



Newsmakers

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

IN PASSING

Deborah O'Connor, 57, Cox's Creek, Ky., died Dec. 5, 2015, at Flaget Memorial Hospital. Deborah Doll was born May 8, 1958, in Warren, Ohio, to the late Leslie and Rosemary (Bricken) Doll.

She was a retired secretary for O'Connor Cable Construction Inc., and was of the Catholic faith. She and her husband, Thomas "Tom" O'Connor, owned and operated Irish Acres Angus, which has been a member of the American Angus Association since 2003.

In addition to her husband, Deborah is survived by daughter Deanna; sister Denise; and brother Danny.

John Miller, 95, of Monclova, formerly of Luckey, Ohio, died Jan. 13 at Saint Luke's Hospital, Maumee, Ohio.

John was born Aug. 12, 1920, in Luckey to William and Julia (Harr) Miller. He was in the first graduating class of Troy Luckey High School. He married Norma Waters in Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 6, 1947.

John was a lifelong farmer and had also worked at Goodyear/Motorwheel in Luckey as a maintenance man. He was a member of Salem Grace United Lutheran Church in Luckey, the Farm Bureau Council, the Ohio Angus Association and the District Angus Association and enjoyed showing his cattle and breeding stock. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1953.

John is survived by daughters Karen and Diana; son Daniel; brother Donald; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Jon Riley, 51, Darlington, Wis., died Jan. 24 while on a snowmobiling trip in Upper Michigan.

Jon was born Oct. 13, 1964, in Darlington to Earl and Judith (Smith) Riley. He graduated from Darlington High School in 1983. He was united in marriage to Cheryl Steiner June 1, 1984, at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Darlington. Jon lived in

Darlington Township and co-owned and operated Riley Bros. Beef & Grain Farms with his brother Jeff.

Jon was a member of Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Darlington, the Darlington Country Club, the Darlington Pool League and was a strong contributor to the Darlington community in a multitude of ways. Riley Bros. had been a member of the American Angus Association since 2007.

Jon cherished his children and enjoyed reading to his granddaughter. He was dedicated to the family business and worked hard every day. Jon loved life and lived it to the fullest. He will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by his family and friends.

In addition to his wife, Jon is survived by his mother; sons Joshua and Jordan; daughters Ashley and Alyvia; granddaughter Rella; sister Julie; brother Jeff; and many other relatives and friends.

H. Bruce Bricker, 98, Bushnell, Ill., died Jan. 27 at Wesley Village in Macomb, Ill.

Georgia Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Athens, Jan. 2

► **Right:** The 2016 Georgia Angus Ass'n officers and board of directors are (seated, from left) **Phil Page**, Jefferson; **Smitty Lamb**, Tifton, past president; **Andrew McPeake**, Arnoldsville, vice president; **Doug Williams**, Milan, president; **Christy Page**, Jefferson, executive secretary; **Carolyn Gazda**, Athens; and **Larry Bramblett**, Elberton; (standing, back row, from left) **Kyle Gillooly**, Wadley; **John Lovin**, Lexington; **Fred Gretsich**, Crawford; **Alan Bridges**, Lexington; **Todd Alford**, Bowman; **Mike Jones**, West Point; **Mike McCravy**, Bowdon; and **Clay Williams**, Bishop.



► **Left:** **Ed Oliver**, formerly of West Point, was posthumously inducted into the Georgia Angus Hall of Fame by the Georgia Angus Ass'n (GAA). This program was established by the GAA to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the Angus industry in Georgia and across the country. Members of Ed's family accepting the award are (from left) Bridgett, Gwen, Spencer, Spen, Virginia, Martha, Sim, Carrie, Levi and Elisa Oliver; Keith, Sam, Charlie, and Bess and Lily Carter. Also pictured is Randy Daniel, presenting.



► The Kansas Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Sharee Sankey**, Council Grove, past president; **Anne Lampe**, Scott City, secretary-manager; **Neal Haverkamp**, Bern, treasurer; **Larry Lundgren**, Gove, vice president; **Stuart Rose**, Cheney, president; (standing, from left) **Lance Cline**, Onaga; **Jeff Klausmeyer**, Clearwater; **Jace Johnson**, Dwight; **Darin Huck**, Dodge City; **John McCurry**, Burrton; **Debra Bartholomew**, Mankato; **Jason Flory**, Baldwin City; and **Lynne Hinrichsen**, Westmoreland.



► **Andrew and Mary McCurry**, Burrton, receive the Honorary Member Award.

Bruce was born Aug. 26, 1917, in rural Prairie City, Ill., to Charles and Signa (Doderlein) Bricker.

Bruce graduated from Bushnell High School in 1935. He then attended Western Illinois University, graduating in 1939. At Western Illinois, he played on the football team and was injured, thus ending his football career. He had the distinction of being elected the first homecoming king there, and the school honored him by asking him to reign as grand marshall of the homecoming parade in 2011.

Bruce married Mary Pinckley Feb. 24, 1940, in Bushnell. He began farming in 1940 south of Bushnell and continued there for 76 years. He became interested in breeding Angus cattle and soon founded Bricker Angus Farm, one of the premier Angus breeding herds in the country.

He was very active in the Lamoine Valley Angus Association and helped found it in 1946. He was a past president and sales manager of the local association and the Illinois Angus Association. Bruce was also the first working farmer to be elected to the Aberdeen-Angus Association board of directors. He was a 4-H leader and was influential in any endeavor he tried. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1943.

Bruce was a lifelong fan of the Chicago Cubs. He patiently waited for them to win the World Series, but he could wait no longer. He will cheer them on with his heavenly Father and all who went ahead.

Bruce is survived by daughter Marjorie; brother Vern; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Jason Russell has been added by Zinpro Corp. to its research and nutritional services (RNS) team as research nutritionist — beef. In this new position, he will be responsible for providing U.S. customers and sales teams with cow-calf/stocker technical services. In addition, he will help to direct and coordinate various beef research studies for the company and provide beef technical services for international markets.

Matthew Douglas is the company's new key account manager for the Americas. In this new position, he will be responsible for developing and maintaining relationships, generating new product ideas, identifying collaboration opportunities, and coordinating communication and personnel to provide business and nutritional solutions to key accounts in the region.

Tim Witter has been appointed vice president of manufacturing for JCB North America. In his new position, Witter is responsible for the company's North American manufacturing center, which builds the company's skid steer and compact track loaders, the 3CX backhoe loader and the HMEE (high mobility engineer excavator). Witter also will oversee all of the Savannah-based manufacturing departments, including the Engineering, Production, Manufacturing, Purchasing and Logistics departments. He will also oversee production control, manufacturing engineering, quality, new product introductions and provides direction for global production of the company's skid steer and compact loaders.



Editor's Note: This column is compiled by Assistant Editor Linda Robbins. To submit your newsmaker, email lrobbins@angus.media or call 816-383-5245.



► **Smitty Lamb** (right), Tifton, receives a past president recognition plaque from **Doug Williams**, 2016 GAA president.



► **John and Leeann Lovin**, Genflo Angus, Lexington, receive the GAA Members of the Year award.

► **INDUSTRY EXTRAS**

Former U.S. Senator **Kit Bond**; **Bud Hertzog**, a partner in the Lee's Summit Animal Hospital; and **Russ Weathers**, CEO of Agriculture Future of America, are to be honored March 10 by the Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City with the 2016 Award for Agricultural Leadership and Excellence, named in honor of the late Jay B. Dillingham.

Vincent "Zippy" Duvall of Georgia was elected to serve as the new president of the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF). **Scott VanderWal**, Volga, S.D., was elected vice president at the AFBF annual convention.