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**Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas'
38th Annual Convention & Trade Show held
June 20-22 in San Marcos**

Lockhart, Texas –June 29, 2012– For Immediate Release – The Independent Cattlemen's Association just wrapped up a very successful convention on June 22nd. Close to 300 participants were in attendance providing ICA with record high fundraising events.

The 38th Annual Convention and Trade Show was held at the Embassy Suites Spa & Convention Center in San Marcos. The convention included a wide array of activities including educational speakers, Drawdown fundraiser, informative presentations, a silent auction, a golf tournament, a live auction, an awards banquet and lots of fun!

Convention was kicked off on Wednesday, June 20 with the Bonus Beef Cattle Program sponsored by Cargill Animal Nutrition. Participants were provided with information on topics such as Beef Cattle Nutrition, by Dr. Dusty Abney; Body Condition, Nutrition & Reproduction by Dr. Joe Paschal and Dr. Randy Simpson discussed wildlife management. All received Beef Quality Assurance credits for attending this session.

Wednesday evening featured a family fun social complete with a cupcake bar and chips and dip during which an exclusive trade show preview was held. Members really enjoyed the event, but the hardest part of the night was deciding which topping to put on your cupcake. Of course, fun was had by all!

Directors were pulled away from the cupcakes for a bit to attend a board meeting. Robert Bruner called the meeting to order around 5:00pm. Business discussed at the meeting included a review of the minutes from the past board meeting, committee reports from the resolutions and nominating committees, and overview of the 2012-2013 budget.

On Thursday, the morning started off with the Cattlemen's Conference session, sponsored by Novartis Animal Health. Dr. John Davidson presented on replacement heifer development and respiratory disease in cattle.

General Session 1 served as the official opening of convention with a welcome from our state ICA president, Mr. Robert Bruner. Following Mr. Bruner, Meteorologist Paul Yura discussed weather patterns and gave an overview of the yearly forecast.

General Session II, sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim, provided attendants with 2 CEU credits after hearing presentations from Dr. Jason Cleere on hay & forage and Dr. Don Renchie on laws and regulations. Kelly Cross wrapped up the session speaking on herd health. Members present were very attentive and full of questions.

Thursday evening included the joint meeting of the Board of Directors and House of Delegates. Delegates from across the state were in attendance with ten chapters being represented. The 2012-2013 Executive Board and Board of Directors were voted upon. The new Executive Board will be President Phil Sadler, 1st Vice President A.L. "Windy" Miller, 2nd Vice President Paul Looney, Secretary Verlin Callahan, Treasurer Curtis Calhoun, Past President Robert Bruner, Member At-Large Brian Malaer, and Member At-Large Darrell Sklar. New and returning directors include Rosalee Coleman, Darrell Sklar, and Dr. Glen Tate. Jim Selman and Connie Jacob were elected as Directors Emeritus. When the business was all said and done, members headed over to the social, live auction, and drawdown annual event.

The fiesta themed social featured a Mexican buffet complete with a talented mariachi band for entertainment. Past Presidents were honored, agribusiness council awards were given out, and many members won prizes from the Drawdown fundraiser. Our auctioneer for the night, Tom Crouch, was wonderful! Mr. Crouch helped to make the live auction a huge success along with the Colorado Valley ICA members, who volunteered to work the event. Members enjoyed the evening and stayed preoccupied most of the night checking to make sure their numbers were still in the Drawdown. The Drawdown was a great fundraiser and we would like to thank Southeast Texas ICA for running the Drawdown. All in all, it was a wonderful evening and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Friday was fast and furious as General Session III began bright and early with Dr. Wayne Hayenga speaking on estate planning. Later General Session IV started with updates from Richard Wortham, Texas Beef Council, Dr. Dee Ellis, Texas Animal Health Commission, Kate Maher, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, and Jess Peterson, United States Cattlemen's Association. We appreciate each individual taking the time to come and speak to our members on issues that affect cattlemen daily.

Friday afternoon was concluded with the annual Headliner's Luncheon which featured keynote speaker, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst. The Lt. Governor spoke on issues important to cattlemen and all Texans. ICA was honored to have him come and speak to our association. Following Lt. Governor Dewhurst, several awards were given out. This year one of Cattlemen's Council inductees was Lt. Governor David Dewhurst as well as Dr. Pete Gibbs, and State Representative Tracy King. The President's Council also inducted several new members including Dr. Joe

Paschal, Bill Breeding, Connie Jacob, and Brian Malaer. The Trailblazer Award recipients were also honored at the Headliner's Luncheon. Each year local ICA chapters choose a person who they feel goes above and beyond the call of duty and submits their names as their Trailblazer Award recipients. This year's Trailblazer Award recipients are Frank Smolka for Victoria Crossroads ICA, Lloyd Brunner for Colorado Valley ICA, Robert Young, Sr., Chester Kolodziej, and Mike Koepp for Guada-Coma ICA, Katie Spencer for Southeast Texas ICA, Larry Wiley and Pat Kopecki for South Central Texas ICA, James Alford for Gonzales ICA, and Jack Thomason, Sr. for East Texas ICA. Last but certainly not least, ICA had the honor and privilege of providing twelve young men and women with \$500 scholarships. These young people were Brooke Kosub, Mallory Franzen, Kelli Neuman, Greg Freeman, Clayton Langhoff, Shannon Duncan, Megan Carter, Dalton Horn, Jalynn Muenich, Brooke Young, Kelly Garrett, and Breana Tater. Congratulations to all our award recipients!!

We sincerely hope everyone will be able to join our ICA State Convention and Trade Show, June 26-28, 2013 in Bastrop.

ICA was founded in 1974 to provide strong leadership for Texas cow/calf producers and has grown from its 17 original members to become a voice for thousands of cattle producers. For more information about ICA, visit www.icatexas.com or call us at 512-620-0162.