

# NEW LEADERS for the NEW MILLENNIUM

## Junior Angus members elect national officers and directors

**J**unior Angus members from across the nation gathered in Des Moines, Iowa, July 10-15 to attend the annual meeting of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). The meeting was conducted in conjunction with the 2000 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) at the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

Delegates elected six new directors to the NJAA Board of Directors, and new officers were announced at the awards ceremony on July 14. The directors elected to officer positions are beginning the second year of their two-year terms.

**Sonya Smith**, Lebanon, Tenn., will serve as chairman of the NJAA. **Brandon Douglas**, Gentry, Ark., will be the vice chairman.

**Allison Porter**, Jefferson, Ga., will be communications director, and **Sy Olson**, Hereford, Texas, will be the Angus Foundation director.

Leadership director will be **Miranda Grissom**, Prague, Okla. **Jamie Meyer**, Douglass, Kan., is the new membership information director.

Candidates from 14 states vied for the six open positions on the board. Delegates from 32 states cast ballots for their top six

picks after candidates submitted applications, gave oral presentations and completed roundtable interviews. A brief biography of the six newly elected directors follows.

**Brittney Burns**, Kickapoo, Ill., is the daughter of Richard and Colleen Burns. She will be a sophomore at the University of Illinois and is studying child psychology. She has been active in the Illinois Junior Angus Association, and this year she placed fourth in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest. On campus, she is a member of the University of Illinois Student Alumni Association and Kappa Alpha Theta social sorority. She is also active in the Hoof 'N Horn Club.

**Heath Johnson**, Tupelo, Miss., will transfer to Mississippi State University this fall where he will major in premedicine, microbiology. He has been active in the Mississippi Junior Angus Association, where he has held several leadership positions. He is on the executive committee for the 2001 Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show. In addition, he is active in his church and has served as vice president of the state 4-H council. He is the son of Stuart and Alyce Johnson.

**Tom Patterson**, Columbus, Mont., is a sophomore at Colby Community College, Colby, Kan. He is majoring in animal science and is a member of the livestock-judging team. The son of John and Pam Patterson, he has been active in the Montana Junior Angus Association for many years. He has attended several LEAD (Leaders Engaged in Angus Development) conferences and participated in numerous contests at the NJAS.

Hailing from Bassett, Neb., **Jessica Sawyer** is a sophomore at Kansas State University and hopes to pursue a career in medicine. She has been active on her state 4-H Action Team, and she has held leadership roles in the Nebraska Junior Angus Association. In addition to winning this year's national showmanship contest, she was the American Angus Auxiliary's first-place girl's scholarship winner in 1999 and received the Outstanding Leadership Award in 1999 [for which she was profiled in the February 2000 *Angus Journal* (see page 63)]. She is the daughter of Arlen and Becky Sawyer.

**Ryan Sweeney**, Mason, Mich., is the son of Pete and Barbara Sweeney. He will be a sophomore at Michigan State University with a dual major in animal science and agribusiness management. He served as the Michigan FFA president and will serve as vice president of the Block & Bridle Club on campus. A top-five finalist in this year's National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest, he is a member of the Michigan State Fair Junior Board. Sweeney and the equipment-fabrication company he created in 1996 were profiled in the February 2000 *Angus Journal* (see page 44).

**Christy Walther**, Mount Crawford, Va., has held numerous leadership positions in the Virginia Junior Angus Association. She has competed in various events at the NJAS, and she has represented Virginia at the national 4-H livestock- and meats-judging contest. The daughter of Bo and Marie Walther, she will transfer to Oklahoma State University this fall to study animal science with an emphasis in agricultural merchandising.

The NJAA Board of Directors develops and organizes leadership programs and activities for the members of the NJAA, which represents more than 11,000 youth from all 50 states.



Serving on the Board of Directors for the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) for 2000-2001 are (seated, from left) **Sonya Smith**, Lebanon, Tenn., chairman; **Brandon Douglas**, Gentry, Ark., vice chairman; **Allison Porter**, Jefferson, Ga., communications director; **Sy Olson**, Hereford, Texas, Angus Foundation director; **Miranda Grissom**, Prague, Okla., leadership director; and **Jamie Meyer**, Douglass, Kan., membership information director. New directors elected to serve two-year terms are (standing, from left) **Christy Walther**, Mount Crawford, Va.; **Jessica Sawyer**, Bassett, Neb.; **Tom Patterson**, Columbus, Mont.; **Heath Johnson**, Tupelo, Miss.; **Ryan Sweeney**, Mason, Mich.; and **Brittney Burns**, Kickapoo, Ill.



# Reunionites past and present NJAA board members



A lot has changed since 1980 when the first NJAA Board of Directors took charge. Constants, however, have been members' determination, strength and leadership.

The NJAA Board celebrated its 20-year reunion July 13 in Des Moines, Iowa. The night began with a warm welcome from 1991-93 board member Tamra Vollmer. The gathering also took time to recognize Dean Hurlbut, a former junior activities director who recently retired as Association director of activities.

Each former board member was able to share memories and special moments during the program. The evening concluded with a slide show featuring each team.

The NJAA officially was formed and the first junior board was elected at the 12th National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Wichita, Kan. The formation of the NJAA and the first junior board were guided by Jerry Lipsey, then director of junior activities.

— Jennifer Ryan

## 20 years of green jackets A complete listing

### 1980-1981

Tracey (Chapman) Griffith, John Kiesewetter, George McDonald, Dale Rains, Brad Staley and Mark Wyble

### 1980-1982

Tracy (Crose) Hyer, Bruce Kroeker, Julie McMahon, Jodie (Wallace) Neely, Angie (Hunt) Siemens and Sharon (Diuble) Vaassen

### 1981-1983

Barb Baylor Anderson, Eddie Donahoe, Vic Grissom, Sheryl (Knop) Leonard, Jean Neumeyer and Karen Utrecht

### 1982-1984

Jud Baldrige, Rick Blanchard, Diane Krause, Mark Kreul, Guy Laffin and Cary Ann (Smith) York

### 1983-1985

Lisa (Bohlen) Aldrich, Leroy Billman, Bruce Kiesewetter, Malcolm Landry, Jeff Neumeyer and Gayle (Hunt) Starkey

### 1984-1986

Kenley Conner, Mary Ellen (Shaw) Ditchey, Alan Kapp, Jay Pfeiffer, Doug Stevenson and Susan (McMahon) Taylor

### 1985-1987

Nick Brost, Cindy (Houck) DeHoff, Beth (McDonald) Hallada, Richard Jenkins, Julie (Coonrad) Patrick and Cliff Simmons

### 1986-1988

Chad Cash, Russell Coon, Kelli Crossland, Jim Jasper, Kurt Olson and Christy (Dameron) Schumaker

### 1987-1989

Cheryl (Hutchins) Bachman, KayDee Catlin, Garth Gardiner, Steve Patton, Christine Simmons and Kelli (Meged) Toledo

### 1988-1990

John Bell, Joe Davis, Kurt Greiman, Mark Moxley, Leslie (Morelock) Rotye and John Toledo

### 1989-1991

Susan (Patton) Gillen, Bill Hollis, Anne Jones, Lisa (Hawkins) Moser, Billy Reeder and Lori (Cash) Voight

### 1990-1992

Bryan Bouldin, Deirdre (Lawson) Cook, Kellie Coonrad, Tim Jeffries, Kyla (Hall) Olson and Cheramie Viator

### 1991-1993

Cara (Pascalar) Ayres, Jeff Dameron, Dianne (McGiveron) Handsaker, Lori (Franklin) Stickley, Tamra Vollmer and Julia (Brown) Wickard

### 1992-1994

Greg Bobo, Jennifer (Carrico) Bremer, Ashley Davis, Shane Kinnett, Leslie (Hedstrom) Krehbiel and Kimberley (Bowen) Yarbrough

### 1993-1995

Brian Brockman, William Donnell, Sarah Hill, Heather Kalino, Alan Miller and Chad Rotenberger

### 1994-1996

Wynn Dalton, Will Grote, Jill (Sommers) Harker, Matt Perrier, Scott Pohlman and Melissa (Bush) Schrag

### 1995-1997

Shantelle Andrews, Suzanne Berry, John Dickinson, Jennifer Hawkins, Monica (Feeser) Jordan and Bob Stevenson

### 1996-1998

Leigh Ann Campbell, Andrew Donnell, Jarrod Gillig, Moriah (Olson) Pohlman, Brent Scarlett and Dru Uden

### 1997-1999

Diana Covell, Amy Dyar, J.W. McCurry, Rhonda Nida, Hutch Porter and Janelle Sommers

### 1998-2000

Julie Dameron, John Melton, Melissa Pickrell, Garrett Pohlman, Lindsey Trosper and Julie Scarlett

### Junior Activities Directors

#### 1980-2000

James Fisher, Jerry Lipsey, Brian McCulloh and Mark Wyble