



As I think back over the last four years I have served on the North American Limousin Junior Association (NALJA) board, I can't help but think about all the great juniors and families I have met and all the great memories I have had with the juniors and my fellow board members. Serving NALJA members while on the board has truly been one of the greatest experiences of my life.

Not only have I grown a lot as a person since first serving on the board in 2006, my love for NALJA members and Limousin cattle has grown as well. I have been proud to represent NALJA at various industry events, and to promote

the advantages of Limousin cattle to whoever would listen.

But more important than my personal growth, is the growth I've seen in this association and its junior members. It's the personal moments that mean the most to me. It's the moments where I see a shy 10-year-old turn into a blossoming public speaker, or the junior who attended their first junior nationals early in my board service that is now one of the best showmen around. I cannot begin to count the number of juniors I have seen grow and develop through their experiences in the show ring and competing in satellite events.

However, the most rewarding aspect of serving on the NALJA board is the friendships and relationships I have

made. There is nothing better than getting a hug and a thank you from a NALJA member or parent. Those moments make the long drives to board meetings and late nights finishing up quiz bowl or cow camp questions no sacrifice at all. It's those moments I will miss the most when my service finishes up at the end of junior nationals in Hutchinson, Kansas, this year.

From the bottom of my heart I would like to thank everyone who has made my time on the NALJA board one of the greatest experiences of my life.

Alissa Johnson
NALJA Treasurer