

Newsmakers

Two longtime employees retire

Don Painter, director of member services and office manager, and **Donna Holmes**, assistant director of member services and assistant office manager, retired May 1, 2001, after serving the American Angus Association and its members for a combined 88 years, reports executive vice president Richard Spader.

“Both Don and Donna have been the heartbeat of this office for more than 40 years,” Spader says. “Breeders [who] have had the opportunity to work with them realize their commitment to the American Angus Association and its members and their lifelong commitment to the Angus breed. Their knowledge and expertise on Association policy and rules, as well as the special needs of breeders, will be greatly missed on a day-to-day basis.”

Painter’s journey with the Association began June 25, 1956, when the Association relocated from the Chicago Union Stock Yards and opened its doors for the first time in Saint Joseph. From that day forward, Painter has worked diligently to see that breeders’ requests were fulfilled, the Rules were enforced and business was done in a timely manner.

His first position at the Association was supervisor of the checking department (now known as the registration department), which handled problems with submitted work. He was promoted to office manager in 1958 and accepted the title of director of member services in 1979.

During Painter’s tenure, the Association has offered one-day turnaround time on business submitted without errors by members. This commitment to service is unsurpassed by breed associations of any species. Painter also has overseen many changes in the way work is processed at the Association, from typing individual pedigrees by hand to the efficiency of the current PC-based RODEO system.

Painter has worked for five of the eight executive vice presidents in the history of the

American Angus Association. Painter is a lifelong resident of Saint Joseph. He served in the Merchant Marines during World War II and in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Holmes began her tenure with the Association in January 1958 as an employee in the checking department working for Painter. It was the beginning of a working partnership that would last more than four decades. At that time, the department handled by mail all member correspondence, and there was only one phone in the department. Today employees in the registration department work with breeders by phone or by e-mail to resolve problems and to answer questions.

In 1972 Holmes advanced to supervisor of the checking department and in 1979 was promoted to assistant office manager. Since then she has handled day-to-day questions from breeders. She also works closely with all departments that process work for members, as well as the Accounting and Information Systems departments, and fulfills many of the human resource responsibilities at the Association.

“The most satisfying part of my job through the years was being able to help breeders with problems or help children get their registration certificates for shows,” Holmes says. “I would like to tell the breeders as I retire that I will miss each and every one of them very much. Your phone calls have been a big portion of my job, and I hope that I have made a difference to you.”

After retirement, Holmes and her husband, Don, plan to travel in the winter months and enjoy fishing, boating and gardening in the summer.

“In leaving, I will miss all the fun times we have had here in the office,” Holmes adds. “My favorite part of working at the American Angus Association has been all the lifelong friendships I have made with employees, as well as the members. I am proud to have been part of this organization for 43 years.”



Don Painter and Donna Holmes

■ IN PASSING

Myron M. Fuerst, 92, Rhinebeck, N.Y., passed away March 25 at home. He had been a resident of Dutchess County since 1934.

He graduated from Cornell University in 1929 with a bachelor’s degree in agriculture.

In 1934 he started Fuerst Stock Farm in Pine Plains, a farm which specialized in imported Percheron draft horses and Aberdeen-Angus



Myron M. Fuerst

cattle. Both horses and cattle were exhibited successfully, winning championships throughout the East.

In 1956 he moved to Rhinebeck, where he continued raising Angus cattle until 1971.

In 1952 he established Fuerst Bros. Inc., a company that imported and distributed the Fuerst F-l-e-x-i-b-l-e tine harrows nationwide. The company was an offshoot of the original Fuerst Bros. Ltd., which was founded by his father and brothers in London, England, in 1884. In 1987 Fuerst retired as president of the company, and Fuerst Bros. was sold.

Fuerst was a longtime friend and original partner of Ankony Angus, an internationally known cattle organization with nine operations in New York, Virginia, Iowa, Texas, South Dakota and Montana. He joined the organization in 1964, serving as treasurer and vice president of marketing until 1971 when Ankony was sold.

Fuerst was president of the North Atlantic Section of the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS); a member of the National Livestock Committee of the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF); director of the American Angus Association, the National Cattlemen’s Association and the Farm Equipment Manufacturers Association; and a trustee of the Agriservices Foundation.

Fuerst was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation in 1986.

He was a lifetime member of the Cornell University Council, former vice chairman of the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Development Committee and a consultant in marketing to agribusiness.

He married Beatrice Wright in 1954. They later divorced, and she passed away in 1989. In 1990, he married Carol Mount, who survives at home. Additional survivors include a brother, William, Ithaca, N.Y.; three stepsons; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by a brother, Edward, in 1994.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Myron Fuerst Scholarship Fund at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853.

David Leon Kimzey, 65, Elk County, Kan., died Nov. 1, 2000, at the Wilson County Hospital in Neodesha, Kan.

He was born May 11, 1935, in Elk County to Ralph and Vada (Towery) Kimzey. He attended Cove Rural School, Longton High School and Independence Community College.

On Dec. 27, 1956, Kimzey married Gail McCabe in Lafontaine, Kan. He served in the U.S. Air Force in San Antonio, Texas, from 1956 to 1958. He was a partner in Kim-Mac Farm, raising Angus cattle until his death.

Survivors include his wife; his father, Ralph, of Independence, Kan.; one son, Greg, of Elk City, Kan.; two daughters, Beth Green of Fredonia, Kan., and Sandra Wimbish of Dallas, Texas; one brother, Kevin, of Longton, Kan.; and five sisters, Ruth Murphy of Austin, Colo., Faith Huddle of Independence, Marguerite Rasmussen of Pratt, Kan., Maradean Phinney of Independence, and Janet Hadlock of Longton; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Kimzey was a man of faith who loved the Lord, His work and His church throughout his life. He was one of the founders of the Buxton Christian Church, where he had served as Sunday school superintendent, chairman of the board of elders and deacons, and as a Sunday school teacher. He was still serving as an elder at the time of his death.

He also served as president of the Kansas Angus Association, chairman of the Montgomery County Soil Conservation Association and a board member of Hidden Haven Christian Camp.

George H. Swan, 50, Rogerson, Idaho, died at his home March 22 after a brief illness. He was a respected beef industry leader and the 1999 president of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA).

Swan was president of Swan Land and Livestock Co., a family business that includes cow-calf and registered Quarter Horse operations. Located on the border between Idaho and Nevada, the ranch includes private land, state land leases and federal land permits. Swan also became an active partner in the Burley Idaho Livestock Auction this past year.

Active in cattle and beef industry affairs at the local, state and national levels, Swan served as president and held other leadership positions in the Idaho Cattle Association. He served the former National Cattlemen's Association (NCA) as membership chairman, chairman of the policy division, Region V vice president and other positions.

Swan's father, Bill, was president of the NCA in 1981. They were the second father-son team to serve as national presidents. George Swan was a member of NCA/NCBA for more than 20 years.

■ Wisconsin Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting Jan. 20, Wisconsin Dells



Leading the Wisconsin Angus Association are (seated, from left) **Tom Tomaw**, Barneveld, president; **Thomas Peters**, Eagle, vice president; **Ardel Quam**, Lodi, secretary-treasurer; **Leslie Mindemann**, Sullivan, Wisconsin Angus Auxiliary president; and **Cody Quam**, Wisconsin Junior Angus Association president. Directors include (standing, from left) **Scott Gaffney**, Barneveld; **Kenneth Luety**, Clinton; **Kenneth Hartzell**, Shawano; **Paul Beere**, Burlington; **Kevin Retallick**, Glen Haven; **Brad Ketterhagen**, New London; **Roger Ferries**, Sparta; **Scott Bayer**, Schofield; and **Kathy Burns**, Almond.

■ North Carolina Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet Jan. 20, Winston Salem



Officers and directors of the North Carolina Angus Association for 2001 are (front row, from left) **Joseph French**, Reidsville; **Ricky Kern**, Raleigh; **Duane Harper**, Yadkinville; **Roger Lane**, Gates, president; **John Smith Jr.**, Pink Hill; **Gordon Hodges**, Hamptonville; (standing, from left) **Steve McPherson**, Snow Camp; **Stan Tennant**, Greensboro; **J.F. Lancaster Jr.**, Rocky Mount; **James Laningham**, Southern Pines; **Robin Hampton**, Crumpler, vice president; **Kent Willard**, Winston Salem; **Roy Swisher**, Statesville; **Bette Laursen**, Oxford; **Ray Brewer**, Lexington; **Joe Haynes**, Harmony, past president; **Dean Crocker**, Cherryville; and **Bettie Garner**, Smithfield, executive secretary.

He was a leader in the merger of the NCA and the Beef Industry Council of the National Live Stock and Meat Board. He also was the catalyst for improvements in the new NCBA through the Blue Ribbon Commission, which helped streamline and increase the effectiveness of the organization. The commission's recommendations were adopted at the 2001 Cattle Industry Annual Convention in San Antonio, Texas.

Swan was elected to the Idaho state legislature in fall 2000. He was active in school activities, 4-H and his church.



The North Carolina Angus Association inducted **James Smith**, Stem, into its Hall of Fame. Also pictured is **Nancy Smith**, Stem.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 58

Swan was a native of Utah, having been raised on family ranches in that state and in Idaho. He was a graduate of the University of Utah, where he played college football and earned a degree in business management.

He is survived by his wife, Becky, and their four children: Hutch, 23; Jenny, 21; Allyson, 18; and Caitie, 16.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made to the Idaho Home Health and Hospice, 200 Second Ave. N., Twin Falls, ID 83301. Cards may be sent to the family in care of White

Mortuary, 136 Fourth Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

■ ALSO IN THE NEWS

OSU 6T6 Integrity was laid to rest at Parker Ranch, March 10, at 9 years of age. The flushmate brother to OSU 6T6 Ultra was the reserve senior bull calf champion at the 1994 National Western Stock Show (NWSS). Integrity was owned by Eddie and Karen Parker, Waurika, Okla.; Oklahoma State University (OSU), Stillwater, Okla.; and A-Cross Ranch, Elk City, Okla.

ABS Global Inc., DeForest, Wis., has announced the hiring of two vice

presidents for its North American and international staffs.

Brian Bolton was named vice president of marketing (dairy) and international sales. In his new job, Bolton will be responsible for sales in all regions of the world except North America, South America and Europe. He also will oversee all marketing and product management of the company's dairy genetics worldwide.

Jady Grad was named vice president for North America. In this newly created position, Grad will oversee all North American sales and marketing functions and all operational functions in the region. He will manage sales, marketing, communications, sales support (including customer service and distribution), information systems (IS), human resources and finance in North America.

Alta Genetics recently announced that two of its prominent beef sires possess two copies of the GeneSTAR marbling gene marker. Angus sire **Alberda Traveler 416** and Red Angus sire BJR Make My Day 981 are homozygous (possess two copies of the favorable allele) for the marker.

The marbling gene marker was discovered by an Australian research organization, CSIRO, and Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA). GeneSTAR Marbling, a DNA diagnostic test for a gene associated with marbling, is the first gene marker test for a production trait in beef cattle.

Interpreting the results is straightforward; the animal either has two copies of the gene, one copy (heterozygote) or none. Australian research on Angus cattle showed that 30% of the animals tested carried one copy of the gene, but only 4% carried two copies.

While a number of genes affect marbling, one study found that animals with two copies of the gene showed 11% higher marbling than the average of the population.

Jay Truitt has been named executive director for legislative affairs for the NCBA. He most recently served as executive vice president for the Missouri Cattlemen's Association and executive director for the Missouri's Cattlemen Foundation. Truitt will provide leadership and guidance in the Center for Public Policy on matters pertaining to the legislative branch. He also will be the NCBA's primary contact with members of Congress and their staff.

The Center for Public Policy also has announced the promotion of **Bryan Dierlam** to director of legislative affairs. Dierlam began his career with the NCBA in March 1999. His expanded position will allow him to work more closely with members of Congress and their staff to implement the NCBA's policy goals.

■ **Black Hills Angus Ass'n Banquet**
Jan. 28, Rapid City, S.D.



The Black Hills Angus Association recognized James Anderson as Breeder of the Year. Pictured are (from left) **James** and **Betty Anderson**, both of Baltic, S.D.



The Black Hills Angus Association honored Ravellette Publications Inc. as Promoter of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Craig Kukuchka, Black Hills Angus Association president; and **Ron** and **Tami Ravellette**, both of Philip, S.D.

■ **Georgia Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting and Banquet**
Jan. 27, Athens



Directors and officers leading the Georgia Angus Association in 2001 are (standing, from left) **Ralph Bridges**, Lexington; **Charles Idone**, Macon; **Brent Chitty**, Moultrie; **John Jarrell**, Butler; **Harvey Lemmon**, Woodbury; **Chris Throne**, West Point; **Doug Williams**, Milan; **Sam Ambrose**, Atlanta; **James Gresham**, Hampton; **Leroy Lane**, Statesboro; (seated, from left) **Carolyn Gazda**, Athens; **Christy Page**, Winder, secretary-treasurer; **Ann Bell**, Good Hope, president; **Traci Britt**, Loganville, vice president; and **Melvin Porter**, Jefferson.



(l) The Georgia Angus Association recognized retiring officers (from left) **Melvin Porter**, Jefferson, past president; and **Julie Throne**, West Point, past secretary-treasurer.



(r) **Brian** and **Jeanie Mask**, Newborn, were honored as the association's 2000 Family of the Year.

■ **Iowa Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet**
Feb. 14, Des Moines



The Iowa Angus Association recognized Greiman's Royal Lass 20 as the 2000 Open Show Heifer of the Year. Executive Director Dave Sweeney (left) presents the award to **Ted Greiman**, Garner.



The Iowa Angus Association honored SJS Regis 806 as the 2000 Open Show Bull of the Year. Dave Sweeney (left) presents the award to **Nancy** and **Stephen Sullivan** of Pella.



Leading the Iowa Angus Auxiliary are (from left) **Julie Gray**, Toledo, past president; **Nancy Sullivan**, Pella, president; **Jan Wical**, Grundy Center, vice president; and **Jan Carlson**, Cherokee, secretary-treasurer.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 60

■ **Virginia Angus Ass'n Banquet
Feb. 9, Staunton**



The Virginia Angus Association recognized **Bob and Roberta Anderson**, Woodville, as the 2000 Seedstock Producer of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Mark Duffel, and Bob and Roberta Anderson.



(l) The Virginia Angus Association recognized **Mike Gothard**, Gum Spring, (right) as the 2000 Promoter of the Year. Also pictured is Scott Weller.



(r) The Virginia Angus Association recognized **Mark Duffel**, Aldie, (right) as the 2000 Cattleman of the Year. Also pictured is Gordon Keys.



The Virginia Angus Association recognized **Hank and Henry Maxey**, Chatham, as the 2000 Commercial Producer of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Katherine Meadows, and Hank and Henry Maxey.



The Virginia Angus Association recognized **Clayton Wieben**, Leesburg, as the 2000 Herdsman of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Mike Wieben, Clayton Wieben, Mark Duffel and Ed Richardson.

■ **Missouri Angus Ass'n Banquet
Feb. 24, Columbia**



The Robinson family, Montgomery City, was named Herdsman of the Year. Pictured are (from left) **Layne, Stephanie, Lacey** and **Allen Robinson**.



Directors and officers leading the Missouri Angus Association in 2001 are (seated, from left) **David Innes**, Armstrong, president-elect; **Curtis Long**, Butler, president; **Jean Ryan**, Willard, treasurer; **Barbara McBride**, Centralia, secretary; (standing, from left) **Ben Eggers**, Mexico, American Angus Association director; **John Moffitt**, Kirksville; **Wayne "Doc" Smith**, Winigan, fieldman; **Dan Weigand**, Warrensburg; **Kris Graupman**, Palmyra; **Allen Robinson**, Montgomery City; **Karen Jones**, Gainesville; **Leon Kleeman**, Miller; **Max Creason**, Cowgill; **Richard Eggers**, Jackson; **Vernon Yager**, Sturgeon; **Bill Harlan**, Huntsville; and **James Pipkin**, Republic, past president.



Leading the Missouri Angus Auxiliary in 2001 are (seated, from left) **Sandy Trospen**, Hamilton, president; **Jo Ann Pipkin**, Republic, second vice president; (standing, from left) **Darla Eggers**, Mexico, treasurer; and **Sue Schneider**, Jamestown, secretary.



The American Angus Hall of Fame inducted a father and son duo into its Hall of Fame. Pictured are (from left) Rance Long, Hall of Fame; inductees **Dale** and **J.D. McCutchan**, both of Monticello; and Tom Burke, Hall of Fame.



Kissee & Wallace Cattle Co., Mount Vernon, was named Breeder of the Year. Pictured are (from left) **Ernie Wallace** and Jim Pipkin, past president of the Missouri Angus Association.