



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Connealy Angus Ranch, Whitman, Neb., was one of the top 13 tour stops in the seventh year of the ABS Global South American Beef Tour. The tour focused on exposing successful beef practices and feed-efficiency data to prominent beef producers and cattle breeders in South America. The 37 participants of this year's tour represented more than 140,000 beef cows in various regions of South America. Other stops on the tour included JBS in Kansas, Colorado State University and the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (USMARC) in Clay Center, Neb.

Connealy Angus Ranch has been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1966.

ANGUS ARRIVALS

Tyler and Cortney Hill-Dukehart Cates, Modoc, Ind., are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, **Piper McKinley**, on July 15. She weighed 7 lb., 7 oz., and was 21 in. long.

Delighted grandparents are Marlene Dukehart and husband Robert Hill of Sykesville, Md., and Brian and Angie Cates of Modoc.

The National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) was a bit more exciting this year because



Cortney's many duties included serving as chair of the Royalty Committee, and Tyler, along with his father, Brian, judged the bred-and-owned show. With a due date one day following the close of the show, and Cortney being a first-baby mama, everyone wondered if she would make it through the show.

True to her Angus roots, she fulfilled her duties and produced a low-birth-weight daughter. On the day of her birth, Piper became a lifetime member of the American Angus Auxiliary as a gift from her

grandparents Marlene and Bob. She also became a member of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) as a gift from Association Board of Directors member Tom Burke and the Angus Hall of Fame.

Cortney is a former Miss American Angus and past president of the Auxiliary. Maternal grandmother Marlene Dukehart is Auxiliary regional director for District 6.

IN PASSING

Warren Howell, 93, a resident of Delaware County, died Sept. 3 at Elmcroft Center in Muncie, Ind.

Warren was born Dec. 13, 1920, at the family home near Cowan, Ind., the only child of Ancile and Clorsia (Burgess) Howell. He was a 1939 graduate of Cowan High School and the Purdue University Short Course. He served in World War II in the U.S. Army in the Philippines. Warren married Marjorie Wright of Cowan, Ind., March 15, 1946. They celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary this year.

Warren was a full-time farmer and raised quality cattle and hogs on the family farm near Daleville, Ind. The family produced grain and bred Angus cattle, which he cared for until 2011. He was involved in many farm organizations, including the Indiana Angus Association and the Farm Bureau. Warren Howell & Family Angus had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1965.

He was past president of the Delaware County Farm Bureau and was a member of the Salem Township School Board during the elementary school construction. Warren served as Elder Emeritus with the Daleville Christian Church and was a member of the Delaware County Farm Bureau Co-op Board, which became AgBest Cooperative. He was a 50-year member of the Whitney Masonic Lodge and Daleville Order of the Eastern Star.

Marjorie and Warren took great pride in the many young people who worked alongside them on the farm and the success they achieved from that experience. Both greatly supported their family and were quietly fulfilled by their accomplishments.

In addition to his wife, Warren is survived by sons David and Philip; daughter Anne; nine grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Anna (Riggs) Watkins, 92, Middletown, Ind., died Aug. 16 at Miller Merry Manor in Middletown.

Anna was born Jan. 7, 1922, in Henry County to Russell and Edna Riggs. She was a graduate of Cadiz High School and lived her entire life in the Henry County area. She married Donald Watkins in 1940, and they established Beaver Ridge Farm near Middletown where they were known for raising quality Angus cattle. Beaver Ridge Farm has been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1946. Anna had been a bookkeeper for First United Bank and loved working with flowers and reading.

Anna is survived by sons Dan and Robert; seven grandsons; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Marcel Amstalden, 44, College Station, Texas, died Sept. 3 as a result of a motor vehicle accident near Hallettsville, Texas.

Marcel was born March 9, 1970, in Marilia, São Paulo, Brazil, to Francisco and Beatriz Lex Amstalden. He grew up in Assis, São Paulo, where he was involved with his family's business and cattle operation. In December 1992, Marcel graduated from the Universidade Estadual Paulista, Botucatu, São Paulo, Brazil, with a degree in veterinary medicine.

From 1992 to 1997, Marcel practiced herd health and reproductive management of beef cattle and horses in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil. From 1995-1997, he worked for the São Bernardo Veterinary Clinic in Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul, practicing large-animal medicine and surgery. From 1998-2003, Marcel served as a graduate research and teaching assistant in the Texas A&M (TAMU) Physiology of Reproduction graduate program and was awarded master's and doctoral degrees in 2000 and 2003, respectively.

Marcel conducted his award-winning graduate research at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station in Beeville, Texas, under the direction of his mentor, close friend and collaborator Gary Williams. Upon graduation from TAMU, Marcel was a postdoctoral research fellow in neuroendocrinology at the University of Cincinnati's College of Medicine in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was a visiting professor at the Federal University of Mato Grosso do Sul during 2006 before accepting a position

■ **Georgia Cattlemen's Ass'n Summer Conference, July 25, Helens**



► **Ralph Bridges**, Lexington, was inducted posthumously into the Georgia Cattlemen's Ass'n Hall of Fame. Pictured are (from left) Melvin Porter, Georgia Cattlemen's Ass'n president, presenting the award; and the family accepting the award on behalf of Ralph are Margaret Bridges, wife; Callie Bridges, great granddaughter; Iris Walker, daughter; Phillip Bridges, grandson; and Leigh Anne Bridges, granddaughter-in-law, holding Wyatt Bridges, great-grandson.

as an assistant professor in physiology of reproduction in TAMU's Department of Animal Science.

In 2012, Marcel was awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of associate professor, a position he held at the time of his death. In addition, he held an adjunct appointment in the Department of Veterinary Integrative Biosciences in TAMU's College of Veterinary Medicine. Marcel was active in TAMU's Interdisciplinary Faculty of Neuroscience and he was also serving as 2013-2015 chair of TAMU's Interdisciplinary Faculty of Reproductive Biology.

Marcel co-instructed a graduate reproductive biology course and was the lead professor for the ANSC 434 animal reproduction management course. He was a caring, highly effective instructor of undergraduate, graduate and veterinary students. Marcel's impact is evident by the significant awards acquired by students that he mentored. He was recognized by reproductive physiologists and neuroendocrinologists across the world for his unique research that determined how

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neural and nutritional factors affect onset of puberty and cyclicity in female animals.

Marcel's work was relevant to human reproductive health and was of biologic and economic significance. In recent years Marcel was an invited speaker at major conferences in the United States and other countries (most recently in Australia and Japan). His research attracted the funding of the USDA and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

In his brief career, Marcel published more than 30 peer-reviewed papers and numerous book chapters and popular press articles. He was honored by the College of Veterinary Medicine, Universidade Estadual Paulista for outstanding performance in large-animal medicine. Marcel was the only three-time recipient of the Mauro Procknor Memorial Award (2000, 2001, 2002) for excellence in teaching, research and service.

Marcel married the love of his life, Katia, in Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul in 1997.

In addition to his wife, Marcel is survived by daughters Sophia and Clara; sister Marcia; numerous nieces and nephews, friends and colleagues.

C.W. "Bud" Hill Jr., 74, Blairville, Ga., died Sept. 17 in Union General Hospital in Blairville.

Bud was born Nov. 30, 1939, in Blairville, and graduated from Union County High School in 1957. He was valedictorian of his class and editor of the yearbook. He was voted Best All Around and Most Athletic. He lettered in basketball, baseball and track.

In 1961, he graduated from Georgia Tech

with a bachelor's degree in industrial management. He was secretary and vice president of his fraternity, Kappa Sigma; secretary of the IM Honor Society, secretary of the Bull Dog Club, and a member of the Scabbard and Blade Military Honor Society.

He went through the NROTC program and served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Northampton as a full lieutenant and the disbursing officer. He married Frances Lorraine Brownfield Oct. 22, 1966, in Shelbyville.

In 2003, Bud and Lorraine were able to devote their full time to Hill Vue Farm in Blairville. For more than 48 years they have been breeders of registered-Polled Herefords, and, in addition, for 11 years they have also been breeders of registered-Angus cattle.

The first 40 acres of the farm was bought by Bud in 1954 with money made from delivering the *Atlanta Journal* and mowing lawns. As a seedstock producer, Hill Vue has had successful sales to cattlemen in several states.

Bud has been a member of many cattle associations, including the American Hereford Association and the Georgia Cattlemen's Association. He served as president of the Blue Ridge Mountain Cattlemen's Association. He had been a member of the American Angus Association since 2001.

He was inducted into the Union County Hall of Fame for Agriculture in 2013. Bud and Lorraine are members of Grace Presbyterian Church of America in Blairville, where he served as chairman of the board of deacons. Bud will be tenderly

remembered and greatly missed, especially by his loving family members.

In addition to his wife, Bud is survived by sons Cameron and Cooper; daughter Ashley; brother Robert "Bob" Hill; nine grandchildren; and numerous relatives and friends.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Bruce Akey has been named interim director of the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) by the Texas A&M System Board of Regents. Akey began as executive deputy director at the lab in June of 2014.

He succeeds Tammy Beckham, who had served as the lab's director since 2010 while also directing the Institute for Infectious Animal Diseases (IIAD). Beckham left the lab to become full-time director of IIAD.

Mark Hardesty, Maria Stein, Ohio, received the Bovine Practitioner of the Year award from the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP) at its annual convention in September. **Nick Chuff**, Ilian, N.Y. (dairy) and **Dan Goehl**, Canton, Mo., (beef) received the Merit Excellence in Preventive Medicine award. **Hans Coetzee** of Iowa State University (ISU) received the AABP Award of Excellence.

Jesse Goff, also of ISU, received the Zoetis Distinguished Service Award. **John Fetrow**, University of Minnesota, received the Merck Animal Health Mentor of the Year Award. **Callie Willingham**, Chandler, Ariz., received the James A. Jarrett Award for Young Leaders, and **Maarten Drost**, Gainesville, Fla., (dairy) and **David Bechtol**, Canyon, Texas, were inducted into the Cattle Production Veterinarian Hall of Fame.

J. Patrick Boyle, **Melvin Hunt**, **Steve Kay**, **Zerle Carpenter**, **Graeme Goodsir** and **James Marsden** were inducted into the Meat Industry Hall of Fame Sept. 13 at a ceremony hosted at the Charleston Place Hotel in Charleston, S.C.

Perry Cregan, **Jerry Hatfield**, **Hyun Lillehoi** and **Ross Welch** were honored in September at the National Agricultural Library when they were named to the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Science Hall of Fame.

ARS established the Science Hall of Fame in 1986 to honor senior agency researchers for outstanding, lifelong achievements in agricultural science and technology. Nominees must be retired or eligible to retire to receive the award.

Illinois State Fair Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus Show, Aug. 12, Springfield



►The Anderson family, Chrisman, receive the Premier Herdsman Award. Pictured are (from left) Chase Anderson; Jack Wilson; Reese Anderson; Scott Anderson; Cindy Anderson; Hailey Boyd; Kyle Anderson; and Kayla Stephens.

David Baker, assistant dean of agriculture and natural resources extension at the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR), University of Missouri, has been elected to the Illinois State University College of Applied Science and Technology (CAST) Hall of Fame. Induction into the Hall of Fame is bestowed on graduates and friends of the college. Baker earned two degrees from Illinois State University; a bachelor's degree in agricultural education in 1970 and a master's degree in industrial technology in 1974.

Mike Smith, professor of reproductive physiology in the CAFNR's Division of Animal Sciences, was named a University of Missouri System's Curators Teaching Professor.

A Curators Professorship is the highest and most prestigious academic rank awarded by the Board of Curators. He was the recipient of the 2013 Governor's Award for Excellence in Education and was named a fellow by the American Society of Animal Science the same year.

Dan Dye, CEO of Ardent Mills, and **Bruce Rastetter**, CEO of the Summit Group, will receive the 2014 Agriculture Future of America (AFA) Leader in Agriculture award at the 2014 AFA Leaders in Agriculture Award dinner Nov. 7. The dinner is a function of the larger AFA Leaders Conference in Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 6-9.

L. Henderson King, Ennis, Texas, (beef winner) and **Mary Mowrer**, Maria Stein,

Ohio, (dairy winner) have been announced as winners of the AgriLabs Dr. Bruce Wren Continuing Education Awards. The awards honor Bruce Wren, a longtime AgriLabs technical services veterinarian. A \$5,000 continuing education grant is given to one dairy veterinarian and one beef veterinarian who are involved in a veterinary practice and have graduated from veterinary school within the last 10 years.

Jeffrey Johnson has been named the CEO of Iowa Premium Beef. He was formerly the vice president of operations for the Tama-based beef processing facility, scheduled to open in late October 2014. He succeeds the former CEO, the late John Stewart.

