

# Newsmakers

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

## IN THE NEWS

**Carolyn Gazda** was recognized as the 2017 Georgia CattleWoman of the Year by the Georgia CattleWomen's Association (GCWA).

Carolyn and her husband, David, reside on their farm outside of Athens where they maintain a herd of registered Angus and commercial cattle.

Carolyn was raised in Gwinnett County, Ga., where she was highly involved in the livestock program from a young age. The daughter of a county extension agent, she showed everything she could get her hands on. It was cattle that stuck with her.

In addition to her involvement in the

► **Right: Carolyn Gazda** (center), Athens, receives the 2017 Georgia CattleWoman of the Year award from Kyle Gillooly (left), Wadley, 2016-2017 Georgia Cattlemen's Association president, and Crystal Smallwood, Monticello, 2017-2019 CattleWomen's Association president.



junior livestock program, Carolyn was an active 4-H member. She went on to attend the University of Georgia—Athens (UGA), where she received a bachelor's degree in animal science. It was also at UGA where she met her future husband. They graduated from UGA in 1983, got married and moved to Texas soon thereafter.

Carolyn furthered her education at Stephen F. Austin State University in

Nacogdoches, Texas, where David was managing the beef unit. The couple returned to Athens where David's father ran a small registered Angus herd. In 1988, David began working as a regional manager for the American Angus Association, a position he still holds today.

Carolyn and David have two daughters, Katie and Taylor, who were both active in the Georgia junior livestock program.

Carolyn has been heavily involved in the Angus industry since she was an exhibitor herself. As she aged out of the junior program, she continued to be active in the Georgia Angus Association (GAA), serving as executive secretary, director, vice president and eventually president. She and her family were also named the GAA Family of the Year in the mid-90s. Currently, she is an active member of the American Angus Auxiliary.

As a product of the junior livestock program, Carolyn has been a loyal and selfless cheerleader of all juniors.

In 2001, Carolyn and David were named the Clarke-Oconee Cattlemen of the Year. The following year, they were named the Georgia Cattlemen's Association Purebred Cattlemen of the Year. The couple received the Clarke-Oconee Cattlemen's Association Environmentalist Award in 2004. Carolyn served in many leadership roles within the Clarke-Oconee Cattlemen's Association, including vice president and president. She is currently a director for the Oglethorpe County Cattlemen's Association.

In addition to her involvement on the county level, Carolyn has been an active member of the GCWA, which she has served as vice president. She has also participated in the Georgia Cattlemen's Association Emerging Leaders Conference.

While Carolyn's involvement in the cattle industry may seem to take up all of her time, she still manages to be involved in

## Alabama Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, April 14, Cullman



► The Alabama Angus Ass'n officers and board of directors are (seated, from left) **Jennifer Lee**, Daviston, president; **Chris Wisener**, Arab, first vice president; **J.B. Turner Jr.**, Harvest, second vice president; **Cobie Rutherford**, Starkville, Miss., treasurer; **Mike McGuire**, Waverly, executive secretary; the vacant seat in memoriam honors **Tim West**, Centre, past president; (standing, from left) **Michael Rorex**, Bridgeport; **Randy Crowell**, Elrod; **Richard Dyar**, Crossville; **Len Colvin**, Bridgeport; **Jay Howard**, Oxford; **David Osborn**, Athens; **Robert Williams**, Section; **Rob Adams**, Union Springs; **Zane Troxtel**, Geraldine; and **Craig Bryson**, Titus.



► Officers for the Alabama Angus Auxiliary are (standing, from left) **Melody Barton**, Dutton, president; and **Meghan Hill Rutherford**, Starkville, Miss., treasurer.



► **Randall Paramore**, Paramore Farm, Notasulga, received the Lifetime Achievement Award. Pictured are (seated, from left) Philip Paramore; Ava Anne Sanders; Randall Paramore, recipient; (standing, from left) Tiffany Sanders; Russell Sanders; and George Richburg, past president of the Alabama Angus Ass'n.

community Bible study. She and David are members of Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Athens. Carolyn is also involved in the Clarke County Farm Bureau. Their lives became a little brighter in December 2016 when they became grandparents.

Carolyn has been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1980.

**A. Harvey Lemmon** was honored posthumously by the Georgia Cattlemen's Association (GCA) and the Georgia Beef Board for more than 35 years of service to Georgia's cattle and beef industries at the GCA Cattlemen's Ball March 31.

Nina Lemmon and Donnie Lemmon were in attendance to accept a canvas print of one of Harvey's bulls.

Harvey served GCA in many capacities, including GCA president from 1984 to 1985. He also served on the Bull Test Committee for many years. Harvey was also involved in raising funds for the GCA office in Macon. He later went on to serve as the chairman for the Georgia Beef Board from 1994 to 2017.

Harvey's impact on Georgia's cattle industry can be seen in herds across the state. He consigned bulls to the Calhoun and Tifton bull test programs in addition to hosting annual production sales. Harvey was always willing to help young people get

#### West Virginia Angus Ass'n Board of Directors Meeting, April 7, Weston



►Left: The West Virginia Angus Ass'n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Mida Peterson**, Horner, reporter; **Jodi Steadman**, Linn, secretary-treasurer; **Chuck Hayes**, Eglon, president; and **Doug Owens**, Parsons, vice president; (standing, from left) **Carol Webb**, Burlington; **Jessica Groves**, Camden; **Christopher Dunaway**, Thornton; **Kyle Moore**, Kingwood; and **Timothy Cayton**, Weston.

started in the cattle business. He was instrumental in forming and implementing the *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) brand program. Harvey was a visionary and a valuable asset to the cattle industry.

Harvey and Nina Lemmon have been life members of the American Angus Association since 1971.

**Anice Thomas** has been hired as the breed development officer for the Canadian Angus Association. Thomas will work with Director of Breed Development Kajal Devani to deliver the Canadian Angus Performance

Program and the Commercial Angus Identification and Performance Program; data entry, design and completion of research projects; member information sessions; creating member engagement and educational tools; and other similar tasks.

"Joining the Canadian Angus team signals exciting times ahead," says Thomas. "I am most looking forward to dusting off knowledge stored, learning what's new and exciting in beef breeding and genetics, and combining both learned and acquired principles to support our members in

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**Alabama Angus Ass'n Spring Sale, April 15, Cullman**



► **Harrell-Lazenby Angus**, Opelika, consigned the grand champion female. Lot 39 consisted of Highlander Blackcap 305, an August 2013 daughter of SAV Bismarck 5682, and an August 2016 heifer calf sired by Connealy In Focus 4925. Pictured are (from left) Mike McGuire, Alabama Angus Ass'n executive secretary; Jennifer Lee, Alabama Angus Ass'n president; John Harrell, consignor; and Wes Harrell and Tyler Martin.



► **Dyar Angus**, Crossville, consigned the reserve grand champion female. The Lot 97 winner was DA Enchantress Barb 720 032, a September 2010 daughter of 21AR Roundup 7005. Pictured are (from left) McGuire; Lee; and Richard Dyar, consignor.



► **Dyer Livestock**, Rising Fawn, Ga., consigned the reserve grand champion heifer. Lot 26 consisted of DL Lucky Lady 1501, an October 2015 daughter of SAV Brilliance 8077. Pictured are (from left) Lee; and Jeremy Dyer, consignor.

making real-time and future herd development decisions.”

She completed her undergraduate degrees in general agriculture at the College of Agriculture, Science and Education in Jamaica and The University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago. With a major in animal science, Thomas also completed a master's degree at the University of Guelph. She has been working within the production arm at Feedlot Health Management Services.

Devani is excited to expand Breed

Development, the breadth of value that the department will be able to offer Canadian Angus members, and work with a former student of Larry Schaeffer from the University of Guelph.

On Thomas joining the Canadian Angus team, CEO Rob Smith said: “Having Anice join us adds the final critical component of analytical research and development to maximize our genetic selection tools within our member services portfolio. Kajal and Anice will increase Canadian Angus member

value through scientific advancement, which will also have global benefit. I'm extremely proud and excited to have Anice Thomas add her considerable experience and talent to Canadian Angus.”

**IN PASSING**

**John “Jack” Sweeney**, 77, Noblesville, Ind., died March 5, at Riverview Health in Noblesville. He was born on Feb. 21, 1940, to John and Helen Sweeney in Detroit, Mich.

Jack was a graduate of Michigan State



University and was a member of the Michigan Air National Guard for six years. His entire working career was spent with the Kroger Co. as a manager of Distribution and Transportation.

After love of family, his greatest passion was supporting the beef cattle industry. He held various offices in the Indiana Angus Association and was a mentor to many young people in their agricultural careers.

Jack is survived by his wife of 53 years, Martha (Moran) Sweeney; daughter Susan; sons John and Tom; granddaughters McKenzie and Heather; and several nieces and nephews.

**Judith “Judy” Herbster**, 62, Falls City, Neb., died May 2 in Falls City.

Judy was born April 2, 1955, in WaKeeney, Kan., to Robert Wagg and Doris (Armbruster Wagg) Peterson. Judy spent her childhood in Ogallah, Kan.

Judy loved children, and was a daycare provider upon her 1973 graduation from Trego Community High School in WaKeeney until she became a Conklin Co. distributor in 1979. Little did she know her decision to join Conklin would change her life forever.

Judy met her husband, Charles W. Herbster, through the company she already loved. They were married June 26, 1982, at

Christview Christian Church in Tulsa, Okla.

To say Judy was passionate about Conklin was an understatement. She was a champion of the business and paved the way for women in the company. Judy was the first woman President’s Club member in 1980; the first female director in 1982; the first Conklin director to develop five directors in one year; and the first woman to receive the “Director of the Year” Award in 1985. A role model for many, Judy became the first and only woman president of the Conklin Co. in its 48-year history. Seeing the potential in the corporation, Charles and Judy purchased the company in 1992. Soon after, she was appointed president and COO and served as such until her passing.

In addition to her involvement with Conklin, she worked hand in hand with Charles at their companies, Herbster Angus Farms Inc. and Carico Farms Inc. of Falls City. All three operations are rooted deeply in agriculture, and Judy was dedicated and instrumental to their unparalleled success.

Judy said recently: “Live every day with no regrets.” She put her heart into everything, including cooking meals for the farm family, inspiring corporate excellence and caring for those in need. Judy was a dear friend and an uplifting mentor who demanded perfection, pushed for greatness and jubilantly celebrated

success. Judy’s legacy of hard work, desire to serve and devotion to excellence will remain in the lives of every person she met. From her humble youth in WaKeeney to becoming the president and COO of a nearly \$100-million company, she lived the American Dream.

Judy was a member of Bible Baptist Church at Lincoln, Neb., and the American Angus Association.

In addition to her husband, Judy is survived by her parents; brother Duane; sisters Sandy, Anna and Sherri; seven nieces and nephews; and 10 great-nieces and great-nephews.

## ▶ **INDUSTRY EXTRAS**

**José Elizondo** has joined Zinpro Corp. as beef account manager–Mexico. In this position, Elizondo will be responsible for expanding the company’s Performance Minerals® beef nutrition sales and technical support offerings to feed and premix companies, nutritionists and feedlot operators throughout Mexico. His primary sales focus will be feedlot cattle, but he will also be responsible for cow-calf accounts.

Interim Chancellor **Henry “Hank” Foley** and **Dongchu Sun**, a professor and chair of the University of Missouri (MU) Department

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of Statistics, are two of seven alumni to be honored by the College of Science at Purdue University for their contributions to the scientific community.

**Edward Buckler**, ARS geneticist, is the first person to receive the National Academy of Science (NAS) Prize in Food and Agriculture Sciences. Buckler will be recognized for pioneering the use of large-scale genomic approaches linking genes with the crop's physical traits, giving plant

breeders better access to key genes and reducing the time needed to improve critical traits that enhance food security.

**Blaine Rodgers** has been promoted to show livestock business development and field support for BioZyme Inc. In his new role, Rodgers will assist with developing the educational pieces for youth and continue to educate young livestock exhibitors on how the company's products can benefit their animals; work with national branded

show feed companies to position the company's feed additives and supplements; and work with the area sales managers to provide further understanding on products developed specifically for show animals.

**Jennifer Houston, Rochelle Krusemark** and **Anne Meis** have joined the U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance® (USFRA®) as its newest board members.

**Chuck Rogers** has been promoted by Allflex USA, part of the Allflex Group, to Northwest regional manager. In his new role, Rogers will be based in Boise, Idaho, and will oversee sales and marketing and technical responsibilities for Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

**Megan Kelly** has been hired by Rock River Laboratory as a nutrition analytic consultant and Rock River Laboratory–Ohio manager. In her new position, Kelly will manage the day-to-day quality analysis of all samples passing through the Rock River Laboratory–Ohio facility while building relationships and sharing insights for success with Northeastern and Midwestern U.S.-based nutritionists.

**Bradford Barnes**, president and general manager; **Edward Bass**, chairman of the board; **Charlie Geren**, vice president; **Charlie Moncrief**, secretary; **Randy Rogers**, treasurer; and **W.R. Watt Jr.**, president emeritus, were re-elected to the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo board at the organization's meeting April 25. New directors include **Wilson Franklin**, **Trey Gordon**, **Mary Ralph Lowe**, **Kent Lynch**, **Paxton Motheral**, **Mark Nurdin**, **Robert Patton**, **William Ratliff**, **Rozanne Rosenthal** and **Todd Tippet**. Elevated to the position of honorary vice president were **William Landreth Jr.**, **Ronnie McNutt**, **Billy Minick** and **Joseph Monteleone**.

**David Bechtol**, veterinarian, founder and president of Palo Duro Consulting Research and Feedlot and Agri-Research Center Inc., has been honored with the 2017 Outstanding Service Award by Merck Animal Health in partnership with the Academy of Veterinary Consultants. Bechtol was recognized for his contributions to the feedlot industry.



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