

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 June in Colorado. Mini-bios are here that you may become more familiar with the nominees before voting. Deadline for voting is March 31!

2022 Master Breeder Award Nominees Historical Breeders

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, 3x All American, who had four All American daughters including Mort Tower Frisky. Jerry served as secretary-treasurer of the New York Association, National Director and Chairman of the National Type Committee.

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. 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 Leland 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.

Long View Farm – The Long Family, 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. A great honor. The Longs also 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 sale for more than 30 years.

Donald Meier (1921-2015), Arbor Rose Farm, Scappoose, Oregon.

Arbor Rose was a multi-generational Brown Swiss herd which was started in 1915 by Don's grandfather, John Meier, Sr. During Don's time, it was believed to be the largest herd of Swiss in the world with 600 head (275 milking cows). Most renown of the foundation sires of the pre-A.I. era at Arbor Rose was Royal MacArthur of Lee's Hill. He was a Jane's Royal of Vernon son. Showing began in 1939 (only in the Western area), testing on DHIR in 1940 and in 1967 and 1970 he won the Ira Inman Trophy (only one herd size). Most renown of the MacArthur daughters was Arbor Rose Mac Ruby. Another major herd sire was Arbor Rose Oregon Punch, a grand-son of Arbor Rose Mac Ruby. Mac Ruby, was the 1961 Grand Champion at the National Show for Lee's Hill Farm and breed production champion (13-9 365d 30,361 4.5% 1354). National Show Grand Champions included Arbor Rose Punch Maxine, Arbor Rose Jesta Coke and Arbor Rose Stretchy Spicey.

Dennis Smith, Dublin Hills, Woodsboro, Maryland.

Dennis was born a fourth-generation dairy farmer. Growing up he milked between 50–70 Holsteins. In 1989 through select purchases at various sales, they slowly began to switch over to registered Brown Swiss. The milking herd is around 50 Swiss with a total of 100–120 head. By far the most recognized animal from the farm is Dublin-Hills Treats 3E94. She was the high seller at the NY Convention Sale and sold to Elite Dairy. Treats went on to be the Grand Champion at WDE, the Royal and Harrisburg. Dublin-Hills Sasha “3E93” also became an elite brood cow; she is from the Snowstorm family. Dublin-Hills Pineapple 3E93, also sold to Iroquois Acres, was Supreme Champion of the Junior Show at WDE and a Unanimous All-American cow. Dennis was Vice President of the state association for many years and always leant a helping hand at association activities. *(Editor’s Note: Dennis Smith died in a farm accident in January 2017)*

Walhalla Farms, Rexford, New York.

Founded in 1900 by Frank Freemyer of Middleburg, NY, the Walhalla herd was started with animals a few generations removed from Imported stock. These animals Freemyer wisely developed into a herd that went on to win at the shows. He was first to put cows on ROP test (Freemyer was in charge of Association testing in 1910–11), developed Tom Phyllis, the first bull to have 6 daughters on the ROP list, and sold over 600 head to 26 states and 5 foreign countries before selling the herd and name to J. Frank Zoller in 1925. Zoller, an officer at GE, was determined to have a top herd and to achieve this he hired Harold Magnussen as Herd Manager and spent money to buy the best Brown Swiss that were offered. In 1930 the herd was moved to a new farm outside of Schenectady. Zoller brought in the bulls, Imported Jack of Walhalla, and Blankus of Walhalla, from Mexico. When Zoller died in 1932, Mrs. Zoller continued the herd until it was dispersed in May of 1962. The name ‘Walhalla’ was found in most pedigrees of the Class Leaders and the Show Champions in this era.

Welcome In Farms (John L. McKitrick and John W. McK- itrick), Dublin, Ohio (1952-1963).

The first Brown Swiss were purchased in 1952 and the herd was dispersed with a record average \$2,613 on 146 head. High seller to a syndicate was the bull, Welcome In Charmer at \$75,000. Shown extensively throughout the Midwest they were Premier Breeder and Exhibitor at the National Show in 1960, 1961, 1962 and had the Grand Champions, Mables Tamarind Violet (1962) and Orangeville Nell (1957). One of the most well-known cows bred by them was Welcome In Charming Jane (daughter of Charmer) and dam of a breed favorite, Welcome In Stretch who appears in countless Brown Swiss pedigrees. Dr. John L. McKitrick and his son, John, wrote a column for Hoard’s Dairyman for many years. They were both esteemed judges and judged national shows of all breeds

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 Searles (fat) and 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.

Active Breeders

Allen Bassler, Old Mill Farm, Sarasota, Florida.

Allen was raised on his parents Sand Rock Brown Swiss Farm in Mary- land. For years his Old Mill herd was located in Virginia, until a change in 2015 when he and his wife Tammy moved to Florida. Old Mill E Snickerdoodle 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, 20 of them “Excellent”. Old Mill P Delottie is another cow family 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.

Scott and Judy Hood, Hoodstead Farm, Middletown, Mary- land.

Hoodstead Farm was purchased in 1957 by Harold and Louise Hood. Their son, Scott, had Brown Swiss for a 4-H project. Scott purchased the farm from his parents in 1979 and married Judy in 1987, the same year he purchased his foundation Brown Swiss, Garbro Jubilant Natasha. A granddaughter of Natasha, Hoodstead VBSS New Year, quickly changed the dynamics of the herd when she proved a prolific flush cow. The “N” family continued with over 20 All-American nominated descendants, as well as numerous production winners. Hoodstead Dominate Panda helped to launch the “P” Family for their daughter, Nicole. Hoodstead Farm sold their milking herd in the fall of 2010 but kept Nicole’s best show cows. Scott and Judy continue to breed for quality and excellence in both the show ring and in the milking barn. They have both been very active in the Maryland Association.

La Rainbow Farm – Lammers, Fred, Silas, Dennis, Brian, New Knoxville, Ohio

La Rainbow and the Lammers’ family have had a long, active, and successful 100 years with Brown Swiss. Fred Lammers started with a Brown Swiss bull and a few cows in 1918. Many area farmers liked and bought Fred’s bulls to breed their cows

and heifers to in the 20's and 30's. Fred's son, Silas, began showing his Brown Swiss at the county fair in the 20's and the Ohio State Fair in 1939. In the 50's, he travelled by railroad box car with the La Rainbow show string out west. Fred's grandson, Dennis continued with the La Rainbow show string and was best known for breeding the Butterfly cow family. Today, Brian Lammers provides the leadership for the La Rainbow herd and has broadened the genetic focus from show cows and heifers by adding emphasis of elite Cheese Merit, Productive Life, and Lifetime Yielding cows. The Sweet and Butterfly cow families have shown unique abilities to produce daughters and bulls that Can Do It ALL: exhibiting show winning type, producing high volumes of fat and protein, and living a long productive life with high lifetime milk yields. The Butterfly family has produced many show winners and high scoring daughters. Pot Luck SB Butterfly and La Rainbow Fancy Girl are two showring accomplished and 94-point cows. The Sweet cow family although not as accomplished in the showring has had success and daughters with extreme milk and longevity. La Rainbow Sweet Margarita EX-92 and 92 US was 1st place Component Merit Cow at Southeastern National Show. Margarita had a top milk record of 40,710 lbs. of milk. La Rainbow Sweet Clarity achieved a 5th place Jr 3yr Old Fat Honor Roll record from her lactation with 335d 29,170m, 1895f and 1085p. La Rainbow Sweet Silk is a uniquely balanced individual. Silk was 2nd place Jr 2yr old at the Ohio State Fair, is ranked 17th on the top cow PPR list, and is the #1 Type cow of the breed with a 1.7 PTAT. Silk's daughter, Sizzle, continues the legacy sporting the #1 Brown Swiss female type of 1.9. The La Rainbow females have brought home the Premier Breeder banner from the Ohio State Fair for 6 out of the last 8 years. The La Rainbow males have been watched and taken by A.I companies with 7 bulls entering bull studs over the last 2 years. The top type and profit bulls in the Brown Swiss breed come from the La Rainbow herd. La Rainbow Bfly Dynamite is the #1 type bull, whereas, La Rainbow Sweet Silver is the #1 Net Merit bull. La Rainbow is excited to see what the future holds and has set lofty goals to breed cows and heifer with show winning type, high yields of fat and protein, and long living cows with high lifetime milk yields. With the uniquely balanced Sweet and Butterfly females and a focused mating strategy, the Lammers' family is confident that the Butterfly and Sweet girls will deliver on this quest.

Dennis and Barb Mashek, Hilltop Acres, Calmar, Iowa.

Purchased in 1854, the home farm is one of the oldest homesteads west of the Mississippi owned by the same family. Brown Swiss, long a part of the operation, with the use of the IE program by Dennis's father, John, in the late 60's and 70's transitioned to a registered herd. Today, Dennis, Barb and their sons, Josh and Tanner, are involved in the operation. They have a milking herd of 350 head along with bulls and heifers and use of an extensive ET program. Hilltop Acres Jetway Dixi "2E92" and Hilltop Acres BL Jillete ET *TM "2E92" are two most noteworthy cows bred by Dennis and Barb. Jillete has 78 registered offspring, her most well-known Hilltop Acres T Jolt ET. Dixi's sons include Hilltop Acres PR Dominate and PT Dalton ET. Other popular AI sires are Ali Jackson, Driver and Dynasty. Over 200 Hilltop Acres bulls have been proven. Hill- top Acres has had many cows on the high index list. Dennis served as

Iowa state president and serves as co-chair of the Iowa State Sale. In 2002 Dennis and Barb received the Brown Swiss Association's Young Breeder Award.

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. Alan served as Ohio State President and a 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 have decreased since then. Gordon Searles and Harold Magnussen have served as herd managers. They have a goal of 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.

Sunshine Genetics, Dan Hornickel and Chris Keim, White-water, Wisconsin.

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. 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 Twilite family) and the Top Acres Present family. They have served on national committees and on the Wisconsin State Brown Swiss board.

