

Chairman's Message

It doesn't take much of a look down the road we have just traveled to make it plain that any future trend analysis reveals an exciting yet sobering picture for cattle feeders. It has been a wild ride the past several years and if our recent past is any indication of what our future might be like, it's best to take a deep seat.

That's why I'm glad to be a TCFA member and that's my commitment to you as chairman of this association.

I'm glad to be a member because TCFA has long been the leader in its ability to respond quickly and decisively to issues and crises in our industry. Working with state and federal legislatures, and regulatory agencies, and with the media, TCFA has a long history of positively dealing with a remarkable variety of issues.

That doesn't happen accidentally. TCFA has worked for many years with a singleness of purpose to serve its members, and we all benefit. Your association has developed time-tested relationships with legislators and government agency personnel in Washington D.C. and in Austin, as well as the leadership at NCBA and other industry associations. Your staff is informed and in command of critical industry issues.

My commitment to you is that TCFA won't back away from the many valuable services and activities that it offers. If anything, we'll get even stronger, more single-minded in serving cattle feeders in Cattle Feeding Country of Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

TCFA will continue to lead the industry in environmental, safety and quality assurance programs for feedyards. And most importantly, TCFA will continue to offer a forum for a diverse membership to debate critical issues and come to resolutions that not only address the problems of today, but consider the ramifications of tomorrow.

This is an exciting, stimulating and challenging business. It is nice to know, with all the uncertainties we face, there is one rock-steady aspect that we can count on day in and day out. And that's TCFA's commitment to serve its members.

I am proud and humbled to serve as your Chairman, and I am excited at the challenges and possibilities that are ahead—for our industry, for individual cattle feeders and for TCFA. You have my commitment that TCFA will always be there, representing you and your industry, with the singleness of purpose that has made it an industry leader.



JOHN GILLCRIST
2006 CHAIRMAN



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