOW OWN. ASSOCIATION RECORDS ARE KEPT IN MEMBER AND NON-MEMBER SECTION OF THE FILES, AND THE CERTIFICATES WILL ENABLE US TO REMOVE THEIR RECORD FROM THE NON-MEMBER GROUP AND PLACE THEM UNDER YOUR NAME IN THE MEMBERSHIP SECTION. YOUR REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES WILL BE RE-ISSUED SHOWING YOUR EXACT MEMBERSHIP NAME AND MEMBER CODE NUMBER. THIS WILL GREATLY FACILITATE REGISTRATION OF NEW CALVES WHEN YOU SUBMIT APPLICATIONS OR TRANSFER ANIMALS YOU NOW OWN.