



SOUTH POLL GRASS CATTLE ASSOCIATION

SUMMER EDITION, 2014

Great animals, great kids and great weather featured at SPGCA 2014 Field Day

Great animals, enthusiastic breeders, wonderful guests, knowledgeable presenters, great kids, quality vendors and good weather were in more than ample supply on June 27 and 28 for the sixth annual 2014 South Poll Field Day held at the farm of Bruce and Sunshine Shanks at Belle, Mo.

Other activities included induction of board members J.A. Girgenti and John Lyons into the South Poll Hall of Fame. President Teddy Gentry headed up the ceremony and presented Girgenti with a plaque. Girgenti was a charter member of the board, and after having served two three-year terms, chose to step down from the board.

After having undergone knee-replacement surgery the prior week, Lyons was unable to attend the 2014 field day, and next year won't have far to travel as he and his wife Andra will be hosting the field day on June 26 and 27 at their farm located near Piedmont, Alabama.

Breeders brought some of their best animals and members of the audience responded by paying record prices for top-notch bulls and females. Thirteen heifers

were sold for \$46,600, to average \$3,562; five pairs for \$20,700, or an average of \$4,140; and five bulls averaged \$4,420 for a total of \$22,100. The individual sale results are posted on the website.

Presenters this year did a bang-up job. Chris Boeckmann of Boeckmann Family Farm, Loose Creek, Mo., Jim Johnson of Cloudcrest Farm, Rossville, Ga., and Cody Hopkins of Falling Sky Farm, Marshall, Ark., led a panel discussion on Friday afternoon in which they talked about, not only their grass-fed beef, but the many other food items they produce and market.

Boeckmann explained how he is expanding beyond beef, into pork and chicken. Hopkins told how, in addition to beef, he also markets 10,000 chickens a year, and Johnson talked about how he has expanded his many offerings of meat and poultry products by setting up a meat market in downtown Chattanooga, Tenn.

Saturday afternoon Utah



rancher Steve Westhoff explained to the audience how South Polls perform in a mountainous environment that normally receives fewer than 10 inches of rainfall a year. The magnificent scenery of the West made Westhoff's presentation even more entertaining.

Following Steve Westhoff's presentation, a speaking contest for youngsters was held and seven paraded before the audience. All did well and some did even better than that and all left with at least \$100 for having competed. Participants included Chania and Chayla Hoffman, Jacob Greenlee, Clancy, Colton and Codee Bond

and Helena Hendricks.

No South Poll field day would be complete without a pasture tour by superstar grazer Greg Judy. This year was no different as Judy led the crowd through the Shanks pastures that featured not only South Poll cattle, but a sizeable herd of hair sheep.

The lucky recipient in the steer giveaway was David Rasmussen, while Gerry Bond, Rick Berghold, Clancy Bond and Edith Hendricker won meat bundles.

There were a total of 223 paid guests and none were known to have left dissatisfied.

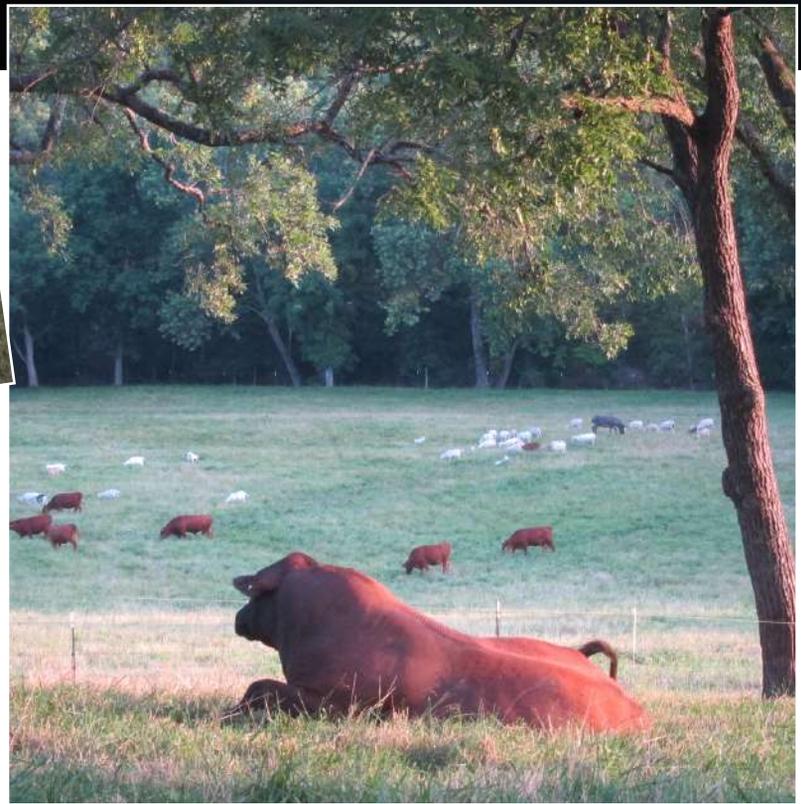
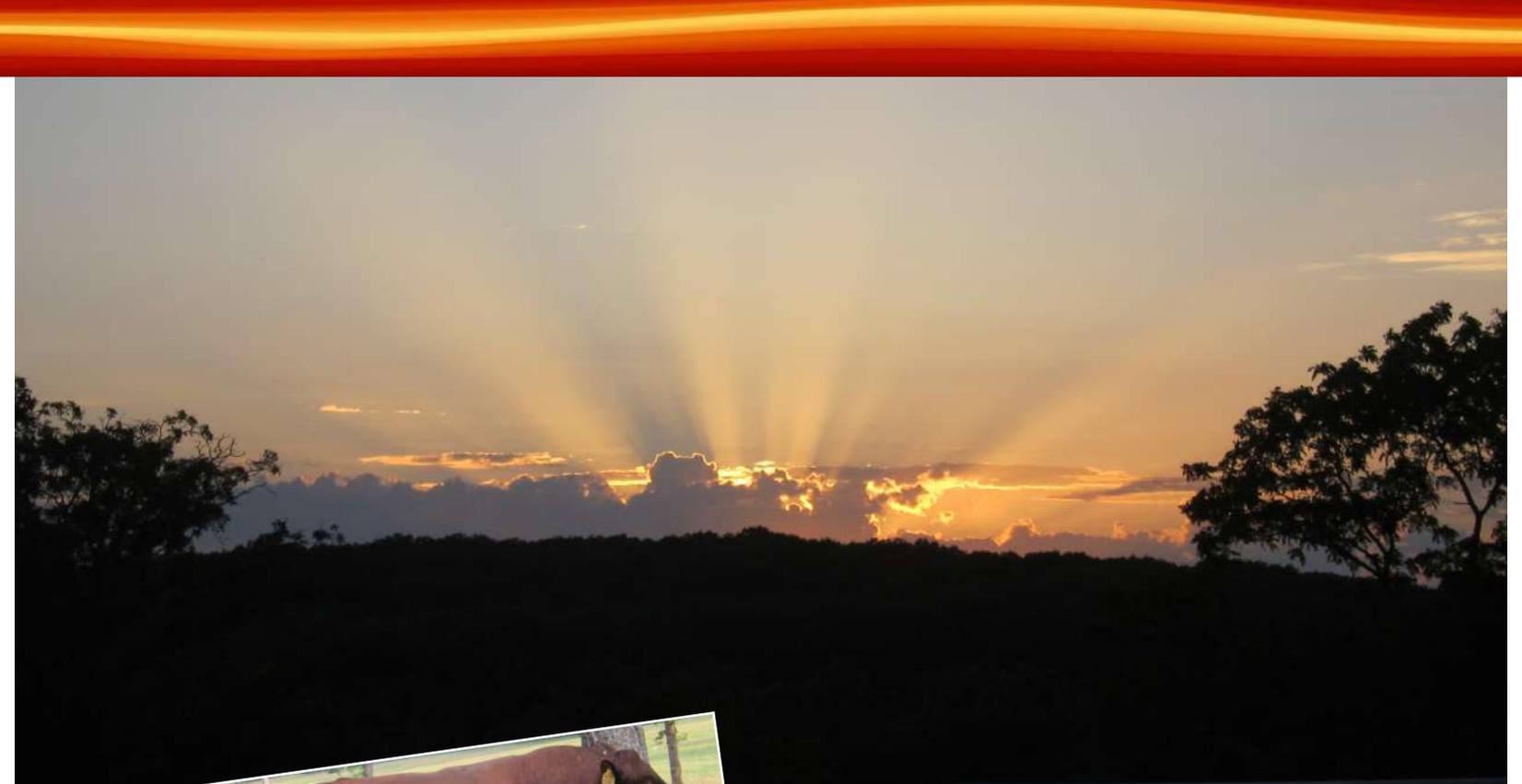


Mark Your Calendar June 26 and 27, 2015

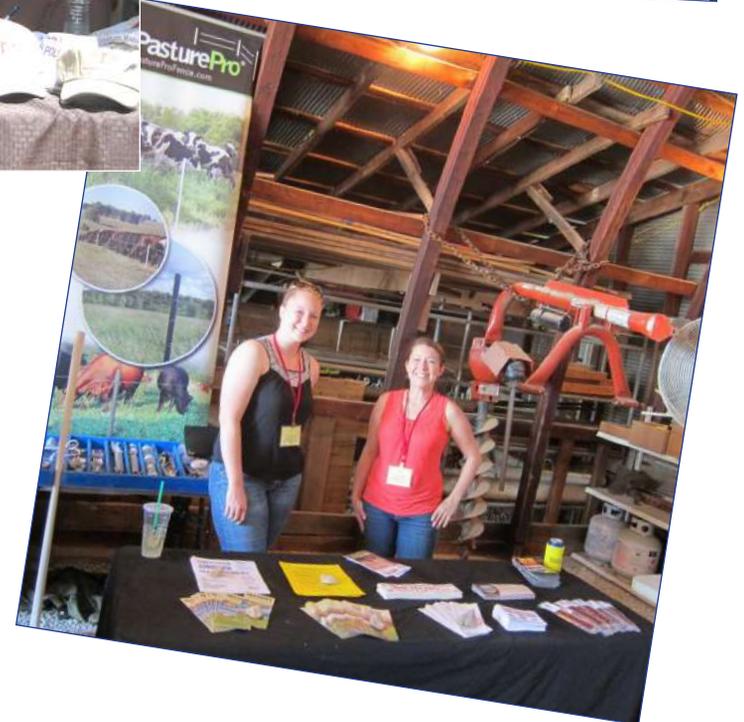
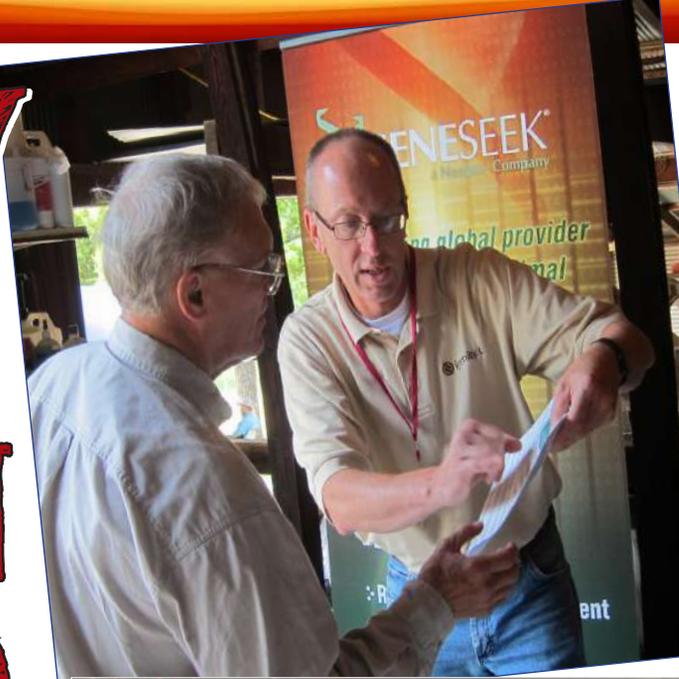
The 7th annual South Poll Grass Cattle Association field day is to be held at the home of charter South Poll board member John Lyons, and his wife Andra, who live at the foot of Hurricane Mountain in Piedmont, Alabama.

More details will appear later on the SPGCA website.

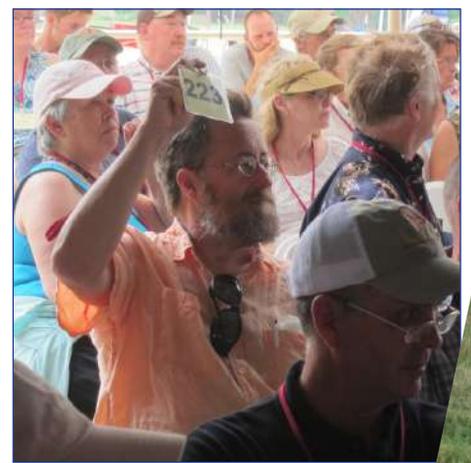
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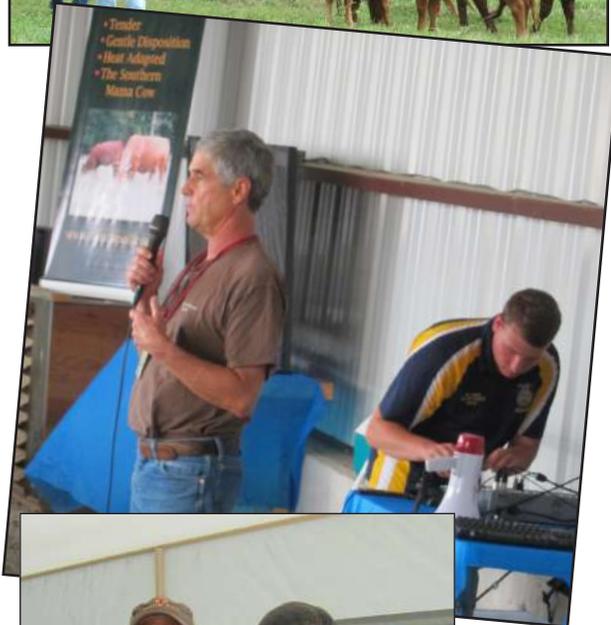


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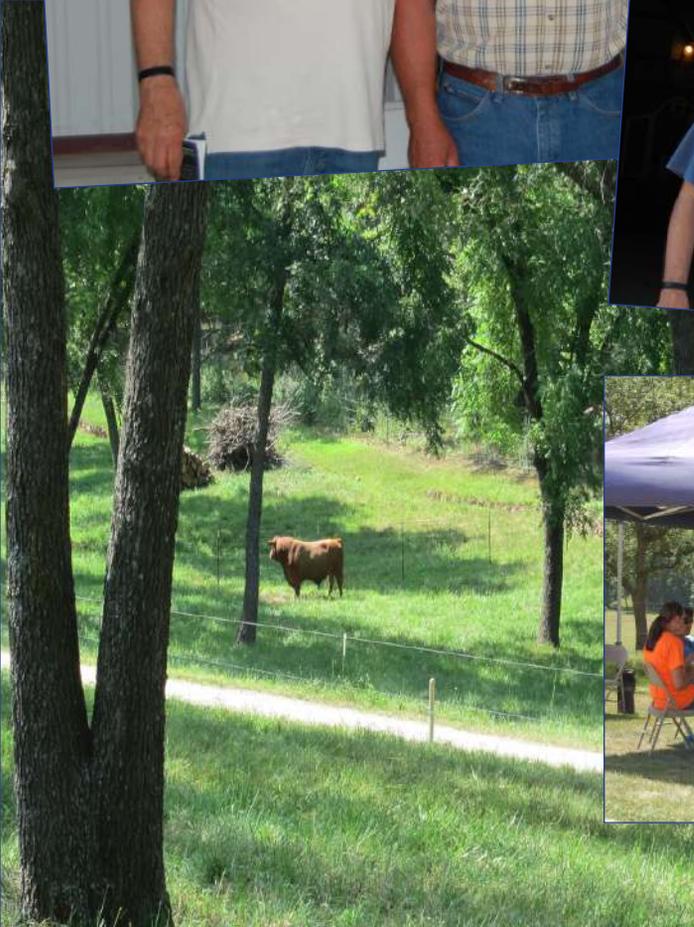
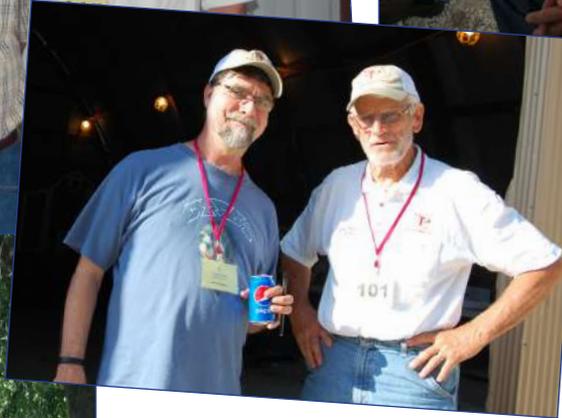


Photos by:
*Judy Freeman and
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