



Cow Chips
November/December 2009

AAA members to meet at 126th annual convention

American Angus Association members and Angus enthusiasts from across the nation and Canada will gather for the 126th Annual Convention of Delegates at the 2009 North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE), Nov. 14-17 in Louisville, Ky. A full schedule of events is planned for attendees including the 2009 Super Point Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus Show.

The Annual Meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m., on Monday, Nov. 16, at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center (KFEC), and is open to all Association members. President Jay King, Rock Falls, Ill., will preside over the meeting. Delegates from across the United States, the District of Columbia and Canada will conduct the business of the Association, including electing officers and five new directors.

During the Annual Meeting, the Association's Annual Report will be presented and distributed to the membership. In addition, reports will be given on the activities of Angus Productions Inc. (API), Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB), Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI), and the Angus Foundation.

All Angus events at the KFEC will be in the South Wing C - upper level- rooms 201-204, same as in 2008. The hotel headquarters remains in the same location, but the name has changed to the Crowne Plaza, formerly the Executive West.

In addition to the meetings held in Louisville, the Super Point ROV Show will be Nov. 16-17. A three-person judging panel, consisting of Don Boggs, Manhattan, Kan.; Kyle Colyer, Bruneau, Idaho; and Twig Marston, Norfolk, Neb., will evaluate the cattle in the ROV Show.

Bulls and cow-calf pairs will show on Monday, Nov. 16. The females and group classes will show on Tuesday, November 17. Both shows start at 8 a.m., in Freedom Hall at the KFEC.

In addition to the Super Point ROV show, a junior heifer show will take place Sunday, Nov. 15. The order of breeds is not announced until Saturday, so check at the Association's registration desk at the Crowne Plaza for the approximate show time.

An Angus Education Center will once again be featured. Located in the KFEC South Wing C, room 201, members can hear from Association, CAB, API, AGI, and Angus Foundation staff about programs and services. Seminars will be conducted on Sunday and

Monday. Watch for a schedule of these seminars to be posted online soon.

The Crowne Plaza, formerly the Executive West, will again serve as Angus headquarters for the Association's events during the Annual Meeting. The Association's growing membership and the increase in the number of delegates to the Annual Meeting have created limited space for reservations at the Crowne Plaza; therefore rooms are reserved only for delegates, alternates, and Association officers and directors.

The Angus Banquet will be Monday, Nov. 16. The banquet begins with a no-host social at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m., at the Crowne Plaza. Tickets cost \$30, and will be available at the registration desk.

Inductees into the Angus Heritage Foundation will be honored and the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Outstanding Leadership Award winner will be recognized during the banquet. In addition, three prestigious ROV honors—the Breeder, Show Heifer and Show Bull of the Year Awards will be presented at this year's banquet. Featured entertainment is not planned.

The Angus Foundation and the American Angus Auxiliary will host a Holiday Room at the Crowne Plaza for Angus gift buying during the events in Louisville.

Both organizations will have a variety of Angus items for sale, including jackets, caps and shirts, American Angus Association history and art books, afghans, jewelry, steak platters, and many other items.

If you're not able to attend the Angus events at the NAILE, you can still keep up with what's going on in the show ring and other Angus activities. Simply log on to www.angusjournal.com/louisville for online coverage of all Angus events. The site will feature show coverage and photos of division champions in both the junior and ROV shows. It will also feature photos of award winners and the newly elected officers and directors of the Association.



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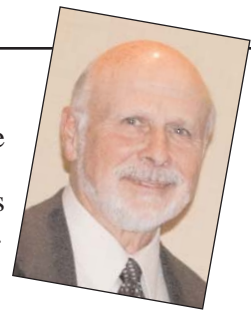
Chris Throne
Lexington, GA

Doug Williams
Milan, GA

For more information on Georgia Angus Association activities, contact:

Christy Page
Secretary/Treasurer
638 Lake Crest Drive
Jefferson, GA 30549
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Letter from your President



Greetings from middle Georgia. Well, it seems as though the summer drought has left our area and the rains have returned. We still have hay to cut that's needed for this years feeding requirements. If some of you are having the same challenges, lets pray and hope we have decent weather to get the crop in the barn. We are not alone as those with peanuts, cotton and soy beans are having the same problem getting their corps harvested.

The year 2009 is almost in the history books. All in all, I believe it has been a successful year for Angus enthusiasts and especially here in Georgia. The juniors have matured with their experiences and training programs and the Angus breed continues to hold its edge in the market. It has not been easy, especially with the genetic problems we have had to deal with and the dismal economic conditions that will take a long time to overcome. Our breed has experienced and overcome challenges in the past and we will survive the problems we are facing now. This speaks volumes of the resilience of Angus breeders here in Georgia and across the nation.

As fall gets into full swing, it puts the holiday season just around the corner. Thanksgiving reminds us of the blessings God has bestowed on all of us this past year and the true meaning of Christmas when we celebrate the birth of our Savior. I and the GAA Board of Directors wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving and a blessed Christmas.

If I can be of any assistance to you please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Chuck

Sympathy

- ♦ **Joe Ellis McCannon**, 77 of Hull, died Sunday, November 1, 2009. He retired from Cooper Tire Company after 30 years. Joe's true passion was maintaining a cattle and poultry farm. He held an Honorary FFA Degree, was the 1994 Madison County Purebred Breeder of the Year and Broad River Soil and Water Conservation Farm Family of the Year in 1998. He was a member of the Madison County Young Farmers, Madison County Cattleman's Association and the Georgia Cattleman's Association, Life Member of the American Angus Association, Georgia Angus Association and member of the Georgia Farm Bureau. Survivors, in addition to his wife, include two sons and daughters-in-law, Ronnie and Kelly Cunningham McCannon of Carnesville and Steve and Nancy McCannon of Pendleton, S.C.; daughter and son-in-law, Linda and David Echols of Hull; brother, Eugene McCannon of Athens, sisters, Fradie King of Atlanta, Mary Alice Marsh of Griffin and Betty Jones of Jackson; and five grandchildren, Dr. Christy McCannon Hooper, Katie McCannon, Heather Echols, Joey McCannon and Hayden Echols. Donations may be made to Moriah Primitive Baptist Church, c/o Jack Chandler, 44 Donald Smith Road, Hull, GA 30646; or to the Madison County Agricultural Education Center, c/o any local First Citizens Bank.
- ♦ **Lois L. Cloud**, 96, mother of Clark, Wally and Sam Cloud passed away Saturday, October 3, 2009. She was able to live until the last week of her life on the family farm. The Cloud brothers would like to thank so many who were kind to her over the years. Her funeral was held Mon. Oct. 5. Memorial donations can be made to New Hope Baptist Church, 235 Old Pioneer Trail Canton, GA 30115.
- ♦ **Mary P. Royster**, 95, of Winder, died Tuesday, September 8, 2009. Survivors include children, Earl, Johnny, Hokey and Mike Royster and Teresa Lee; 18 GC, 27 GGC, four GGGC, one brother and three sisters.

Advertising space is available in the January/February Cow Chips:

Advertising Rates:
Full Page - \$100 1/2 Page - \$75.00 1/4 Page - \$50.00 Classified Ads - \$25.00

Advertising Deadline: December 21, 2009

Georgia Angus Association Cow Chips

Angus remains industry leader

The American Angus Association® remained at the top of the beef cattle industry in 2009, with the number of registrations far outpacing those of any other breed.

“Our year-end statistics continue to demonstrate strong demand for Angus genetics and solidify our long-held position as a leader in the beef cattle industry,” Bryce Schumann, American Angus Association CEO, said. “These results underscore our members’ commitment to providing genetic solutions to the beef cattle industry, and record-breaking sales for Certified Angus Beef® further substantiate Angus demand.”

Despite a sagging U.S. economy, 282,911 animals

GAA Board Minutes

The GAA board of directors met Sunday, September 20, 2009 in Lawrenceville, Ga., in conjunction with the Gwinnett County Fair. The following highlights the information that was discussed.

Banquet Committee - The 2010 GAA Annual Meeting and Banquet has been set for Saturday, January 30 at The Classic Center. The board decided to invite Bryce Schuman, CEO of the American Angus Association, to speak at the banquet.

Beef Expo Sale - The 2010 sale is set for Friday, April 2. Breeders will be asked to submit nominations by December 31, 2009. Space will once again be limited. Screening will take place in January or February.

Junior Activities - The success of the 2009 National Junior Angus Show was discussed and the board of directors were provided with the over financials of the event. The GJAA generated \$304,500 from the show and the total show expenses, including the continuous fundraising efforts of the NJAS History book, totaled \$232,000.

Membership & Angus Promotions - The board of directors discussed possibilities of having Angus cattle on display during the Sunbelt Ag Expo and directors to assist with working the Angus booth.

Georgia Honorary Hall of Fame Award - The board decided the inductees of the inaugural Georgia Honorary Hall of Fame members and will present them during the 2010 GAA Banquet. These recipients include: Jim Vogt, John Crouch, Dan Daniel, Bill Graham, Jim Johnson, Ed & Wilma Minix, John Picket, and John Tyler. These individuals and/or families will be asked to attend the banquet.

In new business, the board voted to provide a \$250 to the Wayne Shackelford Memorial Scholarship and \$100 to the Stan Kalino Memorial Scholarship.

were registered during fiscal year 2009, which ended Sept. 30, 2009. Transfers — representing sales of cattle to new owners — reached 176,199, indicating continued demand for Angus genetics. Embryo transfers accounted for 11.3% of registrations, and more than 52% of registered calves were a result of A.I.

The number of members storing registrations electronically increased slightly during 2009, and breeders continued to utilize Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) and Beef Improvement Records (BIR). Breeders submitted a total of 845,633 weights, bringing the database to more than 16 million weight records.

Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) saw its third consecutive sales record in 2009, selling 663 million pounds, an increase of more than 24 million pounds, over last year. Approximately 14.1 million head were identified, and nearly 2.87 million head certified — an 8% increase over the previous year. Acceptance rates climbed to 19.8%.

AngusSource® — a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Process Verified Program (PVP) documenting age, source and Angus genetics — saw an 8.5% increase in enrollments this year. More than 122,700 head were enrolled in the program in FY 2009, bringing total enrollments to more than 390,000 head since the program was initiated as a PVP in 2005. The average size of enrolled lots increased as well, from 146 head to 161 head.

AAA announces the ten Georgia breeders who register the most Angus

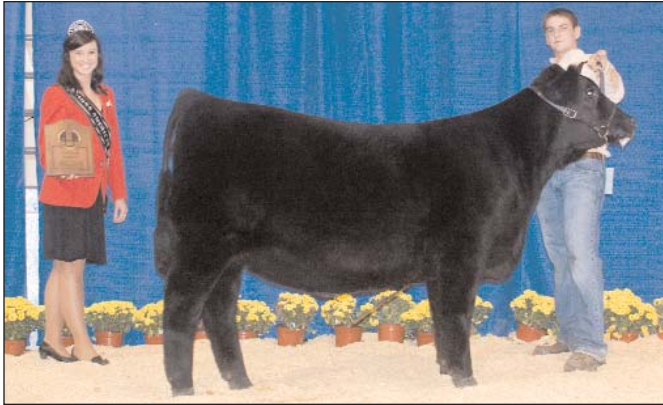
The 10 producers who registered the most Angus beef cattle in the state of Georgia recorded a total of 2842 Angus with the American Angus Association® during fiscal year 2009, which ended Sept. 30, according to Bryce Schumann, CEO of the American Angus Association.

The 10 top recorders in Georgia are: Three Trees Ranch Inc, Sharpsburg, 855-head; The Graham Co, Albany, 565; Blake W Callaway, Rayle, 330; Shoulderbone Plantation, White Plains, 299; Pine Ridge Farms, Omega, 192-head; Bricton Farm, Social Circle, 142; Dan & Mia Beckham, Woodbury, 137; Hudgins Cattle Company, Winder, 116; Triple D Angus Farm, Whigham, 108-head; Fred G Blich, Statesboro, 98.

Angus breeders across the nation in 2009 registered 282,911 head of Angus cattle. “Our year-end statistics continue to demonstrate strong demand for Angus genetics and solidify our long-held position as a leader in the beef cattle industry,” Schumann said. “These results underscore our members’ commitment to providing genetic solutions to the beef cattle industry.”

Angus champions named at the 2009 Georgia National Fair Junior Show

Junior members led 86 females at the 2009 Georgia National Fair Junior Angus Show, October 10 in Perry, Ga. Jeff Mafi, Stillwater, Okla., evaluated the entries.



MCCO Blackcap 840 won grand champion female. Jonathan Mobley, Moultrie, Ga., owns the October 2008 daughter of G A R New Design 5050.



Meldons Kaylee 930 won reserve grand champion female. Samantha Allen, Talmo, Ga., owns the November 2008 daughter of TC Total 410.

Georgia breeders named winners at the 2009 Georgia National Fair Open Show

GAA members exhibited cattle at the 2009 Georgia National Fair Open Angus Show, October 13 in Perry, Ga. Mike McGuire, Waverly, Ala., evaluated the entries.



Lemmon Total U74 won reserve grand champion bull. Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Lemmon, Woodbury, Ga., & Christa Royster, Dacula, Ga., own the January 2008 son of TC Total 410.



Lemmon Elba U148 won reserve grand champion female. Christa Royster, Dacula, Ga., owns the February 2008 daughter of Schurrtop MC 2500

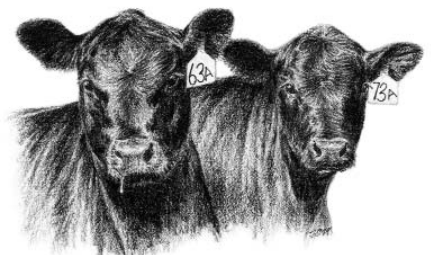
Congratulations

- ◆ Congratulations to **Kyle and Jennifer Gillooly**, Wadley, Ga., on the birth of their first child. Grant Edward Gillooly was born September 24, 2009 and he weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. Grandparents include Jim and Jane Gillooly of Washington, Ind., and Chris and Lynne Oglesby of Wadley, Ga. Great grandfather includes Charles Smith of Wadley, Ga.

Sale Report

- ◆ Bull Power - 10 Angus bulls grossed \$22,500 and averaged \$2,250.
- ◆ Three Trees Ranch - 84 bulls grossed \$220,700 and averaged \$2,627.
- ◆ Black Crest Farm - 80 lots grossed \$138,450 and averaged \$1,730.
- ◆ Bramblett Angus Bull & Commercial Female Sale - 69 Lots grossed \$110,180 and averaged \$1,600.
- ◆ Cattlemen's Classic Sale - 35 Lots grossed \$93,625 and averaged \$2,675.

To submit information for upcoming issues of *Cow Chips*, please e-mail information to info@georgiaangus.org



The Junior Corner - News from the Georgia Junior Angus Association

Dear Georgia Junior Angus Association,

Hello fellow Angus enthusiast! The Georgia National Fair is over and another tiring week is past us. Congratulations to all the champions that week! The Angus show was as deep as it has ever been. The State show will not take place until February, relieving some of that pre-show stress that always comes around the week before a show. Yes, there are many shows in between here and then, but now we have time to take a few days off or to focus on other tasks.

The late great football coach Paul Brown once said "The key to winning is poise under stress". This quote is not just talking about winning a football game, it applies to life as well. Within the past month, stress has been on me - as a senior in high school I have many responsibilities that are important towards my future. Not just finishing my college applications, but making sure they portray my abilities in the best way possible. Along with that I have all my school work and my cattle that must be done as well. And we must not forget my mom is always getting at me to keep my room clean (I am not too good at that task).

Still with all these things weighing on my mind daily, I have enjoyed every moment and been successful in my daily goals. That is because in these days I have come to learn that the best way of staying poised under stress is to not stress at all. Yes, this is a very hard task at times, but life can be more enjoyable if you do not let stress weigh you down. Every day you should have goals and if you do not finish those goals, there is another day. Now do not go off, procrastinate and forget about accomplishing your goals. Accomplishing your goals helps you accomplish an enjoyable life.

I hope to see you soon. If you ever want to ask me a question or just talk, shoot me an email at cccattleco5@yahoo.com. Also if you ever need me to do something for you (whether it is teaching you how to Tango or helping you in some way with your cattle) let me know. My job as president is to serve you all. Along with that bleed black and let your Angus pride show. See you soon.

Clay Williams



Juniors to provide funding

The GJAA recently held a meeting in conjunction with the Georgia National Fair in Perry, Ga. At the meeting, the juniors voted to give \$5,000 to the 2010 National Junior Angus set to be held in Denver, Colo. This presentation will be made to the members of the 2010 NJAS Executive Committee during the North American International Livestock Show and it's Angus Reception on Sunday, November 15 in Louisville, Ky. Any GJAA member attending this show is asked to be at the Reception to assist with the presentation.

The juniors hope to provide additional funding to the show once this year's finances are finalized.

Juniors for the NJAA Board

Any Georgia junior Angus member that has a desire to run for the National Junior Angus Association Board of Directors must contact GJAA Advisor Carolyn Gazda and complete an application prior to December 31, 2009. Please contact Carolyn for complete details and information at gazdacattleco@bellsouth.net or 706-540-2222.

Start saving pop tabs now!

It's not too early to start saving your pop tabs for the National Junior Angus Association aluminum tab collection program. This community service project was introduced at the 2007 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Tulsa, Okla. This contest is designed to reward state junior associations for their collection of the highest number of pop tabs to be donated to the local Ronald McDonald House Charity (RMHC). Each state is given collection bags at the first of the week of the NJAS, but is encouraged to bring tabs they have been collecting through out the year. In 2007, 14 lbs totaling 18,500 tabs were collected and given to the RMHC in Oklahoma City. In 2008, 655.4 lbs totaling 830,392 tabs were collected and given to the RMHC in Des Moines. In 2009, 1,371.5 lbs of pop tabs were collected and given to the Macon RMHC.

All Georgia Angus adults and juniors can participate in this awesome community service project. Start saving your pop tabs now and bring to the NJAS or simply give to a GJAA advisor at upcoming events. Whether you plan to be a participant at the 2010 NJAS or not, you can still be a part of this activity!

My year as Miss American Angus

By 2009 Miss American Angus, Katie Gazda

A year ago, on November 17, 2008, I became the second young woman from the state of Georgia to be crowned Miss American Angus. Every little girl dreams of being a princess - I, however, dreamed of being a cow queen! Ever since I was five years old, I would admire the young women who wore the red jackets and shiny crowns from afar, dreaming that one day I would have the opportunity to do the same. Hearing my name called out at the North American International Livestock Exposition is a moment I will never forget. The four girls I competed with were absolutely fantastic and I look forward to continuing to grow friendships with them as we continue through our junior Angus careers. The time since I was crowned has been a whirlwind; as bittersweet as it is, it's hard to believe that I have nearly completed my duties. However, instead of sulking around, upset that my year is almost through, I thought that I would fill everyone in on just what exactly my reign as 2009 Miss American Angus entailed.

After North American last year, my first official function as Miss American Angus took place in Wooster, Ohio at the Certified Angus Beef Building Blocks Seminar. Being from Georgia, I was really psyched about the chance of snow in Ohio since we rarely see it down south. When I landed in Cleveland the ground was clear and I was a little perturbed. However, by the end of the first day of workshops, the ground was covered in white and I was thrilled! While at CAB, I enjoyed our multiple snack breaks (snacking on nothing other than wonderful Certified Angus Beef Products, of course - whoever knew there were so many?!), mingling with the talented staff, and bonding with the new six junior board members, Miss Shelia Stannard from the American Angus Association, and the American Angus Auxiliary representative, Mrs. Barbara Ettredge. I never cease to be amazed at the versatility and thoroughness of the Certified Angus Beef program. There is not one table left unturned in the program, and I firmly believe that explains their substantial success in the meat industry.

A mere five days upon returning from Wooster, I boarded an airplane headed west for the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado. Denver was without a doubt the trip that I most looked forward to after being crowned Miss American Angus because I had never been to the stock show before and had heard nothing but great things about it. And, of course, Colorado was infamously known for its snowcapped mountains and brisk temperatures. Unfortunately, I arrived in Denver Monday night to the coldest and snowiest time of the entire trip. The remainder of the week it was colder at home than it was in Colorado! However, with the exception of the severe lack of snow, I still enjoyed my time in Denver both in the show ring and in the yards. The atmosphere and feel of the Stock Show is so different than any show I had ever been to on the East Coast. My first trip definitely won't be my last! I also fell in love with the concept of the Bases Loaded Sale at Coors Field - whoever thought of combining baseball and Angus cattle is a genius! At this show, I was so thankful for all of the ring help I got from various state queens and princesses. With a show of that capacity, I definitely couldn't have survived without their help!

Two weeks later, I made my first trip to the state of Texas for the Texas Angus Association Annual Meeting, Sale, and Banquet at the Fort Worth Stock Show. In Fort Worth I enjoyed spending time with one of my Miss American Angus advisors, Mrs. Ginger Olson, and her husband, American Angus Association Board Member, Mr. Steve Olson. I also got to visit again with Mrs. Ettredge, and the ladies of the Texas Angus Auxiliary. I received a warm welcome from each and every Angus producer I met and appreciated the hospitality of the entire Texas Angus Association, and I am grateful for their

invitation. And a little side note - Texas was the THIRD state I saw snow in during my January travels as Miss American Angus. Yes, SNOW!

I jumped on my plane from Fort Worth and headed back to Georgia where I landed in Atlanta and headed straight to Athens for the Georgia Angus Association Annual Meeting and Banquet. Here I made my first appearance in the state as Miss American Angus. This was really exciting for me, as we found ourselves less than two-hundred days away from the kickoff of the 2009 National Junior Angus Show. We also crowned our 2009 Miss Georgia Angus - Taylor Gazda and Georgia Angus Princess - Lakyn Davis. They have been great ambassadors for our state associations this year and I am proud to have had the opportunity to work aside them! Serving as Miss American Angus the same year that Nationals is being held in my home state was remarkable, and with my sister serving along my side as Miss Georgia Angus, I couldn't have thought up anything more perfect! At the banquet I was able to interact with some of our younger members, some of whom referred to my crown and I as the "Fairy Godmother." The youngest members are truly the future of the Angus industry, and are the core focus of my time as Miss American Angus. I feel the more we involve them, the better off the breed that we all love will be!

In February, I walked through the student center at the University of Georgia on my way to class to find hundreds of students reading our student-run newspaper, The Red & Black, with my face (and cows!) on the cover. It was at this moment that my title became the most surreal. The article, entitled "Where's the Beef?," explained my duties, and cleared the misconceptions that "Miss American Angus" came from a beauty pageant. Within a matter of days, I was hearing from classmates from fall semester, teachers in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, and even my sorority sisters. Each and every person had a different question, but none with negative connotations; they all found what I was doing to be unique but pretty cool, even though they didn't necessarily understand it. The article ended up inspiring another article to be published in The Red & Black naming each and every reigning "queen" at UGA, ranging from Miss UGA to Miss Houston County Watermelon Queen. From that moment on I became known through many circles as "Miss Angus," and most of my friends don't hesitate to introduce me to anyone we meet as nothing other. When I went to get advised for my fall semester schedule, "Where's the Beef?" greeted me on my advisor's door. It was definitely a memorable experience!

At the end of February, I attended the Georgia National Livestock Show. This was the first year that I was no longer eligible to show, and I found it bittersweet to enter the ring not with a calf, but instead with a crown. This was a neat show for me, because my sister won the Champion Bred and Owned Angus Heifer, and I was able to stand in her picture not only as her proud big sister, but also as Miss American Angus. Of course, it was also the first show I attended in Georgia under the role of Miss American Angus, so it was fun to get to experience what all came with that - including the weird looks from the non-Angus exhibitors who had no idea why I was wearing a crown and heels in the show ring!



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I spent two days of my spring break in chilly, seventeen-degree weather at the Stucky Ranch sale in Kingman, Kansas. This was my first appearance at a production sale, and I was greeted with nothing but warm hospitality and graciousness from the entire Stucky family and friends. This was also the first trip where my dad took off his Regional Manager hat and replaced it with his Queen Dad hat and accompanied me as my chaperone for a little father/daughter bonding time. I enjoyed visiting with the Stuckys, and am especially thankful to Mr. Fred Gretsch for all the effort he put into making sure that my dad and I made the trip out there!

In the beginning of April I attended the Georgia Beef Expo and the Georgia Angus Association's Annual Production Sale. Here I was fortunate to be able to spend time with producers from the state and raise anticipation for the National Junior Angus Show. I also ran tickets in my "queenie clothes" and was introduced to the crowd as "Miss America" by Tom Burke.

The second week of April I wore the crown and sash in a different capacity than I was used to - in the student center at the University of Georgia! I spent time in between classes supporting the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at "Ag Day at Tate," part of South Campus Week at UGA, meant to raise awareness and knowledge about the College of Ag, one of the lesser known, more secluded colleges at the university. There were signs advertising "Ag Day at Tate" with none other but my face on it, advertising the "guest appearance by Miss American Angus!" It was probably at Ag Day at Tate that I received the largest number of weird looks. One of my sorority sisters saw me, stopped dead in her tracks, and immediately burst out into laughter. However, it was still a great experience and was a different way for me to use my title to educate those who don't know much about agriculture in general.

At the end of April, I flew to Reno, Nevada for the Western National Angus Futurity. My trip to Reno signified my furthest trip out west! While in Reno, my mom and I took a day trip around Lake Tahoe, and I am officially in love. I'm counting down the days until I scrummage up enough money to vacation there - it's gorgeous! Once again, I was blessed with great hospitality by all of those involved in the show. Here I saw so many familiar faces, and having never been to this show before, or anything like it, I was very grateful! Traveling to places and shows where I don't know as many people, it is so helpful to see friendly faces to make my year the amazing experience it has been!

Following Reno and the conclusion of my freshman year, my mother and I flew up to Timonium, Maryland for the Atlantic National Angus Show. This was my first time attending this show as well, and I was so excited to experience it as I had heard nothing but great things. I wasn't let down; the show was very well put together and fostered a warm, family environment. I also had the opportunity to attend the Queen's Luncheon and was able to meet with Auxiliary members from across the eastern coast and learn about the functions going on in their own states. I loved meeting with the Auxiliary members in attendance and am so thankful to the women in charge of the luncheon for all that they did!

In June I attended the Southern National Junior and Open Angus Shows in Perry, Georgia, the Central Regional Preview Show in Springfield, Missouri, and the Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show in Columbus, Ohio. Each of these shows provided a great time visiting with Angus producers from across the state and country. At Eastern Regionals I spoke at the Queen's Breakfast, and once again enjoyed the time spent with the caring women of the Ohio and American Angus Auxiliaries.

July marked the most exciting week of my reign as I served as Miss American Angus alongside my sister, Miss Georgia Angus, while hosting the 2009 National Junior Angus Show at my

home-fairgrounds of Perry, Georgia. Hosting this show had been a dream of mine for years and finally having the opportunity to do so was even more rewarding than I thought it would be. Even more exciting than hosting the show though, was wearing the crown and having the interactions with each and every exhibitor that went through the ring that week. Serving as Miss American Angus, I have had the amazing opportunity to meet so many different individuals from California to Maine, and the connections that I have made have been irreplaceable. The Queen's Brunch at the National Junior Angus Show was also a beautiful event, and without a doubt, the largest of any queen's function I had attended thus far. I was excited to have so many members of the American Angus Auxiliary present, and hope that they enjoyed our Southern Hospitality in Perry!

I attended the All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity in Louisville at the beginning of August. This was a quick trip for me, but a good one nonetheless. As always, I enjoy visiting with the different people in charge of the shows and events I attend, and getting to know their families and staffs. The efforts that such people put into these events is incredible and they should be commended!

In the middle of September I wore the crown at a local fair - the Gwinnett County Fair. My grandfather passed away on September 1st, and he had served on the fair board. I was honored to serve as Miss American Angus as a tribute to him. He was in Louisville the day I was crowned 2009 Miss American Angus, and no one in the world was more proud that day than he was of me. Returning to Louisville will no doubt be bittersweet without my biggest fan there to cheer me on, but I know that he's looking down on me with a huge smile on his face!

My most recent event was the Georgia National Fair. In the middle of characteristically fall weather, the fair, of course, was one of the hottest weekends since the summer. However, getting to wear my crown at a show in Georgia for the last time was a sentimental and nostalgic event. It's really been a great year, and I am so glad that I have had the opportunity to experience everything that has happened to me since November 17, 2008.

As I find myself nearing the end of my year as Miss American Angus, I also find myself nearing one of the most exciting parts of the journey. As I learned of the contestants for the title of 2010 Miss American Angus, I couldn't have been more excited. The girls in contention are all remarkable young women and I am confident that whoever I am able to pin as the 2010 Miss American Angus on November 16, will do an extraordinary job fulfilling her duties! I am so excited to get to know these girls during our time in Louisville, and hope that I can offer even the smallest bit of advice to guide them through their experience. Thanks so much to everyone who has played a part in this remarkable journey on the national level, especially the American Angus Auxiliary and the Queens Committee, including Mrs. Mary McCurry, Mrs. Ginger Olson, and Mrs. Jill Harker! None of this would be possible without them! As for a state level, a HUGE thanks goes out to our own Ms. Christy Page - serving as the first Miss American Angus from the state of Georgia, Christy was my rock in the preparation for the 2009 Miss American Angus Contest, and once I was crowned, she continued to serve as a constant, willing source of advice that never let up. She's an amazing mentor and friend and I am so thankful for her and all that she has done for me not only over the past year, but over my entire life. And also, thanks to every single Georgia Angus producer out there; the support I received from each and every one of you was so helpful and appreciated, as big or small as it may have been. It has been a fantastic year and an irreplaceable experience. Thank you ALL so, so much for helping to raise me in this Angus family! I hope that you all have had a successful fall calving cows, and I hope to see you out and about this winter!

AngusSource® calves earn premiums

Cattlemen faced economic hardships throughout 2009, but those enrolled in AngusSource® weathered the storm — earning significantly higher prices for documented Angus-sired calves.

According to data from Superior Livestock Auction, AngusSource calves sold June through September 2009 earned an average \$2.65 more per hundredweight (cwt.) than non-verified calves, and an additional \$1.08 more per cwt. than other age- and source-verified calves sold through Superior Livestock Auction's video sales.

"That's a considerable advantage for Angus-sired cattle and proof that AngusSource helps producers add value to their calves," Sara Snider, AngusSource director, says.

Now entering its fifth year as a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Process Verified Program (PVP), AngusSource documents age, source and a minimum of 50% Angus genetics. Since 2005, the number of head enrolled in the American Angus Association program has steadily increased.

In FY 2009, 122,760 head were enrolled in the program, increasing enrollments by 8.5% and bringing total enrollments to more than 390,000 head since AngusSource was initiated as a PVP in 2005. The average lot size also increased, from 146 head to 161 head.

In addition, producers marketed 18.7% more cattle through online AngusSource cattle listings, which are e-mailed to more than 600 potential buyers each week.

"Once cattle are enrolled in AngusSource, producers are able to document additional health and management information prior to marketing through the online listing. Our goal is to assist our customers with marketing their calves, and we're proud of our reputation for integrity,"

Snider says. "Each year we continue to make the system better and offer additional services to our customers."

In August, AngusSource began offering services to more producers through Gateway — a second-tier source- and age-verification program with no genetic requirements. Producers who enroll cattle in Gateway have access to the online listing site and other marketing support offered through AngusSource.

AngusSource also continues to operate its feedyard umbrella, assisting farmer feeders and commercial yards in targeting finished, age-verified calves for the Japan export market. Participating feedyards reported earning as much as \$35 per head in FY 2009.

GAA Banquet set for January

The GAA Board of Directors invite you to be a part of the 2010 GAA Annual Meeting and Banquet set for January 30 at The Classic Center in Athens, Ga. In addition to fun and fellowship, the GAA will be announcing 2010 officers and directors, presenting the Member of the Year Award, crowning new Georgia royalty and announcing inaugural inductees into the Georgia Honorary Angus Hall of Fame. Registration to the banquet will be available in the January/February 2010 issue of *Cow Chips*.

GAA in search of new Angus royalty

The Georgia Angus Association (GAA) will crown two ambassadors for the state association on January 30 during the GAA Banquet. Miss Georgia Angus is eligible to those young ladies between the ages of 15 and 21, and Georgia Angus Princess is eligible to those young ladies between the ages of 9 and 14, as of January 1, 2010. These young ladies must be a member of the Georgia Junior Angus Association and their parents must be members of the GAA.

The role of Miss Georgia Angus and Georgia Angus Princess is to promote Angus cattle and Angus activities, and to represent the state Angus association. These ambassadors should represent the GAA and the Angus breed by attending shows, field days, banquets, meetings, etc., at their own expense.

If you are interested in serving as Miss Georgia Angus or Georgia Angus Princess, please contact Whitney Chitty, GAA queens committee chairperson, no later than January 15, 2010 at 229-891-1308 or wechitty@valdosta.edu.

This is a great opportunity for junior Angus members to get involved!

Thank You . . .

Dear Georgia Angus Members,

I just wanted to take a minute and thank everyone for their calls, cards and messages following the death of my dad. Many of you knew dad on a personal level, some of you had even worked with him at some point in time. He had a great respect for our great breed and he had a great respect for many of you as well. He is in a better place now where he can breathe freely.

Thanks again for your prayers and support,

Carolyn Gazda

The genetic effect

Genetic change in the cattle business is a slow and steady process, but evidence shows it's happening, and that it's positive for beef quality.

A recent research review notes, "Quantifying the genetic impact is difficult, but it is definitely a factor in the trend toward higher quality grade."

That paper, written by Larry Corah and Mark McCully of Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB), examines the factors that have driven quality grades up, ending a 30-year decline. By this summer 60.1% of cattle in the nation's harvest mix were grading Choice,

a 7.5-percentage-point leap in just two years.

Scientists estimate 1 to 1.5 points can be directly traced to the increased use of Angus genetics, an improvement in that breed's natural marbling ability and a boost in the number of cattle that show Angus influence.

Sally Northcutt, genetic research director for the American Angus Association®, says the breed has focused on marbling.

"When you look at the genetic trend for marbling from the 1980s to now, we see about a third of a marbling score improvement," she says. At 0.26 by mid-2009, the marbling EPD (expected progeny difference) for Angus bulls had moved up 9 points in a decade, after taking 25 years to move that far since its inception.

"We've had a huge progression of the selection tools to allow us to place pressure on marbling," Northcutt says. The Association has more than 85,000 carcass and a million ultrasound measures to evaluate each week.

"It's not enough with Angus breeders to just have the cattle. They like to characterize those cattle for different traits," she says. "Marbling is definitely a key player in trait selection and breeding programs. That funnels through to their customers."

The Angus customer base has been steadily building, too.

According to a 1995 survey, 39% of all bulls used that year were Angus. By 2008, that number was 55%, and 70% of producers said they used at least some Angus bulls.

"The breed has inherently good quality and produces very desirable marbling genetics," Northcutt says.

Data from Iowa's Tri-county Steer Carcass Futurity (TCSCF), which tracks breed makeup, shows the impact of selection. Barely half of the black-hided cattle with less than a quarter Angus genetics in the TCSCF database graded Choice. That's compared to those with three-quarters Angus breeding, which went 86.2% Choice and Prime. Certified Angus Brand® (CAB®) qualifiers more than tripled as Angus makeup increased.

Northcutt says that effect is amplified today: "We've moved beyond just supplying herd sires with a quality impact." She says retaining females builds ever more Angus influence into producers' cowherds.

From 2000 to 2008, there was a 12-point jump in the share of black-hided cattle in the U.S. harvest mix, from 48% to 60%. TCSCF data helps explain the trend, showing an 18-point advantage in the percentage of Choice or higher grade from black-hided cattle compared to their non-black contemporaries.

All of that combines for a partial explanation of the beef quality grade surge. To read "Quality Grade: What is driving the recent upswing?" in its entirety, visit <http://www.cabpartners.com/news/research/index.php>.



*Officers and Directors
of the GAA wish you a
Happy Thanksgiving,
Merry Christmas and
Safe New Year!*



See you in 2010!

GAA seeking nominations for the
Georgia Beef Industry Convention & Expo
Southeastern Angus Showcase Sale
Friday, April 2, 2010
Georgia National Fairgrounds - Perry, GA

Requirements for Participation

1. Each consignor must be a member in good standing of the Georgia Angus Association and Georgia Cattleman's Association.
2. Priority on consignments: 3 in 1 packages (cow with a newborn calf at side or cow soon to calve along with yearling heifer); and cow with weaning age heifer calf at side. Cows with bull calves and excellent quality bred or open heifers will also be accepted. No single bulls may be consigned. It is strongly suggested that cows be A.I. sired with A.I. calves by side.
3. Maximum age on cows is 7-years-old.
4. Heifers born prior to October 1, 2008 must be examined safe in calf.
5. Cows with calves by side born prior to January 1, 2010 must be rebred and examined safe in calf if time permits.
6. Frozen embryos and pregnant recipients from very select matings of superior quality and a limited amount of rare semen will be accepted at the discretion of the committee.
7. All cattle will be screen prior to the sale - usually in January. Consignors will be notified of the screening schedule prior to any visits.
8. Selection of cattle will be based on type and depth of pedigree. Quality, performance and EPDs will be the number one priority.
9. Cattle may be exhibited penned or haltered. Cattle may be fitted as desired.
10. Original Registration certificates must be signed and turned over to the Georgia Angus Association, if selected for the sale, before sale date.
11. The American Angus Hall of Fame will manage the sale.

**For more information, contact sale chairmen:
John Jarrell at 478/862-3861 or Chuck Idone at 478/986-6819,
GAA Secretary/Treasurer Christy Page at info@georgiaangus.org or 770/307-7178,
or American Angus Hall of Fame Sale Manager Jeremy Haag at 816/516-1309.**

Nomination Form

**Limited space is allowed. Please get your entries in on time.

Farm/Ranch Name _____ Contact Person _____
Address _____
City, State Zip _____
Home # _____ Work # _____ Cell # _____
E-mail _____

Please consider the following number of consignments:

___ Cow/Calf Pairs ___ Bred Heifers ___ Open Heifers ___ Semen/Preg./Embryo

Animal Name _____ Reg. No. _____
D.O.B. _____ Sex _____ Tattoo _____
Breeding Info _____ Service Sire Reg. No. _____

If calf at side, either include calf's Reg. No. or registration info including name, birthdate, sex, tattoo and sire's Reg. No. _____

**Please make duplicate copies of entry form for each additional entry.*

**Return no later than December 31, 2009 to:
Georgia Angus Association ♦ Attn: Christy Page
638 Lake Crest Dr. ♦ Jefferson, GA 30549**



2010 Nominations for GAA Directors

The nominating committee of the Georgia Angus Association has made the following nominations for board of directors to serve a two-year term from January 2010 to January 2012:

Fred Gretsich Jr., *Crawford*
John Jarrell, *Butler*
Smitty Lamb, *Tifton*
Mike McCravy, *Bowdon*

Andrew McPeake, *Arnoldsville*
John Morgan, *Mystic*
Melvin Porter, *Jefferson*
Tim Royster, *Dacula*

Roland Starnes, *Woodbury*
David Williams, *Bishop*
Doug Williams, *Milan*

The following directors still have one year remaining on their term:

Larry Bramblett, *Hartwell*
Blake Callaway, *Rayle*
Carolyn Gazda, *Athens*

Chuck Idone, *Macon*
Mike Jones, *West Point*

Harvey Lemmon, *Woodbury*
Chris Throne, *Lexington*

If you wish, you can nominate someone other than the people listed above. Their name will be placed on the ballot along with the candidates nominated by the nominating committee.

I nominate _____ for a board member to the Georgia Angus Association.

Nominations for the 2009 Georgia Angus Association Member of the Year

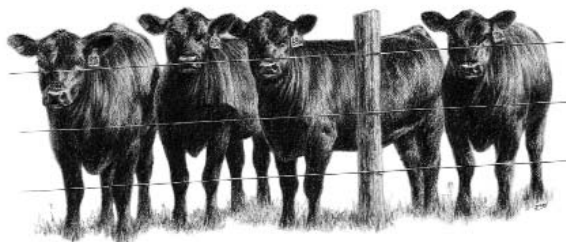
Eligibility: Any member (individual, family or farm) in good standing of the Georgia Angus Association that has displayed outstanding qualities throughout 2009 including leadership, service, commitment and Angus ambassadorship.

I nominate _____ for the 2009 GAA Member of the Year.

Any nomination made without a signature will not be valid.

Signature

**Return no later than December 21, 2009 to:
Georgia Angus Association
638 Lake Crest Dr.
Jefferson, GA 30549**



Georgia Angus Association

638 Lake Crest Drive

Jefferson, GA 30549

Return Service Requested

Calendar of Events

November 2009

- 13 Deer Valley Farm Female Sale - Fayetteville, TN
- 14 Deer Valley Farm Bull Sale - Fayetteville, TN
- 16 AAA 126th Annual Meeting - Louisville, KY
- 21 Going the Extra Mile Sale - Swainsboro, GA
- 23 Graham Angus Farm Sale - Albany, GA

December 2009

- 5 Calhoun PT Bull Sale - Calhoun, GA

January 2010

- 23 Georgia Genetics Bull Sale - Social Circle, GA
- 30 GAA Annual Meeting and Banquet - Athens, GA

February 2010

- 18-21 Georgia Jr. Livestock Show - Perry, GA
- 20 Yon Family Farm PT Bull Sale - Ridge Spring, SC

March 2010

- 3 Tifton PT Bull Sale - Irwinville, GA
- 6 Black Crest Farm - Sumter, SC
- 15 Graham Angus Farm - Albany, GA
- 20 Turnpike Creek Farms - Milan, GA
- 27 Lemmon Angus at Kensington - Woodbury, GA

April 2010

- 2 Southeast Angus Showcase Sale - Perry, GA
- 10 Davis Farms - Doerun, GA
- 16 Britt Angus - Hartwell, GA
- 17 Georgia Genetics - Social Circle, GA
- 18 John Morgan Angus - Mystic, GA
- 19 Three Trees Ranch - Sharpsburg, GA



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Cell 706-601-0800
Rolandstarnes@bellsouth.net

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