



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Jerz Angus Farms, Decatur, Mich., has been recognized by the American Angus Association as a Historic Angus Herd.

The operation began in 1959, when Raymond Jerz and his wife bought two heifers from Herschel Smith. Smith also supplied breeding stock for the Jerz cow-calf operation to expand.

Raymond's son, Craig, has been involved with the farm since the 1980s and says: "The goal of the operation has always been to effectively utilize the grass grown on our sandy hills that are too dry to produce high-yielding row crops."

Jerz Angus Farms continues to practice spring and fall calving, while finishing steers with family-produced feed. The herd currently consists of 51 registered Angus cattle, 28 calves and four steers. Craig and his son, Justin, manage the herd.

Times have changed since the farm began more than 50 years ago. Craig says the most noticeable difference in their operation today

is the time it takes to finish a steer, which has diminished to 12-14 months rather than two years. More efficient practices and technology will ensure Jerz Angus Farm is successful for generations to come.

The Historic Angus Herd Award is presented to Angus breeders or immediate families who have been in continuous production of registered Angus cattle for 50 years or more.

Larry Earhart, owner of Earhart Farms Inc., Powell, Wyo., has been honored by the Association with the Historic Angus Herd Award.

The operation began in 1959, when 15-year-old Earhart purchased three registered Angus heifers for a 4-H project.

The base of the herd was purchased from L.H. Crawford and Son, Red Lodge, Mont., and Rafter 33 Ranch, Big Horn, Wyo. Earhart continued to expand the herd and was up to 25 cows when he graduated from college.

By taking advantage of new technology,

Earhart was able to grow his operation to 150 registered Angus cows. In 1970, he began using artificial insemination (AI), and ultrasound technology in 1995.

Today, Earhart and his daughter, Andrea, continue to manage the 100-cow herd.

Earhart believes his operation is the "total package concept: production, performance, structure and carcass."

Stan Prox, Macomb, Ill., was inducted into the Land of Lincoln Purebred Livestock Breeder's Association Hall of Fame during the organization's annual meeting in Springfield, Ill., Dec. 9, 2011. With this honor, his portrait will hang in the Illinois Department of Agriculture building. Prox served as the beef director for the Land of Lincoln group from 1988 to 2006.

Prox got started in the Angus business when he was 8 years old. His family farmed near Carthage, and, while in high school, he served as president of FFA, 4-H and the county federation. After high school, Prox

Kansas Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Hutchinson, Jan. 21

► The 2012 Kansas Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (front row, from left) **Robert Bailey**, Quenemo, treasurer; **Timothy Benton**, Garnett, president; **Craig Rucker**, Burdett, vice president; **Anne Lampe**, Scott City, secretary/manager; **Sharee Sankey**, Council Grove, director; (back row, from left) **Joe Hite**, Valley Center, past president; **Ron Hinrichsen**, Westmoreland; **Larry Lundgren**, Gove; **Douglas Benoit**, Esbon; **Howard Woodbury**, Quenemo; **Matt Perrier**, Eureka; **Neal Haverkamp**, Bern; **Harold Hazelton**, McPherson; **Brandon New**, Leavenworth; and **Stuart Rose**, Cheney.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION



► Officers for the Kansas Angus Auxiliary are (from left) **Jackie Ottensmeier**, McLouth, secretary; **Karen Santee**, Langdon, vice president; **Varee McCabe**, Elk City, president; and **Lori Fink**, Randolph, treasurer.



► **Everett Benoit**, Esbon, Kan., received the Honorary Member Award. Pictured are (from left) **Lori Fink** and **Mary McCurry**, members of the Kansas Angus Auxiliary; and **Everett** and **Bonnie Benoit**.



► **Stan Prox**, Macomb, Ill., was inducted into the Land of Lincoln Purebred Livestock Breeder's Association Hall of Fame. Pictured are (from left) daughter Carrie Keeney, Good Hope; and Linda and Stan Prox.

attended Western Kentucky University and worked on an Angus ranch. After returning to Illinois, he went into partnership with Vega Farms.

In 1963, Vega Farms exhibited the champion Angus bull at the Illinois Angus Futurity. This bull sired the grand and reserve champion bulls at the futurity in 1965, and the grand champion female in 1966.

After Vega Farms dispersed in 1966, Prox formed Shilo Farms, near Macomb, together with his father and brothers-in-law, Wayne and George Sperry. Shilo Farms has exhibited cattle at shows for many years.

The family has shown many champions, including the champion heifer at the Illinois Angus Futurity in 1985.

Prox has been involved in many groups starting with his election to the Lamoine Valley Angus Association and Illinois Angus Association board of directors in 1966. He served as president of the Lamoine Valley group in 1969.

Prox was appointed to the Illinois State Fair Board in 1991, and he was chairman of the Illinois Beef Expo in 1993. In 1994, he was presented an award for being on the Illinois Angus Association board for 25 years. He has also been the chairman of the Illinois delegation to the American Angus Association Annual Convention of Delegates for many years.

In addition to livestock organizations, Prox has been involved with the McDonough County Power Co-op since 1987 and has been a member of the Association of Illinois Electrical Co-ops since 1995.

He has been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1966.

Dave Seibert, Washington, Ill., retired University of Illinois (U of I) Extension educator, was recently awarded the Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) Eagle Award for Excellence during the Illinois Agricultural Association's annual meeting in Chicago in December.

The IFB Eagle Award for Excellence recognizes an individual or organization for excellence on issues or programs important

to the Farm Bureau and agriculture on a statewide and/or national basis.

Seibert began his career as an extension educator in 1968, serving as the assistant and associate extension advisor for McDonough County. He has served the U of I on several levels, including working as the area livestock advisor and animal systems educator. He also pioneered numerous programs for U of I Extension, including 4-H and FFA quality assurance and ethics clinics; Livestock E-Quiz; area cow-calf field days; Superior Young Producer awards; regional meats judging workshops; the Illinois swine environmental series; and many more.

Throughout his career, Seibert has received many honors, including the U of I CAPE Award; the College of ACES Professional Staff Award for Sustained Excellence; the Extension Outstanding or Innovative Team Program Award and Sustained Award; the Illinois Commodity Conference Friend of Agriculture Award; the Illinois FFA Honorary State Degree; the G.R. Carlisle Award for Excellence in Extension Teaching; the Illinois Pork Producers Education Award; and an honorary membership from the U of I Hoof-N-Horn chapter.

Seibert earned his undergraduate and

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master's degrees in animal sciences from Southern Illinois University. He and his wife, Julie, reside in Washington and have three daughters.

Seibert has been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1990.

IN PASSING

Dorothy (Porterfield) McHugh, 69, Tignall, Ga., died Jan. 6 at her home.

Dorothy was born July 29, 1942, in Fort Deposit, Ala., and had lived in the Tignall community for 12 years. She graduated from Auburn University and was a retired mathematics engineer in the aerospace and education industries.

She and her husband, Marion McHugh Jr., owned Rolling M Ranch. She was a longtime member of the Georgia Angus Association, and had been a member of the American Angus Association since 1998.

She was a member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Washington, Ga.

In addition to her husband, Dorothy is survived by sons Marion III and Patrick; daughters Connie and Lana; sisters Martha and Annie; and six grandchildren.

James Barton "Bart" Glass, 74, Stanford, Ky., died Jan. 15.

Bart was born in Philadelphia, Pa., to James and Mary (Neely) Glass. He was reared having a close association with purebred Holstein cattle. Bart attended Central Bucks High School where he was active in FFA, serving as president and regional president. He obtained chapter and state farmer degrees and won chapter, regional and state livestock judging contests, as well as being runner-up in the state dairy judging contest.

Upon graduation he attended the National Agriculture College in Doylestown, Pa. Bart was president of the Block and Bridle Club for two years and class vice president for three years. He won three intercollegiate judging contests as a member of the livestock judging team. He also participated on the dairy and poultry judging teams.

Bart graduated in 1959 with a bachelor's degree in animal science. During his college summers, Bart worked for such noted Angus farms as Hideway, Mahrapo and Ankeny Farms. Upon graduation Bart and Jane were married and took over management of the Hasty Hills Angus herd in Suffern, N.Y., leading it to national recognition until its dispersal in 1965.

The Glasses then rented Hasty Hills Farm and Glynwood Farm and operated their own

herd of Angus cattle, as well as an Angus sales management service until 1968. In 1968, Bart and George Perkins, a longtime Angus breeder, formed a partnership with locations in New York and Kentucky. During this period the Walbridge Farm herd bred, raised and showed 126 individuals at the International, Denver, Kansas City, Eastern National, Eastern States, Royal Winter Fair, Pennsylvania International, San Antonio and many state and regional shows. They exported cattle to eight foreign countries.

The Walbridge partnership was dispersed in the fall of 1980 for a record average of \$5,640 per head. Bart started to breed Chianina cattle in 1973 and owned and operated the Walco Chianina herd in Stanford until his death.

Bart was elected to Outstanding Young Men in America in 1969. He judged many national and international livestock shows of many species and breeds in his career. He was a respected livestock expert and consultant to many Standardbred breeders and both the Kentucky Standardbred and Lexington Selected Sales companies. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1965. He was a former president of the Mid-East Region of the American Chianina Association.

In addition to his wife, Bart is survived by sons John Daniel "Dan," James Jr. and

Barton; sister Betty Jane; and six grandchildren.

Anabel Johnson, 83, Ida Grove, Iowa, died Jan. 18 at her home.

Anabel was born Sept. 21, 1928, to Everett and Ruth (Hedstrom) Lindberg in rural Sac County, Iowa. She graduated from Odebolt High School in 1945, then received her teaching certificate and attended Buena Vista College in Storm Lake, Iowa. Anabel's family and faith are hallmarks of her life. She was baptized Dec. 14, 1941, at First Baptist Church and was active in the church throughout her life, serving as Sunday School teacher, Deaconess, in women's groups and on numerous committees.

Anabel taught school in Schaller, Iowa, and in rural Ida County, where she met her husband-to-be, Howard Johnson. Anabel and Howard were married Sept. 25, 1948, celebrating 63 years of marriage last fall.

Anabel's passion was being a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was known for her caring and sweet spirit and her selfless love for her family. She supported and took an interest in her children's and grandchildren's activities, serving in many volunteer roles, including 4-H leader. She was a faithful supporter of her husband in his farming and purebred Angus cattle business. She enjoyed baking

and cooking for her family, gardening with Howard, and sewing, especially for her children and herself.

In addition to her husband, Anabel is survived by sons Dennis and J. Gary; daughters Linda and Diane; brother Warren; 11 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Jim Kanter, 68, Lincoln, Neb., died Jan. 18 in Lincoln.

Jim was born April 5, 1943, the only child of Cleo and Sterling Kanter of East Alton, Ill. Jim was baptized and confirmed at East Alton Baptist Church.

Jim grew up in East Alton, and graduated from East Alton High School in 1961. He attended and graduated from Peru State College in 1965 and received a master's degree from Adams State in Alamosa, Colo., in 1968.

Jim married Mary Martin July 13, 1965. He taught and coached at Farragut, Iowa, and Nebraska City, Neb., after graduating.

He began his career in the publishing business at Nebraska Farmer Co. as a salesman, becoming sales manager, vice president and publisher. He was a member of the board of directors of the Nebraska Farmer Co. Jim was instrumental in beginning Husker Harvest Days in Grand Island, Neb. He spent time as director of marketing at Saint Elizabeth Hospital and as director of

marketing at RFD-TV. He was a restaurant owner.

Jim retired from Nebraska Farmer Co. in 2007. He received numerous awards and honors related to his work. He was named Admiral of the Great Navy of the state of Nebraska by Governor Nelson in 1992.

Jim's hobbies included fishing, attending sporting events, music and art. His greatest love was his family. He valued the time he spent with his grandchildren and never missed their sporting, school events or other activities.

In addition to his wife, Jim is survived by his mother; sons Troy and Brian; daughter Kalli; and six grandchildren.

Jack Penner, 91, Mill Creek, Okla., died Jan. 21.

Jack was born Dec. 8, 1920, in Mill Creek to Cy and Odessa (Sparks) Penner. He had lived in the Mill Creek area all of his life, graduating from Mill Creek High School. He attended Oklahoma State University until being drafted into the army. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII. He was married to Mardelle Bulman at Sulphur, Okla., June 27, 1946.

Jack was a rancher and owned Penner Ranch. He was a member of the Sulphur United Methodist Church. He was a member

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of the Oklahoma Cattle Association, the Oklahoma Soil Conservation Board and a director at Landmark Bank. Jack was a member of the Oklahoma Angus Association and had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1950.

Jack is survived by daughter Becky; son Harris; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Charles Rex Harl, 82, Hollister, Mo., died Jan. 25 at his home.

Rex was born Oct. 11, 1929, in Pulaski, Iowa, the son of James and Mary (Fordemwalt) Harl. He was a retired cattle rancher. He was a member of Skyline Baptist Church in Branson. He had been a resident of the area for the past 12 years.

Rex's many Angus friends will remember him as the herdsman at Ankony Angus, Rhinebeck, N.Y., and as manager of such operations as Fourche River Ranch, Perryville, Ark., Ankony Angus, Bloomfield, Iowa, and, where he rounded out his Angus career after 23 years, at Quirk Land & Cattle Co., Hastings, Neb.

His family wishes to say thank you to the many friends and co-workers who were instrumental in his success with the purebred livestock industry.

Rex is survived by wife Janice; daughters Peggy and Luann; sons Jim and Tracy; stepsons Bruce and Jeremy; stepdaughters Mischelle and Marsha; 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that contributions in Rex's memory be made payable to the Angus Foundation, 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506.

▶ INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Mike Miller, formerly CEO of CattleFax, has been appointed senior vice president of global marketing and research at the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA). In his new role he will be responsible for staff leadership of NCBA departments focused on developing and executing the plan of work funded with beef checkoff dollars. Miller assumed his new responsibilities Jan. 30.

John Paterson will retire in April as an extension beef cattle specialist for Montana State University to start a new career as the executive director of producer education for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) in Denver, Colo.

H. Russell Cross has been named department head of animal science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at

Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas.

Katie Olson has joined ABS Global as a research scientist. Olson will work with the company's customers, independent representatives and employees around the world. **Diego Mackliff** has joined ABS Global as a technical service specialist based in the south central United States. He will work collectively with the local sales team and technical service department to deliver continued value to customers, as well as training clients, staff and local company management.

Secretary Tom Vilsack appointed 20 new members to the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board (CBB) Dec. 29, 2011.

Newly appointed members representing cattle producers are **Leo Sutterfield**,

Arkansas; **Phyllis Snyder**, Colorado; **Sarah Childs**, Florida; **Kimberly Brackett**, Idaho; **Stacy McClintock** and **Perry Owens**, Kansas; **Daniel Smith**, Kentucky; **Leon Kreisler**, Missouri; **Lyle Peterson** and **Linda Nielson**, Montana; **Douglas Temme** and **Sherry Vinton**, Nebraska; **Wesley Grau**, New Mexico; **Patrick Becker**, North Dakota; **Terry Wyatt** and **Barbara Jacques**, Oklahoma; **Joyce Bupp**, Pennsylvania; **Gerald Sharp**, South Dakota; **Ted Greidanus**, Southwest Unit; **Richard Winter**, **Paul Looney Jr.**, **G. Hughes Abell**, **Lavina Sartwell** and **Thomas Alger**, Texas; and **Frank Maxey Jr.**, Virginia.

Newly appointed members representing importers are **Andrew Burt** and **Stephen Edwards**, Virginia; **Cristobal Hutton**, Illinois; and **Joakim Holzner**, Colorado.

David Nerpel and **Steve Curley** have

joined the field sales team for Solum Inc. Nerpel will serve as the company's field marketing manager and will lead initiatives in advanced soil measurement hardware and software systems. Curley will serve as field sales manager, where he will lead key account development, customer education and agronomic support of the company's advanced field measurement technologies.

Jason Feucht has been promoted to CFO for Art's Way Manufacturing Co. Inc., effective Jan. 26. He previously served the company as director of finance.



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