



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Nelson Angus Ranch, owned by Clyde and Ruby Nelson, Salmon, Idaho, has received the Historic Angus Herd Award from the American Angus Association. The Nelsons joined the Association in 1958.

Clyde's interest in the breed began early when he purchased 90 head of Angus steers and heifers as his FFA project. In 1953, he and Ruby bought six head of purebred cows, and in 1963 they purchased an entire herd of Angus cattle.

The Nelsons were among the first Angus breeders to incorporate freeze-branding for identification of cattle, artificial insemination (AI), DNA testing, and embryo transfer (ET). The Nelsons have continued to evaluate their Angus cattle through performance, progeny and carcass testing. The most recent *Pathfinder® Report* listed three Nelson females with Pathfinder status.



PHOTOS BY AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

► **Nelson Angus Ranch**, Salmon, Idaho, was honored with the Historic Herd Award Nov. 1, 2008. Members of the Nelson family receiving the award are (from left) Rachel Walchli, Darren Herbst, Ruby and Clyde Nelson, Janna Herbst, Macy Walchli and Steve Herbst.

The Nelsons have welcomed many tours on their Lemhi Valley Ranch and donate their time and services to many local, state and national organizations. Janna, the second-youngest daughter, and her husband, Steve, now manage the daily responsibilities that come with nearly 1,000 acres and 350 cows.

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.

Rocking P Farm, owned by Don and Mida Peterson, Horner, W.Va., has received the Historic Angus Herd Award from the Association. Don first purchased Angus

cattle in 1953 as his FFA project and joined the Association in 1963.

Marketing cattle through bull test stations and evaluating data is a priority for the



► **Rocking P Farm**, Horner, W.Va., was honored with the Historic Herd Award. Pictured receiving the award are Don and Mida Peterson.

bulls owned by the Petersons, are Pathfinder sires and together have 146 daughters in the 2008 *Pathfinder Report*.

The Petersons continue to consign bulls to West Virginia test stations. Don began submitting AHIR® records in 1978 and makes all breeding decisions on his herd of more than 60 females.

IN PASSING

Maurice (Dusty) VanDaele, 81, Killarney, Man., Canada, died Sept. 3, 2008. Dusty was born to Belgian immigrants Carlous and Marie VanDaele Dec. 5, 1916, at Dand, Man.

Dusty married Beatrice Plaisier Sept. 26, 1939. They had two children, Floyd and Ilene. In 1960, Dusty began raising registered Angus cattle under the Dusty Daele Angus Farms name, having purchased his first set of heifers from the Shipwheel dispersal at Taber, Alta. He started showing cattle in 1968, the same year Beatrice died.

In 1970, Dusty and Sid Kent, representing Canada, showed their Angus cattle in Las Vegas, Nev., at the Las Vegas Exhibition. In that same year, Dusty Daele Farms had the grand champion and supreme champion bull at the Toronto Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Dusty attended the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair for 15 consecutive years, and was named Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor in 1977.

About 1976, Dusty turned the management of the farm over to his son, Floyd. In 1983, Floyd was killed in a farming accident. Dusty then dispersed the majority of the herd, selling all but 30 or 35 cows. A

grandson, Tony, and his wife, Jody, took over the farm and manage the Angus herd today.

Dusty married Mary Mitchell in 1980. Dusty and Mary remained active in the Manitoba Angus Association for a few years, Dusty as fieldman and Mary as secretary-treasurer. They hosted many tours and guests throughout the province promoting the Angus breed.

In addition to his wife, Dusty is survived by six grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; two stepchildren; and five step-grandchildren.

H. George Sperry, 65, Macomb, Ill., died Nov. 4, 2008, at his home.

He was born June 27, 1943, in Bardolph, Ill., to Wayne and Helen (Harper) Sperry. He graduated from Western Illinois University in 1969 where he pledged Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, receiving pin No. 94. He was the fraternity alumni president. He served in the Army Reserve as a medical corpsman. He married Betty Padgett Aug. 18, 1973.

George lived in Bardolph before moving to rural Macomb. He raised and showed purebred Angus cattle for more than 56 years. He ran Shilo Farms in partnership with his father and brother-in-law and was a grain farmer, retiring in 2008.

He was president of the Illinois Angus Association, the Lamoine Valley Angus Association and the Tri-County Beef Association. He had a passionate love for his Angus cattle. He loved kids and horses and always had dogs by his side and with him in his truck.

In addition to his wife, George is survived by daughters Camie, Abbie and Nicole, three grandsons and a sister, Linda. Memorials may be made to the Illinois Junior Angus Association.

James "Ed" Horton Jr., 85, Greenbrier, Ala., died Nov. 8, 2008.

Ed was born March 31, 1923, in Athens, Ala., to Judge James and Anna (Hobbs) Horton.

He was a farmer and cattleman his entire life, living most of his life in Greenbrier. He was a captain in the U.S. Army and served his country until 1946, when he returned home and married Ann Williams. He then went back to the University of Tennessee to finish his degree in animal husbandry and returned to the farm in Greenbrier where his father raised crops and Angus cattle.

After his father's death, he continued farming and enjoyed the addition of his son-in-law, Gregg Blythe, to the family farming business, Macedon Farms. Ed served in the Alabama Senate from 1963 to 1968, where he continued his father's legacy.

He was a lifelong Rotarian and served as

president of the Athens Rotary Club. He also served as president of the Alabama Cattlemen's Association, the Alabama Angus Association and the American Angus Association as a member of the Board of Directors. He was inducted into the Alabama Livestock Hall of Fame and the Angus Heritage Foundation. He was a longtime director of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association in Decatur, Ala. He was a faithful member of Belle Mina Methodist Church in Belle Mina, Ala., for more than 60 years.

Ed is survived by his wife, Mary Alice, daughters Susan and Jenny, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

As one of the memorial options, the family has asked that memorials be sent to the Angus Foundation for the James E. Horton Jr. Scholarship Fund at 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506.

Clayton Rump, 74, Saint Cloud, Fla., formerly of McPherson, Kan., died Nov. 9, 2008, at Avante Care Facility in Saint Cloud.

Clayton was born in McPherson Sept. 19, 1934, to Arthur and LeNora (Stephens) Rump. He attended Groveland Center Country School and graduated from McPherson High School in 1952. He worked on the family farm from a very young age. Clayton honorably served his country in the U.S. Army, serving on bases in Texas and California.

Clayton married Judy Reffner June 13, 1959, at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church in McPherson. He worked in oil field construction; and was a truck driver for McPherson Sales, a farmer, and a cattle dealer, working for his father at the McPherson Livestock Auction and Sale Barn. He later worked for Bradbury Co. in Moundridge, having retired in 1997 after 18 years of service.

Clayton enjoyed woodworking, custom farming, rebuilding small engines and helping maintain neighbor's lawns and pools while they were out of town. He also enjoyed playing golf and watching University of Kansas (KU) Jayhawk basketball and Kansas State University (K-State) Wildcat football. He was a member of the Groveland Christian Church and the Elks Club for more than 50 years, and the American Legion Post 24 in McPherson.

In addition to his wife, Clayton is survived by daughter Lori Ann; son Craig; brother Galen; sisters Delores and Janice; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Thomas "T.C." Guest, 64, Hawk Springs, Wyo., died Nov. 11, 2008, after an intense battle with cancer.

T.C. was born Aug. 24, 1944, in King City, Mo., to Thomas and Jean (Dykes) Guest. At

the age of 14, T.C. purchased his first Angus cows, which became the stepping-stone to his life's work and passion. He showed Angus and Hereford cattle across the country for prominent breeders for several years.

T.C. married Diana Wilkes June 22, 1968. Ten years later, T.C. moved his family home to Hawk Springs, where he continued raising Angus and Hereford cattle.

T.C. served on the Goshen County and Wyoming School boards of education, as an advisor to the Wyoming Junior Angus Association, as president of the Wyoming Angus Association and as a board member of the Horse Creek Conservation District. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1966. In addition to raising cattle, he enjoyed collecting coins, stamps, baseball cards and antiques.

In addition to his wife, T.C. is survived by daughters Tina and Dawn, son James (J.T.), and four grandchildren.

Angela Lineberger, 44, Perry, Ga., died Nov. 17, 2008.

She was born May 29, 1964, to Charles and Laura Flythe in Valdosta, Ga. She graduated from Lowndes County High School in 1982. Her previous employers include the Georgia Tech Office of Admissions and Continuing Education,

Houston Lake Country Club and Morningside Elementary School.

Angela was most recently a columnist for the *Houston Home Journal* where, with a keen sense of humor, she wrote about her life experience of raising five boys and the love they shared. She was a member of Warner Robins Church of Christ where she and her husband taught sermon classes. She was also a member of the Perry Tahseria Club.

Angela is survived by her husband, Kerry; sons Tully, Joshua, Hunter, Charles and Benjamin; her parents; and sisters Lynn and Diann.

► INDUSTRY EXTRAS

James Link has been appointed administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), an agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Assuming the role Nov. 3, Link replaces former AMS administrator Lloyd Day, who had served in the position since August 2005. Prior to this appointment, Link had served as administrator of USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) since October 2005.

Terry Van Doren has been appointed administrator of GIPSA, an agency within the

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USDA. Doren replaces former GIPSA administrator James Link.

Chris Skaggs has been named associate dean for undergraduate programs for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University, effective Dec. 1, 2008.

Members of the 2008-2010 USDA Agricultural Air Quality Task Force include **Kevin Rogers**, Ariz.; **Kevin Abernathy**, **Cynthia Cory**, **Manuel Cunha Jr.**, **Roger Isom**, **Paul Martin** and **Richard McVeigh**, Calif.; **Robert Burns**, **Jerry Hatfield**, **Chris Petersen** and **Hongwei Xin**, Iowa; **Brian Lindley** and **Charles Rice**, Kan.; **Wendy Powers**, Mich.; **Sagar Krupa**, Minn.; **Douglas Shelmidine**, N.Y.; **Sally Shaver**, N.C.; **Leon Weaver**, Ohio; **Eileen Wheeler**, Pa.; **Bill Norman**, Tenn.; **Robert Avant Jr.**, **Bryan Shaw** and **Benjamin Weinheimer**, Texas; and **Gary Baise** and **Kristen Hughes**, Va.

The role of the task force is to advise the Agriculture Secretary on issues related to agricultural air quality, including strengthening and coordinating USDA air quality research efforts and identifying cost-effective ways in which the agriculture industry can improve air quality.

Tom Dorr has resigned as undersecretary for Rural Development, effective Dec. 1, 2008.

Donald Hoenig, Maine state veterinarian, has been elected to serve as president of the U.S. Animal Health Association (USAHA) for 2008-2009. Also elected at the USAHA annual meeting are **Richard Breitmeyer**, California Department of Food and Agriculture, president-elect; **Steven Halstead**, Michigan Department of Agriculture, first vice president; **David Marshall**, North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, second vice president; **David Meeker**, National Renderers Association, third vice president; and **William Hartmann**, Minnesota Board of Animal Health, treasurer.

Larry Cundiff was honored Nov. 14, 2008, with a K-State Distinguished Animal Sciences and Industry Alumnus Award for his 40-plus years of accomplishments in beef research, breeding systems and genetic improvement programs.

Jeff Moyer has been elected the 2009 chairman of the USDA National Organic Standards Board (NOSB).