

Chosen to Lead

Angus juniors elected to lead the National Junior Angus Association.

by JD Rosman, communications intern



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Easily recognized in their green coats, National Junior Angus Board (NJAB) members serve as mentors, friends and the next generation of leaders for the Angus breed. During the 2016 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) hosted July 3-9 in Grand Island, Neb., six junior leaders were elected by their peers to serve on the NJAB.

"The opportunity to represent more than 6,000 members creates a feeling of pride and excitement that cannot be matched," says Corbin Cowles, Rockfield, Ky., newly elected NJAB director. "Many great individuals have come before us and set the standard of excellence for the Angus breed, and I am honored to be able to continue the same tradition by using my talents and abilities to represent this organization."

Joining Cowles on the 2016-2017 NJAB are Madison Butler, Vincennes, Ind.; Michaela Clowser, Milford, Neb.; Catie Hope, Berryville, Va.; Will Pohlman, Prairie Grove, Ark.; and Jordyn Wagner, Billings, Mont.

These board members will serve a two-year term and will travel across the country to various events, promoting the Angus breed and helping other young people succeed in the industry's premier junior organization, the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). Their first official activity is the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference in Phoenix, Ariz., Aug. 4-7.

In addition to the new board members

being elected, members serving for their second year on the board were elected to officer positions. Elected to the position of chairman was Macy Perry, Prather, Calif.; vice chairman, Reese Tuckwiller, Lewisburg, W.Va.; communications director, Gabrielle Lemenager, Clifton, Ill.; Foundation director, Braden Henricks, Anadarko, Okla.; leadership director, Tim Mardesen, Oxford, Iowa; and membership director, Katelyn Corsentino, Denham Springs, La.

Get to know the new NJAB

Butler says the NJAA helps shape youth members for the future, and she looks forward to helping guide fellow juniors. Having finished her sophomore year of college at Hutchinson Community College, Butler will attend Oklahoma State University (OSU) and major in animal science with a focus in biotechnology. Butler is a fifth-generation Angus breeder. She attended her first NJAS in 2012 in Louisville, Ky.

Clowser attended her first junior nationals in 2005 in Denver, Colo., as a first-generation Angus breeder. Entering her junior year at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Clowser is studying agricultural economics. As a member of the NJAB, Clowser looks forward to working as a team and growing the Angus family.

Cowles joins the board as a fifth-generation Angus breeder, coming from his family's ranch, Pleasant Hill Farms. He attended his first junior nationals in 2011 at

Harrisburg, Pa. A sophomore at OSU, Cowles is majoring in animal science with a business option.

Hope has dreamed of being an NJAB member since her first junior nationals in 2007 in Tulsa, Okla. Growing up in Berryville, Va., she spent summers with her cousins on the farm. She now owns and operates a small Angus cow-calf operation. Hope is pursuing a degree in animal science with a minor in photography at Ferrum College.

Pohlman is pursuing a degree in biochemistry and animal science at the University of Arkansas. He and his family raise show cattle in Prairie Grove, Ark., and have done so for the last four generations. Pohlman is eager to give back to the NJAA and serve as a role model for fellow juniors. He has also served as the NJAA's Angus Ambassador, representing the breed's youth at events across the country.

Wagner attended her first junior nationals in 2007 in Tulsa, Okla. She grew up in Billings, Mont., where her family operates a herd of Angus show cattle. This fall, she will begin her second year at Rocky Mountain College, where she is pursuing a degree in elementary education with a minor in reading. Wagner says the dream of being a "green coat" has finally come true.

As six join the board, six also said goodbye to the NJAA and will retire in August at the LEAD conference. Those who ended their terms on the board include Alex Rogen, Brandon, S.D.; Jacob Heimssoth, Cameron, Mo.; Michael Cropp, Damascus, Md.; Evan Woodbury, Quenemo, Kan.; Lauren Grimes, Hillsboro, Ohio; and Katlyn Tunstill, Fayetteville, Ark.

► **Above:** Officers and directors elected to serve as the National Junior Angus Board are (seated, from left) **Macy Perry**, chairman; **Reese Tuckwiller**, vice chairman; **Braden Henricks**, Foundation director; **Gabrielle Lemenager**, communications director; **Tim Mardesen**, leadership director; **Katelyn Corsentino**, membership director; (back row, from left) **Catie Hope**; **Corbin Cowles**; **Michaela Clowser**; **Will Pohlman**; **Jordyn Wagner**; and **Madison Butler**.