



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

A.D.D. Angus Farm, Arlington, Iowa, has been honored by the American Angus Association as a Historic Angus Herd.

Arnold Rueber knew exactly what he wanted in 1963, and he wasn't going to settle on the "baby beeves" style of cattle that were too small to suit him. He knew his commercial market was selling 1,200-pound (lb.) steers to the Chicago Stock Yards for the high-Choice, low-Prime market; and he knew he needed to find cows and bulls big enough to get that job done.

He eventually found the size he needed in 12 registered-Angus bred heifers; six of which were Earl Marshall descendants. All 12 heifers cost Arnold just more than \$3,000. When he began looking for a good-sized bull to put with them, Arnold ran into another wall. Big bulls were hard to find. By that time, Arnold knew he couldn't be the only person searching for size and decided to enter the purebred ring and supply the market with larger animals. Just a few years later, in the late 1960s when the type change came, that decision proved itself.

From that point forward, Arnold and his two sons, Doug and David, enjoyed great success in the showing and the auction ring with their Angus cattle. Bulls such as Keyban Bardolier 179, Barbarian Jumbo 13Y, Old Town Lancelot, Grassy View Marshall and Ed Rene Black Enchanter gave A.D.D. Angus Farm a great foundation to build upon, and the herd grew to about 200 cows. In 1978, A.D.D. Angus Farm owned the Iowa Bull of the Year, GD Lightfoot 16.

In the early 1980s the family took a hard look at the future of showing cattle, and the farm decided to place less emphasis on the show circuit and more on performance cattle. It was an easy transition to make for the family, since performance had always been important. They also had kept official Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) on their cattle since the late 1960s.

A.D.D. Angus Farm has embraced technology from the start. Beginning in the 1980s, new bloodlines have entered through the use of artificial insemination (AI). The Ruebers were some of the first to use ultrasound measures to improve carcass

quality. They quickly incorporated GeneStar® to improve tenderness, marbling and feed efficiency in their cattle; and began using Igenity on their herd during the program's infancy. They knew expected progeny differences (EPDs) enhanced with genomic profiles improved accuracy and added value to their cattle.

Currently, Doug and Marcia Rueber manage more than 100 head of cows. Their children were very active in the regional, state and National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). Daughter Laurie and son Michael exhibited cattle at local, district, state, regional and national junior Angus shows. Laurie received an Angus Foundation scholarship in 1998, the first year they were awarded. In that same year, Michael was awarded second place in the American Angus Auxiliary boy's scholarship competition.

A.D.D. Angus Farm has been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1964.

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.

Randall Robbins, Woodbury Tenn., was honored by Accelerated Genetics at its annual President's Gala in Lake Geneva, Wis. Robbins received the President's Onyx Award for his achievements in sales and service.

He has been a member of the Association since 1995.

Gardiner Angus Ranch, Ashland, Kan., Shannon Hall Cutting Horses, Comanche, Okla., and Daube Cattle Co., Ardmore, Okla., partnered to benefit the Working Ranch Cowboys Foundation (WRCF) in support of efforts to fund scholarships and provide assistance to those in need.

The partners offered Little Linda's Dually for sale at the Western Bloodstock Sale Dec. 8-13, 2014, in Fort Worth, Texas. All proceeds from the sale were to be donated to the WRCF. The Working Ranch Cowboys Association (WRCA) was founded in 1995 to promote ranching on a national level and preserve the lifestyle of the ranch cowboy.

Preserving that lifestyle means reaching

out to those in need during difficult times. Aspiring doctors, veterinarians, teachers and ranch managers of tomorrow often need assistance. Cowboys and their families often do not have the benefits of health insurance or workers compensation and need assistance making ends meet when disease, injury or hardship strike.

In 2001, WRCA formed the WRCF, a 501(c)(3) organization, honored to help hard-working cowboys and their immediate family members. Each year, the WRCF awards scholarships and assists numerous families through the Crisis Fund.

The Gardiners have been American Angus Association life members since 1950.

The Canadian Angus Association (CAA) has launched Angus Central Television (AC-TV), a video broadcast that will air four times per year and will feature anything related to its Angus activities and beef industry. Each episode will be offered on the CAA YouTube channel. The first episode was scheduled to air Dec. 12, 2014.

Karla Ness, director of member engagement, is the newest member of the CAA team. She graduated from Mount Royal University with a bachelor of communications degree with a major in public relations. One of her main roles is leading the new AC-TV initiative. Watch for her at different Angus events as she will be capturing footage, interviews and pictures for AC-TV.

The CAA introduced 50- and 75-year awards to recognize those breeders who have been a member of the Association for 50 or 75 consecutive years. The long dedication of these producers to the Angus breed is essential to the overall success of the beef industry. The recipients of these awards were recognized at the Royal Agriculture Winter Fair in Toronto in November 2014. **Earley Bros.** from Ontario was a recipient for 2014.

Earley Bros. was established in 1935 by Eugene Earley when he started an Angus herd. The family farm, Hillcrest Farms at Kerwood, Ont., had been established in the mid-1800s by his Irish ancestors.

Eugene's middle son, George, was a very successful showman. As a 4-H member, he exhibited a grand champion steer in 1957 and 1958. Hillcrest Farms has exhibited more market and 4-H beef champions in live and



carcass categories than any other operation in living memory. In addition to the Royal Winter Fair, Hillcrest has dominated the Western Fair at London, garnered titles in the Maritimes, and won banners at Agribition.

In 1978, Earley became president of the CAA. It proved to be a challenging period due to the fight to enforce blood-testing results. Many registered-Angus cattle were removed from the registry because of failed tests; however, in the end, the integrity of the Angus breed had been ensured.

George Earley has been inducted into the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame, the Ontario Agriculture Hall of Fame; named Farmer of the Year in Middlesex County, received the Canadian Centennial 125 Year Medal and was named Ontario Producer of the Year.

George and wife Lynda have four children, Mike, Martha, Tim and Sara. Today, Mike manages Earley Bros., but all four Earley children are involved in the business. Mike has managed Earley Bros. for the last 25 years.

The CAA honored **JSE Farms** with the Eastern Feedlot of the Year Award. This award was presented at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto in the early weeks of November 2014.

In 1971 Stan and Ila Eby bought and moved to a farm on the 9th Concession of

Kincardine Township. They raised their family — Sandra, Steven and Jeff — there and marketed high-quality beef. By 1974 they had outgrown the existing facilities and made plans to build a new slatted-floor barn. This was one of two prototype facilities that were to be built in Ontario that year.

During his spare time Stan became heavily involved in the Bruce County Cattlemen's Association and from there moved onto the Provincial, leading the industry through the Walkerton Water Crisis while president of the Ontario Cattlemen's Association. Stan was elected to the Canadian Cattlemen's (CCA) board and was sitting vice president in 2003 when bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) closed Canadian borders, sending the industry into a downward spiral. Serving as president of the CCA in 2004-2005, Stan's easy way and commonsense approach helped rebuild the devastated industry.

The farm was expanding and Stan and Ila's eldest son, Steve, was showing a lot of interest in the industry. After graduating from the University of Guelph with his bachelor's in animal science in 1991, Steve went on to become a territory manager for Shur-Gain before coming home to the 9th Concession in 1994 to follow in his parents' footsteps. Steve laid the groundwork for what would become JSE Farms.

Like Stan, Steve is compelled to get involved in the beef industry and his community. Steve is acting as a director at the Bruce County Cattlemen's, a director of the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency, the OMFRA Livestock Medicines Advisory Committee and is currently a director at Beef Farmers of Ontario, sitting on the Government Relations, Nominations, Ontario Feeder Finance, Feedlot and Forage Insurance committees.

The farm on the 9th Concession has grown through the years to 700 acres of mixed pasture, hay and cash crop. The beef enterprise has grown to 850 head of cattle on site with additional backgrounding being done in western Canada. In 2013, it was Steve's turn to take on the building of a new facility to replace the slatted-floor facility built by his father 39 years earlier.

The CAA introduced the Feedlot of the Year award four years ago to recognize feedlots that promote Angus to their customers and that feed Canadian Angus Rancher Endorsed tagged cattle.

► IN PASSING

Richard "Dick" Tokach, 82, Saint Anthony, N.D., died Nov. 9, 2014, at Sanford Continuing Care Center in Mandan, N.D.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 48

Dick was born Oct. 13, 1932, to Matt and Viola (Weiss) Tokach in Saint Anthony. He grew up on the family farm that was homesteaded by his grandfather in 1898, and he returned to the farm after attending Mandan High School and North Dakota State University (NDSU).

Dick married Teresa Elter Oct. 15, 1955. Together they created Tokach Angus Ranch and instilled the love of agriculture into their family. Dick was proud when his sons joined him as working partners. Currently, all of his children and grandchildren are involved in production agriculture.

Dick was a steward of the land, caretaker of livestock and a man of integrity. He believed in public service. He served in many areas of the livestock industry, including the National Cattlemen's Association, the National Beef Promotion and Research Board, the National Livestock and Meat Board and the North Dakota Beef Commission. He had also served as president of the North Dakota Stockman's Association and the North Dakota Angus Association. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1957.

Dick felt a duty to the community. He was

a Morton County Commissioner, North Dakota State Representative, Mandan School Board member, Morton County Fair Board member and trustee of Saint Anthony Catholic Church. He was a member of the Spirit of Life Church, the Knights of Columbus, the Saint Anthony Verein and many other organizations.

Dick was a recipient of the North Dakota Stockman's Top Hand Award and the NDSU Saddle & Sirloin Agriculturalist of the Year. He was also honored with the Beef Cattle Improvement Award as Seedstock Producer of the Year, the Soil Conservation Achievement Award, the FFA Honorary State Farmer's Award, and the North Dakota Angus Association Man of the Year Award. In 2013, Dick and Theresa were inducted into the North Dakota Agriculture Hall of Fame.

In addition to his wife, Dick is survived by sons Richard, Paul, Mike and Brad; daughter Amy; brother Bill; sister Ruth; 12 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Robert Elliott, 97, Cedar Hill, Tenn., died Nov. 18, 2014.

Robert was born in Robertson County, Tenn., Dec. 10, 1916, to William and Mattie (Saba) Elliott. He was a farmer and a member of Brewer's Chapel United

Methodist Church. As a farmer he had a passion for making the land better each year.

His achievements and service to others include serving as a magistrate in the Robertson County Court for 28 years. He was a longtime chairman of the Official Board at Brewer's Chapel United Methodist Church; a founder of the Highland Rim Angus Association; and a board member of the Tennessee Angus Association.

He was a charter member and former board member of the Robertson County Farm Bureau; a charter member of the Robertson County Farmers Co-op; and class president and captain of the football team at Bell School, class of 1935. He started his Angus herd in 1935, and had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1946 and a member since 1935.

Survivors include sons Joe and William; daughter Linda; brother Walker; sister Sue; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The family suggests contributions in Robert's memory be made to the Angus Foundation earmarked for research, 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506.

George Crenshaw, 91, a notable and long-standing figure in the Kansas livestock industry, died Nov. 26, 2014, at his home in

► NEWSMAKERS

western Wabaunsee County after a long illness.

George was born Aug. 6, 1923, to Archie and Christine Crenshaw on a family farm 4 miles north of Attica, Kan. He was president of his class and graduated as salutatorian from Attica High School in 1941. He married June Hunt, of Attica, Feb. 7, 1945, at the Hunt farm in Attica.

George was a lifelong cattleman and an early and persistent advocate for Angus cattle. In 1946, he was appointed purebred beef herdsman at Kansas State University (K-State). For decades he continued a close relationship with the university and its programs in agricultural science and veterinary medicine.

In 1950, he and his wife moved to Olathe, Kan., where George was herdsman at the Blackpost Ranch. Six years later they purchased the first parcel of what would be Shamrock Farms, their longtime home in the northern Flint Hills near Wabaunsee. In a short time, their registered-Angus cattle became fixtures at state, regional and national livestock shows.

George was especially known for taking his cattle by train and by tractor-trailer to

national shows in Phoenix, Denver and Dallas, and was instrumental locally in managing 40 consecutive annual Angus sales with Hammerlund Angus Farms.

Shamrock Farms Angus cattle were familiar winners at competitions in Illinois, Mississippi, Wyoming, Oklahoma, Missouri and New Mexico. His awards included grand national champion steers at the Denver Stock Show in 1942. Shamrock Farms has been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1955.

In ceremonies at K-State in 1993, he and June became the first couple to be inducted into the Stockman's Hall of Fame.

Through the years, George garnered countless awards and recognitions for his land stewardship, herdsmanship and community organizing. He generously gave his time to Wabaunsee 4-H clubs, K-State athletics, county township boards, county fair boards, the Wabaunsee School Board, Zeandale Community Church and the Kansas State Foundation Board. He coached local baseball teams and mentored young Angus breeders. George was a member and past president of the Kansas Angus Association (KAA).

George and June were known for a tradition of generosity at the dinner table. Through the decades, neighbors were always welcome at Halloween for June's fresh

donuts. For July 4, the family annually invited the community for Angus burgers and fireworks at Shamrock Hill, a summit that overlooked miles of the region's rolling grassland. For decades, George and June were known to open their home to Fellowship of Christian Athletes and coaches and players of all K-State sports, especially those far from their own homes and families.

George also ensured that his piece of the Flint Hills was available for Easter church services, political fundraisers and family reunions. He thrived on the energy of these social events and relished in sharing with others the land he treasured.

In addition to his wife, George is survived by daughters Rebecca, Christy and Nancy; son Roy; brother Eldon; and granddaughters Valeri, Julia and Coye.

The family suggests donations in George's name to the Kansas Junior Angus Association (KJAA) in care of the Kansas Angus Association, Anne Lampe, manager, 5201 E. Rd. 110, Scott City, KS 67871.

► INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Kenny Wells has joined ABS Global as the beef genetic nucleus manager. In this newly created position, he will manage the genetic nucleus herd and work with the company

CONTINUED ON PAGE 50

beef product development group and supply chain teams to deliver proprietary genetics in line with the company's overall beef strategy.


Dee Ellis, Texas state veterinarian and executive director of the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), was awarded the 2014 International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM-USA) Career Excellence Award, which recognizes a national leader who has made significant contributions throughout his/her career to promote the emergency management profession in the USA. Ellis is the first veterinarian to be presented with this award.

Nancy Kavazanjian, former director

of the United Soybean Board, has been named as the board chairperson for the U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance (USFRA), an organization dedicated to leading the national consumer dialogue about how America's food is grown and raised. The other 2015 Executive Committee members are **Brad Greenway**, the National Pork Board, vice chairman; **Mike Geske**, National Corn Growers Association, secretary; **Dawn Caldwell**, Federation of State Beef Councils, treasurer; and **Lisa Lunz**, the Nebraska Soybean Board and **Todd Frazier**, DuPont Pioneer, at-large members.

Susan Mayne will lead the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition beginning January 2015. She succeeds **Michael Landa**, who has led the Center since 2010.

Leann Saunders, Castle Rock, Colo., has been elected U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) chairman, succeeding Mark Jagels, Davenport, Neb. **Roel Andriessen**, Dakota Dunes, S.D., is the new USMEF chairman-elect. Vice chairman is **Bruce Schmoll** from Claremont, Mont., and the newest member of the USMEF officer team is **Dennis Stiffler**, Bronx, N.Y.

Chris Boleman, a third-generation Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service employee and currently Texas 4-H Youth Development program director for the agency, has been appointed to the board of trustees of the National 4-H Council. 

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.