

Delegates Conduct Business



Delegates to the American Angus Association's 127th Annual Convention of Delegates elect board members, vote on proposed amendments.

by Crystal Albers

Delegates from throughout the United States and Canada traveled to Louisville, Ky., mid-November to attend the American Angus Association's 127th Annual Convention of Delegates, the main feature of Angus activities at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE). Delegates met Monday, Nov. 15, at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center (KFEC) to conduct Association business and to elect five directors to the Association Board.

Four amendments to the Association's bylaws were approved, including:

▶ An amendment to Article II, Section 2.5, that defines and distinguishes between the two types of life memberships now recognized by the Association: the previous life memberships issued prior to Oct. 1, 1980, and those life memberships issued after Jan. 1, 2010.

▶ An amendment to Article III, Section 3.1, re-affirms that delegates will be selected to represent members at the Annual Meeting (Convention of Delegates) and that such delegates will be selected under the Bylaws by a representative of each active life or active regular member.

▶ An amendment to Article III, Section 3.6 (a), re-affirms that each active life or active regular membership will have the right to nominate one delegate candidate.

▶ An amendment to Article III, Section 3.6 (c), provides that only one representative of an active life or active regular membership

▶ **Above:** More than 350 elected delegates from 43 states and Canada represented American Angus Association members and conducted the business of the Association during the annual meeting and election. The meeting was at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center (KFEC) in conjunction with the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) Super-Point Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus Show.

will be eligible to serve as a delegate candidate. As a result, a single membership cannot have more than one delegate candidate. This amendment also describes the process by which an individual shall be selected as a delegate candidate in those situations in which two or more individuals associated with a single membership are nominated. It also describes how that one person will be selected if more than one person per membership is nominated to be a candidate delegate.

"The amendment revisions were offered to the delegates in an effort to more clearly define the intent they were written in, to provide one membership with one vote,"



PHOTOS BY SHAUNA ROSE HERMEL

▶ **Above:** Newly elected officers of the American Angus Association are (from left) Phil Trowbridge, Ghent, N.Y., treasurer; Joe Hampton, Mount Ulla, N.C., president and chairman of the board; and Jarold Callahan, Edmond, Okla., vice president and vice chairman of the board.

▶ **Right:** Newly elected directors of the American Angus Association are (seated, from left) Leo McDonnell Jr., Columbus, Mont.; John Pfeiffer, Mulhall, Okla.; John Elbert Harrell, Opelika, Ala.; (standing, from left) James Rentz, Coldwater, Ohio; and Kevin Yon, Ridge Spring, S.C.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

Don Laughlin, Association director of member services, says.

New officers

Joe Hampton, Mount Ulla, N.C., was elected the American Angus Association president and chairman of the board. He succeeds Bill Davis, Sidney, Mont.

Hampton most recently served as vice president and vice chairman of the board. He and his wife, Robin, operate Back Creek Angus, a cattle operation near Mount Ulla, N.C., focused on the production of Angus bulls for commercial cattlemen. Hampton received his bachelor's degree from North Carolina State University and has been involved with agricultural research for more than 25 years. He has served as president of the North Carolina Angus Association and as board director for the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association.

As Association president, Hampton will serve as chairman of the Executive Committee and will work closely with all directors to lead the board during the next year.

Jarold Callahan, Edmond, Okla., was elected vice president and vice chairman of the board. He recently served as treasurer. Callahan received his undergraduate degree from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College and a master's degree in agriculture from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. He taught purebred beef production and livestock selection at Oklahoma State University and served as executive vice president of the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association before joining Express Ranches in 1996.

Phil Trowbridge, Ghent, N.Y., will serve as treasurer for the year. Trowbridge received his animal science degree from Alfred State College prior to becoming herdsman at Gallagher's Angus Farm, where he continues to enhance Angus genetics with Trowbridge Angus. Trowbridge has served on numerous boards on the local and state level and organized the Columbia County Feeders 4-H Club.

Directors selected

It took a total of six ballots for delegates to elect five directors from an unprecedented slate of 10 board candidates. Newly elected to the Board are Leo McDonnell Jr., Columbus, Mont.; John Pfeiffer, Mulhall, Okla.; Kevin Yon, Ridge Spring, S.C.; and John Elbert Harrell, Opelika, Ala. Jim Rentz, Coldwater, Ohio, was elected to a second term.

John Elbert Harrell is a lifetime member of the American Angus Association and grew up on the fourth-generation Harrell Brothers' Angus Farm.

John Elbert has 41 years of experience



PHOTOS BY SHAUNA ROSE HERMEL

► Incoming President Joe Hampton addressed the 127th Convention of Delegates and presided over the election of five new directors from a field of 10. The selection process required delegates to cast six ballots before the final director was elected by majority vote.

breeding Angus cattle, 25 years of experience as a community bank president and 15 years of experience as a successful small business owner.

He holds several academic degrees, including a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics, a master's in human resource management, a graduate degree in banking and a certificate in financial planning.

He was manager of Harrell Angus Farm from 1977 to 1982 and served as 'Pickett' division manager of Lovana Farms, where he was promoted to performance director for all cattle operations.

Leo McDonnell is a fourth-generation rancher. He and his wife, Sam, live near Columbus, Mont., and have four children. They own the Midland Bull Test and a cow herd.



► Retiring Association President Bill Davis (center) of Sidney, Mont., recognized 2011 Miss American Angus Paige Wallace (left), Stotts City, Mo., and 2010 Miss American Angus Sally Yon, Ridge Spring, S.C.

After attending college, Leo helped his father run Midland, which he purchased in 1993. In 2008, they turned the management of the operation over to their son and daughter-in-law to focus their efforts on the cow herd and ranching.

Leo is a past chairman of the Montana Cattle Feeders; serves on the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) International Trade Committee and the Research and Education Committee; was a co-founder of Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund, United Stockgrowers of America (R-CALF USA); and currently serves as a director of the U.S. Cattlemen's Association. He is active in other organizations and has testified on behalf of U.S. cattle producers at Congressional hearings.

John Pfeiffer is a fourth-generation Angus breeder who graduated from Oklahoma State University with a bachelor's degree in animal science. John and his wife, Gaye, have two sons and operate the longtime Pfeiffer Angus business and diversified farming operation.

John spent 30 years teaching high school science and served two years as an administrator. He served as president of the Oklahoma Angus Association and, with Gaye, serves as editor of the *Oklahoma Angus Challenger* and directory.

The Pfeiffers are extensively involved in youth development and have been named 4-H Volunteer Leaders of the Year on the state level. John was also president of the Logan County Cattlemen's Association.

Jim Rentz, Coldwater, Ohio, begins his second term on the American Angus Association Board of Directors.

Jim established Creek Side Farm near Chickasaw, Ohio, 58 years ago. In his early career, he worked as herdsman for Forest Hill

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Farms before attending Ohio State University.

Jim served as an *Angus Journal* fieldman from 1959 until 1973, then started Rentz Auction Co., and spent 28 years as a sales representative for Post Printing Co.

He has served as president of the Ohio Angus Association, a member of the Ohio Beef Council and as a treasurer of the Ohio Cattlemen's Association. He co-founded the Ohio Beef Expo and started the annual Showcase Sale.

Kevin Yon of Ridge Spring, S.C., is a first-generation Angus breeder who got his introduction into the cattle business at age 14. Thirty years later, Angus cattle are still a way of life for Kevin; his wife, Lydia; and their three children, Sally, Drake and Corbin.

After receiving an animal science degree from Clemson University, the Yons managed Congaree Farms before establishing Yon Family Farms in 1996 — the family's sole source of income. Kevin has served numerous leadership roles, including

president of the South Carolina Angus Association and Cattlemen's Association, the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) board of directors and on the National Beef Cattle Evaluation Consortium (NBCEC) advisory council.



Editor's Note: *Crystal Albers is assistant director of communications and web editor for the American Angus Association.*