

# Leaders for the '90s

*Angus Breeders Elect Tom Drake to Head Association in 1991*

**T**om Drake, a registered Angus breeder from Davis, Okla., is the new president of the 22,000-member American Angus Association. Drake was elected by a unanimous vote of the 234 state delegates at the Association's 107th Meeting, Nov. 12, in Louisville, Ky.

The delegates elected Andrew Starr, Sunbright, Tenn., as vice president and also elected five men to the Association's 15-member Board of Directors. They include three new directors, Lawrason Sayre, Churchville, Md., Bill Rishel, North Platte, Neb., and Stanley Watts, Limestone, Tenn. Re-elected to their second three-year term on the Board were Brian Swartz, LeRoy, Ill., and T.D. Steele, Roanoke, Va.

Drake started in the Angus business in 1953 when his father purchased their first Angus cattle. Today he and his brother, Bob, operate Drake Farms near Davis, Okla. It includes a commercial Angus operation and a registered seedstock division that has been enrolled in the Association Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) program since 1970.

Drake was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Angus Association in 1983 and again in 1986. Last year he served as vice president of the Association. He has served as a director of the National Cattlemen's Association, the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association, and the Oklahoma Angus Association, where he also served as president.

Drake and his wife, Judi, have three daughters, Stacey, Paige and Ashley.

Andrew "Andy" Starr, the Association's new vice president, was elected to the Board of Directors in 1984 and again in 1987. He operates Star Dust Farm near Sunbright, Tenn., which includes a performance oriented registered Angus cattle operation.

Starr has served as president of the Tennessee Angus Association and the East Tennessee Angus Association. This past year he served as treasurer of the American Angus Association. He and his wife, Kathy, have four children, Andrew III, Dana, Carla and Billy.

He is involved in community activities and is a member of the Mount Vernon United Methodist Church.

Bill Rishel grew up near York, Pa., where he was involved in 4-H livestock projects. While attending the University of Pennsylvania he purchased his first registered Angus heifer, which laid the foundation for his 24 years of Angus seedstock production. After earning his master's degree in animal breeding he managed Angus operations in the eastern United States.

In 1975 Rishel and his family moved to North Platte, Neb., where they developed a 170-cow registered Angus breeding herd. He has managed the Western Nebraska Bull Test since 1979, has served as a director of the Nebraska

Cattlemen's Association, and has been a member of the Angus Association since 1976.



**Lawrason Sayre**, was raised on an Angus farm near Leighton, Md. He studied engineering at Yale University and worked as a civil engineer for six years after serving in the Korean War. In 1960 he bought a farm near Churchville and began a full-time career as a registered Angus breeder.

The intensively managed operation consists of 100 registered Angus cows on 320 acres. Extremely active in beef cattle performance evaluation, Sayre was one of the first to use the Association's Angus Herd Management computer software program.

He has served as director and president of the Maryland Angus Association, director and president of the Maryland Cattlemen's Association, director of the Maryland Beef Council,

and director, president and board chairman of the Eastern National Livestock Show. He has also served on the agricultural advisory board of the University of Maryland and as a member of the Wye Angus advisory board. Lawrason and his wife, Jane, have four children, Lawrie, Nancy Ann, Sally and Ned, all of whom have been actively involved in their Angus operation and the industry.

**Stanley Watts** started in the Angus business in 1970 as manager for Steadman Farms near Johnson City, Tenn. The operation later sold to Powell Farms in 1985, where he served as manager until the herd was dissolved in 1990. He now runs his own operation at Limestone, Tenn.



*New American Angus Association president Tom Drake (second from left) and vice president Andrew Star (left) welcome the five men elected to the American Angus Association Board of Directors. The directors, part of a 15-member board, are: (third from left) Bill Rishel, Brian Swartz, Lawarson Sayre, T.D. Steele, and Stanley Watts. The election was at the 107th Meeting of the American Angus Association, Nov. 12 in Louisville.*



*These registered Angus breeders, recognized for their outstanding support of the angus breed, were inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation at the 1990 banquet in Louisville. Making the presentation is Tom Drake (left) American Angus Association President. The inductees are Martin Jorgensen (second from left), Ideal, S.D.; Rachel Breck, Sharon, Conn.; and Dave Pingrey, Benton, Miss.*



*Brost Dan Patch as named the 1990 Angus Roll of Victory Show Bull of the Year. The bull is owned by Premier Angus Inc., Cloverdale, Ind.; Brost Angus Farm, Oxford, Ind.; and Engelbrecht Angus Farm, Henry, Ill. Pictured during the presentation in Louisville are (l to r): Gary Brost, Priscilla Wilson, Tom Drake and Bill Engelbrecht.*

A native of Alexandria, Va., Watts graduated from Emory and Henry College and earned a master's degree from Mississippi State University. He and his wife, Carolyn, have two children, Katie, 19, and Brandon, 15.

**T.D. Steele**, was elected to his second three-year term on the Board of Directors. He started in the Angus business in 1950 in partnership with his father. He has four children and six grandchildren. His son, Roger, joined him in the 300-cow Lynn Brae Angus herd at Roanoke in 1980. In 1986 they purchased Mill Brae Ranch, near Maple Hill, Kan., where they run another 250 registered Angus cows.

Steele received his bachelor's degree from Harvard University and earned his master's at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. He is a member of the board of trustees of Roanoke College and a member of the board of directors of Crestar Bank of Southwestern Virginia. He is active as a real estate developer and is former president of the Roanoke Valley Home Builders Association. He served as a member of the Certified Angus Beef board before being elected to the Board of Directors.

**Brian Swartz**, who begins his second term on the American Angus Association Board of Directors, has been active in the cattle industry since childhood. He worked on the family farm and also in the family-owned meat processing plant.

A graduate of the University of Illinois, he and his wife, Gail, formed a partnership with her father in 1975. Later, he became managing partner of the Swartz and Rust Farm near LeRoy, Ill. Swartz also owns and operates Swartz Angus Beef Inc., a retail beef company that sells directly to consumers.

He has served as director and president of the Illinois Angus Association and the Corn Belt Angus Association, and advisor to the Illinois Junior Angus Association. Brian and Gail have three children, Abby, 15, Lindsay, 13, and Katie, 8.



*Magnum Unique 2 was named the 1990 Angus Roll of Victory Show Heifer of the Year. The heifer is owned by Ty Krebs, Gordon, Neb.; Goshen Farm, Paris, Ky.; and Irish Oaks Farm, Metamora, Mich. Pictured during the presentation in Louisville are (l to r): Eldon Krebs, George Lemm of Whitestone Farms; Larry Wagoner of Goshen Farm; and Tom Drake.*



*New American Angus Auxiliary leaders for 1991 are (l to r): Sandra Davis, Springfield, Ky., secretary-treasurer; Kathleen Star, Sunbright, Tenn., second vice president; Dr. Carol Bloom, Westville, Ind., president-elect; and Ardyce O'Neill, Logan, Iowa president.*

*Sheri Spader, Rosendale, Mo., co-chairman of the American Cattle Women Association animal welfare committee and first vice president of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association, was the guest speaker at the Auxiliary Luncheon in Louisville. Spader updated the audience on animal welfare/rights and environmental issues facing today's beef industry.*



*Distinguished guests at the ROV Angus Show in Louisville were (l to r): Captain Ben Coumts, retired secretary of the Aberdeen-Angus Society, Perth, Scotland; Senator Conrad Burns of Montana; and Tom Cook of the National Cattlemen's Association, Washington, D.C.*

