



photo courtesy Summers Farm

# SEE WHAT'S NEW AT SPGCA!

WINTER 2019

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## Teddy Talks

Sometimes progress in the South Poll business seems to come slow. It seems like over the years I have done a lot of talking about cows and it seems like I was somewhat on a mission that very few people understand.

Even as one by one the Voss', the Judys, the Sumners, the Lyons, the Shanks, the Freemans, and a few others came on board, it seemed like we were all 50 and above on age. I wanted so much to find a way to get to the youth but it seemed like we didn't have a lot to offer, no shows, no blue ribbons, no picture in the winner's circle.

Well, recently I met an 11 year old boy that made me feel great! His grandpa brought him to visit and look at some South Poll stock. I have never been so excited to visit with a young man! It was like talking to a much older and knowledgeable man. He knew his history, Bud Williams, Temple Grandin and more! He showed me pictures of good cows he owns himself. As we walked and talked looking at cows, his comments and questions were dead on and quite beyond his years.

After 3 hours, I sure felt like I had learned as much from him as I hope he picked up from me. I came home feeling good about our little breed and the people in whose hands we will hand the reins to for the future. Somehow it made that day seem like all the years of struggle has been worth the work!

Mr. Ty Jones, it was a real pleasure to meet you, I believe you will be the kind of future our industry needs!

*Teddy Gentry*



photo courtesy of [www.greenpasturesfarm.ent](http://www.greenpasturesfarm.ent)

## GREG JUDY

On his farm with some of his South Poll herd

# South Poll Field Day

**12TH ANNUAL FIELD DAY TO BE HELD  
JUNE 26TH AND 27TH**

**G**reg and Jan Judy have a long history with the South Poll breed. Greg serves as Vice President of the SPGCA board and he and Jan have graciously offered the use of their farm, Green Pastures as the location for the 2020 Field Day. The registration and schedule, along with the finalized speakers will be released after the first of the year. A block of rooms is being held at the Drury Plaza in Columbia and we are working on the possibility of some shuttle busses to get people out to the farm.

**P**lease keep an eye on the website and social media for updates. We expect a record crowd this year and don't want you to miss out!



photo courtesy of [www.feastmagazine.com](http://www.feastmagazine.com)

Submit your favorite recipes for the next Newsletter!  
psst...there are PRIZES!  
[southpollgrasscattle@gmail.com](mailto:southpollgrasscattle@gmail.com)

## From the Kitchen

### Foolproof Prime Rib

#### Ingredients

- 5 pound rib roast
- 1/4 cup real butter
- 2-4 teaspoons fresh chopped garlic
- 1T. Lawry's salt
- 1-2 T. coarse ground pepper

Let roast stand at room temperature for at least one hour.

Soften butter and mix in garlic and seasonings and rub all over roast.

Place the roast on a rack in roasting pan--fatty side up.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees, roast the meat for one hour and turn the oven off. Resist all temptation and keep the oven door CLOSED AT ALL TIMES. Leave in the oven at least 3 hours.

30-40 minutes before serving time, reheat the oven to 375 degrees and cook until internal temp reaches at least 145 degrees. Remove from the oven, cover and let stand for at least 10 minutes.

Enjoy!! This is one of our favorite holiday meals!  
~Ann Demerath



# Registrations



SPGCA recommends that sellers send papers and payment for registrations to the SPGCA office, as a courtesy to their buyers

# SENEPOL HISTORY

*In the 1800's N'Dama Cattle were imported to the Caribbean Island of St. Croix from Senegal, West Africa.*

St. Croix is the largest and Southernmost of the US Virgin Islands, located roughly 1200 miles southeast of Miami, Florida.

The N'Dama, a *Bos Taurus* breed, was well suited for the Caribbean because of its heat tolerance, insect and disease resistance, and the ability to thrive on poor quality forage.

By 1889 Henry C. Neithropp's Granard Estates was one of the largest breeders with over 250 head, which he maintained as purebreds. Neithropp's son, Bromley, wanted to develop cattle that would combine the traits needed for superior levels

of production in the Virgin Islands tropical environment. Attempts to import the higher producing cattle from temperate regions had failed; the cattle having broken down quickly from heat and nutritional stress.

In 1918, Red Poll genetics were introduced to the Neithropp's N'Dama stock to improve milking ability, fertility and making them polled. This blending of genetics proved quite successful, and formed the breed of the Senepol breed. As more Red Poll influence was added, strict selection pressure was applied for.

1. Early maturity and maternal efficiency.
2. Polled and solid red color.
3. Definite heat tolerance.

4. Gentle disposition.

In the 50 years since the Neithropp herd was dispersed to local breeders, the development of the Senepol breed on St. Croix has been continued by four primary herds that still operate on the island today

The largest two number 400 and 220 cows respectively. The isolation of St. Croix sheltered the Senepol breed from the fads that have constantly assaulted the U.S. purebred industry. While other breeds chased certain trends, only to turn and race just as fast in the opposite direction, the Senepol route was characterized by continued selection for animals that could perform and reproduce under the harsh St. Croix environment.

From their beginnings, the island



LIFE IS  
BETTER  
WITH COWS.



Senepol Bull

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herds maintained genetics records, which grew into the Senepol breed registry in the late 1960's and the early 70's. On farm performance testing began in the mid 1970's with the establishment of the Virgin Islands BCIA. In 1977, a plane carrying 22 Senepol cows left for the US mainland; 20 years later, the Senepol Cattle Breeders Association recognizes over 500 breeders and 14, 000 Senepol records.

The Senepol Cattle are red in color, medium sized, naturally polled cattle. They have good confirmation which produces a good carcass.

Adult cows average 1000 to 1200 pounds and consistently wean off 50% of their body weight while maintaining an efficient calving interval. Cows stay in production upwards of 15-29 years.

Today, Senepol can be found thriving in 21 states of America and around the world in countries such as Venezuela, Mexico, Philippines, Zimbabwe, Brazil and many others where their tropically adapted production is needed.

\* References

[www.senepolcattle.com](http://www.senepolcattle.com)

[www.thecattlesite.com](http://www.thecattlesite.com)

happy new year  
&  
happy grazing!

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The Southern Mama Cow Breed

[www.southpoll.com](http://www.southpoll.com)  
256-996-8355

**Photo Contest!**  
We want to see your  
**BEST Photos!**

Submit your ORIGINAL photos to Ann at  
[southpollgrasscattle@gmail.com](mailto:southpollgrasscattle@gmail.com)  
for publication in the Newsletter  
or maybe even some of our  
advertising!

Winners will receive a prize  
from SPGCA!



## Food for Thought

### *What if....*

There was a breed of cattle that was designed to:

- \* Take the heat and humidity of the South and still give you a tender piece of meat?
- \* Be ideal on mob or rotational grazing systems because of gentle disposition
  - \* Have ample amount of girth to perform off low quality forages
  - \* Give us 800-1000 pound females that are a 2-3 frame
  - \* Longevity built in with an emphasis on udder quality
- \* Has an association that supports its members to the point that 95% of cattle NEVER go through a sale ring
  - \* Breed up 90-95% is being achieved on grass alone
- \* Never shown in competition and chooses to let records determine which are the best cows
- \* Don't allow embryo calves in the belief that in a maternal breed, each cow should raise its own calf
  - \* Excels at the 2 most profitable traits for cow/calf producer~ fertility and longevity

There is..

## *South Poll!*

## Merry Christmas!



*Bent Tree Farms*

Teddy & Linda Gentry, owners  
Dave Roberts 256-996-1788  
Josh Gentry 256-304-4605  
SPCCA Office 256-996-8355

# OFFICE UPDATE

*The SPGCA office move is complete*

The office of the South Poll Grass Cattle Association has moved from Fort Payne, Alabama to Mountain Grove, Missouri. Long time secretary, Kathy Richburg, has moved into a more full time role with Understanding Ag, LLC.

On October 26th, 2019, I took over Kathy's role as Executive Secretary. I would like to take a few minutes and fill you all in on what is happening at the office. First of all, I would like to thank the Association for this opportunity. It really is a dream come true to be able to work from home, while still maintaining my other 3 jobs as Executive Secretary for the Missouri Forage and Grassland Council as well as ranch wife and my favorite 'job', which is being Grandma to our ten grandchildren. I would also like to thank Kathy for her never ending patience and

guidance as we work through the intricacies of learning the ins and outs of registering and transferring cattle, as well as the other duties.

On that note, I would also like to thank each and every one of you that I have either met, talked to on the phone, or been able to work with so far. You all make this job such a pleasure. Your patience and kindness is so appreciated. If you have something that hasn't been addressed through this transition, please bring it to my attention and I will get it taken care of as soon as possible. Please let me know if there is anything at all I can help you with.



*Thank You!  
Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be "Cathy Richburg".

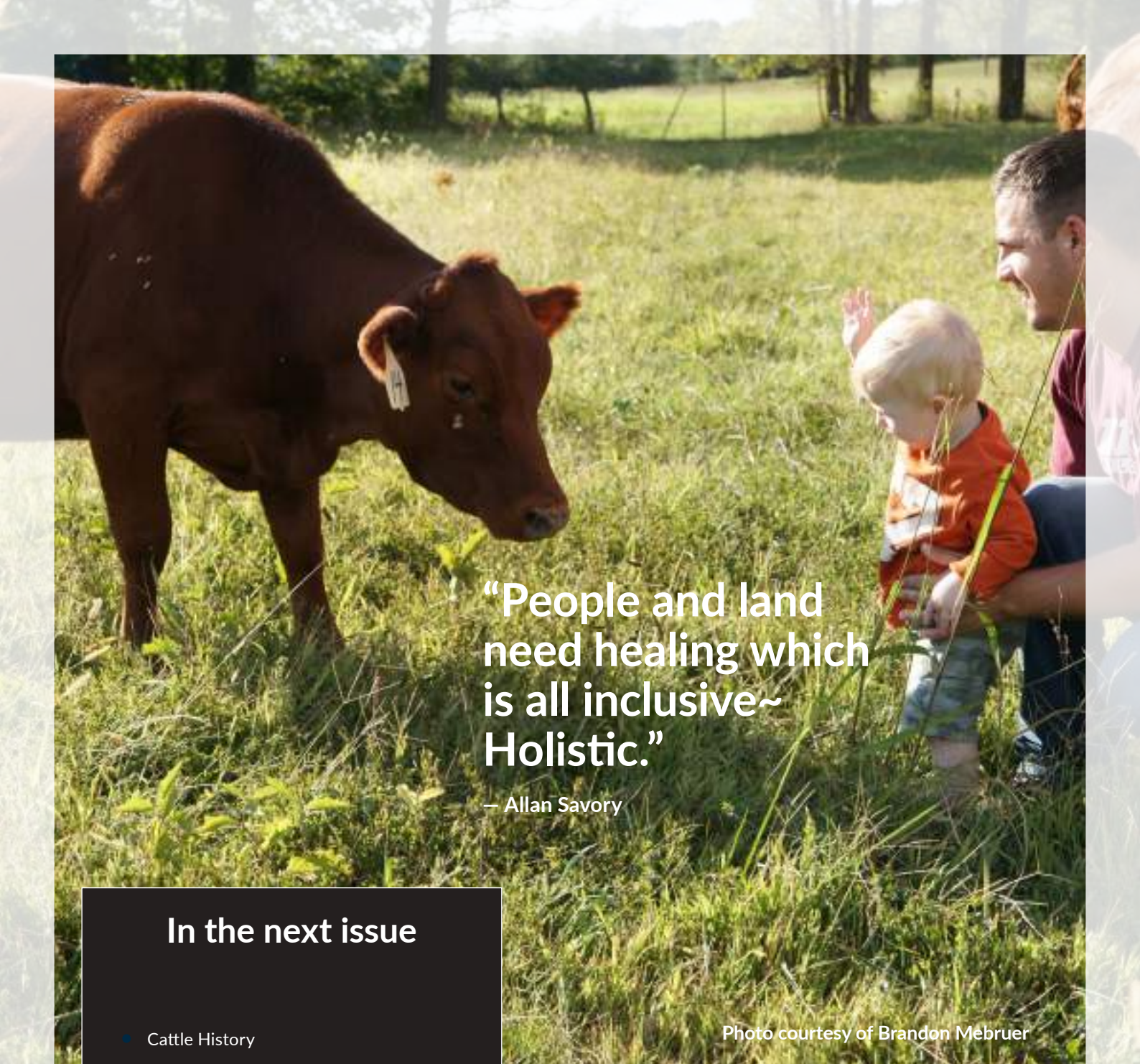
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“People and land  
need healing which  
is all inclusive~  
Holistic.”

— Allan Savory

Photo courtesy of Brandon Mebruer

## In the next issue

- Cattle History
- Contest Winners
- Field Day updates and news

## Let's keep in touch

South Poll Grass Cattle  
Association  
5235 Gravel Point Road  
Mountain Grove, MO 65711

256-996-8355  
southpollgrasscattle@gmail.com  
www.southpoll.com

