



# Newsmakers

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

## IN THE NEWS

**Minnie Lou (Ottinger) Bradley**, the first woman to major in animal husbandry at Oklahoma State University (OSU), was named the institution's 2010 Master Breeder Award recipient.

Bradley was raised on a livestock and wheat farm in Hydro, Okla. She announced to her parents at an early age that she would be attending then Oklahoma A&M College and be a member of its nationally renowned livestock judging team.

"She entered Oklahoma A&M in the fall of 1949, majoring in animal husbandry with a minor in agricultural journalism," said Ron Kensinger, head of the OSU Department of Animal Science. "True to her word, she was not only the first female member of our legendary livestock judging team but one of its most successful members ever."

In 1952, Bradley was the first woman to win the coveted high individual honors at the International Intercollegiate Livestock Judging Contest in Chicago, Ill. That same year she was high individual in the beef cattle category at the American Royal competition.

Shortly after graduation in 1953, she married her friend, Bill Bradley, and the couple purchased a small ranch in Childress County, Texas.

In 1986, believing beef was not only tasty but also a great health food, Bradley and her daughter, Mary Lou, launched B3R Country Meats, a beef merchandising program that

grew into a company recognized worldwide for natural Angus beef.

Although the meat company was sold in 2005, the expanded 10,000-acre ranching operation situated in the Texas panhandle continues under the management of Minnie Lou, Mary Lou and Minnie Lou's son-in-law, James Henderson.

Numerous honors and achievements have been earned by Bradley and her family in recognition of their dedication to the beef industry and perseverance in developing a successful cattle breeding program that takes the entire food chain into consideration.

Previous awards include the OSU Animal Science Graduate of Distinction honor in 1988; the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Pioneer Award; *Beef* magazine's Top 40 Beef Producers; the Texas Cattle Feeders Beef Merchandiser Award; the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Environmental Stewardship Award; and the *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Seedstock Commitment Award, among others.

Bradley was also recently elected to the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame in Fort Worth, Texas.

"The OSU award recognizes individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the genetic improvement of a breed of livestock," Kensinger said. "The accomplishments of Minnie Lou Bradley in the beef cattle and meats industries, along with her many other related activities, document that she is a true living legend and

a master breeder worthy of recognition."

Bradley was the first female to serve as president of the American Angus Association, and has been a life member of the Association since 1958.

## IN PASSING

**James "Jack" Jackson Jr.**, University of Kentucky (UK) Animal Science associate professor, died at his home Dec. 28, 2009, due to the complications of his three-year battle with multiple myeloma cancer — a result of Agent Orange exposure from his U.S. Air Force tour of duty in Vietnam.

The family wants to inform fellow Angus farmers/military veterans that there are several cancers that the military now attributes to Agent Orange exposure and there can be monetary compensation/assistance for those folks.

Despite the severity of his cancer, Jack was able to attend with his family the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Iowa as well as the 2009 NJAS in Georgia.

Jack was born Jan. 17, 1950, in Hopkinsville, Ky. He grew up on a dairy/grain farm in Trenton, Ky., where he was a Todd County 4-H and FFA member. He received a bachelor's degree in distributive agriculture from Austin Peay College in Clarksville, Tenn., and completed his master's and doctoral degrees in animal science from UK.

In October 1982, he accepted a teaching/research position with the UK dairy science program and was the advisor of the UK Dairy Club for many years.

In 2005, Jack's appointment changed to a position of working in youth Extension, educating the 4-H young people about livestock judging.

Jack and Elda Gruner married in July 1982. They moved to their farm in Salvisa,

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## Alabama Angus Ass'n Field Day & Preview Show, Boaz, June 4



► **Jackie Thrower** (left), Arab, receives the Progressive Breeder of the Year Award from Larry Upton, Alabama Angus Ass'n president.



► **Dale and Judy Parris**, Hillside Angus Farm, Albertville, were named Family of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Judy Parris; Sarah Beth Logan, granddaughter; Dale Parris; and Upton, presenting.



► **Michael Rorex** (right), Bridgeport, was the winner of the Donation Heifer. Jack Tate, field day host, is pictured presenting the award. The heifer was donated by Michael Hill, Hillcrest Farms, Holly Pond.

PHOTOS COURTESY AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

Ky., in May 1984, where they began a purebred Angus cattle operation, which was subsequently named Dividing Ridge Farm.

Jack was a member of the Mercer County Cattlemen's Association, serving as president for two years. He served as a director on the Kentucky Angus Association board and was a member of the American Angus Association. The Kentucky Angus Association named Jack and his family the 2006 Angus Family of the Year.

Jack had three loves: working with youth, cattle and his family. His desire was to be

remembered as a "farmer" — a steward of the land with a love of Angus cattle.

In keeping with his wishes, Jack was buried on his Dividing Ridge Farm following a home and "green" burial service. As a last gift to him, his sons built their father's casket, dug his grave and helped with preparing their father's body for burial.

He is survived by his wife of 27 years; sons Josh, Justin, Joey and Jerry; and grandson Isaiah Dumas.

**Ernest "Ernie" Kleweno**, 92, Othello, Wash., died June 11 at Coventry House in Othello.

Ernie was born March 15, 1918, at the family farm near Penawawa, Wash., to Philip

and Martha Kleweno, who were Russian-German immigrants. Ernie attended a one-room school at Dusty, Wash., where he learned to speak English and graduated from the eighth grade.

The family moved to Pomeroy, Wash., where he met Verna Futter at the Prayer League Tabernacle in Lewiston, Idaho. They married Oct. 4, 1940.

Ernie grew wheat and drove a mule team from the time he was 16 years of age. In 1943, he bought a band of 1,000 sheep and produced wool and meat for the servicemen of World War II. In 1955, the family moved to Enterprise, Ore., and started raising cattle. There Ernie bought his first three registered Angus cows.

**Oklahoma Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Stillwater, May 1**

► The Oklahoma Angus Ass'n officers and board of directors are (seated, from left) **Jim Davis**, Foss; **Mark Johnson**, Orlando, past president; **Bill Majors**, Ponca City, president; **Jason Shepard**, Wellston, vice president; **Pat Merrick**, Blanchard; (standing, from left) **Will Cabbage**, Pawhuska; **Don Abernathy**, Altus; **Allen Johnston**, Okemah; **Rod Channel**, Miami; **Coy Farmer**, Prague; and **Kelsey Pfeiffer**, Orlando.



► **Left: Raymond and Mary Temple**, Elmore City, were honored with the Commercial Breeder of the Year Award. Pictured are (from left) John Pfeiffer, presenting the award, and Mary and Raymond Temple.



► **Right: Al Williams** (center), Tahlequah, was inducted into the Oklahoma Angus Hall of Fame. Presenting the award are John Pfeiffer (left), and Bill Majors.



► **John Buse** (right), Warner, was inducted into the Oklahoma Angus Hall of Fame. Presenting the award is Keith Grissom.



► **Mark Johnson** (right), Orlando, receives the Presidents Award from Bill Majors.



► **Jim and Debbie Davis**, Foss, received the Oklahoma Mr. Angus Award. Pictured are (from left) Mark Johnson, presenting the award, and Debbie and Jim Davis.

## NEWSMAKERS

They became the cornerstones of High Hill Angus Ranch of Soap Lake, Wash., which he owned and operated with Verna for 35 years. Ernie was known for his excellent Angus breeding program and his



**Ernest Kleweno**

In November 1999, Ernie and Verna moved to their retirement home on Crestline Road in Othello to be near their daughter. Last fall Ernest and Verna joined the Coventry House family.

Ernie is survived by daughter Charlotte; sons Douglas and David; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**William Lazenby**, 79, Opelika, Ala., died June 14. A 1957 graduate of Emory Medical School, he worked at Grady Hospital in Atlanta for five years and then served in the U.S. Army for two years, attaining the rank of captain, before returning to his hometown of Opelika in 1964.

He was instrumental in expanding the medical community of east Alabama and served on the hospital board for many years. Lazenby was known and loved by all the people he served, as he cared for his patients as if they were his own family. He loved his God, his family and his country. He was a loving husband and father, and loved spending time with his grandchildren.

He also served his community in many ways, from serving on the Opelika City Council to acting as president of the Alabama Medical Association.

He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1968. He received numerous awards for his efforts through the years.

He was a devoted member of the First Baptist Church of Opelika, serving as deacon, member of the board of trustees and as a member of Berry Dudley's Sunday School Class.

He is survived by wife Peggy; daughter Audrey; sons Douglas and Allen; brothers Harry and Jim; sister Mary; and nine grandchildren.

**Frank Champion Murphy**, 89, Wheaton, Ill., died June 28 after suffering a broken hip earlier this year.

Murphy was born in Vinton, Iowa, in 1920 and grew up near Chicago. Like his artistic mother, Murphy developed a love for art and spent summers on his mother's family ranch near Brownsville, Texas.

While pursuing an industrial economics degree and a double-minor in journalism from Iowa State University, Murphy met and married Evelyn Brown, his beloved wife of 67 years.

During World War II Murphy served in the Navy for more than a year on an amphibious ship in the Pacific. Following the war, Murphy began to pursue his dream by enrolling in the Chicago Academy of Art and beginning a career as a freelance artist working on assignment for Quaker Oats and other clients.

In 1951, the Chicago, Ill., artist was commissioned by Angus public relations masterminds Lloyd Miller and Harry Barger to illustrate the popular advertising campaign for the then American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association (the name was changed to American Angus Association five years later).

The quality of his art and contrast of those early drawings depicted well the Angus breed's physical attributes, black hair and hides that — until then — proved difficult to capture with the relatively primitive photography and printing processes of the time.

He was quickly commissioned for additional drawings and continued to illustrate Association national advertisements — approximately 45 in all — from 1951 to 1975, until photographs were introduced to the campaign in 1976.

In 1973, Murphy's painting of the first Angus bull imported from Scotland appeared on the 8¢ postage stamp to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Angus in the U.S. It and many of Murphy's more than 80 Angus paintings and drawings were reproduced as promotional prints and distributed to thousands of Angus enthusiasts, livestock publications and others throughout the world. The Association and Angus Foundation continue to offer more than 15 different framing prints featuring Murphy's art.

Murphy's dedication to the Angus breed and its people has continued for more than a half century. He continued to actively paint Angus cattle in a variety of settings until 2009, including more than 37 oil and acrylic paintings, most of which hang at Association headquarters in Saint Joseph, Mo.

His artwork has generated thousands of dollars for the Angus Foundation, and the

*Angus Journal* has featured six covers in the last five years displaying his most recent works. He was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation in 1993 and into the Honorary Angus Foundation in 2006.

Thanks to Murphy, along with other contributing artists, today the American Angus Association is home to the world's largest collection of contemporary beef cattle art. More than 130 works — including oil paintings, acrylics, pastels, watercolors, wash drawings, charcoal sketches and sculptures — record the evolution of the Angus breed in the United States.

Murphy's artwork can be viewed in the book, "Angus Art at the American Angus Association," available through the Angus Foundation at [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org), or directly via tour of Association headquarters.

Murphy is survived by his wife; son Tom; daughter Julie; a granddaughter; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be mailed to the Angus Foundation, 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506; made online at [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org) or by contacting Milford Jenkins at 816-383-5100.

## INDUSTRY EXTRAS

**Matthew K. Andis** has been named president of the Andis Co., responsible for setting the strategic direction for the company, including all global divisions, and for overseeing day-to-day operations. He is the fourth generation of the Andis family to hold this position, inheriting the role from his father, Matthew L. Andis, who transitions into his new role as chairman.

**Bill Davisson**, CEO of the regional agricultural cooperative Growmark Inc. since 1998, has announced his intent to retire as soon as possible after Jan. 1, 2011. The board of directors has formed a selection committee to implement an orderly selection and transition process that they anticipate will be completed before Nov. 30.

**Clay Mathis** has been selected as the director and endowed chair of the King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management (KRIRM), part of the Dick and Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

Laboratory Director **Donald L. Suarez** of Riverside, Calif., has been named "Distinguished Senior Research Scientist of 2009" by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) for his scientific leadership and discoveries in effective water resource management.

