



NEWS RELEASE

Iowa Cattlemen's Association

2055 Ironwood Court, Ames, Iowa 50014

Phone: 515-296-2266 or 515-296-2305

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 7, 2011

Contact: Dal Grooms, ICA Communications Director, 515-296-2266

ICA opens new membership year

AMES, IOWA – The Iowa Cattlemen's Association began recruiting for the 2012 membership year on Nov. 1. "We're excited in how the organization has become positioned during this past year to reach out and work with our county cattlemen's organizations. We're looking forward to another year of positive membership growth," said ICA President Ross Havens of Wiota.

The ICA 2011 membership year closed with 9,475 members, just slightly over the 2010 total.

During the summer and early fall, ICA began a Carcass Challenge program in an effort to engage county associations with members of the Young Cattlemen's Leadership Program. "Our efforts to deliver leadership and education services to county members and to become more influential on environmental and regulatory issues are drivers that should attract new members or encourage former members to join ICA," Havens said.

Again for the fifth year, ICA dues have not increased. "We continue to fine-tune our services and programming to bring greater value for the same dues level," Havens said. "We can accomplish this by increasing our partnerships with affiliated businesses serving cattle producers."

For example, a special benefit to those who join or renew their ICA membership before Dec. 31, 2011 is the Membership Rewards program. This year, ICA has 17 Membership Rewards offers worth more than \$665. The rewards range from a reduced price pizza to western clothing to cattle waterers, minerals, and building and trailer discounts. Members from across the state can take advantage of the discounts through their local affiliated businesses or through Internet sales.

Participating vendors are: [Darling International](#), [Fort Western Outpost](#), Haegle's West, [Hawkeye Breeders Service](#), [The Funky Cowgirl](#), [Hawkeye Tack & Western Wear](#), [Hoop Beef Systems](#), [Iowa Beef Systems](#), [Iowa Cattlemen Foundation](#), Kent Feeds, Land O'Lakes Rangeland, Pizza Ranch, [Silver Spur Saddle Shop](#), Wells Ranch Distributing, [Western Edge LTD](#), and [Winkler Structures](#).

Another value for new members is they can get one free hotel night at the December 2011 ICA Convention and Annual Meeting. Check the ICA website, www.iacattlemen.org for details.

"Check-off dollars do not fund ICA," he said. "We do work on some joint projects with the Iowa Beef Industry Council, which does get those check-off dollars, but the two organizations operate and are funded independently."