

# Board Of Director Candidates



## **Steve Andras**

Steve Andras, Manchester, Ill., is seeking re-election as President of the Red Angus Association. Prior to being elected president of our

Association, Steve accrued extensive leadership experience within the Red Angus Association. His experience on the Red Angus Board of Directors has spanned nearly 15 years. He served the RAAA as 1st Vice President for two years as well as four years on the Executive Committee. He served on many other national committees, such as the Finance Committee, Show/Sale Committee, as well as the Strategic Planning Committee. Aside from these, Steve has attended many conferences such as NCBA and BIF, and will be attending the World Angus

Secretariat in Ireland this August. Additionally, Steve has served in numerous leadership capacities outside of the Red Angus Association.

Steve is a Deacon and adult Sunday School teacher at Manchester Baptist Church. He holds a degree in Animal Science from Southern Illinois University. He served on the Farm Bureau board of directors, the ASCS Soil, Water and Conservation Committee, and was president of the school board. Steve was named Red Angus Personality of the Year at the annual convention in 2001. Further, Steve has served on several state and local cattlemen's organizations.

He and his family breed Red Angus cattle in Manchester, Ill., where the Andras family has farmed since the 1830s and raised purebred beef seedstock since 1898. Andras stock Farm is a family operation. In partnership with Will, his son, Steve runs about 250 head of purebred cows. Andras Stock Farm utilizes extensive A.I., E.T. and ultrasound. Andras genetics are marketed by means of an

annual Fall female sale and a Spring bull sale. Andras Stock Farm was awarded the 2006 Seedstock Producer of the Year by the Illinois Beef Association.

Steve and Theresa Andras have been married for 38 years and have three children (Angela Hoots (husband Brad), Christi, and Will (wife Kim) and four grandchildren (Olivia and Isabella Hoots; Peri and Peyton Andras).



## **Laurence Mendoza**

Laurence Mendoza, Valley Springs, Calif., is seeking re-election for the office of Director of Region A. Laurence became

interested in Agriculture education in high school through his participation in the FFA program. He participated on the Dairy Judging and Parliamentary Procedure teams and earned a State Farmer Degree. He graduated from Modesto Junior College in 1982 with an Associate of

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Science Degree in Agriculture Mechanics.

Laurence and his wife, Sheila, currently have a seedstock operation which is run with their daughters Marianne and Mariah. They utilize the native foothill pastures of the California Sierra Nevadas and have begun an annual production sale for bulls and females each March.

Laurence's RAAA participation includes Junior Red Angus committee member, attendance at the 2005 and 2006 Young Breeder's Meetings and participating at Brain Trust in Denver. His participation with the Red Angus Breeders of CA/NV Association includes Director, Vice President and President. He also acted as RABCN representative in the position of chairperson for the 2003 Bet On Red, a joint elite female sale with the Northwest Red Angus Association held annually in Reno, Nev., every November. He is currently the co-chairperson for this sale.

Locally, Laurence has served on the Calaveras County Junior Livestock Auction Committee; Jenny Lind 4H Beef Leader for eight years; FFA Booster member and Jenny Lind 4H Booster President. He is a member of the Calaveras County Farm Bureau and a member of the Calaveras County Cattleman's Association, where he serves as a Calaveras rep on the Livestock Animal ID committee for the California Cattleman's Association.



### **Ryan Ludvigson**

Ryan Ludvigson, Holstein, Iowa is seeking re-election as director from Area IX - Midwest.

Ludvigson is an integral part of the Ludvigson Stock Farms family seedstock operation located in western Iowa. The Ludvigson family has been involved in the beef seedstock business for over 30 years and has been involved in the Red Angus business for 15 years. LSF utilizes AI and embryo transfer extensively and markets over 150 Red Angus seedstock annually.

Ludvigson holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business as well as a M.B.A. from Iowa State University. Ludvigson held a position with Archer Daniels and Midland Company as a grain trader following his undergraduate studies. In the winter of 1993 he was appointed to the staff of U.S. Congressman Fred Grandy to serve as his agricultural liaison in the 5th Congressional district of Iowa. At the end of his two year commitment Ludvigson entered Iowa State University to begin his graduate studies.

At the completion of his master's degree Ludvigson went to work for Leachman Cattle Company, Billings, Montana as head of sales. Ludvigson would reside in this role for 2 1/2 years before being called home to help with the family operation due to health complications by his father. Following a two year stint at home Ludvigson would begin to split time between LSF and the National CUP Lab and Technology Center serving as the full time Communications Director during the week and working cattle on the weekends.

In the spring of 2004 Ludvigson had the opportunity to help develop and execute a partnership between a beef producer and a supermarket chain in Chile that emphasized Red Angus genetics in their product line. For the next two years he would serve in a consulting role in Chile and build the program from scratch and see it to completion and success. During his time in Chile Ludvigson commuted to the U.S. on a monthly basis and remained active in the LSF operation.

Most recently Ludvigson assumed the marketing role at LSF as the operation has expanded its role in the sale of its seedstock by holding two sales annually, one in the spring and one in the fall.

Ludvigson serves on the board of directors for the National CUP Lab and Technology Center and is a member of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

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### **Tom Woodward**

Tom Woodward, Omaha, Texas is seeking the office of Director of Area IV - Southwest. Tom grew up in agriculture and cattle production, and pursued the same in his college training and received his BS degree in animal science and an MS and PhD in Reproductive Physiology from Texas A&M University.

His career began with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and he served in several capacities including County Agent, District Agent and Livestock Specialist. In 1981, he accepted a position as manager of the Ranch and Farm Management Department of Texas American Bank and managed over a half million acres of ranch and farm land. That department also managed over 11,000 head of mother cows in Texas, New Mexico and Colorado. Range and wildlife management was a significant part of

the responsibility. In 1988, he accepted the position as general manager of Broseco Ranches which is an integrated cattle operation that runs a commercial cow/calf operation, a Red Angus seed stock herd, a yearling program on wheat, and feeds cattle for a branded beef product marketed by Cargill Meat Solutions. The cow/calf operation is located in Morris and Titus Counties in Texas and Arkansas. He continues to serve in that capacity while also running a personal Red Angus seed stock operation.

Tom currently serve as a director of Ranchers Renaissance, Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, Northeast Texas Beef Improvement Organization, North Texas Cattle Improvement Association and Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. He recently served as Chairman of the Texas Johnes Working Group, Chairman of Producer's Services Committee, Chairman of the Producer Education Working Group, and Vice Chair of the Industry and

Producer Services for the National Cattleman's Beef Association. He also served as Chairman of the Board of Ranchers Renaissance. Tom has been honored as Man of the Year in Texas Agriculture, Commercial Producer of the Year by the Texas Simmental Association, Commercial Producer of the Year by the American Braunvieh Association, Commercial Producer of the Year by the American Red Angus Association, and Commercial Producer of the Year by the Beef Improvement Federation.

Tom's wife, Pat, of 44 years, works with him in their ranching operation and both sons, Brandon and Russell, are also involved in the beef industry.



### **Glen Halfmann**

Glen Halfmann is a candidate for Area IV Southwest Director. He and his family own and operate a 1-A Red Angus herd near

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Miles, Texas, in the Southern Rolling Plains of Texas. Glen's passion for Red Angus began as a youth in 1968 when he exhibited the Reserve Grand Champion Carcass steer of all breeds at the San Antonio Livestock Show. Those early years were instrumental in developing his knowledge in animal breeding and Red Angus cattle along with the guidance of Runnels County Agent, C. T. Parker.

Among Glen's first Red Angus purchases were Chief-bred cows from Mid-America Cattle Company. The Halfmann herd presently has 175 1-A females. His breeding program has always been focused on providing the commercial cattleman with genetics that are viable for marketing their cattle. The selection of carcass sires through the use of AI, genetic markers and ultrasound data provide guidance to his customers when marketing their calves.

Glen is a member of the Texas Red Angus Association, where he served multiple terms as president, state

director and committees during his 30-year membership. He was instrumental providing the moderator for the 2006 TRAA Strategic Planning session. He organized multiple bull tests and sales and served on the National Red Angus Marketing Committee. Glen is the upcoming superintendent for the first Junior Red Angus Heifer Show and Futurity at the 2008 San Angelo Livestock Show and has judged futurities for other breeds for three years. Understanding the importance of our Texas Junior Association, Glen helped initiate the first TRAA scholarship.

For the past years, Glen has served on the Texas Cooperative Extension Ag-Natural Resource Committee, which conducts seminars and tours relating to the livestock industry, farming practices and crop and forage field days. Halfmann has hosted tours and introduced multiple varieties of new grasses and forages in Runnels County.

Glen is a 1973 graduate of Texas

A&M with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education and minor in Agronomy. After graduation, he was employed at the Texas A&M University Experiment Station in Lubbock, Texas in Soil Physics researching and developing subsoil irrigation applications. In 1975, he received a Masters Degree in Agricultural Education from Texas Tech.

Glen and his wife, Diane, began farming and ranching near Miles, Texas, in 1975. They farm cotton, milo, forage, small grain and grass. Glen has also developed his company actively selling farm seed for the past twenty years, becoming a district sales supervisor.

The Halfmanns have three children, Chad, Cody and Jessica. All were members of the Texas and National Junior Red Angus Associations. Cody served as National Director and later as President for the National Junior Red Angus Association.

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Glen and Diane are members of St. Thomas Catholic Church where he is the choir director and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Having raised Red Angus for 43 years, Halfmann Red Angus feels fortunate to be involved in such a progressive and innovative breed that is responsive to the needs of the total beef industry. It is critical that we maintain and enhance our position of leadership in this industry.

Glen encourages all members of RAAA to attend the National Convention this September. This is an essential event as our livelihood depends on decisions made at this event. It is a time to make new friends, meet your fellow members and show support for the RAAA staff that works so hard for our members throughout the year.

Glen's desire is to serve his area by being receptive and working for all members' concerns. He believes he will make a positive contribution to the RAAA because of his background

and experiences within various segments of the beef cattle industry, utilizing all of his past leadership for agriculture and Red Angus.



### **Martin Morgan**

Martin Morgan, Leicester, North Carolina, is seeking the position of Director for Area 7-Northeast. Martin is partner of Morgan

Branch Red Angus along with his father, Max. The ranch consists of a Registered Red Angus herd plus a commercial herd of about 100 head. The operation has made fast strides in size and quality by way of AI and embryo transfer.

The Morgans have a long history in agriculture. Martin's grandfather moved to Leicester in the early 1920's to raise milking Shorthorns and do custom harvesting. In 1946, they began milking Holsteins and one of the first operations in the state to uti-

lize AI. In 1955, the Morgans were named Progressive Farmer Magazine-Farm Family of the Year. After the dispersal of the dairy in 1995, Martin and his father realized they needed something to replace the milk cows, so along came Red Angus.

Martin was a founding member of the Red Angus Association of the Carolinas and served as President for the first three years. He is currently a board of director for North Carolina Cattleman's Association and has been serving on the local Farm Bureau board for seven years. Martin is also owner and President of MBT Carriers, Inc. He is single and has 125 children--all RED.

Martin feels he would have a positive impact on the board because of his background and many acquaintances among the Red Angus Breeders in the Northeast. He would consider it a great honor to represent the breeders of Area 7 and would like to thank you for your support.

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### Dan Stickel

Dan Stickel, Jane Lew, West Virginia, is a candidate for Director of District 7 - Northeast. Dan grew up in a rural Doddridge County, West Virginia community where his family operated a timber company and raised horses and commercial cattle. He feels very privileged to have grown up with having only six classmates the first eight years of elementary school and only 99 classmates in his high school graduating class.

Dan graduated from West Virginia University in 1980 with a degree in mining engineering. Throughout his professional career Dan has held several engineering and operations management positions. His expertise, strong work ethic and integrity have earned him the respect of his peers. In 2005 Dan was hired as President and CEO of Atlantic Development and Capital, an international startup coal company. In just two years the new company has made a significant presence in the market.

In 1989, Dan purchased a farm in Lee County, Virginia and began building a registered Senepol seedstock herd from imported Virgin Island and RA Brown Ranch genetics. He was instrumental in founding the Virginia Senepol Cattle Breeders Association and he held the position of President of that organization. He also served on the National Senepol Cattle Breeders Association Board of Directors during a time of that association's strongest growth.

In 1994, Dan purchased Cedar Hill Farm near Jane Lew, West Virginia and later that year he relocated his cattle operation to West Virginia where he began a cross breeding program along with his Senepol seed stock program. In 1998 he purchased his first Red Angus bull to use in the Cedar Hill cross breeding program. The Red Angus cross cattle worked very well and since that time he has converted his entire breeding program to 100% Red Angus.

The Cedar Hill breeding system utilizes an intensive AI program which is supplemented with embryo transfer from a select group of females. Dan and his wife Alicia and daughter Chelsea currently run approximately 190 registered 1A females. Since 1998 Cedar Hill has averaged exposing over 98% of their females to AI breeding at least once each breeding season. Their continuous process improvement approach along with an ISPCQ (integrity, safety, productivity, cost and quality) philosophy has become the foundation of their breeding program.

Dan has grown to appreciate the foresight that the RAAA founding members showed in developing the Association's core policies. He supports those policies and continues to build his own breeding program around those principles. Dan is a member of the Mason Dixon Red Angus Association and he is currently on the Board of Directors of that organization. He believes our youth are the future of the beef industry and he strongly supports the local, regional and national Junior livestock organizations. ■