January 2000

Animal Science Alumni Newsletter, Winter 2000

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From the Department Head's Desk

The year 2000 was a time of reflection, a time of progress and a time of planning for the future of Animal Science. Alumni, faculty, students and friends reflected and helped pay tribute to the Livestock Judging Pavilion on the evening of Friday, September 8. Approximately 90 alumni reminisced and gave tribute to the century-old building and the people who used it. Merlyn Nielsen coordinated the event to coincide with our Block and Bridle Club Steak Fry, held adjacent to the Judging Pavilion. Emeritus faculty member R.B. "Dick" Warren recounted his days of teaching classes and coaching judging teams. Several judging team alumni described experiences as live-in students who helped pay for their education by working at the Judging Pavilion. They recounted memories of the heritage maintained through judging team practices and competitions, classes and "Feeders Day" expositions held in the Judging Pavilion. The condemned building was razed during the two weeks that followed. A temporary parking lot will soon take its place, until a more permanent use of the site is decided. We are thankful to the Block and Bridle Club for sharing their evening with alumni. The positive comments I heard from alumni about the event prompted R.B. to suggest that we plan an additional alumni event for next spring. Be looking for a letter or other form of announcement soon.

Reflection and self-study activities took up a good part of our time last year. Following a department retreat in January, faculty discipline groups held discussions and prepared components of the self-study document that was used by an external panel during the CSREES review of our teaching, research and extension programs. The review was held at the end of May. Although many positive comments were made about the quality and impact of our programs, several recommendations were made regarding plans for filling faculty vacancies expected to occur in 2000 and beyond and for undertaking the efforts described in our new Action Plans for 2000 to 2005. Priorities for the future were discussed throughout the year, and led to new faculty hires and new activities.

Excellent progress was made in filling faculty vacancies. Three new faculty members joined us last summer, and two came in January. Bryan Reiling came to us from the University of Florida July 1. He is an Iowa native, completed his graduate work in Illinois, and will teach our Production and Management course and supervise coaching the Livestock Evaluation teams. His wife, Julie, joined the department in a new position created to enhance our efforts to develop distance education materials and programs. Her training includes B.S. and M.S. degrees in Food Science and experience in a meat processing firm.

Brett White, a native of Hershey, Nebraska, joined the faculty as a Reproductive Physiologist. His research emphasis is in swine reproduction, but he also has experience with cattle. He is teaching the undergraduate reproductive physiology course. Andrea Cupp, a native of Virginia, accepted a research and teaching faculty appointment in beef cattle reproductive physiology. She and Brett are making improvements to the laboratory facilities they share. Andrea will initially teach the Endocrinology course and plans to develop a new upper-level/graduate course with Dr. White. Jack Weber, a Minnesota native, accepted a Functional Genomics position which is 80% research and 20% teaching. He joined us in mid-January. Jack completed his graduate degrees at the University of Michigan and was at the Baylor College of Medicine as a postdoctoral fellow before coming to UNL. He will complement the strong group of geneticists in the department. Rick Stowell started his new faculty position as an Animal Environment Engineer on January 2. His appointment is 45% extension, 25% teaching in Biological Systems Engineering and 30% extension in Animal Science. Rick completed his B.S. and M.S. degrees at Wisconsin-Madison and obtained his Ph.D. from Michigan State. He was on the faculty at Ohio State before coming to UNL.

Plans are under way to interview three candidates for the Beef Feedlot Nutritionist position that was vacated when Todd Milton left the department in June. We are awaiting approval to advertise the Beef Reproductive Physiology position that was vacated at the end of the year when Gene Deutscher retired from his extension and research position at the West Central Research and Extension Center in North Platte. Two other faculty positions remain open as the result of Edd Clemens' retirement in August and the departure of Mark Morrison, who accepted a faculty position with Jim Kinder at Ohio State University in June.

One of the recommendations that came from the comprehensive review was to create an external advisory group that could participate in ongoing evaluation of departmental programs and make recommendations to
the department, the Deans and Vice Chancellor as appropriate. Accordingly, an “External Advisory Council” of 26 members was created near the end of 2000, and the first meeting of the group on campus is scheduled for April 2001. This group includes broad stakeholder representation, and we plan to have them evaluate and comment on our extension programs during our first meeting.

Other new activities in the department include distance education projects in Dairy Technician Certification, Meat Science courses and work toward development of a distance education non-thesis Meat Science M.S. degree program. Web-based extension and education programs are being used more frequently in an attempt to reach audiences that are site- and time-bound by their employment, making it difficult to travel to campus or other locations where programs are offered. The area of distance education is a high priority for UNL Central Administration.

In closing, let me say that I am excited about the present activities and the future direction of the department. We encourage you to let us know of items or issues that concern you and invite you to come visit us on campus whenever it is convenient. We want to keep you up-to-date, and we want to keep up with what is happening with our alumni.

Donald H. Beermann

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**Irv Omtvedt Retires After Many Years of Service with the University of Nebraska**

Irv Omtvedt retired from administration on June 30, 2000, and assumed another role at the University of Nebraska: Professor Emeritus of Animal Science. During his 25 years at Nebraska, Irv served the University in many capacities, holding the titles of Vice Chancellor for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Vice Chancellor for Extended Education, Interim Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources for the University of Nebraska System, Dean of the Agricultural Research Division, and Head and Professor of Animal Science.

Omtvedt has been praised for his leadership in effecting significant, positive changes in Nebraska’s agriculture. During his tenure, NU enhanced its research and educational facilities by building the George W. Beadle Center, the Animal Science Complex, and the Food Industry Complex expansion. Also, new off-campus facilities were constructed at the Ag Research and Development Center near Mead, the Gudmundsen Sandhills Laboratory, and Research and Extension Centers at Concord, Clay Center, Norfolk and North Platte. Under his leadership, several interdisciplinary centers were established to improve the effectiveness of the University’s research and education. He was instrumental in developing the School of Natural Resource Sciences. During his tenure, the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at Curtis was re-established as a college rather than a school. Omtvedt’s leadership helped expand IANR’s distance learning programs. He also was instrumental in establishing the Great Plains Veterinary Education Center at Clay Center to support the veterinary medicine training program, in cooperation with Kansas State University, that serves students as well as providing continuing education for established veterinarians.

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**New Faculty**

Dr. Andra Cupp  
Dr. Bryan Reiling  
Dr. Rick Stowell  
Dr. Brett White

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played a key role in creating regional lifelong learning centers in Grand Island, Norfolk, Scottsbluff, Nebraska City and North Platte.

In addition to serving as IANR Vice Chancellor, Omtvedt became the University's first Vice Chancellor for Extended Education. Under his leadership, the University focused on developing faculty professional development and participation in distance education and developing stronger collaborative partnerships among the Division of Continuing Studies, Cooperative Extension Division and the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications and Information Services.

Omtvedt served as the founding chair of the Board of Directors for the AG*SAT telecommunications consortium, which has since become A*DEC, a distance education consortium that includes 47 land-grant institutions. Omtvedt was also the leading force behind the Nebraska Network 21 Initiative, making Nebraska one of 13 land-grant universities to receive funding from the Kellogg Foundation to explore learning needs for the year 2020.

Representing the University of Nebraska in the national arena also has been an important role for Omtvedt. He has served on the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, the North Central Administrative Heads of Agriculture, as President of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges Board on Agriculture, as President of the American Society of Animal Science and was elected a Fellow in the American Society of Animal Science and the American Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges Board for the Advancement of Science.

Irv and his wife, Wanda, have remained in Lincoln where they are active in civic, community and university activities. Irv's office is in Room 06 of the Ag Communications Building across from Ag Hall, where he continues to give his assistance and will, no doubt, be called upon by the new IANR Vice Chancellor, John Owens. E-mail: iomtvedt1@unl.edu. Home: 8315 Coachman's Court, Lincoln, NE 68510.

Faculty Retirements

Edd Clemens retired as Professor of Animal Science on August 31, 2000. Edd received his B.S. in Agriculture from the University of Illinois (1966), his M.S. in Animal Science from New Mexico State University (1968) and his Ph.D. in Nutrition from the University of Nebraska (1971). After serving in positions at Oklahoma State University, Cornell University, the University of Nairobi, Kenya, and Tufts University, Edd and his family returned to Nebraska in 1981 when he accepted a faculty position in the Department of Veterinary Science. In 1987, his position was transferred to the Department of Animal Science. During his tenure at UNL, Edd was involved extensively in teaching undergraduate and graduate students. He was faculty advisor for a number of student clubs and organizations. His research was primarily directed toward non-infectious digestive disorders, stress physiology and nutritional disorders of mammals. Considerable research was directed in the areas of comparative gastroenterology, including exotic animals, pets and livestock. Since retiring from UNL, Edd enjoys traveling, spending time with his family, and the luxury of time to devote to his writing. Home: 8300 Wagon Train Road, Hickman, NE 68372.

Gene Deutscher, Professor of Animal Science, retired December 31, 2000. Gene joined the West Central Research and Extension Center as a beef cattle reproduction and breeding specialist in 1978, following six years with South Dakota State University as a research scientist. He received his formal education from Kansas State University (B.S.-1964) and Oklahoma State University (M.S.-1970, Ph.D.-1972). He also served two years in the U.S. Army and four years as a professional farm/ranch manager with Doane Agri Service. Gene's research and extension activities emphasized improvement of beef cattle reproduction through reducing calving difficulty and calf losses, using pelvic measurements, heifer development, estrous synchronization and new breeding programs, including sexed sperm. Several M.S. and Ph.D. graduate students completed their degrees under Gene's supervision. Gene and Judy have remained in North Platte, where he is a beef cattle consultant and raises Gelbvieh-Angus bulls. Gene has continued his affiliation with the Animal Science Department as Professor Emeritus. E-mail: gdeutscher@alltel.net. Home: 1521 E Skyline Drive, North Platte, NE 69101.

Burt Weichenthal retired as Professor of Animal Science on July 31, 2000. Burt received his B.S. in General Agriculture from the University of Nebraska (1959), his M.S. in Animal Nutrition from South Dakota State University (1962) and his Ph.D. in Animal Nutrition from Colorado State University (1967). After serving as Extension Specialist with the University of Illinois from 1967-1981, Burt returned to Nebraska as Professor of Animal Science and Associate District Director of the Panhandle Research and Extension Center, Scottsbluff. The Animal Science portion of Burt's extension/research position focused on annual forages for beef cattle. After retirement, Burt and his wife, Phyllis, moved to California.
Graduate Program

In the 2000-2001 school year, there are 83 graduate students enrolled, up slightly from last year’s 78 students. Countries of origin and numbers of graduate students from each are as follows:

- Argentina: 3
- Brazil: 1
- Canada: 1
- Guatemala: 1
- Japan: 1
- Jordan: 1
- Mexico: 3
- Palestine: 1
- Saudi Arabia: 3
- South Africa: 1
- South Korea: 1
- Taiwan: 1
- United States: 58
- Venezuela: 6

The number of students in each discipline is:

- Breeding and Genetics: 18
- Meats: 16
- Monogastric Nutrition: 10
- Physiology: 10
- Ruminant Nutrition: 29

Undergraduate Program

Core Curriculum

Evaluation of the current Animal Science Core Curriculum is in progress. Information is being gathered from students, alumni, employers and faculty to determine if the core curriculum is meeting the needs of our students.

Employment Opportunities

Employment opportunities for animal science graduates remain strong. A survey of the graduating students is conducted each year by the College and UNL Career Services. The average first employment salary of the 1999-2000 animal science undergraduates who responded was $27,000. Over 65% of the respondents indicated that they were staying in Nebraska.

Recruitment and Animal Science Open House

The department is constantly looking for new students. A few new activities have been initiated to aid in these efforts.

In October and November, prospective students received letters from Dr. Beermann and the department’s Student Ambassadors, Renee McFee and Lori Watermeier. The letters outlined the department’s strengths and included an invitation to the Animal Science Department Open House. Prospective student names were obtained from ACT tests on which students had indicated an interest in UNL and Animal Science, lists of recent 4-H judging contests and University records of all students who have contacted the University and requested information about Animal Science. Over 700 letters were sent in the fall of 2000.

Prospective students for which phone numbers were available also were called as part of faculty phonathon. Eighteen faculty members participated in the phonathon during December and January and reached over 250 prospective students.

The culmination of these activities was the Open House held on February 3, 2001. Nearly 90 people attended the Open House. Students had the opportunity to see many different aspects of the department through interactive demonstrations and presentations on Swine Nutrition and Programs, Horse Production, Ruminant Nutrition and Environmental Effects on Livestock, Meat Science and Molecular Reproductive Physiology. A panel of current Block and Bridle members and Student Ambassadors also fielded a variety of questions from prospective students and their families.

The department’s recruitment events were led by the Recruitment Committee (Rosie Nold, Chair) and the Student Ambassadors. Future plans may include contacting alumni to help in the recruitment process and additional involvement from the Student Ambassadors.

Judging Pavilion Fades From UNL Campus

(From the article “Livestock Judging Pavilion Worked Its Course” written by Sandi Alszuager, IANR News Assistant).

The faded red brick livestock judging pavilion at the University of Nebraska East Campus now holds only the echoes of a judge’s reasons or the excited cries of a winning livestock exhibitor. Two washed-out, wooden signs promoting beef and pork hang above the ring. Around the ring are the stalls where the livestock stayed, and upstairs are the classrooms and the rooms where the students lived. Bleachers, installed by the students on the south side of the arena, long have sat empty.

The century-old livestock judging pavilion held more than livestock shows, hogs, cattle or sheep. It was a place of learning and the converging of great minds and people. The old building also was the home of many animal science students who were paid to stay there and take care of the livestock.

The livestock judging pavilion or horse barn, constructed in the early 1900s, has run its course. The condemned building was demolished the first part of October and will be made into a short-term surface parking lot.

“This pile of old red bricks would have been nothing if it wouldn’t have been for the great students who occupied it,” said R.B. Warren, NU Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources animal science professor emeritus.

Warren began teaching classes in the building when he joined the university in 1956. He recalled the pavilion’s greater days at a September 8 Block and Bridle Club Steak Fry and last salute to the old building. The former livestock judging team coach said he admired the students who came to the university, and they made his time worthwhile.
"I came to Nebraska because of the heritage and the good students," he said.

The 75-year-old said he was sad to see the building go. "We had a good facility. It's been a pleasure to work with the students here," Warren said.

Many of the nearly 90 alumni attending the event came to see the building that held their college-year memories, whether they be of winning a livestock show, feeling the muscle of a lamb chop or sharing friendships. As alumni walked on the floor of the arena that night, many picked up the cedar blocks from the floor, once covered with sand, as a souvenir of the building.

Lyle Roberts of Tecumseh, class of 1940, lived in the horse barn for two years. He said, "I hate to see the place torn down, but it's in the same shape I'm in. It was a good place to judge cattle, hogs and sheep."

Roger Bell of Lincoln was on the judging team of 1965 and also lived in the barn. "It was a great experience. One reason I can get up here and talk is from my experience here," he said to the crowd at the event.

The students not only lived in the pavilion, they did the livestock chores, as well as painting, repairs and other janitorial duties. They also got the judging pavilion ready before and after events. In addition to the many 4-H, FFA and other livestock shows held in the pavilion, many Nebraska farmers were given an opportunity to see the college's first-hand results of the cattle feeding experiments during Feeders Day. The event, started in 1911, had 4,500 attendees its second year. Visitors viewed the cattle from hay racks and wagons that lined the feedlot east of the pavilion. It was discontinued in 1963 in favor of smaller meetings across the state. In 1935, a similar event was held, the annual Hog Feeders Day or Rooters Day.

The current Animal Science Complex that opened in the late 1980's eventually took the livestock judging pavilion's place.

Earl Ellington Pleased With New College in Costa Rica

In June, Earl and Norma Ellington were invited to attend the Tenth Year Anniversary Celebration of EARTH (Escuela De Agricultura De La Region Tropical Humeda), a new regional College of Agriculture in Costa Rica. Participants included national and international celebrities, political leaders, donors, college administrators, faculty and support institution representatives. Mikhail Gorbachev served as the keynote speaker. United States support institutions (Rutgers University, University of Nebraska and Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo) had the original assignment of helping develop a baccalaureate degree granting institution to serve countries in the Central America Region, emphasizing a learn-by-doing approach as a primary teaching methodology. Earl finished his five-year involvement 10 years ago as a University of Nebraska representative in projects ranging from site selection in a pasture on a banana plantation (45 miles southeast of San Jose) and facility planning to curricular and faculty development. The institution has made impressive strides during the 10-year period and now has over 600 outstanding students from 19 countries. It provides educational globalization opportunities for University of Nebraska students; it is hoped that some students will take advantage of this in the future.

Bud Britton Animal Science Golf Classic

The Annual Bud Britton Animal Science Golf Classic was held May 12 at Mahoney Golf Course. There were 24 golfers, making up 6 teams. Alumni making a special effort to participate were Dan Colling and Dave Gaebler. Several others joined for the steak fry, which was held after the golf event at Ki and Darcy Fanning's home. The winning team was: Galen Erickson, Steve Kitt, Tom McGargill and Jason Mills. Erin Marotz had the longest putt, Rodger Johnson, the longest drive, and Jason Mills drove closest to the pin. The next golf classic will be May 11, 2001.

Alumni Newsletter Receives Award

The alumni newsletter, edited by Earl Ellington, was recognized by winning the third place national award in the unit newsletter category competition from the National Agriculture Alumni and Development Association.

Special acknowledgment for the newsletter's success goes to Mary Lou Machacek who, in her secretarial position, has been very instrumental in gathering and compiling each edition for the past 16 years. She retired last year, but even so, agreed to help one more time. This being Mary Lou's last edition, it is very appropriate to recognize and thank her for all the excellent work and contributions to the Newsletter.

Deaths

D. Murray Danielson died August 16, 2000. He was born February 24, 1929, at Aurora, Nebraska. Murray graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1952 with a B.S. in General Agriculture. He was self-employed as a grain and livestock farmer from 1952-1955 and was an instructor for the University teaching the Veterans On the Farm Training Program from 1952-1956. He attended graduate school at the University of Nebraska in 1956-1958 and in 1958 moved to North Platte where he accepted an Animal Science faculty position at the West Central Research and Extension Center. In 1964 he received his Ph.D. from Utah State University. In 1991 he retired from the University of Nebraska and became Professor Emeritus of Animal Science.
Gordon E. Dickerson died unexpectedly on August 27, 2000. Gordon was well-known for contributions he made as a scientist and educator to genetics and breeding. During his exceptionally productive career, he was employed by the University of Wisconsin (1934-1941), the USDA Regional Swine Breeding Laboratory, Ames, Iowa (1941-1947), the University of Missouri, Columbia (1947-1952), Kimber Farms, Inc., Fremont, California (1952-1965), the Canada Department of Agriculture, Animal Research Institute, Ottawa, Ontario (1965-1967), and the Roman L. Hruska U.S. Meat Animal Research Center, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, University of Nebraska, Lincoln (1967-1987). Following retirement he made a number of contributions to the scientific literature as a collaborator, ARS, USDA and Professor Emeritus, University of Nebraska. Gordon was born January 30, 1912. He was raised on a dairy farm in Michigan. He received a B.S. degree (1933) at Michigan State University and M.S. (1934) and Ph.D. (1937) degrees at the University of Wisconsin. His family has established a fund at the University of Nebraska Foundation in Gordon’s memory.

Doyle Free passed away at the age of 80 on November 8, 2000. Doyle served as the general manager of the Nebraska Poultry Industries from 1950-1990; as manager, Poultry and Egg Division, Nebraska Department of Agriculture from 1978-1990; and as the contact representative for the National Poultry Improvement Plan from 1952-1998. His office was on East Campus, first in the Poultry Science Department and later in the Animal Science Department. He held a courtesy appointment with the University of Nebraska. The poultry industry owes Doyle a debt of gratitude for his lifelong contributions.

■ Emeriti Update

After more than 70 years, Charlie Adams and Beryl Janousek renewed their friendship and married on December 23, 2000. In addition to this big change in Charlie’s life, he still maintains his office in Animal Science, serves as membership coordinator for the Nebraska Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, has been a member of the First Christian Church for 53 years, and is an active member of the Rotary and American Legion. He remains a big Husker fan and attends all the home football and basketball games. Charlie is a member of the Strategic Air Command Museum and has allowed them to copy 37 of his photographs of bomber “nose art.” Charlie continually crosses paths with former students. Most recently, he and Beryl traveled to North Carolina to watch the Nebraska/Notre Dame game at the home of a former judging team member, Keith Smith. Charlie would enjoy hearing from you! Home: Apt. 227, 5700 Fremont St., Lincoln, NE 68507

Don and Gloria Clanton continued to live in North Platte after his 1989 retirement. Gloria passed away in 1994 and Don moved to an acreage seven miles south of Elizabeth, Colorado, in 1997. Don keeps three horses for his grandchildren who live only 23 miles away. He buys yearlings in the spring and sells them in the fall so he keeps in contact with the beef industry. One of the main reasons he bought his property is the fantastic view of the mountain range, including Pike’s Peak and Mount Evans. But as time goes by, Don says it is seeing less of the view! Recently, he had eye surgery for cataracts. Other than the eye surgery and the need for a pacemaker, he has enjoyed good health. In addition to his daughter and family who live in Castle Rock, he has a son, Chuck, who has Animal Science and Ag Engineering degrees and is on the faculty at the University of Minnesota. Don extends his greetings to all his friends and says to stop by if you are in his neck of the woods! Home: 5228 Richards Ct., Elizabeth, CO 80107.

Ted and Alice Doane are very active in University, community and county activities. Ted is teaching his 9th (and last, he says!) group of students in the Japanese Ag Training Program. This year’s students are the 34th group the Department of Animal Science has taught and Ted is planning on writing a history of the program. Ted and Alice are very interested in family history and have made trips to Alice’s roots in Scotland and Canada, and Ted is a Director of the Doane Family Association. Ted continues to work with the American Royal Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest, is on the Board of Directors of the University Emeriti Association, and is a Master of the Waverly Grange. Alice just completed a term as Chair of the Lancaster County Extension Board and is Director of the 14-State Make it With Wool Contest. E-mail: td43258@alltel.net. Home: RR 1, Box 71, Waverly, NE 68462.
Franklin and Della Eldridge moved to their home at Van Dorn Villa after Della’s stroke five years ago. The Eldridges have frequent visits from their three children and 11 grandchildren. Besides his responsibilities at home, Franklin keeps busy as a member of the Board of Directors of their Homeowners’ Association and he and Della have been members of the Eastridge Presbyterian Church for 40 years. E-mail: FEEldridge@juno.com. Home: 3001 So. 51, #3301, Lincoln, NE 68506.

Don and Deb Kubik have been super busy since his retirement about 10 years ago. Don started an antique toy business and it consumed his life. His inventory grew large enough that he published a national picture catalog. The business was good from the standpoint of interaction with people; he developed friendships and traveled a good deal. The market for the toys is pretty well glutted so Don is selling his inventory and investigating other venues for his next venture! Don and Deb have three grandchildren situated in Nebraska, Colorado and Illinois. Home: 568 So 159 Ave., Omaha, NE 68118.

Foster Owen retired July 1, 1988, and he and his wife, Bobbye, moved to Alabama the latter part of 1989. This past December 23rd was their 50th anniversary—Foster says he got Bobbye the last shopping day before Christmas! As the unofficial Poet Laureate of Animal Science and to show how his skills have improved the past 12 1/2 years, Foster sent the following poem about his retirement. Home: 335 Forsythia Ct., Auburn, AL 36830.

Nebraska to Alabama in Retirement

When we left Nebraska in the year 1989,
We left many friends and lots of family behind.
We left dairy cows, colleagues, and departmental fun,
and you can be sure we miss them more than a ton.
A few months ago my son, Dave, brought me a Nebraska cow,
This cow has a permanent place in our front yard, right now.
Though an anatomically correct milk cow, she’s not real,
Because she’s made of tractor parts, it’s really John Deere steel.
Since she needs no daily milking, or even ration formulation,
I’m really glad my retirement cow is just an imitation.
After coming to Dixie, the heart of the Confederacy,
We even moved to the county named for Robert E. Lee.
What an affront it was, it made me want to rave and rant,
When I learned that I was soon replaced by a man named Grant.
To the Lifelong Learners group we’ve given much attention,
We study science, art, and music, just a few to mention.
I’ve led a course in developing your sense of humor,
I’ve heard the course is lots of fun, but that’s just a rumor.
We’ve belonged to two investment clubs for several years,
But the past few months have brought us nothing but copious tears.
I practice with a men’s choral group every Monday night.
We get many invites to sing, so guess we do alright.
We have a good fair accompanist, he’s a real nice fellow,
But, so far, he has never learned to play a cappella!
Bobbye Jean has recently joined a serious bridge club.
It may be O.K. for her, but for me here’s the rub,
They start about 10AM and don’t quit ‘til ’bout four.
I’m left to fix lunch and to do every household chore.
We also do enjoy keeping up with Auburn football.
And we have been going to all the home games here each Fall.
But Nebraska football must be the best of anywhere.
We miss it, as well as seeing all of you up there!!!.
GO BIG RED AND WAR EAGLE

Since Terry Schrick’s retirement in 1997, he and his wife, Mari, have kept busy. They live near Utica where they raise cattle and sheep and enough crops to feed their animals. They have 5 children and 12 grandchildren. Their youngest daughter, Kim, was married in November. Terry also has continued to judge livestock shows and he and Mari are active in the Utica church where Mari plays the organ. Home: RR 2, Box 249, Waco, NE 68460.

John and Bonnie Ward send their greetings from their home in McPherson, Kansas. John is in the Kansas Silver Haired Legislature representing McPherson County, on the County Senior Citizens’ Council, the local Senior Citizen Board, the Cedars Village Council and the Cedars Finance Committee. John volunteers at the Churches United in Ministries office distributing funds and in the County Food Bank. In addition, he works about 6 weeks a year driving a semi for a friend who farms. His latest hobby is making wood-barreled pen and pencil sets. John continues to give programs on barbed wire and windmills. E-mail: jb900@juno.com. Home: 1208 Darlow, McPherson, KS 67460.

Since R.B. Warren’s retirement at the end of 1990, he has devoted more time to the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association (NSPRA). He began competing in 1976 and has entered in 16 states and Canada (his 1990 Ford pickup camper has close to 400,000 miles on it!). He was elected an executive director of the group and has qualified a number of times for the finals in calf roping and team roping. A highlight of his rodeo life was the 1996 Determination Saddle Award and his induction into the NSPRA Hall of Fame in 1998. R.B. and his wife, Doris, spend each January through April in Casa Grande, Arizona. Last September, R.B. coordinated a Michigan State University livestock judging team reunion and he is beginning plans for a Nebraska reunion. Home: 1339 N. 37, Lincoln, NE 68503.
Dave Williams retired in January of 1980. After his wife, Carolyn, passed away in 1992, he moved from Lincoln and now resides in Grand Island. Dave likes to travel. He has a large family living all over the country. Dave has helped plan and attended a number of the annual family reunions. He has also renewed friendships with buddies from his WW II days. He would enjoy hearing from you! E-mail: dcowne2000@abc.com. Home: 2904 West 10th, Grand Island, NE 68803.

Doyle Wolverton retired as an extension animal science youth specialist and continues to manage the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Expo along with serving on the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest Operations Committee. Doyle is also a member of both the Husker Home Run Club and the Husker Wrestling Club boards. During their spare time, he and his wife, Dottie, enjoy visiting family. They continue to live at 8300 Yankee Hill Road, Lincoln, NE 68516, E-mail: dwolverton1@unl.edu.

Block & Bridle Activities

Block & Bridle Honoree of the Year

In 1939, Harry Knobbe's father purchased their original homestead. Harry graduated from Guardian Angels in 1958 and began farming in 1960. On October 13, 1962, Harry married his wife, Doris. They reared five children while building and maintaining a successful cattle operation.

Harry is recognized for his enthusiasm toward the state and national beef industry. He is a member and past chairman of the Cuming County Feeders Association. He is a past NCBA dues division chairman and a past member of the LEAD board. Harry was also appointed to the Beginning Farmer Board.

His business is a member of the West Point Chamber of Commerce and the Industrial Development Corporation. Harry's contributions to his church, area retirement home and school have been extensive. He has also been active in the Cuming County Ag Awareness Group. He worked with this group in aiding the Sandhills ranchers after last year's fire and with the flood victims in South Dakota.

Harry is recognized for his innovative solutions to everyday challenges and believes strongly in his responsibility to be a steward first which he believes is both economically feasible and fosters a positive public opinion of the cattle feeding industry. This is demonstrated by simple techniques such as burning waste oil to heat the machine shop and shredding office paper for bedding in his indoor facilities. His operation generates significant income from the sale of manure. Prior to fertilization, soil tests are conducted to determine nutrient need. In 1994, Harry was awarded the Nebraska Cattlemen Stewardship Award and the Region Seven Award.

Harry's continued success is the result of being able to evolve and develop a vision for future needs and challenges. He has attended farming programs on East Campus to further his education. He became a user of the Mercantile Exchange prior to most Nebraska producers. He continues to support the education of consumers through a self-developed program in cooperation with UNL. The beef team brings education about beef production selection and preparation to consumers in supermarket settings.

Harry's role as a spokesperson has garnered national and international attention. He feels that he is not only representative of himself but feels that we are all responsible to the industry. He says, "You must be a part of something bigger than yourself in order to be successful."

Officers for Fall-2000

President — Jill Walahoski
Vice President — Matt Rasmussen
Secretary — Hillary Esch-Maricle
Treasurer — Renee McFee
News Reporter — Lisa Real
Historian — Sarah Lanik
Assistant Historian — Megan Voss
Marshal — Emily Buescher
Assistant Marshal — Justan Wyenegar
Program Chair — Doug Parde
Ambassadors — Lori Preister & Paul Guenther

Activities for 2000-2001

Big Red Welcome August 20
Steak Fry September 8
Little Ak-Sar-Ben October 6
Fall Kids' Day November 8
Little MAEC-Market-Breeding December 1
Holiday Luncheon December 8
National Convention January 18-20
Spring Kids' Day March 1
Little MAEC-Meats Division March 20
Big Red Beef Show & Symposium April 5-6
State Ag Ed Contests April 27
Honors Banquet

Recent Department Awards and Recognitions

Faculty
Don Adams — Holling Award for Teaching Excellence — Senior Faculty Award
Mary Beck — Holling Award for Teaching Excellence — Senior Faculty Award
Brian Bosshamer — National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Achievement in Service Award
Dennis Burson — Nebraska Association of Meat Processors Achievement Award, Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association Distinguished Extension Specialist Award
Chris Calkins — Nebraska Beef Council Prime Promoter Award, Gamma Sigma Delta Research Award
Timothy Carr — Associate Professor
Andrea Cupp — Graduate Faculty Member
Keith Gilster — Dean’s Special Recognition Award
Rodger Johnson — President-elect of the Midwest American Society of Animal Science
Terry Klopfenstein — President-elect of the Federation of Animal Science Societies
Jeff Keown — Gamma Sigma Delta Extension Award
Rick Koelsch — Gamma Sigma Delta Faculty New Member Initiate
Jess Miner — Graduate College Faculty Fellow
Steve Niemeyer — Associate Extension Educator
Rosie Nold — Holling Award for Teaching Excellence — Junior Faculty Award
Irv Omtvedt — Louise Pound-George Howard Distinguished Career Award
Rick Rasby — Professor
Sheila Scheideler — American Feed Industry Association Nutrition Research Award
Gary Stauffer — National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Distinguished Service Award
Monte Stauffer — Associate Extension Educator
Dale Van Vleck — Gamma Sigma Delta Award of Merit
Brett White — Graduate Faculty Member

Graduate Students
Mark Allan — Holling Award for Teaching Excellence — Teaching Assistant Award
Galen Erickson — Alumni Association Graduate Teaching Assistant Award
Dana Hanson — John Hallman Memorial Award
Gonzalo Martinez — Raun International Graduate Fellowship
Curtis Novak — Mussehl Scholarship
Uachai Puthponsiriporn — Continental Grain Poultry Scholarship

Undergraduate Students
Aaron Bessmer, Sheryl Colgan, Daniel Longfellow, Jarrod Tremayne — American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Sophomores)
Joe Baumert — American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Seniors), Gamma Sigma Delta New Member Initiate, National Meat Association Scholarship
Emily Buescher — R. Boeckenhueter Scholarship
Travis Chrisman, Erin Creech, Sarah Harre, Renee McFee, Lucas Porter — American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Juniors)
Travis Chrisman — T. Wake, III Scholarship
Sheryl Colgan — Lincoln Coca-Cola Bottling Scholarship
Erin Creech — American Breeders Service Global Scholarship, Mike Cull Award, Winkler Scholarship
Hilary Esch — Nutrition Service Associates Scholarship
Nicole Ferwerda, Byron Ford, Cynthia Grapes, Justin Holl, Dean Lerwick, Douglas Parde, Brent Pohlmann, Chad Zadina — American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Seniors)
Paul Guenther — Doane Scholarship
Dan Longfellow and Douglas Parde — Loeffel Scholarship
Jeremy Martin — Derrick Scholarship
Renee McFee — Raun Memorial Scholarship, Gamma Sigma Delta New Member Initiate, Block and Bridle Junior Scholarship Runner-up
Jennifer Mentink — Thompson Scholarship, Chicago Mercantile Exchange Beef Industry Scholarship
Donald Moss and David Schroeder — Chicago Mercantile Exchange and National Cattlemen’s Foundation Scholarship
Kristin Nollette and Thomas Satkus, III — Rockwell Scholarship
Garrett Pohlman — Chicago Mercantile Exchange Beef Industry Scholarship
Lucas Porter — Baltzell-Agri-Products, Inc. Scholarship
Bethany Sitz — National Meat Association Scholarship
Josh Vogel — Francke Scholarship
Barry Weber — Thompson Scholarship
Chad Zadina — Gamma Sigma Delta New Member Initiate

Staff
Matt Anderson — Board of Regents Kudo Award

University Service Awards
35 years: Terry Klopfenstein
30 years: Ralph Anderson, Ruth Ulmer
25 years: James Carson, Irv Omtvedt
20 years: Tony Anderson, Mary Beck, Jeff Bergman, Edd Clemens, Terry Gompert
15 years: Mark Dragastin, Larry Howard, Jeff Keown, Allison Miller, Jennifer Nixon
10 years: Don Adams, Richard Grant, Phillip Miller, Lyle Robeson, Russ Sandberg, Gary Stauffer
5 years: Deb Clpton, Deb DeWald, Tommi Jones, Terry Kamphaus, Rick Koelsch, Sherri Pitchie, Daniel Pomp

Judging Team Activities
2000 Livestock Judging Team Contest Results

Erin Creech and Hilary Maricle represented the University of Nebraska at the American Royal Livestock Judging Contest in Kansas City, MO, October 28. Nineteen teams and 92 individuals competed in the contest. Erin Creech placed 19th in Sheep. Additionally, she was only 3 points from placing in the Top 5, and 20 points away from the Top 10 Overall.
On November 13, Erin Creech and Hilary Marick competed at the North American International Livestock Exposition, Louisville, KY. Both scored more than 900 points out of 1,000 total points possible. Twenty-four complete teams and 123 individuals competed in the contest.

2000 Meat Animal Evaluation Team

Front Row (L-R): Jonathan Snee, Humboldt; Steve Coufal, Howells; Jaime Huston, Emmet; Bart Deterding, Cambridge; Greg Koinzan, Neligh. Back Row (L-R): Ryan Baumert, Coach; Troy Fletcher, Oxford; Byron Ford, Cairo; David Wilke, Columbus; Dallas Choat, St. Edward; Keith E. Gilster, Coach; Don Beermann, Department Head.

The 2000 University of Nebraska Meat Animal Evaluation Team placed 1st in Market, 1st in Breeding, 1st in Meats and 1st Overall in the Nebraska Prairie MAEC at Norfolk, NE. Bart Deterding was 1st Overall. David Wilke was 2nd in Breeding and 3rd Overall. Byron Ford was 2nd in Market and Dallas Choat was 1st in Meats.

At the United National Collegiate Meat Animal Evaluation Contest in St. Joseph, MO and Lincoln, NE, the University of Nebraska placed 6th Overall. David Wilke was 3rd in Sheep, 11th in Market, 13th in Breeding and 12th Overall. Byron Ford was 11th in Meats and 18th in Sheep. Greg Koinzan was 17th in Breeding.

The University of Nebraska was 1st in Breeding, 1st in Meats, 3rd in Market and 2nd Overall at the Northwestern Meat Animal Evaluation Contest in Laramie, WY. David Wilke was 2nd Overall, 2nd in Breeding and 7th in Meats. Bart Deterding was 5th Overall and 2nd in Meats. Dallas Choat was 3rd in Breeding and 3rd in Meats. Troy Fletcher was 10th in Market. Greg Koinzan was 7th in Breeding.

2000 Meats Team

Front Row (L-R): Eric Burken, Blue Hill; Kristen Nollette, Nenzel; Adam Zutavern, Bluming. Back Row (L-R): Dennis Burson, Faculty Advisor; Elliot Jesch, Kearney; Benny Mote, Happy, TX; Clay Mead, Kearney; Ryan Baumert, Coach; Don Beermann, Department Head.


At the American Royal Intercollegiate Meats Judging Contest, Emporia, KS, November 3-6, the team placed 13th Overall, 3rd in Pork Judging and tied for 5th in Placings. Eric Burken was 5th in Placings. Benny Mote tied for 2nd in S pecs. and 8th in Pork Judging. Kristen Nollette was 14th in Pork Judging and Clay Mead finished 11th in Placings. In the alternates contest, Adam Zutavern was 18th in Lamb Judging, Elliot Jesch was 17th in Placings and 20th in Lamb Judging.

The team participated at the International Meats Judging Contest, Dakota City, NE, November 19, and placed 14th Overall, tied for 6th in Lamb Judging, 8th in Placings, 12th in Beef Grading and tied for 12th in Pork Judging. Benny Mote tied for 3rd in Placings, 17th in Pork Judging and 20th in S pecs. Kristen Nollette was 7th in Lamb Judging, 19th in Pork Judging and 20th in Reasons.

2000 Horse Team

Front Row (L-R): Lori Preister, Humphrey; April Swartz, Wahoo; Tanya McLean, Stromsburg; Brad Johnson, Concord. Back Row (L-R): Don Beermann, Department Head; Kathy Anderson, Coach.
The team participated in the All American Quarter Horse Congress Intercollegiate Quarter Horse Judging Contest, Columbus, OH on October 13. The team placed 10th Overall and a consistent 10th in each division (halter, reasons and performance). Brad Johnson placed 9th Overall, 8th in Performance and 12th in Halter.

At the AQHA World Championship Intercollegiate Horse Judging Contest in Oklahoma City, OK (November 12-16), the team placed 10th Overall, 12th in Halter, 9th in Performance, and 12th in Reasons.

Your Newsletter Committee

Earl Ellington, Chair, Dennis Brink and Duane Reese serve as the current departmental newsletter committee. The Animal Science Department has a long history of providing an annual newsletter to its alumni and friends. Each year we hear words of satisfaction from several of you. We certainly want not only news items and articles from you but also any comments on how we might improve the newsletter. We sincerely hope that you find this one to be interesting and informative.

Call for Information for the Year 2001 Issue of the Animal Science Alumni Newsletter

All of us enjoy learning about classmates and other alumni from the Animal Science Department, so we are asking you to send us some information about yourself for the next issue of our alumni newsletter. You might include memorable events from your college days, such as classes, club activities, employment, teachers and friends you would like to hear about. You might also include what you have been doing since leaving campus, such as employment (when and where), participation in community activities, hobbies and other personal details that may be of interest. Please see the back page for more information and how you may obtain additional departmental information and activity notices via E-mail.

Alumni News

1940s

Harold Stevens, a 1943 alumnus, received the Silver Eagle Award at the 1999 Nebraska Farm Bureau Awards Banquet. This is the organization's highest award. Stevens is the 11th recipient of the award, which began in 1989.

1970s

Dean Stuckenschmidt, 791 E. Wood Duck Circle, Fresno, CA 93720, E-mail: stuckenschmidt@sprintmail.com. After spending 8 1/2 years in Kenya, I returned to the United States in 1991. While in Kenya, I was hospital administrator of a mission hospital and also conducted church training programs. In 1996, I completed my JD at Pepperdine University School of Law and have been practicing as an attorney since December 1996. I am working with the Fresno County Counsel's Office representing local county agencies in legal matters. My wife and I have a 4 1/2-year-old son.

1980s

Alexis Bennett, 1723 Thomas Road, Wayne, PA 19087, has her own private practice performing acupuncture/oriental medicine.

Brent Plugge, 1987 B.S., 1989 M.S. graduate and an Extension Educator Affiliate, was among those recognized by the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben Foundation and the Omaha World Herald in its 56th annual Good Neighbor Awards program. Brent and his family have adopted a widow who lives across the street and help tend to her needs.
Alumni Information

PLEASE NOTE: In an attempt to improve our contact with alumni, the Department of Animal Science is developing an alumni E-mail listserve. If you would like to receive more frequent updates and news about the Department including upcoming events, please send us your E-mail address.

To keep us informed of your location, professional involvement and items of interest, please complete the following information sheet and return it to Vicky Kobes, University of Nebraska, C203 Animal Sciences, P.O. Box 830908, Lincoln, NE 68583-0908; E-mail: v kobes1@unl.edu. Should you know of Animal Science Alumni who are not receiving this newsletter, please let us know how we may contact them.

Name ____________________________ Date of Graduation ____________________________
Address ____________________________ City ____________________________
State ____________________________ Zip Code ____________________________

E-mail ____________________________

Position, Company, Address:


News Items, Comments, etc.

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln not to discriminate on the basis of gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin or sexual orientation.