



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

The Southern Indiana Angus

Association hosted its annual fall tour at Steve and Pam Ritter's Shady Spring Farm, the Ooley family's Double O Angus, the Purdue Feldun Farm, the IBEP Bull Test Station and the Feldun female facilities. At the Ooley stop, participants also were able to see displays of Angus cattle presented by the Thompson and Howell families. In addition to the tours, Indiana breeders Cathy Watkins, Dale Grubbs, Bill Wilson and Dave Smith participated in a panel discussion on what has made their operations successful. Jim Thompson and Roger Eckstein were the tour chairmen.

IN PASSING

Lee Sweet, 64, Deckerville, Mich., died Oct. 31 at Covenant Cooper Hospital in Saginaw, Mich.

Lee was born April 12, 1945, in Carsonville, Mich., to Islay and Gretta (Thompson) Sweet. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He married Bonnie Shanks Dec. 16, 1967, in Forester, Mich.

Lee was a grader operator for Sanilac County Road Commission for 33 years. He was active in 4-H and was on the board of the Sanilac County Sportsman Club. He and his wife owned and operated Sweet Angus Farm in Deckerville. Lee was a former director of the Michigan Angus Association and had been a member of the American Angus Association since 1995.

In addition to his wife, Lee is survived by daughters Deanna and Andrea, sister Beverly and four grandsons.

Joe McCannon, 77, Hull, Ga., died Nov. 1 at his residence.

A native of Oglethorpe County, Joe was the son of Shubb and Lessie (Patton) McCannon. He was a member of Moriah Primitive Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon and treasurer. Joe retired from Cooper Tire Co. after 30 years.

Though he worked for the tire company, Joe's true passion was maintaining a cattle and poultry farm. He had received an Honorary FFA degree, was the 1994 Madison County Purebred Breeder of the Year and Broad River Soil and Water Conservation Farm Family of the Year in 1998.

Joe was a member of the Madison County Young Farmers, Madison County Cattlemen's Association, the Georgia Cattlemen's Association and the Georgia Farm Bureau. He was a member of the Georgia Angus Association and a life member since 1964 of the American Angus Association.

Joe is survived by wife Maudene; sons Ronnie and Steve; daughter Linda; brother Eugene; sisters Fradie, Mary Alice and Betty; and five grandchildren.

William "Bill" Herrington, 82, Waco, Texas, died Nov. 15 in Waco.

Bill was born Nov. 30, 1926, in Saratoga, Texas, to Clyde and Myrtle Herrington. Upon graduation from Lufkin High School in 1943, he joined the United States Army. He was a sergeant in the infantry and served his country for three years in the Philippine Islands and the Quartermaster Corps in Korea. Following his discharge from the

army in October of 1946, he enrolled at Stephen F. Austin State University, where he earned both a bachelor's degree in math and history and a master's degree in education. He received his doctorate in counseling and educational psychology at Baylor University. To encourage others to seek higher education he endowed two scholarships at Baylor.

His career began in Hudson — a rural consolidated school district in East Texas where he taught math and coached the girls' basketball team. He moved to Kilgore, Texas, and taught junior high math, served as a school counselor and drove a school bus for the school district. In 1954 he met fifth-grade teacher Mary Lee Sowders. They were married Dec. 19, 1954.

In 1961, Bill and Mary moved to Corsicana, Texas, where Bill was a counselor and academic advisor and Mary taught educational psychology at Navarro Junior College. While working at Navarro, they began their doctoral program at Baylor University. In 1967 they were the first married couple in Baylor history to receive their doctoral degree on the same day. Bill finished his career at Baylor University. He also served as the certification officer for the School of Education. He retired in 1989.

After retirement he fulfilled a lifelong dream to own a farm. He and Mary bought land in Birome, where they spent many hours building a home and raising cattle. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1980 and received the Land Stewardship Award from the Association in 1992. He served on the Board of Directors of the Texas Angus Association and became president in 2001. He was inducted into the Texas Angus Association Hall of Fame in 2004. He was also recognized for his service to the Texas Junior Angus Association.

One source of great pride was his involvement with the FFA, where he provided heifers for youth to show. He and Mary had been members of Columbus Avenue Baptist Church for more than 40

years. He was director of an adult Sunday School department and assistant Bible study teacher for a number of years. He was named Senior Adult of the Year in 1998.

In addition to his wife, Bill is survived by three nephews, a niece; 15 great-nieces and nephews; and 18 great-great-nieces and nephews.

Marion Porter, 80, Jefferson, Ga., died Nov. 27 after a period of declining health.

Mrs. Porter was born in Jackson County, Ga., to Malvin and Damaris (Thurmond) Davis. She was a retired caseworker for the elderly with the Jackson County Department of Family and Children's Services. She was a member of the Academy Baptist Church.

Survivors include son Melvin; daughters Diane, Demaris and Susie; three granddaughters; five grandsons; six great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; brothers Lewis, Joel, Phil and Stanley; and sisters Faye, Marsha and Molly.

▣ INDUSTRY EXTRAS

G.A. "Art" Barnaby Jr., professor of agricultural economics and state Extension specialist at Kansas State University (K-State), received the 2009 National Award for Excellence in Extension at the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) 122nd Annual Meeting in Wash., D.C.

The award is presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated high-impact programming, visionary leadership and anticipation of emerging issues for clientele and the system. The recipient is also committed to diversity and integration of programs in partnerships with university colleagues outside clientele.

John Scanga has been hired as a senior technical consultant for Elanco Animal Health. In this role he will work with the company's marketing and sales teams, providing technical support for the company's Beef Business Unit, while also conducting product-related research. Scanga will work from his home base in Colorado.

Steven Vanechanos has been appointed to the board of directors of EPEC Biofuels Holdings Inc., a biofuels company focused on ethanol production from sweet sorghum feedstock. Vanechanos will also assume the position of the chairman of the board, replacing former chairman Philip Herman, who will remain on the board and continue as president and CTO of the company.

Bill Erlenbush has been named Growmark executive director of corporate compliance, effective Dec. 1, 2009. In his new role he will have full responsibility for the

consolidated company compliance program, internal auditing, the company's policies regarding privacy, record retention and business continuity.

Jeff Lynch will rotate Dec. 1 from his current position as manager, facility operations to agronomy business manager, expanding the agronomy business management function to include sales and facility administrative support responsibilities. Effective on the same date, **Jim Kelly** will expand his role beyond business development projects to include leadership of facility operations and staff for Growmark.

Ron Jester, Seaford, Del.; **Shari Kuther**, Nezperce, Idaho; and **Matthew Smith**, Denver, Colo., have joined the board of directors of the Progressive Agriculture Foundation (PAF) for 2010. Officers elected to the board at the PAF annual meeting in Indianapolis, Ind., are **Robert Marshall**, Saint Louis, Mo., president; **Julie Ferry**, McVille, N.D., vice president; and **Glen Blahey**, Winnipeg, Man., Canada, secretary-treasurer. Additional members of the board include **Brenda Cockrell**, Saint Louis, Mo.; **Tim Roberts**, Memphis, Tenn.; and **Lana Skarke**, Canyon, Texas.

