



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Mill Coulee Angus, Prairie du Chien, Wis., has been honored by the American Angus Association as a Historic Angus Herd.

The Mill Coulee Angus farm dates back to 1959 and continues to raise performance Angus cattle on the banks of the Mississippi river just north of Prairie du Chien. Bernard Pedretti; his wife, Darlene; and 11 children founded the ranch by purchasing the Frank Ahrens and Bros. herd. The initial purchase also included a bull from Lisle Blackburns, Cassville, Wis., and foundation female Deal of ElJon.

In 1980, the family expanded their operation by acquiring the D.P. Richards herd. That investment played a key role in the development of Mill Coulee Angus genetics. Today, half of the Coulee cows are descendants of a Richard's herd cow named Barbara Kindness. The daughter of Emulous 7067 spent 18 years in the Pedretti herd before she was sold in the fall of 1983.

Mill Coulee Angus has always focused on performance testing, which stems from Bernard Pedretti's involvement at the bull testing Hancock Station in central Wisconsin. During his involvement, he tested bulls in five different states — Indiana, Montana,

Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin — producing top-gaining bulls in four out of the five states.

A forward thinker, Bernard Pedretti was named Wisconsin's Seedstock Producer of the Year in 1984. The current Mill Coulee Angus ranch consists of 115 cows and is managed by Bernard Pedretti's sons, Tracy and Mark.

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.

John and Bernadine Stegman, Spearville, Kan., were honored March 15 in Manhattan, Kan., as a Kansas Master Farmer and Master Farm Homemaker for 2012. The Stegmans were among six Kansas couples recognized for their leadership in agriculture, environmental stewardship and service to their communities by K-State Research and Extension and *Kansas Farmer* magazine. Robert and Sharon Scherman, Paola; Leon and Janet Sylvester, Wamego; Gary and Lynda Foster, Fort Scott; Charles and Anita Hummel, Hope; and Thomas and Marlysus Holmquist, Smolan, were also honored as

Kansas Master Farmers and Master Farm Homemakers in the award program, which dates to 1927.

Wheat, grain sorghum, corn and silage are all grown on the Stegmans' farm, along with pasture and fallow ground. They have 200 head of black Angus cows in their cow-calf operation, use embryo transfer to improve the genetics of their herd, and sell calves directly to the feedyard.

The Stegmans are conscious of the value of natural resources and use terraces and windbreaks in their operation. They attribute their success in agriculture to "forward thinking and a willingness to try new things." The family has invested in the Spearville Wind Farm and has wind towers located on their property.

The family consists of son Bernie and wife Debra; daughter Cheryl and husband Robert; daughter Carol and husband Wes; and seven grandchildren.

Stegman Farms has been a member of the American Angus Association since 2002.

Larry DeShon, Saint Joseph, Mo., was selected as a winner in America's Farmers Grow CommunitiesSM, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, which gives farmers the

Wisconsin Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Feb. 16, Wisconsin Dells



► Officers and directors for the Wisconsin Angus Ass'n are (seated, front row, from left) **Andy Mindemann**, Oconomowoc, president; **Justin Diefenbach**, Mineral Point, vice president; **Ardel Quam**, Lodi, secretary-treasurer; **Suzanne Henning**, Janesville, junior president; (standing, back row, from left) **Jennifer Kilpatrick**, Wales; **Sue Finley**, Fennimore; **Dennis Schlimgen**, Blue Mounds; **Dustin Henningfeld**, Wauwatosa; **Dale Heagle**, Seymour; **Melvin Niemann**, Edgar; **Becky Henderson**, East Troy; and **Cody Quam**, Lodi.

WINNER NOT PICTURED

Lone Willow Acres, Fennimore, won Exhibitor of the Year, Show Bull of the Year and Show Heifer of the Year.



► Officers for the Wisconsin Angus Auxiliary are (from left) **Mary Kohl**, Waterloo, president; **Leslie Mindemann**, Oconomowoc, vice president; and **Renee Radcliffe**, Schofield, secretary-treasurer.



► Left: **Renee Radcliffe**, S&R Angus, Schofield, receives the Breeder of the Year award.

► **Illinois Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet**, Feb. 22, Springfield



► **Greg McClure** (right), Saint Francisville, receives the Junior Appreciation Award from Jennifer Ewing, National Junior Angus Ass'n board member.



► **Brad Bergman** (left), Tremont, receives the Retiring Director Award from Kevin Cassady, 2012 Illinois Angus Ass'n president.



► **The Ewing family**, Rushville, received the Outstanding Junior Family Award. Pictured are (from left) Stephanie Ewing; Jennifer Ewing; Lauren Adcock, Illinois Junior Angus Ass'n president, presenting; and Eric Ewing.



► **The Gary Dameron family**, Lexington, received the Illinois Angus Ass'n President's Award. Pictured are (from left) Cassady, presenting; and Gary, Sharon, Jennifer and Jeff Dameron.



► **Jim Mills**, Marshall, received the Troy Miller Memorial Award. Pictured are (from left) Troy Rawlings and Tracy Rawlings, presenting; Jim Marshall, breeder; and Kevin Rose, show committee chairman.

opportunity to win a \$2,500 donation to direct to their favorite local nonprofit organization. Farmers from 1,271 eligible counties in 39 states could sign up for the opportunity to win. The program is part of the Monsanto Fund's overall effort to support rural America.

To further support counties that have been declared disaster areas by USDA due to drought, winning farmers in these counties were able to direct double the donation, a total of \$5,000, to further support the community.

Since Buchanan County was declared a disaster area by USDA, DeShon had the opportunity to place two \$2,500 donations. He selected the Buchanan County AgriBusiness Expo Center Inc. and Pony Express National Museum as recipients.

DeShon Bros. has been a member of the American Angus Association since 1998.

Bob Seaton, Seaton Farm, Cohutta, Ga., is the third grand-prize winner in the HD 50K and GeneMax™ Sweepstakes from Zoetis, formerly Pfizer Animal Health. As a grand-prize winner, Seaton was randomly selected to win \$1,000 to use either toward a registered Angus bull with genomic-enhanced expected progeny differences (GE-EPDs) powered by HD 50K or GeneMax testing. Seaton elected to use his grand prize toward the purchase of an HD 50K-tested bull.

► **IN PASSING**

Karen Eikmeier, 75, Flandreau, S.D., died Dec. 11, 2012, at Riverview Health Services in Flandreau.

Karen was born Oct. 24, 1937, in Moody County, S.D., to Kermit and Bethel (McFarland) Thielsen. She attended Tidd Country School and graduated from Flandreau High School in 1955. Karen attended nursing school at South Dakota State University in Brookings. She married Glen Eikmeier Aug. 9, 1957, at the United Methodist Church in Flandreau. They moved to the Eikmeier family farm, where she raised their family.

Karen was an active member of the United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women, and was a Sunday School teacher and superintendent. She was a Pipestone County 4-H leader and a 4-H Fair judge.

She was a member of the American Angus Auxiliary, serving as president in 1994-1995 and as Scholarship Committee chairperson. She was a member of the South Dakota and Minnesota Angus auxiliaries.

She enjoyed being active in the Trent Area Extension Hobbie Club. Karen loved traveling with Glen and going to auctions and yard sales.

Karen is survived by sons Gary and Alan; daughters Linda and Mary; brother Lonnie; 10 grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

Agnes (Peck) Plath Hjort, 100, Fargo, N.D., died Dec. 28, 2012, at Bethany Retirement Living Center.

Agnes was born Nov. 1, 1912, in Park River, N.D., to George and Clara Peck. She spent her childhood in Park River, later attending college at the University of North Dakota (UND), where she received a bachelor's degree in education in 1934.

Following her graduation, she taught for a few years before becoming an extension agent in Grand Forks County. It was there she met Wilfred (Bill) Plath, whom she married July 3, 1940, in Park River. They remained married until his death. In 1990, she married Robert Hjort in Davenport, N.D., at Canaan Moravian Church.

Agnes was very active in many organizations, including the Farm Bureau, Bonanzaville, CowBelles, and the UND Alumni Association. She was a member of the Eastern Star and served as the state and national president (1969-1970) of the Angus Auxiliary, as well as serving as the Beef Education Committee chair.

She was an avid stamp collector, a prolific painter and enjoyed gardening.

Agnes is survived by son Ron Plath; daughter Beryl Rourke; stepdaughters Susan, Bonnie, Gwendolyn, Roberta and Brenda; stepsons Ronald, John and Donald; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

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Bernard Pedretti, 84, Prairie du Chien, Wis., died Jan. 14 at the Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital.

Bernard was born Aug. 11, 1928, in Genoa, Wis., to William and Agnes (Venner) Pedretti. He married Mary Darlene (Bomkamp) Steiner Feb. 20, 1950, at Saint Wenceslaus Church in Eastman, Wis. They owned and operated the Prairie Maid Bakery in Prairie du Chien for more than 25 years. Bernard purchased the Mill Coulee Angus Farm in 1957, where he raised registered black Angus cattle. He was also involved in several land and housing developments in the area.

Bernard was a longtime member of Saint

Gabriel's parish, the Knights of Columbus and the Wisconsin Angus Association. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1959. He was an avid raccoon hunter.

In addition to his wife, Bernard is survived by children Russell Steiner, Storey Holland, Kathy Geschke, Trudice DeFelice, Randy Pedretti, Vicki Rohe, Angela Halton, Mark Pedretti, Tracy Pedretti, Lisa Tradewell, and Carol Max; brothers William, Daniel, Michael and Leo; sisters Ann, Delores and Margaret; 34 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Martha (Summers) Meng, 89, Bowling Green, Ky., died March 5 at Hospice House of Southern Kentucky.

Martha was born Jan. 22, 1924, to William and Electra Summers in Nelson County, Ky.

Martha went to Bethel College in Hopkinsville for two years before attending the University of Kentucky (UK). She met Joe William Meng at the UK Seed Lab, where they were student workers. World War II interrupted their studies. In 1943, they married and began their lives together farming and raising their family in Woodburn, Ky. She and Joe William Meng Sr. were married 68 years before his death in 2011.

Martha supported and encouraged Joe's farming enterprise while working tirelessly to help with farm work, maintain the home and volunteer in numerous community activities such as Jayceettes, Warren County Homemakers, 4-H, PTA, and especially Woodburn Baptist Church, where she led the choir for many years.

After they sold the farm in 1998, Martha

Virginia Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Feb. 2, Staunton



► The Virginia Jr. Angus Ass'n was named Promoter of the Year.



► Carol Wojciechowski (right), Middlebrook, receives the Distinguished Service Award from Jason Pratt, 2012 Virginia Angus Ass'n president.



► Jerry Hall, Upperville, receives the Cattleman of the Year award.



► Jay Douglas (right), Bedford, receives the Manager of the Year award from Jon Repair.



► Tim Douglas, Berryville; John Wilkins, Middleburg; Chuck Alexander, Berryville; and the Northern Virginia Angus Ass'n receive the Sale Chairman of the Year award.



► Jason Pratt, Atkins, receives the Outgoing President Award.



► Jason Thurman (right), Rocky Mount, receives the Herdsman of the Year award from Repair.



► The Peebles family, Lawrenceville, received the Angus Family of the Year Award. Pictured are (from left) John, Tanya and Cheryl Peebles; and Dennis Eastin, presenting the award.



► Douglas Dalton (right), Gretna, receives the Hall of Merit Award from Repair.

and Joe moved to Bowling Green, where they quickly became part of the “Friday Night Bunch,” a wonderful group of friends who made the transition to town a joy. Martha enjoyed volunteering at the Medical Center for more than 10 years. She never stopped working and was an inspiration to everyone who knew her for her work ethic and determination.

Martha is survived by son Joe Bill; daughters Sue Ann and Janie; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Sharon (Koontz) Gragg, 56, Boone, N.C., died March 11 at Watauga Medical Center in Boone.

Sharon was born June 7, 1956, in Watauga County to Jim and Betty (Greene) Koontz. She was co-owner and administrator at Mountain Care Facilities in Boone. Sharon

was a member and Sunday School teacher at Oak Grove Baptist Church.

Sharon is survived by her mother; husband Paul; daughter Jodi; sons David, Chris and Michael; sisters Susan and Jane; three granddaughters; and one grandson.

George Hillsman Sr., 83, Watkinsville, Ga., died March 13.

George was an Oconee County farmer and had retired from Southern Piedmont. He also served in the U.S. Air Force.

George is survived by his wife of 58 years, Eleanor (Clotfelter) Hillsman; sons George and Charles; daughter Pamela; sister Lula; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Thad Simons, president and CEO of

Novus, was named 2013 Agribusiness Leader of the Year by the National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA) at the opening general session of its 2013 Agri-Marketing Conference April 18 in Kansas City, Mo. The award honors outstanding leaders in agribusiness, education, government service or other agribusiness-related areas who exemplify excellence in agribusiness by their significant contributions to the industry.

Steve Vandenberg, director, endectocide marketing, Merial Ltd., was named 2013 NAMA Marketer of the Year.

Cynthia Pistilli Savage, Raphael Hotel Group, has been elected chairman of the board of directors for the American Royal. Other officers elected at the annual board of governors meeting March 14 include

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► **Jerry Gustin** (left), Gloucester, receives the Handbook Dedication Award from Craig Miller.



► **Jay Douglas** (center), Berryville, receives the Bartenslager Award from Mr. and Mrs. Schofield.



► **Douglas Hughes**, Max Meadows, received the Bartenslager Award. Pictured are (from left) Scott Greiner, presenting; and Sue and Douglas Hughes.

► **Right: Joe and Naomi Smith**, Lexington, received the Hall of Merit Award. Pictured are (from left) Repair, presenting the award; and Naomi Smith, recipient.



► **The Sponaugle family**, Doe Hill, receives the Commercial Cattleman Award.



► **Lazy Acres Angus**, Rocky Mount, was recognized as the Field Day Host. Pictured are (front row, from left) Aaron Hodges; Rita Thurman; Juanita Thurman; Letittia Furrow; (back row, from left) Jason Thurman; John Thurman; and Steve Furrow.



► **Quaker Hill Farm**, Louisa, receives the Seedstock Producer of the Year award.

Mariner Kemper, UMB, chair-elect; **Angie Stanland**, Cerner, corporate secretary; **John Mitchell Jr.**, Treat American Food Services, treasurer; and **Brant Laue**, Armstrong Teasdale LLP/Laue Ranch, vice chair of agricultural center campaign.

Jennifer Minick Bormann, an associate professor at Kansas State University (K-State), has received the 2013 American Dairy Science Association (ADSA)/American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) Midwest Section Outstanding Young Teacher Award. Bormann has a 75% teaching and 25% research appointment at K-State. She is interested in livestock genetics, and currently studies feed efficiency and reproduction in beef cattle.

Robert Weaber, K-State Research and Extension beef breeding and cow-calf specialist, has received the 2013 ADSA/ASAS Midwest Section Outstanding Young Extension Specialist Award. Weaber's work focuses on cow-calf production and shows producers how to use genetic selection tools.

Skip Wagner, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo president and CEO, has accepted a position as president and CEO of the 12th Man Foundation at Texas A&M University. Current COO Leroy Shafer has been named interim president and CEO of the Show.

Alltech has announced the signing of a research alliance with **Harper Adams University**, United Kingdom. The alliance

will span three years and will oversee the steering committee, comprising staff members from Harper Adams and three Alltech staff on research partnerships.

Andrew Seitz has been named executive vice president, ag sales for Nufarm Americas. **Ron Schinnour** has joined Nufarm Americas as executive vice president, marketing and strategic planning. Both Schinnour and Seitz are located in the Morrisville, N.C., office.



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

Kentucky Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, March 1, Louisville



► Kentucky Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Gregory Stone**, Danville; **Jamie Marksbury**, Buffalo; **James Coffey**, Hustonville, vice president; **Kenley Conner**, Buffalo, president; **Anne Stewart Clark**, Sharpsburg, secretary-treasurer; **Anne Patton Schubert**, Taylorsville; **Joe Goggin**, Danville; (back row, from left) **Jason Crowe**, Irvine; **Tom McGinnis**, Shelbyville; **William Jasper**, Nicholasville; **Glenn Bugg**, Burgin; **Gil Cowles**, Rockfield; **Eddie Burks**, Park City; and **Ricky Cunningham**, Dexter.



► **Kenneth Lowe** (left), Oak Hollow Angus, Smiths Grove, receives the Performance Breeder of the Year award. Also pictured is Joe Lowe.



► **Joshua Nunn** (left), Upton, receives the Herdsman of the Year award from Eddie Burks, Kentucky Angus Ass'n board member.



► The **Johnson family**, Slaughters, received the Angus Family of the Year award. Pictured are (from left) Keith, Reese, Emily and Nita Johnson.



► **Jimmy** (left) and **Lona Sadler** (center), Carlisle, Ky., receive the Junior Appreciation Award from Maggie Jasper (right), NJAA board member.

► **Right: Elwood Hoskins**, Liberty, received the Lifetime Achievement Award. Pictured are (from left) Maranda Durham Barlow; Mary Durham; Henry Smith, presenting; Elwood Hoskins, recipient; and Mandy, Hanna and Jackie Wahl, presenting.



► **Harold Workman** (left), Louisville, receives the Distinguished Service Award from Kenley Conner, Kentucky Angus Ass'n president.

► **Missouri Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Feb. 23, Columbia**

► **Right:** Officers and directors for the Missouri Angus Ass'n are (seated, front row, from left) **Josh Worthington**, Dadeville, general manager; **Todd Ragsdale**, Paris, president; **Brian Meier**, Jackson, president-elect; **Alan Mead**, Barnett, vice president; **Brian Brockman**, Brookfield, secretary; **Deb Thummel**, Sheridan, past president; (standing, from left) **Kenny Hinkle**, Nevada; **Becky March**, Doniphan; **Linda Eck**, Sarcoxie; **Jeff Gooden**, Iberia; **Robert Smith**, Marshfield; **Steve Houston**, Savannah; and **Kent Dye**, Elsberry.



► Missouri Angus Auxiliary officers are (from left) **Tammy Bartholomew**, Archie, president; **Myra Collins**, Butler, vice president; **Pam Eagleburger**, Buffalo, secretary; and **Darla Eggers**, Mexico, treasurer.

► **Right: Macil Laughlin and family**, Guilford, received the Pioneer Breeder award. This award is given to breeders who have shown dedication and support for the Angus breed throughout their lives. Pictured are (from left) **Kellan**, **Tristan**, **Macil**, **Don**, **Kendyl**, **Gentry** and **Ellene Laughlin**.



► **WINNERS NOT PICTURED**

Charles Gerloff of **Gerloff Farms**, Bland, won the Get-of-Sire award for progeny of GHF Worthman 0018.



► **Jeff and Pam Eagleburger**, Buffalo, were honored as retiring junior advisors.



► **Left: Clint** (left) and **Rachel Hunter**, Fair Grove, receive the Herdsman of the Year award from **Brad Hillard** (right).

► **Right: Tammy Wallace** (left) and **Paige Wallace** of **Wallace Cattle Co.**, Stotts City, accept the Breeder of the Year award.



► **Louisiana Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, March 9, Lecompte**



► Louisiana Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Lee Robbins**, Ruston, president; **Lana Myers**, Jennings, vice president; **Ray Gendron**, Baton Rouge, secretary; **Dale Schexnayder**, Port Allen, treasurer; (standing, from left) **Dave Billings**, Keithville; **Greg Tate**, Ville Platte; **Edward Hymel**, Vacherie; **Chris Roussel**, Gramercy; **Drew Hall**, Ethel; **Dave Means III**, Gloster; **Warren Bryan**, Ruston; **Charles Chicola**, Deville; and **Kevin Windham**, Jena.



► **Above: Dave Means III** (right), Gloster, receives the Breeder of the Year award from **Chris Roussel** (left), Louisiana Angus Ass'n president; and **Lily Gisclair**, Louisiana Angus princess (center).

► **Left: The Chicola family**, Deville, was named Family of the Year. Pictured are (from left) **Eddie Hymel**, presenting the award; **Miss Louisiana Angus Katelyn Corsentino**; **Eliana**, **Charles** and **Jacob Chicola**; and **Roussel**.

► **WINNER NOT PICTURED**
James Romero, JT3 Farms, Plaquemine, received the award for top-selling bull more than 20 months of age.

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South Carolina Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, March 15, Anderson



►South Carolina Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Frankie Mullikin**, Liberty, president; **Ted Bourne**, Donalds, vice president; **Windy Bartee**, Clover, secretary; **Mike Johnson**, Kinards, treasurer; (standing, from left) **Neil Boyd**, Clover; **Larry Olson**, Barnwell; **Jesse Adkins**, Pelzer; **Lynn Shealy**, Chapin; **Steve McPhail II**, Inman; and **Bruce Stuart**, Aiken.



►Left: **Jerilynn and Milton Alexander**, Alexander Angus, Six Mile, receive the 42nd Annual Carolina Angus Futurity dedication.

►Right: **Paul Boyd**, Paul Boyd Angus Farm, Clover, was posthumously inducted into the South Carolina Angus Ass'n Hall of Fame. Accepting the award in honor of Paul are family members (from left) Emily Boyd; Walter Shealy III, presenting the award; Neil Boyd; Brown Boyd; Kathy McCall; Brenda Boyd; and Billy Boyd.



►**B.B. Hutchison**, Iva, was posthumously inducted into the South Carolina Angus Ass'n Hall of Fame. Accepting the award in honor of B.B. are family members (from left) Julie Powell; Walter Shealy III, presenting the award; Jennifer Vickery; Paul Vickery; Caroline Sizemore; Jason Powell; Greg Vickery; and Tina Sizemore.



► **Oklahoma Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, March 23, Oklahoma City**



► The Oklahoma Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Jim Davis**, Foss, vice president; **Mark Holder**, Olustee, president; **Jason Shepard**, Perkins, past president; Bryce Schumann, American Angus Ass'n CEO; **Richard Samuelson**, Chester, secretary-treasurer; (standing, from left) **Alan Armbruster**, Burlington; **Jordan Cook**, Cordell; **Allen Johnston**, Okemah; **Allan Barrington**, Lawton; **Don Abernathy**, Altus; and **John Pfeiffer Jr.**, Mulhall, American Angus Ass'n board member.



► **Jason Shepard** (right), Perkins, receives the Presidents Award from Mark Holder, 2013 Oklahoma Angus Ass'n president.



► **Bill Majors**, Ponca City, received the Oklahoma Mr. Angus award. Pictured are (from left) Rosalie and Bill Majors, recipient; and Mark Johnson, presenting.



► **Jimmy Taylor**, Taylor Ranch, Elk City, was honored as the Commercial Breeder of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Jimmy Taylor, recipient; Jason Shepard, 2012 Oklahoma Angus Ass'n president, presenting; and Tracy Taylor.



► **Don Abernathy** (left), Altus, receives the award for being inducted into the Oklahoma Angus Ass'n Hall of Fame from Holder.

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Idaho Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting, Feb. 8, Twin Falls

►Left: Idaho Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Amber Gay**, Jerome, secretary-treasurer; **Doug Kohntopp**, Jerome, president; **Sarah Fuller**, Twin Falls, vice president; (standing, from left) **Arnold Callison**, Blackfoot; **Curtis Gay**, Jerome; **Dennis Boehlke**, Nampa; **Cody Bishop**, Caldwell; **Jackie Kohntopp**, Jerome; and **Joshua Malson**, Parma, past president.

