

# Bayers Hereford Ranch Honored for a Century of Success

In celebration of 100 years in the Hereford business, the Bayers family of Bayers Hereford Ranch, Twin Bridges, Mont., was recognized for their commitment to the breed as a Century Breeder Oct. 26 during the American Hereford Association (AHA) Hereford Honorees Reception in Kansas City, Mo.

“Being recognized as a Century Breeder is a tremendous feat for a family operation,” says Jack Ward, AHA executive vice president. “The AHA congratulates the Bayers family on this accomplishment, and applauds them on years of dedication and hard work within the Hereford breed.”

Bayers Hereford Ranch was established in 1918 by Art and Elizabeth

Bayers in Lavina, starting the family’s 100-year journey in the registered Hereford business. In the early to mid-1930s, the family moved to a ranch near Twin Bridges which came with a beautiful, three-story round barn famous for raising Montana’s only Kentucky Derby winner, Spokane. Years later, the barn became just as famous for raising and selling registered Herefords.

In 1953, Art and Elizabeth’s son, Byron, married Pauline Oberg and they raised three children — Rich, Kathy and Jill — who were all actively involved in the ranch through the 1980s. In 1997, their daughter, Jill, and her husband, Marc, along with Byron and Pauline formed the publication *Hereford America*.

Byron served on the AHA Board in the 1970s and was elected president in 1976. He attended World Hereford Conferences in Canada and Uruguay and went to Hungary to act as an AHA consultant in selecting Herefords. In 2009, he was the recipient of the Canadian Hereford Ambassador Award, and was inducted into the Hereford Heritage Hall of Fame in 2017 — an honor for the entire family.

During its history, the ranch produced more than 25,000 purebred Herefords, selling cattle to buyers from 38 states within the U.S. as well as to Mexico, Canada, Hungary and Zimbabwe. Bayers sold much of the herd in 1990 but eventually built a herd of about 100 cows. The majority of this second herd was sold a few years ago, but once again, Byron hung onto a few head and rebuilt.

Sadly, Both Byron and Pauline have passed away, but the family continues to carry on the ranch and its traditions. The family still owns a small herd of registered Herefords and small herd of commercial Hereford cows. **HW**

**Bayers Hereford Ranch**, Twin Bridges, Mont., was honored as a Century Hereford Breeder.

Pictured (l to r) are: Marc and Jill (Bayers) Hotchkiss, and Kathy Bayers; and Kevin Schultz, 2018 AHA president, Haviland, Kan.



# Herefords Breeders Honored for 50 Years in the Business

In celebration of 50 years in the Hereford business, 10 Hereford breeders were recognized for their commitment as Golden Breeders during the American Hereford Association (AHA) Hereford Honorees Reception in Kansas City, Mo.

This year’s Golden Breeders are:  
**Boettcher’s Brookview Acres** – Clarence and Maryellen Boettcher, Fairchild, Wis.

**Simpson Polled Herefords** – Mike and Becky Simpson, Redfield, Iowa

**Bill King**, Moriarty, N.M.

**Valley Creek Ranch** – Scott and Judy McGee, Fairbury, Neb.

**Morgan & Morgan Polled Hereford Farm**, Alvaton, Ky.

**KLS Farm** – Kevin and Kathy Stork, New Richmond, Wis.

**McDonald Polled Hereford**, Jane Lew, W.Va.

**Baker Polled Herefords** – Paul and Sylvia, Elkhorn, Wis.

**Marshall and Linda Walker**, Los Molinos, Calif.

**Lamar Polled Herefords** – Emmett and Margaret Langness, New Richmond, Wis.

“It is impressive to see the number of Golden Hereford Breeder award recipients. This award is an immense achievement as a cattle producer,”



**Boettcher's Brookview Acres**, Fairchild, Wis., was honored as a Golden Hereford Breeder. Pictured (l to r) are: Maryellen and Clarence Boettcher, and Kevin Schultz, 2018 AHA president.

says Shane Bedwell, AHA chief operating officer and director of breed improvement. "The AHA commends the dedication and longstanding passion of these families within the Hereford breed."

### Boettcher's Brookview Acres

Clarence Boettcher, Fairchild, Wis., bought his first polled Hereford in 1967 and joined the AHA in 1968. Clarence and Maryellen were married in 1972 and have four children — Tiffany, Brandon, Garritt and Michael. All of the Boettcher children participated in 4-H, FFA and junior Hereford associations, and graduated college with degrees in agriculture. All of them still own Herefords originating from their junior projects.

The Boettcher's mission is to produce performance cattle with eye appeal, and they strive to accomplish those goals by selecting structurally correct and functionally sound cattle with balanced expected progeny differences (EPDs) with the ability to generate profits for all segments of the beef industry.

### Simpson Polled Herefords

Mike and Becky Simpson, Redfield, Iowa, got their start in the Hereford cattle business at a young age. Both had the fortune to exhibit and be around several state and national champions.

Mike was an employee of the American Polled Hereford Association (APHA). His most notable achievement was developing the National Junior Polled Heifer show and forum. While working at the APHA, he met his wife, Becky, who was a writer for APHA and the *Polled Hereford World*.

The Simpson herd has been developed with performance listed as top priority. The Simpsons focus on



**Simpson Polled Herefords**, Redfield, Iowa, was honored as a Golden Hereford Breeder. Pictured (l to r) are: Becky and Mike Simpson, and Kevin Schultz, 2018 AHA president.

calving ease, low birth weights and high growth traits. The Simpson herd has been recognized as a Gold TPR Breeder and has had several Dams of Distinction in their bloodlines.

### Bill King

Bill King, Moriarity, N.M., started his Hereford herd in 1968 as a junior in high school with the purchase of three heifers from Marshall Sellman. Over the years he has grown his herd to more than 400 head of registered Hereford cattle, along with an extensive Charolais and Angus seedstock herd.

He sells 400-500 registered bulls annually through private treaty nationwide and internationally. He is a past president of the AHA Board of Directors and currently serves on the Hereford Legacy Fund LLC board. Bill has served the cattle industry on many other boards. He was president of the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association and the New Mexico Livestock Board, was on the executive board of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association, and was a National Cattlemen's Beef Association regional vice president. In 2016, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture appointed Bill to the Cattlemen's Beef Board, on which he is still serving. Today, he and his family continue the business and hope to stay in the cattle business for the next 100 years.

### Valley Creek Ranch

Scott McGee, Fairbury, Neb., has been raising Herefords for as long as he can remember. Scott and his wife, Judy, own and operate Valley Creek Ranch (VCR), a family-run operation that spans five generations.

VCR has exhibited on the local, regional and national levels for many years. The ranch utilizes artificial insemination (AI) and embryo transfer



**Bill King**, Moriarty, N.M., was honored as a Golden Hereford Breeder. Pictured (l to r) are: Becky King Spindle, Bill King and Kevin Schultz, 2018 AHA president.



**Valley Creek Ranch**, Fairbury, Neb., was honored as a Golden Hereford Breeder. Pictured (l to r) are: Scott and Judy McGee, and Kevin Schultz, 2018 AHA president.



**Morgan & Morgan Polled Hereford Farm** was honored as a Golden Hereford Breeder Oct. 26, 2018, in Kansas City, Mo. Pictured (l to r) are: Will and Shannon Morgan, Morgan & Morgan Polled Hereford Farm; and Kevin Schultz, 2018 AHA president.

and the McGees welcome visitors to stop by and view their breeding operation anytime.

### Morgan & Morgan Polled Hereford Farm

Since the purchase of his first polled Hereford cow in 1952, Robert Morgan of Morgan & Morgan Polled Herefords, Alvaton, Ky., has consistently raised quality purebred polled Herefords in south-central Kentucky.

Throughout the years, he and his sons, Shannon and Nathan, have competed in local, regional and statewide shows. They have raised

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Dams of Distinction and have marketed and sold thousands of polled Hereford cattle across Kentucky, Tennessee and several other states.

Nearly 66 years later, the cow-calf operation currently consists of nearly 200 head of purebred polled Herefords.

### KLS Farm

Kevin and Kathy Stork are owners and operators of KLS Farm, New Richmond, Wis.

Kevin received his first polled Hereford steer in 1965. He showed him in 1966 and sold him that fall for \$.025/lb. Kevin's dad bought him two registered bred heifers and that was the start of the herd. Kevin recalls that when the APHA changed the AI rules so that breeders could register five calves per year by AI in 1968, he was afraid AI would wreck the bull market.

In 1973, they showed the grand champion bull at the Wisconsin and Minnesota state fairs. The bull, Banner Diamond, elevated his show career by being a class winner in Denver with four Beartooth Ranch bulls in competing in that class. That was the highlight of Kevin's early show career.



**KLS Farm**, New Richmond, Wis., was honored as a Golden Hereford Breeder. Pictured (l to r) are: Kathy and Kevin Stork, and Kevin Schultz, 2018 AHA president.

### McDonald Polled Hereford

was honored as a Golden Hereford Breeder. Pictured front row (l to r) are: Kora and Kenzie Hawkins. Pictured back row (l to r) are: Stephanie Hawkins, Mike McDonald, Becky Cronin and Kevin Schultz, 2018 AHA president.



Today KLS Farm has 40 registered polled Hereford cows and 30 Angus cows. Many things have changed, but good, productive, functional cows that are eye appealing are what they seek.

### McDonald Polled Hereford

Mike McDonald, Jane Lew, W.Va., has been raising Herefords since he was 9 years old. His father, William P. McDonald Jr., and his grandfather, Paul, purchased the operation from the in 1967. They registered their first calf in 1968 and the WPM prefix was born. Mike began showing 4-H Hereford steers later that year and has been active in the breed since.

The McDonald family has always enjoyed promoting the breed. Mike's father was active in starting the West Virginia Polled Hereford Association in the late 1960s, and as a current board director, Mike continues to help the association. He dedicates a large sum of his time assisting many local breeders in marketing their Hereford-influenced calves. He also supports the Certified Hereford-Influenced Feeder Calf Sale in Stanford, Ky., by getting a pot load of calves each year.

Mike and his companion, Becky, love helping the grandkids get involved in the Hereford business. They enjoy teaching them the everyday activities of beef cattle farming and have assisted them with participating in the last five Junior National Hereford Expos.

### Baker Polled Herefords

Baker Polled Herefords, Elkhorn, Wis., has been home to Paul and Sylvia, and their children Bob, Mike and Bev, since 1963. Bob and Mike purchased the family's first registered heifers as 4-H and FFA projects in 1968.

The Bakers showed at local, state and national shows, and Bev served as the Wisconsin Hereford Queen.

The goal of Baker Polled Herefords is to raise seedstock that will work in and adapt to any environment. Their herd consists of 25 registered brood cows which are enrolled in the Whole Herd Total Performance Records (TPR™) program. Several generations of offspring have been recognized as Dams of Distinction out of their home-raised RB 29F 002 Right Now 630S herd sire. AI bulls are used to complement their bloodlines, and stress is placed on structural correctness, balanced EPDs, longevity, calving ease and disposition. The family also raises replacement females and breeding bulls and finishes their steers for quality beef.

### Marshall and Linda Walker

The late Marshall Walker was born to nonfarming parents in Oroville, Calif. He was passionate about horses and cattle and acquired experience through ranching jobs in his youth.

He joined the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict but was discharged due to a service-related injury. He took a job in Red Bluff, Calif., where he met his wife, Linda, and they had two kids — Laurel and Scott.

When the Wilson Brothers, Orland, Calif., dispersed their registered polled herd in 1966, Marshall came home with his first registered cows. He raised bulls for local commercial herds and consigned bulls to several sales in the area. He used AI and studied pedigrees to see which bulls would work best on his cows, with DR World Class 517 10H being his final AI bull.

He was a director of the Tehama County Farm Bureau, a past president of the Northern-Cal Appaloosa Association and the director of the Tehama County Cattlemen's Association.

Marshall died on April 6, 2017, at age 82 after a 10-year battle with Parkinson's Disease. His brand, the MW bar, is on his headstone. He is survived by his wife, Linda, of Los Molinos, son Scott of Pleasanton, Calif., daughter, Laurel of Los Molinos, and three grandchildren. **HW**