

API, publisher of the *Angus Journal* and the *Angus Beef Bulletin*, will provide online coverage of the event at www.nationalangusconference.com.

If you miss the early registration deadline, you can still register until Sept. 15 or on site at the rate of \$125 per person. For more information about the tour stops or speakers, turn to page 14 or visit www.nationalangusconference.com.



Chappell, Neb., feedlot strikes gold

Chappell Feedlot, located in western Nebraska, has hit the heights in the "Thirty-Aught Six" (30.06) honor roll of the Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) Feedlot-Licensing Program (FLP), achieving the Gold Level.

The 30.06 program was developed to recognize feedlots that deliver to licensed packers harvest groups of cattle that achieve 30% *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) brand acceptance while holding Yield Grade (YG) 4s below 3% and heavyweights below 3%. No other discounts are allowed. Each delivery group must consist of at least 10 head of at least 50% black-hided cattle. The Gold Level, which can only follow Bronze and Silver, requires an accumulation of 2,000 head that qualify.

Tom Williams, managing partner, wife Cindy and son Travis work with a small but dedicated staff to maximize quality results.

"This feedlot specializes in feeding high-quality cattle for their many retained-ownership customers," says Paul Dykstra, CAB beef specialist. "Refined management and sorting for successful grid marketing are keys to their ongoing success."

Chappell Feedlot is the only CAB-licensed feedlot to achieve the Gold Level in FLP history. Statistics for Chappell Feedlot include:

- ◆ Licensed: Nov. 8, 2004
- ◆ Capacity: 6,500 head
- ◆ Head count enrolled in FLP: 16,836 head
- ◆ % eligible for CAB (black-hided): 95%
- ◆ Number of 30.06-qualified cattle: 2,018 head
- ◆ 12% of enrolled cattle have hit 30.06
- ◆ Number of shipments qualifying: 67
- ◆ Average size of shipments qualifying: 30 head
- ◆ % YG 4s: 0.5%
- ◆ % Heavies: 0.0%
- ◆ CAB acceptance rate: 40.7%

Another leading contender

Thomas County Feeders Inc., a Beef Marketing Group (BMG) feedlot, achieved the Silver Level in the 30.06 program, based on an exceptional acceptance rate on CAB Natural cattle. This feedlot, last

Laughlin Assumes Role as Member Services Director

Don Laughlin, a longtime American Angus Association regional manager from Guilford, Mo., has been named director of member services for the American Angus Association. He'll step into the role immediately.

His primary responsibilities will include assisting members and affiliates with registrations, transfers, memberships and other daily activities. He will schedule workflow through the office while explaining and enforcing Association rules and policies. Laughlin will also administer the Association's parent verification program and monitor the genetic defect program.

"Don brings an extensive knowledge base of Association programs and policies to this position, that should ensure a smooth transition for the membership when dealing with the Association," says Bill Bowman, Association chief operating officer (COO). "Don already has experience working with Association members in the states he traveled as a regional manager and will be a familiar face to many of our members and affiliates."

Laughlin has represented the Association and its entities as a regional manager for the past 28 years. He has spent the past 16 years traveling Iowa and Missouri, and prior to that worked in Colorado, Kansas and Oklahoma. As director of member services, he will fill the position vacated by Bryce Schumann, the Association's new chief executive officer (CEO).

"It will definitely be a change of pace, working in an office environment on a daily basis," Laughlin says. "I am looking forward to continuing the relationships with those breeders that I've worked with in past decades and will enjoy meeting other members and helping them succeed in the Angus business, as well."

A native of northwest Missouri, Laughlin grew up on his family's registered Angus operation where he is active in management, artificial insemination (AI) and keeping Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®). He is a graduate of the University of Missouri.

year's Progressive Partner Award winner, joins a very short list of licensed feedlots to have shipped 1,000 head of qualifiers for the program.

National Western Bull Sale consignments due Oct. 1

Commercial producers interested in attending the the 2009 National Western Angus Bull Sale at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo., mark your calendars for Thursday, Jan. 15.

Angus producers are being encouraged to consign their bulls before Sept. 15. All consignments must have AHIR performance information to be eligible. All bulls born before Jan. 1, 2007, 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.

The official AHIR adjusted yearling weight EPD (if applicable) must meet the breed average for non-parent sires. For more information, contact David Gazda, sale manager, at 706-296-7846. For entry forms, contact Linda Campbell at 816-383-5143.

Start planning for 125th Annual Convention

The Association's 125th Annual Convention of Delegates will be Monday, Nov. 17, in Louisville, Ky. The Annual Meeting is conducted in conjunction with the North American International

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AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION®

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For Board member contact information, visit www.angus.org/board.htm

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Chief operating officer & Angus Genetics Inc. president: Bill Bowman, Saint Joseph, Mo.; bbowman@angus.org

Angus Foundation president: Milford Jenkins, Saint Joseph, Mo.; mjenkins@angusfoundation.org

Angus Productions Inc. president: Terry Cotton, Saint Joseph, Mo. For a complete staff listing, see page 2.

Certified Angus Beef LLC president: John Stika, Wooster, Ohio. For a complete staff listing, see page 28.

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AMERICAN ANGUS AUXILIARY

President: Nancy Thelen, Saline, Mich. For a complete list of officers, visit www.angusauxiliary.com.

NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS ASSOCIATION

President: Justin Brosey, Ohio; justinbroz@aol.com. For a complete listing of NJAA Board Members, visit www.njaa.info.



National Junior Angus Association

Members of the National Junior Angus Association pay an annual fee of \$20, and junior privileges expire at age 21. Junior members have access to all services offered by the American Angus Association, and they receive two issues of the *Angus Journal* per year and the NJAA newsletter, *Directions*.

To apply for membership in the National Junior Angus Association, visit www.njaa.info and download a printable application, or call 816-383-5100 to request the application.