

Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Hill Angus Farm, Paragould, Ark., has been recognized as a Historic Angus Herd by the American Angus Association.

Tommy Hill was teaching vocational agriculture in the early 1960s, wanting to start a cow herd, when one of his students set the ball rolling. The student's father was selling 10 head of Angus cows from the O.B. Macintosh herd, and Hill jumped at the opportunity. That was the official beginning to his registered-Angus herd, which is still in operation 52 years later.

When Hill was growing up, his family worked with Angus cattle and he'd shown an Angus heifer while in high school. Years later, thanks to his student's prompting, he purchased his own Angus cows for nearly \$250 per head. Soon after, he purchased a bull.

At the time, Hill was teaching school and his father was running the local co-op. In their spare time, they fenced 200-plus acres

for their new herd. When they first started, they didn't even have a barn on the place to put the bull.

Hill Angus Farm has come a long way since then and is now home to 25 cows, 20 replacement heifers and eight yearling bulls. Hill uses artificial insemination (AI) on all of his cows. They are all registered, and he culls them rigorously so he knows he has the best ones.

Life with Angus has been good to the Hills. "I taught school, and my wife always told me, 'You don't have to make much money on the farm. Just don't lose much.' We've been fortunate; we have not had a real bad year," Hill said.

In 1965, a year after he started his herd, Hill helped start the Northeast Arkansas Angus Association and served as its president for more than 16 years. The organization has grown through the years and hosts two production sales each year featuring quality Angus genetics.

Hill taught high school vocational agriculture for 22 years at Green County Tech near Paragould, where he had 18 students earn American Farmer degrees. Prior to that he taught at Marmaduke, Ark. The Hill family resides on the farm today, and enjoys their time spent with Angus cattle and friends.

The Association presents the Historic Angus Herd award to Angus breeders or immediate families who have been in continuous production of registered-Angus cattle for 50 years or more.

Kendall Lock of Triangle H was recognized by Kansas State University (K-State), in cooperation with Merck Animal Health, as the recipient of the "Top Hand" award at the 2016 Milling and Maintenance Session of the K-State Cattle Feeders College May 24 in Garden City, Kan.

The "Top Hand" awards were initiated in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 46

Mississippi Angus Ass'n Meeting & Banquet, May 6, Raymond

► **Right:** The Mississippi Angus Ass'n officers and board of directors are (seated, from left) **Kindra Whitlock**, luka, treasurer; **Misty Garner**, Newhebron, secretary; **Stephen Gaines**, Brandon, president; **D.R. Bozeman Jr.**, Flora, vice president; (back row, from left) **Jon Paul Whitlock**, luka; **Larry Blocker**, Starkville; **James Peden**, DeKalb; **William Howard**, Canton; **Ronald Neal**, Forest; **Ron Melancon**, Woodville; **Marc Kimbrell**, Carrollton; and **Brian Garner**, Newhebron.



► **Dave Pingrey**, Pickens, was inducted posthumously into the Mississippi Angus Ass'n Hall of Fame. Pictured are (from left) Brian Garner, Mississippi Angus Ass'n board member, presenting the award; accepting the award are Pete Pingrey and Cathy Harmon, son and daughter of Dave, and Mike Nelson, longtime friend and herdsman.



► **Paul Whitlock** (right), luka, receives the Outgoing President Award from Steve Gaines, incoming president.



► **Mike Howell** (left), Baldwyn, receives the Distinguished Service Award for his service and dedication to the Mississippi Angus Ass'n from Paul Whitlock, Mississippi Angus Ass'n outgoing president.

2010 to recognize outstanding employees in the commercial feeding industry.

“The cattle-feeding industry is full of honest, hard-working men and women that do their jobs and do them well,” said Justin Waggoner, K-State Research and Extension beef specialist and coordinator of the awards and the Cattle Feeders College. “The Top Hand award provides cattle feeders with a unique opportunity to thank the men and women of their operations that go above and beyond their job descriptions every day. These individuals have shown an exceptional amount of dedication to their employers and the industry.”

Lock began working for Triangle H in 2005, but began his career in the cattle-feeding industry shortly after his graduation from K-State in 1991. He was nominated by Sam Hands, who stated, “Kendall has proved himself as a very dedicated person to the animal’s well-being by way of nutrition, animal health and proper cattle-handling skills. His ability to sort cattle for optimum market efficiency has also proven beneficial to the cattle owners.”

Lock was presented with a custom knife by Shannon Hulett, Merck Animal Health.

Nebraska Jr. Angus Heifer Show, May 29, Broken Bow



►Elected as Nebraska Jr. Angus Ass’n advisors are (from left) **Jeff and Sandy Lovett**, Bladen; **Michelle and Kent Nelson**, Anselmo; and **Tiffany and Brian Stoller**, Palisade.

David Sibbald of Calgary, Alta., has been elevated from president-elect to president of the Canadian Angus Association (CAA).

Tammi Ribey, Paisley, Ont., moved into the past-president position and **Brett Wildman**, Sangudo, Alta., was chosen as president-elect.

Dale Eastin of Wawota, Sask., replaces retiring director and past president Corinne Gibson. **Bob Hahn** of Sherwood Park was elected to a second three-year term in the province of Alberta.

Nathan Marin of Radville, Sask., has been hired in a part-time capacity by the CAA as

the director of the New Generation Breeder Development program. Marin will create and enhance member value and satisfaction for new and young CAA members, defined as those under the age of 40 and/or within their first five years of membership.

During Commercial Cattlemen’s Day at the CAA national convention in Quebec City, Que., CEO Rob Smith launched a new Business Development Team, which replaced the existing field services structure.

Team members are **Brian Good**, senior director of business development in British Columbia and Alberta; **Bob Toner**, director

Alabama Angus Ass'n Field Day and Jr. Preview Show, June 4, Rogersville



► **Jason Smith and family**, Cullman, were recognized as Family of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Tim West, Alabama Angus Ass'n president; and Jake Smith and Katie Smith, children of Jason Smith, accepting the award on Jason's behalf.



► **Judy and Dale Parris**, Hillside Angus Farm, Albertville, received the Breeder of the Year award. Pictured are (from left) West; and Judy and Dale Parris.



► **Tony Ritter** (right), Lexington, receives the Alabama Cattlewomen's Ass'n Father of the Year award from Emily Dent (left).

of business development in Saskatchewan and Manitoba; and **Cheryl Hazenberg**, director of business development in Eastern Canada. Good and Hazenberg are longtime CAA staff members; Toner is a new employee.

Each director will help maintain the CAA at the forefront of Canada's national seedstock sector and cattle and beef production industry. The team will focus on member recruitment and retention; efficient member services and superior member satisfaction; increasing member activity and commercial demand; delivery of effective

program planning; implementation and evaluation; and industry cooperation.

Michaela Chalmers of Oro-Medonte, Ont., was named the McHaffie Junior Ambassador by the Canadian Angus Foundation at its annual convention.

Maguire Blair, Drake, Sask., was named the Junior Stockman. **Ryan Currie** of Bristol, Que., and **Shawn Birmingham**, Brandon, Man., were both selected as 2016 Outstanding Young Angus Breeders.

Korova Feeders, Doug and Helga Price of Acme, Alta., received the Western Feedlot of the Year Award from the CAA. This award

was presented at Carcass 101 in Olds, Alta., June 21-22.

Korova Feeders has a 30,000-head capacity at two feedlot locations. The Prices also operate Echo Sand Ranching, a beef cow-calf operation in Alberta and Saskatchewan with 4,000 Angus and Angus-influence cows. They currently have 8,000 yearlings on grass in Saskatchewan.

The Prices and Korova Feeders are part of the Sunterra Group along with Doug's brothers Ray, Art, Dave and their families. The Sunterra Group's business interests

CONTINUED ON PAGE 48

include hog, cattle and crop production; lamb processing; a chain of food retail stores and restaurants in Calgary and Edmonton; Sunterra Farms; and Sunterra Meats.

The CAA introduced the Feedlot of the Year award in 2010 to recognize feedlots that promote Angus to their customers and that feed Canadian Angus Rancher Endorsed tagged cattle.

IN PASSING

Robert Bailey, 66, Quenemo, Kan., died May 25, surrounded by his loved ones.

Robert was born Feb. 4, 1950, to Albert and Juanita Bailey.

Robert served in the Navy, attaining the rank of Petty Officer Second Class while serving seven years from 1968 to 1975. Highly decorated himself, Robert was proud to have served with the elite First Naval Assault Helicopter Squadron, called the "Sea Wolves." They were commissioned in Vietnam and decommissioned in Vietnam.

Volunteering to serve on dangerous secret missions as part of the Sea Wolves, his unit was called the "Guardians of the Mekong Delta" in Vietnam by those who were saved by the unit's heroic actions. His squadron, which served with Navy Seals, was the most decorated squadron in Naval history. Robert was the type of man who walked softly with his family and yet, in his wisdom and work, he quietly carried a big stick.

Once Robert left the Navy he went on to complete his college degree and became a certified public accountant (CPA) and a

farmer. He was never afraid of hard work and loved doing both. As a CPA, he volunteered his service with the community at large.

Raised to believe in Jesus Christ, he and his brother, Shelby Bailey (retired minister in the Lutheran Church), and sister Linda Timmons went to church and held on to their belief. Robert served as treasurer at his church at Mount Pleasant Community Church.

Robert loved raising his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The memories of having him dress up as Santa Claus are something that will be etched into the memories of all his family and children. The love he showed his wife, his family members, his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are something that will be emulated into the future and not be forgotten.

Robert is survived by his wife, Carrie Bailey; son Jeremy; daughter Bobbie Jo; two grandsons; two granddaughters; and two great-grandchildren.

Dale Runnion, 98, Longmont, Colo., died June 11 in Longmont.

Dale was an editor and publisher of purebred cattle magazines and noted breed promoter.

He was born Aug. 23, 1917, on a 160-acre livestock and grain farm in Van Wert County, Ohio. He was the second child of Lester and Velma (Cooper) Runnion. While growing up, he was active in 4-H, showing steers at the county fair and judging livestock.



Dale Runnion

In 1934 he and two Van Wert friends won the state judging competition and represented Ohio at the 4-H Congress at the International Live Stock Exposition in Chicago.

Dale attended Ohio State University, majoring in animal husbandry and meat science, and was a member of livestock judging teams for three years. He received a bachelor's degree in 1939 and worked as a cattle buyer before being drafted into the Army two years later.

He served most of World War II as a captain in a training battalion of the Medical Administration Corps in Abilene, Texas. In 1945 the battalion was deployed, and Captain Runnion saw duty in the Pacific as the adjutant of the hospital on Iwo Jima. He was honorably discharged as a major in 1946.

Dale married Ada Kline in 1940. They were divorced in 1967, and he married June Erickson in 1968.

Dale started his career in livestock journalism in 1949 as field representative for the Chicago *Drovers Journal*. In 1952, he moved to the *Aberdeen-Angus Journal*, where he rose from field man to advertising manager to managing editor. At the *Angus Journal* he recruited and trained a dynamic field force and instituted the Sire of the Year Award. In 1962, Angus registrations exceeded those of the Hereford breed, previously the most numerous.

His career took a different turn in 1968 when he accepted a position as marketing manager with Ankony Angus from Lee Leachman, a close friend since college. Ankony was based in Rhinebeck, N.Y., and was at that time a dominant force in the registered-Angus cattle business.

In 1971 Dale returned to publishing in Fort Collins, Colo., founding the *International Limousin Journal*. His editorial and marketing efforts were instrumental in promoting the growth of the Limousin breed in the United States throughout the 1970s. He sold the *Limousin Journal* in 1979.

Eighteen months later he was approached by the American Angus Association about a consulting assignment to manage the *Angus Journal*, which represented the nation's largest beef cattle breed. Dale worked in Saint Joseph, Mo., for the next two years to improve the magazine's performance.

In the interim, the *Limousin Journal* had faltered, and in 1983 Dale and Dan Wedman founded the *Limousin World*, which quickly

NEWSMAKERS

became the official publication of the breed foundation. He remained publisher emeritus of the magazine until his death. Dale also served as executive vice president of the North American Limousin Foundation, and he edited and published *The History of Limousin in North America*.

Dale championed current news in breed publications and introduced innovations to improve publication efficiency, but he was perhaps best known for the people he recruited, trained and inspired. He had the ability to recognize, cultivate and motivate talented individuals.

In his career he managed to combine traditional values learned on the family farm, the most current industry developments, and the modern media sciences of advertising and marketing to promote the growth of the registered-Angus and Limousin cattle breeds.

In recognition of his accomplishments, Dale's portrait was hung in the Saddle and Sirloin Club collection in 1988. That collection is the world's largest assemblage of quality individual portraits devoted to a single industry and resides at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville.

He was president of the Livestock Publications Council, and France awarded him the Chevalier de l'Ordre du Merite Agricole. He was also inducted into the halls of fame of the North American Limousin Foundation, the Ohio State University Animal Science Department and the Angus Heritage Foundation.

In addition to his wife, June, Dale is survived by sons Jim and John; daughters Joy and Lee; stepchildren Steven and Karen; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Erinn Wilks has assumed the role of laboratory manager for Rock River Laboratory Inc.'s northeast laboratory. **Kelsie Brennan** has taken on the role of laboratory technician at the company's newest laboratory location in Binghamton, N.Y.

Wilks will focus her attention on conducting and managing feedstuff sample analysis for the New York laboratory. Brennan will be taking an active role in near infrared (NIR) analysis of feedstuffs at the same facility.

Jessica Wharton has joined the American Soybean Association (ASA) as state policy coordinator and communications manager. Wharton is based at ASA's Washington, D.C., office.

Megan Rolf is a new assistant professor of

animal breeding and genetics and **Anthony John "A.J." Tarpoff** is a new assistant professor and extension beef veterinary specialist at the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.

Elizabeth Boyle, K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry professor and extension specialist, has been named an American Meat Science Association (AMSA) Fellow and a recipient of the 2016 AMSA Signal Service Award.

Tonia Traas, a native of Waunakee, Wis., has joined Ashland Veterinary Center, Ashland, Kan. She is a recent graduate of the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine.



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.