



# SOUTH POLL GRASS CATTLE ASSOCIATION

SPRING EDITION, 2015

## Time to register, make hotel reservations For June 26-27 South Poll Field Day

It's time to register and make your hotel reservations for the seventh annual South Poll Field Day, to be held June 26 and 27 in Piedmont, Alabama, at JJank Farms, the home of John and Andra Lyons.

In addition to great cattle, knowledgeable speakers and a host of fellow cattlemen, the two-day event will also feature some of the most outstanding scenery in the South. The Lyons farm is located at the foot of Hurricane Mountain in the foothills of the Appalachians.

The photo on page 2 shows a group of South

Poll cows grazing in one of John Lyons' outstanding pastures. In the background are the Lyons home and Hurricane Mountain. When the Lyonses bought this place 20 years ago, it was a worn-out cotton farm that had not been farmed or even used for pasture for almost 10 years. Today, organic matter ranges between four and six percent as a result of good pasture management and the planting of a diverse mix of annual and perennial grasses and legumes.

The featured speaker at the field day will be Dr. Allen Williams, who

will begin his comments at 9 a.m. on Saturday. Dr. Williams, who co-authored "Before You Have a Cow" with South Poll founder Teddy Gentry, will present the "State of the Grass-fed Industry," noting how two of the "Big 4" beef packers have gotten into the grass-

fed beef business and added it to its menu. Dr. Williams leading restaurant chain will also discuss some of the latest efforts to re-



Andra and John Lyons and their family members Jake, Kaitlyn, Allen and Nate.

duce the negative impact of fescue. With probably two-thirds or more of South Poll breeders being located in the fescue belt, his remarks about fescue will be picked up by receptive ears.

Friday's activities open with registration at noon. John Lyons will welcome attendees at 1 o'clock and a panel discussion featuring Greg Judy of Green Pastures Farm, Dr. Bruce Shanks of Sassafras Valley Ranch and Ralph Voss of Voss Land & Cattle Co. will get under way at 1:15. At 3:30 Kathy Richburg will give an ultrasound demonstration, followed by a Greg



John Lyons works with his herd of South Poll Cattle.

Judy-led pasture walk at 4:30. A barbecued beef dinner will be held at 5:30, with Teddy Gentry and local songwriters to perform following the dinner.

On Saturday, registration opens at 8 a.m. Teddy Gentry gives a history of the South Poll breed at 8:30, followed by Dr. Williams at 9 o'clock. A speaking contest for junior members will be held from 10:30 to 11:30 and lunch will be served at 11 o'clock. From then until 1 p.m., attendees can have lunch and view the cattle that have been consigned for the 1 o'clock auction. At the auction some of the best cattle in the breed will sell.

A silent auction will be held both days and will close after lunch on Saturday.

Forty-nine miles up the road from JJank Farms is Teddy Gentry's Bent Tree Farms, where an open house will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday. The open house will include dinner from 5 to 6:30. There will be no charge for the open house or dinner for those attending the field day.

Those needing a hotel room for the field day should contact the Hampton Inn, 1041 JD&L Drive, Jacksonville, AL 36265 – phone: 256-782-0330 – website: [www.jacksonvilleal.hamptoninn.com](http://www.jacksonvilleal.hamptoninn.com)

Pre-registration for the annual meeting will be needed, with a \$50 per person fee being charged by the association for entrance to all the activities. Youngsters 16 and under will be admitted free. Anyone registering after June 11 will be charged an \$85 fee.

To register online go to [www.southpoll.com](http://www.southpoll.com) under Downloads or contact Kathy Richburg at (256) 996-3142. Registration forms and fees may be mailed to South Poll Grass Cattle Association, 57 Friar Tuck Way, Fyffe, AL 35971.



The Lyons farm and home is located at the foot of Hurricane Mountain. The home and mountain are shown in the background.



**SOUTH POLL**  
The Southern Mama Cow Breed

\$50/person registration fee for both days

\$85 after June 20  
Children under 16 are free

# South Poll Grass Cattle Association

## 7th Annual Field Day

# June 26 & 27

- Pasture walk with Greg Judy
- Dr. Allen Williams will speak on "State of the Grassfed Industry"
- Producer Panel
- Speaking contest for junior members, prizes awarded
- Friday night local songwriter performances
- Silent Auction
- Vendors

JJank Farms • 6452 Hwy. 21 N., Piedmont, AL 36272  
southpollgrasscattle@yahoo.com  
[www.southpoll.com](http://www.southpoll.com)  
**256-996-3142**

Lunch provided Saturday

Dinner Provided Friday Night

- Cattle Auction-Selling South Poll Bulls, Cows and Heifers
- Open House at Bent Tree Farms, Fort Payne, AL

Send Reservations and check to

SPGCA, 57 Friar Tuck Way, Fyffe, AL 35971

**Make Your Reservation Today!**

Hampton Inn  
1041 JD&L Drive  
Jacksonville, AL 36265  
(256) 782-0330  
[www.jacksonvilleal.hamptoninn.com](http://www.jacksonvilleal.hamptoninn.com)



After The Field Day Attend The  
**OPEN HOUSE**

at Teddy and Linda Gentry's  
Bent Tree Farms • Ft. Payne, AL



# SATURDAY, JUNE 27

4 to 7 p.m.  
Dinner from 5 to 6:30

No charge for open house or dinner if you attended the field day.