



AMERICAN
**MAINE
ANJOU**
ASSOCIATION

Board of Director CANDIDATE PROFILES

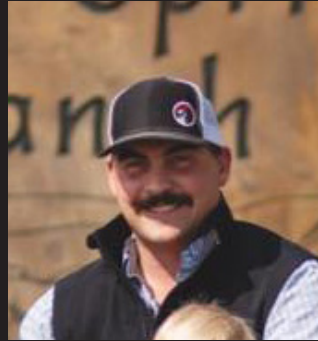
REGION 1
ANDY JONES, ILLINOIS



REGION 1
JOHN GRAUER, OHIO



REGION 1
CODY GREEN, ARKANSAS



REGION 2
ALICIA RIGDON, IOWA



REGION 2
BRIAN FOX, MINNESOTA



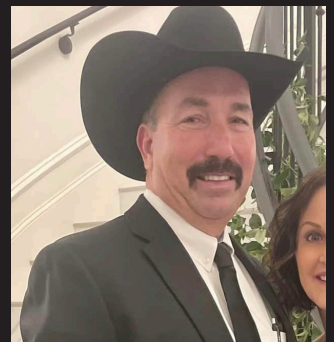
REGION 2
MINDY KOURI, WYOMING



REGION 3
NICK BEAUPREZ, COLORADO



AT-LARGE
JIRL BUCK, OKLAHOMA



BALLOTS DUE DECEMBER 2ND

REGION 1

**CANDIDATE NAME:
ANDY JONES, ILLINOIS**

History of your operation?

My family and I have been raising Maine-Anjou cattle for over 25 years and have successfully exhibited cattle at the local, state, and national levels. We market both heifers and bulls annually and feed out steers.

What do you view as strengths of the Maine-Anjou breed, and how can those strengths be used in today's beef industry?

The strengths of the Maine-Anjou breed would have to be what we can bring to the commercial industry in terms of calving ease and feed efficiency without sacrificing maternal or carcass traits. The Maine-Anjou breed has always been well known in the showing for its look and eye appeal, but the value we can have in the commercial setting, I feel, can be just as significant. Additionally, our junior program is the best and continues to produce just as many good young adults as it does good cattle.

What are your goals for the future of the Maine-Anjou breed?

We want to continue to strengthen our already very strong junior program and to continue to get more of a commercial presence.

What does your present operation do to promote Maine-Anjou genetics, whether it be locally, state, regional or national level?

Jones Cattle Company exhibits and sells cattle at all levels and we continue to try and help sponsor and donate to the Association and events to continue to bring Maine-Anjou cattle to the forefront.

**CANDIDATE NAME:
CODY GREEN, ARKANSAS**

History of your operation?

I have been the general manager at Willow Springs Cattle Company since 2012 with the Walker Family. We have focused on building a solid maternal baseline of Maine-Anjou genetics over the past 20 years with National Champions for both Mason and Whitney. Those cows today help with the diversity in raising real-world cattle that

work in and out of the showing. With the purchase of Bushy Park, we were able to add even more cowpower to the operation. Although COVID shut down our live auction offering, it's a blessing in disguise, in my opinion, to get back to a hand-shaking, more verbal type of relationship with old and new customers.

What do you view as strengths of the Maine-Anjou breed and how can those strengths be used in today's beef industry?

The Maine breed is as hot now as it has ever been. Not only the addition of Maine Angus cattle being productive in the seed stock business but also the added growth and power of our breeds bull battery it is making more pounds for fed and weaned cattle.

What are your goals for the future of the Maine-Anjou breed?

Being a past AJMAA Junior Board President, the junior association needs to be a continued focus. Although we are led by the absolute best from a junior board and junior advisor standpoint already, continuing to support them and their membership needs to be a focus in my eyes.

What does your present operation do to promote Maine-Anjou genetics, whether locally, state, regional or national level?

Our motto is focusing on juniors in the ring and in life. Whether hauling kids and cattle to junior nationals every year through our travel assistance program or getting everything organized for state shows, it has always been a must.

**CANDIDATE NAME:
JOHN GRAUER, OHIO**

History of your operation?

I bought my first cows when I was a freshman in high school. Both were registered Maine-Anjou females. From there, I continued to buy and breed Maine-influenced genetics. My family and I run around 70 head of Maine-Anjou and club calf cows. My brothers and I grew up showing Maine cattle competitively across the county, and now my boys are showing registered Maines at a national level, which will allow them to lay the groundwork for their own herds and involvement within the Maine-Anjou breed.

What do you view as strengths of the Maine-Anjou breed and how can those strengths be used in today's beef industry?

Versatility is what makes the Maine-Anjou breed superior within the cattle industry. You can take a herd of Maine-Anjou cattle and breed them many different ways and be profitable. Whether your focus is to raise high-quality show cattle, replacement heifers or bulls for future generations, or simply raise cattle that will gain efficiently in a feedlot setting. Herds with Maine-Anjou influence cattle will allow producers to achieve their goals. The beef industry can improve phenotypically and genetically with the use of Maine-Anjou cattle.

What are your goals for the future of the Maine-Anjou breed?

The Maine-Anjou cattle have significantly changed for the better within the last 10 years. The breed is producing cattle that will compete not only in a showing, but also in a feed lot setting in comparison to any other breed of cattle. We as a breeder need to continue bettering our breed with each generation of calves we are producing. Not only putting our focus on the show ring, but also cattle that will gain faster, calve easier, and become a foundation for outcross breeding.

What does your present operation do to promote Maine-Anjou genetics, whether it be locally, state, regional or national level?

As a family and business, Grauer Show Cattle looks forward to the week of American Junior Maine-Anjou Association Junior National every summer. Every year, our goal is to sell more Maine-influenced cattle that will allow more exhibitors the opportunity to attend an event that is more than just a cattle show. My wife and I have always considered the Maine-Anjou breed and its members part of our family. I want to open the door for other youth and families to experience the same things we did growing up. We strive to sell and promote the breed to other families.

Additional Comments

I feel like I have a lot to offer to help this breed continue to grow.

REGION 2

CANDIDATE NAME: **BRIAN FOX, MINNESOTA**

History of your operation/family and involvement with the Maine-Anjou breed:

I have been directly involved with the Maine-Anjou breed since 2007, but I've been around show cattle my entire life. In 2007, I had the opportunity to move with my wife, Paula, to Fort Morgan, Colo., and become the manager of Blind Badger Ranch (BBR). At that time, BBR was running about 350 cows, flushing a few donors, and had just completed its first production sale. Since then, BBR has evolved to around 500 cows with an extensive ET program. Throughout this time, our focus has always remained primarily on Maine-Anjou. Recently, my family and I made the move back to Minnesota, where both Paula and I were raised.

What do you see as the strengths of the Maine-Anjou breed and how can those strengths best be used in today's beef industry?

Growing up, I always knew about the positive attributes the Maine-Anjou breed brings to the table, but I also heard some of the fallacies they've taken a bad rap for. It wasn't until I started working with them every day at BBR that I was truly blown away by their ability to perform and how well-rounded they are. Their performance in the arid, dry, short grass country we live in is a true testament to the breed. We also operate in vast areas where Maine cattle are expected to cover large pastures, so structural integrity is a huge focus for us. The Maine cattle that are easy-keeping and sound ultimately produce the females that go on to milk well and raise bigger calves, all while breeding back in a timely manner.

What does your present operation do to promote Maine-Anjou genetics, whether it be locally, state, regional or national?

I have always been a strong supporter of the Maine-Anjou breed and truly believe in their abilities to perform in the pasture, feed yards, and show rings. I've always made an effort to send steers and bulls to feed test trials to gain more knowledge for myself and the breed. I've also been deeply involved in the showing. What began as helping Taylor and Tori Hett with their show stock when I first started has grown into

an entire family of breeders and friends within the Maine-Anjou community. In 2014, with the support of my wife, and the owners of BBR, Jim Hett and Bud Gamel, I started the Rocky Mountain Maine-Anjou Association (RMMAA), which consists of breeders and exhibitors of Maine-Anjou cattle in both Colorado and Wyoming. We've been able to raise money through various activities to provide scholarships for young people, help with expenses for attending junior nationals, and present awards at local shows. Ultimately, we've used the RMMAA as a way to continue educating and supporting Maine-Anjou breeders in Colorado and Wyoming.

CANDIDATE NAME: **ALICIA RIGDON, IOWA**

History of your operation?

I have been a Maine-Anjou breeder for more than 35 years. My son and I own and operate Bar R Cattle Company in Mediapolis, Iowa, raising Maine-Anjou for show and commercial breeding stock, including fullbloods and club calves. We sell cattle in Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, Michigan, Texas, Wyoming, California, and Montana. We are strong supporters of the junior association and National Junior Heifer Show. I am currently the Secretary/Treasurer of the Iowa Maine-Anjou Association. I work as a lawyer for a technology company.

What do you view as strengths of the Maine-Anjou breed, and how can those strengths be used in today's beef industry?

Milk, maternal instinct, docility, and longevity make Maine-Anjou cattle desirable within today's beef industry. The fact that Maine-Anjou is a feed-efficient breed with high cutability and marbling qualities makes this breed ideal for today's beef industry. Maine bulls add dollars to commercial herds by providing vigorous calves that rapidly gain weight thereby providing profit for the producer.

What are your goals for the future of the Maine-Anjou breed?

The breed has achieved top recognition in the showing but has yet to gain the same acceptance with the commercial cattleman. My desire would be that the breed achieves the same acceptance with the commercial cattlemen as we have within the show world. Acceptance with the commercial cattleman has been a desire of the breed for some time, but there has been a reluctance to take the

necessary steps to provide those customers with the data and performance information they need to make the informed decision to use more Maine-Anjou bulls and females. More participation in feed trials, providing individual breeder data when they maintain ownership of cattle through the feedlot, and other available data will also assist in compiling information available to all breeders and used to break the barrier and obtain acceptance of this breed within commercial operations. Additionally, I believe we need to maintain a strong focus on our youth program. I am a product of that program. It helped me to want to stay a part of this breed and to have my kids grow up and participate in these activities. Maintaining a strong focus on the youth will also ensure a strong future for the breed.

What does your present operation do to promote Maine-Anjou genetics, whether at the local, state, regional, or national level?

I have been active in the Maine-Anjou breed in both Missouri and Iowa. Our family has been a financial supporter and volunteers at the National Junior Heifer Show for several years. I have exhibited Maine-Anjou throughout the nation. We have participated in state, regional, and national shows with Maine cattle in Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Illinois, Indiana, Montana, Ohio, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Arkansas. We have an annual pasture sale for steer calves and select heifers in September. I am also active on various social media platforms.

Additional comments

I think that most cattle breeders would agree that sire selection is extremely important in building a quality herd. But owning the right kind of female is the foundation to any good breeding program and has been a key objective in our operation. We are committed to developing genetically superior cow families to ensure predictability in future generations. This philosophy is how we will be able to provide our customers with sound, functional animals consistently. With all the problems currently facing our industry, raising economically productive cattle that meet the quality demands of an increasingly sophisticated marketplace is more important than ever. That is why we strive for calving ease, performance, soundness, quality, and docility.

CANDIDATE NAME: MINDY KOURI, WYOMING

History of your operation?

Kouri Cattle was established in 2011 as a cow-calf operation. At that time, we primarily ran Angus and Hereford Angus crosses. After several years, we started looking for a breed of cattle that would better fit our program for what we were trying to accomplish, focusing on EPDs, the look we wanted and a high-quality cow. We did a lot of research on which cattle would be versatile with the quality that we were seeking to produce. We quickly switched to the Maine-Anjou breed and now run primarily a higher percentage Maine-Anjou herd. Currently, we run a cow/calf, bull, and heifer production operation.

What do you view as strengths of the Maine-Anjou breed and how can those strengths be used in today's beef industry?

The Maine-Anjou breed has many strengths, including high and well-rounded EPD sires and dams. Bloodlines that produce body structure and frame that adds power, depth, and muscle. They are well-tempered and easy to work with. The dams are very maternal, have a good milk supply, and grow big calves. The Maine-Anjou breed crosses well with other breeds to improve genetics. A very versatile breed of cattle, nice big size for commercial beef and show quality.

What are your goals for the future of the Maine-Anjou breed?

I would like to see the Maine-Anjou breed continue to carry and have high EPD markings for breeders. With focusing on higher EPDs comes a greater success rate in predicting the Maine-Anjou progeny, performance, and excellence. I would like to focus on phenotype and performance to ensure consistency and quality in the breed and what the breed offers. Continue to have national and local shows to educate others about the breed. Continue to support the younger generation with the cattle industry. Ensure that the Maine-Anjou breed is competitive and looked for.

What does your present operation do to promote Maine-Anjou genetics, whether locally, state, regional or national level?

Kouri Cattle produces, shows, and sells Maine-Anjou bulls, heifers, and steers. We proudly offer

bulls and heifers that rank in the top percentile for Maine-Anjou EPDs for production. We sell Maine-Anjou steers to 4H kids and have won multiple fairs with their performance. We always provide education about the breed and cattle to people who visit our operation and share our love for the Maine-Anjou breed with whoever will listen. We have shown and sold at the National Western Stock Show in Denver for multiple years.

Additional

I would be proud and excited to continue my love for the Maine-Anjou breed.

REGION 3

CANDIDATE NAME: NICK BEAUPREZ, COLORADO

History of your operation?

Beauprez Land & Cattle has been raising Maine-Anjou cattle since 1981. After college I returned home to the ranch and have been working with my family on raising quality females and bulls which add performance to our herd and others. The past several years we have raised some of the top bulls in the breed.

What do you view as strengths of the Maine-Anjou breed, and how can those strengths be used in today's beef industry?

Structure, muscle and power are strengths I see in the Maine-Anjou breed as well as good maternal traits. The Maine-Anjou breed adds more red meat to feedlot cattle, therefore adding more profit to the producer.

What are your goals for the future of the Maine-Anjou breed?

I would like to promote Maine-Anjou bulls to commercial breeders as a whole to show the advantages of the breed. Also, to continue to prove Maine-Anjou genetics are here for the longevity and that they work well as a cross with other breeds.

What does your present operation do to promote Maine-Anjou genetics, whether it be locally, state, regional or national level?

We show and sell bulls at the National Western Stock Show as well as having a private heifer

sale. We have shown at all the major shows as well as local shows to promote our genetics and the Maine-Anjou breed. We have been guest consigners at other breeder's sale to promote our cattle.

Additional Comments

I would be honored to serve on the Maine-Anjou Board to promote a breed I truly believe in. Thank you for your consideration.

AT-LARGE

CANDIDATE NAME: JIRL BUCK, OKLAHOMA

History of your operation?

I'm Jirl Buck, and along with my wife, Brenda and daughter, Bailey, we operate Buck Cattle Company in Madill, Oklahoma. Our family has been deeply involved in the Maine-Anjou business for over 30 years, and it's how we make our living. I was raised on a ranch and have had the privilege of exhibiting cattle while I was in 4-H and FFA.

I graduated from both Murray State College and Oklahoma State University, and now we manage a herd of around 200 Maine-Anjou cows. Each year, we raise about 120 embryo calves. We sell 120 bulls and around 150 females through our annual spring and fall sales, as well as monthly online auctions. We always have cattle available for private treaty sales as well.

What do you view as strengths of the Maine-Anjou breed, and how can those strengths be used in today's beef industry?

Maine-Anjou cattle have so much to offer the cattle industry with their feed efficiency, maternal strength, disposition, and added performance. I believe the dominance of Maine-Anjou cattle in showings across the country has significantly boosted the value of the top-end cattle. It's crucial for us to continue promoting this breed and to make commercial producers aware of the value that Maine-Anjou genetics can add to their programs.

What are your goals for the future of the Maine-Anjou breed?

I believe our association must continue to stay on the cutting edge of technology. It's important for us as breeders to keep collecting and recording

data to improve the value and accuracy of our EPDs. This breed combines great cattle and great people. It's simple: we need to continue getting more folks involved so we can become stronger and achieve our goals.

What does your present operation do to promote Maine-Anjou genetics, whether it be locally, state, regional or national level?

I'm proud to support and be directly involved with the AMAA, AJMAA, and both state and national associations. My wife, Brenda, and I have served as past Oklahoma State Youth advisors, and we're avid supporters of the American Junior Maine-Anjou Association AJMAA and its programs. "It has been our pleasure to work with youth and guide them to be successful with their Maine-Anjou cattle."