

11-5-2009

## Nebraska Agribusiness Club: The 43rd Annual Honors Banquet

John Owens

University of Nebraska - Lincoln, jowens2@unl.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/owenspeech>

 Part of the [Agriculture Commons](#)

---

Owens, John, "Nebraska Agribusiness Club: The 43rd Annual Honors Banquet" (2009). *John Owens: Speeches & Appearances*. Paper 228.

<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/owenspeech/228>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Agriculture and Natural Resources, Institute of (IANR) at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in John Owens: Speeches & Appearances by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

BERYLE ADAMS — WIDOW — LINCOLN  
BRUCE PETERS } NEPAACU  
NADY } PAPILLION

Nebraska Agribusiness Club  
The 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Honors Banquet  
Recognizing Public Service to Agriculture  
Thursday, November 5, 2009  
Country Inn and Suites, Beacon Hills  
5353 No. 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE  
John Owens, NU Vice President & Harlan Vice Chancellor, IANR

Dr. Charles H. Adams Presentation

Our first Public Service to Agriculture Award this evening will be presented posthumously to Dr. Charles H. Adams who compiled an enviable record advising and teaching more than 10,000 students during 37 years at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He was a member of what is now the Department of Animal Science in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

A native of Burdick in central Kansas, Dr. Adams was a Boy Scout and held all the offices in 4-H including county-president. Following graduation from Wilsey (Kansas) Rural High School, he enrolled in the Department of Animal Husbandry at Kansas State University. He was a student employee in the Department and lived in the Horse Barn. After completing the bachelor's degree, he obtained a master's degree specializing on the quality of frozen meat. Then he

served as a Nutrition Officer for the U.S. Army in the South Pacific from 1942 to 1946. He returned to K-State as an assistant instructor and joined the University of Nebraska in 1947 as an assistant professor and subsequently moved through the academic ranks to professor. He obtained his Ph.D. degree in 1964 from Michigan State University on factors influencing tenderness and methods of appraising meat tenderness.

He coached the University's Meats Judging team from 1947 to 1966 and advised the Block and Bridle Club from 1952 to 1957. Over the years, he developed innovative, up-to-date teaching methods for every class he taught. He developed 165 of the first projecturals for teaching undergraduate courses in meats, 15 slide/series about U.S. Department of Agriculture beef and pork grading, and numerous videocassettes on swine, beef, and sheep-slaughtering as well as meat cutting of lamb. He concluded his career serving as Assistant Director of Resident Instruction in 1972 followed by Assistant Dean of the College from 1974 to 1983. He retired in 1984 as professor emeritus.

Dr. Adams has been described as a classic "old school" meats professor, perhaps partly due to his military experience. Every piece of equipment had its place and had to be thoroughly washed, dried, and returned to its proper place at the end of every class period, no exceptions. Not having a knife sharpened before

class or failing to roll up a wash-hose after class was sure to result in a “personal lecture” a student would not soon forget. His attention to detail in the laboratory “was surpassed only” by his compassion and care for the students.

Based on his contributions to students, Dr. Adams received the Doc Elliott Award at UNL in 2001. The award is sponsored by the UNL Alumni Association and is presented to a retired faculty member whose caring “made a difference” in the lives of alumni and who has gone beyond traditional expectations.

Dr. Adams also received the L. K. Crowe Outstanding Adviser Award, the College Outstanding Professor Award, Award of Merit from Gamma Sigma Delta, the honor society of Agriculture, R. C. Pollock Award from the American Meat Science Association, and the Distinguished Teaching Award from the American Society of Animal Science. A Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he was “elected” to the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement. Dr. Adams was active in Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, Nebraska AgRelations Council, Nebraska Agribusiness Club, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, American Legion Post #3, and Harris-Fraley Post #131 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He held several positions in the First Christian Church of

Lincoln, president of Lincoln East Rotary Club, member of the UNL Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, and was an avid Big Red fan. Dr. Adams was asked by Chancellor James Zuberger to chair the committee that finally resulted in the construction of the Nebraska East Union.

Dr. Adams married Eula Mae Peters of Oxford, Kansas in 1943. She passed away on April 12, 1999. Then on December 23, 2000, he married a lifelong friend, Beryle Janousek at Wilson, Kansas. Dr. Adams passed away on December 20, 2003.

We are so pleased that Beryle Adams resides in Lincoln and is here this evening as we recognize an outstanding individual who contributed so much to the lives of so many Nebraskans and the products of animal agriculture. He left a rich legacy to Nebraska and to its people. Therefore, it is a distinct honor to present the Nebraska Agribusiness Club's Public Service to Agriculture Award posthumously to Dr. Charles H. Adams.

# # #