



# SOUTH POLL FIELD DAY PHOTOS INSIDE!

AUTUMN 2020

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### Teddy Talks

Thirty years ago I was asked if I would like to address a major purebred breed board meeting by the President of that Association. I jumped at the chance to state my opinion. I thought it had become almost commonplace for the Associations to be on the side of the old producers and not so much on the side of the new breeder. If asked for help by the new breeder, it was my belief that someone from the Association should be there to offer sound advice and try to make sure they pay a fair price for the cattle they buy. When it comes time to sell those cattle, they should be worth close to what they paid for them unless the animals were mistreated. I still believe that to this day.

As leaders in the South Poll breed, it is our responsibility to take care of the new breeders. That means not selling an animal you would not be willing to keep. The reason we are enjoying such success as a breed, is that most of the South Polls are better than the average cow. I said "most of". We still have some that need to be culled. I am proud that most of our breeders are achieving a 90 plus percent breed-up on their entire herd, but a cull is still a cull and open cows cost you money.

Please take care of the new breeders. Show them your records, help them pick good, sound animals that are worth the money and stand behind your product. After all, we want them to be a happy, profitable South Poll breeder for a long time.

*Teddy Gentry*

p.s. I was never asked to address the Board again! :)

# South Poll Field Day



South Poll Corn Hole



Wally Olson Keynote



Josh Gentry "Hot Tape How-To's"



Pasture Walk



Fireworks!



Rainfall Simulator

Submit your favorite recipes for the next Newsletter!  
psst...there are PRIZES!  
southpollgrasscattle@gmail.com

## From the Kitchen

White Steaks  
From the Kitchen of:  
Kay White

Bring steaks to room temperature. Season with Salt and Pepper. Prepare a charcoal fire in your grill. Add additional charcoal to a large cast iron skillet. Heat the grill and skillet to get both screaming hot. When grill and skillet are heated to as hot as possible, place steaks on grill and immediately set the hot skillet on top of the steaks. Set timer for 3 minutes. Promptly remove skillet from top of steaks and remove steaks from grill. Steaks will be cooked to perfection (medium rare)!





# RED ANGUS HISTORY

*The Red Angus breed has the exact same origins of the Aberdeen Angus. Originally, it was brought in by the Vikings in Europe and introduced to England and Scotland, these cattle were small, dun colored and polled.*

The new breed of cattle were then interbred with local black horned Celtic cattle of Scotland which produced the ancestor of the black Aberdeen Angus of today.

A breeder of Red Angus cattle, Eric L.C. Pentecost, explains a possible reason for the introduction of the red coloration into the Aberdeen Angus breed. In the eighteenth century the black Scottish cattle were too light to provide sufficiently large draught oxen, so larger English Longhorns, predominantly red in color, were brought in and crossed with the black native polled breed. The resultant offspring were all black polled animals, since black is a dominant color

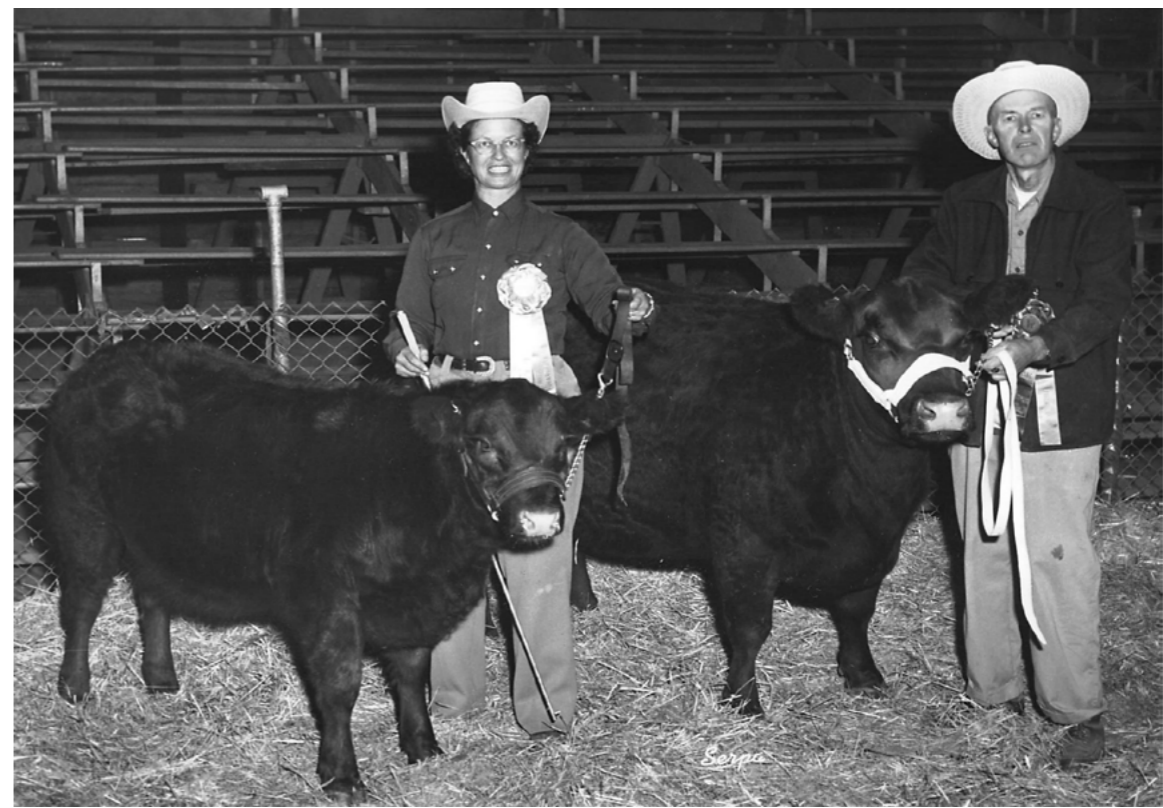
and the red a recessive one. However, all carried the red gene. Subsequent interbreeding produced an average of one calf in four, in accordance with Mendel's law of heredity.

Early in the development of Aberdeen Angus, Hugh Watson of Keillor, Scotland arbitrarily decided that black was the proper color in the breed, and thereby started a fashion. He might have well chosen red instead. Leon J. Cole and Sara V.H. Jones of the University of Wisconsin Agriculture Experiment Station published a pamphlet in 1920 on "The Occurrence of Red Calves in Black Breeds of Cattle" which contained this pertinent paragraph.

"One more point should be emphasized, namely that the red individuals appearing in such stock (Aberdeen Angus)...are just as truly purebred as their black relatives, and there is no reason why, in all aspects save color, they should not be as valuable. The fact that they are discarded

while the blacks are retained is simply due to the turn of fortune that black rather than red became established fashion for the Aberdeen Angus breed. Had the red been the chosen color, there never would have been any trouble with the appearance of blacks as off color individuals, since red to red breeds true."

When the first Aberdeen Angus Herdbook was created in 1862 in Scotland, although black was the predominant color, reds were registered without discrimination. Angus was taken to America and increased in popularity. In 1917 it was decided that to assure a pure black strain, reds and other colors would not be allowed to register. This bias towards the black Angus inspired cattlemen who believed the qualities of the red to start selecting the best red calves from the black Angus. In 1954 a new herdbook and Association specifically for the Reds was started. Red Angus was launched in its own right.



## Characteristics

The Red Angus is similar in conformation to the Aberdeen Angus, medium in size with a beefy carcass. It is red in color with pigmented skin and naturally polled. When crossed, the red coat color is passed on to calves.

Red Angus females reach puberty at a young age, are highly fertile and are renowned for their longevity in the herd. Red Angus females have excellent milk production and have a strong maternal instinct.

Red Angus cattle are considered by breeders to be gently natured and easy cattle to work. This breed produces a highly desired carcass with the meat being of excellent quality, this is due to the intra-muscular marbling.

## Statistics

- \* Excellent maternal traits
- \* Quiet, easy going dispositions
- \* Quality carcass
- \* Heterosis
- \* Large scrotal size in bulls, greater semen production
- \* Longevity

## Distribution

Today, Red Angus are seeing unparalleled popularity in both the U.S. and internationally. In fact, the growing notoriety of the breed is bringing worldwide demand for breeding stock from South Africa, Australia and South America, where the majority of the cattle are red in color. This has led Red Angus to become the leading U.S. beef breed in semen exports. In the U.S., the number of Red Angus has tripled from the mid 80's through the mid 90's. In Canada, where Red and Black Angus are registered together (which is the case in most countries), the number of red cattle registered is approximately the same as black.



never trust  
a person  
who doesn't  
like cows.





# CATTLE REGISTERING & TRANSFERRING 101.

By: Ann Demerath

At the Field Day, we covered some basics on how to register cattle. Below is a recap of how registrations and transfers need to be submitted to the office for accuracy and a quicker return time to you. The first thing you need to do is navigate your way to [www.southpoll.com](http://www.southpoll.com) and find the cattle tab.



From that point you will see on the second line down that there is an option to download an Excel Spreadsheet. Once you have that file downloaded, you will simply fill in the information needed. Here is a list in order of the sheet.

- \* Sire Registration Number
- \* Sire Tag Number
- \* Dam Registration Number
- \* Dam Tag Number
- \* Calf ID (tag number)
- \* Name (optional field-if you fill it out it needs to be in this order-Farm Prefix Sire Tag Dam Tag Calf Tag)
- \* Birthweight
- \* Date of Birth
- \* Sex of Calf
- \* Twin y/n
- \* Mating Type Natural/AI
- \* Color (use table at the bottom of sheet)
- \* HPS (horned, polled scurred)
- \* Calving Ease (1 to 5 scale with 1 being easy)

Let's take a closer look at some of these items and give some reasons why this information is so important.

**Sire & Dam Registration Numbers:** These numbers take ALL of the guesswork out of who the sire and dam are.

**Sire & Dam Tag Numbers:** These numbers are backup information for me so if a number happens to be transposed in the registration numbers, I can hopefully sort it out without having to reach out to you. They also allow for quick entry of the name of the animal.

**Calf ID:** This number sticks with the calf for its lifespan in the registry. It can be a combination of letters and numbers or numbers only.

**Name:** This is an optional field for you to fill out. Some producers do, some do not, if you don't use this space, I fill

in the space with the registration number. If you do choose to fill it out, please remember that the proper order for it is: Farm Prefix (Ex. BTF) Sire TAG number (Ex. 4422) Dam TAG number (ex. 7404) Calf TAG number (Ex. 001) for a finished product that would look like this BTF 4422 7404 001.

**Birthweight:** This is another spot where some producers have the information and some do not. If it's provided at the time of registration, it is super easy to put in.

**Date of Birth & Sex of Calf:** These two items speak for themselves

**Twin, Mating Type, HPS & Calving Ease:** I assume that these are single births, polled and easy, unless specified differently.

**Color:** Please choose from the list at the bottom of the sheet and use the corresponding number for that color.

There are a couple of things to keep in mind when registering new calves. First of all, if you purchased a bred heifer from a producer and it's time to register that calf. That calf will have to be registered to the producer that bred it and then transferred to you on the date of birth, this calf will also carry the breeders farm prefix. When sending in registrations it would be a great time saver on this end to have this information prior to registering calves. If you are producer that manages herds for someone else or a producer that co-ops with another producer, it is also helpful to know who the animals are registered under. The system will not let me register an animal under one producer if owned by another. When I am registering animals, I have to create a 'work order' for the producer for whom I am registering, if there are multiple owners on one sheet, the system will kick them out as 'dam not owned at time of conception' if I try to register under an incorrect owner.

Once this sheet is filled out either via Excel or by hand, you have some options on how to send it to the office for processing. If you have filled out with Excel, you can save the file to your computer and send it to me via email OR share it with me via Google Drive. If you choose the Google Drive option, please send a quick email to make sure that it is seen in a timely manner, sometimes the notifications that Google sends get kicked to the junk mail folder. If you have filled out the spreadsheet by hand, please scan it and send back to me in a PDF form--please don't send a picture of the form, it takes a TON of ink to print and is sometimes very difficult to read.

## TRANSFERRING ANIMALS:

Transferring animals is super simple no matter how we approach it. I will give you a few ways below to get this task done efficiently for all of us.

On the back of the registration forms there is a form to fill out, that provides the office with all of the information needed to quickly transfer animals.

- \* Under buyer information, please note whether or not the buyer is NEW breeder or not. Make sure to ask them. Lots of folks have already registered under their personal names and if I don't have their farm name it is really easy to get them in the system twice.
- \* If the animal being transferred is a female, please check the box sold open YES or NO. If she is not sold as open, please fill out who she was exposed to and the appropriate registration numbers and dates.
- \* If animal is being sold with calf at side, please fill in the appropriate information. If the calf is not registered at the time of sale, there will be a charge to register as well as the transfer charge.
- \* Please sign the form--this form then acts as a bill of sale for the animal. As we grow as an Association, it is becoming more important that we have something on record for the sale of the sale of animals.

If you don't have the registration forms handy for transfer, you can send me an email with the above information on it as well, I will then keep your email on file as proof of sale. If you email transfers in, please make sure that the registration numbers are included to ensure that the correct animal is transferred.

SPGCA highly encourages sellers to transfer all registrations to buyers but, if for some reason, you are requesting that the buyers pay for the transfers, either the original certificate (or copy of it) MUST be included with the sellers signature. If that is impossible for whatever reasons, we are going to ask for some proof of purchase, either a bill of sale or canceled check (with account numbers redacted please) to help protect the Association.



# CATTLE REGISTERING & TRANSFERRING 101.

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Whew. That was a lot of information in a few lines. Please do NOT let this overwhelm you in any form. I am here to help you in any way that I can. All the above does is make me more efficient for you and the other tasks that need to be done. The SPGCA is experiencing wonderful growth and we need to make sure that we are doing the best job possible for all of you, this will all help do just that. We are at a point if we have incomplete information coming into the office, we are going to have to charge for the extra time that it takes to research the case to completion. We will (and have already) had to utilize this option. Our margin on registrations and transfers is small and we sure don't want to increase costs across the board unnecessarily.

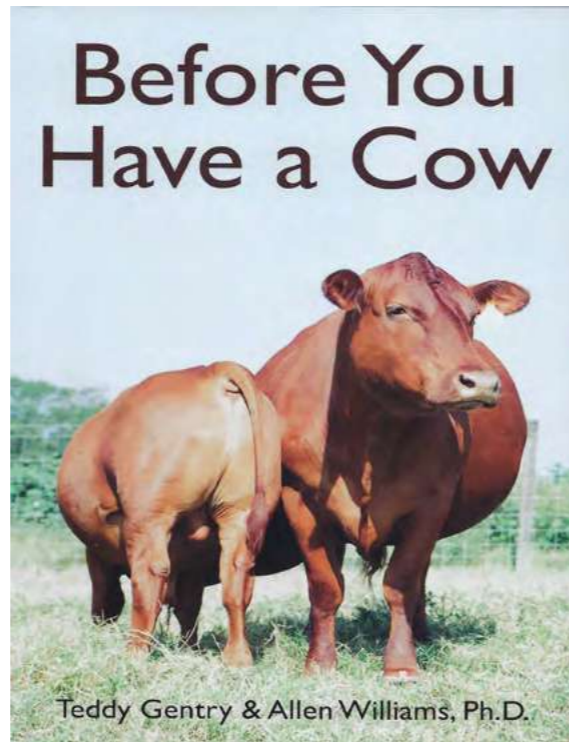
If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask, I will help you, and if I can't find the answers, we will find someone that can, that is one of the things I love about this group of folks is the readiness to help each and everyone of you succeed and thrive in your operations.

## Have You Read This?

**Before You Have a Cow would make a great Christmas Gift!**

**If you need a copy please email the office southpollgrasscattle@gmail.com**

**\$27 (includes priority shipping w/tracking)**



# OFFICE UPDATE

By: Ann Demerath

Hello from the office!

Once again, you South Poll folks amaze me! Our 12th Annual Field Day was an awesome event! I have to admit, I was a little nervous with this being my first event with you all, but, thanks to all the help from the Board, Doug Rodgers, his family and the Copan Contingency, plus all of YOU...I have to say it was pretty stress free! All of the new 'swag' that we had is basically sold out-we will be restocking very soon so keep an eye out for that. We will be putting together a poll on the South Poll Grass Cattle Forum for you to weigh in on what you would like to see for inventory. We have had some great suggestions so far including sun hats and window stickers for your trucks/cars.

I took a few days after the event to regroup and have been working on registrations and transfers as well as cleanup paperwork from the auction. I am fairly caught up, so it would be a great time for you all to send me all those registrations you have been sitting on.

It has come to my attention that some of you don't have a current email address on file and haven't subscribed to the Newsletter. Please make sure that you have emailed me to give us the okay to drop this publication directly into your inbox! We are prohibited by law to add you to an email list without your permission, so this you have to do on your own, either by emailing me at southpollgrasscattle@gmail.com or checking the 'opt-in' box on new member registrations.

We will be sending out your 2021 Calendars and Red Books sometime in November so keep a watch on your mailboxes for those--now is a great time to make sure I have your correct addresses as well.

As always, please let me know if there is anything you need from the office--I am just a phone call or text away!

Hope this finds you all well and knee deep in grass!  
~Ann



# Happy Fall!

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

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

Winners will receive a prize from SPGCA!



## Please Don't Forget!!

Email your favorite recipes, photos and anything else you would like to see in the SPGCA Newsletter to the office!  
**THERE ARE PRIZES!**

### FIELD DAY SALE RESULTS

- BULLS**  
4 Head sold Average \$4100.00
- Cow/Calf Pairs**  
5 Pairs sold Average \$5360.00
- Open Heifers**  
6 Head sold Average \$4800.00
- Exposed/Bred Cows/Heifers**  
11 Head sold Average \$5054.55
- Semen Lots**  
4 Lots of 10 straws sold Average \$230.00



# ROCK CREEK FARM

Yvonne and Randy Whisonant  
1122 Thomas Road  
Warrior, AL 35180  
(205) 647-0736



*Are you next?  
Your ad  
could be here!*



**CALL ANN AT THE SOUTH POLL GRASS CATTLE  
ASSOCIATION FOR DETAILS!  
417-256-8355**



**SAVE THE DATE  
FIELD DAY  
JUNE 25 & 26 2021  
TRENTON, TN**





photo courtesy of Beth Weeks

## In the next issue

- Cattle History
- Field Day Plans 2021!
- South Poll Info
- Teddy Talks
- More!

## Let's keep in touch

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