

2023 HISTORICAL MASTER BREEDER AWARD

It is time to cast your ballot for this year's Brown Swiss Historical Society Awards. Two awards, Historical Master Breeder and Active Master Breeder, will be presented at the National Convention in July in Wisconsin. Mini-bios are here that you may become more familiar with the nominees before voting. A ballot can be found on page 10. DEADLINE FOR VOTING IS MARCH 31!

Allen Bassler, Old Mill Farm, Stephens City, Virginia.

Allen was raised on his parents Sand Rock Brown Swiss Farm in Maryland. For years his Old Mill herd was located in Virginia, until a change in 2015 when he and his wife Tammy moved to Florida. After working as a cheesemaker at dairies, he and Tammy have relocated back to Virginia. Old Mill E Snickerdoodle, 'E94/97MS' is no question the pinnacle of Allen's breeding program. Supreme Champion at Madison, multiple Grand Champions there and in Harrisburg, she was All-American eight times, including every milking class. She has proven to be a prolific producer passing on her outstanding genetics with 88 offspring, 41 daughters of which 20 of them are "Excellent" throughout the United States and Europe.

Old Mill P Delottie '3E93', Old Mill JP Grace '2E93', and Old Mill Starsky Love '3E94', are just a few of the other leading cow families developed by Allen. Popular AI sires include Old Mill WDE Supreme ET, Old Mill C Solution, Old Mill B Turmoil (all Snickerdoodle sons) and Old Mill Tray Goliath. Allen served as chairman of the National Show Committee, Research Foundation Board and on the National Board of Directors for six years. He has judged in Peru, Columbia, Ecuador and Australia.

Jim Harkness (1912-1996) and Jerry Harkness (1942-2015) We-Gotta Farm, Marcellus, New York.

The first Brown Swiss were purchased by Jim's father in 1925, and Jim became a member of the first 4-H Dairy Club in New York State with a Brown Swiss calf. Jerry Harkness was the third generation Brown Swiss breeder. The original herd had to be sold when Jim's father died, but after finishing school in 1941, Jim started dairying and was able to purchase a descendant of his original 4-H calf which was Swissland Fietta. Among her famous descendants was We-Gotta Jetway Fancy, '2E91' 4x All-American honoree, who had four All-American daughters including Mort Tower Frisky, the great granddam of Cutting Edge Thunder Faye and Cutting Edge T Foremost. Fancy was also the dam of Ferrand-Smist PS Fern '2E91' and Blessing Dynasty Fern ET '2E92.' Jerry served as secretary-treasurer of the New York Association, National Director, and Chairman of the National Type Committee and was a Brown Swiss judge during his lifetime.

Hull Bros., L.E. (Lewis) and Sterling E. Hull (1876-1923), Lake View, Painesville, Ohio.

The first Swiss were purchased by F.W. Hull at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago, a bull and two cows and Lake View herd was established. The two brothers took over ownership at the father's passing. They soon developed the herd into one of the premier herds of the early 1900's. Swiss Valley Girl 10th made a National Breed Record in 1929. Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor at the National Show in 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1929. They had Grand Champion at the National Shows in 1916, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1923, 1929, 1930 with several different cows. Additionally Swiss Valley Girl the 7th was Grand Champion in 1917, 1921, 1922 and 1924. They were one of the earliest advertisers in the Brown Swiss Bulletin and consignors to many of the sales in the 20's and 30's. Sterling Hull passed away at the age

of 47 in 1923, but L.E. continued with the herd for many years. L.E. served the Brown Swiss breed as a National Director and was Vice President from 1916-1924. Hull Bros. were contract advertisers and highly supportive of the Brown Swiss Bulletin in its early years.

Fred & John (1865-1935) Ingold, Spring Valley Swiss, Monroe, Wisconsin

John Ingold immigrated from Switzerland in 1885. From 1885 to 1893 he worked as a cheesemaker, saving money to begin farming in 1893 on a rented farm. On November 1, 1895, he purchased his first purebred Brown Swiss, the bull Ronaldo 719, from Ira Inman. In 1900 John purchased a farm near Monroe and later that year his first purebred cow. Paying great attention to his feed rations, he was one of the first to grow alfalfa in the area, and his cows quickly began making Honor Roll records. One of the first was Spring Valley Myrtle who became an Honor Roll cow in May 1923. In April 1924 he had nine Honor Roll cows in the herd. John Ingold passed away in 1935, but the John Ingold Estate herd was continued by his wife, and later his son. The Ira Inman Herd test trophy was established in 1947 and won by the John Ingold Estate in 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1952, 1953 and 1959. Some of the influences of the Ingold herd included Colonel Harry of J.B. whose dam is Jane of Vernon and sired by Judd's Bridge Swiss Betty Baron who was a daughter of Rosie Baron who is sired by Baron of Spring Valley. Judd's Bridge also purchased several daughters from the Ingold farm. While Baron was at Judd's Bridge the Walhalla Farm also used him extensively in their herd. It was always said that the Ingold Family had an extensive list of buyers waiting to purchase a bull from Ingold breeding. The herd was reduced by private treaty through the years with the final members sold in 1972.

Kathy & Jodi Coppini, Jo Dee Swiss, Tillamook, Oregon

It all started when Cathy, who was raised on a Holstein dairy, married into the Coppini family who milked mostly Holstein but happen to have a few Swiss. However, her daughter Jodi came along and she fell in love with them. Cathy knew that she had to start breeding better ones, so with her passion for genetics her first bull of choice was the famous Forest Lawn Simon Jetway. In just one generation they saw a huge improvement.

Jodi made her first Swiss purchase when she bought two heifers out of the Tuolumne Swiss herd. One of those heifers went on to be Junior Champion at CA State Fair.

They bought into Hawthorne Rhythmic Rikki, Savage-Leigh's GS FLJ Tippy, Kulp Gen Starbuck Shania, and Valligrove Jetway Nora cow families. All of these cows had a major impact on the kind of cows Jo-Dee bred, but Nora put them on the map. Nora had many show accolades to her name including Grand Champion of WDE in 2007.

Jo-Dee did their fair share of IVF and embryo work. Jo-Dee Prelude Nancy ET became one of the most famous daughters of Nora. Nancy went to WDE numerous times until her final year as a Component Merit cow never standing less than 4th.

Another extremely proud moment was when Jo-Dee Presitge Kalu-

wa won Reserve Grand Champion of WDE in 2009. Kaluwa went to WDE multiple years and she never stood lower than 2nd. Then in 2010, they took four animals to WDE, three heifers and Kaluwa. She won Reserve Grand Champion again and the three heifers won 1st, 1st, 4th, Junior Champion and Jr. Best Three Females.

Jo-Dee finally won Premier Breeder in 2011 for the first time and took that title again in 2012 and 2014. Winning Premier Breeder was one of the biggest accomplishments of their career.

They bred numerous bulls over the years including Jo-Dee Nemo Richard, Jo-Dee Nemo and Jo-Dee Glenn Rasta among others.

Several herd highlights include Jo-Dee Prelude Nancy 'EX94,' Terra Rose Rhythm Sadie 'EX94,' Jo-Dee Prestigie Kaluwa 'EX94,' Jo-Dee Nemo Risky 'EX94,' Savage-Leigh Denmark Trixy 'EX93,' Valligrove Jetway Nora 'EX93,' and Jo-Dee Ensign Rosebud 'EX93.'

Cathy served on the National Board of Directors for one term.

Harold & Mary K. Long, Long View Farm, Thurmont, Maryland.

Long View Brown Swiss was established in the 1960's near Thurmont, Maryland. Harold and Peggy Long, their six children, and many grandchildren have been involved extensively in breeding Brown Swiss as well as leadership in state and national programs, most notably, establishing the National Brown Swiss Ambassador Program; chairing three national conventions; coordinating seven junior trips with animals to World Dairy Expo; two state presidents in the family and serving on the National Junior Brown Swiss Committee.

Although the herd dispersed in 1993, the Longs' impact on the breed lives on today through offspring that traces back to Long View genetics. They have bred and developed numerous All-Americans, and All-American nominations, won a combined 14 Maryland State Fair Premier Breeder and Exhibitor Banners, and had Long View animals selected as junior, senior, and grand champion and reserve at more than 20 state shows and 12 national shows. Their greatest success was breeding one of the legends of the breed, Long View Jade's Raisin. Raisin is one of five of the most decorated national champions in the breed, being named grand or reserve at the Eastern National Show, Central National Show, and the Southeastern National Show. Other great Long View animals included Long View Jubilation Isabel, (Topped National Brown Swiss Sale for \$10,000 in 1982); Long View Jetway Oprah (Named Grand Champion at World Dairy Expo in 2000 and owned by Edwin & Della Genasci); and Long View Chall Rosemary (Named junior champion at both the Eastern National and Central National Shows as a winter calf in 1993). That same year Long View Farm exhibited the winning junior best three females. The Longs had some state Total Performance Winners as well as two grand champion females of the Eastern National Junior Show and several state milk production winners. The Longs are also recognized for developing one of the breed's most prominent bulls, Bridge View Jubilation. The semen rights for Jubilation were purchased by Sire Power and marketed around the globe by World Wide Sires. He has been one of WWS most successful Brown Swiss bulls in their history. Harold, Rebecca, and Cynthia all worked with the Mid-Atlantic Brown Swiss calf sale. Harold served on the original sale committee and helped with the sales for more than 30 years.

Clyde (1898-1976) & Bernard Monson (1929-2019), Meadow View Farm, Gowrie, Iowa.

Clyde Monson purchased his first Brown Swiss in 1926 from the Ed Doran and Mooney & Larrabee herds in Iowa. Believing improvement came with sound management practices, he set up requirements for the Meadow View herd which included care in the selection

of the bulls used, going on HIR test in 1939, and classifying regularly from when that program started. He did not neglect working with other breeders and was active in Iowa Dairy organizations and especially the Iowa Brown Swiss Assn where he worked to start the Canton Shows and State Sales. He served as a National Director from 1946 - 1952. His son Bernard joined him in 1950, beginning a time of successful showing at the National Shows and developing some great cows and bulls. The first Iowa cow of any breed to produce over 1211 pounds of fat was Meadow View Jerami M, and the bulls Meadow View Jared C. and Meadow View Destiny were sire summary favorites. With Clyde's retirement in the late 60's, Bernard carried on the Meadow View tradition of good cattle and service to the breed. He developed Schulte's Sunwise Pat who was Grand Champion at the National in 1972 and '73. Bernard served as National Director from 1965-1972 and was National president from 1975 to 1979. In 1986, the Meadow View herd was dispersed in Guelph, Canada to comply with the terms of the Herd Buyout Program. Bernard then put his dairy expertise to work as a classifier for the Brown Swiss Association from 1989 to 2004. Bernard was also instrumental in developing the Brown Swiss Historical Society.

Earnest & Bert St. John, St. John's Dairy, Glendale, Arizona.

In 1951, Bert St. John, along with his son Earnest, started a commercial Holstein herd in Arizona. Gradually, Registered Brown Swiss were brought into the operation. Earnest bought his father's share of the herd in 1974. At their peak, the herd consisted of 700 head with 320 milking cows. The herd had over 100 "Excellent" cows. The Arizona State Association was established in 1971 in the St. John home with Earnest being elected President. St. John's Dairy has had several National Show Champions beginning in 1971 with L-J Stretchy Jo Ann at the Western show. Again in 1972, the great cow Green Pasture's Rayetta was Grand at the Western show. They also had the Western show champion in 1976 and 1977. They were Premier Exhibitor for four years. During the 1970's, St. John's cows were awarded the "J. P. Eve's" award (high milk record) six times and the H. R. Searles award (high fat record) four times. Rayetta led the list receiving both awards in 1973, 1974, and 1975. Rayetta also held the breed high milk record from 1974 to 1980. In 1976, St. John's started a bull stud, The Arizona Bull Center, specializing in Brown Swiss sires. In 1976, the 1st St. John Invitational Sale was held establishing the highest sale at that time averaging \$3544. At the St. John Milking Herd Dispersal in 1979, Arbor Rose Stretchy Spicey became the all-time high selling cow at \$25,000. In addition, three other cows became the 3rd, 4th and 8th highest selling cows at that time. In 1983 the herd was moved to Ava, Missouri. In 1986 St. John had the Grand Champion at the Central National with Betta Vue Mat Nadine.

Sunshine Genetics, Dan Hornickel and Chris Keim, Whitewater, Wisconsin.

Sunshine Genetics began as a dream made reality in the 1970's by friends/classmates in Veterinary School, Chris Keim and Dan Hornickel. Chris and Dan started the nucleus of their small select herd in 1976. In 1983 the herd came to the location at the farm outside of Whitewater where they are located today. What started as a farm to house their registered Brown Swiss cattle, quickly evolved and grew into a boarding facility for client-owned donors. The herd won the Ira Inman PTPR Award from 1991-1997 and in 1999, 2003, and 2012-2014. As veterinarians, their main focus has been on using their expertise with technology available to develop ET offspring for other people. Families developed in their small herd along with their partners include the Mort Matt Tammy family (foundation of the

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Twylite family) and the Top Acres Present family. Their Sun-Made prefix has been on national class winners, production winners, show winners and bulls in AI. Sun-Made Vigor ET, Sun-Made Jetway Shatzi ET, Sun-Made Garbro Patsey ET and the dam of Cadence, Sun-Made SD Wonder Buff ET are just a few of the prominent cows bred by Sunshine Genetics. Chris and Dan have served on national committees and on the Wisconsin State Brown Swiss board.

White Cloud Farm (Mr. & Mrs. Henry C Woods), Princeton, New Jersey.

White Cloud Farm began in the 1950's and soon began producing outstanding production records. The first herd manager was Al Bainbridge. For the last nine years until their dispersal, Bill Moss

was the herd manager. In 1959 Letha Irene Pride won their first ROP Trophy for the top Fat record for the year. They won again in 1960 with P.V. Dodger's Judy, in 1964 with Ivetta and in 1965 and 1966 with Larry Doris. In 1967 the HR Searles (fat) and JP Eves (milk) trophies replaced the ROP trophy. In 1967 Ivetta and in 1968 Larry Doris won the Searles Award. White Cloud also won the Eves Award in 1967 with Royal Acres Laura. Many of their bulls entered AI with the most popular bulls being White Cloud Jason's Elegant, White Cloud Doreen's Delegate and White Cloud Doris Jason. White Cloud owned animals that held five of the top ten fat records of the breed in 1980. Ivetta (born in 1954) was the first Brown Swiss to reach 300,000 pounds milk lifetime (ten records over 1,000 pounds fat). The herd was dispersed on September 5, 1970.



2023 ACTIVE MASTER BREEDER

Cozy Nook Farm, LLC (Tom & Joan Oberhaus), Waukesha, Wisconsin

Cozy Nook has been milking cows full-time since 1985. The farm is operated by Tom & Joan Oberhaus. Herdsman Dan Gerrits and his wife Brittany and assisted by son Charlie Oberhaus and fiancé Annie Simon. They are milking about 66 Brown Swiss and a few Guernseys. Prior to 1985, Tom worked in the AI industry as a sire analyst and Joan worked as head of classification for the Guernsey Association. In addition to the dairy, they direct market 20+ acres of fall produce and 1200 Christmas trees. Their current herd average on 66 cows is 29,169m 4.3% 1243f 3.5% 1029p. Cozy Nook has won the Ira Inman PTPR herd trophy in 14 of the last 19 years and the last seven in a row in herd size Group 3. The herd has also won the Herd Protein Award 16 times.

Purchased in the World Premier Showcase Sale in 1983, the cow Twin Gate Millys Margaret has produced 324,990 pounds milk, 13,752 pounds fat, and 11,956 pounds protein in her lifetime. She was on the All-Time Lifetime Top 10 list for milk, fat and protein for several years. She currently remains in 6th place for the top 10 protein records. A second cow on the All-Time Lifetime list is Cozy Nook Pronto Twylight with 335,810 milk, 14,739 fat, and 11,958 protein and ranked 8th for Fat and 5th for Protein. The cow Overview Blend June won both the National JP Eves award for milk and the National Protein award in 1996. Cozy Nook currently has five bulls on the top 150 PPR list with Catapult, Trigger, DoBoy, Torch, and Madden.

Tom served as District 5 National Director from 2004-2011. He also served as Genetics Committee chairman and Vice-President from 2008-2011.

Double W Farm Dairy (Wailes Family), Holyoke, Colorado

In the 1920's Leroy Wailes started milking Brown Swiss on a rented farm. William Wailes took over the farm in 1947 and eventually moved the herd to Holyoke in 1978. After William's death the farm passed to his children. Double W is owned and operated by Marc & Janel Wailes, Greg Wailes and brother-in-law, the late Glenn Huwa (1952-2024) along with family members. They continued to increase the herd and in the 1990s purchased the Elk Creek herd out of Nebraska, a group of Swiss from the Nisley's in Kansas and additional private and public sales. They now milk over 1300 cows three times a day. Approximately half of the herd is Brown Swiss and half Holstein and crossbreds. They market approximately 25 animals to breeders across the country each year. They have been Premier Breeder at the Southwest National Show in 2017-2019,

2022, and 2023. They also were Premier Exhibitor along with Udder Confusion Dairy in 2019 at the Southwest show. The herd won the Progressive Genetic Protein award for group 4 in 2018 and 2019. Marc is currently the National Board member for District 8 and has served in this capacity since 2017. They are the breeders of CIE Double W Em Favor '2E95' owned by Elite Dairy II. Several of their stars include Double W Thunder Than '4E94' multiple All-American honoree, Double W Thunder Tory '4E93', Double W Richard Baltimore 'E91' HM All-American Yrlg in Milk 2019, They have also had bulls enter AI including Double W Kade.

Hendel Farms. Caledonia, Minnesota

The Hendel Farm was established in 1869. The Brown Swiss herd has been in existence for 101 years in 2023. They have been on continuous DHIA test for over 75 years. In 1939, the cow, Chell 43032 owned by Geo. J. Hendel, represented the farm at the New York World's Fair. Hendel Farm is now owned and managed by brothers Matt and Karl Hendel since purchasing the farm from their father in 1991. They are the 4th generation on the farm. They milk 30 Brown Swiss with a RHA of 22,500m 4.5% 1060f 3.5% 795p along with 380 Holsteins. Eight Brown Swiss bulls have been placed in AI in the past two years, including HF Design, HF Huray Archer. Currently there are nine of their bulls on the top 150 PPR list. They also have exported embryos to Japan, Italy, France, and Switzerland. Hendel Farm won the Herd Protein award for group 2 in 2012 and the Progressive Genetic Protein award for Group 1 in 2022. They also bred the 2020 Living Lifetime Cow, HF Bonanza Blaze, now owned by Hilltop Acres, IA. Their heifers and cows consistently rank in the top genomic lists as well. Matt is currently serving as National Director for District 7.

John & Wendy Korth, Triangle Acres, Freeport, Illinois

John and Wendy Korth married in 1979 and began buying the herd and machinery from John's father, Russell. Russell purchased his first Brown Swiss in 1942. Today they milk around 87 Swiss with an equal number of young stock and the farm is home to four generations of Korths. Their RHA is 24,370 milk, 1029 fat, and 862 protein. The herd won the Progressive Genetic Protein award in 2003 and the PTPR Herd award in 2001. Triangle Acres Coll Polly, along with her numerous female and male descendants is the most well-known cow family carrying the Triangle Acres prefix. They've landed high on PPR lists through the years. PHD, a son of Polly, was the #1 PTI bull in 2003. Another son, Payoff, was #2

on the 2004 list. Checking the proven bull list, Triangle Acres has 43 proven sires on the list. Korths host many international and US guests along with judging teams throughout the year promoting the Brown Swiss breed.

Nor-Bert Farms, LLC, (Dankert & Freeman), Bremen, Indiana

Beginning in 1945 with Norman & Bertha Krathwohl, the family farm located in northern Indiana started with six Holstein cows. The family now includes four generations with Roger & Deb Dankert, Jeremy Dankert, and Monty & Jennifer Freeman along with their children, Dalton, Dillon, and Breanne Freeman. They currently milk 150 cows including 35 registered Swiss along with Holsteins, Ayrshires, and Jerseys. Twelve years ago, they added three robots and have found an increase in production. The herd has racked up many National awards mostly in the last eight years. They have won the HR Searles Award for Fat six times, the JP Eves award for Milk three times and the National Protein award seven years in a row from 2015-2021. The cow Jonlee Secret Langwathby won the National Total Performance and Cow For All Seasons awards in 2015, 2016, and 2017. In 2020 Nor-Bert Thunder Silverflake won the Cow For All Seasons award. Regarding the All-Time Top 10 records, they have one cow in 7th place for Milk, three cows on the Fat list, and five cows on the Top 10 Protein records. For Lifetime production, the Langwathby cow ranks 9th for Fat with 14,739 pounds fat.

Red Brae Farm (Armbruster Family), Muscoda, Wisconsin

The original Red Brae Farm became Brown Swiss breeders in 1968 in Eagle, Wisconsin. It was started by Mr. Lyle Spencer and was purchased by the then herd manager, Jim Armbruster and his brothers, Edgar and Andrew upon Mr. Spencer's death. The farm moved to Muscoda in November 1993. The next generation of Steve, David and Eric Armbruster became the management group in 2005. Steve has been making the breeding decisions since the 1980's. Their sisters, Jill, Leanne, and Beth, along with nieces and nephews assist in the operation and in the show ring. They milk 170 cows. Jills Faro Twinkle was Grand Champion at World Dairy Expo and Reserve All American Aged Cow in 1987. Jills Improver Trinket was high selling cow at \$12,000 in the 1988 National Sale in Illinois. Red Brae Patrick Zadeva was two-time All American and the dam of Red Brae Zeus. Another popular sire is Red Brae DAA Ace Joel. Jill served as Wisconsin state secretary for 14 years. Steve judged the Central National (WDE) in 2007 and many other shows.

Alan Rinehart, R-Hart Farm, Wapakoneta, Ohio.

Alan was raised on the family Brown Swiss farm. In 1979 he and his brother, Bruce, took over from his father. In 1990 Alan and his wife, Randi, took over sole ownership and operation of the herd. R-Hart Farm is best known for their development of cow families, most notably the Gentle Breeze Mat Christine family, which placed many plus proven bulls in A.I. and had widespread positive influence over the breed. Christine's daughter, Christian, is most familiar to many as a bull mother. Sons include Denmark, Eagle, and Ace. Another of Christine's daughters, Clar, was the dam of R Hart BC Collection. In 1995 the cow, R Hart CD Connie ET won the JP Eves award for Milk and the National Protein award. R-Hart Farm captured the Total Performance award in four out of five years from 1986-1990 with High Spruce Stretchy Eve, owned by Rhineharts and W. Schroer. R-Hart continues to supply bulls to AI with Angelo, Fame, All-In, and Fortune on the top 150 PPR bull list. The

herd won the Herd Protein award for eight consecutive years from 1998 to 2005. Alan served as Ohio State President and a National Convention co-chair.

Shelburne Farms, Shelburne, Vermont.

Shelburne Farms was founded in 1886, as the private estate of the Webb/Vanderbilt family. It was also designed to be a grand and expansive model farm. Derick Webb started the present Brown Swiss herd in 1947 when he bought the bull, "Norman B. of Ethan Allen". In 1954 they purchased a herd of Brown Swiss from a farmer in Red Hook, NY. The current herd descended from those animals. The herd grew to 300 animals at one time but has decreased since then. Sam Dixon, Gordon Searles and Harold Magnussen have served as herd managers. Their long-established goal was each cow reaching 100,000 milk lifetime. They have had several cows with over 200,000 with Shelburne Del SF 514 as the top lifetime cow at one time. Shelburne Farms has been one of the hosts for two National Conventions. They have donated calves to support the Brown Swiss Historical Society.

Fairdale Farm, LLC (Sparrow Family), Owenton, Kentucky

Fairdale Farm is operated by Richard and Renelle Sparrow along with their three sons, Joe, Ben and Kirby and their families. In April 2021 their RHA was 29,416m 1205f 1009p on 46 Brown Swiss cows placing them as the highest RHA Energy Corrected Milk (ECM) in the state of Kentucky in 2020. Fairdale Farm has won several National awards in recent years. In 2019, the cow La Rainbow Bfly Sunkist ETV, purchased in the 2014 Midwest Revue Sale, won the Total Performance and the Cow For All Seasons award. In 2020, the cow Lorreda SSBloom Panda, purchased in Roth's Lorreda Dispersal sale, won the JP Eves Milk award and the Vernon Hull Total Performance award. In 2021, they won their second Cow For All Seasons award with the cow Pine Tree Rich Alli 7462 ET. Fairdale has won the PTPR Herd award for group 2 in 2015-2017, and 2019. Richard served as National Director for District 3 from 2012-2016 and National President from 2016-2020.

"RT" Rick Thompson, Random Luck, Darlington, Wisconsin

Rick (RT) began his herd at his present location in 2002. The mixed milking herd has 20-25 Brown Swiss. RT made his acquaintance with Brown Swiss while employed at Sunshine Genetics and developed his love of the breed. His first foundation cow, Sun-Made Jetway Taps, was purchased at one of Sunshine's sales. She has 48 daughters, 16 of them scored "Excellent". Her descendants have been popular purchases at sales and done well for others. Random Luck KB Phoebe "2E93" has proven to be a sound foundation cow. An All-American nominee and state fair grand champion, her daughters and granddaughters have been nominated individually and in groups, particularly Produce of Dam. RT won the Cow For All Seasons in 2013 with the cow Random Luck Premium Talent ET. In 2020 he accepted the award for Wisconsin Cow of the Year for Random Luck B Tea Rose, another All-American honoree. Other notable Random Luck cows are Random Luck L Talula, Random Luck V Precious, He's been Premier Breeder and Exhibitor at the Wisconsin State Fair for over ten years and Premier Breeder at national shows for a total of almost 50 banners. RT has been president of the Wisconsin Brown Swiss Association and is a member of the World Dairy Expo Show Committee. Random Luck also has an active lease and sales program for young people and RT has also been judge of the Western National Show.

