



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Hilltop Angus, Sturgeon, Mo., has been honored by the American Angus Association with the Historic Herd Award for continued ownership and production of Angus cattle for more than 50 years.

The herd was founded in 1948 as Stanley Yager & Son. They became members of the Association the same year. Foundation cattle were purchased from Paul Evans, Monroe City, Mo.; R.M. Beamer & Sons, Madison, Mo.; and Monroe County Angus Association sales. Vernon was an active member of 4-H, FFA and the Missouri Junior Angus Association.

In 1992, the operation's name was changed to Hilltop Angus. Under Vernon's management, the herd remains steady with 25 Angus cows in production.

Vernon served as a delegate to the Annual Meeting of the American Angus Association for three consecutive years in the early 2000s. He was the president of the Central Missouri Angus Association in 2000 and served as a director for the Missouri Angus Association from 2001-2003.

Roy Wallace, formerly of Pemberville, Ohio, was posthumously inducted into the Ohio Agricultural Hall of Fame Aug. 7 at the Rhodes Youth Center at the Ohio Expo Center. Roy spent more than 40 years in service to the cattlemen of Ohio and of the nation through his career with COBA/Select Sires Inc., where he began his work in 1967 as a beef field representative.

He was a founder of the National Beef Improvement Federation (BIF), a group that has played a critical role in shaping how genetics have improved the beef industry. He attended every BIF convention from 1967 to 2007. Roy served in an advisory capacity to several breed organizations in the area of sire evaluation and was a sought-after speaker for his expertise.

He was a devoted supporter of The Ohio State University (OSU) and of the Ohio State Fair. He was honored in 2004 with induction in The OSU Animal Sciences Hall of Fame. He was also named to *BEEF* magazine's Top 40, a significant honor given to the top 40 leaders nationwide who have made major contributions to the beef industry.

Elizabeth Harsh, Radnor, Ohio, was inducted into the OSU Animal Sciences Hall



► **Elizabeth Harsh** (center) was inducted into the OSU Animal Sciences Hall of Fame by **Steven Boyles** (left), OSU Animal Sciences associate professor, and **Tom Turner**, OSU Animal Sciences assistant professor.

of Fame by the OSU Department of Animal Sciences May 27.

"Recipients of the Animal Sciences Hall of Fame have demonstrated superior skill and achieved success in the field of animal sciences for themselves and their families," said Steven Boyles, associate professor, who coordinated the Hall of Fame ceremony. "They have also practiced service to others through giving their time, energy and thoughtfulness in the local community."

Harsh, an OSU animal sciences alumnus, directs and coordinates the activities and programs of the Ohio Beef Council and Ohio Cattlemen's Association. She is president of the Ohio Agricultural Council.

She and her husband, Tim, have been members of the American Angus Association since 1984.

The **Irl Rincker family**, Shelbyville, Ill., has been named the Illinois Beef Association Environmental Stewardship Award winner for 2009. The Rincker cattle farm, known as Can Am Cattle Co., consists of 130 acres purchased in 2002. The farm was originally a cash grain farm, but the Rinckers are in the process of converting it to a cattle operation.

The beef herd consists of 30 purebred Angus cows. The goal from the beginning was to convert the total grain farm that was experiencing unacceptable soil losses into a combination grain and livestock farm.

Under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), a one-acre pond was constructed for erosion control and as a water source for the cattle operation. Four of the 11 paddocks are now provided water by gravity flow. Two cattle crossings were

constructed to allow cattle to move across a stream to have access to other paddocks.

Three terraces were constructed to protect the crop and pastureland. One and one-half miles of waterways were built on the farm to help protect the soil.

The family has seen a vast improvement in the farm's productivity by seeding down the highly erodible soils into improved pasturelands and reducing the distance and volume of water crossing the farmland.

By winning the Environmental Stewardship Award at the state level, Can Am Cattle Co. will be placed in competition with award winners from other states for the national title, announced at the Cattle Industry Annual Convention and National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Trade Show.

The family operation has been a member of the American Angus Association since 1992.

Panther Creek Ranch, Bowen, Ill., was named the Illinois Beef Association (IBA) Seedstock Breeder of the Year June 25.

Panther Creek, formerly known as McClelland Angus Farm, has been in the purebred seedstock business since 1953, with the purchase by the late Larry McClelland of two purebred Angus heifers. For 2009 there were 430 females bred, including 300 brood cows and 130 bred heifers.

Panther Creek emphasizes traits demanded by commercial producers, including scrotal circumference and udder conformation, along with expected progeny differences (EPDs) for low birth weight and high weaning and yearling weights.

Partners in the operation include Mike and Kati McClelland and their three children, Bailey, Tristan and Kolby; Steve, Valerie, Shelby and Kayla Peterson, and Larry's wife, Karol McClelland. In addition, John, Vicki, Kody and Cole Eilers help during the annual sale. Another individual very important to the operation is Kenneth Mowen, who has been a part of Panther Creek for nine years.

The Panther Creek Ranch personnel are active in the cattle industry as members of the American Angus Association, the Lamoine Valley Angus Association, the NCBA, the IBA and the Beef Association of Hancock County. They also support the Hancock County 4-H program and the Southeastern High School FFA.

▶ NEWSMAKERS

As winners of the IBA Seedstock Breeder Award, Panther Creek Ranch will be placed in national competition at the national BIF annual symposium.

▶ IN PASSING

A.J. Smith Jr., 68, Oklahoma City, Okla., died July 25 after suffering an aneurysm during the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association state convention in Midwest City, Okla.

He was the 24-year editor of the *Oklahoma Cowman* magazine, the official publication of the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association. He wrote more than 295 editorials and countless feature stories, took thousands of pictures, planned numerous ranch tours and traveled the countryside providing ring services at purebred and commercial cattle sales.

He was recognized with numerous honors, including the Oklahoma State University (OSU) Animal Science Recognition Award; Beefmaster Appreciation Award; OSU Animal Science Graduate of Distinction Award; Oklahoma Hereford Association Heritage Award; Oklahoma Youth Expo Show Honoree Award and Honorary CattleWoman of the Year Award.

He was inducted into the Oklahoma Angus Hall of Fame and served as president of the Southwest American Livestock Foundation.

He is survived by wife Debra; son Aaron; daughters Christel and Jessi; and a number of grandchildren.

Raymond Durhman, 77, Zumbrota, Minn., died July 27 at Saint Mary's Hospital in Rochester, Minn., after a long battle with bone cancer.

Ray was born March 10, 1932, at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester to Albert and Pearl (Cameron) Durhman. The family lived and farmed in Grand Meadow, Minn. Ray graduated from high school in 1950, where he excelled in both football and basketball.

After graduation he worked on the family farm where they raised black Angus cattle, a family tradition for more than 125 years. He married Rose Marie Bjorngaard at Lands Lutheran Church.

They lived in Grand Meadow, Stewartville, Byron, and Mazeppa, and, in 1988, moved to Zumbrota. Ray farmed, raised Angus cattle for 54 years and sold real estate his entire adult life, retiring just last year.

In the 1970s he became a real estate broker and started his own company,

Durhman Realty. He was a member of Lands Lutheran Church and had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1960.

In addition to his wife, Ray is survived by sons Dean and Steven; daughters Julie and Sara; brothers Neil and Paul; sister Mary; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

▶ INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Janelle Brose has been hired as director of agri-media business development and sales for www.Barchart.com. She will be responsible for overseeing Barchart and

AgriCharts, the agricultural division of Barchart, agri-media relationships, including web site content solutions and other web-based technology services, and with further expanding the company's brand within the agri-media industry.

Jerry Reeves, professor emeritus in animal sciences at Washington State University (WSU), has won the L.E. Casida Award from the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) for excellence in graduate student training in endocrinology and reproductive sciences.

