



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Brandon Neely, Southside, Ala., won the Livestock Marketing Association (LMA) Sept. 19 first qualifying contest for the 2012 World Livestock Auctioneer Championship (WLAC). Neely finished first in a field of 24 contestants, following competition at Farmers Livestock Market of Glasgow, Glasgow, Ky. Reserve champion was **Darren Carter**, Ninety Six, S.C., and runner-up champion was **Brian Little**, Wann, Okla. The three champions now move on to next summer's WLAC, along with the next five top scorers at Glasgow. They are, in alphabetical order, **Will Epperly**, Moneta, Va.; **Tom Frey**, Creston, Iowa; **Blake McDaniel**, Tuscumbia, Ala.; **Paul Ramirez**, Tucson, Ariz.; and **Jay Romine**, Mount Washington, Ky.

The remaining qualifying contests are Oct. 20, at Stockmen's Livestock Exchange Inc., Dickinson, N.D.; Jan. 17, at Producers Livestock Marketing Association, Greeley, Colo.; and March 8, at Groesbeck Auction and Livestock Co. Inc., Groesbeck, Texas.

The eight highest scorers in each qualifying contest, along with the reigning International Livestock Auctioneer Champion — Rod Burnett, Armstrong, B.C. — make up the field of 33 for the 2012 WLAC, scheduled for June 16 at Turlock Livestock Auction Yard Inc., Turlock, Calif.

IN PASSING

Clayton Carpenter, 98, Sauk Centre, Minn., died July 2 at Saint Michael's Nursing Home in Sauk Centre.

Clayton was born Dec. 22, 1912, in Sauk Centre to Dwight and Bertha (Robertson) Carpenter. After graduating from high school, Clayton attended Saint Cloud State University. He served in the U.S. Navy for three years during World War II. His tours took him to the South Pacific, Guam, Guadalcanal and Iwo Jima. When Clayton came home he resumed farming and became very prominent in the Minnesota Angus cattle farming community. He continued farming until he retired in 1996.

Clayton was a lifelong member of the Paul F. Donart VFW Post 2853, the Minnesota Angus Association, and had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1942.

Survivors include brother Cy and sisters Mildred, Alta and Jeanette.

Wayne Schurr, 38, Maywood, Colo., died Sept. 8 at Denver Health Medical Center in Denver, Colo., as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident west of Maywood.

Wayne was born Oct. 30, 1972, at Gothenburg, Neb., to John and Kay (Schultheiss) Schurr of Farnam, Neb. He graduated from Medicine Valley High School in 1991 at Curtis, Neb. He was active in 4-H, enjoyed livestock projects and was on a nationally recognized livestock judging team.

Wayne graduated from Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, Mo., in 1995 with an aviation business administration degree. After college he moved to Maywood and became involved in the family farming and purebred cattle business in Maywood and Farnam, where he established his own herd of purebred Angus and Charolais cattle.

He was well-known for his mischievous smile and sense of humor. Wayne had an uncanny sense of getting right to the point. He had a special way with animals and enjoyed all kinds. He also liked everything that had horsepower. Wayne liked riding his Harley and being free, as well as all types of firearms. We will always remember that Wayne was the same happy person every day with a heart of gold and lots of patience.

Wayne was a member of Saint John's Lutheran Church in Eustis, Neb., a life member since 1980 of the American Angus Association, a member of the American Charolais Association and a member of the pit crew on the Werkmeister Racing Team.

Survivors include his parents; brothers Marty and Ryan; his love, Sarah Prochaska; grandmother Estella Tillotson; numerous aunts and uncles; 20 first cousins; his former wife, Jennifer Werkmeister; lots of extended family; many, many friends; and Hank, the cow dog.

John Pontif, 73, Lecompte, La., died Sept. 13.

John received his bachelor's degree from Louisiana State University in 1961 and his master's degree in 1963. In 1964, he was appointed instructor with LSU-Alexandria. His principal responsibility was management

of the livestock testing station at Dean Lee Research Station. He was promoted to assistant professor in 1968. He was promoted to associate professor in 1977 and to professor in 1987. John was hard-working and did an outstanding job of managing the livestock testing station and conducting beef cattle and swine research for almost 34 years. He retired Aug. 30, 1998.

John was a kind and loving husband, father and grandfather. He considered his sisters-in-law and brother-in-law his own family; Brenda his coffee-drinking buddy, Marie his casino buddy, Johnnie his gardening buddy, and Sam his true friend until the very end.

John had a very generous spirit, always ready to help anyone in need. He was also known to incessantly tease and joke with those around him, especially his granddaughter Ashton, grandson John Michael and nephew Stephen "Possum" Hart. He was beloved by all who knew him. He will be missed dearly by his family and friends.

John is survived by his wife of 45 years, Faye (Rini) Pontif; twin daughters Sheryl and Lisa; sons Michael and Mark; six grandchildren; brother George; sisters Alice and Vivian; and many nieces and nephews.

James "Jim" Taylor, 81, Elk City, Okla., died Sept. 16 at Great Plains Regional Hospital as a result of an ATV accident.

Jim was born Oct. 20, 1929, at Oklahoma City, Okla., to John and Maude (Wallace) Taylor. In August of 1933, he moved with his parents and brother to a ranch south of Mountain View, Okla., in the Wichita Mountains, where he was raised.

He completed high school at Cooperton, Okla., and received a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry at Oklahoma A&M College (now Oklahoma State University), graduating in 1951. Jim was then called to active duty in the U.S. Army, serving with the Third Infantry Division in Korea. He was honorably discharged as a First Lieutenant.

He married Earlene Johnson June 5, 1952, and from this union four children were born: Jimmy, Katherine, Jane and John. After his military service they moved to a ranch north of Berlin, Okla., where they raised commercial and registered cattle, which has been a vocation and an avocation. After the

Berlin school closed, the family moved to Elk City, where they have lived since.

Jim was active in Farm Bureau, cattle organizations, the Presbyterian Church and numerous civic organizations. He was inducted into the Western Oklahoma Hall of Fame. He was also active in all branches of Masonry, and had served as Department Commander of the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templar, as well as offices in other national Masonic organizations.

In addition to his wife, Jim is survived by sons Jimmy and John; daughter Jane; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Eugene “Gene” Hinds II, 52, Palmyra, Mo., died Sept. 26 at his home.

Gene was born April 4, 1959, in Hannibal, Mo., to Eugene and June (Eichman) Hinds. He was a 1977 graduate of Palmyra High School and attended the University of Missouri.

Gene farmed with his parents and loved being on the farm and taking care of the cattle. He was a life member of the American Angus Association. He loved music, sports, black Angus cattle and the great outdoors.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by a son, Michael, and his mother, Diane Boulware; and a sister, Harriet.

▣ INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Lynne Cheney has been named the 2012 Citizen of the West by the National Western Stock Show (NWSS). She will accept the award at a dinner Monday, Jan. 9, 2012, at the National Western Events Center Paddock and Arena.

The citizen of the West, selected by a committee of community leaders, is an annual award given to individuals who embody the spirit and determination of the western pioneer, and who are committed to perpetuating the West’s agricultural heritage and ideals.

Cheney, a native of Wyoming and former second lady of the United States, is an author and scholar. She served under presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush as chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities. She also has ties to Colorado, having earned a bachelor’s degree from Colorado College and a master’s degree from the University of Colorado-Boulder. Her doctorate is from the University of Wisconsin.

From 1995 to 1998, she served as the co-host of the Sunday edition of CNN’s *Crossfire*, and she has been a member of several boards of directors. She wrote six best-selling history books for children and their families, beginning with *America: A Patriotic Primer*, released in 2002, and most

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recently publishing *We the People: The Story of Our Constitution* in 2008.

She and her childhood sweetheart and husband, Dick Cheney, have two daughters and seven grandchildren.

Trans Ova Genetics announces a new satellite center, in partnership with **JC Bar Genetic Center**, located in Livonia, La. JC Bar Genetic Center, a locally owned and operated donor and recipient housing facility located 45 miles southeast of Baton Rouge, La., will host the new Trans Ova Genetics satellite center.

The team will be led by **Shane Bellow**, center manager at the Centerville, Texas, location, who will work closely with **James** and **Brandon Chenevert**, owners and operators of JC Bar Genetic Center.

Polly Ruhland is the new CEO of the Cattlemen's Beef Board. Ruhland has been serving as the interim CEO since June 28.

Jenks Britt, veterinarian and Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners and Western Kentucky University Department of Agriculture professor, has received the Mentor of the Year Award from the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP) and Merck Animal Health. The Mentor of the Year Award honors individuals who have dedicated their careers to educating, mentoring and advancing the careers of students in the field of bovine veterinary medicine. Britt was honored during the AABP annual meeting Sept. 22-24 in St. Louis, Mo. He also will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to next year's AABP conference in Montreal.

Albrecht Kissel has been named the new president and CEO of Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica Inc. (BIVI). Kissel assumed responsibilities over U.S. domestic sales and marketing, research and development, and manufacturing operations for BIVI effective Sept. 1.

Kissel, a native of Germany, will be based at BIVI's Saint Joseph, Mo., facility. He will be relocating to the Saint Joseph area with his family.

Bobby Moser, vice president for Agricultural Administration and dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CFAES), said he would step down as dean once his replacement is found. He has agreed to stay on during a transitional period to assist a new

dean and will be accepting some new assignments once the search is completed.

The longest-tenured dean at The Ohio State University, Moser oversees the college, Ohio State University Extension, the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC), and the Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI). This includes 1,900 faculty and staff, 3,200 students, and an annual budget of \$195 million.

Robert Carlson, North Dakota Farmers Union (NDFU) president and National Farmers Union (NFU) delegation head to the World Farmers Organization (WFO), has been named president of the international farm organization. The WFO's purpose is to bring farmers and cooperatives together to exchange ideas and find solutions to global food security issues.

Burton Eller, National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) senior vice president of member service and industry affairs, has retired from NCBA after more than 30 years of service to the U.S. cattle industry. His last day was Sept. 30.

Amber Elliott, Marshall, Wis., has joined Accelerated Genetics as the sales and communications assistant, based out of the company's headquarters located in Baraboo, Wis. She will assist the sales and communications team with advertising and design projects, member relations, young producer events, trade shows, meetings, and writing articles and news releases.

Jessie Ingvalson has accepted the position of laboratory intern at the Westby production facilities. In her new position, Ingvalson will assist with semen extending, freezing, quality evaluation, recordkeeping and data management for special projects.

Terri Kotek has rejoined Accelerated Genetics as the production office assistant. She had previously worked at the company as the products secretary. In her current role, Kotek is responsible for preparing health certificates and technical documents required for shipment of frozen semen to international customers. She also assists in maintaining health test records and update as necessary, process invoices/credits on a daily basis for all domestic product orders shipped from/returned to the Animal Health Products center.

Glaucio Lopes has been hired as a reproduction specialist based out of Baraboo, Wis., but he will be focused on the western United States and Latin American territories. Lopes will provide company employees and customers in the United States and worldwide with training and technical

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support in the field of dairy and beef cattle reproduction management in order to maintain and grow the market share throughout the world.

Lisa Zautke has been hired as director of human resources. She will be responsible for guiding and managing all facets of human resources services, policies and programs for the company, and to lead all human resources practices.

Devan Funk assumed the position of vice president-genetics Oct. 1 for Accelerated Genetics. **Ole Meland**, former vice president-genetics, retired from the company in September 2013, but decided to stay with the company part-time as director of business development.

Jonathan Griffin has been named North American sales manager—specialty products for Balchem Corp. Griffin will lead the company's animal nutrition and health sales and training efforts for its encapsulated and chelated mineral products.

Pearse Lyons, founder and president of Alltech, was inducted into the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Department

of Animal and Food Sciences Hall of Fame. The department annually recognizes someone who has made outstanding contributions to the university and to Kentucky animal agriculture.

Bryan Kann and **Don McKillip** have joined Vets Plus Inc. (VPI), an international animal health and nutritional supplement manufacturer, as national account managers.

Kasey Moctezuma of Quality Assurance International (QAI), a leading organic certification organization, has been appointed to serve on the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee for Trade in Processed Foods.

Harold Amstutz, West Lafayette, Ind., and **Dan Upson**, Manhattan, Kan., were honored as the inaugural inductees to the Cattle Production Veterinarian Hall of Fame at the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP) annual conference in St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 24. The inductees were selected from among their peers, and all AABP and Academy of Veterinary

Consultants members had the opportunity to vote for one beef and one dairy veterinarian.

Michael Martin, a native of Cummington, Mass., and active Grange member for more than three decades, joined the staff of the National Grange Sept. 15 as membership/leadership development director.

Brent Ericson has been named vice president, grain, for Growmark, effective Nov. 1. He replaces Davis Anderson, who retired in September. Ericson will be responsible for the overall management, oversight, support and growth of the company's grain business, which includes 80 grain members and companies in Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa. 

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.*