



# Up Front

► by **John Crouch**, executive vice president

## A salute to centennial herds

*Summer is truly a wonderful time to be in the Angus business. These months are filled with summer frolics, junior shows, field days, and other significant and enjoyable gatherings. It's time to get out and be social.*

*In June my wife, Judy, and I were afforded the rare opportunity to participate in the Minnesota Angus Association Field Day. The event was staged at Miller's Viewlawn Herds near the historic town of Mabel. For those of you less traveled in the northern territory, Mabel is nestled on the Iowa-Minnesota border near the area where Laura Ingalls Wilder, the author of Little House on the Prairie and many other books, grew up.*

### Looking back

The uniqueness of this event was marked by a celebration of Miller's Viewlawn Herds' centennial anniversary in the Angus business. The span of 100 years is a long time. After being introduced by native Minnesotan Tom Burke, I gave some remarks that deviated somewhat from the usual comments delivered at field days. Instead, I relied on research my administrative assistant, Diane Strahm, gathered specifically for the event. Her findings portrayed a very interesting snapshot of our society 100 years ago.

For example, in 1903 ...

- The American Angus Association graduated from its teenage years, turning 20.

- A total of 125 new members were added to the Association roster, and 9,566 new animals were added to the Association's Herd Book.
- The average price for registered Angus seedstock was less than \$150 per head.
- Teddy Roosevelt was President of the United States.
- Henry Ford formed Ford Motor Co. There were only 8,000 cars in America and 10 miles of paved road.
- Two bicycle shop owners named Wilbur and Orville Wright launched the first powered flight of an airplane in Kitty Hawk, N.C.
- Ten days were required to travel from New York, N.Y., to London by ship.

- Two men set a phenomenal record of completing the first transcontinental automobile race, traveling from San Francisco, Calif., to New York, N.Y., in 51 days.
- You could buy three loaves of bread for 10¢.
- A full set of dentures could be purchased for \$3, and dentistry was guaranteed to be painless.
- A tailor-made Hart, Schaffner & Marx men's suit could be purchased for \$12.50.
- The first World Series was held in Boston, Mass., between Boston and Pittsburgh. Cy Young pitched, and Honus Wagner batted.

### Time to honor

I think we all agree that things are vastly different now than they were when the Miller family purchased their original farm in the mid-1800s in northern Iowa. Few families can boast of having a continuous operation of any business for 100 years. Yet, six generations of Millers have not only succeeded, they have flourished with registered Angus seedstock for more than a century.

There are several families within the Angus breed who have achieved the century

## AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506-2997  
Office hours: (M-F) 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Central)  
phone: (816) 383-5100; fax: (816) 233-9703  
e-mail: [angus@angus.org](mailto:angus@angus.org) ■ home page: [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org)

### OFFICERS

**Steve Brooks**, president, 7206 146th Ave. S.W., Bowman, ND 58623; [brookssa@pop.ctctel.com](mailto:brookssa@pop.ctctel.com) ■ **John Crouch**, executive vice president, 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506; [jcrouch@angus.org](mailto:jcrouch@angus.org) ■ **Joe Elliott**, vice president, 1291 Stroudsville Rd., Adams, TN 37010; [resjoe@bellsouth.net](mailto:resjoe@bellsouth.net) ■ **Keith Arntzen**, treasurer, 41 Arntzen Lane, Hilger, MT 59451; [karntzen@ttc-cmc.net](mailto:karntzen@ttc-cmc.net)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Terms expiring in 2003**—**Keith Arntzen**, treasurer, 41 Arntzen Lane, Hilger, MT 59451; [karntzen@ttc-cmc.net](mailto:karntzen@ttc-cmc.net) ■ **Minnie Lou Bradley**, 15591 CR K, Memphis, TX 79245; [bradley3@srcaccess.net](mailto:bradley3@srcaccess.net) ■ **Paul Hill**, 11503 SR 554, Bidwell, OH 45614; [champion@zoomnet.net](mailto:champion@zoomnet.net) ■ **Abbie Nelson**, 12211 Pear Lane, Wilton, CA 95693; [abigail5star@aol.com](mailto:abigail5star@aol.com) ■ **Dave Smith**, 1601 N. CR 200 E., Greensburg, IN 47240; [dsmith@stewartseeds.com](mailto:dsmith@stewartseeds.com)

**Terms expiring in 2004**—**Ben Eggers**, 3939 S. Clark, Mexico, MO 65265; [eggers@socket.net](mailto:eggers@socket.net) ■ **Mark Gardiner**, HC 1 Box 292, Ashland, KS 67831; [gar@ucom.net](mailto:gar@ucom.net) ■ **Jot Hartley**, PO Box 553, Vinita, OK 74301; [jot\\_hartley@hotmail.com](mailto:jot_hartley@hotmail.com) ■ **Jay King**, 28287 Woodside Drive, Rock Falls, IL 61071; [saukvalleyangus@wmcinc.com](mailto:saukvalleyangus@wmcinc.com) ■ **Richard (Dick) Tokach**, 5520 CR 81, Saint Anthony, ND 58566; [rctokach@westriv.com](mailto:rctokach@westriv.com)

**Terms expiring in 2005**—**Leo Baker**, 11440 Angus Lane, Saint Onge, SD 57779; [msbaker@mato.com](mailto:msbaker@mato.com); **Gregg Blythe**, 3207 Old River Rd., Decatur, AL 35603; [clydec7@aol.com](mailto:clydec7@aol.com) ■ **Bill Davis**, HC 57, Box 4075-1, Sidney, MT 59270; [rolnrok@ndak.net](mailto:rolnrok@ndak.net) ■ **Robert (Bob) Schlutz**, 260 Colonel's Drive, Box 66, Columbus Junction, IA 52738; [rwschlutz@aol.com](mailto:rwschlutz@aol.com) ■ **John Schurr**, 40842 Farnam Rd., Farnam, NE 69029; [john@schurrtop.com](mailto:john@schurrtop.com)

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**Activities & Junior Activities**—James Fisher, director ■ **Administrative Secretary**—Diane Strahm ■ **Angus Information Management Software**—Scott Johnson, director ■ **Commercial Programs**—Matt Perrier, director ■ **Communications & Public Relations**—Susan Rhode, director; Shelia Stannard, assistant director ■ **Finance & Accounting**—Richard Wilson, director ■ **Information Systems**—Lou Ann Adams, director ■ **Member Services & Office Management**—Bryce Schumann, director; Carol Waller, assistant director ■ **Performance Programs**—Bill Bowman, director; Sally Dolezal, genetic research director

### AMERICAN ANGUS AUXILIARY

**President**—Nancy Jo Sullivan, Marietta, OH

For a complete listing of officers, refer to page 48.

**REGIONAL MANAGERS**—Refer to back cover of *Resource Edition* insert.

### CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF LLC

**President**—Jim Riemann, Wooster, Ohio

For a CAB staff listing, refer to page 122.

mark in the continuous production of registered Angus cattle on their farm or ranch. We couldn't be prouder of these centennial herds, as they represent what has allowed this breed to progress and thrive since coming to this country in 1873 — a strong will, the determination to succeed and integrity.

We were very fortunate to have three other families, who own and operate centennial herds, on hand for the celebration that day. They included Woodlawn Farm, Creston, Ill., represented by Blanford Pierce; Sunnyslope Stock Farm, Lanesboro, Minn., represented by Philip and Ruth

Abrahamson; and Laflin Ranch, Olsburg, Kan., represented by Bob Laflin.

The seedstock segment of the beef industry in American agriculture owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to these families and to the six generations of the Miller family for their perseverance and dedication in making the Angus breed a strong force in the beef industry. Their time and efforts have benefited numerous Angus breeders, as well as the commercial producers who rely on their genetics to be profitable and progressive in the beef business.

We know there are other names that can

be added to this list of centennial herds. If you are one of them, or if you know of one, please give me a call at (816) 383-5100 or send an e-mail to [jcrouch@angus.org](mailto:jcrouch@angus.org).

In time, others will follow the example set forth by these centennial breeders of Angus cattle and make like contributions. Each and every one of these herds has our congratulations and gratitude. We salute them.



**E-MAIL:** [jcrouch@angus.org](mailto:jcrouch@angus.org)