



# Newsmakers

► Items of interest **about** and **for members** of our Angus family

## ► IN THE NEWS

**G.N. "Butch"** and **Patsy Neumeier** of Golden Chute Ranch Inc., Walker, Iowa, have been named Iowa's Seedstock Producers of the Year. The award, sponsored annually by the Iowa Beef Breeds Council, will be awarded to the Neumeiers Feb. 9, 2004, at the Iowa Beef Expo Kick-Off Program.

The Seedstock Producer of the Year is a coveted award among Iowa's purebred breeders. The purpose of the award is to

honor outstanding cattle producers in the seedstock industry. Each purebred breed association is given the opportunity to nominate one candidate for the award. Applications are reviewed by the Seedstock Committee, which gives careful consideration to producers' programs in their entirety, including recordkeeping, industry participation and leadership, merchandising programs, selection criteria and herd improvement throughout time.

The Neumeiers have been in the cattle seedstock business for 38 years. They have 200 Angus cows in their seedstock-breeding herd. They also have 20 cows in their commercial herd. They have kept performance records for 35 years.

The initial purchase of 10 heifers in 1965 from the Le & Be herd formed the herd's foundation. Based on his previous Angus experience with Neumeier Bros. in the 1950s, Butch quickly started their herd on a regimen of data collection and selection based on performance records, keeping replacement females that excelled in growth and exhibited the fleshing ability and fertility that are trademarks of Golden Chute females.

**Wayne "Doc" Smith**, fieldman for the Missouri Angus Association, will retire Feb. 29, 2004. He has served Missouri Angus breeders for almost 25 years and cited health reasons for his decision to resign.

The Missouri Angus Association has decided to sponsor a sale to provide a retirement fund for Smith, who served in a salary position without a retirement plan in place. The sale will be Feb. 7, 2004, at the Green City Livestock Market, Green City, Mo.

## ► IN PASSING

**Russell "Russ" Denowh**, Sidney, Mont., 77, died Nov. 21.

He was born May 22, 1926, in Cartwright, N.D., to Julius and Naomi Denowh. He married Patricia "Pat" Gartner in 1950 in Sidney, Mont.

Russ and Pat lived on the farm in Fairview for a short time, then moved west of Sidney and farmed and ranched with Pat's father, Joe Gartner. In 1957 Russ and Joe began their registered Angus business, forming Gartner-Denowh Angus Ranch.

Russ was a member of Saint Matthew's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. He was a 4-H leader and a supporter of Richland Youth Hockey.

Russ was an innovator in the Angus industry. Throughout the years, Gartner-Denowh gained national recognition for performance cattle. He was a member of the American Angus Association, Eastern Montana Angus Association and a past president of the Montana Angus Association. He was inducted into the American Angus Heritage Foundation in 1997 and was the first recipient of the Wayne Stevenson Memorial Award of Excellence. He served on the board of directors at the Stockman Bank and the Sidney Livestock Market Center.

He was a great believer in supporting youth and young cattle breeders.

He is survived by his wife; daughters Gail, Loretta, Pam and Christine; sons Michael and Paul, nephew Donald; brother Jim; 21 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

**Jerry Williams**, 63, Lockney, Texas, died Nov. 19 at his residence.

He was born July 15, 1940, in Winters, Texas, to Loise and Ilene Shuffield Williams. He married Frances Kay Golden in 1960 in Lockney. She preceded him in death on Dec. 14, 2001.

Williams was a farmer and a rancher, and he loved showing cattle with his grandchildren. He was a past director of the American Angus Association, a Texas junior Angus sponsor and a member of the Lockney School Board. He was a deacon at the West College and Third Church of Christ in Lockney.



► Elected to the 2003-2004 Oregon Angus Ass'n Board of Directors are (front row, from left) **Troy Van Roekel**, North Plains, secretary-treasurer; **David Barno**, Hillsboro, president; **James Wilson**, Hood River, vice president; (back row, from left) **Larry Jacobs**, Sherwood; **Ken Read**, Culver; **Robert Buchanan**, Klamath Falls; and **Kenneth Coleman**, La Pine. Not pictured is **Rod Fessler**, Madras.



► Elected to the 2003-2004 Washington Angus Ass'n Board of Directors are (front row, from left) **Dave Duncan**, Ellensburg, president; **Jan Dimke**, Clarkston, secretary-treasurer; **Greg Rathbun**, Moses Lake, vice president; (standing, from left) **Michael Kitchen**, Chimacum; **Daniel Coonrad**, Pullman; **Elsie Covey**, Snohomish; **William McLean**, Coulee City; **Shawn Hedrick**, Ellensburg; and **Vance Burck**, Soap Lake.

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He is survived by sons Ty and Matthew; daughter Libby; and four grandchildren.

**Wayne Roberts**, 62, Sikes, La., died May 8 at his home after a yearlong battle with cancer.

Roberts was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, and a member of the Welcome Home Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon and Sunday school superintendent.

He was a retired maintenance supervisor, having worked for Willamette Industries for 31 years. He was the owner of 3R Farms and a member of the American Angus Association, the Louisiana Angus Association, the Louisiana Cattlemen's Association, and the Winn Parish Cattlemen's Association.

Roberts' family says that his love for Angus cattle was second only to his love for God and his family.

He is survived by his wife, Jimmie Lou; daughter Nikki; and one grandson.

### INDUSTRY EXTRAS

**Gary Smith**, Fort Collins, Colo., has joined the Advisory Board of Optibrand™ a livestock traceability system. As a member of the board, Smith will advise Optibrand on the commercialization of their technology. He also will help identify emerging industry issues related to animal traceability and source verification.

**Rachel Martin**, Ames, Iowa, is the new communications specialist at the Iowa Beef Center (IBC). She replaces Wendy Miller.

Eighteen members of the Select Sires staff from throughout North America have been

## Angus breeder makes donation to education

A Twin Bridges, Mont., rancher has arranged to donate her registered Angus seedstock operation, the Talon Ranch, to the Montana State University (MSU) College of Agriculture. The Board of Regents approved the gift at their Nov. 20, 2003, meeting in Bozeman.

Cam Cooper, owner and operator of the Talon Ranch, has made arrangements to bequeath her estate, including the ranch lands, registered Angus cattle, buildings, equipment and liquid assets to the College in order to offer hands-on experience to MSU students interested in the Angus seedstock business.

The Talon Ranch, which bills itself as "small but special," is a niche provider of quality Angus bloodlines. According to Mike Tess, head of the department of animal and range sciences at MSU, the ranch includes native rangelands and irrigated hay and pasture production, wildlife habitat and exceptionally managed riparian areas. The ranch, which is located on the Big Hole River north of Twin Bridges, is also under a conservation easement.

Tess said that Cooper's vision in donating the property to the college is to offer "an educational resource for students in agriculture. She wants to help students learn the seedstock business, and she is dedicated to the Angus breed."

"The Talon Ranch is a special place that I would like to see used by the College of Agriculture well into the future for teaching students about the value of the seedstock industry," Cooper said.

Jim Peterson, the MSU College of Agriculture interim associate dean for development and external relations, said MSU students may begin working as interns on the ranch as soon as summer 2004. "This gift of a future estate will provide excellent teaching and research opportunities for our students," he said.

"Cam is in love with Montana, and she's in love with ranching — especially the seedstock business," Tess said. "She wants to share what she's learned with students and provide them the opportunity to learn in a working environment."

**Editor's Note:** *This is a very forward-thinking and generous donation that will allow Cam Cooper to continue giving to the livestock industry long after her time among us has come to a close. If you are interested in making a contribution from your estate to the Angus Foundation, contact James Fisher at the Association at 1-800-821-5478. Such bequeaths can be a valuable tool in estate planning.*

named Super Achievers. This award is given to employees who annually increase market penetration in their assigned areas and expand the services they offer to their existing customers.

The Select Sires Super Achievers are: All West/Select Sires, **Don Davis**, Hilmar, Calif.;

Cache Valley/Select Sires, **Lorin Smart**, Wallsburg, Utah; Select Sires Canada, **Jeff Jackson**, Saint Marys, Ont., and **Jan Sas**, Keswick Ridge, N.B.; COBA/Select Sires Inc., **Mark Long**, Lima, Ohio, and **Mike Long**, Maria Stein, Ohio; East Central/Select Sires, **Kurt Barnes**, Keil, Wis., **Jay Ludeman**, Lake Mills, Wis., and **Howie Minnema**, Fond du Lac, Wis.; KABA Select Sires, **Paul Kiesler**, Borden, Ind.; Minnesota/Select Sires Cooperative Inc., **Steve Dockendorf**, Cold Spring, Minn., and **Chris Suess**, Stewartville, Minn.; NorthStar Cooperative, **Terry Kraning**, Seymour, Wis., and **Jason Ossmann**, Greenleaf, Wis.; Prairie State/Select Sires, **Gary Brummer**, Effingham, Ill., and **Monty Kuhn**, West Union, Iowa; Select Sire Power Inc., **Rick Krall**, Lebanon, Pa., and **Mark Sherwood**, Freedom, N.Y.; and Southeast Select Sires Inc., **Marvin Beiler**, Ochlocknee, Ga.

