



Association Highlights

► compiled by *Kasey Brown*, associate editor

Applications being accepted for 2015 BLI

Applications for the eighth annual Beef Leaders Institute (BLI) to be June 22-26 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 Association and the Angus



Foundation 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 Ashley Mitchell in the Events & Education Department at 816-383-5149 or amitchell@angus.org. March 2 is the application deadline.

Cattlemen's Boot Camp

Make plans to attend the Cattlemen's Boot Camp being hosted at the Jackson County Ag Center in Marianna, Fla., March 9-10.

This Boot Camp is an educational collaboration of the University of Florida—North Florida Research & Education Center, the American Angus Association and the Angus Foundation. Participants will gain insight to many aspects of the cattle industry from university and Association speakers and activities.

Cattlemen's Boot Camp is open to all cattle producers. Registration is \$75, which includes meals and materials. Forms can be found at www.angus.org/EventRegistration/default.aspx. The deadline for registration is March 2. For more information contact Ashley Mitchell at 816-383-5149 or amitchell@angus.org.

Nominate advisors and Honorary Angus Foundation recipients

Any state junior Angus association can nominate its advisor(s) to be honored as the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Advisor(s) of the Year. The award is presented at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) and recognizes the time, effort and dedication adult volunteers give to their state junior Angus association.

Individuals can also nominate Angus enthusiasts for the Honorary Angus Foundation. This award is also presented during the NJAS and recognizes those who have made extraordinary contributions to junior Angus programs. Nomination forms are available by contacting the Junior Activities Department at 816-383-5100. Nominations for both honors are due to the Junior Activities Department by March 1.

ASSOCIATION FEES

CURRENT ASSOCIATION FEES

Following are the correct fees for various American Angus Association services. Be sure to send the correct amount of money with the work being requested, as incorrect payments are the main cause of delays.

REGISTRATIONS

Applications for animals less than 4 months of age	\$7
Applications for animals 4-10 months of age	\$9
Applications for animals 10-12 months of age	\$14
Applications for animals more than 12 months of age	\$27

TRANSFERS

Applications received less than 30 days from sale date	\$5
Applications received 30-60 days from sale date	\$7
Applications received more than 60 days from sale date	\$12

MISCELLANEOUS

Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) fee (per weaning weight)	\$3
Artificial insemination (AI) service certificate	\$10
Regular annual membership	\$80
Regular annual membership with <i>Angus Journal</i> subscription	\$130
Lifetime membership (optional to pay in three \$500/year installments)	\$1,500
Junior annual membership (less than 21 years of age)	\$20
Embryo-transfer (ET) calf	regular registration fee plus \$10
Cell-clone transplant calf	regular registration fee plus \$50

Rules of the American Angus Association are included in the *Breeder's Reference Guide*. Free copies are available from the Association. An online version is available through the "Rules and Forms" link at www.angus.org.

BREEDER'S REFERENCE

Symbols are used with a registration number to denote important information about an animal.

Symbol	Meaning
#	Pathfinder cow or Pathfinder sire
+	Embryo transfer calf
^	Cell clone
%	Split-ET
@	Clone-ET

The American Angus Association currently recognizes the following genetic conditions:

Code	Meaning
AM	Arthrogyposis multiplex
CA	Contractural arachnodactyly
D2	PRKG2 gene mutation for dwarfism
DD	Developmental duplication
DM	Double muscling
DW	Dwarfism
HG	Horn gene
HI	Heterochromia irides
M1	nt821 mutation for double muscling
NH	Neuropathic hydrocephalus
OS	Osteopetrosis
RD	Red gene
SN	Syndactyly
WT	Wild type color gene

The following single-letter descriptors appearing after a genetic condition code shall have the following meaning:

- P – refers to a "potential" carrier based on an ancestor known to carry that specific mutation.
- F – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be "free" of that specific mutation.
- C – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a "carrier" of that specific mutation.
- A – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a carrier of two copies of that specific mutation. It may or may not exhibit the phenotype associated with that genetic condition.

The following letter designations describe cases in which there is more than one genetic condition present:

- XF – Free of more than one genetic condition.
- XC – Carrier of more than one genetic condition.
- XA – Affected of more than one genetic condition.
- RTF – Recessive trait free (produced 35 or more calves from daughters without a genetic defect).

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. Note these internships recently announced:

- ▶ 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, including the *Angus Journal*, the *Angus Journal* digital replica, the *Angus Beef Bulletin*, the *Angus Beef Bulletin EXTRA*, the *Angus Journal Daily*, editorial websites, and social media efforts.

Applications for these internships are due Feb. 6.

Foundation scholarship applications available

The Angus Foundation will award a number of undergraduate and graduate scholarships this year. Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the 2015 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Tulsa, Okla.

The eligibility requirements for these general Angus Foundation scholarships remain the same. Angus youth who are graduating from high school or in college currently may also be eligible for other Angus-related scholarships that are permanently endowed and managed by the Angus Foundation.

The Foundation will also make available graduate student scholarships to young men and women actively involved in the Angus breed who are pursuing advanced degrees.

Applicants must have, at one time, been a National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) member and must currently be a junior, regular or life member of the Association. Strong preference and priority will be given



to applicants pursuing advanced degrees related closely to the beef industry.

The Angus Foundation undergraduate and graduate student scholarship application and guidelines are available at www.angusfoundation.org. The application deadline is May 1.

For more information contact the Angus Foundation at 816-383-5100.

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. State Angus auxiliary scholarship contacts are listed online and in this issue (see page 50).

New initiative to engage future cattle producers

To meet the needs of future cattle producers, the American Angus Association in March 2015 will launch a new program called Future Angus Stockmen. The intent is to impact the next generation through learning opportunities, while building a bond with the Angus breed and its member-driven organization.

The program is aimed toward college-age or recent graduates who want to raise high-quality Angus-based cattle. The program will offer 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.

Participants will learn how to use proven information such as expected progeny differences (EPDs) and dollar-value indexes (\$Values), while incorporating DNA technology to make data-driven decisions. Additional program benefits include enrollment in either AngusSource® or AngusSource Genetic, and access to Beef Record Service (BRS) or MaternalPlus® at a reduced cost for submitting data.

Young people who enroll in the program will have the chance to apply for scholarships if they are or will be enrolled in a two- or four-year college majoring in agriculture. Scholarship winners will be announced at the 2015 National Angus Convention & Trade Show Nov. 3-5, 2015, in Overland Park, Kan.

For more information, contact Ginette Kurtz, director of commercial programs at 816-383-5100 or gkurtz@angus.org.

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 2015.

Applicants must be enrolled in a junior college, four-year college/university or other accredited institution for the fall of 2015. 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 a registration paper in the last 36 months (on or after May 1, 2012).

Full details of eligibility can be found at www.angusfoundation.org. Information and an application can be found in the resources section on the home page.



Junior entry packets mailed

All junior members who are 9 years and older should have received the green entry booklet in the mail last month. It contains a calendar of events and deadlines, as well as complete show rules and entry forms for the regional preview shows and the NJAS. It also contains information about the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference.

If you have not received your booklet, please contact the Events & Education Department.

Note these junior deadlines

- ▶ Feb. 2 is the ownership and entry deadline for juniors planning to participate in the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic (MAJAC) regional preview show set for March 13-15 in Harrisonburg, Va.
- ▶ March 2 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show, which will be April 16-19 in Reno, Nev.
- ▶ March 2 is also the nomination deadline for Advisor of the Year and Honorary Angus Foundation induction.

Visit www.angus.org/njaa for more information and deadlines. Please note there are no exceptions to any of the ownership and entry deadlines.

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Cattle Industry Coverage available online

The 2015 Cattle Industry Annual Convention and National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Trade Show is in San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 4-7. Full event coverage by the *Angus Journal* editorial staff will be available at www.4cattlemen.com.

Coverage includes general session business; keynote speakers, including internationally recognized graffiti artist and best-selling business author Erik Wahl and FOX News journalist Bret Baier; Cattlemen's College® summaries; CattleFax outlook summaries; policy updates from NCBA, the Cattlemen's Beef Board (CBB), the Federation of State Beef Councils and American National CattleWomen Inc. (ANCW); and much more. Visit www.4cattlemen.com.

View Central Bull Test listing on Virtual Library

Bull sales are abundant this time of year, and so are performance bull tests. The *Angus Journal* editorial staff keeps an updated list of central bull test stations on the Virtual Library at 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 the "Angus Resources." Hover over the "Industry" option in the drop-down list, and "Central Bull Test Stations" will be the first option.

Social media milestone reached

The *Angus Journal* Facebook page reached the 10,000-fan milestone in January. Fans of the page find posts on daily Angus events and sales, Association and API announcements, links to Angus resources, photo contests, and a wide range of editorial content. You can become a fan of the page by clicking Like at www.facebook.com/AngusJournal.

C designated for permanent ID in 2015

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, C001 and C002 could designate the first two calves born into your herd in the year 2015.

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."

Black Books available today

Place your order for the 2015 Beef Record Service (BRS)/AngusSource® black books. The pocket-sized books include a calendar, as well as space to keep management records on your cow herd.

The 2015 books are available in any quantity for \$3 each. To place orders, contact the AngusSource department at 816-383-5100 or blackbooks@angus.org.

Custom Cattle Tags offers affordable ID

Cattle producers looking for affordable ways to identify their herd should visit www.customcattletags.com, 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.

2014 Annual Report available upon request

The 2014 *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 2014, which ended Sept. 30, 2014. It is available online at www.angus.org.

Printed reports are available upon request by contacting 816-383-5100 or lmaudlin@angus.org.

Feed intake included in \$F, \$B

During the Association's biannual national cattle evaluation (NCE), the feedlot dollar value index (\$F) included an additional update beyond the regular update of the economic assumptions. The feed intake expected progeny difference (EPD), which is calculated behind the scenes as a component of the residual average daily gain (RADG) EPD, was incorporated into \$F, thereby affecting the beef value index (\$B) as well.

For additional information, see the "By The Numbers" column on page 82 of the December 2014 *Angus Journal*.

