



Michigan Angus News

Greetings Michigan Angus Association members and friends!

As we enter into 2021, we as livestock producers are optimistic as well as realistic. Optimism that spring will be coming soon. Green grass will be upon us before we know it, and this year's calf crop will be the best one yet. Realistic that we are still dealing with COVID and the many challenges it presents to us. Michigan Angus Association is dealing with these challenges, and doing our best to provide our members with the services you're accustomed to within the guidelines we must follow.

Annual Awards Banquet and Meeting

At the recent Michigan Angus Board of Directors meeting, the decision was made to postpone the Annual Banquet. Due to uncertainty around gathering limits and a venue, and the amount of planning and legwork required to have this event, we felt it was best to delay this event and revisit it when things become a little clearer.

Michigan Angus Futurity will be an Online Sale

Due to COVID restrictions, the Expo committee and MCA have decided to conduct the 2021 Beef Expo as an online sale again this year. Instead of each breed having their own sale, this year will one online sale with all breeds included. Check out details and nomination forms on page 3.

MCA/MSU Bull Test

The bull test's annual open house will be March 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Plank Farms near Crystal, MI. One hundred bulls started out on test, and once again this year, our fellow Angus breeders have consigned an exceptional group. The sale will be held on March 20 at 12:30 p.m. at Plank Farms. COVID protocols will be followed. Online broadcast and bidding is provided at DV Auctions. Feel free to contact Dr. Dan Buskirk, Brian Plank, or any of the consigners with questions.

If any of our members have questions, comments, or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. Michigan Angus will help out in any way we can. We are always looking for new ideas to improve on how we serve our members, so if you have any please let us know. Better yet, consider running for a Board of Directors position!

Hoping everyone stays healthy and has a great calf crop!

Dan Vaassen, President
734-645-2496
davaassen@aol.com

Michigan Native elected to National Leadership of organization that serves the Angus Breed

Julie Thelen Conover, originally from Saline, Michigan, was recently elected secretary-treasurer of the American Angus Auxiliary.

Julie is a third generation Angus breeder and grew up learning about the Auxiliary. Her first Auxiliary role was to help make sandwiches for the state sale alongside her grandmother, Louisa Diuble, who was a charter member of the Michigan Angus Auxiliary.

Julie was very involved in 4-H, FFA, the Michigan Junior Angus Association and the National Junior Angus Association and enjoyed showing cattle at local, state and national events. As a junior Angus member, Julie had the distinct privilege of winning the Crystal Award as well as receiving the Dick Spader Rattey Sculptures for Extemporaneous Public Speaking and being selected as a first place American Angus Auxiliary scholarship winner in 2005.

Julie was involved in many organizations while a student at Michigan State University and was a member of the MSU Livestock Judging Team. She received bachelor's degrees in agriculture education and animal science and began her professional career in 2010 in Indiana as an agricultural education instructor and FFA advisor. While teaching, she received her master's degree from Iowa State University, which allowed her to become the Michigan State University Extension Statewide 4-H Livestock and Veterinary Science Educator in 2013.



Julie and Lillie Conover checking cows in Missouri. Both are Life Members of American Angus Auxiliary.

Julie Thelen Conover is the daughter of Steve and Nancy Thelen, longtime, active leaders of the Angus breed in Michigan. Both are past presidents of Michigan Angus Association. Nancy is also a past president of both the Michigan Angus Auxiliary and the American Angus Auxiliary.

MISSION: To Enhance the Value of the "Angus Brand" via Marketing, Youth Development, Educational and Social Opportunities.

Leadership Team

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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davaassen@aol.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

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(810) 625-1540
jmkosal@hotmail.com

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(810) 599-5680
lbohlen@previewproperties.com

MICHIGAN ANGUS NEWS

*Melissa Kenyon, Communications Coordinator
Julie French, Editing & Production
Nancy Thelen, Proofing*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Terms expiring in 2021

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Charles Reid, Eaton Rapids	reidch@msu.edu	(517) 927-8239
Paul Dawson, Hanover	pdawson11976@gmail.com	(517) 812- 3144

Terms expiring in 2022

Andrew Foster, Niles	afostersrf@gmail.com	(269) 208-1445
Lisa Lutchka, Grass Lake	josephine_angus@yahoo.co	(517) 522-4596
Mark Benaske, Rosebush	mark@rvaluefarms.com	(517) 204-4747
Paige Tuggle, Ithaca	paige.tuggle23@gmail.com	(989)285-8615

Terms expiring in 2023

Robert DeLong, Cass City	delongcattle54@gmail.com	(989) 551-4712
Dan Buskirk, East Lansing	buskirk@msu.edu	(517) 432-0400
Melissa Kenyon, Bellevue	mhutch84@yahoo.com	(269) 420-0725
Jeremy Kosal, Deckerville	jmkosal@hotmail.com	(810) 625-1540

Southeastern Michigan Regional Assn.

Steve Thelen, Saline	sthelen22@aol.com	(734) 216-3671
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AMERICAN ANGUS ASSN. REGIONAL MANAGER

Casey Jentz	CJentz@angus.org	(608) 234-1998
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www.michiganangus.org

Mark your calendar...

- March 1 Michigan Beef Expo/Michigan Angus Futurity ENTRIES DUE
- March 6 MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Open House, Plank Farms, Crystal
- March 20 MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Sale, Plank Farms, Crystal
- March 28 Michigan Beef Expo/Michigan Angus Futurity – Online Sale on www.breedersworld.com

2021 Annual Awards Banquet is "on hold" for now...

The Michigan Angus Awards Banquet is such an amazing time to gather, support, learn and enjoy the company of fellow Angus breeders. As reported in the December newsletter, our hopes were high that we would hold this event in the spring. I am saddened to report the board of directors has decided to put the banquet on hold. We want the banquet to be well-attended and enjoyable, comfortable and safe to all. Since circumstances for future restrictions are uncertain and this event requires quite a lot of planning and confirmed reservations the board feels this is our best option. We will look forward to possibly holding this annual occasion at a later date in 2021. Please keep an eye on future newsletters for updates as plans come together.

Will you consider getting involved in Michigan Angus?

Have you ever had a great idea about the Angus breed that you would love to share? Do you have a passion for helping others succeed? Do you enjoy being part of a group that share a vision and work hard for the greater good? Do you want your concerns to be heard?

Please consider getting involved with our Michigan Angus Association board of directors! We are always looking for passionate folks, men and women, of any age who want to bring ideas to the table and get their boots in the mud to make things happen.

Our board consists of breeders from all types of programs... big, small, crossbreeding, seedstock, feedlot and so much more. These exceptional Angus enthusiasts work hard behind the scenes to improve things such as overall cost to Michigan Angus members, spring and fall sale offerings, show awards, advertising, annual banquet, field day and many other projects. Being part of our Michigan Angus board brings pride knowing that you are making a difference, knowing you are on the frontlines of the future for the Angus breed! Any of us would love to tell you what we most enjoy about being part of an amazing group of Angus breeders.

Please feel free to reach out to the board members listed above with your concerns for association, or questions about running for the board. We will listen!

Melissa Kenyon, Board Member & Annual Banquet Chair
mhutch84@yahoo.com

63rd Michigan Angus Futurity Online Sale

2021 MICHIGAN BEEF EXPO IS ONLINE SALE ONLY

Sale is Sunday, March 28 hosted by Breeders World – www.breedersworld.com

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO SALE CHAIR BY MARCH 1, ALONG WITH \$100 PER LOT ENTRY FEE

SALE CHAIR: *Evan Boehmer (517) 652-3065*

Entries accepted by MAIL and E-MAIL: 6125 Matthews Rd Olivet, MI 49076 • singletreefarms1@gmail.com

Make check payable to Michigan Angus Association

ONLINE ONLY: Cattle will not be required to be halter broken (as necessary in all years previous) due to the online only format. Consignors will have the opportunity to potentially consign a wider selection of lots due to this change. All cattle consigned need to still transmit the same docility as expected in years past. Sellers will be required to make arrangements with the buyer for delivery of the sold lot. Breeders World, at the request of the committee, will put all bulls into one grouped sale with bulls of the same breed listed in order. Females will be split into four sales, combining breeds as in 2020 – (1) Angus (2) Chi, Maine & AORB (3) Shorthorn & Hereford (4) Simmental.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: All cattle must meet the Michigan Beef Expo health requirements. All sale cattle must have negative test results for Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) and all bulls must pass a Breeding Soundness Exam in order to sell. In addition, Michigan Angus Association has adopted the Michigan Cattlemen's Association Vaccination Stamp Program for cattle that will participate in the Futurity. Visit the MCA website for specific vaccination requirements: www.micattlemen.org; click tab on left side: Vaccination Stamp Program; click for Example Vaccine Combinations.

GENETIC TESTING: Michigan Angus Association requires sale consignments that are potential carriers of any known lethal genetic defect, for which there is a commercial test available, be tested. Test results MUST be available and provided when entries are submitted. Consignor is responsible for the cost of testing. If the animal is confirmed as a carrier, it will not be cataloged. If you are unsure of the status of your consignments, please call the American Angus Association at 816-385-5500. To discuss issues related to genetic testing procedures, contact Casey Jentz, AAA Regional Manager at 608-234-1998.

DUES and ENTRY FEES: All consignors must be current members of the Michigan Angus Association. If not currently a paid member, please add \$25 for membership dues to your entry fee. All consignors to sales held in conjunction with the Michigan Beef Expo must also be members of the Michigan Cattlemen's Association. For more information regarding this policy, please contact MCA at 517-347-8117.

ENTRY FEE: \$100 per lot is due by March 1, 2021.

PHOTOS & FOOTNOTES: High quality photos, videos and footnotes are strongly encouraged and should be submitted with entries by entry deadline. As an **ONLINE ONLY** format this year due to Covid-19, sale cattle will not be able to be viewed by potential buyers without photo and video. Picture and video locations have been made available at 2 separate sites to accommodate consignors.

ENTRY FORM

CONSIGNOR NAME

FARM NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

ZIP

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS

SETTLEMENT CHECK PAYABLE TO: _____

REGISTERED ANIMAL NAME

AAA REGISTRATION NUMBER (REQUIRED)

SEX

BIRTH DATE

Haltered and shown: _____ OR Penned and not shown: _____

REGISTERED ANIMAL NAME

AAA REGISTRATION NUMBER (REQUIRED)

SEX

BIRTH DATE

Haltered and shown: _____ OR Penned and not shown: _____

*If any of your entries are bred females, please include registered name and AAA number of service sire and the date the female was bred.

Please make additional copies of this form if you have more than two animals to consign

Bull Evaluation Reduces Risk

by Dan Buskirk,
MSU Beef Extension Specialist

MCA/MSU BULL EVALUATION DAILY GAIN LEADER BOARD

Tag	Breeder	Div.	Breed	Sire	84-d ADG
20	KB Angus	Sr.	AN	KB-Full Coverage E46	5.48
14	Michigan State Univ.	Jr.	AN	Byergo Black Magic 3348	5.24
29	Dow Livestock Acres	Sr.	AN	MGR Treasure	5.12
25	Bordner Farms	Sr.	AN	G A R High Security JSF 4005	5.09

2020 highlighted that people have very different risk tolerances, which got me thinking about bull-related risks.

All bulls carry inherent risk, however, producers should add the acquired risk cost to the purchase price of a bargain bull. I believe many beef producers take on much more production and financial risk than they appreciate with their bull purchases.

Areas that create risk when purchasing a bull include:

- Bull infertility and (or) poor retained daughter fertility
- Poor growth, structure, reproduction, and(or) carcass trait genetics
- Biosecurity breaches with herd health or genetics (i.e. lethal defects)

The single most important function of a bull evaluation program is to reduce the risk of owning a herd sire. The MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program is the region's premier central bull appraisal program and is a cooperative effort of the Michigan Cattlemen's Association, Michigan State University Extension, and Plank Farm. For the past 33 years, the program has provided a common environment for evaluating bulls for growth, breeding and structural soundness, and body composition.

Currently, 100 Angus, Red Angus, Hereford, Charolais, Simmental, and SimAngus bulls are being assessed for numerous traits at the station in Crystal, MI. Bulls that meet the program's high standards will be offered for live and online sale on March 20, 2021.

All sale bulls will have complete data and videos posted in early March. Sign up at mibulls.com/reports to follow progress and receive important sale updates and catalog. Apparent from the daily gain leader board (see Table), Michigan Angus seedstock producers are breeding exceptional cattle.

Michigan Native elected to National Leadership

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Julie Conover also gave back to MSU by serving as an advisor to the MSU Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter and an advisor to the MSU Sigma Alpha Agricultural Sorority. She was also active in Michigan Farm Bureau during that time. Julie served as Vice President and then two terms as President of the Michigan Angus Auxiliary before getting married and moving to Missouri. Julie currently serves as the advisor to the Michigan Angus Auxiliary as Immediate Past President and assists with the fundraising efforts for the Missouri Angus Auxiliary.

Since 2017, she has served as the General Manager of the Missouri Angus Association, dedicated to serving the needs of seedstock and commercial breeders. As the sole employee, she manages the business affairs of the Association, conducts statewide events, maintains membership, coordinates sale management, and is the editor for their publication that goes out ten times annually. It has also been a pleasure for her to serve the American Angus Auxiliary the past two years as the Region 4 Director. She currently serves on the Executive Committee and Gifts that Sizzle Committee and has previously served on both the Scholarship and Nominating Committees.

Julie is looking forward to providing opportunities for Angus youth to develop content knowledge and life skills through participation in Auxiliary programs. In Julie's words, "The Auxiliary has always been a group that I have looked up to. I learned at a young age the importance of lending a hand and I don't believe there is a better organization to be involved with. As a junior member, contest participant, scholarship recipient, and queen candidate, I directly benefited from the hard work and efforts of the American Angus Auxiliary. My experience attending American Angus Auxiliary meetings and serving on several committees and as a Regional Director has provided me with great learning opportunities."

Julie is married to Adam Conover, who is the American Angus Association regional manager for Iowa and Missouri. Julie and Adam volunteer for numerous organizations and enjoy coaching the county livestock judging team and raising Angus cattle and Berkshire and Yorkshire hogs. Julie and Adam welcomed their daughter Lillie in September of 2019. Julie and Lillie are both lifetime members of the American Angus Auxiliary.

AUXILIARY MISSION

The American Angus Auxiliary offers individuals interested in the welfare of the Angus breed the opportunity to work together to provide educational, promotional and social programs and activities.

For more information, visit www.angusauxiliary.com

**Support the work of the American Angus Auxiliary by shopping.
You'll find all kinds of items, all uniquely Angus, at www.angusgiftbarn.com!**

Auxiliary News...

2020-21 Michigan Angus Auxiliary Officers

President - Rachael Coleman
Vice President - Nancy Thelen
Secretary-Treasurer - Sharon Vaassen
Historian - Lori Pillars

Awards Chair - Kendra Diekevers
Miss Michigan Angus Chair - Ricka Boehmer
Scholarship Chair - Sterling Reichenbach
Past President (Advisor) - Julie Thelen Conover

Fundraiser planned for Annual Banquet postponed

2020 was a year unlike any other for the Michigan Angus Auxiliary. As we move into our 54th year, we look to continue our service to our members, juniors and the Angus breed.

With COVID widespread here in Michigan, the association has decided to postpone the March banquet. Once we know more about the banquet and the annual fundraiser, we will pass along that information to you. If you have any questions, please contact Rachael Coleman at 734.645.2304 or Sharon Vaassen at 734-663-8071.

Auxiliary Scholarship Applications Due April 1

2021 high school graduates are eligible to apply for a Michigan Angus Auxiliary Scholarship. Winners of our state scholarship are eligible for consideration at the national level. Applications are due to Sterling Reichenbach by April 1st. Don't delay in completing your application and other Angus scholarships. Sterling can be reached at sterlingreichenbach@gmail.com.

You are invited to join the Auxiliary!

Our association continues to grow through new activities and members. If you are interested in becoming involved in our activities, please contact Sharon Vaassen at 734-663-8071. A membership form is posted on the website on the forms tab and also printed in the Michigan Angus Directory.

Junior Association News...

2020-21 Michigan Junior Angus Assn. OFFICERS

President - Amanda Kosal, amandakosal@gmail.com
Vice President - Kris Kosal, jmkosal@hotmail.com
Secretary - Jaycie Brown, jsjbrown@yahoo.com
Treasurer - Blake Pillars, clayknollfarm@att.net
Awards Chair - Justin Stoll
Michigan Angus Rep - Amanda Kosal
Miss Michigan Angus - Kinsee Lettinga

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Kinsee Lettinga
Austin Pillars
Maggie Reid
Julia Sanderson
Hannah Schroeder
Justin Stoll
Dylan Stoll

ADVISORS

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Michelle Kosal
jmkosal@hotmail.com
Lori Pillars
clayknollfarm@att.net
Katie Romzek
krromzek@gmail.com

MJAA President's Report by Amanda Kosal

Greetings Fellow Angus Enthusiasts,

We hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season and that your new year is off to a new start. Now that calving season is in full swing, fingers crossed that everyone has a great calf crop that brings that next grand champion into the world!

Some Michigan Angus juniors were able to get their cattle out in late January and shown under Ryan Rash at the 2021 Diamond Classic Show. A huge thank you to the show committee and to Ryan for pushing through and putting on a show for the youth of Michigan. Congratulations to all who participated!

Awards applications are out. We are still working out how and when we will be handing out awards to the juniors. Stay tuned!

There will be a junior meeting Thursday, February 18th at 7:30pm via Zoom for all who want to join. If you are interested in participating please send an email to me: kosalama@msu.edu and I will send the Zoom link.

Show Reports...

Note to Junior Angus Exhibitors: With the many opportunities that juniors have to exhibit Angus heifers and steers at shows across the state, it is a challenge to collect reports on every show for the Michigan Angus News. We welcome show reports from any of our juniors! E-mail or text results (Champion and Reserve Angus Heifers and Angus Steers) to: Nancy Thelen, hillsideacres01@aol.com or 734-216-3617.

Seldom Rest Farms Recognized with Roll of Victory Awards

Congratulations to Seldom Rest Farms from Niles on winning Roll of Victory (ROV) reserve breeder of the year at the 2020 North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) Super Point Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus Show, Nov. 16 in Louisville, Ky. Silveiras S Sis Sandy 2354 won Roll of Victory (ROV) embryo transfer dam of the year at the 2020 NAILE Super Point ROV Angus Show. Seldom Rest Farms, Niles, Mich.; Sydney Schnoor, Chowchilla, Calif.; and Silveira Bros., Firebaugh, Calif., own the winning female.

Diamond Classic Youth Show • January 30-31 • Carson City

The first 2021 junior beef show in Michigan, the Diamond Classic Youth Show, was held January 30 & 31 near Carson City. The Champion Angus Heifer was exhibited by Isla Britten and Andrew Pastryk exhibited the Reserve Champion Angus Heifer. The Champion Angus Steer was exhibited by Brody Croll and Brianna Stockwell exhibited the Reserve Champion Angus Steer. Seven head of Angus were shown.

Michigan Angus Assn. Membership Application

BY MAIL

Make check payable to: Michigan Angus Assn.
Mail application and form to: Lisa Bohlen
20 Fairwood Blvd., Pleasant Ridge, MI 48069

ANNUAL DUES

\$25.00

ONLINE @ www.michiganangus.org

Submit (or update) your farm contact information using the online form.
Complete your payment online.

Farm Name: _____ Owner's Name: _____

County: _____ Farm Manager (if applicable): _____

Junior Members (under age 21): _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Farm Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____ Web Site: _____

Directions to farm: _____

• Michigan Angus News: Electronically _____ U.S. Mail _____ • Freezer Beef Sales Listing: Yes _____ No _____

• Check all committees that interest you:

_____ Marketing and Promotion: bull test, fall sale, futurity show & sale, commercial opportunities, preview show

_____ Education and Mentoring: new members, junior members, field day, annual banquet, member recruitment, educational articles

_____ Communications: web site, newsletter, directory, advertising

_____ Policies and Procedures: responsibility of board of directors; check if you are interested in serving on the board in the future

Pleasant Ridge, MI 48069
20 Fairwood Blvd
c/o Lisa Bohlen

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