

Notable Contributors

The American Angus Association recognized herd longevity, contribution to the breed at national convention.

by **JENA MCRELL**, *digital editor*,
and **SHAUNA ROSE HERMEL**, *editor*

The Awards Recognition Breakfast Nov. 5, hosted as part of the 2015 Angus Means Business National Convention & Trade Show in Overland Park, Kan., offered ample opportunity for the American Angus Association to recognize some notable achievements among its members. In addition to awarding the first scholarship to a participant of the Future Angus Stockmen program (see story on page 26), the Association recognized four Century Award winners, inducted four significant contributors into the Angus Heritage Foundation, crowned the 2016 Miss American Angus, and recognized three top honors in the Roll of Victory (ROV) show program.

Century herds

The Angus breed is built on generations of individuals and families who've committed their livelihoods to raising Angus cattle. Through years of adversity and opportunity, these families have adapted their businesses and have grown into the next generation. This year, the American Angus Association recognized with the Century Award four Angus breeders who have sustained their

farms and ranches for more than 100 years.

Ingalls Centennial Angus — It was Oct. 5, 1895, when James Ingalls purchased the Angus bull Ermine Prince, registration number 19975 on a handwritten pedigree, and established one of the first Angus herds in South Dakota. That day marked the beginning of a 120-year family history with Angus genetics, spanning seven generations.

In 1908, Albert Ingalls, James' son, moved the family and Angus herd from Humboldt, S.D., to Meade County on the western side of the state. Ingalls Angus persevered through Mother Nature's swings in the harsh climate. Forty years later, Albert's son, Lawrence Ingalls, transferred a registered-Angus heifer to the family's fourth generation, Hugh Ingalls.

Hugh remembers leading, as a 12-year-old, Bessie I3 into the ring at the Western Junior Livestock Show in Rapid City, S.D. She was the first Angus ever shown at the competition.

Through the years, Hugh was greatly involved in the Angus breed on a state, regional and national level through the American Angus Association. Year after year, with his wife, Eleanor, and brother,

Dale, Hugh continued to perfect the herd's genetics. In 1956, the family started using production records in their drive for quality.

In 1983, Ingalls Angus was recognized with the American Angus Association's Centennial Angus Herd Award. The family's dedication to the Angus breed has continued to flourish as Hugh and Eleanor raised their family, extended family and registered-Angus cattle on the prairies of western South Dakota.

More than 80 years after Albert Ingalls moved his herd from eastern South Dakota to the western part of the state, the herd moved west once again.

Hugh's son, Dan Ingalls, moved to Wyoming with his young family in 1990 and established a branch of the herd named Ingalls Angus. They established their new ranching operations in the Jackson Hole and Riverton areas, and now in the South Big Horn Mountains, northwest of Casper. Dan's six sons are all involved in their own cattle operations today in several locations in Wyoming, Colorado and North Dakota.

At 86 years old, Hugh still manages his own 500-head cattle operation, Ingalls Centennial Angus, which ranks among the state's largest registered-Angus herds.

Homestead Farm — The story of Homestead Farm near Cedar Lake, Ind., begins with a dairy farmer. In 1910, Joe Huseman proposed to Florence Berg, whose father raised Angus cattle and promptly told him, "no daughter of mine will marry a dairy farmer." Joe sold the dairy herd and bought some Angus cows from his future father-in-law — the official start of the Homestead Farm Angus herd.

Widely known for his character and work ethic, Joe had an uncanny knack for training horses and handling livestock. As the economy improved after the Great Depression, Angus cattle from Homestead Farm often brought top dollar at the Chicago Stock Yards. In both 1924 and 1925, a carload from Homestead Farm was chosen as the "Best Bred Carload — Aberdeen Angus" by the Institute of American Meat Packers at the International Livestock Exposition.

Their oldest son, Bill, bought Homestead Farm from his parents in 1945. Bill and wife Bernice purchased life memberships to the American Angus Association for all four of their children soon after they took their first steps.

With an eye toward continuous improvement, Bill studied pedigrees and used the best Angus bulls he could afford. In the 1960s, he purchased Blue Sky

Century Awards



The Association recognized Centennial Angus, Faith, S.D., with the Century Award. Pictured are (from left) Richard Wilson, Association CFO; Hugh and Eleanor Ingalls, recipients; and Madison Butler, 2015 Miss American Angus.



The Association recognized Penner Angus Ranch, Mill Creek, Okla., with the Century Award. Pictured are (from left) Wilson; Harris Penner, recipient; and Butler.

Heritage Awards



C.K. Allen, Hinsdale, Mont., was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation. Pictured are (from left) Wilson; Allen, recipient; and Butler.



Keith Stevenson, Hobson, Mont., was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation. Pictured are (from left) Wilson; Stevenson, recipient; and Butler.



The Association recognized Homestead Farm, Cedar Lake, Ind., with the Century Award. Pictured are (from left) Wilson; Charles Huseman, recipient; and Butler.



The Association recognized Simpson Angus Ranch, Edmond, Okla., with the Century Award. Pictured are (from left) Wilson; Charles Simpson, recipient; and Butler.



Curtis Long, Butler, Mo., was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation. Pictured are (from left) Wilson; Long, recipient; and Butler.



David Danciger, formerly of Carbondale, Colo., was posthumously inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation. Pictured are (from left) Wilson; Emma Danciger, accepting the award on her husband's behalf; and Butler.

Ermitre 151, a large-framed bull for his time, laying the foundation for a long run of showing champions that developed an outstanding market for Homestead Farm breeding cattle.

All four children grew up showing cattle, and the three sisters now have careers outside of agriculture. Charles, the only brother, owns the farm and raises Angus cattle on the original homestead today.

Penner Angus Ranch — Penner Angus Ranch is the oldest continuously family-owned business in the state of Oklahoma. Tracing its roots to 1854, the ranch was established when Cyrus Harris founded the town of Mill Creek and began raising livestock. A five-time governor of the Chickasaw Nation, Harris was also involved in developing several business ventures to support the community.

His daughter, Amanda, married Texas cattleman Felix Penner in the late 1800s. Penner expanded the livestock operations and grew the ranch to 11,000 acres. In 1912, the family purchased the operation's first Angus cattle. At that time, the Angus breed was unfamiliar to many in the region. The Penners purchased their first line of Angus genetics from Richard Selman of Rochelle, Texas.

In 1920, they expanded the herd with cattle from J.C. Simpson of Simpson Angus Ranch, whose descendants are also Century Award recipients this year. When the Angus cattle outsold the Herefords in Kansas City, there was no turning back for the Penner Ranch. A century later, the Penners are still committed to raising high-quality Angus cattle.

The Penners' ranching heritage lives on through the fourth and fifth generations, who remain connected to the families' original Chickasaw allotments. Home to notable Angus sires, such as PR Black Friday 0244 and Penners-CC Double Black 2257, Penner Angus Ranch has adopted new technology and genetic advancements that drive the beef business today.

In 1995, the operation was recognized as an Oklahoma Centennial Farm and Ranch.

Today, Cyrus Harris' great-great-grandson Harris Penner leads the ranch, along with his wife, Vicki. Daughters Amanda, husband Kyle Conley; Becca, husband Chance Kornegay; and Kelly, and husband Zach Weldon, remain involved with the family's operation today.

Five grandchildren also join them: Cyrus, Carter, Case, Ella and Jack. Harris' sister Becky; her husband, Rick; and their family also continue the quality traditions of Penner Angus Ranch into the next generations.

Simpson Angus Ranch — The Simpson Ranch of Edmond, Okla., was among the first in the state to raise registered-Angus genetics. In 1910, J.C. Simpson and his oldest son, Francis, attended Fort Worth's fat stock show, and returned home with 100 registered-

Angus cows and four registered bulls.

At the turn of the century, West Texas was in the grip of a bad drought, forcing many cattlemen to cut their herds. J.C. and Francis, 11 years old at the time, were looking over Angus cattle owned by G.O. Creswell. His initial price was \$120 for the cows and \$250 for the bulls. J.C. said that if he could talk the price down to \$100 and \$200, he would buy them. To his surprise,

Creswell took him up on the offer, and the Simpsons had the start to their Angus herd.

Ten years later, J.C. bought an Angus bull named Plowman from his friend L.R. Kershaw. Before 1919, the bull had earned 45 championships and grand championships across the United States, and won five shows in Canada. J.C. paid \$40,000 for Plowman — the highest price ever paid for a bull in that area at the time.

Through the years, Plowman's progeny made Simpson Angus Ranch one of the most recognizable herds in Oklahoma.

In the 1930s, J.C.'s nephew, Robert Simpson, took over the herd. Both he and his uncle helped other cattlemen get their start in the Angus business. Robert added many powerful animals to the herd, including General 11 of Sunbeam, Dor

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Maes Bardoliermere 98 and Eileenmere 939.

In 1973, Robert Simpson passed the herd on to Charles Simpson, his son. Charles still manages the ranch today and runs day-to-day operations with the current herd manager, Les Turner.

Angus heritage

The Angus breed and the American Angus Association owe an incalculable debt to the many men and women who have worked tirelessly to advance Angus cattle and serve as organization leaders in the beef cattle business. Each year, the Association recognizes breed leaders and their contributions by inducting individuals into the Angus Heritage Foundation. Four new additions were honored during the Association's Awards Recognition Breakfast: C.K. Allen, Montana; Curtis Long, Missouri; Keith Stevenson, Montana; and the late David Danciger, Colorado.

C.K. Allen — As a former American Angus Association executive, C.K. Allen has left a lasting impact on the business breed. Beginning in 1978, he served three years as the organization's top official in Saint Joseph, Mo.

C.K. Allen played an important role in several monumental accomplishments for the breed. He was part of the team that established the *Certified Angus Beef*[®] (CAB[®]) brand, purchased the *Angus Journal*, and started the Angus Foundation and the junior Angus program, previously part of the Association's Activities Department.

A native of Virginia, Allen grew up on the family Hereford operation near Williamsburg and graduated with a degree in animal science from Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) in Blacksburg. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, he returned to VPI for his master's degree and later earned a doctorate in ruminant nutrition from Michigan State University. Following his tenure with the American Angus Association, Allen joined the faculty at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo., where he taught beef production, meats, animal breeding and livestock marketing during his 20 years on campus. He also established the university's first bull test.

In 1977, he founded Woodland Farms, a purebred cattle-breeding operation that continued nearly 30 years. Allen was honored with the 2002 Pioneer Award from Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) and was also named the brand's Seedstock Commitment to Excellence Award winner the same year.

In 2009, Allen moved to Hinsdale, Mont., to be closer to his grandchildren and family. Naturally, he keeps a small Angus herd and continues his involvement through youth development in local 4-H and FFA programs.

Curtis Long — A pioneer in rural health care, Curtis Long has been breeding Angus cattle and building his

medical practice in Butler, Mo., for more than 50 years. Briarwood Angus Farms encompasses nearly 2,000 acres, including 320 acres of native prairie. The 220-head registered-Angus herd was built on genetics from the Wye Plantation, purchased when the farm was established in 1964.

Long was a charter member of U.S.

Premium Beef[®] (USPB). Today, Briarwood cattle consistently grade more than 90% Choice, with more than 50% qualifying for the CAB brand. The farm hosts an annual production sale, where they offer approximately 50 bulls and 40 females each year.

An advocate for Angus youth and the

Angus Foundation, Long established an endowment to sponsor the carcass steer competition at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). The 2013 NJAS in Kansas City, Mo., was dedicated to Long and his wife, Ann.

The son of humble farmers, Long grew

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up near Festus, Mo., and later attended the University of Missouri (MU) in Columbia. He holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural biochemistry and graduated from MU's medical school in 1963.

The 2010 Missouri Physician of the Year, Long was recognized by MU's School of Medicine for developing a

residents training program that teaches physicians the skills necessary for bringing comprehensive care to rural areas.

Curtis and Ann Long have two adult sons, Curtis and Kent, who are former National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members.

Keith Stevenson — Central Montana's Judith Basin is where Keith Stevenson calls home. The area is historically renowned as prime cattle country, and Stevenson was born there as the young Angus breed slowly began to spread throughout the region. In many respects, he grew up right along with the

family's cattle operation, Stevenson Angus Ranch.

This year marks the 55th annual production sale at the ranch, a tradition that started when Stevenson was a teenager. In 1967, he participated in the very first National Junior Angus Showmanship contest in Lexington, Ky., and would go on to serve the breed nationally on the American Angus Association's Board of Directors, serving as president in 1992-1993.

A graduate of Montana State University, Keith holds degrees in animal science and agriculture education. He was instrumental in establishing and hosting the first Montana Angus Tour in 1974, which has grown into one of the nation's strongest state events.

Today, Keith and his wife, Roberta, live only a few hundred yards from the house where he grew up, but the reach of their operation goes worldwide. The Stevensons have exported embryos and live cattle to every continent except Antarctica, and launched joint businesses in South America and Europe.

He was recognized, along with his brother, Wayne, and mother, Jeanette, as the 1996 U.S. Livestock Man of the Year, presented during the National Western Stock Show (NWSS). That same year, their operation was also recognized with the CAB Seedstock Commitment to Excellence Award.

David Danciger — A Harvard graduate with an economics degree, the late David Danciger's lifelong passion for Angus cattle began in 1950. Since that time, he and wife Emma have continued to produce high-performing, registered-Angus cattle adaptable for all environments.

Danciger's life membership in the American Angus Association dates back to 1952, when he started Cedar Hills Ranch south of Dallas, Texas. A scientist at heart, David concentrated on continuous genetic improvement within his Angus herd. He was an early adopter of artificial insemination (AI) and set up a bull collection facility and lab on the Texas ranch.

In 1980, the Dancigers brought 50 Angus cows to Carbondale, Colo., and established Tybar Angus Ranch. An environment much different than ranching in Texas, they faced the challenge of adapting their herd to the severe cold, high altitudes and intensive land management.

True to his nature, David met the adversity with science.

In 1984, he joined Colorado State University's research project to evaluate lung and heart capacity of yearling calves by means of pulmonary arterial pressure (PAP) testing to determine the effects of high-altitude stress in Angus cattle. This groundbreaking information revealed this was a condition, not a disease, similar to hypertension in humans.

David's life motto was, "Life is a

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learning experience,” and he practiced that fully until the age of 81. His family continues the Tybar commitment to excellence, producing quality genetics for seedstock and commercial operations in all environments.

Angus royalty

As the fifth-generation on Clearwater Farm near Springfield, Mo., a passion for the Angus breed has been with Jera Pipkin her entire life.

With a giant smile and enthusiastic personality, she captivated the judges and was crowned the 2016 Miss American Angus during the American Angus Association’s Awards Recognition Breakfast.

“The red jacket is an opportunity for me to tell my story,” Pipkin said. “It’s an opportunity for me to connect with breeders and younger kids to tell them my own experiences, and how Angus can change your life.”

A freshman at Oklahoma State University, Pipkin studies animal science and agricultural communications. She is the daughter of Jim and Joann Pipkin. Founded in 1933, Clearwater Farm has been recognized as a Historic Herd by the American Angus Association, and that family history and heritage is something Pipkin treasures.

“Angus is truly the business breed,” Pipkin said. “The Angus breed has functional, quality cattle, but also the people behind it. There’s nothing like my

Angus family, and there’s nothing quite like what the breed can provide for you.”

Each year, five outstanding young ladies compete for the prestigious title of Miss American Angus and an opportunity to serve the Angus breed as a spokesperson across the country. Hosted by the American Angus

Auxiliary, the program provides one Angus junior the opportunity to serve the breed and assist with shows, educational events and field days to educate others about the beef industry and benefits of Angus genetics.

An active member of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) and competitor at multiple NJAS, Pipkin says connecting with younger NJAA members and other Angus breeders is what she looks forward to the most in the year ahead.

Additional finalists during this year’s competition were Cassandra Garcia, Renton, Wash.; Claudia Hissong, Greencastle, Pa.; Katelyn Holmes, Benton, Iowa; and Jordyn Wagner, Billings, Mont.

Pipkin succeeds 2015 Miss American

Angus Madison Butler of Vincennes, Ind. To learn more about the Miss American Angus program, visit www.angusauxiliary.com.

ROV elite

The American Angus Association also recognized top performers in its Roll of

Victory (ROV) Show Program. The ROV program recognizes individual show-winning animals and the sires and dams of major award winners on an annual, current-year basis.

Points are awarded according to placings and are accumulated throughout the course of the show year, which for the 2014-2015 ROV show program ended May 31, 2015.

An animal’s highest two point earnings in Super-Point shows and highest two point earnings in recognized point shows are totaled to establish the Show Bull and Show Heifer of the Year, as well as division champion awards. If an animal is shown at more than two Super-Point shows, the points from the third and fourth Super-Point shows can be given at a regular point level.

EXAR First Advance 5702B won Show Bull of the Year, earning 90 points

during the 2014-2015 show year. The September 2012 son of Dameron First Class is owned by Express Angus Ranches, Yukon, Okla.; and the Schnoor Sisters, Chowchilla, Calif.

Winning Show Heifer of the Year, with 75 points, was Champion Hill Georgina 8547, a November 2013 daughter of SAV Angus Valley 1867, owned by David Smith, Boulder, Colo.

Dameron First Class won Sire of the Year honors with 1,473.5 points. The April 2008 son of EXG RS First Rate S903 R3 is owned by Express Angus Ranches and Dameron Angus Farm, Lexington, Ill.

While awards for Show Heifer, Show Bull and Breeder of the Year were presented at the national convention, other award winners will be recognized at the National Angus Show to be convened at the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colo., in January 2016. For a complete list of winners, see “Roll of Victory Standings” in the September 2015 issue of the *Angus Journal*. Access standings for the current show year online at www.angus.org.

Angus Convention

Comprehensive coverage of the 2015 National Angus Convention — including articles, speaker presentations, photo galleries and videos — can be found in the Newsroom at www.angusconvention.com.

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— *Jera Pipkin*