

## 2021 AETA Board Candidates



### **Matt Bartlett, DVM**

Matt Bartlett was born and raised in Salina, Kansas, on a small commercial beef operation. He grew up working for Glenn Engelland, DVM, at Sun Valley Embryo Transfer. Engelland introduced Bartlett to the embryo transfer industry at an early age and began a lifelong passion. During undergraduate and vet school summers, Bartlett spent time with Trans Ova Genetics in various internship roles. Bartlett received his DVM from Kansas State University (KSU) in 2008.

Upon graduation Bartlett and his wife, Kelli, moved to Sioux Center, Iowa, and he began working with Trans Ova Genetics. During the past 13 years, Bartlett has served in a number of roles within the Trans Ova organization and had the opportunity to serve a variety of clients as the evolution of IVF technology has penetrated both the dairy and beef industries. For the last 6 years, Bartlett has served on the AETA Certification Committee. Bartlett has recently begun working on a new professional venture with details yet to be determined. He continues technical work on serving clients mainly in Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota.

His wife is a substitute teacher, and they have three children: Ben (12), Cooper (10), and Marley (6). In his spare time, Bartlett enjoys traveling with family and friends, KSU sports, and family time.

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### **Joel Carter, PhD**

Joel Carter was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to missionary parents. His father was an agricultural missionary assigned to a remote community in northeastern Brazil (Corrente, Piaui), where he managed ranches that supported a missionary school. On one of the family's furlough years in the US, when Joel was 16, his father took him and his brothers to a Brangus ranch, where the owner was flushing cows. This wizardry immediately fascinated Joel. He went on to Texas A&M University to learn about bovine reproduction and embryo transfer, with the intent of raising his own purebred herd of Nelore cattle. He obtained his BS in animal science in 1987 at Texas A&M, and his MAg under Dr. Duane Kraemer in 1989, also at Texas A&M.

Carter went back to work in Brazil in 1990 and then, in 1995, returned to the US to work on a PhD in physiology of reproduction under Dr. Robert Godke at Louisiana State University (2002). This was a good decision, as Carter met his wife, Renée, while in Baton Rouge at LSU, and they are now happily married and live in Slaughter, just north of Baton Rouge, with their 3 children, Lily, Noah, and Eli.

While in Madison, Wisconsin, for his wife's residency at the University of Wisconsin Veterinary School, Carter had the good fortune of meeting Dr. Steve Malin, who showed him a few tricks and convinced him to become AETA certified (2004) and to become more involved in AETA. Carter has not missed a meeting since.

Carter currently works mostly in the southeast, mainly with beef breeds. Although his workload has made it difficult to raise his own cattle, embryo transfer has allowed him to travel the world and to be exposed to purebred cattle everywhere. He still makes it back to Brazil when possible, to revisit the cattle that created his passion for this business.

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**Lee Jones, DVM**

Lee Jones was first introduced to bovine ET when he started his MS in animal science in 1984 at the UGA Department of Animal and Dairy Science working under Russ Page, PhD. After completing his MS, he joined the research and development division of Granada Genetics (later renamed to Granada BioSciences Inc.) as project manager in Marquez, Texas, working for Charles Looney, PhD, and Michael Wilson, PhD. After Granada closed, he joined Colorado Genetics in Platteville, Colorado, as production manager working under Darrel DeGrofft, DVM, where he managed the donor and recipient programs. Jones then was accepted into the CSU College of Veterinary Medicine, graduating in 1998. He joined Medicine Valley Veterinary Hospital in Curtis, Nebraska, and then, he and his wife started Frontier Genetics International in Curtis in 2001. Frontier Genetics International did cattle ET, equine breeding, and cattle herd work. He left practice and joined the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine in 2010 at the Tifton, Georgia, campus. He currently is associate professor of Beef Production and Systems Management in the Food Animal Health Management Program, where he teaches senior veterinary students bovine reproduction, advanced reproductive techniques, and beef production. He is also the extension veterinarian for Georgia and a member of the Beef Reproduction Task Force of the ARSBC.

Dr. Jones has been active in the AETA and was certified in 2000. He currently serves on the AETA research, program, and cooperator committees. He is AABP District 3 director (second term expires in 2022) and has served on AABP Financial Committee, Beef Committee, Membership Committee, and Reproductive Committee. He is also on the GVMA board and serves as alternate delegate to the AVMA House of Delegates. He is a member of SFT, GVMA, AVMA, AABP, NCBA, and GA Cattlemen's Association. He served as co-chair of the Cattle Health and Wellbeing Committee for GCA 2010–2019.

Jones is married to Katy (married December 1988) and has three grown children. Their son and daughter-in-law live in Lincoln, Nebraska, and have two sons. One of their daughters and her husband live nearby and are expecting a son in early August, and their other daughter is currently enrolled in medical school at St. George's University in Grenada.

Lee and Katy have a small herd of commercial and purebred cows and enjoy outdoor activities and visiting grandkids.

*The AETA is a unique organization that derives its strength and value from its diverse membership. We need to strive to maintain our influence and position in the livestock breeding industry to promote adherence to high practice standards, integrity, and a continued commitment to learning. It is an exciting time to be involved in cattle advanced reproductive technologies. As members of AETA we need to strive to nurture membership collegiality, value each other's contributions to our organization, and promote a mutual commitment to high ethical standards.*



### **Daren Statler, DVM**

Daren Statler grew up in southern Pennsylvania on his family's farm and quickly developed a passion for agriculture and livestock. Early on, he developed a purpose of feeding people through his love of livestock, science, and the Lord. After graduating in 2000 from VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, he worked in a mixed animal practice for 17 years. In 2017, he founded Keystone Embryo Transfer LLC, merging it with and purchasing Next Generation Embryo Transfer when Dr. Allen Rushmer retired.

Statler and his wife, Jennifer, have four sons and a small Charolais herd. He enjoys serving in the children and youth ministries in his church.

Statler has recently served on the AETA Cooperator Committee, leading up to a career high point, a solo QSP mission trip to Pakistan in January 2020. If elected, he would do his best to lead the association in a direction that is best for the animals we serve and the producers that care for them.