Elected to Serve, Inspire

Six newly elected juniors join leadership board of the National Junior Angus Association.

by Sarah Harris, communications and public relations intern



Elected to serve as the National Junior Angus Board are (sitting, from left) Alex Rogen, chairman; Jacob Heimsoth, vice chairman; Evan Woodbury, foundation director; Michael Cropp, communications director; Lauren Grimes, leadership director; Katlyn Tunstill, membership director; (standing, from left) Braden Henricks; Reese Tuckwiller; Gabrielle Lemenager; Macy Perry; Katelyn Corsentino; and Tim Mardesen.

welve young men and women represent the Angus breed as the National Junior Angus Board (NJAB). In their easily recognizable green coats, the juniors serve as friendly helpers, compassionate mentors and dedicated leaders. During the 2015 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Tulsa, Okla., six young people were elected by their peers to serve on the board.

"The Angus breed is on the forefront of the industry and needs ambassadors, both old and young," says Gabrielle Lemenager, Clifton, Ill., one of the six new NJAB members. "It is a humbling experience to have your name called as a representative of the breed, and I am so excited to be one of those ambassadors."

Joining Lemenager on the 2015-2016 NJAB are Katelyn Corsentino, Denham Springs, La.; Braden Henricks, Anadarko, Okla.; Tim Mardesen, Oxford, Iowa; Macy Perry, Prather, Calif.; and Reese Tuckwiller, Lewisburg, W.Va.

Delegates representing each state at the 2015 NJAS chose the newly elected directors. They each will serve a two-year term and travel across the country to various events, promoting the Angus breed and helping other young people succeed in the industry's premier junior organization.

Their first activity was the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference in Seattle, Wash., Aug. 6-9.

Meet the new directors

Corsentino attended her first NJAS in 2007, the last time it was hosted in Tulsa. She is currently a student at Oklahoma State University (OSU), working toward a degree in animal science and reproduction physiology.

Henricks is also attending OSU, pursuing a degree in agricultural business. After attending an NJAS with his older brother, he participated for the first time in 2006, when the show was hosted in Indianapolis, Ind. Henricks' family has raised Angus cattle since the early 1990s.

Lemenager is a junior at the University of Illinois, majoring in agricultural business. She attended her first junior nationals in 2004 when it was in Kansas City. A firstgeneration Angus producer, she aspires to raise heifers that can compete at all levels and still be used as foundation females within a herd.

Mardesen is the technology guru of the new team. He is currently attending Black Hawk College with a major in computer science. He is a third-generation Angus

producer and attended his first NJAS in 2008, when it was hosted in Des Monies, Iowa.

Perry received her first cow when she was 1 year old and attended her first NJAS in Tulsa in 2007. Currently she is a sophomore at OSU studying animal science as a preveterinary medicine student.

Tuckwiller is an eighth-generation farmer who followed in his older brother's footsteps. Showing Angus from the age of 9, he attended his first NJAS in 2009 in Perry, Ga. Tuckwiller is a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln studying genetics.

The newly elected board members join those entering their second terms and elected to officer positions. Named as chairman was Alex Rogen, Brandon, S.D.; vice chairman, Jake Heimsoth, Cameron, Mo.; communications director, Michael Cropp, Damascus, Md.; Foundation director, Evan Woodbury, Quenemo, Kan.; leadership director, Lauren Grimes, Hillsboro, Ohio; and membership director, Katlyn Tunstill, Favetteville, Ark.

Retiring from the board are the late Cory Watt, Iva, S.C.; Shane Kerner, Weiser, Idaho; Tylee Jo Williams, Rio Vista, Texas; Will Fiske, Greenville, Va.; Jessica Radcliffe, Weston, Wis.; and Lindsay Upperman, Chambersburg, Pa.