

Dear ASA Membership:

It has been an honor to represent you the last three years, and it is quite humbling to be placed back on the ballot with a chance to serve for another term on the ASA Board of Trustees. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Troy Marple. My wife Nicole and I own and operate Marple Farms / M4 Simmentals in Westmoreland, KS. We have two children, a daughter Laney and a son Logan. Logan has recently come back to join us on the ranch. I'm a native Kansan, and grew up about two and a half hours southeast of where our operation resides today. My uncle still operates the family Simmental operation I grew up on, and that instilled my lifelong love for this breed. I joined Simmental as an AJSA member in the early 1980s. I still have that member number: 048436. I have a passion for agriculture in general. My parents taught me at an early age to treat others as you would want to be treated, have a strong faith in God, and got us involved in programs such as FFA and 4-H, which have created lifelong lessons. I have tried to pass these same attributes along to my two children, who both have been actively involved in KJSA / AJSA. My wife and I are past advisors for the Kansas Junior Simmental Association.

I would like to continue to be a voice for the North Central Region. Representing the region that has the largest membership and the most breeders would be an honor. The following are just a few of the things that I will stand for:

- Continue to grow our Simmental brand: Over the past few years we have seen remarkable growth and new interest in our breed, continue to promote this and carve out even more market share.
- Be a voice for all: Have an open door / open ear policy. I don't care if you have two cows or 2,000, we all deserve a seat at the table. I will listen to and try to find common ground among those that have differing opinions.
- Be fiscally responsible: Make sure every dollar counts and be fully transparent with where our dollars are spent.
- Pay attention to the future: I am passionate about helping to develop our next generation of livestock breeders and will always be a strong advocate of the junior programs.
- "Breed 'em all Simmental": This is one of the early breed slogans that I remember and it has stuck with me through the years. I don't intend to waver from it.

I feel that my experience over the last 20+ years as donor manager of Cross Country Genetics and my time spent at KSU will serve me well in this role. I have had the opportunity to be involved with not only some of the most elite Simmental genetics and breeders in the US and from all over the world, but also many other breeds as well. In my time at KSU I had the privilege to not only manage the KSU teaching and research herd for 8+ years, I worked side by side with some outstanding Simmental icons like Dr. Calvin Drake, who also served as a board trustee; a good friend and mentor, Dr. Miles McKee; and a great geneticist and breeder, Dr. Robert Schalles. I also had the honor of being on one of Dr. Scott Schaake's livestock judging teams. I have watched the Simmental breed go through some good decades and some tough

decades, but things are looking great for the future of our breed. I would love to be a voice for this region that brings a modern progressive approach to keep us headed in the right direction.

I'm truly excited at the opportunity to once again potentially be able to serve the great membership of the ASA, and especially the North Central Region. I would encourage anyone who has a question about where I stand on our Association and/or where I believe it is headed to give me a call. I would love to visit with you about it. I humbly request your vote for North Central Region ASA Board of Trustees.

Sincerely,

Troy Marple

(c) 785-250-0522 Email: troy.j.marple@gmail.com