

Hall of Fame Inductees Honored

Ken Bieber, Jack Orr, Frank Rodgers and Tom Shaw were inducted into the Hereford Hall of Fame Nov. 2, 2009, in Kansas City during the American Hereford Association (AHA) Annual Meeting. The Hall of Fame honor recognizes breeders who have dynamically influenced the direction and advancement of the Hereford breed.

Ken Bieber

Ken Bieber operates K&B Herefords with his wife, Bonnie, in Onida, S.D. Bieber's father, JC Bieber, started raising registered Herefords in 1945. Ken married Bonnie in 1959, and they joined in partnership with Ken's father and brother, Jerry. In 1983 Jerry dispersed his herd, but Ken and Bonnie, along with their sons, Brooke and Kirk, and daughter, Brenda, continued under the name K&B Herefords. In 2005 Ken and Bonnie passed the reins of the operation to their sons and moved into Gettysburg.

The Biebers have been using artificial insemination for more than 40 years and have been showing cattle at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) since 1976. Through the years they've had numerous champions on the Hill, as well as in the pen and carload shows.

K&B Herefords was honored with the South Dakota Beef Cattle Improvement



Association Producer of the Year Award in 1992 and with the South Dakota Hereford Association Seedstock Producer of the Year Award in 2008.

Bonnie was a member and officer of the South Dakota Hereford Women's Association and served as secretary of the American Hereford Women. Ken continues to serve on the South Dakota Hereford Association board of directors. They also support the state junior association and help with fundraisers, sales and other events.

Fellow South Dakota Hereford breeder Vern Rausch says, "Ken and Bonnie have not only been leaders in the showing but also in performance testing, herd management and in DNA testing to find genetic defects within the Hereford breed. The K&B prefix has been held in high regard on pedigrees for decades."



Jack Orr

Jack Orr, Granby, Colo., was raised on his family's ranch near Kremmling, Colo. Growing up, Jack was the right-hand man for his maternal grandfather, Fred DeBerard, and learned from him about all facets of ranching and raising champion purebred and commercial Herefords.

Fred was previously inducted into the AHA Hall of Fame in 1979.

By the time Jack started high school, he was in charge of his family's commercial herd. In 1953 Jack married Alta, and they raised three sons and a daughter, while continuing to ranch with his granddad. In the mid-1960s Jack, his father, Ted, and brother, Ted Jr., formed Orr Cattle Co. During the late 1960s and the 1970s, the ranch exhibited numerous champion and reserve champion carloads of Hereford feeder steers and heifers at the NWSS and all other major shows including Phoenix, Chicago and Kansas City.

When Orr Cattle Co. dispersed, Jack and Alta purchased the Linke Ranch at Granby, Colo., and the Eagles Nest Ranch east of Kersey, Colo., and continued raising Herefords. Jack's accomplishments in the showing started when he was managing his grandfather's cattle in 1956 and continued through 1985 with his own cattle.

In 1970 Jack served as the youngest president of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association. He continues to serve on the NWSS board of directors, a position he's been in for more than 25 years. Jack has also served as president and board member of the Colorado Hereford Association and board



Ken Bieber of K&B Herefords, Onida, S.D., was inducted into the Hereford Hall of Fame Nov. 2. Pictured (seated, l to r) are: Ken and Bonnie Bieber. Standing (l to r) are: Brooke Bieber, Kirk Bieber and AHA Board Member Jerry Huth.



Jack Orr, Granby, Colo., was inducted into the Hereford Hall of Fame Nov. 2. Pictured (front row, l to r) are: Owen, Jack, Isabella and Olivia Orr, all from Denver. Second row (l to r) are: Katie Egbert, Benicia, Calif.; Kyle and Tonya Perez, Nara Visa, N.M.; Jack and Alta Orr; Kaycee and Jason Hoffman, Thedford, Neb. Back row (l to r) are: AHA Board Member, Marshall Ernst; Susie and Ed Orr, Greeley, Colo.; Fred and Coleen Orr, Denver; Val Orr and Steve Bosley, Broomfield, Colo.; Clair and Deb Orr, Kersey, Colo.; Jean Hinman, Ft. Morgan, Colo.; and Tammy Ellerman, Ft. Lupton, Colo.

member of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the Colorado State Fair Commission.

Jack was part of a Colorado delegation to Japan in 1969. Hereford breeder Donald Norgren explains, "Jack's contacts culminated in the export of Hereford heifers from Colorado over several years to northern Japan."

Jack's eldest granddaughter, Tonya Orr-Perez, says that she and her sisters have recently gotten back into the Hereford business. "As young Hereford breeders, my sisters and I can only hope we can contribute as much to the Hereford breed as our great-grandfather and grandfather did."

Jack has retired from real estate and resides on the ranch in Granby. He looks after summer pasture cattle, fixes fence and irrigates the meadows to pass the time.



Frank Rodgers

Frank Rodgers of Frank Rodgers & Sons Polled Herefords, Buhl, Idaho, got started in the Hereford seedstock business in

1948 near Denver. He and his wife, Margaret, would raise cattle there until moving to southern Idaho in 1973. In 2008 Frank and Margaret sold their last set of bulls in February and dispersed their herd in December.

In addition to showing in the NWSS pen show, the Rodgerses collected carcass data every year to prove their herd. Until 2000 Frank fed out one-third of their calves to study each animal's carcass

data. After 2000, they began utilizing ultrasound. Frank made the carcass data available to buyers because he thought their having the data was important.

Frank and Margaret are active in their community, as well as breed and industry events. They support 4-H and FFA programs and the Idaho Junior Hereford Association.

Fellow Idaho Hereford breeder Greg Shaw of Shaw Cattle Co., says, "I have known Frank for many years and have always found him to be an enthusiastic and passionate supporter of Hereford cattle."

Scott Holt, Caldwell, Idaho, was a young man when he met Frank. "Frank has helped shape my career in the livestock business," Scott says. "Frank's work ethic and spirit were constant reminders to do things right. He's unwavering in his loyalty to the Hereford breed, and his integrity is without question. The Hereford Hall of Fame would not be complete without him."

Frank and Margaret have raised two sons, two daughters and countless Hereford calves during their 56 years of marriage.



Tom Shaw

Tom Shaw, Caldwell, Idaho, started in the Hereford business when he received his first registered heifer

as a graduation gift in 1944. He joined the Navy but returned to the family farm in 1946 with his new wife, Mary, and they started their Hereford herd with that first female.

Performance testing has always been a big part of the Shaw program. Tom started the first performance bull test in the Northwest in 1969 in cooperation with the University of Idaho. He also helped start the Idaho beef improvement program. Since 1969 the Shaws have collected carcass data, and more recently ultrasound technology has also been utilized.

In 1988 Tom partially turned the business over to the next generation when the cow herd was split between Tom and his sons Greg and Tim.

Tom has also made it a priority to be involved in the breed leadership and represent Hereford breeders' interests in the industry. He served from 1978 to 1985 on the American Hereford Association Board of Directors, with one term as president. He also served on the board of the former National Cattlemen's Association, Beef Improvement Federation, Idaho Cattlemen's Association, Idaho Beef Board, Idaho Hereford Breeders and the Eastern Oregon Hereford Breeders Association. Tom and Mary also support local 4-H clubs and are involved in church activities.

"The level of respect and acceptance of Tom Shaw as a cattleman and leader in our industry is phenomenal," says Washington cattle broker and auctioneer C.D. "Butch" Booker. "In my mind, the most significant contribution Tom has made is how he has inspired sons and grandchildren to stay involved in the Hereford breed and be active as leaders in the cattle industry." **HW**



Frank Rodgers, Buhl, Idaho, was inducted into the Hereford Hall of Fame Nov. 2. Pictured (seated, l to r) are: Frank and Margaret Rodgers. Standing (l to r) are: Kyle and Carrie Ferguson, Nebraska City, Neb.; Greg and Barb Stukenholtz, Nebraska City, Neb., holding Landon Ferguson; Cliff and Curt Stukenholtz, Nebraska City, Neb.; and Jerry Huth, AHA director.



Tom Shaw, Caldwell, Idaho, was inducted into the Hereford Hall of Fame Nov. 2. Pictured seated (l to r) are: Mary Shaw, Caldwell, Idaho, and Linda Draney, Nampa, Idaho. Standing (l to r) are: Janel, Sam, Tucker, Angie, Cleo and Greg Shaw, all of Caldwell, Idaho; John Draney, Nampa, Idaho; and Terri Harder, Kahlottus, Wash.