



South Carolina Angus Association News

Sharon Furr

May 2016 and June 2016

I must tell you I am thanking the Lord for the much needed rains we have been getting – there for a while I thought, oh my gosh we're going to be in another drought, and in April and May! But right when I thought we might have to keep moving mamas' day after day after day, the rains came! I forget every time how much I love MUD!

Happy Mothers' Day if your reading this online, if not, Happy late Mothers' Day if your reading this in the Cattle Connection! I wanted to share with you a story I wrote years ago titled, A Mother Love, enjoy!

A Mother's Love

Being raised in the country and pretty much on a farm all my life, I was given the opportunity of seeing a lot of different kinds of 'mama's'. I have very fond memories and even today I see such beauty between a mother and her baby and or babies. Now, I also know there are exceptions to every rule, but for me I know no different, I know there is no greater love than the love of a Mama.

When we were little Granny always had chickens. Most of the time her hens laid eggs, and each morning she would gather the eggs up and that was that. But every year she would have one or two she would let set. And sure enough before long, there would be a mother hen in the back yard with about a dozen little bitties running all around. Oh it was the most beautiful thing seeing all those little tiny fuzzy yellow babies. I remember how protective the mother hens would be about their bitties. If they sensed any danger they would cockle over and over again to their bitties and spread their wings out and all the bitties would run up under their mamas' wings for protection. She would then run with her wings spread out with all her bitties under her until she got to safety, never thinking of herself, only her babies. A Mother's love.

Next, I remember begging for a cat when I was very little. Mama didn't like cats, so it was a hard sell. But nonetheless a lady Mama worked with had a cat, who lucky for me had kittens,

and sure enough she let me get one of her kittens, I called her Mana Kitty. I really couldn't say Mama Kitty, so Mana had to do. I loved her. She was black with a little white nose, three white socks and a white belly. One day I couldn't find Mana Kitty, I remember calling for her over and over and over again. I went to the barn and out through the woods calling her, but she never came home. I was so sad that night, and when I said my prayers at bedtime, I remember asking God to bring Mana Kitty home, I had no idea what had happened to Mana Kitty. To my surprise the next morning Mana Kitty was waiting on the steps for me, but she wasn't alone, she had carried each one of her babies up onto the steps for me to see. She looked up at me with her beautiful face, her long whiskers and purring ever so gently, I think she was kinda in a way saying to me, 'it's my first time, can you help me out here, I'm not sure what I'm doing, but I know you can help'. Little did I know, but she had had these babies in the barn and over in the night had brought each one, one by one, ever so gently to the steps and laid them down for me, for my help, for my love. A Mother's love.

Birds have always fascinated me. I love watching them build their nest, ever so perfect, for that long awaited time when they will have baby birds, and they will be ever so comfy in their intricately woven little home of paradise. The mother bird will go out time after time and find food for the baby birds. Each time she arrives back at the nest, the babies will chirp ever so loudly, ever so excited, mother is back! She will do this day after day, hour after hour, never tiring, only thinking of her babies, always keeping the nest in full sight, never taking her eye off the goal, her babies. And once the babies are big enough to learn to fly, well that's something to see. She will go out onto the perch or a limb real close to the nest, and coax her babies out. She will fly from the perch to the ground, over and over again, calling them to her each time, never tiring, back and forth and back and forth, as if to say, 'follow me it's okay, you can do it', this will continue until one gets up enough courage to try and get to mother. She will do this all day long until each baby is out of the nest and to safety. A Mother's love.

As far as the mama cows go, you know me and the mothers and their babies, they are my life and I love them. I can't think of a greater love than that of a mother cow. I have seen so many mamas' lie down and have their calves, it's a miracle really. I compare the mother cow to us in so many ways. When you get a live calf on the ground it's something, but when you get two live calves on the ground (twins) it is unbelievable and extraordinary. And watching the mama with her baby and or babies, I never tire from watching this. The entire birthing process, it's just awesome to me. I find myself pushing and breathing and coaching her along, and praying for God's hand of mercy, and when the baby gets here I am shouting with joy for mother and baby, and praising God for life and health, and I am congratulating mother on the new arrival, and telling all the other mother's that we have a new addition. It's overwhelming really. Sometimes I find myself laughing and saying, "Oh mother, I know I have no idea what you are going through, but I feel like I do". The mama cow will clean her baby ever so gently and coo to them nonstop and then once the baby has gotten up on their feet and nursed, mother will put the baby down to sleep and she will lay right with them, as close as she can get, and continue to lick them and coo to them. Never tiring, never ever tiring. A Mother's love.

A real Mother's Love, well that's protection, that's feeding them when their hungry, that's teaching them how to spread their wings and fly, and even sacrificing themselves for the goal – their baby – that's dragging them from here to there, making sure they get to everywhere their supposed to be and cooing to them, and comforting them, and being with them through thick and

thin, yes that's a Mother's Love. For me I know no different, I know there is no greater love than the love of a Mama. Happy Mother's Day to all you mothers out there.

Last week I attended the Pickens County Cattlemens' Association advertisers' appreciation meeting and dinner. It was held at the new career center, and was a mini trade show with vendors, and sponsors set up all over the place. Smoking Pig catered it and the brisket was awesome! The trade show was great and the sponsor dinner even better. A great night was had by all. Thank you RD for such a great event! Below you will see sights from the night.







The summer months consist a lot about Juniors – so here's their calendar of events. If you'd like to get involved with our Juniors contact Kelley Ryan at kryan3575@gmail.com.

JUNIOR EVENTS:

Atlantic National Regional Preview Junior Angus Show and Atlantic National ROV Super Point Angus Show Timonium, Maryland May 25-29, 2016. (Breanne Steadman will be showing)

Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show PA Farm Show Complex Harrisburg, PA June 17-19, 2016. (Steadman, Watt, Carnes, Ryan's will be showing)

National Junior Angus Show Grand Island, Nebraska July 3-9, 2016. No one taking cattle. (Carly and Breanne will receive Gold award and have applied for scholarships)

Southern Nationals Jr Angus Show, Perry Ga. June 2-4, 2016. (Ryan's showing)

Jr. Beef Round Up – Clemson, S.C. August 6-7 (all SC juniors will be here)



Don't forget to stay in touch by reading Steve Suther's, Director, Industry Information Certified Angus Beef LLC, articles. I am providing you a website link, enjoy!

<http://www.cabpartners.com/news>

Remember you can always go to our website www.scangus.org and read the article as they are happening, you don't have to wait!

Also, just so everyone out there knows.....we now have a CLASSIFIED tab on our website! Woo-Hoo! So if you'd like to post, please give me a call or email me your request. Just go to our website www.scangus.org and click on our Classified tab to see what's out there.

I leave you today with a mothers' love.....





If you need to reach me, or if you have something cool to share with me, or if you have any great pictures from any event you have been to, please don't hesitate to call me, or text me, or email me – I'd love to hook up with you. Don't forget too, if you haven't paid already, SCAA dues are \$20 for one year, so just send a check to: SCAA, c/o Sharon Furr - Secretary, 2049 Boyd Road, Blackstock, SC 29014.

Contact information: home: 803-385-6958/cell: 704.577.3639 – spanishoaks@truvista.net

I can't wait to see you on the road, but until then.....



PEACE



LOVE



COW

Sharon