

By AJSA Trustee Anna Krieger, Universal, IN

What do you think of when you hear the words American Junior Simmental Association? The cattle in the barn? All of the friends you have made across the country? Or the traits and skills it has taught you?

I can remember my first regional and first national. My mom made me do all of the contests and I had no clue what I was doing. I did not know that the AJSA was going to help me so much. Each and every contest helps you in some way: cattleman's quiz — knowledge of the breed and industry; sales talk — public speaking skills and knowledge of your animal; public speaking — how to write a speech and present it; judging contest — how to evaluate cattle and your reason for doing so; skill-a-thon — knowledge of industry and equipment; team fitting contest — how to work as a group and present the animal; showmanship — how to show your animal; photography contest — creativity.

Regional and National Classics are not until June and July, but it is never too early to start working on the contest. Right now

there are shows every weekend. When you go, do all of the contests they offer. It might take some of your time, but when it comes summer you will already know how to do each contest. The more you practice now, the better you will be this summer.

Not only are these events a competition, but they are life skills that will help you forever. They will help with your cattle and people skills that will guide you towards your future career. You never know who you are going to meet at these events who could lead you in the direction you want to go. I challenge you to go to every show you can and meet as many people as possible this spring and summer. ♦



Anna Krieger

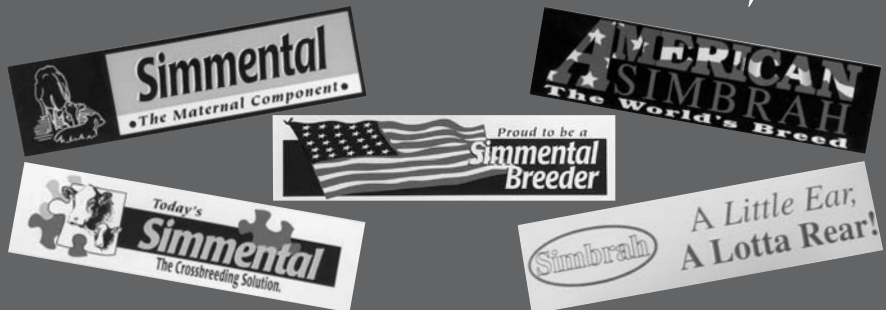
American Junior Simmental Association website — www.juniorsimmental.org

Event	Dates	Location
South Central Regional	June 9-12	Springfield, MO
Eastern Regional	June 16-19	Meadville, PA
Western Regional	June 21-23	Moses Lake, WA
North Central	None, since National Classic will be in NC Region	
National Classic	July 11-16	Des Moines, IA

Brandon Callis of College Station, TX was selected to judge the 2010 AJSA National Classic XXX

Online AJSA Classic Entry Registrations Open — April 1
 Entry Deadline for Regional Classics — May 5
 Entry Deadline for National Classic — May 20
 Deadline For Merit Award Application — June 1
 Deadline For AJSA Trustee Application — June 1

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