

IN THE NEWS

Brooke Byrd has joined the staff of Angus Productions Inc. (API) as an assistant editor. She will conduct interviews and take photographs to write feature and news stories for the *Angus Journal* and the *Angus Beef Bulletin*. She will represent API at



V.I.P. STUDIOS PHOTOGRAPHY

various events and will assist in the production and proofing of the publications.

Byrd grew up participating in 4-H and showing cattle, as well as participating in the California

Brooke Byrd

Junior Angus Association (CJAA) through officer roles and the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) through the annual Angus leadership conference.

A recent graduate with honors from the University of California at Davis (UCD), with a bachelor's degree in English, Byrd was a member of several honor societies, including the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Golden Key Honour Society, Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi. She interned and worked with various groups during her undergraduate education, including her college newspaper, *The California Aggie*; the Ecological Society of America and Swan Scythe Press.

"I've always adored writing and literature," Byrd says. "The *Angus Journal* gives me the perfect opportunity to combine those parts of my life with my ranch background."

The daughter of Dan and Chris Byrd, Red Bluff, Calif., her family owns and operates a registered Angus ranch, Byrd Cattle Co.

Gary Minish, formally of Blacksburg, Va., has accepted a position as dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Minish began his new position Aug. 1 after spending 35 years at Virginia Tech, retiring from the university in 2001 as department head and professor of animal and poultry sciences. During his time at the university, Minish taught 10 different courses, advised more than 800 students, encouraged the college's rapid growth and won numerous teaching awards.

He and his wife, Roberta, plan to live in Carbondale.

John and Jean Riffle, Pleasant Hill, Mo., represented the Missouri Beef Industry Council and the Minnesota Beef Industry Council at the City Market in Kansas City, Mo. In honor of the 100th anniversary of the hamburger, recipes and coupons for ground beef were distributed and an educational program on irradiated ground beef was offered to the crowd of more than 10,000.

Jean, president of Missouri CattleWomen, said the educational initiative will be offered during the Missouri State Fair Aug. 19-21 in Sedalia.

Several herds have earned the American Angus Association's Historic Angus Herd Award. The award recognizes members who have been in the continuous production of registered Angus cattle by the same individual or family for 50 years or more.

► **Dwayne Mathews**, Danville, Iowa.

Mathews started the herd in 1953 with the purchase of four cows from Keith Nau of Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Mathews joined the Association in 1955 and still manages a herd of 20 cows.

► **Wiederin Angus**, Carroll, Iowa. Carl Wiederin started the herd in 1944 and became an Association member in 1951. Ownership has been passed down through the family, and Patrick Wiederin now owns the herd.

► **Marcy Cattle Co.**, Hay Springs, Neb.

Although the farm was interrupted by

World War II, it resumed production and was re-established in 1951 with the purchase of Angus cattle from Nebraska and Illinois. Established by Jay Marcy and his sons, Charles and Orrin, the herd operated under the name of Jay Marcy & Sons until 1961, when it changed to Marcy Bros., and, finally, Marcy Cattle Co. in 1983. The herd has grown to a 300-head cow-calf operation, completing its 43rd annual bull sale with 140 bulls this year.

Marcy Cattle Co. is currently run by Tom and Kim Marcy, Hay Springs, Neb.; George and Ann Marcy, Fort Collins, Colo.; and Charles and Barbara Marcy, Chadron, Neb.

► **Richard and Vivian Pierce**, Stratton, Neb. The Pierces started the herd in 1950 with the purchase of a registered Angus bull from High Plains Angus. They joined the Association in 1953, and in 1963 they helped organize the Southwest Nebraska Angus Association in McCook. The original name of the operation was RV Angus, but it was changed to Pierce Angus Ranch in 1970.

They have attended numerous Angus tours in Hawaii, England and Scotland. Their herd currently consists of 25 registered Angus cows and is managed by Chase Beeby of Lebanon.

► **John B. Hopkins & Son**, Auxvasse, Mo. John and Helen Hopkins started the herd and joined the Association in 1954, when their son Rick was a baby. The first cattle purchased came from Central Missouri Angus Association, Audrain County Angus Association and County Line Angus Farm. The Hopkins have produced numerous champions, including three grand champion steers at the Missouri State Fair. The farm name has since changed to Edgewood Angus Farm. Rick Hopkins now owns and manages the herd of 35 cows.

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- ▶ **Carl Miller**, Saint Anthony, N.D. Miller started his herd and became a member of the American Angus Association in 1953 with the purchase of two registered Angus cows. Today, Miller, his wife, Margaret, and their family manage a herd of more than 160 registered cows.
- ▶ **Richard Stotts**, Clarendon, Texas. The herd was established in April 1954 when Stotts purchased his first heifer from Vallemere Angus, Wichita Falls, Texas, at the Texas Angus Association Sale. Stotts also purchased Angus cattle from Texas breeders C.W. Chandler, Nocona, and Caprock Angus Farms, Memphis, where he was herdsman. The herd of 40 head is still run by Stotts.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

The Livestock Marketing Association's (LMA's) new president, **Randy Patterson**, Anthony, Kan., has taken office for the 2004-2006 term, along with Vice President **Jim Santomaso**, Sterling Livestock Commission Co., Sterling, Colo.; Chairman of the Board **Billy Perrin**, Durant Stockyards, Durant, Okla.; Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) **Vincent Nowak**; and Secretary and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) **Mark Mackey**. Nowak and Mackey are ex-officio officers and non-voting members of the LMA Executive Committee.

The association's new directors are **David Macedo**, Tulare Sales Yard Inc., Tulare, Calif.; **Pat Goggins**, Public Auction Yards (P.A.Y.S.), Billings, Mont.; **E.H. Fowler**, Central Missouri Sales, Sedalia; **Bobby Smith**, Fairview Sale Barn, Fairview, Okla.; **David Fowler**, Sulphur Springs Livestock and Dairy Auction, Sulphur Springs, Texas; **Steve Bartholomew**, Washington County Sales Co. Inc., Fayetteville, Ark.; and **T. Phil Harvey**, Mid-Georgia Livestock Market Inc., Jackson.

Dan Skeels, Rimbey, Alta., Canada, won LMA's 41st annual World Livestock Auctioneer Championship June 18 in Billings, Mont. In his eighth attempt to win the title, the 15-year veteran auctioneer became the second Canadian to ever win the championship. Skeels competed against 10 other finalists to claim the title, the \$5,000 cash award, a championship diamond ring and other prizes. **Matt Lowery**, Burwell, Neb., was named reserve world champion for the second consecutive year, and **Al Wessel**, Long Prairie, Minn., claimed the runner-up title. Other finalists include: **Lance Cochran**, Medford, Okla.; **Justin Dodson**, Welch, Okla.; **Trent Stewart**, Redmond, Ore.; **Ron**

Alabama Angus Ass'n Field Day, Killen, June 5



▶ **Above:** Ray Cattle Co., Hackelburg, receives the Breeder of the Year Award. Accepting the award are (from left) Paul and Graclyn Ray, owners, and Katrina and Kyle Norris, managers.



▶ **Right:** The M.T. Moore family, Eva, is awarded the Family of the Year Award. From left, Jay Evers, Alabama Angus Ass'n president, presents the award to M.T. "Buddy" and Barbara Moore.

Kreis, Adamsville, Ohio; **Brian Little**, Wann, Okla.; **Dustin Focht**, Stillwater, Okla.; and **Tom Frey**, Creston, Iowa.

Jeff Cannon has been named senior vice president of planning and business development with Diamond V Mills — a manufacturer of yeast products used in beef, swine, dairy and other feeds. Cannon will coordinate and facilitate the development and implementation of corporate strategic and business plans. He joins Diamond V after 23 years at RSM McGladrey Inc. and McGladrey & Pullen LLP, an accounting/consulting firm.

The **California Exposition & State Fair** has renamed its 100 Year Club, which recognizes family enterprises and agribusinesses in operation within the state for at least 100 years. Now known as California's Agricultural Heritage Club, the organization also recognizes operations for 125 and 150 years of continuous operation. The club will honor this year's inductees at a recognition ceremony scheduled for Sept. 1 at the 2004 California State Fair. To become a member, contact Joe Brengle at (916) 263-3636 or jbrengle@calexpo.com.

