

Shane Stephens Biographical Sketch

Shane Stephens was elected National Cotton Council vice chairman at the industrywide organization's 2015 Annual Meeting in February in Memphis, Tennessee.

Stephens is the vice president of Greenwood, Mississippi-based Staplcotn's cotton services and warehouse divisions. With 11 offices throughout the Mid-South and Southeast, the cotton services division is responsible for recruiting and servicing the cooperative's grower/members. The warehouse division is responsible for 14 warehouse locations in Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

An active industry leader, Stephens was a member of the Council's 1994-95 Cotton Leadership Program and has served as president of the Program's alumni association. He previously served as the Council's vice president representing the warehouse segment from 2007-12 and served on the Council's Board of Directors from 2001-05 and 2013-14. He has been a Council delegate since 1999 and served on numerous Council committees having chaired its Packaging and Distribution and Membership and Credentials committees. He is a member of the Joint Cotton Industry Bale Packaging Committee's Executive Committee. Currently the vice president of the Cotton Growers Warehouse Association, Stephens served previously as that organization's chairman. He also is a director of EWR, Inc. in Memphis.

Stephens has traveled internationally on behalf of the cotton industry. He participated in a fact finding mission to areas of Europe and Asia, for the specific purpose of reporting on bale condition, packaging and handling practices outside of the United States. He also traveled to China as a member of the first leadership exchange delegation, hosted by the China Cotton Association.

Stephens holds a B.S. degree with honors in agricultural economics from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He and his wife, Janet, live in Greenwood, and they have two daughters and one son. They are active members of First Baptist Church in Greenwood, where he serves or has served as a deacon, church moderator and chairman of the church's finance and personnel committees.