



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Roger and Marjorie Sunvold, Sacred Heart, Minn., have been recognized by the American Angus Association with the Historic Angus Herd Award.

The Shay Ash Angus herd was formed in the late 1940s when Marvin Sunvold and his wife purchased their first group of Angus cattle from a dispersion sale in South Dakota. The cattle were part of their children's 4-H club projects. After high school, Marvin's son, Roger, continued to farm with his father and later bought his own farm. After Marvin's retirement, Roger and his wife, Marjorie, took over complete ownership of the herd. On July 27, 1978, the herd name was changed to Roger Sunvold Farm.

Today, the farm is managed by Roger and Marjorie, and they average 50-60 head of Angus cattle. Their children and other Minnesota juniors have shown cattle from the herd under the Shady Ash Angus name. The herd has been enrolled in Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) since 1972.

Both Roger and Marjorie have been very active in the Minnesota Angus Association. Marjorie has been an active Auxiliary member, while Roger has served as vice president and president of the Minnesota Angus Association.

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.

Cody Washam, Pierce City, Mo.; **Jennifer Svoboda**, Sargent, Neb.; and **Travis Chrisman**, Wauneta, Neb., were among the 2013 ABS Global Inc. Beef Representative Roundtable winners from around the country. Washam and Svoboda were district winners and Chrisman was a high performance winner.

Selected independent representatives are invited to tour the ABS facilities, meet staff, listen to bull presentations, and present their business models for success with the ABS staff and fellow representatives.

Sonya Johnson, of Fallon, Nev., is the 2012 Ag Advocate Award recipient from National Agriculture in the Classroom (NAITC), presented by the National Grange.

National Grange Executive Committee Member Duane Scott, Fort Atkinson, Wis., presented Johnson with the award during the NAITC conference June 28.

Johnson, who would take cows from their family farm to the elementary school where her five daughters attended, has led workshops for agriculture educators throughout Nevada and created posters showing commodity crops that have been

requested for use by classrooms across the country and the USDA Agriculture in the Classroom division.

She has volunteered to teach rural and urban children about agriculture, and recently began working to bring agriculture to the classrooms of Native American students living on a reservation in Central Nevada.

Johnson has been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1973.

Kurt Kangas of Bakersfield, Calif., is the new regional manager for Montana, Wyoming and Alaska. Kangas has been a part of the Angus team since February 2012, serving as the regional manager for Arizona, California, Nevada and Utah. He will begin the new position and relocate to the area in the near future.

The Association's regional managers are in 13 geographical locations across the United States. They assist producers by locating and acquiring cattle, assisting with Angus shows and events and answering everyday questions about the Angus business.

A native of California, Kangas is a graduate of Montana State University in Bozeman with a bachelor's degree in range science. Prior to joining the Association, Kangas was a representative for Country Sweet Produce and involved with several area cattle operations. Kangas has also

Michigan breeders honored

Seldom Rest Farms, Niles, Mich., operated by Bruce, Scott and Andrew Foster, has been named the Purebred Breeder of the Year by the Michigan Cattlemen's Association (MCA).

Their purebred breeding program focuses on raising high-quality, proven genetics that fit all aspects of the beef cattle industry. Their



► **Scott** (left), **Bruce** (center) and **Andrew Foster**, Seldom Rest Farms, Niles, Mich., were honored by the Michigan Cattlemen's Association as Purebred Breeder of the Year.

herd includes a foundation of the most prominent cow families in the Angus breed.

Seldom Rest Farms produced the high-indexing bull of the 2012 MCA/MSU (Michigan State University) Bull Evaluation Program and the supreme champion bull at the 2011 MCA Beef Expo. The females are sold from the program through their annual production sale, the "Angus Connection," and have garnered many champions from coast to coast for the juniors who have purchased them.

The family prides itself on being at the cutting edge of industry growth through artificial insemination (AI), embryo transfer (ET), Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®), phenotype, genomic testing and *in vitro* fertilization (IVF); technologies that enable them to provide customers with the highest-quality genetics for their herds and ultimately for the consumer.

Seldom Rest Farms was the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Region 1 Environmental Stewardship Award winner in 1994. Bruce Foster served on the MCA board of directors from 2001 to 2007 and was the Purebred Council chairman. Scott Foster currently serves on the Board of Directors of the American Angus Association. The family says it is their privilege to work on the state and national levels with leaders who share ideas, innovations and goals for all the beef breeds in this great industry.

served as a rangeland consultant for HartCo Environmental Services Inc. in Gallatin Gateway, Mont.

"I'm fortunate to be a part of the Association, and to have had the opportunity to work with the ranchers in the Western region," Kangas says. "I look forward to beginning this new journey and continuing to help Angus producers and their customers."

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Davey Griffin, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension meat specialist, has been named an American Meat Science Association (AMSA)

Fellow and Signal Service Award winner. The Signal Service Awards are sponsored by Keystone Foods, Johnsonville Sausage Co. and Elanco Animal Health.

Michael Doyle, a University of Georgia regent's professor and director at the Center for Food Safety, was named the recipient of the \$10,000 Distinguished Agriscience Scientist Award, presented by the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation, an independent federal government agency, and the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Sara Clark, a teacher at Sonorville High

School in Calhoun, Ga., was named the recipient of the \$5,000 Agriscience Educator Award.

Tugrul Durali has been appointed Asia-Pacific technical manager for the Alltech mycotoxin management team. Based in Sydney, Australia, Durali will provide technical support to the company's local and regional accounts, focusing on the company's On-Farm program. 

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.*