

Newsmakers

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

► **Northern Virginia Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Warrenton, Jan. 21**



► **John and Bernice Mrotek**, Luray, were presented with the Lifetime Service Award. Pictured are (from left) Jerry Crenshaw, presenting, and Bernice and John Mrotek.



► **Tim Douglas** (right), Berryville, receives the John W. Rucker Standard of Excellence Award from John Wilkins (left).



► **Dennis and Miriam Pearson**, Soldiers' Hill Angus Farm, Warrenton, receive the Certificate of Appreciation for hosting the 2016 Field Day. Pictured are (from left) Dennis Pearson, recipient; Chuck Alexander, presenting; and Miriam Pearson, recipient.

► **IN THE NEWS**

The **Snider and Lewis Angus Farm** has been recognized by the American Angus Association as a Historic Angus Herd. This award is presented to Angus breeders and immediate families who have been in continuous production of registered Angus cattle for 50 years or more.

The Snider and Lewis Family is known throughout Arkansas for their commitment to raising high-quality Angus cattle. On the farm near Carlisle, Ark., their pastures have been home to registered Angus cattle for more than 50 years.

Established in 1896, the family's operation is an Arkansas Century Farm, which has been involved in cattle production for generations. In the mid-1960s, they decided to change their focus to registered Angus genetics, a decision prompted by high demand in the area. The Angus breed was new to the region, and the Smith and Lewis herd was looking for a productive beef cow that could reproduce

efficiently and was powered by solid production records.

Charlene Lewis and her husband, Harold, were in business with her parents, Charles and Thelma Snider. They purchased the herd's foundation females in the fall of 1964 through the Arkansas Angus Association Sale. Later, they would travel to production sales throughout Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas, Tennessee and Oklahoma looking for the herd's new additions.

The year 1973 was a monumental one for the Snider and Lewis Angus Farm. At the Hackamore Ranch Angus dispersion sale in Holly Springs, Miss., they purchased "Canadian Trooper" (Bardolene Lad Fairalta 2U). He was a large, well-muscled bull that was popular at the time. The sire was in high demand, and they found themselves in the semen sales business.

Harold attended artificial insemination (AI) school, and they started applying the technology to their herd.

In 1977 and 1978, the family hosted

Miller wins prestigious Mark of Excellence award

During the Beef Improvement Opportunities (BIO) Annual Meeting Feb. 7, **Steve Miller**, director of genetic research at the American Angus Association, was presented the prestigious Mark of Excellence in recognition of 24 years of inspired leadership. The award is named after Mark Warren, a progressive beef producer committed to genetic improvement who unfortunately fell victim to a farm accident. The Mark of Excellence is awarded infrequently for exemplary contributions to livestock improvement.

Miller has been involved with BIO for close to 25 years, first as a graduate student working on a multibreed genetic evaluation system and later as a post-doc developing a bioeconomic model to be used in calculating customized economic indexes.

During his career, Miller was supported by BIO as he gained his doctorate. He joined the BIO board of directors for many years while at the Center for Genetic Improvement of Livestock at the University of Guelph.

When he moved to a position at AgResearch New Zealand, Steve was appointed genetic improvement advisor



to the BIO board. Upon his move to the American Angus Association, Miller resigned as advisor, but he is now a key collaborator with BIO in several studies, including the new field of pooling genotypes to investigate traits of great economic impact.

When presenting Miller (right) with the award, Mike Buis (left), BIO president, noted his unique ability to deal with leading science while also being adept at direct farmer communication. Steve sets a very high bar for all with regards to collaboration for mutual benefit.



Claylick Run Angus Genetics, Newark, Ohio, was awarded the Ohio Cattlemen's Association (OCA) Seedstock Producer of the Year award at the OCA awards banquet Jan. 21. Sponsored by OCA and *Farm World*, the award was created to recognize top beef seedstock producers in Ohio. The award presentation featured a video of Claylick Run that was sponsored by Granville Milling Co. and Purina Animal Nutrition.

Claylick Run Angus Genetics is owned and operated by Dave Felumlee, wife Dawn, daughter Keri and son Kacey. Dave was raised on a dairy farm but decided to transition to Angus cattle for his own operation. Thirty years later, Claylick Run emphasizes quality genetics and performance. Dave sells purebred bulls and heifers to seedstock and commercial producers throughout the state of Ohio and the eastern United States. Dave's goals are to improve his own cattle to have the elite seedstock operation east of the Mississippi. Dave's mission is to provide the best possible genetics to the people who provide the beef to our country.

Claylick Run has been a member of the American Angus Association since 1996.

production sales at the farm, and they were active in sales offered through the Mid-South Angus Association.

As their herd grew, so did the family's interest in the Arkansas Angus Association, American Angus Association and the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). Charlene and Harold's children, Chuck and Dixie, grew up showing cattle and being involved on the farm. The Lewises were named the Arkansas Angus Association Family of the Year in 1992, and they remained active in many Angus events and cattlemen's programs through the years.

Today, the Snider and Lewis Angus Farm is home to more than 40 head of Angus cattle. Charlene, Harold, Chuck and Dixie remain active in the operation — sustaining an Angus legacy set in motion more than 50 years ago.

Charles E. Boyd was posthumously honored by the University of Kentucky (UK) College of Agriculture, Food and Environment with induction into its Hall of Fame of Distinguished Alumni.

Boyd returned to May's Lick after graduating from the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment in 1964. He then built the family's cattle enterprise into the well-known and respected beef operation it is today. Boyd Beef Cattle is recognized as one of this nation's top seedstock producers of two major beef cattle breeds. He also worked tirelessly in promoting and advancing livestock, and he built a true family operation for future generations. Boyd mentored youth and adults in livestock evaluation and in profitable production and management of quality cattle.

He hosted and made his cattle available for 4-H, FFA and collegiate judging teams from more than 20 states. He was also one of the most sought after purebred

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livestock judges, having served in that role in most every state. Boyd was instrumental in founding the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) and served on the beef advisory board and steering committee. Boyd died in 2015.

The Hall of Distinguished Alumni awards are presented annually and are a joint program of the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and the UK Ag and HES Alumni Association. It is the highest alumni award bestowed by the college.

IN PASSING

Russell Pepper, 75, Simms, Mont., died of natural causes at home Jan. 4, 2017, in the loving arms of his family.

Russell was born to Warren and Irene (Walton) Pepper in Livingston, Mont., on Feb. 26, 1941. Russell was raised on the family ranch in Wilsall with his sister, Lynn, and his brother, Joe, until Russell left home to pursue his education in Bozeman at Montana State University. To put himself through college, he worked hard as a racehorse trainer. The fruits of his labor allowed him to earn and receive a bachelor's degree in animal science from MSU. He also worked hard to earn the attention of Barbara Dear of Simms, Mont. On Dec. 19, 1964, the two were married on Barbara's family ranch near Simms.

Russell continued his career with racehorses throughout the early years of his marriage. The young couple became respected in farm and ranch circles as hard-working members of their community. Russell added to his expertise by working as a fieldman for both the *Record Stockman* and *Western Livestock Journal*, then becoming the co-owner/operator of Birdtail Ranch Angus and Treasure Bull Test. Although his life's work may be summarized in brief sentences, anyone who knew Russell knew him to be a hard-working man who spoke his mind, a man whose expertise was sought, a man who would succeed and did.

Being a member of ranch life in Montana goes hand-in-hand with service. Russell exemplified this truth by serving his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. Russell never forgot the meaning of service and served his local community in a number of capacities. He was a past president of the Montana Quarter Horse Association, past president of the Montana Angus Association, State of Montana Horse Racing Steward, Montana State Fair Advisory Board member (two terms), and a longtime member of the American Quarter Horse Association. Russell

and Barbara had been life members of the American Angus Association since 1973. Russell held each one of these positions with pride and his impact will long be remembered.

Throughout his life, Russell was drawn to any type of horse racing. He loved showing cattle and horses. He was an avid Denver Broncos football fan, a beloved husband and father, and a great friend to many who was quick to lend a hand.

Russell is survived by his wife of 52 years, daughter Jamie, sister-in-law Dee Dee Rains, and several nieces and nephews.

Andrew "Andy" Schuler Jr., 92, life-long resident, prominent cattleman and local historian of Chapman, Kan., died Jan. 16, 2017, at his beloved Fairview Angus Farm.

Andy was born Oct. 3, 1924, at the farm in Chapman to Andrew "AJ" Schuler Sr. and Susanna (Moore) Schuler.

Andy grew up on the family farm and from an early age recognized his interest and passion for raising Angus cattle through 4-H and livestock field days and helping his father. He attended Fairview District No. 58 — a one-room school — and graduated in May 1942 from Dickinson County Community (Chapman) High School. Andy began college at Kansas State Agriculture College (K-State) in the Animal Husbandry Department that fall, but his education was interrupted by World War II and he was needed at home.

He began showing cattle in the showing at a young age and was a right-hand man in his father's cattle operation. This operation, Fairview Angus Farm, was established in 1898, making it one of the oldest Angus herds in the nation. The farm is in its third generation raising quality purebred registered Angus cattle at the original homesteaded location. The herd has been recognized as a Centennial Angus Herd by the American Angus Association and a Centennial Farm by the Kansas Farm Bureau.

Educating people and promoting quality livestock was important to Andy. Better Livestock Day began in 1926; it was long recognized as one of the largest and oldest annual Angus field days at that time. For more than 60 years, it was hosted annually by



Andrew "Andy" Schuler Jr.

a local Angus producer. It is estimated that nearly 100,000 participants learned to judge cattle, including many 4-H and FFA youth and some college judging teams. Andy shared leadership of the event for more than 50 of those years.

He was called upon to judge numerous fairs at the county, state and national level, including the National Western Stock Show three times. He was also chairman of the Denver Bull Sale Committee in 1966. He was a member of agricultural organizations such as the Dickinson County Cattle Association and the Kansas Livestock Association in which he had been a member for more than 70 years.

Throughout his life, Andy generously volunteered to help whenever needed. Andy gave years of leadership to local, state and national breed organizations. He was a charter member of the Geary County Lyonsdale 4-H Club. He served as president of the Geary-Dickinson Angus Association. He was vice president of the Kansas Angus Association, and later became president. In addition, he was president of the Kansas Purebred Beef Council. Andy became one of the youngest people ever to be elected to the American Angus Association Board of Directors, a position held from 1958-1966. He was awarded many accolades from his livestock peers, including 1982 Kansas Angus Association Honorary Member.

Andy was recognized for his outstanding contributions to beef cattle development in Kansas and inducted into the Kansas State Fair Beef Breeders Hall of Fame.

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Pennsylvania Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Harrisburg, Jan. 6



Sandy Sweitzer (left), Wellsville, receives the Promoter of the Year award from Wendell Landis, Pennsylvania Angus Ass'n president.

► **Pennsylvania Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Harrisburg, Jan. 6**



► The Pennsylvania Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (front row, from left) **Chad Cash**, York, vice president; **Wendell Landis**, Pennsylvania Furnace, president; **Jamie Brozman**, Nazareth, secretary; **Brad Bishard**, York, treasurer; (back row, from left) **Delbert Voight**, Fredericksburg; **Gene Trowbridge**, Meshoppen, past president; **Kyle Grim**, Thomasville; **Dennis Byrne**, Nottingham; and **Deric Horting**, Newport.



► **Beaver Creek Angus**, Thomasville, was named Breeder of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Jared Miller, Hannah Miller, holding Sawyer Sparks; Greg Grim; Kassie Sparks; Denton Grim; Casey Grim; Hayden Sparks; Kolton Grim; Kait Grim, holding Kinleigh Grim; and Kyle Grim.



► **The Voight family**, Fredericksburg, was named Family of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Lori and Delbert Voight, recipients; and Landis.



► **JDH Cattle Co.**, Dover, was named Seedstock Producer of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Landis, presenting; and JoAnn and John Hausner, recipients.

Andy and his late wife of 42 years, Rosie, (Rose Anna McLaughlin), were named Master Farmer/Master Farm Homemaker by the K-State Extension Service. He was selected by K-State Block and Bridle as Outstanding Stockman of the Year in 2007 for extraordinary promotion and

development of quality livestock. His portrait and that of his father's are hanging in the portrait gallery alongside other livestock industry leaders in the Animal Sciences and Industry Department, Weber Hall gallery, on the K-State campus.

The Schuler Family was selected as Kansas

State University Honorary Family of the Year in 2010. The family had more than eight decades and four generations of involvement with K-State.

In addition, Andy was active in historical preservation on the local, county and state level. He had been involved in Dickinson and Geary County Historical Societies and the Kansas State Historical Society. He and his wife were active in Pioneer Days, pressing apples into apple cider for many years for the Dickinson County Historical Society. He served as president of CAPS (Chapman Area Preservation Society), as well as helping research historical information and making window displays and parade floats. Andy was involved with the Kansas Farm Bureau, serving on the State Resolution's Committee and traveling to Washington, D.C., a number of times.

Andy was passionate about many things, most of all his family, his faith, his community, educating youth, improving Angus cattle and watching K-State sports. He held tickets for and attended K-State Football games for nearly 65 years. Support of the Wildcat Basketball program wasn't far behind.

Andy was a 4-H Beef Project leader for the Chapman Shamrocks 4-H Club for 40 years and he was Open Class Beef Superintendent at the Central Kansas Free Fair for over 50 years. He was active throughout his life as a lector, extraordinary minister, catechist and historical volunteer for his parish, Saint Michael's Catholic Church and Saint Patrick's Cemetery northeast of Chapman. In addition, he was designated Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus nearly 70 years ago.

Andy is survived by daughters Joan, Julie and Janice; sons Kent, Mark, Steven and Andrew J. Schuler III. In addition, he is survived by a niece he raised, Charlene; 14 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Robert I. "Bob" Hartley, 88, died Jan. 21, 2017, at the Hillcrest Heart Hospital in Tulsa.

He was born on March 17, 1928, in Stockton, Mo., to Thomas H. "Jot" and Irene Inez (Ireson) Hartley.

Bob received his bachelor's degree in animal husbandry from Oklahoma State University (OSU). He was married to Mary Jane Babb on May 22, 1951, in Grove, Okla.

Bob served his country during the Korean Conflict and was in the 45th Infantry as a first lieutenant.

He served on the Vinita City Council and was a past director of the First National Bank of Vinita. He was owner-operator of several

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Georgia Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Athens, Jan. 21



► The Georgia Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Christy Page**, Jefferson, executive secretary; **Douglas Williams**, Milan, president; **Andrew McPeake**, Arnoldsville, vice president; **Carolyn Gazda**, Athens; (standing, back row, from left) **John Lovin**, Lexington; **Cole Elrod**, Talmo; **Wilkes Barnett**, Washington; **Fred Gretsch**, Crawford; **Alan Bridges**, Lexington; **Todd Alford**, Bowman; **Mike McCravy**, Bowdon; **Clay Williams**, Spartanburg, S.C.; and **Smitty Lamb**, Tifton.



► The Georgia Angus Ass'n (GAA) inducted **Tom Burke**, Smithville, Mo., into the Georgia Angus Hall of Fame. Pictured are (from left) Larry Bramblett, presenting; Tom Burke, recipient; and Mike Jones, presenting.



► **Kyle** and **Jennifer Gillooly**, Wadley, were named Georgia Angus Ass'n Members of the Year.



► The GAA posthumously inducted **Harvey Lemmon**, Woodbury, into the Georgia Angus Hall of Fame. Harvey's family accepting the award are (from left) Donnie Lemmon, Nina Lemmon, Jonathan Lemmon and (front row) Abel Lemmon.



► **Stuart Griffin** (right), Bainbridge, was honored as the Commercial Cattleman of the Year. Also pictured is **Becky Griffin** (left).

businesses in the Vinita area, including Hartley Seed Co., Vinita Finance Co., Vinita Flag and Apron, Phoenix Coal Co., H&H Land and Cattle Co. and Spur Ranch.

He was recognized as a leader in the Angus cattle industry. His Spur Ranch produced the 1969 International Grand Champion Angus Bull. Bob was a pioneer in the performance testing of Angus cattle. He was a founding member of Performance Registry International (PRI) and Oklahoma Beef Inc. (OBI).

He was inducted into the American Angus Association Heritage Foundation and was honored as a Master Breeder by OSU. Bob was a former chairman and member of the OSU Board of Regents. He was honored as a Distinguished Graduate and alumnus of OSU.

One of his proudest achievements was his involvement in the establishment of

Home of Hope in Vinita, along with its founders, his wife Jane and Laura Cupp. Home of Hope currently provides care and vocational opportunities for more than 200 developmentally disabled clients.

Bob was a longtime member of the Pilgrim Presbyterian Church in Vinita.

Preceding him in death were his parents and his wife.

The family includes: his three sons, Thomas Jot Hartley and wife Renee of Vinita; Clay Hartley and wife Paula of Broken Arrow; Bobby Hartley of Vinita; grandchildren Travis Hartley and wife Shana of Vinita, Jimmy Hartley of Seattle, Wash.; Lindsay Hartley of Dallas, Texas; and great-grandchildren Emma, Abby and James Hartley all of Vinita.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Bob Stallman was awarded the

Distinguished Service Award by the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) during the organization's annual convention.

James Quinn received the AFBF Founders Award posthumously. **Don Tuller**, president of the Connecticut Farm Bureau, was elected to a two-year term on the AFBF board of directors, representing the Northeast Region. **Chuck Fry**, president of the Maryland Farm Bureau, was reelected to the board for a two-year term, representing the Northeast Region. Fourteen other state Farm Bureau presidents were reelected to two-year terms to represent their regions on the board:

Richard Felts, Kansas; **Richard Guebert Jr.**, Illinois; **Craig Hill**, Iowa; and **Kevin Papp**, Minnesota (Midwest Region); **Jeff Aiken**, Tennessee; **Ronnie Anderson**, Louisiana; **Russell Boening**, Texas; **Tom Buchanan**, Oklahoma; **Gerald Long**, Georgia; **Mike McCormick**, Mississippi; and **Larry**

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

► **Right:** Officers and directors for the Kansas Angus Ass'n are (seated, from left) **Stuart Rose**, Cheney, past president; **Anne Lampe**, Scott City, executive secretary-manager; **Brandon New**, Leavenworth, treasurer; **Neal Haverkamp**, Bern, vice president; **Larry Lundgren**, Gove, president; (standing, from left) **Lance Cline**, Onaga; **Jeff Klausmeyer**, Clearwater; **Darin Huck**, Dodge City; **John McCurry**, Burrton; **Debra Bartholomew**, Mankato; **Flinton McCabe**, Elk City; **Jason Flory**, Baldwin City; **Lynne Hinrichsen**, Westmoreland; **Cash Schilling**, Edson; and **Clint Woodrow**, Emporia.



► Kansas Angus Ass'n Auxiliary officers are (from left) **Beverly Figge**, Onaga, president; **Wendy Flory**, Baldwin City, vice president; **Melissa Cozzitorto**, Lawrence, secretary; **Lori Fink**, Randolph, treasurer; **Tonya Theis**, Leavenworth, reporter; and **Megin O'Brien**, Hutchinson, past president.



► **Bill and Loris New**, Leavenworth, receive the Honorary Member Award.

Wooten, North Carolina (Southern Region); **Mike LaPlant**, Washington; **Don Shawcroft**, Colorado; and **Paul Wenger**, California (Western Region).

David Festa has joined Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica Inc. as a professional services veterinarian. He will work with veterinarians in the Pacific Northwest area of the United States.

Katharine Morgan is president of ASTM International. She will lead a team that supports thousands of customers, partners, and other stakeholders worldwide.

Stan Lock has joined Select Sires as beef business development manager. His responsibilities will include training and mentoring beef sales representatives to provide turnkey AI programs and reproductive and genetic consultation. Lock will also develop and lead large-herd sales and service programs, provide expertise in stockmanship and facility design for low-stress cattle handling, represent the company at beef industry events, identify research opportunities and provide sire acquisition and marketing input. He will be based at his home in Republic, Mo.

Jon Schofield has joined Zinpro Corp. as account manager, Mountain West region. Based in Billings, Mont., Schofield will provide key support to beef and dairy customers, as well as develop new business opportunities for Zinpro in the Mountain West region encompassing Montana, Wyoming, Utah and Nevada.

Rod Ambrosie has been named CEO of Wenck by its board of directors. Former CEO Joe Grabowsky will continue to serve on the company's board of directors.

Mike Parson was named Cattleman of the Year at the Missouri Cattlemen's Association (MCA) annual Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show. He was raised on a farm in Hickory County and currently owns a cow-calf operation in Bolivar with his wife, Teresa. Parson is now serving as lieutenant governor of Missouri.

Edward Buckler, a geneticist with the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) at the ARS Plant, Soil and Nutrition Research Unit in Ithaca, N.Y., will receive the National Academy of Science's first ever Prize in Food and Agriculture Sciences for pioneering the use of large-scale genomic approaches to associate genes with crop traits. This work

gives plant breeders faster access to key genes and reduces the time needed to improve critical traits enhancing food security.

Tom Vilsack joined the U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC) as president and CEO Feb. 1. Vilsack will provide strategic leadership and oversight of USDEC's global promotional and research activities regulatory and trade policy initiatives. This includes working with industry leaders to develop a long-term vision for building sales and consumer trust in U.S. dairy.

Jay Weiker has been named the new president and CEO of the National Association of Animal Breeders (NAAB) and its subsidiary Certified Semen Services Inc. (CSS). Jay will work closely with the NAAB and CSS boards of directors in leading the trade association. He will direct and supervise the NAAB staff in carrying out activities to promote and develop AI and the cattle breeding industry in the United States.

Clayton Yeutter, Chuck Hendryx, Joe Sebranek, Sam Stein, Joe Cordray, Sam Kane and **C. Larry Pope** are the Class of 2016 Meat Industry Hall of Fame inductees.

