

# Three Honored

Association honors Angus Heritage Foundation inductees.

by *Shelia Stannard*

The American Angus Association Board of Directors has inducted three individuals into the Angus Heritage Foundation. Each year, a select group of individuals who have made significant contributions to the improvement and advancement of the Angus breed by dedicating their time, knowledge and efforts are inducted into the Heritage Foundation.

The 2004 inductees include Tom Burke, Smithville, Mo., and Richard Janssen, Ellsworth, Kan. Ralph Sydenstricker, formerly of Mexico, Mo., was inducted posthumously.

A special recognition of the inductees took place during the American Angus Association's Angus Awards Banquet, Nov. 15, 2004, in Louisville, Ky. Each inductee or his family received a framed Angus Heritage Foundation certificate. Honorees names will be engraved on a permanent Heritage Foundation plaque in the Association headquarters in Saint Joseph, Mo. Photos and brief biographies will be included in the 2005 edition of the Angus Heritage Foundation booklet that lists inductees since the Heritage Foundation's inception in 1983.

Brief biographies of the inductees follow.



## Tom Burke

Tom Burke is a third-generation Angus breeder born in Minnesota. He was a charter member and the first president of the Minnesota Junior

Angus Association in 1960. For more than half a century, he has dedicated his life to the production and promotion of Angus cattle. A longtime sale manager, Burke has conducted more than 5,000 registered Angus auctions across the United States and Canada. He was elected chairman of The All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity in 1972 and has served in that capacity since.

Burke travels the country promoting the Angus breed and its producers.

## Richard Janssen



Richard Janssen, a third-generation breeder at Green Garden Angus Farm in central Kansas, has become known for his innovative practices as a seedstock

producer. From calving ease to carcass quality to cow efficiency, Janssen is always striving to find ways to improve his cow herd. He has been an active leader at the state

and national levels. He served as Kansas Angus Association president in 1980. Janssen also served two terms as an American Angus Association director, and in 1989 was elected president. In 1993, he received the Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) Commitment to Excellence Award, and he was named Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Seedstock Producer of the Year in 1994.

## Ralph Sydenstricker

Ralph Sydenstricker was a pioneer Angus producer who established his cow herd near Paris, Mo., in 1952 after trading a tractor for two cow-calf pairs. Since that time, Sydenstricker Angus Farms has grown into Missouri's top producer in terms of annual registrations.

Sydenstricker had a genuine passion for Angus cattle and always worked to promote the merits of the breed, whether it be talking to commercial producers across the United States or traveling abroad to spread the Angus message. He was a strong force in the development of the Missouri Angus Association and served as its president.

