



Newsmakers

► Items of interest about and for members of our Angus family. Compiled by **Linda Robbins**.

IN THE NEWS

Gary Minish, Makanda, Ill., has been appointed provost and senior vice chancellor at Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC). His appointment, effective Dec. 15, is subject to ratification by the SIUC board of trustees.



Gary Minish

He will replace Don Rice, who has served as interim provost and vice chancellor since 2006. Minish served as dean of the SIUC College of Agricultural

Sciences and professor of animal science, food and nutrition from 2004 until his retirement in 2010.

Born in Laramie, Wyo., Minish was raised on a beef cattle and grain farm in Iowa. He earned a bachelor's degree in animal science from Iowa State University and a doctoral degree in animal science from Michigan State.

Minish was a professor at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) from 1974 to 1976 and from 1977 to 2001. He also served there as assistant dean and assistant director of resident instruction from 1984-1986; director of development and director of agriculture technology from 1986-1988; and as department head of animal and poultry sciences in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences from 1994 to 2001.

He served as the 2007-2008 president of the American Association of State Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources and on the policy board of directors for the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC) from 2005 to 2010. In 2009, he received the Outstanding Leadership Award from the American Association of Public and Land Grant Universities.

He and wife Roberta own and operate Indian Run Farm in Makanda.

IN PASSING

Tom Musfeldt, 75, Manilla, Iowa, who had been afflicted with Parkinson's disease for many years, died July 29, 2010, at Manilla Manor Nursing Home.

Tom was born July 16, 1935, to Herman and Lydia (Asmus) Musfeldt, on the family

farm near Manning, Iowa. He married LeeAnn Boldt at Zion Lutheran Church in Arcadia, Iowa, June 16, 1957.

Tom enjoyed farming and breeding registered black Angus cattle. In 1978, he purchased the Val-Mar Farms Angus herd near Manilla. He was active and served in various capacities in many cattle organizations, including the Shelby County Cattlemen's Association and the Western Iowa Feeder Cattle Producers. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1973.

Tom was active in 4-H, receiving the 4-H Alumni Award in 1983. He served as a leader, council member and Shelby County Fair beef superintendent for many years. He was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Manilla, where he served as an elder, on the finance board and as an usher. He enjoyed Sunday and Wednesday morning Bible classes.

In addition to his wife, Tom is survived by sons Craig, Kent and Kurt, and six grandchildren.

Lowell Walters, 91, Stillwater, Okla., died Nov. 9, 2010, in Stillwater.

Lowell was born Jan. 13, 1919, to Wiley and Pearl (Dautel) Walters in Freedom, Okla. He married Pauline Graham June 7, 1942, in Verden, Okla.

Lowell earned degrees at Oklahoma A&M College and the University of Massachusetts, and was an instructor at those institutions of learning, along with Louisiana State University.

He returned to Oklahoma State University (OSU) in 1946 and began a 32-year distinguished career devoted to teaching and research in meat science. He won numerous teaching awards, including the 1962 Outstanding Teacher in Agriculture, presented by the OSU Alumni Association and Blue Key; the 1965 Alpha Zeta Outstanding Teacher in Agriculture Award; 1966 National Distinguished Teacher in Meat Science Award, presented by the American Meat Science Association (AMSA); and, in 1982, the Amoco Distinguished Teacher Award, presented by OSU. He held a full professorship for 20 years, retiring in 1984.

His record as a teacher is probably best documented by his record as the coach of the OSU Meat Judging Team. His teams entered

48 contests, winning 21, placing in the top three in 36 and having the high individual in 19 contests.

Lowell was a prolific researcher, particularly in determining measures of meat and carcass value and in a classic, thorough series of experiments evaluating the Whole-Body Counter for estimating body composition of live animals. He developed the penetrometer for measuring softness in meat, and pioneered the cross-section display of frozen carcasses as an educational technique. He served as leader for 10 research projects, as a cooperator on 25, and was the author or co-author of more than 225 publications.

Lowell co-authored the *Meat Evaluation Handbook* for the National Livestock and Meat Board, which has sold more than 85,000 copies. He received the R.C. Pollock Award in 1986, and the first Intercollegiate Meat Judging Meritorious Service Award from the AMSA in 1993.

In addition to his wife, Lowell is survived by son Roger; daughter Jan; three grandsons; and three great-grandchildren.

Ellen White, 79, Blanco, Texas, died Nov. 11, 2010, at Methodist Hospital in San Antonio, Texas.

Ellen and her identical twin, Eileen, were born Dec. 29, 1930, in San Antonio. She was a graduate of Jefferson High School and Trinity University in San Antonio.

Ellen was a member of All Faith's Church and Hill Country Cattlewomen. Her zest for life and love of the outdoors was most evident while ranching in Blanco, where she bred black Angus. She was an avid gardener.

A sixth-generation Texan, Ellen was a member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Ellen is survived by son Sterling, granddaughter Beverly and great-grandchildren Martin and Michael.

Jack Shewmaker, 72, Bentonville, Ark., died Nov. 17 at his home.

Born March 14, 1938, in Buffalo, Mo., Jack was best known for his career as a Walmart executive. Jack was personally hired by Walmart founder Sam Walton in 1970, and he rose steadily through the ranks of the

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company, serving in numerous capacities, including district manager; vice president of security (now known as loss prevention); vice president of store operations; executive vice president of store operations, personnel and merchandise; chief financial officer (CFO); and president and COO. He retired from the company in 1988, but continued as a member of Walmart's board of directors until July 2008.

Jack was credited with developing the EDLP (everyday low prices) strategy that has come to define the world's largest retailer. He also led the company's adoption of bar codes and the launch of its first satellite system in 1983, tying together the company's stores, distribution centers and home office.

For several years he was chairman of Students in Free Enterprise Inc. (SIFE), based in Springfield, Mo., and continued to serve as a board member. He was vice chairman of the board of trustees at Drury College in Springfield. He was awarded honorary degrees from Southwest Baptist University, Drury University, Northwest Arkansas Community College and Flagler College.

Jack also served as an advisory board member for Henkel North America; on both the executive and finance committees of the board of trustees of The Cleveland Clinic; on the board of directors of The Sisters of Mercy Health System (Mercy); and on the executive advisory board for the Westark Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He received the Silver Beaver Award May 1, 2010, for his distinguished service to scouting.

Jack was a consultant to the board of directors and executive management of Woolworths Ltd. in Australia. He also consulted with companies in New Zealand, Africa, Asia, and the United Kingdom, and PepsiCo, Johnson & Johnson, Bristol-Myers and White Laboratories in the United States. He was a frequent national and international keynote speaker.

Jack and his family own and operate JAC's Ranch, one of the largest cattle operations in northwest Arkansas, breeding and showing registered black Angus. Since its inception in 1983, the ranch has produced national champions and sells product to national and international customers. The ranch has conducted 22 annual production sales.

A member of the American Angus Association since 1986, Jack was a member of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), the American Polled Hereford Association and the Arkansas Cattlemen's Association. He was a past member of the Arkansas Cattlemen's Association and the American Angus Futurity boards.

Jack is survived by wife Melba; son Daniel and his wife, Dayle; daughter Shari Steiger and her husband, Lamar; daughter Emily Bremer and her husband, Keith; sisters Sherry and Mary; and 10 grandchildren.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Jon Janssen, Earlham, Iowa, has been hired as the beef sire procurement manager for Genex Cooperative Inc. His responsibilities will include evaluating prospective beef sires and acquiring sires or semen marketing rights. He will also coordinate the beef Quest sampling program.

Jessica Reis, Ames, Iowa, has joined Vermeer Corp. as forage solutions marketing manager, where she will be responsible for developing, coordinating and executing marketing communication initiatives for the Forage Solutions group.

Keith Miller is the newest chairman of the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) Executive Committee. Miller is a third-generation Barton County, Kan., farmer-stockman, with a 370-head commercial cow operation.

Calvin Stewart was named the chief accounting and compliance officer for Aventine Renewable Energy Holdings Inc., effective Nov. 12, 2010.

Butch Schwandt has been appointed to the role of director of sales for Animal Profiling International (API), where he will be responsible for building and maintaining relationships with the company's existing clients as well as marketing new products and services to prospective customers.

Luke Bowman has been hired as beef public relations and communications coordinator for Select Sires Inc. In this role, he will coordinate all aspects of public relations for the beef program, organize beef training within the Select Sires federation, assist with photography and video of newly acquired and current lineup sires, oversee production of the annual *Beef Sire Directory* and develop other promotional materials. Bowman will be based out of his home in Greens Fork, Ind.

Jim Zehringer has been appointed director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture.



Editor's Note: This column is compiled by Assistant Editor Linda Robbins. To submit your "Newsmaker" item, e-mail lrobbins@angusjournal.com or call 816-383-5245.