

2013 North Carolina Angus Association Handbook is Dedicated to Brooke Harward

Submitted by Suzanne Brewer, Executive Secretary NCAA



Brooke Harward received the 2013 North Carolina Angus Association Handbook Dedication, shown with Jim Scarlett, Past President of NCAA and Suzanne Brewer, NCAA Executive Secretary.

Many of you are familiar with Brooke and know that in 2012 she served as Miss American Angus for the American Angus Association. The executive committee of North Carolina Angus decided to honor her with the dedication of the 2013 NCAA handbook. I started doing my research for the dedication and kept going back to one particular piece that spoke so much about Brooke and her outlook and future goals; it became my focus for the 2013 North Carolina Angus Association's 2013 handbook dedication.

Brooke has been bestowed with many honors the last few years, she is a natural leader....after coming up thru the ranks, she has led the North Carolina Junior Angus as President the last three years while attending North Carolina State University the last two. She is "big" sister to four other Juniors who are following her lead not only in the Junior Angus Association, but in the show arenas all over the country, in Junior "cook-off" competitions, in their school, Graystone Day School and I understand sister Katherine has been accepted to attend NC State with Brooke.

We cannot honor Brooke without honoring Marcus & Patty for the leadership they have given the "Harward Sisters"! These girls are "tighter than glue", they work together, support each other and have fun doing it. Several years ago, I was in Turnersburg one Sunday afternoon and they were washing and clipping heifers in preparation for an upcoming show; they worked between the wash pit and helping check in cows for Monday's sale. That's responsibility!

Being chosen as the 2012 Miss American Angus was an incredible honor for someone from a small town in North Carolina who happens to spend her "spare" time working with cows. Beside

the livestock markets that the Harward family owns, Brooke has developed a video auction company-Mid Atlantic Cattle Sales that she does the videoing and legwork before their sales.

The Harward Sisters have even had their own segment of "I Am Angus".

In an article in the Angus Journal in March, 2012 Brooke said "after I was crowned, I think they were happier than I was, they couldn't stop smiling and chatting about how they are now princesses. I want to show my younger sisters that you can accomplish anything and I hope my experience inspires them." The article continued to say that Brooke is no longer just a big sister or the "girl with cows" (from her Gray Stone School days), she is a role model, advocate and true inspiration for others around her. The Angus breed is fortunate to have her as an ambassador."

The Miss American Angus contest is sponsored and overseen by the American Angus Auxiliary, the pageant is by invitation only. The Auxiliary sponsors 10 scholarships and each state is entitled to submit one boys' and one girls' application for the national scholarship. After the top ten are selected, the girls are sent a letter of notification and asking if they desire to participate in the Miss American Angus competition. The contest features five areas: (1) a personal interview, (2) a written test, (3) a prepared speech, (4) impromptu questions and (5) overall personality/interaction.

As part of the competition for Miss American Angus, Brooke wrote a speech on "Strength in Service". She began with the story of a small boy throwing starfish back into the ocean because he wanted to save them and she related it to her own service to family, community and self. She said, "I believe that this young boy embodies the true meaning of service. As defined by inspirational speaker Mr. Brian Parsley, service is "the act of giving value to someone with their best interest in mind—not your own". As I read her speech, I realized that nothing I could write about Brooke better defined her.

Brooke finished her speech by saying, "we do not always know the results of our actions, but I do know that serving others is a strength we all can use to impact our family, community and self. My challenge to you today is to think about how you can use your strengths in your daily service.

Act as if what you do makes a difference.....it does.

The 2013 North Carolina Angus Association is proudly dedicated to Miss Brooke Harward.