



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Gardiner Angus Ranch, Ashland, Kan., has announced the winners of the 2016-2017 Henry C. Gardiner Scholarship. Students classified as a rising junior, junior or senior, either enrolled in or planning to enroll at Kansas State University (K-State) with a major in animal science and industry or closely related field may apply. Students meeting the criteria and exhibiting a passion to improve the beef industry are encouraged to apply.

Applicants must complete the K-State scholarship form and the supplemental Henry C. Gardiner application form. In addition to the applications, students must complete a rigorous interview conducted by a panel of K-State faculty and industry leaders. Academic standing, community service, work ethic and future goals are taken into consideration. Both the K-State and Gardiner applications must be completed by Feb. 1 each year, as scholarships are awarded for each school year. Scholarship applications for the 2016-2017 school year were due Feb. 1, 2016.

The Henry C. Gardiner Scholarship is made possible through the generous contributions of Gardiner customers, friends and family in an effort to continue the legacy

of Henry Gardiner. To date, 14 undergraduate students have received \$60,000 in scholarships.

Recipients for the 2016-2017 school year are Lauren Prill, Wichita, Kan.; Cami Roth, Sterling, Kan.; Barrett Simon, Leon, Kan.; and Savannah Speckhart, Princeville, Ill.

Valley View Angus Farm, Republic, Mo., has been recognized by the American Angus Association as a Historic Angus Herd.

The McElhany family has been raising registered-Angus cattle for more than 50 years in southwest Missouri.

Leon McElhany established the farm in 1961, and the herd is now in its second generation with his son, Lynn. Leon purchased the farm's foundation female — Emdirby Lass 5 — in September 1961 from Junior Stockstill in Clever, Mo.

The registered-Angus cattle transitioned the McElhany herd from a dairy to a beef operation, and Leon continued to breed Angus until his death in 1986. Lynn and his mother, Mary, have continued Leon's passion for the breed by managing the herd ever since.

They were early adopters of the American Angus Association's Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®), which

allowed them to increase genetic performance and carcass quality. Lynn also incorporates ultrasound technology and genomic testing into his operation, using the best possible science to perfect each breeding decision.

The farm is now home to 100 registered-Angus cows, and Lynn markets Angus bulls throughout the year.

Historic Angus Herd honors are presented to Angus breeders or immediate families who have been in continuous production of registered-Angus cattle for 50 years or more.

Hoefelmeyer Angus, Poth, Texas, has been recognized by the American Angus Association as a Historic Angus Herd.

Carl Hoefelmeyer began his registered-Angus herd on Sept. 1, 1963, when he purchased two heifers as an FFA project. Six years later, Carl took on a partner when he married his wife, Nelda Sue (Cook).

The dual partnership lasted for an additional 44 years, as the couple grew their registered-Angus herd and family in tandem. Their children, E. William and Karla, were active members of the cattle business as 4-H and FFA members, as well as raising their own show heifers and bulls.

The herd's original females were purchased from Joe K. Williams of nearby

► Pennsylvania Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Jan. 8, Harrisburg

► **Right:** The Pennsylvania Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Wendall Landis**, Manheim, vice president; **Eugene Trowbridge**, Meshoppen, president; **Jamie Brozman**, Bethlehem, secretary; **Bradford Bishard**, York, treasurer; (standing, from left) **Dale Rains**, Mercer; **Deric Horting**, Newport; **Kyle Grim**, Thomasville; **Delbert Voight**, Fredericksburg; **Chad Cash**, York; and **Mindy Seese**, Stroudsburg.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE AMERICAN ANGUS ASS'N

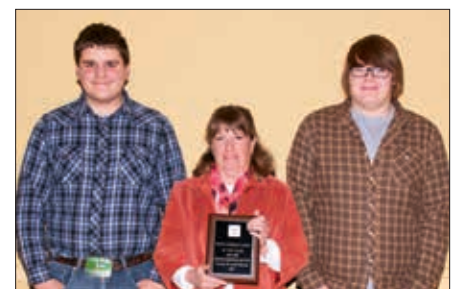


► **Cheryl** (right) and **William Fairbairn**, Lisnageer Farm, Coatesville, were named Seedstock Producers of the Year.



► **Left:** The **Rohrbaugh family**, Seven Valleys, received the Family of the Year award. Pictured are (from left) Douglas, Cathy and Daniel Rohrbaugh, recipients; and Chad Cash, last year's recipient.

► **Right:** **Charles** and **Janice Graver**, Graver Farmstead, Bath, receive the Stewardship Farm of the Year award. Pictured are (from left) Derek Thomas, grandson; Janice Graver, recipient; and Conner Timmerman, grandson.



Pleasanton, Texas. Both heifers were purchased for \$305. Within five years, they invested in 50 head of cows and bulls from the Knight Ranch near Beeville, Texas. Over the years, they would add genetics to their herd from South Dakota, Iowa, Virginia, as well as other areas of Texas and the United States.

The Hoefelmeyer Angus herd has been part of the family ranch income for the past 50 years, and today, Carl's first grandchildren are in the showing with their heifers. Daily management of the herd, which consists of 200 mama cows, still rests primarily with Carl and Nelda, along with their son, William, who is an active partner in the business.

Swanson Angus, Durant, Iowa, has been honored as a Historic Angus Herd by the American Angus Association.

Oscar Swanson was so pleased with the performance of his son's Angus steer 4-H project in 1946 that it led the family to sell their dairy herd and enter the Angus business. His oldest son, Glen, continues that tradition today on the farm in eastern Iowa.

The Swanson Angus foundation cattle were purchased from Griff Norton, a partner in Wilton Angus Farms of Wilton Junction, Iowa. When Oscar purchased the Angus cows, his second son, Donald, was just starting to participate in 4-H. They decided to officially name their operation the Glen-Don Angus Farm, and by 1950 they were selling registered-Angus cattle throughout Iowa. Oscar, his wife, Alberta, and their sons participated in the Iowa State Angus show and sale, as well as the local eastern Iowa Angus sale.

Glen started farming on his own in 1957 and married Judith Kundel two years later. With 21 registered-Angus cows, the couple established Swanson Angus. They raised three daughters — Julie, Glenda and Bonnie — on the farm. The girls grew up with a love for cattle, were active in 4-H and FFA, and showed Angus heifers and steers. They were also active in the Iowa Junior Angus Association — following in the footsteps of their father.

The Iowa Junior Angus Association was established in 1957 under the direction of Lyle Haring of DeWitt, Iowa. Glen was elected to serve as the organization's vice president, and all three of his daughters served as officers, along with the next generation of seven grandchildren. Soon, their four great-grandchildren will become

► **Ohio Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Feb. 6, Plain City**



► **Above:** Ohio Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Sandra Wallace**, Kansas, director; **Keith Burgett**, Carrollton; **Kelvin Egner**, Shelby, chairman; **Tim Harsh**, Radnor, president; **Joseph Sanders**, Harrod, vice president; **Daniel Wells**, Chillicothe, secretary; **Allen Gahler**, Graytown, treasurer; (standing, from left) **Henry Bergfeld**, Summitville; **Jay Clutter**, Wapakoneta; **Todd Raines**, Seaman; **Kent Bauman**, Otway; **John Hall**, Cardington; **Keith Kauffman**, Danville; **John King**, Tiffin; **Chip Enos**, Cambridge; **David Felumlee**, Newark; **John Grimes**, Hillsboro; **Frederick Penick**, Hebron; **Paul Hill**, Bidwell; and **Brent English**, Elida.

► **Right:** **John & Joanie Grimes**, Hillsboro, receive the Distinguished Service Award.



members of the Iowa Junior Angus Association, as well.

Over the course of his Angus career, Glen has served as the Iowa Angus Association president, Eastern Iowa Angus Association president and a member of the American Angus Association's Board of Directors for six years. The family was featured in *The Good Life*, a film produced by the American Angus Association in the 1980s.

Today, Swanson Angus is home to 50 registered-Angus cows. Glen continues to work with the cattle every day and makes all the decisions for breeding and management.

► **IN PASSING**

Murl Richardson, 87, Fort Worth, Texas, died Feb. 12.

Murl was born May 2, 1928, in Childress, Texas, to Julius and Ruby Richardson. He graduated from Arlington Heights High School and attended Texas Christian University (TCU) and Southern Methodist University (SMU). He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean Conflict.

After his military service, Murl began his business career in the oil and gas industry where he was vice president of engineering for Oil States Industries for more than 40 years. Following Oil States, he formed his own firm, Richardson Companies, which continued to work in the oil and gas industry.

Murl also enjoyed managing the family ranch, Richardson McClung Ranch, until his passing. Murl was active with the Texas Angus Association, for which he was a past president and was currently on the board of directors. Murl had been a member of the American Angus Association since 1992.

Murl was a member of Western Hills Church of Christ and served as an elder for more than 30 years. He enjoyed traveling with his wife of 64 years, Lucian. He valued most his family, faith and friends.

In addition to his wife, Murl is survived by son Murl Jr.; daughter Barbie; sister Norma; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren, with another on the way.

Bennett "Ben" Houston, 86, Longmont, Colo., died Feb. 26 at his residence, surrounded by his beloved family.

Ben showed his first calf in 1938 as a 9-year-old schoolboy. This marked the start of his American Dream to have a cattle ranch, a family to nurture, a good horse to ride, and a chance to give something back for the opportunity to fulfill a dream.

Ben's parents, Walter and Minnie (Leach) Houston, homesteaded in Yuma County, Colo., but later moved to Buckingham, a small community in northeastern Weld



Ben Houston

County. Walter was a pioneer Angus breeder from whom Ben learned his strong work ethic and western values.

Ben graduated from Sterling High School and served four years in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict. During his enlistment he attended the University of Illinois. In 1950, he married Anita Lambert, and they had four children.

Ben was herdsman for Norgren Polled Hereford Ranch, manager of Hilltop Angus

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and Haystack Angus Ranches, and joined the Austin Moody Sale Management organization. His cool, polite, likeable manner and keen eye for “a good one” left him with many friends at every stop he made.

In 1965, Ben established Aristocrat Angus Ranch on the Saint Vrain near Platteville, Colo. The operation included a feedlot, an embryo transfer center and cropland.

In 1976, Ben was appointed to the Executive Committee of the National Western Stock Show (NWSS). He was

elected president in 1985 and chairman of the board in 1999. Ben had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1967 and was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation in 2001. He served as president of the Colorado Cattle Feeders, as a director of the National Cattlemen’s Association (NCA), Round-Up Riders of the Rockies and Colorado National Bank. He was an ardent supporter of Colorado State University (CSU) and served on the CSU Advisory Board, Developmental Board and CSURF. In 1995, Ben was honored with the NWSS Citizen of the West Award.

Throughout his life Ben always gave much credit for his achievements to Nita, his wife of more than 60 years; to his family; and to his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Ben’s community service included Weld County 4-H Club leader, Valley High School FFA Advisory Committee, and the Weld County Fair Board. He was proud to be a lifelong member of LifeBridge Christian Church.

Ben is survived by children Diane, Pam

and Skylar; eight grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Courtney Daigle has joined Texas A&M AgriLife Research and the Department of Animal Science at Texas A&M University in both research and teaching roles. Her main research program will focus on developing science-based methods for objectively assessing and improving animal well-being.

Erin Creason, Polo, Mo., has been hired by BioZyme Inc. as inside sales coordinator. In her new position, Creason is responsible for working with the company’s nationwide dealer network to help them grow their businesses.

Katie Vaz, Saint Joseph, Mo., has joined BioZyme as marketing and communications manager. In her new position, Vaz is responsible for developing and implementing communications and marketing strategies that support the company’s supplement

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Illinois Angus Ass’n Annual Banquet, Feb. 26, Springfield



► **The Aaron Schafer family**, Owaneco, received the Mitchell Widholdt Outstanding Junior Family of the Year award. Pictured are (from left) Eric, Aaron and Lizzie Schafer; Andrew Livingston, presenting; and Sue Schafer.



► **Linda Prox** (left), Macomb, receives the Junior Appreciation Award from Gabrielle Lemenager (right), National Junior Angus Board (NJAB) director.



► **Betzold Farms**, Nokomis, received the Grand Champion Female award. Pictured are (from left) Mark Paine; Austin Betzold; Aaron Schafer, presenting; and Bruce Betzold.



► **Sherry Adcock** (left), Moweaqua, receives a thank you plaque for being a junior advisor from Gabrielle Lemenager.



► **Left: Parr Cattle Co.**, Mason City, received the J. Garrett Tolan Get-of-Sire award. Pictured are (from left) Kirsten and Bret Parr.

► **Right: Aaron Schafer** (right), Owaneco, receives the Stan Prox Memorial Award from Linda Prox (left).



► **Virginia Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Feb. 6, Natural Bridge**

► **Right:** The Virginia Angus Ass'n officers and board of directors are (seated, from left) **John Pennington**, Warrenton, director; **Virginia Coleman**, Scottsville, secretary; **Jon Repair**, Glasgow, president; **Glenn Covington**, Warrenton, past president; **Carol Wojciechowski**, Middlebrook, administrative assistant; (back row, from left) **Craig Miller**, Harrisonburg, director; **Dalton Bennett**, Red House, director; **Peter Henderson**, Williamsburg, treasurer; **Kymberly Coffman**, McGaheysville, director; and **Dennis Eastin**, Gretna, director.



► **Jerry Crenshaw** (left), Upperville, receives the Handbook Dedication Award from Jon Repair, Virginia Angus Ass'n president.



► **Anne Jones** (left), Forest, receives the Cattlewoman of the Year award from Steve Jones.



► **Dave Norford** (left), Charlottesville, receives the Commercial Cattleman Award from Steve Hopkins, Virginia Cattlemen's Ass'n president.



► **Thomas Templeton** (left), Harrisonburg, receives the Promoter of the Year award from Craig Miller.



► **The Clark family**, Gretna, was named Family of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Dennis Eastin, presenter; and Gordon, Tim, Suter and Gretchen Clark, recipients.



► **The 2015 Genetic Investment Sale Committee** was named Sales Chairman of the Year. Pictured are (from left) presenter Glenn Covington, 2015 Virginia Angus Ass'n president; and sale committee members Craig Miller; Rebecca Webert, holding William Webert, Marshall; and Thomas Templeton.



► **Craig Miller** (left), receives the Vanguard Award from Templeton.



► **Left: Joe, Timmy and Matthew Lucas**, Blacksburg, received the Bartenslager Award. Pictured are (from left) Timmy, Joe and Matthew Lucas; and Peter Henderson, presenting.

► **Right: Justin Sansouci**, West Point, was named Manager of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Jennifer, holding Billy, and Justin Sansouci; and Jerry Gustin, presenter.



► **Rebecca Webert** (right, holding Benjamin Webert), receives the Distinguished Service Award from Jon Repair (left), Virginia Angus Ass'n president.



► **Left: Dale Eastin** (left), Gretna, receives the Herdsman of the Year award from Buddy Shelton.

► **Right: Glenn Covington** (right), Warrenton, receives the Outgoing President Award from Jon Repair, 2016 Virginia Angus Ass'n president.



division brands and overall objectives. She also travels to a variety of trade shows and events across the country and assists with managing the company's internship program.

Lori Colsten, Saint Joseph, Mo., has been hired by BioZyme as a customer service and logistics coordinator. In her new position, Colsten is responsible for providing premier customer service to all company dealers and customers and assisting with expediting claims, helping with orders and building customer relationships.

Emily Goodall has joined the CUP Lab LLC of Ames, Iowa, as the quality assurance manager. In this role, Goodall will be responsible for the database, customer relations and other day-to-day tasks.

W. Dwight Armstrong, CEO of the National FFA Organization, has been named by the National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA) as the 2016 Agribusiness Leader of the Year. The award, which is NAMA's highest honor, recognizes outstanding leadership in private, public or academic service and is conferred each year to a senior agribusiness executive who exemplifies

excellence in agribusiness and has also made significant contributions to the industry.

Christina O'Brien, Norz Hill Farm, Bridgewater, N.J., has been named by the Agriculture Council of America (ACA) as the Charles Eastin Award recipient for 2016. The award honors an individual who stands out as an advocate for accurate communications between rural and urban audiences.



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.*