



# Newsmakers

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

## IN THE NEWS

**Julie Ellingson**, Saint Anthony, N.D., was honored for 20 years of service to the North Dakota Stockmen's Association (NDSA) at the organization's 86th Annual Convention & Trade Show Sept. 26 in Bismarck, S.D.

Ellingson, promoted to the executive vice president position at NDSA in 2008, began her career with the organization in 1995 as the association's communications director and editor of the *North Dakota Stockman*. She and husband Chad raise registered-Angus cattle south of Saint Anthony along with their children Stetson, Jameson, Sierra, Medora and Sheridan.

The Ellingsons have been members of the American Angus Association since 1996.

**Mark Nieslanik** reports that the Colorado Angus Association tour took place in southwestern Colorado Sept. 25 and 26.

The tour started in Cortez, Colo., with the annual meeting and banquet at the Lewis Arriola Community Center. Fifty individuals attended the prime rib dinner and listened to Jim Robb's presentation on livestock marketing.

The annual meeting took place with the election of three members of the board of directors on the agenda. **Andrew Schaffer** and **Mark Nieslanik** were re-elected to the board. **Brandon Creamer** was elected to serve his first term on the board.

The Colorado Junior Angus Association gave a short presentation about their year's activities and then hosted an Angus semen auction. The auction raised more than \$1,900 for the junior program.

The next morning the members left for a day tour that started at Cedar Mesa Ranch outside of Cortez, where the group previewed the cattle and proceeded to Schmitt Angus Ranch, where they enjoyed the Schmitt program presentation and previewed their cattle.

The tour then left for Lone Cone Ranch, Norwood, Colo. After a brief stop on the top of Lizard Head Pass for a photo opp, the group arrived at Lone Cone. Bob Hardman introduced his family. The tour group was able to take a look at the cattle and had a wonderful lunch prepared by the Hardman family. Ben Lawson had the bull SF Speedway A187 on display, and Jerry and Doris Vanness also had cattle on display at Lone Cone.

The tour continued to MVR Ranch, where cattle were displayed by Mike and Vicki Ripp, Thelma Starner, and family. MVR is located above 9,000 ft. at the top of a beautiful mesa outside of Cedar Ridge, Colo. They presented a great spread of food for their tour guests.

Lazy JB Angus Ranch in Montrose, Colo., was the last stop. The tour group previewed their cattle, as well as their legacy show heifer offering, which was to sell online Oct 26. Lazy

JB also served a late-afternoon lunch.

The Colorado Angus Association would like to thank all the tour participants. It was a great tour filled with beautiful fall color and great cattle. The food at every stop was delicious. Thanks also to tour coordinator Andrew Schaffer for putting together a great tour and annual meeting.

## ANGUS ARRIVALS

**Trevor** and **Carrie Heitman**, Platte City, Mo., announce the birth of their daughter, **Carlise Mae**, Sept. 11. She weighed 6 lb., 15 oz., and was 19 in. long.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY CARRIE HEITMAN

Grandparents are Don and Tammi Heitman of Palmer, Kan., and Timothy Brad and Sheri Gilliam, G&G Cattle Co., Washington, Kan.

Carrie is Creative Media manager for Angus Media.

**Radale** and **Breann Tiner**, College Station, Texas, announce the birth of their daughter, **Tatum Charlsie**, Sept. 15. She weighed 6 lb., 4 oz., and was 20 in. long.

Grandparents are Charlie and Debbie Tiner, Hempstead, Texas, and Lee and Theresa Pritchard, Bells, Texas.

Radale is the Association regional manager for Texas, New Mexico and Louisiana.

## IN PASSING

**Christopher "Chris" Clark**, Middleburg, Va., died July 21. He was a 15-year lung transplant survivor.

Chris was born May 2, 1939, to Marie and Morris Clark and grew up in Princess Anne, Md. Chris graduated from the McDonogh School and Oklahoma State University. In the early 1960s, while he was a fieldman for the *Aberdeen-Angus Journal*, Chris married Barbi Coleman, with whom he had two children.



► The Colorado Angus Association tour group stopped for a photo opportunity at the top of Lizard Head Pass.

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Later he managed a catalog business in Upperville, Va., with his second wife, Robin Lord, before entering the real-estate industry for more than 35 years. In 1996, he became a vice president of hospitality lending at CapMark Finance Inc. and its predecessor companies, GMAC Mortgage and Lexington Mortgage Co. In 2009, he founded db Capital Ventures, a speciality hospitality finance entity.

Outside of work, Chris was a treasurer of the Upperville Horse Show in the early 1970s and was elected to be one of the organization's honorary directors, a title he held until his death.

Chris is survived by children Kit and Bebe and grandchildren Adelaide, Liam and Silas.

**Ray Plumb Jr.**, 86, of Houston, Texas, died Sept. 4.

Ray was born in Abilene, Texas, Oct. 3, 1928, and was raised in Oklahoma City, Okla. He was an all-state quarterback in high school and played briefly at the University of Oklahoma before a knee injury prematurely ended his football career. Ray was also an accomplished pitcher in high school and later played several years of semi-pro baseball. This naturally led him to become an active coach and mentor to many young men in F.U.N. Football and Westbury American Little League in southwest Houston. An accomplishment of which he was most proud was managing the 1966 Little League World Champions.

Ray was a graduate of the University of

Oklahoma with a double major in geology and business. He was a certified professional geological scientist and a longtime member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. Over the course of his career, Ray enjoyed great success and respect as a geologist with several oil companies and as an independent, going out on his own with Plumb and Hutson Oil Co., later Plumb Oil Co. His knack for finding oil and gas set him apart in the industry.

In 1975, Ray and wife Jackie purchased a ranch in the Texas Hill Country north of Austin and named the property R&J Ranch. R&J Ranch was an early adopter of an embryo transfer (ET) procedure that dramatically improved the size, quality and visibility of the black Angus breed. Over the ensuing 20 years, Ray and Jackie traveled all over North America showing and promoting the animals to which they were deeply devoted. Ray and Jackie were pioneers in the development of the black Angus breed. Ray produced many national champions and received the coveted national title of Angus Breeder of the Year multiple times.

Ray was a devoted husband and loving father who was happiest when surrounded by family. He will be dearly missed.

Ray is survived by daughters Cathy and Christie; sons Trey and Robert; 10 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

**Richard "Dick" Scheer**, 94, died at his farm near Pleasant Hill, Mo., Sept. 6.

Richard was born in Lee's Summit, Mo., Feb. 24, 1921, to Julius and Rena Scheer, one of five children. After attending Lee's Summit High School, he returned to his family farm until called to serve in World War II. He served in the 409th Infantry Regiment of the 103rd Infantry Division of the Army. His unit served as an anti-tank company, seeing duty in the European Theatre during the last year of the war.

Upon his return from the war, Richard married Geraldine "Jerry" Knorpp in 1946 and they had four children, sons Pat and Bernie, and daughters Maria and Anne.

Richard was a lifelong farmer and cattleman. He was a self-taught carpenter and mason, building his own home from stone he salvaged from an old livery stable. He was a co-owner of Empire Angus, a purebred Angus farm that exhibited cattle at major livestock shows across the country. The cattle claimed championships at the All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity, the National Western, the American Royal and other national shows.

Richard farmed independently until he was 89 years of age. His specialty was soybeans. In 2011, he received the Jackson County Conservation Farmer Award for terracing and other conservation projects on his farm.

He was a member of Our Lady of the Presentation Catholic Church. His grandparents were among the founding members of the church when it was established in 1885.

Richard was hardworking, dedicated to his family, and had a weakness for coconut cream pie.

Richard is survived by son Bernie; daughters Maria and Anne; and two granddaughters, Kristine and Amanda.

**Edwin "Ed" Oliver**, 71, West Point, Ga., died Sept. 13 at his home.

Ed was born April 14, 1944, in Opp, Ala., the son of James Oliver and Myrtle (Foley) Oliver. He was a retired physical education coach at Mulberry Creek Elementary and a former girl's softball coach for Harris County High School. Ed was a former coach at Columbus High School. He was a member of the Georgia High School Association (GHS), American Angus Association and the Union Baptist Church. He was also a published author. Ed and his family were the subjects of an article about Cripple Pines Farm in the October 2015 *Angus Journal*.

Ed is survived by wife Martha Jo; daughter Elizabeth; sons Spencer and Simeon; sister Gail; and eight grandchildren.

**Paul Grinde**, 92, of Charlottesville, Va., died Sept. 29 at Westminster Canterbury of the Blue Ridge.

Born on March 7, 1923, in Lakota, N.D., he was the son of Irene (Thomas) Grinde and Simon Grinde. Paul received his high school diploma from Lakota High School. He completed his education at Rutgers University, earning a bachelor's degree in animal science and agricultural education.

He proudly served four years in the Army Air Corp during World War II, during which time he was a mechanic for the 459th fighter squadron stationed in India. A man of few words, Paul penned his marriage proposal in a letter from India to Edee, whom he had met at a USO dance on Long Island. Immediately following graduation, Paul worked as an extension specialist in animal husbandry for the state of New Jersey and taught short courses in the agricultural school at Rutgers.

It was at Rutgers that Paul first became interested in Angus cattle, and he dedicated his professional life to the advancement of the breed. Paul managed herds at Hoot Owl Farm, Medford, N.J.; Gallagher's Farm, Gainesville, Va.; as well as the Aberan Herd of Edgehill at Shadwell, Va. In 1969, Paul and Edee joined with Bill and Ellen Ruddock to form White Hall Farms, where Paul served as managing partner and vice president for nearly 20 years until Ellen's death and the subsequent dispersion of the herd.

Paul and Edee also owned and operated Eldon Farm and Edgebrook Farm, both in Virginia. Over the course of his career, Paul judged many cattle shows, including the International Live Stock Show and, as a special honor, the 50th anniversary All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity. He developed Elevate of Eastfield, who was the Perth Supreme Champion, and Marshall Pride W528, also known as "515," who was supreme champion of the All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity in 1970. Paul showed cattle all over the United States and Canada, including the International Live Stock Show, the All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity, the National Western and the Canadian Royal.

He served as president of the Virginia Angus Association and was a member of its board of directors for many years. Even after his retirement in 1988, Paul's love of Angus cattle carried on, and he continued to devote time as a mentor in the Angus business, consulting for a number of Virginia herds and showing cattle.

Paul loved to be outside, and he spent a good deal of his retirement perfecting the landscape of the new home he and Edee built

together. The pair enjoyed golfing and traveling together, including an annual winter escape to Florida, as well as adventures in Norway, Greece, Hawaii, Germany, Great Britain and New Zealand. A wonderful host, nothing delighted Paul more than to welcome family and friends into his home.

Paul is survived by daughters Barbara, Joan and Paige; son Thomas; brother J. Warren; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Charles Boyd**, 73, died Sept. 30 at the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington, Ky.

Charles was born Aug. 16, 1942, in Maysville, Ky., to Ward and Violet Boyd. His grandparents, Eugene Asbury Boyd and Mae (Wallingford) Boyd served as influential people in laying the foundation for the cattle business, as well as other aspects of the agriculture industry.

He graduated from Maysville High School in 1960 and attended the University of Kentucky (UK). He was a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, UK Livestock Judging Team and the Block and Bridle organization. He returned home after college to farm and raise registered livestock. He was a third-generation Hereford breeder.

Charles was a member of Shannon United Methodist Church and attended May's Lick Christian Church and Highland Christian Church.

Throughout his life he had many accomplishments on local, state and national

levels. He was inducted into the Mason County Alumni Hall of Fame in 2012; was a founder of the Mason County Cattlemen's Association and the organization's first president; recognized as the Kentucky Outstanding Young Farmer and Kentucky Cattleman's Association Seedstock Producer of the Year; was a founding member of the Beef Advisory Committee for the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE); was a member of the state Board of Agriculture under two administrations, serving on his second term; was Kentucky Hereford Association past director and president; served on the board of the American Hereford Association, and was a member of the American Hereford Association Hall of Fame.

He was a prominent beef cattle judge at all major livestock shows, exhibited several international and national champion Hereford cattle, and bred and raised more than 20 bulls in major artificial insemination studs, which is one of the most significant achievements of any Hereford breeder. Family, loving others and mentoring young people in the agriculture and Hereford industries were the way he lived his life.

Charles is survived by his wife of 52 years, Martha (Donovan) Boyd; son Charles II; daughter Suzanne; sister Susan; four grandchildren; and two nephews.

## INDUSTRY EXTRAS

**Aaron Arnett** has been hired by

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STgenetics as the director of beef genetics. In this role he will procure new bulls for and grow sales within the company's U.S. market.

**Marty Zaluski** has been appointed interim executive officer of the Montana Department of Livestock while a search begins for a permanent replacement for Christian Mackay, who resigned in September.

**Jeff Moyer** has been appointed executive director of the Rodale Institute, a nonprofit organization dedicated to pioneering organic farming through research and outreach. Moyer has worked with the Rodale Institute since 1975, most recently as the Institute's farm director.

**Roger Rennekamp** has been named the next director of Ohio State University (OSU) Extension. He will begin his duties Jan. 4, 2016, replacing Keith Smith, who retired June 30, 2015, after 23 years in the position. Rennekamp will be the 12th leader of OSU Extension, overseeing nearly 700 employees and a \$71 million budget.

**Jacob Karlen** has been hired by Rock River Laboratory Inc. as the near-infrared (NIR) manager. In this new position, Karlen will work to track, manage and maintain the company's extensive network of NIR instruments, both domestic and abroad.

**Leon Kochian, Donald Ort, Ralph Scorza** and **Scott Yates** were named to the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Science Hall of Fame. The 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.

**Karla Thieman** has been appointed chief of staff for the USDA. The position was recently vacated by Brian Baenig.

**Mike Sullivan**, former Wyoming governor, has been named the 2016 Citizen of the West. He will be honored with the award at a dinner Jan. 11, 2016, during the National Western Stock Show at the National Western Events Center. The award recognizes those who embody the spirit and determination of the Western pioneer and perpetuate the West's agricultural heritage and ideals. Proceeds from the event support

80 scholarships awarded annually to colleges in Colorado and Wyoming by the National Western Scholarship Trust.

**Bo Alley** has been appointed acting director of the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust. Alley will succeed Pamela Dewell, who served the organization for seven years, in mid-October.

**Chris Giorgianni**, vice president of Product Support and Government and Defense for JCB, has been named to head JCB's Global Government and Defense Division after its recent relocation from JCB's worldwide headquarters in the United Kingdom to its North American headquarters in Savannah, Ga. Giorgianni is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy and a decorated Air Force veteran. He will utilize his extensive military knowledge and unique perspective to guide the growing team. This strategic move comes on the heels of the company's success manufacturing the High Mobility Engineer Excavator (HMEE) for the United States Army. 

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