



Newsmakers

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

▣ IN THE NEWS

The American Angus Association has honored **Elbert Angus Farm**, Pierce City, Mo., with the Historic Angus Herd Award, presented to Angus breeders or immediate family who have been in continuous production of registered Angus cattle for 50 or more years.

The ranch began when Kenneth Elbert bought his first Angus cattle in 1959 and joined the Angus Association in 1960. Cattle were purchased from Zink Angus Farm, Appleton City, Mo.; Keith Nu, Republic, Mo.; and Level Acres, Pierce City, Mo.

Elbert purchased Black Revolution 850 in 1970. The bull went on to win grand champion at the 1971 Ozark Empire Fair, Springfield, Mo., and the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson, Kan.

The herd of 250 registered Angus females is still owned and operated

by founder Elbert and his son, David. The females in the program have been retained for the past 50-plus consecutive years, which allows Elbert Angus Farm to merchandise their cattle through private treaty. Recently, the farm gained 15 Pathfinder® cows. The father and son pair is also involved in the Angus Association's Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) program.

The Flying W Ranch, Pequot Lakes, Minn., has been recognized by the Association as a Historic Angus Herd.

The ranch began in 1948 when two brothers, Louis Wiese Sr. and Elmer Wiese, bought their first Angus bull and has continued to grow throughout the years to include 350 head.

The ranch initially bought cattle from the Wichman Bros. Ranch, Balaton, Minn.

The ranch is now owned by Louis' son, Eldon Wiese, and grandson, Danny Wiese. Louis had 12 children; three of the sons followed in their father's footsteps and raised Angus cattle. Eldon has helped the herd grow by artificially inseminating 150 cows each year for 35 years.

Eldon also helped establish several Minnesota organizations, including the Minnesota Beef Producers organization, renamed the Minnesota State Cattlemen; National Cattlemen's Association; and Minnesota Beef Cattle Improvement Association.

Flying W Ranch bulls have been taken to the Midland Bull Test in Columbus, Mont., where they placed seventh and 10th.

Miller Angus Ranch, Saint Anthony, N.D., has been honored with the Historic Angus Herd Award.

▣ NEWSMAKERS

A North Dakota native, John Miller has been surrounded by cattle all his life.

Miller began his lifetime commitment in 1953 when he took over the family farm after his father passed. He has kept his father's philosophy, raising functional cattle with top qualities and genetics.

Miller purchased his first cattle a year after taking over, and the herd began to grow each year. Miller eventually expanded his land ownership and began using sires like Shipp's Howley Mchenery and Columbus Adventure 353.

The Miller family's first Angus production sale took place Feb. 14, 1974, and has continued to grow, selling an average of 100 cows per year. At the end of 1993, the Miller Angus cow herd grew to 265 mature cows.

In 2008, Miller was named North Dakota Angus Association Man of the Year for his dedication to the Angus breed.

John is married to Lorraine (Bosch) Miller and has three children (Charlotte, Dan and Dale) and eight grandchildren. Recently, Miller Angus Ranch has downsized their herd to 45 females and is managed by son Dale.

Kevin Pond, an expert in beef cattle nutrition and 15-year chair of the Department of Animal and Food Sciences at Texas Tech University, joined Colorado State University (CSU) Aug. 15 as the new head of the Department of Animal Sciences.

Pond, who helps manage a fifth-generation family cattle ranch in the Texas Panhandle, brings experience in teaching, research and administration at three other public research universities to the largest department in CSU's College of Agricultural Sciences.

Pond will replace William Wailes, who has led the department for about nine years and will transition to a new role focusing on fundraising for a major renovation of the CSU Animal Sciences Building.

▣ IN PASSING

Tonya (Royster) Lynn, 38, Winder, Ga., died July 29.

A native of Barrow County, Tonya was a member of Appalachee Baptist Church. She was employed by Athens Regional Medical Center, and had worked for Dr. Huff, Dr. Gay and Dr. Deutsch.

Tonya is survived by her parents, Earl and Glenda Royster; brothers Tim and Travis; sons Zachary, Jake and Luke; and daughter Mariah.

▣ INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Scott Shearer joined Ohio State University's Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering as the new departmental chair July 1. A native of Tipp City, Ohio, and an alumnus of the department, Shearer most recently served as the chair of a similar department at the University of Kentucky. His research focuses on precision agriculture technologies.

John Stierna has been chosen as the recipient of the Norman A. "Norm" Berg Conservation Legacy Award by the National Chapter of the Soil and Water

Conservation Society (SWCS). Stierna retired as the senior economist at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and then served on the staff of the American Farmland Trust (AFT) to work on conservation policy for the farm bill.

Matt Gonzales, a Toyota Motor Sales USA executive, was appointed to the National FFA Organization's board of directors July 25.



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