



Greetings from the Not So Oval Office:

I hope everyone's summer is going well. A few quick thoughts as you are rounding out the hay season.

A very big thank you goes out to Bernie Tate and Marshall Lake Farm for hosting our field day this past May. Good food, good times, good fellowship and some good learning was had by all.

Mark Ramsey

### **MDRAA Field Day**

By: Rachel Davis

On May 10th passionate Red Angus breeders and other Virginia cattlemen gathered in Hanover, Va at Courtland Farm for the Mason Dixon Red Angus Association Field Day hosted by Dry Creek Angus, the Davis family and Marshall Lake Farm, the Tate family.

The day was started with the viewing of show cattle and pasture tours of breeding cattle.

Vendors who sponsored this event and joined in on the Red Angus fun included James River Equipment, Kubota Tractors, Ashland Feed Store, and Southern States. After socializing and the viewing of cattle Bernie Tate welcomed everyone to the farm and blessed the food that was to be eaten for lunch. After lunch Rachel Davis introduced the first speaker of the day, Dave Baber from southern states. He gave a presentation on the proper nutrition of breeding cattle. After the break and a game of calf scramble for the kids the second guest speaker was Twig Marston the CEO of the National Red Angus Association and John Langdon the regional Board Director from the RAA. The two talked about the direction the breed is going in and the new programs they have in mind for the assoc. They also welcomed everyone there to attend the National Convention in Savannah, Ga in September. After the conclusion of field day the MDRAA Board held a business meeting and wrapped loose ends up. The day was a huge success and lots of fun. Thanks to everyone who helped put it on and donated items for door prizes. We can't wait to see what next year's field day has in store!!

### **Virginia Beef Exp**

The Virginia Beef Expo is once again planned for the third weekend in April of 2015 at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds in Harrisonburg, VA. The Red Angus sale is tentatively

scheduled to be held in conjunction with the multi breed Quest For Quality sale offering. The time is to be determined. Please Contact Gary Ramsey for more information. 540-933-6293 or [yesmar@shentel.net](mailto:yesmar@shentel.net)

### **Feeder Calf Sale**

A Red Angus feeder calf sale is scheduled for November the 10<sup>th</sup> at the Farmers Livestock Exchange in Winchester, VA. Please contact Gary Ramsey with cattle nominations, with questions, or for more information. 540-933-6293 or [yesmar@shentel.net](mailto:yesmar@shentel.net)

### **Upcoming Red Angus Shows**

The Open Red Angus show at the Virginia State Fair is September 30, 2014. The youth show will be on October 4, 2014.

The Keystone International Livestock Exposition will be held October 1-5, 2014 with the Red Angus Show being held Friday October 3, 2014.

### **RAAA Convention**



Red Angus cattlemen and women are gearing up to head to Savannah, Ga., Sept. 10-13 for the 61st Annual Red Angus Association of America (RAAA) National Convention. Themed – "Hospitality in the Deep South" – the three-day event will be held at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront.

"The National Convention is a great opportunity for producers, breeders, affiliates and industry partners to come together from across the country and celebrate the Red Angus breed," said Twig Marston, RAAA CEO.

"We're excited to not only enjoy some Southern hospitality, but conduct business and take part in some educational events."

Sponsored by Zoetis, a Commercial Cattlemen's Symposium and Ladies' Symposium will kick off the convention Wednesday afternoon. Participants can listen to various speakers cover topics such as feeder cattle health, forage management, adding value to feeder calves and utilizing state beef programs. This year's Commercial Cattlemen's speakers are John Andrae of Clemson, S.C., from Clemson University, Myron Edelman of Douglas, Wyo., from the RAAA, and Curt Lacy of Tifton, Ga., and Ronnie Silcox of Athens, Ga., from the University of Georgia. "The Commercial Cattlemen's Symposium has been one of the highlights of the RAAA National Convention for the past five years," said Myron Edelman, RAAA director of breed growth. "Ranchers and farmers gather to discuss topics intended to help them improve their operations and marketing opportunity." The symposium is free and open to the public, but attendants must register online in advance. To register online, visit [RedAngus.org](http://RedAngus.org) and fill out the convention registration form and mark the "Commercial Cattle Symposium" box only.

Convention attendees should reserve their room at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront at (855) 654-2060 by Aug. 8 to receive the special "Red Angus Convention" rate. Registration for the convention is \$200 if registered by Aug. 8. Late registration is \$250.

To learn more and to register for the 2014 National Convention or the Commercial Cattlemen's Symposium, contact Laurin Spraberry, media and public relations coordinator at [laurin@redangus.org](mailto:laurin@redangus.org), or visit [redangus.org](http://redangus.org).

### **2014 Red Angus National Convention**

**September 10-13, 2014**

Savannah Marriott Riverfront

Savannah, Georgia

Hotel room: \$140.00/night

Parking: \$5/day

Register online for Red Angus National Convention and the free Commercial Cattlemen's Symposium.

Full convention registration is \$200.00.

Shuttle from Savannah Airport:

\$20 one-way or \$30 round-trip with K Shuttle.

Go to the K-Shuttle booth in the Savannah Airport.

The shuttle runs on the hour, every hour.

Hotel Reservations. Last day to book is 8/10/14.

### **National Jr. Red Angus Association Fund Raiser**

By: Rachel Davis



It's that time of the year! The JRA will conduct its traditional fundraiser State Basket Auction during the 2014 Red Angus Association of America National Convention in Savannah, Ga., Sept. 10-12. Each JRA board member will donate one basket from their region to the auction filled with a variety of items ranging from food, wines, stationary, jewelry and clothing. The JRA is inviting any state Red Angus Association, as well as any Junior Red Angus Association, to contribute a basket or simply an item to support the JRA Silent Auction. The VA basket last year was a huge success thanks to all the farms and individuals that donated. If you want to donate but do not have the time to go out and shop for items I am willing to go out and pick up a item of your request and send you the receipt for it. Donations may be shipped to Rachel Davis prior to Sept. 1, 2014, or may be shipped or delivered directly to the Savannah Marriott Riverfront by Sept. 5. You can contact me at 804-356-1951 or [drycreek96@yahoo.com](mailto:drycreek96@yahoo.com) for help or questions.

### **Update from 2014 Round-Up – California Dreamin'**

By: Jaelyn Ketchum

JRA Board Director Mountains Region

Day 1- Tuesday, June 24, 2014

Everyone was California Dreamin' in Sacramento as Round-Up kicked off at 7:00 a.m. with registration and check-in at the Hampton Inn. A total of 45 juniors from 12 states and Canada loaded the charter bus and headed to the California State FFA headquarters to participate in Ice

Breakers led by past State Officer Kelcie Jones. After Ice Breakers the juniors enjoyed a Taco Truck Lunch. After lunch the group headed to Prima Frutta farms to tour crops, equipment, and machinery and enjoyed learning about how walnuts are processed. The final event of the day was a tour of Mendoza Red Angus in Valley Springs, California. While at Mendoza Red Angus juniors participated in a weight guessing contest and Barnyard Olympics. A local Farm Bureau member and Brand Inspector talked to juniors about the rules and regulations of brands and also how to become involved in the Farm Bureau. Juniors enjoyed a wonderful meal and ice cream sundaes.

#### Day 2 – Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Wednesday was a day of fun and exploration. The group traveled to Yosemite National Park and spent the whole day enjoying the beautiful outdoors. Juniors enjoyed California Trivia and Red Angus Bingo on the bus ride to the park. After taking a photo (one of many) and eating lunch, the group was allowed to explore the beautiful park on their own. Many juniors climbed through tall boulders to reach the bottom of a Lower Yosemite Falls. Once the climb was complete many juniors swam underneath the waterfall. Many enjoyed this small adventure but were ready to get out of the freezing cold water.

#### Day 3 – Thursday, June 26, 2014

The majority of Thursday was spent at Fresno State University. While at Fresno State University juniors toured their meat science department and the Fresno State Gibson Farm Market. Juniors competed in several contests during their visit at Fresno State University including Livestock Judging, Equipment Identification, Stockman's Quiz, Prepared Speaking, and Extemporaneous Speaking. Stacey Gunderson, a Cargill Meat Solutions representative, shared a few words with the group as well. The juniors then loaded the bus again and traveled to Sanger, California to tour Awalt's AA Acres. Awalt's had various breeds to look at including Red Angus. Gill Awalt explained his working facilities, training methods, and nutrition plan. The group enjoyed pizza and then traveled to Old English Rancho where Johnny and Nathan Hilvers gave the group a tour of their thoroughbred operation. The group enjoyed seeing their breeding barns as well as several of their top sires and racetrack.

#### Day 4 –Friday, June 27, 2014

Friday started off with a trip to Firebaugh, California where the group participated in a ranch tour of Silveira Brothers Angus. The group listened to Rick Blanchard explain how he has adapted his land to become more productive and also about their grazing rotations and pasture flood irrigation systems. While at Silveira's the group competed in Team Advocacy and enjoyed a presentation from Celeste Settrini on Being an Advocate for Agriculture. After the tours and competitions the group enjoyed lunch and then loaded the bus yet again.

This time the bus traveled to the Harris Ranch in Coalinga. The group was able to tour both the feedlot and the horse division. The Harris Feedlot was an eye opener to many juniors. Harris's house 250,000 cattle, many of which are dairy cattle, on 800 acres. Their state-of-the-art truck washes along with their feed processors were also an attraction. After finishing the feedlot tours, juniors were excited to travel to the horse division. While the tour did not include a viewing of California Chrome, juniors did get to see his sire. At the end of the tours the group traveled to Lodi, California where they competed in Beef Quiz Bowl and had their Chinese Auction as well.

#### Day 5- Saturday, June 28, 2014

They say happy cows come from California and Round-Up attendees did get to see some happy dairy cows near Lodi, California. After enjoying milk and cookies, the group headed to an In and

Out Burger for lunch and then onto Linden where juniors toured a walnut processing plant and had the opportunity to run a shaker which is used to remove walnuts from the trees. Next on the agenda was a tour of McPhee Red Angus. The group broke down into Leadership, Public Relations, and Fundraising committees to discuss how to better the organization in those areas. The group then went into the annual National Junior Red Angus business meeting where topics were discussed and new members were elected to the National Junior Red Angus Board of Directors. Once the meeting was adjourned, several juniors attended Mass while the rest looked through cattle and participated in a weight guessing contest. Once the Catholic kids returned from mass, juniors enjoyed a wonderful meal and then were recognized for their achievements in the different contests held throughout the week at the awards ceremony. Round-Up was wrapped up with a barn dance and games. Juniors left Round-Up with more knowledge about California agriculture and also could add to their list of experiences. It was a great Round-Up and next year Juniors can expect to have a blast in North Dakota "From Bison to Badlands"!

### **A Message from our Jr. Programs Coordinator with the National Office**

Dear Red Angus members,

A private fund has been established to provide one, fully paid sponsorship for a young Red Angus enthusiast to attend Round-Up. This award will provide full registration expense to Round-Up as well as travel to Round-Up for the recipient.

The founders of this award have two primary areas of intent:

1. Provide means for a young person with financial limitations to attend Round-Up
2. Encourage involvement of commercial-based young people with Round-Up and Red Angus junior programs

### **We seek your assistance in identifying possible recipients of this award by your personal nomination of an individual.**

This funding is not intended for juniors already members of the JRA but for a young person with interest in Red Angus from a commercial background and one who would not be able to attend Round-Up due to expense. We are looking for young people who are motivated by the cattle industry and may benefit from attending Round-Up. This sponsorship is offered in addition to the existing JRA Merit Award Program which sponsors three JRA members to attend Round-Up. Please provide the name, complete mailing address, e-mail address and phone number for your nominee to Dawn Bernhard, [dawn@redangus.org](mailto:dawn@redangus.org), 515-679-4006. Nominations must be submitted by **March 1**. You may nominate more than one young person (age 13 – 20 years) if you know of more than one individual deserving of the award. However, only one young person will be selected to receive this particular award. Please keep in mind the criteria of financial need and commercial-focused, Red Angus interest when determining your nomination. Potential nominees may include children or grandchildren of your customers and bull buyers, farm- or ranch-oriented youth who don't participate in JRA because they do not have registered cattle, young people who are buying bulls, or perhaps heifers, for use in a crossbreeding program.

Upon receipt of nominations, letters of award explanation, Round-Up dates and schedule and applications will be sent directly to the nominees. The award founders will select the individual recipient.


Please contact me if you have any questions. I look forward to receiving your nominations of young people with an interest in Red Angus, who will benefit from Round-Up and have a financial need.

Thank you,

Dawn Bernhard  
Junior Programs Coordinator

## Update from 2014 NAJRAE

By: Emma Kate Foster

 The North American Junior Red Angus Event was held June 18-21, 2014 in Grand Island, Nebraska. It was the biggest year yet, celebrating the 8<sup>th</sup> year. There were 170 exhibitors and over 300 head of cattle. Although we all come together because of our breed of cattle, we have so much more to do throughout the week. Some of the juniors went to a nearby water park, we attended fitting demonstrations and competitions, there's a sales contest that becomes very competitive along with photography, livestock judging, quiz bowl, public speaking, and herdsman quiz. New this year was peewee contests that included crafts and stick horse races. There are rumors (and maybe pictures) that even Scott Bayer from TC Reds of Wisconsin participated in the stick horse races.

Of course the main event is the banquet which includes the silent and live auction, proceeds from which go to support next year's event. We were honored to have Forrest Roberts, CEO, National Cattlemen's Beef Association and a Red Angus breeder, speak to what is going in the cattle industry, and in particular about the consumer trends. Among other welcomed guests, was Twig Marston, CEO, RAAA. Just in case it wasn't exciting enough, this year we also had to evacuate for a tornado during the ceremony.

(Note: MDRAA was represented well with Emma winning Reserve Champion Bred & Owned Heifer with her calf Crossroads Miss Cupcake)

**Ranch Tested. Rancher Trusted.**  
**Red Angus**