

by Mark McCully  
CEO, American Angus Association



## Behind the scenes

*With every successful business there are key individuals working quietly in the background who are vital to that success. I know that is the case on Angus farms and ranches around the country, and it certainly occurs at the American Angus Association.*

Eighteen months ago I moved to the Association from *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB). I knew when I made the leap I had a lot to learn, and my learning curve has been nearly vertical ever since. I continue to learn about the many programs and services this Association offers its members and the incredible team here in Saint Joseph that make them all happen.

**"I continue to learn about the many programs and services this Association offers its members and the incredible team here in Saint Joseph that make them all happen."  
— Mark McCully**

Much of the important work is carried out by team members you know and see around at industry events. Then there is another group of team members who perform equally important work but are not as visible to the membership. Not only are they not as visible, many perform vital roles most members don't even know exist.

With a total of 16 members, the Information Systems (IS) team is the second largest department at the Association (second only to Member Services). I suspect that might surprise many members. However, as you begin to consider the amount of data the Association processes on

behalf of its members, the size of the total breed registry, the amount of technology used to transmit data and information across the organization, the complexity of the genetic

evaluation, and the fact that it runs weekly, the plethora of social media and web-based communication efforts that need supported, and the number of professional staff who rely on technology and data


to do their jobs, the critical role of the IS team comes clearly into focus.

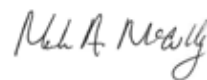
Often overlooked this team also plays a key role in the research conducted within the Association and Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI), and that is only going to grow in the future. Today's research is largely advanced through immense databases that combine traditional phenotypic records with genomic profile information. The computing power and data expertise required to conduct meaningful genetic research is significant, and continuing to invest in our IS department moving forward will be vital.

There is a special person on this behind-the-scenes team in

the Association family we had the privilege of honoring with a celebration on Jan. 29.

After 54 years of employment with the Association, Marg Dreesmann is retiring. No, that was not a typo. Marg has dedicated more than five decades to the IS department. She has been a key contributor to processing the data and running the genetic evaluation so many Angus breeders have relied upon. Marg's service and dedication to the Angus family is extraordinary, and I sincerely appreciate her unwavering commitment. To learn more about Marg and her incredible career, see the article on page 140.

In a society that seems to only appreciate those who grab the spotlight, I am really thankful for team members like Marg — the ones who work quietly and diligently in the background to make this place run so well. While they may be working behind the scenes, their effort is recognized and appreciated. 



[mmcully@angus.org](mailto:mmcully@angus.org)

# STAFF LISTING

## ANGUS JOURNAL®

816-383-5100

[www.angus.org/Media/About/AngusJournal.aspx](http://www.angus.org/Media/About/AngusJournal.aspx)

**Brett Spader, president**

### EDITORIAL

**Julie Mais, editor**, Angus Journal  
**Shauna Hermel, editor**, Angus Beef Bulletin  
**Megan Silveira, part-time assistant editor**, Angus Journal  
**Kasey Brown, associate editor**, Angus Beef Bulletin  
**Heather Lassen, editorial proofreader**  
**Jaime Albers, graphic artist**  
**Mary Black, graphic artist**  
**Kindra Gordon, field editor**, Whitewood, S.D.  
**Becky Mills, field editor**, Cuthbert, Ga.  
**Paige Nelson, field editor**, Rigby, Idaho  
**Troy Smith, field editor**, Sargent, Neb.

### ADVERTISING

**Kathy LaScala, corporate sales manager**  
**Doneta Brown, account executive**  
**Kaysie Wiederholt, coordinator/graphic artist**  
**Monica Ford, graphic artist**  
**Jacque McGinness, circulation coordinator**  
**Cami Pitts, proofreader**

### PRINT SERVICES

**Gail Lombardino, print media team leader**  
**Sharon Mayes, senior coordinator**  
**Julie Martinez, coordinator**  
**Julie Murnin, coordinator/graphic artist**  
**Jenna Kauzlarich, coordinator/graphic artist**  
**Susan Bomar, graphic artist**  
**Leann Schleicher, graphic artist**  
**Melinda R. Cordell, proofreader**  
**Susan Wallace, proofreader**

### WEB SERVICES

**Andy Blumer, web services team leader**  
**Bruce Buntin, coordinator**  
**Lauren Hitch, designer**  
**Mike Nolting, front-end developer**

### DIGITAL SERVICES

**Alex Blake, digital marketing team leader**  
**Mackenzie Brewer, digital coordinator**  
**Bailey Cole, marketing coordinator**

### PHOTO SERVICES

**Erin Fleenor, coordinator**  
**Kathrin Gresham, coordinator**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Jerry Connealy, chairman**  
**Mark McCully, vice chairman**  
**Kenny Miller, secretary-treasurer**  
**James Coffey**  
**Richard Dyar**  
**Smitty Lamb**  
**Jonathan Perry**  
**Darrell Stevenson**  
**Bob Brunker, industry representative**

## AMERICAN ANGUS AUXILIARY OFFICERS

[www.angusauxiliary.com](http://www.angusauxiliary.com)

**Pam Velisek, president**  
**Deanna Hofing, president-elect**  
**Julie Conover, secretary-treasurer**  
**Gina Hope, past president**

## AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION®

3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506-2997; phone: 816-383-5100; fax: 816-233-9703

Office hours: (M-F) 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Central); home page: [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org)

### ADMINISTRATION

**Mark McCully, CEO**  
**Chris Stallo, COO**  
**Kenny Miller, CFO**  
**Martha Greer, coordinator of board relations**

### DEPARTMENT LEADERS

**Tara Adwell, director, finance**  
**Jerry Cassidy, director, member services**  
**Ginette Gottswiller, director, verification services**  
**Bethany Kelly, director, human resources**  
**Troy Marshall, director, commercial industry relations**  
**Holly Martin, director, communications**  
**Esther McCabe, director, performance programs**  
**Jaclyn Upperman, director, events and education**  
**Brenda Weigart, operations coordinator, member services**

### COMMUNICATIONS

**Karen Hiltbrand, communications specialist**  
**Whitney Whitaker, communications specialist**  
**Katy Holdener, digital content manager**  
**Josh Commnellis, video production director**  
**Donald Korthanke, TV production manager**  
**Max Stewart, creative video manager**  
**Lea Ann Maudlin, photo coordinator**  
**Amber Wahlgren, assistant**

### REGIONAL MANAGERS

**David Gazda, director, field services**  
(see page 74 for a complete listing)

### 2021 BOARD OFFICERS

**David A. Dal Porto, president and chairman of the Board, California**; cell: 925-250-5304; [dplangus@aol.com](mailto:dplangus@aol.com)  
**Jerry Connealy, vice president; Nebraska**; phone: 308-544-6552; [jconnealy@gmail.com](mailto:jconnealy@gmail.com)  
**Chuck Grove, treasurer; Virginia**; phone: 816-390-6600; [chuckgrove64@hotmail.com](mailto:chuckgrove64@hotmail.com)

## ANGUS FOUNDATION

[www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org)

**Thomas Marten, executive director**  
**Kris Sticken, administrative assistant**

## CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF LLC

206 Riffel Rd., Wooster, OH 44691-8588; 330-345-2333; fax: 330-345-0808; [www.CABcattle.com](http://www.CABcattle.com)

**John Stika, president**  
**Brent Eichar, senior executive vice president, operations and finance**  
**Bruce Cobb, executive vice president, production**  
**Tracey Erickson, executive vice president, marketing**  
**Steve Ringle, executive vice president, business development**

### SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

**Marilyn Conley, administrative assistant**

### 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Terms expiring in 2021 — Jim Brinkley, Missouri**; phone: 660-265-5565; [brinkleyangus@nemr.net](mailto:brinkleyangus@nemr.net)  
• **James S. Coffey, Kentucky**; cell: 859-238-0771; [james@branchviewangus.com](mailto:james@branchviewangus.com) • **Chuck Grove, Virginia**; cell: 816-390-6600; [chuckgrove64@hotmail.com](mailto:chuckgrove64@hotmail.com) • **Mike McCravy, Georgia**; cell: 770-328-2047; [mmcattle@yahoo.com](mailto:mmcattle@yahoo.com) • **Mick Varilek, South Dakota**; cell: 605-680-2555; [varilekangus@midstatesd.net](mailto:varilekangus@midstatesd.net)

**Terms expiring in 2022 — Richard M. Dyar, Alabama**; cell: 816-390-6601; [rdyar@farmerstel.com](mailto:rdyar@farmerstel.com)  
• **Dave Hinman, Montana**; cell: 406-654-4656; [hinmanangus@hotmail.com](mailto:hinmanangus@hotmail.com) • **Alan Miller, Illinois**; cell: 217-840-6935; [pvfangus@gmail.com](mailto:pvfangus@gmail.com) • **Jonathan Perry, Tennessee**; cell: 931-703-6330; [jjperry@deervalleyfarm.com](mailto:jjperry@deervalleyfarm.com) • **Barry Pollard, Oklahoma**; cell: 580-541-1022; [barry@pollardfarms.com](mailto:barry@pollardfarms.com)

**Terms expiring in 2023 — Mark Ahearn, Texas**; cell: 972-742-7789; [tmranch@aol.com](mailto:tmranch@aol.com) • **Smitty Lamb, Georgia**; cell: 229-646-4785; [smittylamb@hotmail.com](mailto:smittylamb@hotmail.com) • **Charles Mogck, South Dakota**; cell: 605-661-4562; [mogckcl@gwtc.net](mailto:mogckcl@gwtc.net) • **Darrell Stevenson, Montana**; cell: 406-350-5443; [stevenson.darrell@yahoo.com](mailto:stevenson.darrell@yahoo.com) • **Gerald Theis, Kansas**; cell: 913-683-0775; [jerrytonyatheis@gmail.com](mailto:jerrytonyatheis@gmail.com)

### INDUSTRY BOARD MEMBERS

**CAB Board, Dwight 'Kip' Palmer, Palmer Food Services -, New York**  
**Angus Foundation Board, vacant**  
**API Board, Bob Brunker, Kansas City, Mo.**

### AT LARGE

**Angus Foundation Board, Margaret Duprey, Wellington, Fla.**  
**Angus Foundation Board, Tom McGinnis, Shelbyville, Ky.**

## ANGUS GENETICS INC.

[www.angus.org/AGI/](http://www.angus.org/AGI/)

**Joel Cowley, president**  
**Kelli Retallick, director of genetic and genomic programs**  
**Duc Lu, geneticist**  
**André Garcia, geneticist**

## NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS BOARD

[www.njaa.info](http://www.njaa.info)

### TERMS UP IN 2021

**Nick Pohlman, Arkansas, chairman**  
**Daniel Rohrbough, Pennsylvania, vice chairman**  
**Kelsey Vejraska, Washington, communications director**  
**Megan Pelan, Maryland, Foundation director**  
**Justin Wood, North Carolina, leadership director**  
**Reagan Skow, Nebraska, membership director**

### TERMS UP IN 2022

**Alex Cozzitorto, Kansas**  
**Josh Jasper, Kentucky**  
**Walker McDermott, Iowa**  
**Cutter Pohlman, Texas**  
**Eric Schafer, Illinois**  
**Garrett Schuering, Missouri**

For more detailed contact information, access the "contact" tab on the top navigation bar at [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org).