

The New Green Jackets

Six young leaders were elected to the National Junior Angus Association Board of Directors.

by *Ellie Hoffschneider*, American Angus Association

Twelve young men and women represent the Angus breed as the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Board of Directors. In their easily recognized green jackets, the juniors serve as friendly helpers, compassionate mentors and dedicated leaders. At the 2012 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Louisville, Ky., six young people were elected by their peers to serve on the Board.

"I couldn't believe it when they said my name," said Daniel McFarland, Keithville, La. "As a Board member, I have the opportunity to serve the NJAA. My plan is to connect with as many juniors as I can and help them become leaders in the industry."

Joining McFarland on the 2012-2013 NJAA Board of Directors are Lucas Nord, Wolverton, Minn.; Jena Wagner, Billings, Mont.; Jacy Alsup, Gravette, Ark.; Paige Wallace, Stotts City, Mo.; and Maggie Jasper, Versailles, Ky.

The newly elected directors were chosen by delegates representing each state at the 2012 NJAS in Louisville, Ky. They will serve a two-year term and travel across the country to various events, promoting the Angus breed and helping young people succeed in the NJAA. Their first activity is the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference in Fort Collins, Colo., Aug. 2-5.

Get to know the new Board members

An Arkansas and NJAA member for the past 11 years, Alsup has had a variety of leadership roles within the Angus industry, including Miss Arkansas Angus and Arkansas Junior Angus Association Outstanding Leadership Award. She is currently a junior at Oklahoma State University pursuing a degree in agribusiness.

In the Kentucky Junior Angus Association, Jasper has served as second vice president and secretary. Her variety of experiences has prepared her to serve on the NJAA Board. The Eastern Kentucky University student is majoring in occupational science.

McFarland's involvement in the Louisiana Junior Angus Association has presented him with the opportunities to serve as president



► Elected to serve as NJAA officers and directors are (front row, from left) **JanLee Rowlett**, Hurricane Mills, Tenn., chairperson; **Sally Yon**, Ridge Spring, S.C., vice chairperson; **Jennifer Ewing**, Rushville, Ill., communications director; **Megan Ahearn**, Wills Point, Texas, Foundation director; **Kelli Retallick**, Glen Haven, Wis., leadership director; **Meghan Blythe**, White City, Kan., membership director; (back row, from left) **Jacy Alsup**, Gravette, Ark.; **Jena Wagner**, Billings, Mont.; **Daniel McFarland**, Keithville, La.; **Luke Nord**, Wolverton, Minn.; **Paige Wallace**, Stotts City, Mo.; and **Maggie Jasper**, Versailles, Ky.

and vice president. The University of Arkansas sophomore is majoring in animal science.

Nord has been actively involved in the Minnesota Junior Angus Association since 2001, serving as the membership and communications director. This fall, he will be entering his sophomore year at South Dakota State University majoring in animal science.

Wagner is currently attending Montana State University pursuing a degree in agricultural business and economics. Since 2004, she has been a proud member of the NJAA and Montana Junior Angus Association, serving as vice president and reporter.

Wallace is a third-generation Angus breeder who recently completed her sophomore year at Butler Community College. She will attend Oklahoma State University in the fall with a dual major in agricultural communications and animal science. A former Miss American Angus, the Missouri Junior Angus Association member is serving as a 2013 NJAS junior co-chair.

Also at the NJAS, second-year NJAA Board Members were elected to officer positions. Named as chairman was JanLee Rowlett, Hurricane Mills, Tenn.; vice chairman, Sally Yon, Ridge Spring, S.C.; communications director, Jennifer Ewing, Rushville, Ill.; Foundation director, Megan Ahearn, Wills Point, Texas; leadership director, Kelli Retallick, Glen Haven, Wis.; and membership director, Meghan Blythe, White City, Kan.

Making room for the new faces on the Board, six juniors said their goodbyes as they retired from the Board. Those who ended their terms included Austin Brandt, Corning, Iowa; Shane Clary, Brodnax, Va.; Lindsey Grimes, Hillsboro, Ohio; Garrett Knebel, Winamac, Ind.; Alisha Nord, Wolverton, Minn.; and Clay Williams, Bishop, Ga.

Editor's Note: *Ellie Hoffschneider is communications and public relations intern for the American Angus Association.*