



Newsmakers

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

■ IN THE NEWS

Tom Field, Fort Collins, Colo., has joined Cattle-Fax as a part-time consultant. Field's expertise will be featured in upcoming Cattle-Fax outlook seminars and educational programs.

The late **Conrad "Connie" Grove** was named the 39th Pennsylvania Livestock Association's (PLA) Hall of Fame winner at the opening ceremony of the Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE) Oct. 4. The award was established to recognize excellence in animal agriculture, honoring leaders in local, state, national and international endeavors.

Grove was manager of the Devereaux-Soleil Farm in Downingtown from 1959-1987. The herd consisted of 300 Angus cattle, a 450-head feedlot, a federally-inspected harvesting facility and a bull evaluation center.

An accomplished cattle judge, Grove also served as a director of KILE and was a three-term chairman of the board of directors of the Eastern National Livestock Exposition. In addition, he served as president of the Pennsylvania Angus Association and the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association, and as a director of the American Angus Association.

He served the Association with work on the Certified Angus Beef (CAB) program and served on the Planning & Industry Committee, Activities Committee, Rules & Arbitration Committee, and Executive Committee, and he chaired the Breed Improvement Committee.

Grove is survived by a son, Conrad Jr., and a granddaughter.

Neil Angus, Brookfield, Mo., is a recipient of the Historic Herd Award from the American Angus Association. The naturally polled cattle with high-quality carcasses led Ben Neil to purchase his first Angus bull in 1949 for approximately \$250.

Ben and his son, Gene, purchased their first registered Angus females in 1952 from local breeders. They joined the Association in 1954 and later converted their lifetime membership to Gene and Barbara Neil. The herd grew while the Neils raised their family. Their children, Nola, Beverly, Connie and Dan, were actively involved in the 4-H program. The Angus business has been

passed down through the generations. Today Dan maintains the herd of more than 165 registered Angus females.

The 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.

■ IN PASSING

Joyce Crapps, Kinards, S.C., died Aug. 25 at her home.

Joyce and her husband, Phillip, were strong supporters of the South Carolina Junior Angus Association. They often drove a trailer hauling Angus cattle for the juniors as they traveled across the country to Angus shows.

In addition to her husband, Joyce is survived by a son, Phillip; a daughter, Kensia; and five grandchildren.

Keith Bartos, 54, Verdigre, Neb., died Oct. 6.

Keith was born March 4, 1953, to Emil and Leanore (Bookhouser) Bartos in Verdigre, the second of 10 children. He lived his entire life on the family ranch in the Knoxville area. Keith attended rural Knoxville schools and graduated from Verdigre High School in 1971. He was active in 4-H and FFA and from that began his career raising and feeding livestock. After graduating from high school, he learned to artificially inseminate (AI) cattle and started building his herd of Angus cattle.

Keith married Nancy Morrill Aug. 3, 1974. They had four children, Angie, Jake, Jemi and Chip. The family worked hard to expand their cattle feeding and purebred Angus operation. Keith enjoyed nothing more than getting to work cattle with his family, a good dog and a good horse. Keith had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1977.

In summer 1982, Keith attended a Cowboy Fellowship of Christian Athlete's roping clinic and service and committed his life to serving the Lord. Keith had a special place in his heart for his children and always tried to make them smile. He spent as much time as he could with his grandchildren. Keith enjoyed visiting with his valued friends and customers and tried to glorify God by raising cattle.

In addition to his wife and four children, Keith is survived by two grandchildren; his mother; sisters Neva, Nancy, Janice, Emily and June; and brothers Billy and Bobby.

Steven Simmons, 65, Webberville, Mich., died Oct. 24.

Steven was born June 19, 1942, in Ann Arbor, Mich., to Clifford and Constance Simmons. He attended Ann Arbor schools



Steven Simmons

and the Asheville Prep School in North Carolina, and he graduated from Michigan State University in 1966. Steven served in the United States Marine Corps.

He was the founder and

president of Omega Farms and was actively involved in the Angus and Charolais cattle business and the Quarter Horse industry. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1966. Steven loved his cattle activities and showed many champions around the country.

Steven gave to many organizations, including Michigan State University where he was an Abbot Society member and a Ralph Young Fund Scholarship-level donor. He loved gardening, sports and barbecuing. Most of all, he treasured and took pride in his family.

Steven is survived by his wife of 43 years, Ruth; his mother; son Clifford II; daughter Christine; a brother and seven grandchildren.

Lucile Patton, 84, Earl Park, Ind., died Oct. 28, at Iroquois Memorial Hospital in Watska, Ill.

Lucile was born May 19, 1923, in rural Sheldon, Ill., to William and Clara (Getting) Rheude. A lifelong resident of the Kentland area, she was a graduate of A.J. Kent High School.

Lucile loved the cattle business, showing the supreme champion steer in the open show at the Illinois State Fair in 1941 after purchasing her first cattle in 1938. After showing steers, she went on to show heifers, showing at many state fairs and futurities, including the International. After her

marriage to John Patton Jr. in 1946, they showed cattle together and built a herd of registered Angus cattle.

She and her husband owned and operated Patton Farms and were presented the Historic Herd Award from the American Angus Association in 1997.



Lucile Patton

Lucile was a member of Saint Joseph Catholic Church, a life member since 1947 of the American Angus Association and a founding member of the

American Angus Auxiliary. She was a member of the Indiana Angus Association and served as president of the Indiana Angus Auxiliary. Still active in the cattle business, Lucile was named the 2007 Pioneer Breeder at the All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity in July.

Lucile is survived by two daughters, Anne and Mary; and a sister, Ruth.

■ ANGUS ARRIVALS

Dallas and Emily Locke, Locke n' Load Cattle Co., Lakeland, Fla., announce the birth of their daughter, **Ryleigh Grace**, born July 23. She weighed 6 lb., 5 oz., and was 20 in. long.

Grandparents include Dale and Paula Locke, Lakeland, Fla.; and Aaron and Suzie Robinson, Bronson, Fla.

Mark and Crystal Albers, Denton, Kan., announce the birth of their son, **Michael Charles**, born Oct. 21. Welcomed home by his sister, Hannah, he weighed 9 lb., 12 oz., and was 22 in. long. Crystal is associate editor for Angus Productions Inc.

Grandparents include Bill and Mary Becker, Denton, Kan.; and Danny and Kathy Albers, Bendena, Kan.

■ INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Acting Agriculture Secretary **Chuck Conner** has announced the appointment of 10 new members to serve on the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics Advisory Board (NAREEE).

New members include **Nancy Cox**, Lexington, Ky.; **Martin Massengale** (reappointment), Lincoln, Neb.; **Alton**

Thompson (reappointment), Greensboro, N.C.; **John Salois** (reappointment), Browning, Mont.; **Thomas Rosol**, Columbus, Ohio; **Calvin Dooley**, Washington, D.C.; **Walter Armbruster** (reappointment), Oakbrook, Ill.; **Robin Douthitt**, Madison, Wis.; **Steven Quarles**, Washington, D.C.; and **Edward Runge**, College Station, Texas.

Preston Smith, Lexington, Neb., outscored 25 other contestants to win the Livestock Marketing Association's (LMA's) Southwest Regional Auctioneer Championship Oct. 25 in Dalhart, Texas.

Reserve regional champion was **Lance Cochran**, Medford, Okla.; and the runner-up regional champ was **Brian Little**, Wann, Okla.

James Rickman, Stockton, Mo., was elected chairman of the board of directors for the Missouri Beef Industry Council (MBIC), which administers the \$1 per head beef checkoff in Missouri. **Leon James**, Hurdland, was elected vice chairman of the board. **Pat Wood**, LaMonte, was elected as secretary, and **Jim Freeman**, Salem, will serve as treasurer. **Matt Reynolds**, Huntsville, and **John Redman**, Amity, were also seated as new members at the October meeting.

Melissa McDonagh joined Ultimate Genetics in October 2007 as director of research and technology, with responsibility for the administration of all current and future research projects for the company. She was formerly a research associate in the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology at Texas A&M University.

Mark Ackelson, president of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, has been named the winner of the 2007 Kingsbury Browne Conservation Leadership Award. He is the second recipient of the award, given this year by the Land Trust Alliance in Denver, Colo., at its National Conservation Conference to recognize outstanding leadership, innovation and creativity in land conservation. Ackelson was also named to serve in the Kingsbury Browne Fellowship at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy for 2008.

