



Movin' Forward

by **Richard E. Wilson**, Interim CEO, American Angus Association

A new chapter

A new year begins with new opportunity for Angus.

Historic moment

December is a significant month for those of us in rural America. Most farmers and ranchers are preparing for the colder weather ahead and working to get their financial house in order before the calendar year closes. Families everywhere rush to make holiday plans.

For the Angus family, this month is especially momentous. It marks a substantial point in our organization's history with the introduction of a CEO. On Dec. 1, Allen Moczygemba becomes only the 12th person to serve as the American Angus Association's executive officer in its 132-year history.

You can read more about Allen in this issue (see page 43), but let me be among the first to assert that we are poised for exciting times ahead with this announcement from our Board of Directors. He joins our organization with three decades of experience in leading people in various sectors of the beef cattle industry and implementing strategic partnerships across the board.

I'm confident our members, with Allen's

hands-on leadership and stewardship of our organization, are poised for growth in the years ahead given the dynamics of the growing cattle inventory and increasing consumer demand for the quality *Certified Angus Beef*[®] (CAB[®]) brand.

Historic gathering

The National Angus Convention & Trade Show offered a testament to the growing demand for quality Angus genetics — and our ability to continue pushing the envelope.

Everything from the International Genomics Symposium to Angus University, from the trade show to the live-animal handling and educational workshops offered new ideas and fresh perspectives. From genomics to marketing, I believe everyone who attended these jam-packed sessions learned something new.

In the midst of that, the Association hosted its 132nd Annual Convention of Delegates, where members successfully conducted Association business and elected five directors and officers to our Board of Directors.

We need more of that in this business: a marrying of new and innovative thinking with tradition. The two worked beautifully together for the four days we were in Overland Park, Kan., and I believe they'll continue to work in harmony in the days ahead. The American Angus Association is moving forward.

As I end my time as interim CEO and hand the reins of the Association to Allen, I humbly thank my wife, Wanda, the Board of Directors, staff and members who have navigated both good and difficult times this past year.

We have a good story to tell. Our organization, its entities and the Angus breed just closed the most successful fiscal year in recent history. We have a new leader at the helm, a committed staff, forward-thinking members and all the possibility in the world. This month, let the true spirit of Christmas guide you. Make more room for peace in the New Year, and take pride in our Angus history.

December is indeed a special time for Angus — time to begin a new chapter in our American success story.

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AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

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2016 OFFICERS

Jim Sitz, president & chairman of the Board, 9100 MT Hwy. 91N; Dillon, MT 59725; cell: 406-925-9888; JimSitz1@gmail.com; sitzangus@gmail.com • **Charlie Boyd**, vice president and vice chairman of the Board, 6077 Helena Rd., May's Lick, KY 41055; cell: 606-584-5194; cboyd2@maysvilleky.net • **Kevin Yon**, treasurer, PO Box 737, Ridge Spring, SC 29129; cell: 803-622-4140; kyon@pbtcomm.net; pkevinyon@yahoo.com

2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Terms expiring in 2016 — **Tom Burke**, Box 660, Smithville, MO 64089; cell: 816-853-2697; angushall3@earthlink.net • **John Elbert Harrell**, 1343 Lee Rd. 157, Opelika, AL 36804; cell: 334-524-9287; jhnharrell@gmail.com • **Leo McDonnell Jr.**, 13 Bull Dr., Columbus, MT 59019; cell: 406-780-0176; leomcd@hotmail.com • **John Pfeiffer Jr.**, 5103 W. Hwy. 51, Mulhall, OK 73063; cell: 405-880-0862; pfeiffer@agristar.net • **Kevin Yon**, PO Box 737, Ridge Spring, SC 29129; cell: 803-622-4140; kyon@pbtcomm.net; pkevinyon@yahoo.com

Terms expiring in 2017 — **Jerry Connealy**, Box 96, Whitman, NE 69366; cell: 308-650-9024; jsconnealy@gmail.com • **David A. Dal Porto**, 694 Bartlett Ct., Brentwood, CA 94513; cell: 925-250-5304; dplangus@aol.com • **John F. Grimes**, 2594 S.R. 73, Hillsboro, OH 45133; cell: 937-763-6000; mcfarms@cinci.rr.com; grimes.1@osu.edu • **James W. Henderson**, PO Box 156, Childress, TX 79201; cell: 940-585-6171; jwhenderson@hughes.net • **Dave Nichols**, 2188 Clay Ave., Bridgewater, IA 50837; phone: 641-369-2829; dave@nicholsfarms.biz

Terms expiring in 2018 — **James S. Coffey**, Box 327, Hustonville, KY 40437; cell: 859-238-0771; james@branchviewangus.com • **Chuck Grove**, 1919

Goshen Rd., Forest, VA 24551; cell: 816-390-6600; chuckgrove64@hotmail.com • **Mike McCravy**, 34 Williamson Rd., Bowdon, GA 30108; cell: 770-328-2047; mmcattle@yahoo.com • **Don Schiefelbein**, 34897 717th Ave., Kimball, MN 55353; cell: 303-324-5149; dschiefel@meltel.net • **Mick Varilek**, 29208 374th Ave., Geddes, SD 57342; cell: 605-680-2555; varilekangus@midstatesd.net

Industry appointments — **CAB Board**, **Dwight 'Kip' Palmer**, Palmer Food Services, 900 Jefferson Rd., Rochester, NY 14623; office: 585-424-3210; kpalmers@palmerfoods.com • **AGI Board liaison**, **Dr. Larry Kuehn**, U.S. Meat Animal Research Center, P.O. Box 166, Clay Center, NE 68933; office: 402-762-4352; larry.kuehn@ars.usda.gov • **Foundation Board**, **Mark Duffel**, PO Box 504, Aldie, VA 20105; cell: 703-930-1841; whitestonefarm@earthlink.net

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Richard E. Wilson, interim CEO and CFO; **Diane Strahm**, executive administrative assistant; **Milford Jenkins**, Angus Foundation president; **Dan Moser**, AGI president; **Eric Grant**, API president; **Terry Cotton**, vice president of sales; **John Stika**, CAB LLC president; **Chris Stallo**, vice president of operations

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF

Crystal Albers, director of communications; **Tonya Amen**, director of genetic services; **Eric Grant**, director of public relations; **Lou Ann Adams**, director of information systems; **Jason Kenyon**, assistant director of information systems; **Ginette Gottswiller**, director of commercial relations; **Kenny Miller**, director of finance; **Jaclyn Clark**, director of events and education; **Brenda Weigert**, operations coordinator for member services