



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

John Riffle, Pleasant Hill, Mo., was the recipient of an Honorary Alumni Award from the University of Missouri–Columbia (UMC) College of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources during the 2008 Celebration of Excellence in Columbia, Mo.

The honorary alumni award is presented to people who are not former students or graduates of UMC but have taken an exemplary interest in the university's College of Agriculture through the years and deserve recognition.

A native of Pleasant Hill, Riffle joined the military four days before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and retired from the U.S. Air Force as a colonel. He was an intelligence officer, advising President Truman regarding the situation in postwar Europe, and

received two Presidential Citations and the Air Force Commendation Medal. Truman personally autographed the back of Riffle's colonel's insignia with "HST."

Riffle also worked for the American Red Cross in Europe and directed public relations and sales for Williams Meat Co. in Kansas City, Mo., for 25 years. He serves on the Missouri State Fair Foundation Board and on the Missouri State Fair's Youth in Agriculture Committee. He and his wife, Jean, received the Missouri Department of Agriculture's 2002 Farm Family Award and were the Department of Agriculture 1996 Family of the Year.

Riffle was co-author of a 100-year history of the American Royal during its centennial celebration. He was active in 4-H as a youth and has continued his involvement with



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN RIFFLE

► **John Riffle** (center), Pleasant Hill, Mo., receives an Honorary Alumni Award from the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources from Ag Alumni Association President Rita Mueller (left) and Vice Chancellor and Dean of the College of Agriculture Tom Payne.

the organization, receiving a 4-H Alumni Award. Riffle has been the recipient of an honorary FFA degree and is a life member of the American Angus Association. The Riffles raise Angus cattle on their farm, John Riffle Angus Farms, and operate a cattle marketing business.

Mississippi Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Raymond, May 2



► The 2008 officers and board of directors for the Mississippi Angus Ass'n are (seated, from left) **Mike Howell**, Baldwyn, president; **Cheryl Evans**, Winona, secretary-treasurer; **Buddy Jones**, D'Lo, vice president; (standing, from left) **Jimmy Levens**, Wiggins; **Terry Kiser**, Mississippi State; **Russell Carson**, Coldwater; **William Howard**, Canton; **Wayne Carleton**, Union; and **Brian Garner**, Newhebron.



► **Buddy Jones**, D'Lo, is recognized as the Mississippi Progressive Breeder of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Buddy and Barbara Jones, and Wayne Carleton, presenter.



► The **Walker family**, Potts Camp, is recognized as the Mississippi Angus Family of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Eddie Donahoe, presenter; Randy, Haley and Connie Walker.

Pasquotank Farms, Elizabeth City, N.C., has received the American Angus Association's Historic Herd Award. W.T. Jackson Jr. purchased his first purebred bull in 1954 from Springfield Farm, Rapidan, Va. Three years later he bought a group of registered cow-calf pairs from the Kinloch Farm dispersal sale in Supply, Va., which laid the foundation for the Jackson's Angus herd.

The farm's second Angus bull was also purchased from Kinloch Farm in 1957. W.T. joined the Association that same year. Ten years later Ike Jackson, W.T.'s son, began farming full-time with his dad. They utilized Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®), artificial insemination (AI) and embryo transfer (ET) to make genetic progress in the herd consisting entirely of registered Angus.

Until his death in 1999, W.T. remained active on the family farm. Today, Ike and his wife, Kathrine, manage 35 head of cows on the land that has been in their family since 1879.

The American Angus Association presents the Historic Angus Herd Award to Angus herds that have been in the continuous production of registered Angus cattle by the same family for 50 years or more.

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Two Box Ranch, Toledo, Wash., has received the Historic Herd Award from the American Angus Association. The herd was established by Andrew Chopic in May 1948 when he purchased a bull and 20 cows from Harold Bowman, Roy, Wash. Nearly all of the registered Angus originated from a herd in Canada. Later that year he became a member of the Association.

Andrew's son, Frank, joined him a few years later, and together they built a herd of 135 females by the 1960s. They marketed cattle in the Pacific Northwest through consignment sales, bull tests and private treaty. In 1964, after Andrew's retirement and a short stay in southwest Washington, Frank moved the herd to the Nile Valley region in Naches where he and his wife, Grace, raised nearly 200 head of Angus. Three of their children were actively involved in 4-H, FFA and the junior Angus programs.

Colin, the youngest of their children, now manages the herd of 75 cows in Toledo. He and his wife, Millie, submit weights to AHIR and use ultrasound to make genetic progress with their herd, which has generated its own females for the past 60 years. A few of their cows have reached Pathfinder® status.

IN PASSING

Norma Conley, Groton, Conn., died May 18 at her home.

The daughter of Richard and Bertha (Crombie) Smyth, Norma was raised in Enfield, Conn. Norma, her parents and siblings were all closely involved with the family's dairy and tobacco farm operations, which existed in Enfield until the mid-1970s.

After completing high school in Enfield, Norma graduated from the University of Connecticut with a bachelor's degree in education. She used her love of mathematics in her subsequent work in jet engine design for United Aircraft Co. (now Pratt & Whitney).

She was married to William C. Conley in 1948, moved to Groton in 1950 and resumed her design career at General Electric Steam Turbine Division in Fitchburg, Mass. During her life in Groton, Norma raised four children and spent her years living with her family at Gibbet Hill Farm, a nationally recognized breeder of registered black Angus cattle.

Beloved by her family and friends for her wit, energy and humor, Norma was an avid reader and follower of financial markets. In 1983, she became a partner in the family's black Angus farm in Missouri, which is

currently in operation and managed by two of her sons. In 1984, William C. was elected American Angus Association president and was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation in 1995.

Norma is survived by her husband of nearly 60 years; daughter Barbara; sons William J., Timothy and Richard; and eight grandchildren.

Lee McCoy, 60, Newnan, Ga., died May 22 at the Piedmont Fayette Hospital.

Born in McAlester, Okla., Lee grew up in Duncan, Okla. He attended Kansas State University and graduated from the Texas Christian University Ranch Management Program. Lee entered the U.S. Navy as a torpedo man on the USS Pomodon submarine in 1966. He later served as a fieldman for the Kansas Livestock Association and various other livestock publications.

In 1989, Lee entered the ag broadcasting field as assistant farm director for the Texas News Network. Lee continued to build an impressive broadcasting résumé, working for various radio stations, including the Arkansas Radio Network and Southeast AgNet Radio. He was voted Ag Communicator of the Year for Alabama in 1999 and Farm Broadcaster of the Year

Oklahoma Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Stillwater, April 25

► The 2008 Oklahoma Angus Ass'n officers and board of directors are (seated, from left) **Earl Abernathy**, Altus, Southwest director; **Jot Hartley**, Vinita, American Angus Association past president; **Chuck Stewart**, Ravia, past president; **Carol Smith**, Claremore, president; **Mark Johnson**, Orlando, vice president; **Dick Samuelson**, Chester, secretary; (directors, standing, from left) **Rod Channel**, Miami, Northeast; **Will Cabbage**, Oologah, Northeast; **Don Abernathy**, Altus, Southwest; **Al Williams**, Tahlequah, director-at-large; and **Allen Johnston**, Okemah, Southeast.



► **Dick Samuelson** (right), Chester, receives the Mr. Angus Award from **Chuck Stewart**.

► **Right: Dale and Sherrill Johnston**, Johnston Stock Farm, Welch, Okla., receive the Commercial Producers of the Year Award. Pictured are (from left) **Rod Channel**, presenter; and **Dale and Sherrill Johnston**.



► **Jot Hartley** (left), Vinita, receives the Oklahoma Angus Hall of Fame Award from **Jarold Callahan**.

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for the Southern Region of the National Association of Farm Broadcasters in 2000.

Lee spent a short period in 2008 working with EDJE Technologies as a webcast technician and sales representative. He also continued working livestock auctions as a ringman, one of his passions. He was an avid bicyclist and swimmer. Lee actively raised thousands of dollars for cancer research and always put a positive spin on his personal battles. He served as Post Commander of the Peachtree City VFW Post #9949 and was a member of the Crossroads Baptist Church.

Lee is survived by his wife, Aurora; sons Jacob and Daniel; daughter Brooke; brothers Hugh and Walter; and sisters Ellen and Harriett.

William "Bill" Pope, Hawkinsville, Ga., died May 23 at the Houston County Medical Center.

Bill was born in Savannah, Ga., was raised and attended schools in Macon, Ga., and was a veteran of World War II, serving in France, Belgium and Germany in General Patton's Third Army.

Bill moved to Hawkinsville in 1948 and was a retired cattleman with other agribusiness interests. He served as a trustee of Taylor Regional Hospital and the Hawkinsville School Board. Bill also served as past president of the Hawkinsville Rotary Club, the Georgia Beef Cattle Improvement Association, the Georgia Angus Association, the Georgia Cattlemen's Association, Southside Farms and Farmers Supply Service. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1957 and also served as a deacon and trustee of the Hawkinsville First Baptist Church.

Bill is survived by his wife of 63 years, Marilynn; sons Bobby and Billy; daughter Sally; sisters Eleanor, Annette and Martha; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Patricia "Pat" Raines, 61, Wallace County, Kan., died May 24 at Porter Hospital in Denver, Colo.

Pat was born Nov. 8, 1946, at Goodland, Kan., to Vernon and Frances (Goebel) Vincent. She graduated with the class of 1964 from Wallace County High School.

She married Richard Rains March 13, 1965.

Pat is survived by her husband; daughter Mary; son Michael; brothers Tony, Mike and Jack; sisters Emily and Ginger; and four grandchildren.

WEDDINGS

Sara Moyer and **Aaron Snider**, both of Saint Joseph, Mo., were married May 10 in Interlochen, Mich. Sara is the daughter of Doug and Diane Moyer, Buckley, Mich.; and Aaron is the son of Craig and Vickie Snider, Saint Joseph.

Sara is the American Angus Association director of AngusSource.®

Brandon Douglas and **Jennifer Lindeken**, both of Scottsbluff, Neb., were married June 27 at Saint Agnes Catholic Church in Scottsbluff. Brandon is the son of John and Debbie Douglas, Highfill, Neb., and Jennifer is the daughter of Sherry Anderson and Stephen Connelly, both of Scottsbluff.

Brandon is a former National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Board member.

ANGUS ARRIVALS

Jon and **Melissa Davis**, Gallipolis, Ohio, announce the birth of their daughter, **Margaret "Maggie" Belle**, born April 14. She weighed 10 lb., 4 oz., and was 21½-in. long.

Grandparents are Ed Pickrell, Augusta, Ky.; Kay and Tony Denniston, Paris, Ky.; and Larry and Judy Davis, Creal Springs, Ill.

Melissa is a former NJAA Board member. Jon is the herdsman for Champion Hill, Bidwell, Ohio.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

David Notter, professor of animal and poultry sciences at Virginia Tech, was one of 62 inductees into this year's Ohio State University (OSU) Animal Science Hall of Fame. Notter has worked extensively in the development of breeding systems and genetic improvements for sheep and beef cattle.

Ronnie Green has joined Pfizer Animal Genetics as senior director of global technical services. In this position, Green will be responsible for leading operations related to technical support of the entire product portfolio and working with key stakeholders to develop novel, customer-focused solutions based on cutting-edge genomic technologies.

Pearse Lyons, president and founder of Alltech, has been named Communicator of the Year by the Central Kentucky chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) for his efforts to promote Kentucky's future as a leader in energy and agriculture.

John Gaylor has been appointed resident procedures manager, and **Cesar Garcia** has been appointed operations manager of Alltech's solid state fermentation (SSF) plant in Serdan, Mexico.

Nicole Schaendorf has been named the 2008 marketing communications summer intern for Filament Marketing LLC. She will be a junior this fall at Michigan State University, where she is majoring in agriculture and natural resources communications with specializations in agribusiness management and public relations.

Andrew Yersin has been promoted to director of research and development for Kemin AgriFoods North America, charged with guiding the activities of scientists pursuing new product development, applied research and the customer laboratory services group that supports existing company products.

Marc Hoopingarner has been appointed key account manager for Kemin sales development in the territory covering Delmarva, W.Va., Virginia, and North and South Carolina.

Sarah Galdi has joined ABS Global's Communications Department as a marketing specialist. Galdi, who has served as the communications intern for the last two summers, will be responsible for managing marketing projects and processes including tradeshow, and international, national and regional dairy and beef advertising.

Tom Breunig has rejoined ABS Global as a business development director who will work closely with sales managers and field staff to enhance products and services offered to current customers and growing livestock operations throughout North America.

Keith Hartley has joined PureSense as vice president of sales and marketing, charged with increasing the use by growers of the company's irrigation and water management systems.

Novus International Inc. has announced the signing of a worldwide agreement with **BioResource International Inc.** (BRI) stating that Novus will be the exclusive world marketer for BRI's patented enzyme technologies.

