



# Newsmakers

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

## IN THE NEWS

**Black Grove**, Newberry, S.C., has received the Historic Herd Award from the American Angus Association. The award is presented to Angus breeders or immediate families who have been in continuous production of registered Angus cattle for 50 years or more.

The Black Grove herd began in 1962 and continues today with founder Walter Shealy III. Shealy's interest in cattle began while showing Angus heifers in 4-H; he credits Ollie Dunkle, his county extension agent, and his parents for his success in the Angus business.

As his passion for the cattle industry continued to grow, so did his herd. At the age of 14, Shealy purchased his first cow for \$135 from Elmer Epting of Newberry. When he was 16 years old, Shealy received a loan to begin Black Grove farm, which now consists of 400 acres and 155 head of Angus cattle.

Shealy and his son, Dixon, still manage the farm with the philosophy, "Fundamentals survive fads." Black Grove farm consists of cattle chosen with multiple selection criteria, including longevity, performance, expected progeny differences (EPDs) and carcass data.

Shealy continues to stay busy with his interests in agriculture and chairs several committees to help continue the future of the industry. He serves as board chairman for Boys Farm Inc., director of South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, and committee chairman for the South Carolina Angus Association Hall of Fame. Previous involvement includes serving as president for the South Carolina Angus Association, and on the board of directors for the South Carolina Angus Association.

Shealy has been a life member of the Association since 1970.

**Andrea Stroberg**, Manhattan, Kan., attended the second installment of the 2012 Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) Young Stockmen's Academy (YSA) in the Kansas City, Kan., area June 25-27. The class of 20 young members from across the state spent three days learning about the agribusiness and retail beef industries.

Merck Animal Health hosted the members at its office in DeSoto, with Jeff Baxter, senior marketing manager, discussing the challenges facing the livestock industry, including providing substantially more food

to feed a population that is expected to double by 2050.

The group toured Sysco Food Services, Bichelmeyer Meats and Whole Foods Market to gain a better understanding of the link between the processing plant and the consumer's plate. The class also had a chance to visit with consumers about the beef they produce on their farms and ranches while distributing samples of the flat iron and tri-tip steaks at Hen House and two Hy-Vee grocery store locations. The young producers answered questions about animal health, beef nutrition and cooking methods.

During the three-day tour, the group visited Applebee's corporate offices to learn how the company markets beef in its 2,000 restaurants and heard from staff at Bartlett and Co., about risk management in the cattle and grain industries.

The third installment of the YSA class will be in October. Members will tour Kansas beef and dairy operations to gain a better understanding of each industry segment.

Andrea has been a member of the Association since 2004.

## ANGUS ARRIVALS

**Philip and Christy Page**, Jefferson, Ga., announce the birth of their son, **Carson Philip**, born May 2. He weighed 9 lb., 15 oz. and was 20½ in. long. He was welcomed home by sister Savannah.

Grandparents are Wayne and Ann Bell of Good Hope, Ga., and Andy and Stella Page of Winder, Ga.

Both Christy and Phil are members of the American Angus Association. Christy serves as secretary-treasurer of the Georgia Angus Association.

## IN PASSING

**Dale Foster**, 83, Niles, Mich., died May 29 at Lakeland Regional Medical Center in Saint Joseph, Mich., following a brief illness.

He was born Nov. 25, 1928, at Pawating Hospital in Niles to Fred and Alma Foster. He graduated from Niles High School and lived on the family farm all his life. Dale married the former Lois Schmidt at Trinity Lutheran Church Feb. 16, 1957. He was retired from full-time farming and driving semitrailers.

Dale was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Berrien Springs, Mich. He also served his community and agriculture as a

member of the state and national Angus associations and the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF). He was a member of the county and state Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA) and a member of the boards of the Kalamazoo Milk Producers, the American Farm Bureau Young People, and the Michigan Farm Bureau.

He was a past president of the Michigan Junior Farm Bureau and the Snowdrifters Club, a vice president of the Farland School Board and received an honorary degree from the Michigan FFA Organization. He was a member of the Berrien County Youth Fair Association.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture's Environmental Stewardship division had recognized his efforts with awards in Farmland and Open Space Preservation, and Environmental Assurance. In 2011, Dale and Lois were honored with the Michigan Angus Association Heritage Award in recognition of their lifelong dedication and contributions to the Angus breed and Michigan Angus Association, Auxiliary and junior association. One hundred percent of the three generations of his family have been and still are involved in Angus production and activities.

In addition to his wife, Dale is survived by sons Bruce and Scott; daughter D-nece; brother John; sisters Barbara and Frances; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Robert "Cotton" Boswell Jr.**, 71, Greensboro, Ga., died July 12 at his residence.

A lifelong resident of Greene County, he was born in Decatur, Ga., Dec. 27, 1940, to Robert Sr. and Lillie (Taylor) Boswell. He graduated from Greene County High School, where he excelled in football and other sports and attended Abraham Baldwin Agriculture College until the death of his father in 1962.

Cotton served in the United States Army twice, once during the Berlin Crisis. He married Mary Gentry July 17, 1966, at Liberty United Methodist Church. Since 1969, he has been in the timber and logging industry. Cotton was first employed by his father-in-law; he later started his own logging business and in 1990 was named Georgia Logger of the Year. He has since turned the logging business over to his sons, Farrett and George.

He owned and operated Cotton's Corner, a convenience store and restaurant, for 32

years until he sold it in 2010. In 1998, Cotton, William Coleman and Judy Hodnett bought Willow Run Retirement Home. They sold this successful business in 2011. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Greensboro, joining at the age of 9.

Throughout his life, he was a dedicated farmer, primarily of beef cattle, and an advocate of agriculture in Greene County. He was very concerned about the future of agriculture throughout the United States. He was recently named Agribusinessman of the Year by the Greene County Chamber of Commerce. He served on two Nathanael Greene Academy Boards and two terms as a Greene County Commissioner from 1993-1996, and again from 2003-2005, where, at his request, he received no pay for his first term in office.

Cotton employed many people during his working years, and he was a faithful friend to many during his lifetime. All of his life, he was a credit to his community, county and his family. Cotton always thought that growing up in Greene County was a privilege and an honor.

In addition to his wife, Cotton is survived by sons Farrett and George; brother Jamie; 10 grandchildren; niece Elizabeth; and nephew James "Jay."

**Ed Tolbert**, 66, Nicholson, Ga., died July 12 at his residence.

Ed was born in Commerce, Ga., to Joe and Woodie (Jackson) Tolbert. He was a member of the Antioch United Methodist Church and was a United States Army veteran of Vietnam. Ed was a lifelong supporter of 4-H and FFA. He was also a former member of the Jackson County Schools Board of Education. He had been a life member of the Association since 1967.

Ed is survived by wife Delia (Brown) Tolbert; sons Jay, Will and Alex; brother Gene; sisters Beulah, Joann and Wanda; and one grandson.

**Evelyn (Young) Smith**, 87, Winigan, Mo., died July 27.

The daughter of Gail and Rose Lee (Eitel) Young, she was born June 11, 1925, near Mystic, Mo. She graduated from Lone Star Grade School and Green City High School in 1943, then attended Kirksville State Teacher's College (now Truman State).

She married Wayne Smith Nov. 9, 1952, at the First Baptist Church, Columbia, Mo.

Evelyn resided most of her life on the farm where she was born. She had a great love for animals and birds. She liked to garden and sew and loved music. She had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1980.

Evelyn is survived by her husband, cousins and many friends.

#### INDUSTRY EXTRAS


**Tim Starks** has been named president of the Livestock Marketing Association (LMA) for the 2012-2014 term.

**Grace Boatright** is the new legislative director of the National Grange. She was named to the position July 5.

**Shirley Kaltenbach** has been promoted to director of communications at Select Sires

Inc. In this role she will oversee the newly formed department of communications, which includes all advertising communications and writing personnel.

**Curtis Pittman**, Glenfield, Ohio, and **Jenna Rodriguez**, Linden, Calif., were named winners of the 2012 W.D. Farr Scholarships from the National Cattlemen's Foundation at the Cattle Industry Summer Conference July 26.

**Justin Ochs**, Hendersonville, Tenn., won the title of International Auctioneer Champion (IAC) from a field of 79 contestants during competition at the 63rd International Auctioneers Conference and Show in Spokane, Wash. 

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