



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Chris Jeffcoat of Littlestown, Pa., is the new regional manager for the northeastern region (Region 7) for the American Angus Association. Jeffcoat relocated from North Carolina to near Gettysburg, Pa., and began his role as regional manager March 3.

“It’s an honor to be working for Angus producers in the eastern region,” Jeffcoat says. “Thanks to their commitment to the breed, the Angus business has much to be proud of, from a population standpoint and a dedication to a high-quality product. I truly look forward to getting started.”

Jeffcoat will represent Angus at various cattle events and sales throughout the region. As a regional manager, breeders can ask him questions about Association programs and services, or for help locating Angus seedstock. He can also advise producers on marketing opportunities available through the Association.

“Chris brings a lifetime of experience to the Angus breed, and we look forward to seeing what he brings to our Angus producers and the future of the business breed,” says Bryce Schumann, the Association’s CEO. “We hope farmers and ranchers in the eastern region call on Chris for advice with their operations.”

Jeffcoat’s region covers Delaware, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

“It’s a great time to be in the cattle business, and more importantly the Angus breed,” Jeffcoat says.

A native of Pennsylvania, Jeffcoat received a bachelor’s degree in agribusiness management from Penn State University, and a master’s degree in agricultural economics from the University of Kentucky (UK). Jeffcoat’s family owns both commercial and registered Angus cattle, and a local meat processing facility where they direct-market beef to consumers.

Jeffcoat was formerly employed by the North Carolina State University Extension Service as an area agent for livestock, equine, forages and direct marketing. His past experience includes serving as the Pennsylvania Beef Council’s Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) director, and a UK Extension agent for agriculture and natural resources.

North Carolina Angus Ass’n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Jan. 18, Winston-Salem



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

►The North Carolina Angus Ass’n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **DeEtta Wood**, Willow Spring, North Carolina Angus Auxiliary president; **John Smith Jr.**, Pink Hill, vice president; **Suzanne Brewer**, Lexington, executive secretary; **Roy Swisher**, Statesville, president; (second row, from left) **Henry Vines**, Snow Camp; **Edward Leagans**, Mocksville; **Linda Hicks**, Roxboro; **Daniel Brown**, Boone, North Carolina Jr. Angus Ass’n president; **Roy Outlaw**, Seven Springs; **Jeffrey Wood**, Willow Spring; (standing, back row, from left) **Stephen Watson**, Lenoir; **William Leatherman**, Lexington; **Stan Tennant**, Greensboro; **Ben Winslow**, Halifax; **Kim Starnes**, Salisbury; **Bill Teague**, Waynesville; and **Steve Gordon**, Kings Mountain.



►**Russell** (left) and **Elaine Wood**, Wood Angus Farm LLC, Willow Spring, receive the Ira Gentry Memorial Award from Mark Wilburn, chairman of the Spring Fever sale.



►**Left: Ike Jackson** (left), Elizabeth City, was inducted into the North Carolina Angus Ass’n Hall of Fame by Bill Ebert, chairman of the Hall of Fame committee.



►**Dean Crocker** (left), Cherryville, receives the Handbook Dedication award from Jeff Carpenter.



►**Steve McPherson** (left), Snow Camp, receives the Handbook Dedication award from Suzanne Brewer, North Carolina Angus Ass’n executive secretary.

Barb Downey, Downey Ranch, Wamego, Kan., was elected chairwoman of the Kansas Beef Council (KBC) Executive Committee during the group’s business meeting in February. **Philip Weltmer**, W&S Ranch, Smith Center, was elected vice chairman.

Downey and her husband, Joe Carpenter, own and operate Downey Ranch in Wabaunsee County, which consists of a commercial and registered-Angus cow-calf herd. Downey is a member of the Kansas Livestock Association (KLA), the National

► **Illinois Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Feb. 21, Springfield**

Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), and was past president of the Kansas Angus Association. Downey Ranch has been a member of the American Angus Association since 1992.

She currently serves on the joint Cattlemen's Beef Board (CBB) and the NCBA Federation Beef's Image Committee, the KLA board of directors and the NCBA board of directors. She and Joe have two daughters, Laura and Anna.

Weltmer and his wife, Jessica, partner with his grandfather, father and uncle in the ownership and management of W&S Ranch in Smith County. The Weltmer operation consists of a commercial and registered-Angus cow herd, a diversified farming operation and feeding enterprise. He is a member of the KLA, NCBA and Kansas Farm Bureau. He currently serves on the joint CBB and NCBA Federation Nutrition & Health Subcommittee and Market Research Working Group. Weltmer is also a member of the KLA and NCBA boards of directors. Philip and Jessica have three children, Kaden, Korey and Kaylee. W&S Ranch has been a member of the American Angus Association since 2004.

Spencer Jones, Jones Family Angus, Wamego, Kan., is among 20 young cattlemen and women from across the state who met in Topeka Feb. 18-19 for the first installment of the 2014 Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) Young Stockmen's Academy (YSA). Merck Animal Health is again serving as the exclusive sponsor of the program. A series of four seminars will take place throughout the year in various locations in Kansas.

During the two-day session, attendees participated in advocacy training, learned more about the legislative process and heard from KLA staff about the array of services the association provides. As part of an interactive training session led by KLA staff, White City rancher and beef advocate Debbie Lyons-Blythe and WIBW-Topeka farm broadcasters Kelly Lenz and Greg Akagi, the group was given an overview of the various media outlets available to help tell the beef-production story.

Lyons-Blythe shared how she has implemented advocacy into her daily routine through the use of her blog *Life on a Kansas Cattle Ranch* on Facebook and Twitter. The



► **Curtin Land & Cattle**, Blue Mound, received the Stan Prox Memorial Award. Pictured are (from left) Luke Lemenager, Illinois Angus Ass'n president, presenting; and T.J. Curtin, Fred Curtin, and John Curtin, recipients.



► **Garrett Lampe** (left), Top Line Farm, and **Morgan Kramer** (right), Kramer Angus Farm, Farina, receive the grand champion bull award.



► **Sherry Adcock** (left), Moweaqua, receives the grand champion female award from Aaron Schafer, Illinois Angus Ass'n secretary.



► **Curtin Land & Cattle**, Blue Mound, received the J. Garrett Tolan Get-of-Sire Award. Pictured are (from left) John Curtin, Fred Curtin, and T.J. Curtin, recipients; and Troy Tolan, presenting on behalf of the Tolan family.

class participated in a hands-on social media activity and mock radio talk show.

YSA members attended a Senate Agriculture Committee meeting at the Capitol and had lunch with their legislators prior to participating in a financial-planning seminar by Kennedy and Coe LLC.

The other members of the 2014 class include Bryan Armendariz, Chapman; Sarah Bryant, Winfield; Cody Campfield, Saint John; Issac Carr, Junction City; Neil Cates, Beloit; Kyla Clawson, Satanta; Rachel Collinge, Eureka; Jaymelynn Farney, Parsons; Andrew Froetschner, Larned; Ryan Gasche, Cassoday; Robby Haynes, Dwight; Lindsey Huseman, Ellsworth; Brandy Jones, Wamego; Ty Josefiak, Rozel; Marisa Kleysteuber, Garden City; Evan Lesser, Palco, Laura Mushrush, Strong City; Jake Pannbacker, Washington; and Chase Thompson, Scott City.

The second installment of the YSA class will be in May. Members will have the opportunity to learn more about the agribusiness and retail beef industries. More information about YSA can be found at www.kla.org.

► **IN PASSING**

Patricia Tulp, 68, Lake City, Fla., died Feb. 2 at the V.A. Medical Center in Lake City.

She was born in Buffalo, N.Y., April 30, 1945. She was a dedicated registered nurse, serving in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam era. She worked in home care in north-central Florida for the last 21 years, and was a partner, with her husband, in Price Creek Angus Farm.

Price Creek has been a member of the American Angus Association since 1990.

She is survived by her husband of 45 years, Jan Peter Tulp; her mother, Mary McLane; sons Sean and Scott; daughter Jaime; and grandchildren Zachary, Jana, Wesley and Hunter.

Stan Prox, 73, Macomb, Ill., died Feb. 6 at McDonough District Hospital in Macomb.

Stan was born June 7, 1940, in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Stanton and Harriet (Fageol) Prox. He attended Western Kentucky State University while working at several Angus farms. He then made his way back home to Illinois in 1963 and became manager and co-owner of Vega Farms. The farm achieved tremendous success with its show cattle. He married Linda Sperry Oct. 9, 1965.

In 1966, Stan, his father-in-law, Wayne Sperry, and brother-in-law George formed a partnership, Shilo Farms, near Macomb. Shilo Farms quickly became synonymous

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with excellent genetics and winning animals. Their success in the show- and salerings ranged from local and state to national shows.

Stan was most proud of the fact that people knew him to be fair, nonjudgmental,



Stan Prox

even-tempered and always willing to mentor and/or help when needed. He was involved in 4-H and FFA; and was an Illinois Junior Angus Association advisor; Lamoine Valley Angus Association president; Tri-County

Cattlemen's Association member; Illinois Angus Association president and business manager; McDonough Power Cooperative director, president and treasurer; the Association of Illinois Electric Co-op's director and officer; Illinois Expo board member; chairman of the Beef Expo; and Angus Heritage Foundation selection committee member.

Stan received a plaque honoring his 25 years of service to the Illinois Angus Association, and in 2011 received the first President's Award for his many years of commitment and dedication to Illinois Angus cattle, youth and activities.

He was the Land of Lincoln Purebred Breeders' Association beef director and president. He was dedicated in the Illinois State Fair premium book, with his picture hung in the Illinois Department of Agriculture building due to years of service and commitment. He also received the Illinois Beef Association Beef Backer Award in 2012.

He was on the state fair advisory board appointed by Gov. Jim Edgar. Stan was chairman of the Illinois delegation to the American Angus Association annual meeting for more than 20 years. He was a VitaFerm mineral distributor for 20 years and was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation in 2012.

As owner of the Chuckwagon Food Service, he sold more than 200,000 sandwiches through the years. The stand was seen at many local and state shows all over Illinois. The Chuckwagon was known for great ribeyes, brisket and service.

In addition to his wife, Stan is survived by daughters Carrie and Colette; granddaughters Kayla, Emma and Anna; sister Penny; three nieces; one great-niece; four great-nephews; and many cousins.

Memorials may be made to the Stan Prox Memorial fund through the Angus

Foundation, 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506.

James Earl Weiker, 86, Fayette, Mo., died Feb. 19 at the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital Hospice Unit in Columbia, Mo.

Earl was born Nov. 20, 1927, in Payson, Okla., a son of Fred and Margaret (Canant) Weiker. He graduated in 1950 from Oklahoma A&M (now Oklahoma State University) with a degree in agriculture education and a high school VoAg teaching certificate. While teaching at Welch, Okla., he received a mandatory invitation from the U.S. government to participate in the Korean Conflict. After his tour of duty and discharge from the U.S. Air Force, he came to Missouri in 1953 to farm with his parents.

Weiker Angus Ranch was established in 1953 when Earl purchased five heifer calves. Earl married Julia Lay, a Howard County native, in 1959. Weiker Angus Ranch received the Historic Angus Herd Award in 2012 for having been a continuous producer of registered-Angus cattle for more than 50 years.

Earl was most proud of receiving second place in the 1993 Missouri Angus Breeder of the Year award based on performance and showing results; an award in 1994 for appreciation for outstanding and continued support of the Boone County Fair Cattle Division; and, in 1996, the American Royal honored the Weiker family as the Missouri Farm Family for Beef.

Earl served as a past president of the Howard County Angus Association and served on the Howard County Angus Board; the Mid-Mo Co-op Association and the Howard County Feeder Calf Association Board.

He was a member of the Fayette Young Farmers and Farm Wives; the Missouri Farm Bureau; Howard County Cattlemen's Association; the Missouri Cattlemen's Association; NCBA, and the Missouri Angus Association. Earl had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1964.

In addition to feeding and caring for his registered-Angus herd, he enjoyed caring for his chickens, cats, dog and garden. He also enjoyed his catfish pond and seining with family and friends, going on extended trips with close friends, and nights of dining and dancing.

In addition to his wife, Earl is survived by daughters Mary, Margaret and Earlene; son Fred; grandson James; and many extended family members.

Howard Langvardt, 69, Chapman, Kan., died Feb. 21 at the Good Shepherd Hospice House in Manhattan, Kan.

Howard was born Nov. 22, 1944, in Junction City, Kan., the son of LaVern and Ethel (Norman) Langvardt. He graduated from Junction City High School (JCHS) and, immediately after high school, attended the Repperts School of Auctioneering in Decatur, Ind.

Along with his family, Howard purchased and managed for 48 years JC Livestock Sales Co., the livestock auction market in Junction City. In 1996, Howard and his family purchased Clay Center Livestock Sales, the sale barn in Clay Center, Kan. Howard was the main auctioneer at the barns and was known for selling cattle, hogs and horses for people in the area. He and his family also raised commercial Angus cattle on the farm west of Junction City.

The Langvardts hosted numerous special commercial cow sales at JC Livestock, including the JC Livestock Black Baldie Sale in conjunction with the Kansas Angus Association and the Kansas Hereford Association. In recent years, the special cow

sale was co-sponsored with the Kansas Angus Association solely, and has been a good market for commercial females that meet *Certified Angus Beef*[®] (CAB[®]) specifications.

Howard's oldest son and his wife (Karl and Amy [Lyons] Langvardt) are co-owners of Lyons Angus Ranch in Manhattan and Alta Vista, Kan., with Amy's parents Frank and Jan Lyons.

Howard met his wife, Ann Kamm, on a Geary County 4-H trip to the American Royal in Kansas City, Mo. They were married May 3, 1964, at First United Methodist Church in Junction City, and worked side by side for 49 years at the sale barns and on the farm.

Howard grew up showing horses and competing in rodeos and played baseball and football in Junction City. He played in the JCHS band. Howard loved watching his children and grandchildren play and compete in the activities he treasured, as well. He was a founding member of the Eastern Kansas Horseman's Association and a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Junction City.

Howard was known for a fast auction cry and a quick wit. He loved to auctioneer a sale at his own sale barn or at other barns or for area county 4-H fairs as a volunteer. He competed and was a finalist in several World Livestock Auctioneering competitions. He and Ann enjoyed traveling with friends and telling stories about their adventures together gathering cattle on area ranches and seeing the western United States.

In addition to his wife, Howard is survived by sons Karl, Trey and Lynn; a special sister Audrey; eight grandchildren; and numerous family members.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

When **R. Crosby Kemper Jr.**, 86, died Jan. 2, the Kansas City, Mo., native left behind the Agriculture Future of America (AFA), among many community organizations and projects. Because he believed the best young leaders come from rural backgrounds, and he wanted to give them the tools they need, AFA was founded by Kemper and other area business leaders, including his son Alexander (Sandy) Kemper, in 1996. During the past 17 years the AFA has awarded more than \$8 million in

academic and leader development scholarships, impacting more than 9,000 college leaders and young professionals.

AFA's student delegation has represented more than 200 colleges and universities from 43 states. Under the leadership of the board of directors, chaired by Sandy Kemper, student participation in AFA's leader development programs has increased by 70% in the last five years. Kemper Jr.'s commitment to the AFA and its students was personal, as he served as a lifetime member of the AFA board.

Bill Dugas has been acting vice chancellor for agriculture and life sciences and acting dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for the Texas A&M University System since Jan. 14. Dugas, who has been associate vice chancellor and associate dean of agriculture and life sciences since 2009, will serve in the new capacity while Mark Hussey, who formerly filled those roles, serves as interim president of Texas A&M University. Hussey will return to his role as vice chancellor and dean when a new president is selected for Texas A&M.

Matt Utt has been named director of research, and **Marcus Schmelzer** has taken on the role of laboratory safety coordinator at

Select Sires Inc. In his role, Utt will work closely with other staff scientists to design research trials to improve semen collection, freezing, extenders, evaluation procedures and, ultimately, semen fertility potential in the field. In addition to freezing semen and working with quality control, Schmelzer will now serve as laboratory safety coordinator, developing, coordinating and enforcing safety procedures during semen processing through written protocols and hands-on demonstrations.

Paul Gibbs, Boonville, was named the Cattleman of the Year by the Missouri Cattleman's Association (MCA) at the Missouri Cattle Industry Convention & Trade Show in January. **W.A. Schlesselman**, Concordia, received the Pioneer Award. **Ed Trotter** and **Kevin Yaeger** from Zoetis received the Allied Industry Award. **Brenda Black** was announced as the Cattlewoman of the Year by the Missouri CattleWomen's Association (MCW).

Emily Scott has been named the 2014 Olympic Beef Ambassador of Missouri by the Missouri Beef Industry Council. She competed in the Sochi Olympic Games for short track speed skating. Scott grew up in Springfield, Mo., and was chosen as this

year's first ever Beef Ambassador because of her strong advocacy of using beef as her main source of protein and the importance it plays in her "eight-hours per day, six-days a week" on- and off-ice workouts.

Evelyn Brandt Thomas, co-founder of Brandt, will receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters from the University of Illinois–Springfield (UIS) during the May 17 commencement ceremony at Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield. The University's board of trustees approved the degree at its meeting in Chicago, Ill., for the matriarch of Brandt, a global agriculture retailer and manufacturer of agricultural specialty products based in Springfield.

Brent Woodward has been hired as associate vice president of research for Cooperative Resources International (CRI). In this role, Woodward will direct research efforts across CRI and its subsidiaries, AgSource Cooperative Services and Genex Cooperative Inc.

John Patterson, CBE, chairman and CEO for JCB, has retired after 43 years of service from JCB North America. **Arjun Mirdha** will succeed him as president and CEO.

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Missouri Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Feb. 22, Columbia

► **Right:** The Missouri Angus Ass'n officers and board members are (seated, from left) **Josh Worthington**, Dadeville, general manager; **Brian Meier**, Jackson, president; **Alan Mead**, Barnett, president-elect; **Brian Brockman**, Brookfield, vice president; **Kent Dye**, Elsberry, secretary; **Todd Ragsdale**, Paris, past president; (standing, from left) **Linda Eck**, Sarcoxie; **Kimberly Huebler**, Bland; **Russell Coon**, Bethel; **Becky March**, Doniphan; **Kenny Hinkle**, Nevada; **Robert Smith**, Marshfield; **Steve Houston**, Savannah; and **Jim Brinkley**, Milan.



► The Missouri Angus Auxiliary officers are (seated, from left) **Myra Colin**, Butler, first vice president; **Pam Eagleburger**, Buffalo, second vice president; (standing, from left) **Becky Heimsoth**, Cameron, secretary; **Darla Eggers**, Mexico, treasurer; and **Connie Sayre**, Elkland, president.



► **Miller Bros.**, Knox City, was named Commercial Producer of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Bill, Misti, Chad, Erin, Russ, Erin, Eileen and Steve Miller; and Sherry and Jim Brinkley.



► **Wallace Cattle Co.**, Stotts City, was named Breeder of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Tammy, Paige and Samuel Wallace.



► The Show Bull of the Year Award was a tie. **Hunter Angus**, Fair Grove, and **74-51 Cattle Co. LLC**, Stillwater, Okla., received the award for 74-51 Sudden Look 1023. **Wallace Cattle Co.**, Stotts City, and **Carrier Muddy Creek Farms**, Lockwood, received the award for Wallace Challenger 280. Pictured are (from left) David, Gigi, Jordan, Cheratin, Clint and Rachel Hunter; and Paige, Tammy and Samuel Wallace; and David Carrier.



► **Eddie and Connie Sydenstricker**, Sydenstricker Genetics, Mexico, receive the Pioneer Breeder Award.



► **Brock Meyer**, Curryville, won the Best Three Head award.



► From left **Cody Smith** and **Clayton Smith**, both of West Plains, receive the Herdsman of the Year Award from Rachel and Clint Hunter.



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.