

# Newsmakers

by Terry Cotton, general manager

## ■ IN THE NEWS

Cattlemen from all parts of Missouri gathered at Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach, Mo., Dec. 9-12 for their annual convention and to elect officers for the Missouri CattleWomen's Association. They elected **Jean Riffle**, Pleasant Hill, as their vice president for 2000.

Riffle is completing her third term as president of the Bates County Chapter of the Missouri association, and she was selected Prime Beef Educator at the American National CattleWomen (ANCW) convention in Charlotte, N.C., a year ago. She is involved in the educational programs at the American Royal Livestock Show in Kansas City, Mo., and makes many contacts in the schools of western Missouri, explaining to students the nutritional value of beef.

Riffle and her husband, John, are partners in John Riffle Angus Farms, Pleasant Hill.

**Lynda Blades**, Blades Angus Farm, of Holliday, Mo., was elected treasurer.

**Michael John** assumed the duties of MFA's beef alliance director on Jan. 3.

Before coming to MFA, John was the general manager of John Ranch, a 300-cow commercial cow-calf, growing and retained-ownership operation in Huntsville, Mo. He also has worked as a territory manager for Pfizer; a manager for CMK Co., a family-owned packing company; an analyst and project manager for Farmland Data Services; and a programmer of feedlot-accounting systems for John Wilson.

John has a bachelor's degree in animal science from Kansas State University. He has served as the Missouri Beef Industry Council's vice president, a Missouri Cattlemen's Foundation board member and scholarship chairman, and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's (NCBA's) vice chairman of membership and association services.

The MFA Beef Alliance Advantage is a value-added program designed to minimize health risk for a purchaser of feeder cattle. The Alliance Advantage provides source-verified, farm-fresh, vaccinated and weaned feeder cattle to buyers in the Midwest. MFA Inc. is a regional farm-supply and marketing cooperative with farmer-owners in Missouri and adjacent states.

On Dec. 1 the **Montana Angus Association** (MAA) presented a check for \$4,000 to the Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund (R-CALF). The check was presented to Leo McDonnell, R-CALF president and founder, and John Lockie, R-CALF's CEO, by Jack McNamee, a director of the MAA and a director of R-CALF.

John Patterson, a director of the MAA and secretary of R-CALF said, "The Montana Angus Association has endorsed R-CALF, but we wanted to lend our financial support at the same time. The donation is a token of appreciation of all the help and support Midland Bull Test and Leo McDonnell have given the Montana Angus Association and the entire U.S. cattle industry."

McDonnell expressed his appreciation to the MAA for their donation and commitment to help the U.S. cattle industry. "R-CALF was formed to do three things: pull U.S. cattle producers together, improve market prices and address unfair trade practices. Together we did it and proved producers can positively affect their own industry," he said.

Colorado State University and the San Juan Basin Research Center in Hesperus, Colo., announced the hiring of **Doug Zalesky** as its new manager. Doug is currently an Extension beef specialist at South Dakota State University and has an extensive background in beef research and production. He will be arriving at SJBRC in March or April.

**Tom Robb** is the new manager of business development for Ivy Animal Health. He has worked as a scientist and business-management professional in animal health and productivity in both domestic and international markets.

He has a bachelor of science degree from Central Missouri State University in animal science, a master's degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia in animal husbandry and a doctorate in animal science from the University of Kentucky.

As manager of business development, Robb will have a dual role in research and development and in international issues.

**Jeff Hargroves** has accepted the position of director of production for Ivy Animal

**DEAN HURLBUT**, director of activities for the American Angus Association, will retire July 1 after 43 years with the Association.

"Working with some of the best people in the livestock industry for all these years has been a truly wonderful experience," Hurlbut says. "I've been fortunate to see so many changes in the Angus breed, and I can honestly say



Dean Hurlbut

that this breed has never been in a better position than it is right now."

Hurlbut has invested a lifetime in serving the Association and its members. He joined the staff in 1957 as

director of junior activities and organized the first National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest in 1967 and the first National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in 1969. In 1973 he was named director of activities.

He has played a major role in the events that Angus breeders attend, including Association participation in livestock shows; planning programs for Association conferences, meetings and banquets; and serving as director of foreign marketing for the Association. He works closely with managers of fairs and expositions across the country and established the Roll of Victory (ROV) program, which recognizes both animals and exhibitors for excellence in the showing.

"Dean is an individual who has made a long-term commitment to the Angus breed and has been a key player on the Angus team," says Richard Spader, executive vice president. "We'll miss him, his attention to detail, and his commitment to his job and the members of this Association."

Hurlbut and his wife, Gloria, who currently serves as supervisor of the Performance Programs Department at the Association, live in Saint Joseph, Mo., and are members of the Moila Shrine Temple, Eagles Club and the First Presbyterian Church. Free time after retirement will be spent with Gloria and the rest of their family, which includes their daughter and son-in-law, Stacy & Dennis Jenkins, and granddaughter, Kaitlyn, all of Saint Joseph; and their daughter Tracy Hurlbut of Kansas City, Mo.

Health's manufacturing facility in Overland Park, Kan. He has consulted for companies in manufacturing, quality and engineering positions; and he worked for ALZA Corp. in Palo Alto, Calif., as director of quality

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sciences-validation services before accepting his current position.

Hargroves has a bachelor of science degree in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Missouri-Columbia and is completing course work for a master's in business administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

As director of production, Hargroves will oversee growth-promotant manufacturing and manage procurement, warehouse and maintenance activities.

#### ■ NEW ARRIVALS

**Albert & Jennifer Meyers** of Double A Angus Ranch, Saint Peters, Mo., announce the birth of daughter Hannah Kathleen on Sept. 27. She weighed 8 lb. Hannah was welcomed home by her brother, Albert Jr. Grandparents are Bob & Nancy Wray of Saint Joseph, Mo., and Albert & Linda Meyers of Double A Angus Ranch.

**Rathbun Angus** of Richland, Wash., announce an important addition to their management team. Abigail Lynn Rathbun, born Oct. 22 to Greg & Jennifer Rathbun, will assume top priority, says proud Grandpa Corrin Rathbun.

**Steve & Deb Mowry** of Ma & Pa Angus Ranch, Presho, S.D., announce the birth of their son, Sage Francis, born Nov. 13. He weighed 7 lb., 14 oz. and was 20 inches long. Grandparents are Bob & Norene Bruner of Box Elder, S.D., and George & Shirley Mowry, Presho, S.D.

#### ■ IN PASSING

**Floyd Byron Lewis**, 97, of Milton-Freewater, Ore., died Oct. 19 at his home. Born Feb. 10, 1902, in Drexell, Mo., he was the second of 12 children born to Walter Byron & Cora Jane (Causey) Lewis. He spent his early years on ranches at Hayes, La., and Crystal City and El Campo, Texas. The family moved to Van Nuys, Calif., in 1921 and to Grants Pass, Ore., in 1932.

On Aug. 18, 1927, he married Vella June Juling. They had been married nearly 60 years at the time of her death. The couple had two daughters, Juanita and Carolyn; a son, Floyd E.; and a foster son, Bob Schneider.

Most of Lewis' life was spent in the cattle business, first as a buyer and packer and later as a partner in Powerline Angus Ranch in Hermiston, Ore., and Montana.

During World War II he served as assistant fire chief for Camp White Military

Base near Medford, Ore. He also was a partner with his brothers Joe, Jim and Howard in Sunny Valley Logging & Veneer Co. at Grants Pass.

He is survived by his sons and daughters-in-law: Floyd E. & Ruth Lewis, Milton-Freewater; and Bob & Melanie Schneider, Forrest Grove, Ore.; daughter and son-in-law Carolyn and Harry Leidig, Junction City, Ore.; a sister, 14 grandchildren, 38 great-grandchildren and 21 great-great-grandchildren.

**Karl Edwin Duke**, 58, died Nov. 7 in St. John's hospital in Springfield, Mo., after a brief illness. Born Sept. 14, 1941, in Richmond, Ind., he was the son of Ralph H. Duke and Verna Marie (Stambaugh) Duke.

Karl graduated from Kitchel High School in 1959 and attended two years of college at Pennsylvania State University studying animal husbandry.

He married Patricia Ann Cox June 10, 1962. They lived several years on the family farm near Liberty, Ind., before moving to Kentucky, then to Greencastle, Ind., and finally making their home in Mountain View, Mo., in 1979.

Karl worked with registered Angus and Polled Hereford cattle most of his life. He was an active member of First Baptist Church in Mountain View and was most recently employed by Missouri Petroleum Products of Saint Louis, Mo.

He is survived by his wife; his son, Bryan Scott Duke of Mountain View; his daughter and son-in-law, Loretta (Lori) Jean & David Allen Pool of Bartlesville, Okla.; a sister, mother-in-law, and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be made to Precept Ministries, Chattanooga, Tenn., by contacting Duncan Funeral Home, Mountain View, at (417) 934-2222.

**Kathryn (Simonson) Ford**, 80, of Adrian, Mo., died Nov. 13 at her home. Born April 6, 1919, in Des Moines, Iowa, the daughter of Charles and Kate (Thomas) Simonson, she grew up in Des Moines and graduated from East Des Moines High School.

She married Harley A. Ford on Oct. 28, 1937.

She lived in many different places before moving to Adrian in 1960. She was a bookkeeper and an accounting clerk at different places during her lifetime, and she did the recordkeeping for her husband's registered Angus cattle business.

Surviving are her husband; a son, James Rodger Ford, LaPalma, Calif.; and a daughter, Sherri Ford, Kansas City, Mo.

**Bernard N. "Benny" Waechter**, 80, died Nov. 19. The son of Frank & Juliana Mary

(Weber) Waechter, he was born April 9, 1919, near Clear Creek, Iowa. He attended school at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic School at Clear Creek. He helped build the natural-gas pipeline in Harper, Iowa. He farmed and was a carpenter for many years, working construction. He moved to Keota, Iowa, in 1980.

He was a member of Holy Trinity Parish, Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Clear Creek, and the American Angus Association.

He is survived by a brother and three sisters.

**Joseph E. Favilla**, 71, Yakima, Wash., died at home Nov. 21. Born April 20, 1928, to Enrico and Lena (Batali) Favilla, he graduated from Wapato High School in 1946. He attended Gonzaga University.

He and his wife, Jeanne, celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary Nov. 7, 1999.

He was a farmer and a director on the Washington State Co-op Board. After his retirement from farming he worked for Washington State Employment for 15 years. He was a member of the Washington State Angus Association and a past president of the Yakima Valley Angus Association. He was instrumental in starting the Evergreen Angus Sale in Kennewick, Wash., held each fall.

He and his family were named Yakima County Cattle Family of the Year in 1982.

He is survived by his wife; three sons: Patrick and his wife, Diane, of Harrah, Wash.; Robert and his wife, Sabrina, of Harrah; and Edward and his wife, Carole, of Kent, Wash.; two daughters: Theresa Longmeier and her husband, Jerry, of Benton City, Wash.; and Nancy Kagan and her husband, Michael, of Tampa, Fla.; daughter-in-law Linda Favilla of Yakima; a brother; a sister; 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be made to Providence Hospice, the Holy Family Building Fund or the Humane Society of Central Washington in care of Merritt Funeral Home, 218 W. Third St., Wapato, WA 98951.

**Robert B. Faint**, 83, Webster City, Iowa, died Nov. 22 at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa. He was the son of Joseph & Lou Amy Faint, born Jan. 14, 1916, in Greene, Iowa. On Nov. 17, 1939, he married Lucille Heitland in Ackley, Iowa.

The couple farmed in Aplington, Iowa, later moving to Eagle Grove, Iowa, to manage Highview Farms, then they went on to own and manage a hog-buying station in

Havelock, Iowa. Robert also operated a sale barn in Pocahontas, Iowa. The couple moved to the Webster City area where he was manager of Treasure Acre Farms, working with Valley and Farmland cooperatives. In recent years he worked part time with Choices Made Independently in Webster City.

Survivors include his daughter, Janice Faint, Webster City; a son and daughter-in-law, Tom & Zanya Faint of Harrison, Neb.; a daughter and son-in-law, Penny & Rick Brisbin, Bayard, Neb.; two granddaughters; a sister and a brother. He was preceded in death by his wife in 1982.

Robert was a member of the Asbury United Methodist Church, the Iowa and American Angus associations, and the Hamilton County and Iowa cattlemen's associations. He also was an alumni member of the Hamilton County 4-H Foundation. For many years he judged livestock shows and organized livestock-grooming clinics throughout the Midwest.

**Catherine Ryan** of Hat Creek, Calif., passed away Dec. 21. She was born Aug. 8, 1913, in Sacramento, Calif. She was the daughter of Austin and Gertrude Sperry. Catherine was raised in the San Joaquin Valley in the rural farming community of Merced, Calif., where the family raised commercial cattle, cotton and alfalfa.

She married Joe Elmhirst in 1928. They were the largest breeders of Angus and, later, Hereford cattle on the West Coast. In 1945 Catherine married Charles Ryan, and they raised and promoted registered Angus cattle.

Catherine was a founder and president of the Pacific Coast Angus Auxiliary. She also was a founder and original board member of the California Angus Association. Catherine was a board member of the Western Fairs Association and of the Intermountain Fair, McArthur, Calif.; and she was a member of the Shasta County grand jury.

She is survived by daughters Jane Dodge, Elizabeth "Busy" Elmhirst and Abbie Nelson; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Contributions may be sent to the Pete Lakey Memorial Fund, c/o Val Lakey, PO Box 53, Fall River Mills, CA 96028. This fund is for the benefit of 4-H and FFA members in need of financial aid in catastrophic emergencies and also for scholarships.

**Douglas E. Davis**, Bedford, Va., died Dec. 30 at his home. He was born in Racine, Wis., July 13, 1916. He was reared in Colorado and spent the last 32 years in Virginia. He was a devoted husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather.



**TRISH RUNDE**, who has served as circulation and media manager for the *Angus Journal* since 1993, resigned her post effective Jan. 7 to pursue a master's degree in elementary education at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville. She plans to join the teaching profession after graduation.

Runde's childhood was spent on a Grade-A dairy farm in northwest Missouri. There she learned the basics of the cattle business through hands-on experience. Involvement in the local 4-H club included showing her Jersey cows and calves in local shows. Her first impression of an Angus show was that the exhibitors weren't walking backward.

She earned a bachelor's degree from NWMSU while working full time for United Telephone Co., and she joined the *Journal* staff in 1982 as advertising coordinator.

Trish enjoys spending time with her son, Grant, who was born in 1998. Her new career will allow her more time for that pleasure, she says.

He leaves to cherish his memory Edyth, his wife of 58 years, and their children: Gail; Merle and her husband, Robert Gill; Sandra and her husband, Michael Markwald; William and his wife, Pam; and Robert and his wife, Mary. He also leaves seven grandchildren, a sister and a brother.

Doug devoted his life to his family and to raising cattle. He showed champion cattle throughout the United States and Canada. He also judged cattle shows nationwide. His knowledge of cattle was unrivaled. He worked with the finest herds in the nation and had numerous friends in the Hereford, Angus, and Charolais associations.

Donations may be made to the Bedford Presbyterian Church, Bedford, for the Presbyterian Children's Home.