

Biographies



2007 - 2016

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The Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation, Inc. was established on August 17, 1957. The purpose of the organization shall be "The collection, administration, and investment of funds donated by any person(s), firm(s), or corporation(s), wishing: (1) to recognize various groups and/or organizations, (2) to honor members of the dairy and allied industries (living or deceased) who have performed distinguished services for the dairy industry of Michigan, (3) to provide scholarships for specific financial aid to worthy undergraduates desiring to acquire technical and/or academic training in the fields of dairy science, and/or processing or manufacturing of dairy products through regular four-year college courses, short courses, and/or such technical training as dairy plant engineering or such other courses as the Board of Directors deems advisable, and (4) to support specific educational programs enhancing the curriculum for students with a dairy interest."

The Michigan Dairy Memorial Scholarship Fund is the largest scholarship program in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.



STAN BAREMAN

Dairy Products Processor and Distributor Stan Bareman was born second of five children to Mart and Martha Bareman on September 21, 1938, and was involved in his family's dairy business from the time of his earliest memories. He and his older brother Ron and their younger sister Sandy would all play significant roles in the business in their

adult lives. Stan however, was to become the principal owner of the family business as the third generation came of age.

Egbert Bareman, Stan's grandfather, founded the family dairy business. He migrated from the Netherlands and brought his dairy skills to Holland, MI in 1898. Egbert and his family had a dairy farm with a processing operation located near the intersection of 136th avenue and Riley in Holland Township. They produced their milk, cream and butter and delivered these products to the village residents. Stan's father Mart and his brothers took over the business in their turn. The business was passed down as three separate entities to the (SECOND GENERATION), the farming operation, the processing operation, and the home delivery business. Mart managed the home delivery segment of the business. At this time (1930 & 40's) the processing plant had been relocated to a nice tile building at the corner of Lakewood and Butternut streets in Holland Township, and operated there until the 1950's when it could no longer keep pace with technological changes and was closed. Mart Bareman continued his delivery routes now as a distributor for other local dairies. This was the nature of Bareman's Dairy when Stan (THE THIRD GENERATION) returned from the army in 1959. They had two home delivery vans delivering 150 or so cases of milk per day. In the service Stan had been stationed in the western part of Oklahoma and Texas and it was here that he saw milk being sold in gas stations necessitated because dairies and grocery stores were often a great distance away from consumers. Stan brought this idea home and applied it to their business reaching out all of three miles to their first gas station customer in Zeeland. Stan had to convince the owner that milk sales would fit into his business, provide the refrigeration, place the order, and deliver the product. In doing so in 1960 Stan was a true pioneer of the niche market that would become Convenience Store Sale of Milk. This first station worked well and soon others followed becoming Bareman's primary mode of sales. In Michigan the market need for milk sold in gas stations had more to do with convenience and competitive pricing than with location. Also in 1959 Stan met his wife to be (Alyce Star) when she brought his lunch to his car at the Russ's Drive Inn. Stan was taken by the petite strawberry blonde; who he came to learn was a South Dakota native living locally with her older sister. I think it's fair to say Alyce was impressed by him as well since their wedding would take place the following year on September 22, 1960. And as they say, "THE REST IS HISTORY". Stan and Alyce were blessed with health and through much hard work as a team their business prospered, as did their family. They were blessed with four children; their eldest son Mike was born 4/25/1964, next Steve was born 6/18/1968, then Sheri on

11/26/1971, and Chad on 11/17/1975, (THE FOURTH GENERATION). These fine children have all contributed toward the success of the dairy, and are active in the operation today. Oh yes, they and their spouses also blessed Stan and Alyce with 7 healthy grandchildren. (THE FIFTH GENERATION IN TRAINING).

In summary let's just say that Stan through his foresight and hard work followed the Convenience Store sale of milk, an idea whose time had come, through the tremendous growth of Bareman's Dairy to its current thriving state. On the way in 1976, Stan's business had grown to the point that they needed their own processing plant. Consequently their new plant was established at its current location one block south of Lakewood & west on Charles Dr. Stan's two route dairy in the 1960's has become the largest independently owned dairy in Michigan and now ranks 81st among the largest dairy concerns in the nation. Today Bareman's Dairy employs over 300 people, distributes its products throughout both peninsulas of MI, northern OH, IN, and the Chicago area. In these regions Bareman's serve not only Convenience Stores, but Supermarkets, and Food Service establishments as well. Achieving annual sales in excess of one hundred million dollars. And it should also be remembered that this success was taking place during a national dairy climate in which the large vertically integrated, and brand name dairies were seeing growth to the expense of the smaller dairies who were struggling just to stay alive. Now that their daily presence is not always required at the dairy, Stan and Alyce enjoy traveling throughout the country, and relaxing with their family at their condo in Lakeland and their summer home near Traverse City.

(BAREMAN'S DAIRY A PHENOMENAL AMERICAN SUCCESS STORY)



HAROLD AND LILLIAN GREMEL

Harold and Lillian Gremel started “Starward Farm” in 1954, and along with their family, built a highly successful dairy and cash crop business. Harold and Lillian were married 52 years when Lillian lost her battle with cancer in April 2007. Harold, together with his son Walter, daughter Kathy and son-in-law Darwin Sneller, continue to farm over 1,000 acres and milk 70 registered Holsteins.

Harold and Lillian dedicated a large part of their lives in service of the industry that provided their livelihood. Each of them served on many boards and committees and participated in numerous organizations in order to achieve their goals of the betterment of their community and Michigan agriculture.

Harold and Lillian were named MMPA Outstanding Young Dairy Couple (1964), received the MSU Dairy Farmer of the Year Award (1996), and received the West Huron MMPA Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award (2004). In 2006, Lillian received the Lifetime Achievement Award in Dairy Promotion.

Harold served on the MMPA board of directors for 21 years before retiring in 2004, the board of directors for Cooperative Elevator in Pigeon, Mi., and on the board of directors of Thumb Area Community Bank. He also has been involved in, and served as an officer of, Michigan DHIA, Michigan Holstein Association, Huron County Farm Bureau community action group, Huron Sires, Thumb Sires, Huron County Promotions, and Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Lillian was a 4-H leader and served on the Huron County 4-H Council and the Michigan 4-H Dairy and Foods Committees. She was a participant in the Kellogg New Horizons Program. Locally, she was involved with Huron County Dairy Diplomats, Huron County Dairy Promotions, Quite-A-Bunch Farm Bureau group, and Immanuel Lutheran Church.

During their lifetimes, Harold and Lillian witnessed many changes in the agricultural industry. For Harold and Lillian, involvement and education were believed to be the keys to ensuring the success of the industry on which they relied for their livelihood, and they provided exemplary commitments to the propagation of their beliefs.



GEORGE J. HAZEL

George was born in Clinton County. He along with his brothers and sisters were very active in 4-H showing registered Holsteins. He has been a 4-H leader for 56 years.

George attended Fowler High School where he played football, basketball and was a class officer, graduating in 1946. He attended MSU's Short Course in 1947-1948. George married Shirley Parker November 25, 1950. They have two daughters-Dana Sue and Kathy.

During their early years George worked as a herdsman on several dairy farms located in Central and Southern Michigan. In 1957 they returned to Clinton County where they both became DHIA technicians.

George attended Curtiss Candy AI technician training in 1959, beginning his career as an AI technician from which he retired in 1993. He worked most of those years for MABC (Northstar), receiving the Quarter Century Award from National Association of Animal Breeders and MABC technician of the year in 1979.

George and Shirley started Golden Knob Holsteins in 1963. George has been a member of the national and Michigan Holstein Associations for 57 years. They have attended most of the National Holstein Conventions over the last 35 years, serving as a Michigan delegate a number of times. The Michigan Holstein Association hosted the National Convention in 1973 and 1997. George and Shirley chaired the Junior Holstein Convention Committee and Publicity & Promotion Committee, respectively.

Activities, Memberships & Awards (current and past):

MMPA: 35 Year Member Award, 2007; Advisory Committee Member; District VI Chairperson; Mid Michigan Local President

National & Michigan Holstein Associations: Member, 57 years; Michigan Holstein Master Breeder, 1996; Chairperson of the Michigan Junior Holstein Committee; Michigan Holstein District VI director; President, and Clinton County Holstein Club.

Golden-Knob Holsteins have bred and shown many show winners, including All-American nominations. In 1977, they had 4th place 4-year old cow and best udder in Madison.

4-H leader, Clinton County for 56 years

Member of the Clinton County Fair Board

Clinton County Friend of 4-H, 1982

State 4-H Dairy Committee Member

Clinton County 4-H Council Member

Michigan Farm Bureau Member

Clinton County Farm Bureau Service Award

Victor Township Board of Review

Victor Township Historical Association



SHIRLEY H. HAZEL

Shirley was born on the farm on which she and George live and farm today. She grew up on the farm hoeing mint during the summers with her parents and two younger brothers. She attended St. Johns High School, serving as a member of the National Honor Society, band, class officer, and as St. Johns High School delegate to Girl's State in 1949.

Shirley graduated from St. Johns in 1950 planning to attend Central Michigan University on a scholarship, but instead married George on November 25, 1950. They had met at a Clinton County 4-H camp. She had been a 4-H member active with many projects including sheep.

Shirley and George raised two daughters: Dana Sue and Kathy. Both were very involved with their daughters' school and 4-H activities over the years, as well as their grandchildren Kevin, Dana and Lindsay's school, sports and 4-H activities. Shirley has been a 4-H leader for 51 years.

Shirley and George became DHI technicians in 1957. Shirley continued working with dairy farms in Clinton County until 1986. She and George started the Golden Knob Holstein prefix and dairy farm in 1963 with the start of their daughter's 4-H project. Over the years, Shirley also assisted George with his AI technician business.

Activities, Memberships and Awards (current and past):

Dairy Diplomats Committee, 26 years from its inception: Dairy Diplomat Seminar Chairman; Associate Member of the UDIM Board of Directors in late 1980's

Farm Women Symposium Planning Committee: 1996 to present, Chairperson—2005-2007

MMPA Dairy Communicator- 17 years

Great Lakes Dairy Conference Committee

Michigan Holstein Association Member; Chairperson of 1973 Junior Holstein Convention at the 1973 National Holstein Convention in Detroit; Chairperson, Publicity and Promotion Committee for the 1997 National Holstein convention in Grand Rapids; chairperson of the Michigan Junior Holstein Committee in early 1970's

4-H leader for 51 years

Member of the Clinton County 4-H Council

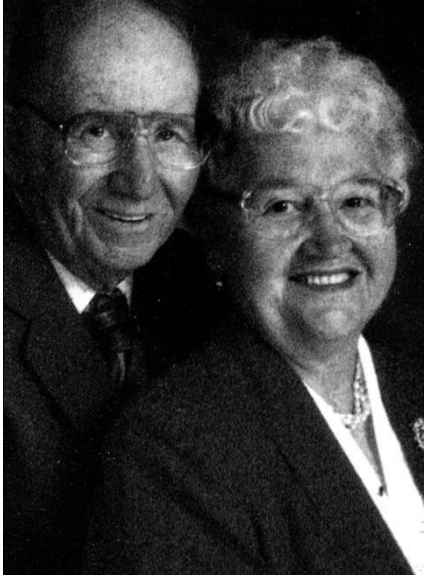
State 4-H Food and Nutrition Committee

Victor Township Planning Board

Victor Township Historical Association

Michigan Farm Bureau Member: received with George the Clinton County Service Award

Various St. Johns Public School committees including bond issue and band



NELSON SPERRY

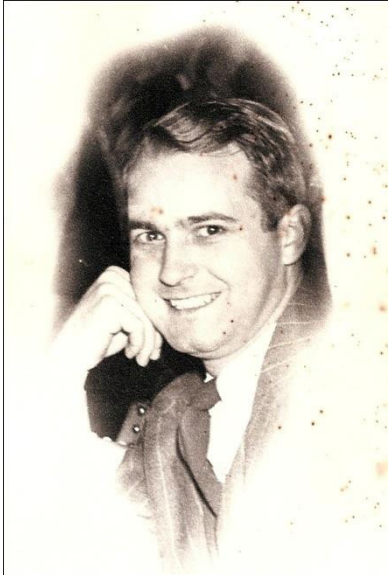
Nelson Sperry grew up on a farm in Orland, Indiana. He joined the Navy in 1945 right out of school. He served during WWII on a supply ship. In 1947 he came home from the service and married Ilareene Forrester.

Nelson and Ilareene started farming on shares in 1949 in Indiana. In 1960 Nelson, Ilareene, their five children, 35 cows and farm equipment moved to the farm in Kinderhook, Michigan. In the mid 60's they purchased the farm and Sperry Dairy Farm began.

Over the years Nelson served his community as Kinderhook Township Justice of the Peace and as a trustee on the Township board. He has served on the Branch County Dairy Herd Improvement Association board, Branch County Agribusiness Council, Branch County Farm Bureau board, was a local board member for the Michigan Animal Breeders Co-op, and served as a delegate to the Milk Marketing Inc board for several years. He was also on the Steuben County Co-op Board for a number of years, serving as President for several terms.

In the mid 80's their son, Doug, bought the farm. Nelson continued to help and offer his guidance and wisdom.

Sperry Dairy Farm is now on the third generation, as grandson Mark has joined the operation. Nelson continues to help with the field work and care of calves. Nelson and Ilareene enjoy traveling and spend several months in Florida each winter.



KENNETH MARVIN (KEN) DUNN

Ken was born and raised on a farm in Barry County and as a youth was a 4-H Club member. He graduated from Hastings High School. Ken graduated from Michigan State College in 1942. While at M.S.C. Ken participated in many student activities, including both the Dairy Cattle and Dairy Product Judging Teams.

Ken was a member of Farmhouse Fraternity and, as a student, worked for internationally acclaimed dairy nutritionist Dr. C.F. (Shorty) Huffman.

When Ken graduated in 1942 the United States was at war and he joined the Army Air Force which later became the U.S. Air Force. In December 1942 he married Thelma Loudenbeck.

Ken was soon deployed to the Pacific Theater where as a fighter pilot, he completed over one hundred missions, attaining the rank of Captain before he was discharged at the end of the War in 1945.

Ken returned to M.S.C. on the Dairy Department staff and earned his Master of Science degree with specific research on the nutritional qualities of corn silage for dairy cows. Ken and Thelma had two children, daughter Anne Marie and son Marvin Otis.

Ken continued his works on the M.S.C. dairy faculty, teaching courses in animal nutrition. He was proceeding with his studies toward his Ph.D. while researching the effect of cows' rations on the composition of milk.

Before he concluded that work, tragically in July 1950 he was killed in an automobile accident, not only robbing his family of a loving husband and father but also ending the career of a brilliant dairy scientist who had already obtained national recognition.



CARLETON WILSON

Carleton Wilson was born in 1921 on the Centennial Farm that his great-grandfather settled in 1851. The farm has been owned and operated by the Wilson family for six generations. He was the youngest of seven children and as he was growing up, he worked along with his father. After graduating from high school, he attended MSU, which at that time was called Michigan Agricultural College, for the two year short course. Upon returning home from college, his father purchased their first tractor, to entice him to stay home and farm. He married Margery DeVries in 1946 and moved his new bride into the farm house he was born in. Over the next eight years they had three children: Brent, Barbara and Brian.

Carleton was an innovative and progressive farmer. In 1954 he built the first milking parlor in the county. He also started artificial insemination in the early 1950's. The dairy herd has been on DHIA test since that time. The farm had been on the Telfarm accounting program through MSU for 50 years. Not only did he milk cows, but he was an excellent crop producer and steward of the land.

Carleton has also been a leader in his community. He was North Shade Township Supervisor for twenty-eight years, served on the Carson City-Crystal School Board for twelve years, served on the Independent Bank Board for thirty-five years and was on the Gratiot County Farm Bureau Board for six years. He is also an active member of the Carson City United Methodist Church.

He is a member of the Michigan Milk Producers Association and was secretary/treasurer for the Dairyland Local. He was a delegate, district chairman, and a member of the Advisory Committee (this committee was formerly called the Sales/Market Committee). This group used to bargain for better milk prices, with all the dairy manufacturers...sometimes all night.

Carleton is retiring this year from the Pioneer State Mutual Insurance Company Board of Directors. He first served on the Pioneer Insurance Company and was instrumental in helping to negotiate a merger with State Mutual Insurance Company of Flint. He has been the "voice for agriculture" with good business experience.



EDNA and REDMOND (“Red”) COTTER

Red was a 1937 graduate of MSU and after served as a guest lecturer in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He was employed for 43 years with Ralston-Purina, serving as the Sales Manager for Michigan, Ohio and Indiana at the time of his retirement. Mr. Cotter was an inspirational leader and a well-respected motivator of sales and marketing executives. Since their return to MSU in 1971, the Cotters were strong supporters of MSU.

Edna was born on a farm on which is now located MSU’s Turfgrass Research (the square bordered by Mt. Hope, Beaumont, Farm Lane and Forest Roads). Edna was a student at MSC in the 1930’s. Edna was a generous supporter of the Redmond and Edna Cotter Agri-Business Scholarship Fund, Intercollegiate Athletics, and the Carrigan Chair for Feline Health (CVM).

Edna was pleased that her husband’s success in life enabled them to be generous to MSU. “Red did everything to make all of this possible. And he got his start here at MSU.”



REDMOND (“Red”) and EDNA COTTER

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RALPH J. FRAHM

Ralph Frahm is a native and long-time resident of Frankenmuth. He has been actively engaged in farming and agricultural activities throughout his life and has been extensively involved in community and public service organizations. He is a current member of the Michigan Guernsey Breeders Association and Michigan Brown Swiss Association, as well as the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association.

A graduate of Arthur Hill High School, Ralph was a member of the National Honor Society and received the FFA (Future Farmers of America) State Farmer award. He holds a B.S. degree in dairy science from Michigan State University and was the recipient of an American Guernsey Cattle Club scholarship. Following military service in the U.S. Army from 1954-56, he enrolled in post-graduate programs at Minnesota State University, then at Michigan State University.

Frahm's service to agriculture includes a term as president of the Saginaw Valley Guernsey Breeders Association, board of directors of the Gratiot Farmers Cooperative, and the secretary/treasurer of the Guernsey Milk Producers Association. He served on the boards of District 10, Michigan Milk Producers Association; Michigan Sugar Beet Growers; and the local unit of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA). Later he was elected to the state and national boards of directors of DHIA.

A 37-year member of the Saginaw County Agricultural Society (which sponsors the Saginaw County Fair), Frahm was appointed to its board of directors in 1972 and continued in that capacity through 2008. He is a past president of the organization, and currently serves as treasurer of the Saginaw Valley Agricultural Association, which assists the fair in securing funding and sponsorship.

From 1978-85, Frahm was field assistant with Federal Land Bank. Following that he was a loan officer with National City Bank, working primarily in agricultural loans until his retirement in 1994.

He was selected Outstanding Young Farmer by the Saginaw Jaycees in 1964. He and his wife Marilyn also were named MMPA's Outstanding Young Dairy Couple from District 10.

Frahm's community service includes 12 years' membership in Frankenmuth School's Parent/Teacher Association, and 11 years as a 4-H leader. He coached the county and state 4-H dairy judging teams. His service to 4-H was recognized by induction into the Emerald Clover Society in 2002.

Frahm represented the Frankenmuth area on the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners for two terms and served as Blumfield Township clerk for 20 years. He also served on the Saginaw County Metropolitan Planning Commission for 25 years.

The Frahms are parents of three sons: Ross (Dawn) Frahm, DVM; Jeffry (Karen) Frahm; and Eric (Teresa Crook) Frahm. They have seven grandchildren.



HERBERT F. BUCHOLTZ

Dr. Herbert F. Bucholtz, Professor of Dairy Nutrition at Michigan State University has had a long, distinguished, and storied career as a dairy extension specialist, scientist and educator.

Herb grew up in New York and attended Morrisville State University, where he earned an Associate's Degree in Animal Science. He moved to University of Georgia to obtain his B.S. in Animal Science in 1965 prior to returning to New York to manage the feed mill in Hilton, NY for Agway, Inc. In 1968, he earned his M.S. in dairy nutrition at the University of Illinois prior to moving to Michigan State University to obtain his doctorate in ruminant nutrition. MSU promptly hired Herb as an assistant professor following completion of his degree, later promoting him to his current position as full professor.

Herb has served as the faculty coordinator of the Upper Peninsula Experiment Station since 1972. He led the effort from the MSU side to develop the Growing Upper Peninsula Agriculture Association (GUPAA) in 1978. This effort resulted in construction of a new state of the art dairy research facility in the UP. From its early start, the GUPAA is now a key agriculture organization promoting agricultural Extension education and research in and for the UP.

Perhaps three accomplishments stand out that typify Herb's impact in dairy Extension education of professional dairy nutritionists and farmers in the U.S. and Michigan. **(1)** He has been a key leader in development of the Spartan Dairy Ration Evaluator software series. He was directly instrumental and responsible for development and launching Spartan 1.0 in the mid-1980s with Dr. Bill Thomas. **(2)** Herb is one of the 3 founding fathers of the Tri-State Dairy Nutrition Conference, perhaps the preeminent Conference of its kind in the U.S. today. This Conference attracts professional nutritionists and the most progressive and innovative dairy producers from across the U.S. and several foreign countries. **(3)** Finally, most recently Herb has been a key leader in the MSU Dairy Nutrition Roundtables. This program held each year at several sites in Michigan is designed to bring the latest in research and "hot topics" to about 50 professional nutritionists working in Michigan. Typically at these meetings are dairy nutritionists responsible for about two thirds of the dairy cows in Michigan. These three signal accomplishments signify the impact that Herb has had on dairy Extension programming during his career. It is truly outstanding.

On the lighter side, Herb is fondly known as the consummate Extension Specialist who can take a single overhead and present an action-packed, day-long Dairy Nutrition Short Course to a room full of attentive dairy farmers, looking to enhance their nutrition and feeding programs of their herds. With self-deprecating humor, he can dispel any

notion that his ideas are those of an out-of-touch ivory-tower professor. Herb has a knack for putting things in practical down-to-earth terms. Perhaps one reason he is so good at this is because he has a great deal of practical experience as a former dairy farmer and dairy farmers can sense that.

His work and impact are rooted in his fundamental philosophy about Extension work: that the most effective way to bring about change in the long run is to bring people together to accomplish the task. Perhaps Herb's single most important contribution in dairy nutrition has been to emphasize the importance of relationships built on trust and respect. Herb has encouraged healthy relationships on farms, within the farm team, amongst the various industries that support dairy farms, and between these industries and the university.

In addition, Bucholtz has been a frequent speaker and provider of new applied information for professional dairy nutritionists. Often Herb's contributions have been comparative in nature, evaluating different management practices or seeking to understand why some dairy herds out-perform others.

In recent years, Herb has shared his vast practical knowledge of dairy nutrition by teaching Dairy Cattle Feeding and co-instructing Advanced Dairy Cattle Management. Bucholtz has served as faculty advisor to the MSU Dairy Club since 2001.

Honoring Herb as one of Michigan's dairy leaders is a most fitting tribute to a very distinguished lifelong professional career focused on educating dairy farmers, professional nutritionists, veterinarians, and students to improve their understanding, businesses, and livelihoods.



RANDY BeVIER

Randy BeVier is the eldest of four children of Bruce and Marion BeVier. He grew up in southeast Michigan, mostly in the West Bloomfield area, spending summers working on his Grandfather's dairy farm, near Fowlerville. This farm was granted "Centennial" status in 2004.

He began scouting as a cub at the age of eight. After several years he attained the rank of Eagle and "The Order of the Arrow".

He was involved in athletics in high school. He played football, basketball, and ran track, setting school records as a high and low hurdler and was ranked in the top ten in the state.

He graduated from West Bloomfield High School in 1970, went on to MSU and found a niche in Food Science. As a junior he served as Vice President of the Food Science Club. He was awarded a Michigan Dairy Memorial Scholarship as a senior. The \$500 was graciously accepted. Randy graduated from MSU in 1974 with a B.S. in Food Science.

He has worked in the dairy industry, at C.F. Burger Creamery, McDonald Dairy, Michigan Milk, Country Fresh, and Dean Foods. Randy currently is the Plant Manager of Frostbite Brands, a division of Dean Foods in Toledo, Ohio.

Randy has served as board member of the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation for several years. He has enjoyed the interaction with college students applying for Dairy Memorial scholarships, and he knows the pain and anguish suffered by many board members when there are insufficient scholarships for all who have applied. However, he carries home with him at the end of each meeting the satisfaction of knowing that he has contributed to the growth and continued succession of the dairy industry.

Randy and his wife, Mary Sue, also a member of the MSU graduating class of 1974, have three children, two of whom are also MSU graduates. They also have two grandsons, each of whom have impacted Mimi and Grandy differently, but have made them believe that they have achieved the level of life for which they were intended. They are committed to family and family traditions such as tailgating, AutumnFest in the fall, or maybe an occasional ice cream cone at the MSU Dairy Store.



WAYNE H. WOOD

Wayne H. Wood is a dairy farmer and the 16th president of the Michigan Farm Bureau (MFB). He and his wife, Diane, farm in partnership with their son, Mark, and Wood's brother, Randy. The 1,600-acre family farm milks 300 cows and grows corn and alfalfa.

Wood has served as the MFB president since December 2000. Prior, he served 12 years as the organization's vice president. During that time, he served on and chaired several state Farm Bureau committees, including the Policy Development Committee.

Wood was first elected to the MFB Board of Directors in 1984 as a director-at-large. He was later elected a District Six Director, representing Farm Bureau members in Michigan's Thumb region.

Always active in his county Farm Bureau, Wood served as the Sanilac County Farm Bureau president for five years before joining the state board. In addition, he served on and chaired numerous county committees.

Wood's Farm Bureau involvement also includes four years spent presiding over the Michigan Farmland and Community Alliance (MFCA), an MFB affiliate organization dedicated to farmland preservation. MFCA activities have since been folded into the Michigan Farm Bureau Public Policy and Commodity Division.

Over the years, Wood's leadership has extended to the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF). Prior to becoming state president, he served on the AFBF Labor Advisory Committee. Earlier, he spent four years chairing the AFBF Dairy Advisory Committee. Nationally, he was appointed by former Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz to the Rural Environmental Conservation Program Advisory Board.

Back in Michigan, Wood chairs the Michigan Agriculture Preservation Fund Board, a nine-member board, appointed by the governor, which oversees the state Purchase of Development Rights program and grant funding.

In 2003, Wood became the sole agricultural representative on two high-profile councils. First, Gov. Jennifer Granholm appointed Wood to her Michigan Land Use Leadership Council, which was charged with studying urban sprawl and making recommendations to the governor on how to minimize the impact of current land use trends on the state's environment and economy. Second, the director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) appointed him to a newly formed Environmental Advisory Council. The Council is responsible for advising the department on major issues that may affect DEQ programs, policies and operations.

In 2004, the general manager of the Michigan State Fair appointed Wood to co-chair a commission charged with studying and making recommendations regarding changes and improvements to the annual state fair. In 2005, Governor Granholm appointed him to a newly formed Michigan Food Policy Council, which is charged with making recommendations on ways to increase economic development opportunities in Michigan's food sector while improving agricultural production, community well-being and public health across the state.

At home, Wood served his community by chairing the Sanilac County Mental Health Board for nearly 20 years. He also spent nearly two decades as the Marlette Township supervisor. Wood also is a member of the Marlette Second Presbyterian Church and has served as a trustee, treasurer and elder.



WAYNE WILCOX

Wayne Wilcox grew up on a dairy farm in Lowell, Michigan and got his start by helping his father working on the farm. Wayne drove the milk delivery truck even before he had a license. He married his childhood friend and farm girl from Eaton Rapids, Donna in 1949. After one year working on a farm in Lowell they purchased a farm in Eaton Rapids, MI and started milking grade cows but gradually grew it into a 100 percent Registered Holstein herd called Waverly Hills Farms.

Both Wayne and Donna were very active in the Holstein Association and traveled the show circuit. One of the most remembered shows was at the State Fair in Detroit during the riots. At one point they weren't sure how they were going to get out of town alive with the cattle.

Wayne was very active in several organizations including MMPA, Holstein Association and a member of the Robbins United Methodist Church. Together he and Donna had three children. After 25 years of marriage, Wayne died at an early age from lung problems related to severe arthritis.



TERRY and JEAN NUGENT

Terry and Jean's involvement in the dairy industry started in the early 1960's. Jean's interest started on her family farm where the main focus was the apple orchard, but her interest was in the small herd of cows they owned. Terry started by working on his cousin's farm while growing up. Jean and Terry were married in 1963 and in 1964 they purchased the farm from Terry's cousin. With Jean's wealth of knowledge about dairy cattle and breeding, they began a registered Holstein herd. Nugentdale Farm today consists of 189 registered Holstein cows and 193 young stock along with 1475 acres of corn, soybeans, alfalfa and wheat. The current herd averages are: 24,081 lbs of milk, yielding 892 lbs of butterfat and 725 lbs of protein at 3.7 and 3.0 percent fat and protein, respectively. They have maintained a predominantly registered Holstein herd, bred a number of Excellent and Very Good cows and found a continuing market for high-quality registered Holsteins. A family pastime of showing cows has also resulted in state premier breeder and premier exhibitor honors.

Jean and Terry are graduates of St. Patrick's High School of Ada, Michigan. Terry's involvement locally includes: 12 years as a trustee on the Grattan Township Board, 12 years on the Kent County Farm Service Agency Committee. He is a member of Kent County and Michigan Farm Bureau.

Terry's state and national involvement include serving 17 years on the NorthStar Cooperative Inc. board of directors, five years on the board of Select-Sires Inc., Vice President and President of Michigan Holstein Association with over 15 years as a Michigan delegate to the National Holstein Convention. He is currently a member of the Michigan Milk Producers Association Advisory Committee.

Jean has been an active member of the Michigan Holstein Association and the National Holstein Association for 40+ years. Locally, she has worked with the Project Rural Education Days and the Kent County Milky Way 4-H Dairy Club. Jean has kept a watchful eye on all the animals on the farm, is known to identify who's standing in heat from 100 yards, and to catch cows starting to get sick 2-3 days before all the symptoms surface, all while managing a career as a Registered Nurse.

Terry and Jean continue to use DHI to monitor dairy cow production, analyze trends and make culling decisions. Nugentdale Farm received the Highest 5 Year Increase in Production Award for Kent County DHIA for 2006 and 2007. In 2007 Terry and Jean received the Michigan Holstein Association Master Breeder Award and were inducted into the Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame. Their family, including sons Mike and Tom, and daughters Sheila Burkhardt and Renee McCauley, are one of the most involved families in Michigan agriculture. Mike and son-in-law Moss McCauley are involved in the daily farm operations. Green and white ties run deep in this family. Their 4 children attended

Michigan State University and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources with at least one attending MSU for 13 years straight. They do find time for one of Terry's favorite hobbies: racing cars, which Terry and Mike have been doing locally for more than 25 years.



JACK DENDEL

Wilfred Jack Dendel was born December 26, 1924 on a farm that has been owned by the same family since 1862. Jack was the 4th generation to own and operate this successful farm. He graduated from Allegan High School in 1942 and attended Michigan State University for 1 year before returning to the farm. He entered into partnership with his father in the dairy and apple enterprise which continued until his father's retirement.

In addition to the dairy herd, the 520 acre farm was also a well known fruit farm which consisted of 90 acres of apples, cherries, peaches, pears and plums. The apples and cider were marketed through grocery outlets throughout southwestern Michigan. The farm became one of the most successful diversified farms in Michigan.

Jack started his registered Guernsey herd in 1949. His first purchase was a heifer named Elaine Etta for \$160.00. Then in 1951 he bought his first adult cow Evelyn Ruth for \$600.00 and from that cow the successful Ruth family continued. Jack's purebred herd of Guernsey cows grew to 150 registered cows and was ranked among the top 5 herds in the state of Michigan for many years. His herd became one of the better herds in the country both in type and in production. Several individuals of his herd were nationally known. Jack was very interested in the genetic make-up of the Guernsey breed.

Despite the demands of the farming operation Jack found time to serve his fellow dairymen as a leader in many dairy related organizations. In an effort to promote dairying in Allegan County he helped develop and served for 10 years on the Allegan County Dairy Council. He served as the director of the Allegan County DHIA local and was president of the Allegan County Michigan Animal Breeders Cooperative and was also a member of Farm Bureau and served on the FHA Board. For over 15 years he served on the Board of Directors of Kalamazoo Milk Producers Association and then became vice-president.

He served on the Michigan Guernsey Breeders Association board, was vice-president and president of the American Dairy Association of Michigan serving on both the Budget and Finance Committee and the Executive Committee of this organization. For 21 years he served as vice-president and president (1970-1987) of Michigan Animal Breeders Cooperative (MABC). He was a member of the State Dairy Council and the MSU Dairy Department Advisory Council. He also served as chairman of the Guernsey Committee of Select Sires and was also active in the breeding industry both locally and nationally.

Jack also displayed his leadership skills on many national boards. He served as director

at large and 1st vice-president to the board of the American Guernsey Cattle Club. He served on the executive committee of the National Association of Animal Breeders. He was vice-president and president of National Purebred Dairy Cattle Association. Also in recognition of his abilities he had been asked to serve on the Board of Dairy Research, Inc. (DRINC) and functioned as treasurer. The United Dairy Industry Association also used his abilities as a board member.

As board President from 1975 to 1984, Jack provided significant leadership to Select Sires, Inc., one of the top artificial insemination (AI) companies in the world. His leadership efforts with Select Sires, Inc. and member organization, MABC, helped bring these organizations into the forefront of AI companies in the U.S.

Some of Jack's greatest honors were being recognized as the the 1970 Dairyman of the year by the MSU, Department of Dairy and in 1973 as one of Michigan's top 3 leaders in agriculture with the Distinguished Service to Agriculture award. In 1987 he received the Master Breeder Award from the American Guernsey Cattle Club in recognition of his contributions in breeding Guernsey cattle.

He retired from serving on dairy boards in 1987 and retired from farming in the late 1990's.



KEITH LaMARRE BROWN

Keith L. Brown graduated from Michigan State University in 1954 with a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry. He and his family owned and operated Brownson Farms and the Horse and Carriage Bed and Breakfast, both in Jonesville. They raised registered Holsteins, Percheron draft horses, Shetland sheep and Duroc hogs for seven decades. In 1985 the family farm was designated a sesquicentennial farm – 150 years old.

Brown was extremely active in various political, agricultural and community activities. Brown was district director for Congressman Nick Smith from 1997 to 2004 and served 15 years on the Moscow Township board, serving 12 years as township supervisor. He was also a Kellogg National Leadership Program group III advisor. Brown served as Jonesville Lions Club president, Hillsdale County Fair board president, Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation past president, and Michigan Centennial Farm Association past president.

He also participated on the Hillsdale County GOP Executive Committee, Hillsdale County Extension Advisory Committee and Michigan Farm Bureau State Policy Development Committee. He was a founding member of Hillsdale Hay Inc. and filled the combined role of secretary/treasurer. Brown was a national board member for Select Sires, Inc. from 1988-1993 as well as being active with several Select Sires committees for 12 years. He also provided leadership on the board of directors for MABC-Select Sires (now known as NorthStar Cooperative) from 1978-1993, of which six years he was board president.

Brown was also Jonesville School board president, Michigan Holstein Association past president, Michigan Purebred Dairy Cattle Association past president, and Michigan Board of Veterinary Medicine lay member. He received the 1981 MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Distinguished Service Award and was named the 1982 MSU Dairyman of the Year.



MARVIN M. PELL

Marvin Max Pell was born on May 15, 1923. He graduated from Fremont High School in 1941 where he was a member of Future Farmers of America.

Marvin worked in the Fremont Co-Op after graduating until he enlisted in the Army in 1943 in World War II.

He returned home in February 1946 and married Jessie (Luchies) Pell on June 28, 1946. They rented the family farm of his father, Neal Pell for one year and bought it the next year. He started with forty acres, sixteen cows and two horses. Soon he bought a Farmall tractor with a plow and cultivator for \$550.

Over the years, they added four boys and one girl to the family but he still works on the same farm and lives in the house in which he was born.

Marvin served on the board of Independent Cooperative Milk Producers Association from 1974 to 1992. When he stepped down, his son, John, was elected to serve in his place. Between the two generations, they served 35 years as leaders in their dairy marketing cooperatives.

Marvin and Jessie belong to Trinity Christian Reformed Church in Fremont, Michigan and have been members of Farm Bureau nearly all of their married lives. At the time of his recognition in 2010, God had blessed Marvin and Jessie with sixty-three years together.



JOHN H. PELL

John Herman Pell was born on his family's farm on November 19, 1950, and spent 40 years dedicated to the dairy industry as a farmer, cooperative board member and industry leader.

He started working on the farm while in high school and took college prep course work because he intended to become a teacher.

His father, Marvin Pell, invited John to farm with him and teaching was forgotten, but not learning. John attended the local community college and took business and science courses while starting to farm and moved to farming full time when his coursework was done. He married Patricia Alderink on July 12, 1972. The Pells have three daughters and a son who helped on the farm while growing up and are now successfully employed in Michigan.

The farm in Fremont, Michigan consisted of over 800 acres plus additional rented ground. The Pells raise mostly corn, alfalfa, and some small grains. They milked 100-200 Holstein cows and raised their own replacements. The Pell Family was honored with the Newaygo County Conservation Farm of the Year in 1975 and they were also members of DHIA for several years, earning top Owner Sampled Herd for two years.

John is a member of Trinity Christian Reformed Church in Fremont. He served as a youth group leader for 10 years. He is a member of Farm Bureau and National Federation of Independent Businessmen.

John served the dairy industry on the Board of Directors of the United Dairy Industry of Michigan, serving on the executive board and budget committee and as a National Milk Producers Federation delegate. He served on the Michigan Dairy Market Program Committee for six years, serving as vice president for four years and president for one year. He served as President of the Board of Directors for the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation. In 1992, John was elected to the Board of Directors of the Independent Cooperative Milk Producers Association (ICMPA), to serve in the seat previously held for 18 years by his father, Marvin. John continued as a Mideast Area council member after ICMPA merged with DFA. John later served on DFA's corporate board for two years and continued to serve as a council member until his retirement from dairying in 2009.



ERWIN and LORETTA WEBER

Erwin and Loretta Weber were born and raised on dairy farms, and farmed on Erwin's family farm in Tuscola County where they still live today.

Erwin, born December 29, 1930, was the third of five children of Alvin and Ida (Petzold) Weber. He was born and raised in Arbela Township during the Great Depression. Loretta, born February 24, 1936, was the third of three children of Richard and Irene Knoll, dairy farmers near Richville. They attended Lutheran schools in one-room schoolhouses along with working on their family farms.

Following school, Erwin worked with his family on the farm to grow the operation while maintaining its clean and attractive appearance. During the Korean conflict, Erwin served 2 years at White Sands Proving Grounds. Loretta worked in Frankenmuth following school.

On October 13, 1956, Erwin and Loretta were married and began farming 160 acres with Erwin's parents. They added three girls and one boy to their family, each of whom helped on the farm while growing up. They eventually entered into partnership with their son Duane. At the time of their retirement, they milked 50 cows and farmed 450 acres.

Erwin and Loretta are active members of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Millington. A lifetime member of St. Paul, Erwin served on the Building Committee, Board of Trustees, Board of Elders and Board of Education. Loretta served as secretary and on committees of the St. Paul Dorcas Society. Together they are members of the church choir.

Erwin is past commander of the American Legion Conrad-Wager-Keene Post 164 and serves on the honor guard. He serves on the Arbela Township Fire Board and is a past member of the Board of Review.

Erwin and Loretta are parents of 4 children (Gloria LaPointe, Duane, Diane Bishop and Miriam Nielsen) who all live and work in Michigan. They have 12 grandchildren. Strong believers in family farming and the importance of agriculture, their values have been passed on to their children and grandchildren, three of whom have attended MSU in the dairy program.

Recognition through the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation is a fitting tribute to Erwin and Loretta's work ethic, family values and commitment to their community.



DR. KIRK HEINZE

Kirk Heinze was raised in rural Macomb County, Michigan, the oldest of eight children who, like so many others, dreamed of being a professional baseball player. After graduating from New Haven High School, he attended Albion College, majored in English and Philosophy, earned four varsity letters in baseball and realized he was no major league material. While completing his Master's Degree in English at Wayne State University, he worked as a general assignment and sports reporter for the Wyandotte News Herald. Upon completion of his M.A., he taught English and composition classes at Wayne County Community College before enrolling in the Ph.D. program in American Studies at Michigan State University.

His graduate assistantship was with the Agriculture and Natural Resources Communications (ANR Communications) undergraduate program, where he spent the majority of his 30 years at MSU. As program director, he worked with hundreds of students who would go on to highly successful careers in agricultural journalism, public relations, advertising and marketing. Under his aegis, ANR Communications became one of the most respected programs of its kind in the nation. His MSU Agri-Marketing teams frequently advanced to the "Final Four" in the National Agri-Marketing Association's "Student Marketing Competition," and, in 2000, the Spartan Agri-Marketers won the national championship. Kirk considers his years working directly with students as the most rewarding of his career.

He played a major role in establishing a strong Study Abroad Program for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR), directing programs in Nepal, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and England. Even in retirement, he continues to teach Freshman Study Abroad Seminars in locations around the globe. Kirk spent the latter part of his career as director of ANR Communication, a unit that provides wide-ranging communications support for the CANR, MSU Extension and the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station. Among his responsibilities was developing communications strategies to mitigate difficult situations which could adversely affect the perceptions and beliefs about CANR, MSUE, MAES and Michigan agriculture.

Among other tributes, Kirk received the "Distinguished Faculty Award" from the MSU Senior Class Council; the CANR Alumni Association's "Distinguished Faculty Award"; and the "National Student Advisor of the Year" award from the National Agri-Marketing Association. He received the Honorary American Farmer Degree from the National FFA, the Distinguished Alumni Award from Albion College, and was inducted into the New Haven High School Athletic Hall of Fame- nice, but a far cry from Cooperstown.

Following retirement in 2008, Kirk and his wife, Katha, established K & K Consulting, specializing in communications and educational consulting. Kirk hosts a weekly radio program, "Greening of the Great Lakes," on WJR 760 AM, Detroit,

Michigan's major AM radio station. The program explores issues related to environmental, economic and social sustainability not only in the Great Lakes region, but around the globe. Kirk continues to work with undergraduate students in any way he can, and he and his wife rarely miss a Spartan basketball or football game.



ERNEST L. ANTHONY

Ernest L. Anthony was born in Wescott, Nebraska on September 6, 1888, and grew up on the family farm in Linn County, Missouri. He received the B.S. degree in agriculture from the University of Missouri in 1912 and the M.S. degree from Pennsylvania State College in 1914. He was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Science by the University of Missouri in 1952.

From 1912 to 1918, Anthony served on the dairy staff at Pennsylvania State College, leaving that institution in 1918 to become head of the Dairy Department at the University of West Virginia. In 1923-24 he was a Niels Poulson Fellow at the University of Copenhagen. He came to Michigan State College in 1928 as head of the Dairy Department and was appointed Dean of Agriculture in 1933, serving until his retirement in 1953.

Dean Anthony was a delegate to the International Dairy Congress at Copenhagen in 1931 and president of the American Dairy Science Association in 1932. The U.S. Department of Agriculture appointed him to import an experimental herd of Red Danish cattle in 1935. This herd formed the foundation of the Red Dane breed, which became well established in Michigan. Dean Anthony was active in the development of the University of Ryukyus on Okinawa and in establishing a cooperative educational program with the National University of Columbia, South America under the Point-Four program.



VELMAR GREEN

On the occasion of MMPA's Leaders' Conference, November 23, 2009, Michigan Milk Producers Association recognizes Velmar Green for his 40 years of service on the MMPA Board of Directors.

Velmar Green has been an innovative leader in the dairy industry for over 50 years. After completing his B.S. degree at Michigan State University, he and his brother, Duane, joined their father, Merle, in partnership on the family dairy farm. Since its beginning, Green Meadow Farms has been instrumental in providing leading dairy genetics, practical research application for universities and leadership in state and national organizations. Green Meadow Farms continues its legacy today as one of the foremost dairy operations in the country.

Green Meadow Farms has been a "large dairy" since 1954 when the family milked 250 registered Holsteins. By 1985 they were milking 1,700 head of cows. In the late 1990s they completed a series of expansions building the herd to 3,200 milking cows with a total herd size of over 9,000 animals.

Green Meadows has long been known as the largest herd of registered Holsteins in the country. They continue today to register or begin grade ID on all their animals. Their attention to breeding and marketing earns them an international reputation of providing high-quality dairy genetics. They have developed a strong market for breeding bulls and more recently bred heifers to other dairy producers.

Velmar's participation in national dairy cattle shows dates back to the 1950s when he and fellow Michigan Dairy breeders rode trains to places like Texas and California to exhibit their registered Holsteins. In more recent years, his daughter Margery and her family have taken the Green cattle on the road to national shows including the World Dairy Expo.

The Green family has been actively involved in all aspects of the industry. Velmar has held leadership positions with milk marketers, breed associations, DHIA, cattleman's association, university advisory groups and agriculture lenders. Most recently, in 2009, Velmar was appointed by the Governor to become a member of the Michigan Commission of Agriculture. His involvement in associations is more than a casual appointment, he takes his responsibility as a representative of fellow dairy farmers to heart, devoting countless hours doing what he can to further all of the dairy industry.

At a time when "large dairies" are coming under more and more scrutiny he does not shy away from doing what he can to help researchers and fellow farmers. His farm is a popular location for on-farm research and they have been instrumental in much of the research done on animal nutrition, animal health, breeding and environmental issues.

Green Meadow Farms has been involved with countless research trials with the cattle and other management issues on the farm. Their willingness to work with researchers has provided an “on-farm laboratory” that has led to many important research findings in the dairy industry. Many of the common management tools used today were once a research trial at Green Meadow Farms. Their unselfish commitment to the research efforts in the dairy industry has been a benefit to all dairy farmers.

In 2005 Green Meadow Farms opened an on-site teaching laboratory for students in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University. The veterinary clinic offers hands-on training to students at the college. The addition of the veterinary clinic compliments Velmar’s long-standing commitment to animal health.

Velmar, who has served as chair of the National Milk Producers Federation Animal Health Committee, has been instrumental in many national animal health issues. In Michigan, he has been at the forefront of the TB issue and the implementation of electronic animal identification. He has also worked on several committees at NMPF on animal health issues. Velmar represented the dairy industry on the U.S. Animal ID Working Group Task Force.

Velmar and the Green family have developed a respectable legacy in the dairy industry as leaders, as innovators and as friends. Their contributions to the dairy industry have been recognized by many organizations. Velmar’s list of recognitions include:

Michigan State University Dairy Farmer of the Year,
Michigan State University Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award,
Clinton County Farm Bureau Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award
Grand Marshall of the Elsie Dairy Festival.



Keith C. and Maxine Sowerby

Keith Sowerby was born September 25, 1918 in Barry County, Michigan. He was the son of Maurice R. and Luella (Addis) Sowerby.

He participated in Kent County 4-H Club and the Greenville FFA Chapter. While in high school, Keith owned and showed the Grand Champion Jersey cow at the Michigan State Fair. He was a member of the Greenville FFA Livestock Judging Team that was high team in the state contest and went to the national contest at the American Royal Livestock Show in Kansas City. Keith served as Treasurer of the State FFA Association and was recognized with the State FFA Degree. He graduated from high school in 1936.

As a student at Michigan State University, Keith worked at the Michigan State College Creamery while earning a B.S. degree in Dairy Science. He was a member of the 1940 MSC Dairy Cattle Judging Team and the 1941 Livestock Judging Team. Following graduation in 1942, Keith spent 6 years as herdsman and/or Assistant Manager at North Ridge Jersey Farms in Chesaning, Michigan.

Keith married Margaret Maxine on October 27, 1945. They had two children: Dean Sowerby and Nancy (George) Peck.

In Sandusky, Keith began his nearly 31-year career with the MSU Cooperative Extension Service as the Sanilac County 4-H Club Agent. Several title changes occurred during the next 19 years before he was asked to establish the first multi-county Extension Dairy Agent position in the state. During that period, Keith also returned to Michigan State University to complete a M.S. degree.

Sowerby is well remembered in Isabella, Montcalm, and Ionia Counties as the Extension Dairy Agent for more than 11 years prior to his retirement on December 31, 1978. He was a member of the American Dairy Science Association, the American Dairy Science Foundation, Epsilon Sigma Phi, and recipient of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents Distinguished Service Award.

He served as Secretary of the Sanilac County 4-H Fair for 14 years. After retirement, Keith and Maxine handled the secretary duties of the 5-county District V Holstein Show. Both of them always accepted leadership responsibilities with their local and District United Methodist Church programs. While in Sandusky, Maxine was a member of the McKenzie Memorial Hospital Association. After moving to the Clark Retirement Community in 1993, Maxine served other seniors, earning her the Individual Volunteer Award from the Michigan Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.



Michael A. Schwab

Honoree

*Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation
Presented at the Sunrise Local Meeting, December 15,
2010*

“How can we help,” those are the words most likely to roll from the tongue of Mike Schwab whenever he heard of a neighbor’s crisis or a challenge facing the community. Without regard for his own issues or current challenges, Mike was always quick to lend a hand, a tractor or an ear to those in need. It was Mike’s undaunted compassion for his

fellow farmer or neighbor that made him a well-liked and well-respected leader in the Michigan dairy industry.

A life-long dairy farmer, Mike and his family worked tirelessly in their community and within the associations that were important to them. For 17 years Mike served as chair of the Michigan Milk Producers Association (MMPA) Advisory Committee and Secretary of the MMPA Sunrise Local. His strong leadership style and knowledge of current issues concerning the dairy industry gained him the respect of his fellow dairy farmers across the state.

Mike also served on the United Dairy Industry of Michigan board of directors and was involved in several agricultural organizations. He was a true champion of the dairy industry, never missing the chance to encourage another farmer or to promote dairy products.

His passion for the dairy industry was reflected in the way he shared his love of farming with his family. He and his wife, Julie, raised three children: Philip, Matt and Melinda on the family dairy farm. Matt and his father became partners in the dairy farm, continuing the family’s farming legacy. Matt and Mike also became partners in the Pioneer seed corn business that Mike’s father had established.

Within his hometown of Standish, Mike served as president of the Standish-Sterling School board, was a volunteer firefighter, a 4-H leader and a Sunday School teacher.

Mike and Julie worked in tandem in all that they did, from raising a family to running a farm, they were truly an inspirational example to others around them. When Mike suffered severe injuries from a fall, they relied on their faith and each other to get through the tough days and months following his accident. When his health failed again they remained strong and faithful even when the prognosis was dim. Their example of faith and strength during this time was remarkable.

Mike’s passing in 2010 leaves a void in the Michigan dairy industry. His honesty, integrity and genuine concern for others will be missed.



Archie Studer

Honoree

*Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation
Presented at the Annual Meeting and Luncheon of the
Board of Directors, April 15, 2011 with establishment of
the Archie Studer Michigan Dairy Memorial Endowed
Scholarship*

Archie Studer was born on January 13, 1918, the seventh of eleven children of Albert and Jenny Studer, growing up on their farm east of Shelby, Michigan. After graduating from Shelby High School in 1937, he managed the family farm.

He served his country in World War II as a member of the Army. He attended the Army Air Force Technical Academy, Chanute AFB, IL, where he graduated with certification in Airplane Mechanics and Instruments. In October 1944, he was deployed to the Pacific Theatre as an Army Air Force Airplane Mechanic and Instrument Specialist in charge of all instrument work for the 316th Troop Carrier Squadron, first in Hawaii and later on Okinawa, Japan. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Staff Sergeant in January 1946.

After the war, he returned to Michigan where he operated a Shell service station in Muskegon for four years. He and his wife Elizabeth (“Betty”) moved to Casnovia, Michigan in 1951 where they established the Kenowa-Acres Dairy Farm. When starting the farm, he also worked night jobs including Engine Test Stand Operator for Continental Motors in Muskegon, Rivet Gun Operator for GM in Grand Rapids, and Core Maker for CWC Foundry in Muskegon.

Over the next 37 years, he bred and raised an outstanding herd of registered Holstein dairy cattle. Utilizing the Artificial Insemination certification he received in the early 1970s, he converted an unknown name to a frequently cited herd prefix for quality animals sold at the Great Lakes Classic sales in the 1970s and 1980s. Holstein Association USA records show 318 Kenowa-Acres female animals, including four Gold Medal Dams and five Dams of Merit, with 73 of them rated as Very Good and two as Excellent. At least three Kenowa-Acres male animals were selected for use in the AI program. He won many awards for his cattle herd, including DHIA High Herd award for Muskegon County in 1961, 1973, 1980, 1982, and 1983; 600 Honor Roll for his herd from the DHIA in 1980; and individual High Cow honors in 1961, 1981, and 1983.

He received recognition for his breeding efforts that produced Kenowa-Acres Maple Elevation. In 1981 as a four year old, this cow was ranked 3rd for fat nationally and, in Michigan, first for fat and third for milk production. Additionally in 1982 as a 5 year old, she was 52nd on the national list of top 200 cows while being ranked fourth in fat nationally and first in fat in Michigan.

In the 1960s and 1970s he was active in the Muskegon Co. 4H, serving as a veterinary medicine leader and assisting as his three children (each later graduated from Michigan State University) participated in dairy, tractor, flower, and vegetable gardening programs. He was an MMPA member and participated in the Muskegon County DHIA from about 1953 until 1988, serving as president for two years.

After his herd was dispersed in 1988, Archie continued crop farming for ten years before moving to the Silver Maples Retirement Community in Chelsea, Michigan.



Nick Bellows

Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation Honoree

Presented at the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation

Annual Meeting, April 20, 2012

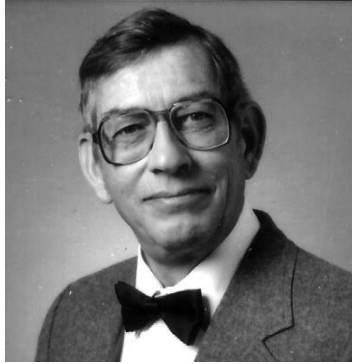
Nick Bellows was born and raised on a 320 acre Centennial dairy farm in Eaton Rapids, Michigan where his family milked 40 Holsteins. After serving as an Army Paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division, Nick earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Telecommunications at Michigan State University, and a Juris Doctor from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

In February 2011, Nick retired as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the United Dairy Industry of Michigan with over two and a half decades of service. As CEO, Nick's record of service included many programs widely recognized as being among the nation's most effective in terms of increasing dairy consumption. He built a solid network of partners in the Michigan business and scientific community who invested their credibility and financial resources in local dairy promotion programs.

During Nick's tenure as CEO, the Dairy Council of Michigan, American Dairy Association of Michigan and United Dairy Industry of Michigan received numerous awards for nutrition education programs, public relations efforts and print and radio advertising, including:

- 1994 Nutrition Education Award from the Michigan Department of Public Health for the Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Education Module Project
- 1994 PACE Crystal Award for Crisis Communications
- 1996 Addy Award as well as national print media recognition for the United Dairy Industry of Michigan Sports Nutrition Awards Program
- 1996 Children's Health Award from the Michigan Comprehensive School Health Coordinator's Association for UDIM's school health education efforts through Michigan Model
- 2001 PACE Public Relations Special Events Award for the Get Moo-ing with Milk Tour
- 2004 Point of Light Award and Governor's Council on Physical Fitness Award for support of the Metro Detroit Youth Day
- 2007 Comprehensive School Health Coordinator's Association –Special Recognition
- 2007 and 2008 Awards of Excellence in Crisis Readiness, Crisis Training and Advanced Crisis Readiness & Outreach from Dairy Management, Inc.

Nick lives in Michigan with his wife Patricia.



Roy S. Emery

Dr. Roy S. Emery was born September 22, 1928, in Charleston, Illinois, to Frank K. and Ella (Geer) Emery. After earning his doctoral degree, Dr. Emery became a professor of Dairy Nutrition, teaching at Michigan State University from 1955 until his retirement in 1996.

Dr. Emery devoted his career to understanding the nutrition of dairy cattle in order to improve their health and the efficiency of milk production. He gained world-wide recognition very early in his career for his pioneering research on detection and treatment of ketosis, a common metabolic disease in cattle, and he maintained a highly productive research program for 40 years. He made significant contributions benefiting the dairy industry in several different areas of dairy cattle nutrition including low-fat milk syndrome, hepatic lipidosis, and ketosis. Dr. Emery was widely recognized as an innovative researcher with a unique ability to conduct basic research and to use those findings to develop creative solutions to practical problems encountered on dairy farms. His research was recognized several times by the American Dairy Science Association. The first time was in 1961, when he was the recipient of the American Feed Manufacturers Award for best research in dairy cattle nutrition. In 1989, he was awarded the prestigious Borden Award for the best contribution to the dairy industry over a ten year period. In 1997, Dr. Emery was awarded the distinction of Fellow, the highest honor bestowed by the American Dairy Science Association.

As a scientist and teacher, Dr. Emery was described by a colleague as “quietly confident”. He allowed his students ample opportunity to explore and develop their own ideas, while being available to help refine their ideas and give direction. Several students that were highly influenced by Dr. Emery became innovative scientists and received national and international recognition.

Dr. Emery was a member of the National Research Council's Committee on Animal Nutrition, and was in constant demand as a reviewer of articles for several scientific journals and grant proposals for United States Department of Agriculture, United States-Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund and the United States Department of Energy. Few scientists had careers as long and productive as Dr. Emery's. Fewer still had as much impact on the dairy industry.

On March 17, 1986, in Florida, he married the former Marilyn Stillson. Roy had 7 children, Karen & Mike Bunn, and their children, Amy & Matt (Lizz); Keith & Patricia

Emery, and their children, Kevin & Pamela (Hochul Lee); Steven & Lorraine Emery-Wright, and their daughter, Hannah; Kathryn & James Westbrook, and their children, James, Katrina (Paul Wrzesinski), Jennifer (Elliot Jones) & Emily; Joanne & Chris Thelen, and their children, Kristen & Rebecca; Ann & Karl Stevens and William DeYoung; 6 great-grandchildren; and 2 sisters, Carol Bastian and Martha (Herb) Streu.

Roy was an avid sailor and gardener, and lived in the White Lake area following his retirement.



Earl Horning

Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation Honoree

Presented at the United Dairy Industry of Michigan Annual Meeting, February 23, 2012

Earl Horning's passion for dairy promotion and research is a contagious flame that he passes to his fellow dairy farmers and neighbors. There is no doubt in anyone's mind after spending time with Earl that he is a staunch believer in the power of strategic and effective dairy promotion programs. Earl's passion comes from his past experiences that have taught him that the right

communication at the right time can reverse a potential negative situation. Earl and his family have farmed on the outskirts of Ann Arbor, Michigan since the 1800s. As the city grew and began to surround their farm, the Hornings knew if they were to stay in that area they needed to be good neighbors and to have an open relationship with the surrounding community. Their location also gives them a real insight to the urban consumer.

The location of their farm gives Earl and his family opportunities to promote a positive image of the dairy industry year-round. The Hornings' well-kept and environmentally sound dairy operation is one of the best means of promotion any dairy farmer can convey. The Hornings take great pride in their centennial farm and their herd of high-producing, high-quality animals. Their herd of grazing cows on the hillside is a "living billboard" for dairy promotion – a fact the Hornings are very aware of. Their herd of 375 milking cows receives statewide recognition for production and high quality milk on a consistent basis.

Earl and his wife Diane have two children: Jeff Horning and Tricia Burke. Earl and Diane farm in partnership with their son Jeff and daughter-in-law Lynda.

Knowing that dairy promotion starts at home, the Hornings opened their farm to the surrounding communities for "June Dairy Month Breakfast on the Farm." Over 2,000 people came to the farm to see the operation and to taste nutritious dairy products. This kind of one-on-one interaction is priceless in the realm of dairy promotion. They have also hosted legislators and USDA officials on their farm.

Earl's first priority when he joined the board of the United Dairy Industry of Michigan in 1997 was to overhaul the school milk program. Having children of his own, he had heard the complaint many times that the milk was not cold and the cartons were difficult to open. Under Earl's leadership, UDIM launched a successful milk vending machine program in the state. Through this program schools were able to purchase milk vending machines in an effort to keep milk cold and available throughout the day. Earl also champions programs like the school breakfast program and the recently launched "Fuel up to Play 60" program. Earl always makes sure his fellow dairy farmers are

aware of programs the check-off dollars are supporting so they know how their money is being utilized.

The Hornings were one of several Michigan dairy farmers involved in creating the Michigan Dairy News Bureau, spearheaded by UDIM. The news bureau provides information to reporters and community leaders about Michigan's dairy industry.

Earl's leadership involvement includes: the Michigan Milk Producers Association (MMPA) board of directors since 2000; United Dairy Industry of Michigan since 1997 and director for Dairy Management Inc., since 1997.

The Horning Family's commitment to the Michigan dairy industry earned them the distinction of being awarded the 2010 Dairy Farmer of the Year award by the Michigan State University Department of Animal Science.

In November 2011, the National Dairy Board (NDB) presented Earl with the Richard E. Lyng Service Award in recognition of his distinguished service to dairy promotion and research.



Gary Trimner

In recognition of Gary Trimner's 35 years of service and commitment to the members of Michigan Milk Producers Association, the MMPA Board of Directors is pleased to recognize Gary as an Honoree of the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation.

Like many MMPA employees, Gary grew up with a passion for dairy farming, but never had the opportunity to own a farm. So, he chose the next best thing to him—working with dairy farmers. Gary dedicated his 35-year career to helping dairy farmers and fellow employees achieve their goals.

Gary, who grew up in Hersey, Michigan developed a passion for cows and farming while working on his family's farm. After graduating high school, he attended college at Ferris State University. In 1976 Gary was hired to be a member representative in the Muskegon area. In 1978 he was promoted to Director of Quality Control and in 1988 he was named the Director of Member Services and Quality Control.

Throughout his time at MMPA, Gary worked diligently and passionately to help MMPA members be as productive as possible. Under Gary's leadership, MMPA members became known for their high quality milk production. Gary and his team of member representatives developed and implemented quality milk programs that have gained national recognition.

In addition to working with members, Gary also mentored dozens of employees over the years. Gary sought to help employees and members reach their fullest potential. His greatest accomplishments came in helping others succeed.

During his tenure at MMPA, Gary became a leader in the dairy industry, specializing in improving on-farm milk quality and helping develop modern dairy farm inspections. He was instrumental in the development and implementation of the MAEAP (Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program) in Michigan and has been involved in the drafting of several legislative issues concerning dairy farms.

- Presented March 31, 2012



G. William Robb

G. William Robb recently retired from Michigan State University Extension after over 34 years of providing informal education. He had a strong emphasis on business management for dairy farmers and other agricultural audiences. Financial projections and business startups in artisan cheese businesses were new initiatives.

Academic Degrees/Previous Positions

He has a Bachelor of Science degree from Michigan State University and a Master of Science from Pennsylvania State University. Robb most recently served as the West Central Michigan Extension Dairy Senior Educator for Michigan State University where he covered a seven-county district. Other MSUE positions held are Dairy/Livestock Agent in St. Clair and Macomb Counties from 1976-1980, Mason County Extension Director from 1980-1989, Allegan County Extension Director from 1989-1995 and Southwest Dairy Educator from 1995-2005.

Membership in Professional Organizations

He was the President of the Michigan Associations of Extension Agents in 1990, and in 1991 he served as the President of the Michigan Council of Extension Associations. He has served as regional vice chair of the communications committee for the National Association of Agricultural Agents (NACAA). He is also a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi, and a past member of the Scottsville Optimists, Port Huron Jaycees, and County of Allegan Leadership League, director and past president, 1992-93.

Honors and Awards

Distinguished Service Award, NACAA – 1996; Achievement Award, NACAA – 1983; Extension Team Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi – 1988; Presidential Citation, Michigan Association of Extension Agents – 1980; and various NACCA Communication Awards including national winner of Published Photo in 2002 and Individual Newsletter 2000.

International Experience

In 1994-95 he was a member to the MSU International Extension Training Program on a study trip to the Dominican Republic and a similar trip to the Ukraine in 1997. He was a member of the People's Republic of China training and study group in Michigan and China.

Past Educational Efforts

Bill conducted informal educational programs specializing in dairy production and management. Recently he is a co-coordinator of the MSU Artisan Cheese Workshops that have trained 80 persons in the last three years. A multi-state review of financial projections (FINLRB) for dairy farm expansions was completed in 2000. Other programs of significance include Multiple Component Pricing (MCP) 1993-96, livestock manure management programs, Spanish Dairy Phrases CD ROM, "Welcome to My Parlor"

consumer CD and web based dairy education, “Confronting Solid Waste Issues” seminar for local elected officials, formation of Ludington Charter Captains Association and the County of Allegan Leadership League, Oil and Gas Exploration education, and the Mastitis Mail Program. Bill has taught segments of the Facilitator Excellence training workshop for Michigan and Montana Extension staff. He has enjoyed collaboration with fellow Extension staff, local officials and agribusiness in serving the informal educational needs of clientele.



Keith Sterner

Talented and dedicated animal health providers are critical to the success and productivity of Michigan's dairy industry. Michigan is fortunate to have benefited from the life-long work of one talented veterinarian who has spent his career improving the health and productivity of dairy cattle.

Dr. Keith Sterner, DVM, of Ionia, Michigan, is a leader among bovine practitioners in Michigan and around the country. He joined his father, Ed Sterner at their clinic, Sterner Veterinary, PC in 1972 specializing in dairy cattle health. In the 1970s he and Dr. Jorgen Grymer, of Denmark, developed the toggle suture method of repairing LDAs in dairy cattle. He continued to perfect the practice of DA surgery and became a noted expert

on the procedure. His passion for dairy cattle shaped him into much sought-after speaker and writer on issues of dairy cattle health.

His interest in dairy cattle spurred him to be active in the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, serving on numerous committees through the years and president in 1988-89. He is also an active member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, chairing several committees over the past 25 years. In 1997-98 he served as the president of the National Mastitis Council (NMC) and he also chaired the National Mastitis Research Foundation from 1999-2005.

In Michigan Dr. Sterner has worked with Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine, the US Food and Drug Administration and the Michigan Department of Agriculture on issues of related to dairy cattle health and food animal production. He remains active on issues related to nutrition, reproduction, young stock and milk quality.

While Dr. Sterner has a remarkable list of accomplishments, it is his admiration and respect for his dairy farmer clients that have made him one of the most sought-after veterinarians in the state. His willingness to work with his clients to improve herd health and overall farm management has been instrumental in Michigan's productive dairy herds. His research and work on national committees has been spurred by the challenges his clients face each day. His ability to convert current research studies into practical on-farm applications helped his clients adapt new ideas and methods and ultimately made the dairy farms more productive. Dr. Sterner's work on mastitis prevention and treatment has helped make Michigan's overall milk quality some of the best in the nation.

In addition to being an active veterinary practitioner, Dr. Sterner enjoys many hobbies including bicycling, hiking, photography and gardening. He and his wife, Lynn have three children and one grandchild.



George W. Atkeson

George retired in May of 1998 after working for Michigan State University for 24 years as an Extension Agriculture Agent. His strong interests centered around dairy production and all aspects of a strong economic family farm.

ACADEMIC DEGREES & PREVIOUS

POSITIONS – He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State College in 1956 and a Master of Science from Michigan State University in 1967. He returned to Michigan in 1974 as an Agriculture Agent for Huron County. He later moved to Montcalm and Ionia counties and also acquired Kent County. He was president of the MSU Dairy Team for one year. He served as a

Director of the National Dairy Shrine for six years. Prior to coming to Michigan, he held positions with Air Force, Carnation Milk Farms, Oregon State University and Iowa State University.

HONORS & AWARDS – George received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agriculture Agents (NACAA) in 1991, the Communication Award in 1997 as a regional finalist for newsletters from the NACAA, the Epsilon Sigma Phi Extension Team Award for “Dairy Milk Quality Assurance” in 1993, the Distinguished Service Award from Montcalm Farm Bureau in 2004, and recognition for 24 years of service from Independent Co-op Milk.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES – A study group of 7 agents went to New Zealand in 1989 to study milk marketing, controlled grazing and meet with staff at Massey University. George returned in 1990 with his wife for a month of study leave, traveling both islands and meeting with producers and University agents. In 1990, he was a member of an MSU International Extension training program that went to Dominican Republic to study agriculture and their economic conditions.

EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS – George believed very strongly that being on producers’ farms was where he needed to be, to learn from them and to understand what educational skills they needed Extension to offer. His weekly radio program “Ag Report” and monthly newsletters kept him and his producers and agribusiness connected. During his Extension career, his educational efforts focused on expanding the use of calf hutches, cow and youngstock comfort, open-sided cow and heifer barns, waste management, and controlled grazing workshops.

SUPPORT – He appreciates the moral support from his wife, Norma, and the great job she did in raising their two children. The following are faculty at MSU who helped guide

and train George during his MSU career: Clint Meadows, John Speicher, Bill Bickert, Sherrill Nott, and Joe Shaltry.

RETIREMENT – George is still interested in all aspects of agriculture and visits many of his producer friends. He has found in retirement new excitement in exploring other interests: traveling, photography, being his own boss and comfortable saying “no”, and as a volunteer – mentoring young school children, a member of a Red Cross Disaster Action team, building and repairing homes with Habitat for Humanity, working at the local hospital, visiting patients, and various activities at his local church. Retirement has opened up a new and exciting life in his senior years.



Ralph Leroy (Roy) Fogwell

Dr. Roy Fogwell retired in December 2014 after 36 years on the faculty in the Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University (MSU).

Roy was raised on the DelMarVa Peninsula in Maryland and earned his BS and MS from the University of Maryland. In 1977, he earned his Ph.D. from West Virginia University in

Reproductive Physiology. The initial position at MSU was majority research. The broad goal was to increase successful use of artificial insemination in cattle. Implications of early research were to enhance methods to synchronize estrus. Numerous field studies tested different methods for synchronization and introduced PGF₂ α (Lutalyse®) to dairy herds in Michigan. Later aspects of research were focused on effects of negative energy balance on expression of estrus and endocrine aspects of estrous cycles. Intake of food, not yield of milk, explains 80% of the variation in reproduction.

Throughout his career, Roy maintained association with commercial beef and dairy herds. Independent of his formal appointment in extension, there were many individual presentations, day-long workshops at multiple locations, and teaching inseminators basic reproductive biology.

This adult education activity increased Roy's interest to teach and advise students during the last half of career. The main courses taught were Endocrinology of Reproduction and Anatomy and Physiology of Farm Animals. As an advisor, Roy coordinated Production Animal Scholars a program for students interested in veterinary medicine with food animals. This program averaged 80 students annually. There were also many students outside of Production Animal Scholars who sought advice from Roy. Roy also served as Faculty Coordinator for the MSU Dairy Farm and advisor to MSU Dairy Club for several years. For many years, Roy interviewed candidates for the State 4-H Dairy Award and was a moderator for 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl. In teaching and advising, the intent was to perform with clarity, fairness, and integrity.

Roy's lasting legacy as a dairy scientist and educator at Michigan State University will be his enhancement of reproductive management on farms and his positive impact on young people to enhance the next generation who enter animal agriculture.



Nancy Thelen

Nancy's love for the farm began as a child when she would spend summers on her grandmother's farm in Mulliken. She was raised in the city, but her heart was partial to the country, specifically farming. When she was 15, she met who would later become her husband, Tom. His family farmed near her grandmother's homestead, and he shared her love for agriculture.

The summer before they were married in September, 1968, Tom and Nancy bought a 20 acre farm on Staley Road in Lyons. They had a strong desire for their children to grow up on the farm, acquire a strong work ethic, and absorb the satisfaction of a true hard day's work.

The farm started out as a small hobby farm in 1968. In the fall of 1969, Tom's job at General Motors was being threatened by lengthy layoffs, so they decided to fill the silo with their 15 acres of corn and buy 10 heifers. After 46 years of marriage, they reside on that farm, and their dream is carried on as their son Tom, and daughter-in-law Lori, continue to share in their desire to feed the world. Her three daughters are also involved in agriculture, each in their own way. Today, Riverview Dairy Farm employs 3 full-time and 7 part-time employees; they milk 250 cows and farm approximately 600 acres.

While their four children were committed to the success of the farm, Nancy felt that 4-H was a good way for children to learn more about dairy and interact with other farm families while taking pride in the fruits of their labor. Her own children showed their cattle at the Ionia Free Fair, and it was repeatedly one of the most fun weeks of summer. Over the years, Nancy generously opened the minds and hearts of many rural and city folks while allowing them the opportunity to partake in the joy of a summer week spent at the fair. Any child was allowed to join 4-H Dairy and show their cattle. She would invite them to their farm, allow them to pick their favorite cow to show at the fair, and stay at their house for as long as they wanted.

For more than 30 years, Nancy has been enthusiastically devoted to the dairy program and the families of Ionia and neighboring counties. She is well known for her lighthearted disposition and willingness to tackle any chore. Her favorite past-time is picking her guitar and singing. Family is very dear to her, but it is not limited to her husband and children. Everyone walks away from her feeling like they are the most important person in her world. Over the years, she has humbly provided many 4-H families with photos captured of them together with their loved ones or prized animals. Those same pictures decorate the walls of their homes, reminding them of summers gone by and unforgettable days on the farm and at the fair. She started out spending

her own hard-earned money developing and framing the pictures, then personally delivering them to each family. Eventually, members of the 4-H dairy program decided the memories Nancy was creating were priceless and all were benefitting from her altruistic talents. They purchased Nancy a new camera, purchased frames for her pictures, and paid for developing them.

Nancy's husband Tom; children Tom Jr., Margie, Marti and Amy, along with their families, would like to recognize her with this tribute for her loyalty to the 4-H Dairy program and the dairy industry.



James B. and Berdie Lou Cook

James ("Jim") was raised on Janeland Farms, a purebred dairy farm in Vergennes Township, Kent County, Michigan. Jim's grandfather started the farm in 1921. His father and mother continued farming. When Jim's father and grandfather decided to sell their large herd, Jim at age 10, acted as a co-conspirator with his mother hiding nine of their best heifers at the neighbors to escape the sale. At the conclusion of the sale, Jim and his mom brought those heifers back and resumed farming.

Berdie was raised on a dairy and crop farm in Keene Township, Ionia County, Michigan. Jim and Berdie began their relationship in 1964, marrying 3 years later. Working together resulted in 41 years of prosperity, especially with their purebred dairy herd and their family.

Jim and Berdie increased their herd size to 500 head of registered Holsteins. In addition, they were farming approximately 1000 acres. Desiring to focus on type and production, Jim and Berdie agreed with Jim Sr. and Dora Jane to build one of the first low-line tie stall barns in the area. Therefore, the milking herd was reduced to 100 registered Holsteins. Type and production continually improved. Over the duration of their farming practice, Jim bred numerous registered Holsteins that were classified Excellent and Very Good. These high-classified animals also had top yearly production of milk and butterfat. Jim received the Holstein-Friesian Association of American Progressive Breeders Registry Award from 1979 until 1991 and the Michigan Holstein Association Master Breeders Award.

Jim, Berdie and their daughters Jamie, Jennifer and Cindy treasured the opportunity to show cows at the district, state and national levels. The Cook Family and their show animals traveled to Madison, Wisconsin for the World Dairy Exposition and to Louisville, Kentucky for the North American Livestock Exposition. In addition, they participated in the first years of the Michigan State Futurity at the Detroit State Fair. The families' herd earned Michigan State Premier Breeder and Exhibitor awards, as well as Grand and Reserve, Junior and Senior Champion Awards.

They were active members of the District V Michigan and National Holstein Associations. Jim served as President of both the District V and Michigan State Holstein Associations. For several years, he served as a delegate to the National

Holstein Convention. In addition, they were both members of the MMPA, and Jim served on the Board of Directors. They were honored in 1979 to serve as the Outstanding Young Dairy Couple. In 1984, Berdie took over the daily milking duties while Jim pursued his childhood dream of becoming an auctioneer. For almost a decade, they continued to farm and conducted primarily farm auctions. In the spring of 1992, with daughters in college and a growing auction business, the family sold their beloved Holsteins.

Jim and Berdie were avid supporters of their daughters' involvement in 4-H and FFA. Support for these youth programs continues. Jim served on the Vergennes Township Zoning Board of Appeals. He also enjoyed various shooting activities at the Kent County Conservation Club. Jim was, and Berdie remains, a life member of the First United Methodist Church of Lowell.

During Jim's 57 years of life and 38 years of marriage, he chose to focus on the things he loved – his family, farming and auctioneering. His family feels very blessed knowing that he enjoyed life and lived each day to the fullest. They pursue their lives following his example.



Gary Smith

Smith has served NorthStar Cooperative in various capacities from 1977 to 2015, most recently as General Manager and Executive Vice President for a period of twelve years. In his personal advancement within the company, Gary also held positions including Director of Ag Products and Technologies, Regional Sales Manager, Director of Sales for Michigan & Indiana, Marketing Director, A.I. Training Specialist and A.I. Technician. Throughout his time at NorthStar, his respect for customers and value of employees were always his top priorities. Gary proved that you can build a culture of learning and personal

growth benefiting both employees and producers while impacting everyone working with him to live out the mission of NorthStar Cooperative, “Enhancing producer profitability through integrated services.”

As General Manager, Gary oversaw the Cooperative’s business units: NorthStar-Select Sires, DHI Services, Ag Products and Technologies, AntelBio and Universal Lab LLC. Smith also acted as Executive Vice President of AntelBio, and served as Chairman of the Select Sires Member Managers group. In addition to his duties with the company, Gary was an officer on the Board of Directors for the Mid-America Council for Cooperatives (MACC) and held a seat on the Dairy Memorial Scholarship Board.

Gary expanded the scope as well as the integration of NorthStar Cooperative through his leadership in long-term strategic planning efforts with NorthStar’s Board of Directors, staff and cooperative owners. Under his leadership, the organization’s sales revenues grew from \$13.5 million in 2003 to \$27.7 million in 2014. The company’s employee base increased 40% during his tenure allowing NorthStar to expand product and service offerings to customers within and outside their core genetic sales territory.

Gary’s strong passion for coaching, personal learning, leadership development and customer service facilitated the creation of an online employee learning system, prioritized leadership development courses, and lead to the formation of a team-based environment to better serve customers.

Outside of work, Smith’s interests include competitive pistol shooting, hunting and fishing. Gary owns RodMaster Fishing Charters, LLC, providing professional fishing trips on Lake Michigan during the spring and summer. He thoroughly enjoys developing relationships with clients, teaching the skills of fishing, and providing an experience that is relaxing, educational and fun.

Smith will be retiring in March 2015. His retirement plans include expanding his charter fishing company and spending time with his wife Denise, and sons Curtis and Brandon, daughters-in-law Cindy and Janelle, and grandchildren Jacques and Joelle.



Paul Miklasz

Paul Miklasz was born in Detroit, MI in September of 1956 and grew up through his childhood years as a “city” boy, graduating from the City of Detroit’s Osborn High School in 1974. Paul went to Walsh College in Troy, MI before finishing his education at Webster University in the St. Louis, MO area with a degree in Business Management.

His work career began in the retail industry, working for Chatham Supermarkets into the late 80’s. From there he made a career shift into the dairy industry and began work as a production planner/purchasing agent at Borden Dairy in Madison Heights, MI where he began to develop important relationships within the industry that

would mold his future career path. After his stint at Borden Dairy, Paul went on to work for McDonald Dairy/Country Fresh at the Flint, MI facility managing the plant and milk scheduling into the Flint location where a wide variety of products were manufactured, ranging from fluid milk products, to soft serve ice cream mixes and also UHT extended shelf life products.

In 1992 Paul made another change in direction and he and his family moved to St. Louis, MO to begin working for T.C. Jacoby & Co., a dairy commodity marketing firm. His new role was in Milk Sales where he was able to expand upon earlier relationships he had developed. This new role allowed Paul to come in contact with all aspects of the industry, working with dairy farmers on the one hand to help them market their milk either independently or through the formation of smaller Cooperative associations, and also working with other Cooperatives and Processors throughout the industry, and throughout the country, to help move or place milk in the most cost effective ways. Through this effort Paul learned a great deal about the Federal Order system, earning a reputation as an exceptional leader and individual in the dairy industry on a national level.

Paul served the industry well up until his unexpected passing in December of 2014. Paul will be remembered as a valued co-worker, and a longtime friend to those in the industry as well outside of the industry. His legacy lives on through his family, his wife Lisa, and three sons, Jared, Adam and Perry. He is missed by all who came to know him.