



Association Highlights

► compiled by *Shauna Rose Hermel*, editor

Look for delegate petitions in the mail

Preparations are being made for the 2015 Annual Convention of Delegates this November in Overland Park, Kan. Forms to nominate delegates to the Annual Meeting will be mailed to every active life and regular

Association member during the last week of March.

The nomination period is April 1-June 30. Each member is allowed to nominate one eligible active life or regular member who resides in the same state or district, including



himself or herself. 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. Central Daylight Time (CDT) June 30, 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.

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. 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 Lea Ann Maudlin at 816-383-5100 or 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.

AGI seeking intern candidates

Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) is seeking a summer intern to assist with day-to-day activities of the department from mid-May through mid-August. The intern's primary responsibility will be growing the MaternalPlus® program, including development of promotional and educational materials.

Applicants should be college juniors or seniors studying animal science, ag communications or a related field with an interest in genetics applied to beef cattle production and/or animal breeding. Graduate students will also be considered. Candidates should be detail-oriented, have strong communications skills and be able to work well with all types of personnel.

Submit applications — including cover letter, résumé and references — to Tonya Amen, Genetic Service Director, Angus

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	Arthrogryposis 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).

Genetics Inc., 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506; tamen@angus.org by March 31. For more information, contact AGI staff at 816-383-5100.

Western National

The 63rd Western National Angus Futurity (WNAF) and 42nd Western Regional Junior Angus Show will be April 15-19 at the Reno Livestock Events Center, Reno, Nev. The Grand Sierra Resort and Casino will serve as the headquarters hotel.

Cattle must be checked in by noon Friday, April 17. Randy Daniel of Colbert, Ga., will judge the junior regional on Saturday. Jack Ward of Plattsburgh, Mo., will evaluate the WNAF open classes on 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.

Additional details are available on the website. For more information, contact Rod Wesselman, WNAF show manager, at PO Box 746, Moses Lake, WA 98837; info@wnaf.org; or 509-750-2185.

Download foot-scoring spreadsheet

American Angus Association members can now download a spreadsheet to submit foot scores via their AAA Login account. 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 *Angus Journal* stories explaining the process of foot-scoring and links to other pertinent information.

Data collected 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 or Tonya Amen, AGI genetic service director, at tamen@angus.org.

Online registration open for BIF Symposium

Online registration is now available at <http://beefimprovement.org/library/registration-info> for the 2015 Beef Improvement Federation Symposium (BIF) and Convention. The annual event is scheduled for June 9-12 in Biloxi, Miss. Mississippi State University and the Mississippi Extension Service will host the

event at the Beau Rivage Casino and Hotel in Biloxi. Rebuilding the cow herd and female selection will be core themes of this year's event.

A schedule, along with hotel and travel information, is available at www.bifconference.com, the *Angus Journal's* online coverage site for the event.

Watch for DMI information

Association members should notice another expected progeny difference (EPD) on their registration papers and various reports provided by the American Angus Association. We've noted how the Association has enhanced its dollar value indexes (\$Values) by including an EPD for feed intake in calculations for feed value (\$F) and beef value (\$B).

The feed intake EPD, reported in pounds of dry matter per day, had been calculated behind the scenes as a component of the residual average daily gain (RADG) EPD. It is supported by both feed-intake data and genomic profile information.

Producers requested that a DMI EPD be reported, as well, so they could dig deeper into what factors affect the broader index values. The Association is responding to that request, making the EPD available on performance documents.

For more information, contact Moser or Amen.



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. For more information, contact Lynne Hinrichsen, American Angus Auxiliary president and scholarship chairman, at rlangus@bluevalley.net.

NJAA Ambassador Program

Funded by the Angus Foundation, the NJAA Ambassador program is an educational and learning 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 essay questions are due June 1 to the Junior Activities 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.

Seeking golf tournament sponsors and players

The Angus Foundation's annual golf tournament will be Tuesday, July 14, at the Forest Ridge Golf Club, Broken Arrow, Okla. The golf tournament is hosted in conjunction with the 2015 NJAS. Proceeds from the fundraising activity benefit Angus education, youth and research.

The Gary and Sharon Stevenson Family of Flying G Ranch, Caldwell, Texas, purchased the golf tournament sponsorship for \$2,000 at Angus Night on the Mountain at Spruce Mountain Ranch, Larkspur, Colo., in January. There are eight other sponsorship levels available. The deadline to be a sponsor is May 29.

To play in the tournament, adults can

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register at \$100 per person, and junior golfers (NJAA members) can register at \$75 per person. Registration deadline is June 22. After June 22, a \$10 late registration fee applies per player.

Visit www.angusfoundation.org to find out how you and your Angus farm can be recognized as a sponsor or participate in the 2015 Angus Foundation Golf Tournament.

New initiative to engage future cattle producers

Applications are now available online (<http://www.angus.org/Performance/Documents/FASEnrollmentForm.pdf>) to enroll in the program. The Association launched the Future Angus Stockmen program to embrace the next generation of cattlemen 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 EPDs and \$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.

Note these junior deadlines

► May 1:

- Gold Award applications
- Outstanding Leadership Award applications
- Ownership and entry for the Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show
- Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) and Angus Foundation scholarship applications
- Ownership and entry deadline for the Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show
- National Junior Angus Board (NJAB) nominations due

► May 15:

- Ownership and entry deadline for the NJAS.
- Ownership and entry deadline for The All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity Junior Angus Show
- Entries for the NJAS writing, photography, creative writing and graphic design contests due
- Entry and recipe deadline for the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American CAB® Cook-Off

► May 21-24:

- Atlantic National Junior Angus Show, Timonium, Md.

► May 25:

- NJAA Career Development Contest résumés and public speaking contest speech outlines due
- Online entry deadline for the NJAS

► June 1:

- NJAB applications due
- State delegate names for NJAA election due
- State names for NJAS showmanship contest due
- NJAA Ambassador Program application due

► June 15:

- LEAD early registrations due

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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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 2015 Cattle Industry Annual Convention and National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Trade Show was in San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 4-7. Full event coverage by the *Angus Journal* is 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 "Angus Resources." Hover over the "Industry" option in the drop-down list, and "Central Bull Test Stations" will be the first option.

Custom Cattle Tags offers affordable ID

Cattle producers looking for affordable ways to identify their herd should visit

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.

Purchase Angus photos online

While in the showing or covering Angus events, Association staff capture thousands of photos throughout the year. Candid photographs, backdrop images and others can be found online through a special photo website (photo.angus.org). The Association recently released new prices and offers digital downloads, photo prints and other gift items, such as magnets, photo books, keychains and more.

For more information, contact the PR Department at prphotos@angus.org or 816-383-5100 for more information.

Request sale-day or field-day kit

Producers with late spring sales or those planning summer field days at their operations can request a sale-day kit or field-day planner and kit from the American Angus Association. The kits include educational and promotional information about the Angus breed and Association programs.

All materials should be requested at least two weeks prior to your event to ensure items will reach your destination. Contact Amber Wahlgren or Lea Ann Maudlin at 816-383-5100.

MaternalPlus®

MaternalPlus is a voluntary, inventory-based reporting system designed to capture additional reproductive trait data and, ultimately, expand reproductive and lifetime productivity tools. By using MaternalPlus, producers will receive additional information at weaning processing time, including calving ease, birth weight and weaning weight EPDs for calves out of inventoried cows.

In addition, MaternalPlus allows producers to submit cow disposal codes and reason designations, which keeps an accurate record of why a cow left the herd.

To learn more about MaternalPlus, visit www.angus.org or AAA Login.



The Angus Report airs each week on RFD-TV

The Angus Report delivers Association and industry news each week on RFD-TV.

Catch the original broadcast at 7:30 a.m. CDT Monday morning. Each program is rebroadcast the following Wednesday evening at 5 p.m., Thursday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. and Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

State Angus associations, publications, breeders and others looking for website content are encouraged to post segments of the free program on their websites. Videos will be updated regularly at www.angus.org and through the Association's Facebook and Twitter pages.

Lifetime membership options

The American Angus Association offers producers a lifetime membership option. The \$1,500 membership lasts throughout the life of the sole person named on the membership. Payments may be broken into three nonrefundable yearly installments.

Lifetime memberships can be issued to one person only, and are not meant for partnerships. The membership option may be used for a farm name, provided only one person is included on the membership.

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 for more details.

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."

