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## Animal Science Alumni Newsletter, Winter 2002

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# Animal Science

## ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

UNIVERSITY OF  
Nebraska  
Lincoln

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Winter 2002

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

### ■ From the Department Head's Desk

What a year this has been! It has been like a roller coaster ride with peaks of great accomplishments and valleys of three rounds of budget reduction planning and implementation. This newsletter is packed with information about new faculty, faculty awards, recognitions and retirements, Animal Science judging teams, Block & Bridle, 4-H, undergraduate and graduate students, emeriti, Animal Science staff and alumni, as well as recent Department happenings. I want to share with you significant positive news about the Department, CASNR and IANR. The quality of our teaching, research and extension programs remains excellent, despite a loss of just under 2% of our core budget during the three rounds of budget cuts that occurred during the last 12 months.



*Donald H. Beermann*

Despite the budget reductions, two outstanding new people joined the Department. Both were identified as our first choices during the search process. Rick Funston filled the Beef Cattle Reproductive Physiologist Extension Specialist position in August of this year. Rick is home-based at the West Central Research and Extension Center at North Platte. For more information about Rick, see page 3. Libby Lugar joined the Department July 1, to serve in a new position as Lecturer in Equine Sciences and Equine Management. You can read about Libby's background, experience and responsibilities on page 3. Libby is teaching new horse discipline courses and is working with the UNL Equestrian Team. She is also developing new horse extension programs. The support from Deans Steve Waller and Elbert Dickey and IANR Vice Chancellor John Owens allowed creation of this position. This signifies their continued investment of resources to enhance Animal Science programs and increase undergraduate enrollment.

Please help spread the word that we provide over \$30,000 in scholarships to Animal Science majors each year. Over 25 scholarships of about \$1,000 are awarded to students who are sophomores, juniors or seniors. Last year we initiated the awarding of six to eight Freshmen scholarships each year for students declaring Animal Science as their major. These are \$500.00 scholarships awarded second semester for students who complete their first semester at UNL. Applications are due mid-February and recipients are not chosen solely on the basis of academic performance. Send requests for application forms to Dr. Rosie Nold.

The Meat Science and Poultry programs at UNL were ranked fourth nationally by Meat and Poultry Magazine in the November issue. Last year was the first year that University Meat Science and Poultry programs were ranked by the trade magazine, and UNL ranked sixth. This year, information was submitted representing the combined programs in Animal Science and the Department of Food Science and Technology. Although rankings are subjective, it is gratifying to know that UNL compares very favorably with the larger programs at Texas A&M, Iowa State, and Kansas State. Those programs were ranked first, second and third, respectively. The meat science faculty here in Animal Science, including Dennis Burson, Chris Calkins, Steve Jones, Roger Mandigo and Rosie Nold, all received professional awards this year. Recognition was based on accomplishments in several areas. These include the following: value-added, muscle profiling and meat quality/nutrition research; the HACCP meat safety and other extension programs; innovative teaching including development of the Porcine and Bovine Myology computer educational packages; and the youth and adult extension programs. All have major positive impact among many audiences.

Several other faculty members also received prestigious awards or were elected to professional society leadership positions in their discipline areas. A complete list of faculty awards can be found on page 8. A very special recognition was bestowed upon Terry Klopfenstein on November 1, at the Husker Nutrition Conference. An endowed fund named the "Terry Klopfenstein Student Excellence Fund" was established at the UN Foundation in honor of Terry's accomplishments and contributions to the feedlot industry and our understanding of beef cattle nutrition. More information about the fund is located on page 4.

Two people who contribute in many significant ways to the Department were recognized for outstanding effort this year. Vicky Kobes, Office Supervisor and Secretary for the Department Head, received one of two "first ever" IANR Exemplary Service Awards, and Deb DeWald, Staff Assistant in the Department Office, received a UNL "Kudos" Award. These are both top awards for support staff at UNL, and they are well deserved.

Enhancement of undergraduate teaching programs was achieved this year. These included identification of five options for guiding students in course selection for their major, initiation of an Animal Science Leadership Fellows Pilot program and making improvements to the physiology teaching laboratory. Students have responded

favorably to the detailed descriptions of course schedule and choices under the new Production and Management, Animal Products, Animal Biology, Pre-Veterinary Animal Science and Business options. A USDA Challenge grant was funded that supports collaboration with the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication (AGLEC) to initiate the Leadership Fellows program last spring semester. Ten students are enrolled and Dennis Brink supervises the program with assistance from Linda Moody and Hilary Maricle, a B.S. Animal Science graduate and M.S. candidate in AGLEC. Courses, seminars, business partner shadowing, and internships comprise some of the leadership development elements in the program. Six new 4-person work stations with computer connectivity, three desk top work stations and a printer were installed in the physiology teaching laboratory to provide broader teaching applications and expanded use. A new Advanced Reproductive Technologies course will be taught in the lab, and new instrumentation is being sought to better accommodate teaching molecular techniques and biotechnology applications in animal science. The Animal Growth, Adaptation and Lactation course was approved for conversion to a second “cap stone” course in the Animal Science major.

A faculty planning session was held in June to assess progress toward fulfilling objectives of the six Department Action Plans and to identify program needs and direction for the future. Despite the challenge of working under the influence of unknown impending budget cuts, the faculty prioritized faculty positions for submitting requests for release by the Deans and Vice Chancellor. Fruitful discussions centered on current efforts to increase Federal support for research; facilities needs on campus, at ARDC and at the Research and Extension Centers; and how the Department can contribute to the UNL strategic plan known as “A 2020 Vision: The Future of Research and Graduate Education at UNL.”

We currently have two faculty position vacancies and the promise of a new faculty position for the Department. The Swine Nutrition and Rumen Microbiologist positions are vacant, but the Deans recommended release to advertise and fill as soon as possible. A new Animal Biotechnology teaching and extension position was also approved. Unfortunately, we will bid farewell to our dairy nutritionist, Dr. Rick Grant, in February, 2003 when he leaves to accept the position of Director of the Miner Institute in Chazy, New York. This is a great professional opportunity for Rick. I am familiar with the work conducted at the Miner Institute through a former colleague at Cornell who is retiring from the Director position. We wish Rick, Dana and family much success and enjoyment in New York.

As we look ahead, we have much to be thankful for regarding the excellent facilities and other resources provided to the Department. We are thankful to those who played key roles in the acquisition process. I am personally thankful to those who are responsible for management and maintenance of those resources. We all strive to be good stewards and to leave the Department in an improved state when we move on. This is the guiding

principle I use in my role, and I am confident that we can continue to serve our clientele in exemplary fashion, albeit with new constraints and limited resources. Our faculty members continuously demonstrate their commitment to these goals and to our vision: “Serving animal agriculture through dynamic networks of discovery and education”.

## ■ Faculty Retirement

**Earl F. Ellington** retired on September 30, 2002 after serving the University of Nebraska for 34 1/2 years and at Oregon State University for 6 years prior to coming to the University of Nebraska. Earl received his B.S. and M.S. from the University of Kentucky and his Ph.D. at the University of California utilizing three UC campuses (Davis, Berkeley and San Francisco). Before coming to the University of Nebraska, Earl served as an Assistant Professor of Animal Physiology at Oregon State University. In 1968 he joined the Animal Science Department at the University of Nebraska as an Associate Professor, and was promoted to Professor in 1975. In 1978 he became the Assistant Dean and in 1983 the Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture until 1991. Before returning to the Department of Animal Science, Earl took a leave as a Visiting Professor at Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo, CA., and the University of California at Davis. Upon his return to the University of Nebraska Animal Science Department, he was able to fulfill his desires to return to the classroom by teaching his favorites such as Freshman Foundations, Endocrinology and several other departmental physiology courses before retirement.

Earl has a long list of awards, with the most recent one being the Dean’s Special Recognition Award for his accomplishments in teaching, advising, administrative, international and alumni activities, which he was awarded in 2001. In 2001, the Eighth Annual CASNR Report was dedicated to him for his many contributions to students, faculty and staff.

Earl was recognized in 2000 in his leadership in helping develop the new regional Agricultural College in Costa Rica during the tenth anniversary celebration of EARTH. Earl has taken on many leadership roles in developing programs at the University, College and Department levels. His leadership in these capacities has



Earl Ellington

**1970 Animal Science Faculty** — Frank Baker, Chair, Gordon Dickerson, Marvel Baker, Larry Cundiff, Bob Koch, Morgan Plum, P. J. Cunningham, and Roger Mandigo; **Second row** — M. A. Alexander, R. B. Warren, C. W. Nibler; **Third row** — Dave Williams, Bob Applemann, John Ward; **Fourth row** — Ted Doane, C. T. Blum, Vince Arthaud, Dwane Zimmerman; **Fifth row** — Andy Schultz, Glen Krable; **Sixth row** — P. E. Vipperman, Earl Ellington; **Seventh row** — Foster Owen, Phil Cole, Ernie Peo, Jr.; **Eighth row** — Leo Lucas; **Ninth row** — Terry Klopfenstein, Charles Adams; **Tenth row** — Jerry Hibbs, Del Dearborn, Walter Woods.

lead to new programs for teaching, advising, research, administration, alumni activities and international work. An example of his leadership is this Alumni Newsletter which he continues to work with even though retired.

We wish him the best in his retirement years, and know that he will still be lending his leadership wherever he can to the Department, University and CASNR.

## ■ New Faculty

**Rick Funston** joined the Animal Science faculty as the Beef Cattle Reproductive Physiologist at the West Central Research & Extension Center. Rick received his B.S. from North Dakota State University in 1985, his M.S. degree from Montana State University in 1989, and his Ph.D. from the University of Wyoming in 1993. After graduating with his Ph.D., Rick did a post-doctorate at Colorado State University prior to teaching at Chadron State College in Nebraska before becoming the Beef Extension Specialist at the USDA-ARS Fort Keogh in Miles City, MT. Rick's responsibilities include providing leadership and subject matter expertise for educational programs in cow-calf production management for the West Central District, and statewide expertise in beef reproductive management programs. He will be conducting research which will address cow/calf reproductive problems and to develop improved cow/calf production systems that would result in increased beef production efficiency and profitability.



Rick Funston

**Libby Lugar** joined the Animal Science faculty as a Lecturer in Equine Sciences and Equine Management on July 1, 2002. Libby received her B.S. in 1994 and M.S. in 1996 from Kansas State University. After graduation she took a position at the University of Georgia as an Equine instructor. While working on her B.S. and M.S., she worked as an Extension Assistant for the Kansas Cooperative Extension Service working with 4-H members on horsemanship, and coaching teams for Horse shows. Libby took the opportunity to help judge the Nebraska District and State Horse competition this year prior to starting her position at the University of Nebraska.



Libby Lugar

## ■ 100 Years of 4-H in Nebraska

— *by Doyle Wolverton, Professor Emeriti*

During this past year, many events have taken place across the country and especially in Nebraska to mark the Centennial year of 4-H. Records show the first Nebraska 4-H activities took place in York County. This youth

program spread across the state and grew rapidly as Extension programs were established in individual counties. As I look at the early organization of 4-H clubs, many of the first clubs were organized around a specific animal project and so named, *i.e.* Pig Club, Calf Club, etc.

In East Pottawattamie County, Iowa, where I served as extension director, the first 4-H Club was a Pig Club started by a registered swine producer, George Lippold, Jr. As I visited county fairs this past season many Centennial exhibits recognized the early founders of the 4-H Clubs in their county. In the early years, 4-H Clubs were organized as Boys Clubs and Girls Clubs, but when girls seriously started exhibiting livestock these clubs soon became co-educational. Today the 4-H clubs focus on the educational needs of youth and evolve around specific subject matter and the life skills to complete the educational experience.

In the early years of Nebraska 4-H, many of the activities were led by faculty members of the various departments and extension administrators. In the early records of the Nebraska State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Show names like **H. J. Gramlich, L. I. Frisbie, H. H. Kildee, and H. P. Davis** were listed as department superintendents for many 4-H livestock events. The responsibility of 4-H event leadership has been one of the strong support tools the Extension Service has provided for the youth program. It might be of interest that the first competitive 4-H event at the Nebraska State Fair was not an animal show or judging of cookies, but was called the Healthiest Boy Contest. Incidentally, the selected winner was from Webster County.

In many counties, the "Hey-Day" of the 4-H Club program was during the 1950's and 1960's with club enrollment growing in all counties and volunteer leadership providing for a diverse educational program in every community. Also during this time period volunteer leaders were providing leadership to many different learning experiences. The demand for leader training kept many county extension staff and state extension specialists busy developing curriculum and providing training. An Animal Science program which expanded significantly during this period was the 4-H Horse program. Four advancement levels were developed which included both knowledge and skill-based learning. These levels were also used as criteria for participation in the "new" district and state 4-H horse competitive events.

Several animal science extension specialists and faculty provided leadership for the 4-H program and events during these two decades. A few you might remember could be **K. C. Fouts, Bill Derrick, Vince Arthaud, Paul Guyer, C. W. Nibler, Phil Cole, Charlie Adams, R. B. Warren, Ted Doane, and Dave Williams**.

In the early 1970's, societal changes in the urban community and many of the larger rural trade centers created a need for additional educational experience for the youth of those communities. The Extension Service expanded its efforts in youth programming to provide training and program leadership for these non-traditional efforts. One of the most successful efforts was the development of School Enrichment Programs, the first of



which was the popular Embryology Project. As curriculum demands have changed, the subject matter has also changed to areas like consumer issues, product quality assurance, carcass evaluation and the many other areas of youth of today need to be aware of in order to become productive, well informed citizens.

The Centennial year is a landmark year for us to remember the achievements and progress of the 4-H program, our membership years and those involved in the early leadership roles. The challenge will be to continue to meet the informal educational demands of youth in the 21st century.

## ■ Feedlot Internship Program and Feedlot Extension Meetings

— by *Galen Erickson, Feedlot Specialist*

The demand for well-trained Animal Science graduates with an interest in feedlot management is large. However, the supply of students with these interests and training is not. Therefore, 14 years ago, Terry Klopfenstein initiated the Feedlot Management Internship Program to meet this need for training and recruiting people for feedlot management. Since that time, approximately 70 young men and women have completed the program. However, only one person completed the program in 2001 and four in 2002. We have begun to more actively recruit individuals with interests in the program if they have a long-term goal of entering into a career in this area. Recruitment activities thus far include a flyer that was sent to all 4-year animal science departments in the Midwest, visits to numerous classes at UNL, informational open-houses, and discussions with community colleges in Nebraska. These were initiated in 2001, and will be continued because we feel that individuals with this interest are out there, and we need to let them know about this opportunity.

The internship program is unique in several ways. Students meet on campus from the end of May until mid-July with a 3-hour class each day. Class discussions include economics, health, nutrition, and personnel management areas. Interns then work approximately 4 1/2 months in a feedlot and get exposed to the many jobs involved with feeding cattle. At the end of the fall semester, interns return for a 2-week class period. They describe their internship experience, particularly related to class discussions prior to their jobs in the feedlot.

The feedlot management internship is a program intended for B. S. graduates (or within 8 credit hours of graduation) with interests in feedlot management. The program is unique and if you know of potential students interested in feedlot production, please direct them to either Terry Klopfenstein (402 472-6443) or Galen Erickson (402 472-6402). More information is also available on our website at: <http://feedlot.unl.edu/intern/>.

We also wanted to let alumni know about two annual meetings intended for feedlot producers, allied industry, and nutritionists. The beef feedlot roundtable is held every spring with the 2003 Nebraska Beef Feedlot Round-

table to be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2003 at College Park in Grand Island, NE. The goal of this meeting is to present information on timely issues facing beef producers.

The last two falls, Cooperative Extension has hosted a meeting for beef feedlot nutritionists. The 2002 Husker Nutrition meeting was held on November 1, 2002 on East Campus, UNL. Last year, we were fortunate to have Paul Engler, CEO of Cactus Feedlots as a special guest. This year, the Honorable Congressman Tom Osborne discussed issues facing our beef producers in Nebraska. The other major focus for the 2002 meeting was discussion of pre-harvest food safety intervention strategies being researched to reduce the prevalence of *E. coli* O157:H7. We are excited about these annual meetings and would invite those with interests to attend. At the meeting on November 1, Terry Klopfenstein was surprised with an endowment established in his honor for his research program in ruminant nutrition over the past 37 years at the University of Nebraska. The "Terry Klopfenstein Student Excellence Fund" was established through gifts from industry with a goal of \$100,000 to be used for scholarships and recognition of students with interest in beef cattle production. With only a couple of months of effort by Bill Dicke, Don Beermann, Rick Stock, and others, over \$65,000 has already been pledged to the UNL Foundation. For more information on this program, please contact either Don Beermann or Bethany Throener (402 472-2151).

For additional information on the research program for beef cattle, we publish the Nebraska Beef Report annually. If you are not on the mailing list and would like to be added, just let me know. For all reports since 1996, articles may be viewed and printed off the web at:

<http://www.ianr.unl.edu/pubs/beef/beefrpt.htm>. I am also developing a feedlot extension website for various questions and information. The address is: <http://feedlot.unl.edu>.

If I can ever help with anything, my contact information is:

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## ■ Japanese Agricultural Training Program

— by *Dr. Ted Doane, Professor Emeriti*

If you were a student at the University of Nebraska between 1967 and present, you may have noticed a group of Japanese students on East Campus between January and March. These were students studying Animal Science and Agribusiness. Since 1967, 1419 students have completed the program. There will be 13 more on the campus in 2003 for the 36th year.

We have been keeping in touch with several of the past students and can report that many are in influential positions throughout the world. Two trainees are staff members at Tokyo University, one is a staff member at Shamane Research Institute, as well as many in government positions in various departments from law, school teaching and social sciences. There are many prominent livestock producers in dairy, beef, swine and poultry. A few are involved in cooperative marketing organizations, including horticulture, floriculture, and meat marketing. We also have many trainees in the USA teaching at universities, and exporting agricultural goods to Japan and the Pacific Rim.

You may remember some of the Animal Science staff who were Academic Coordinators such as Professors **Dwight Stephens, Paul Guyer, John Ward, C. W. Nibler, Gayle Hattan, Jim Heldt, Murray Danielson, and Ted Doane** who is now teaching again.

## ■ Animal Science Student Ambassadors

— by **Rosie Nold, Extension Youth Specialist**

Who is better at promoting a program than those already in it? With that in mind, the department initiated a Student Ambassador program three years ago, to help with recruitment of undergraduate students. The program now has six current undergraduates, including **Ryan Brewster**, a senior from Butte; **Aaron Naber**, a junior from Roca; **Sarah Heidzig**, a senior from Auburn; **Rachel Spatz**, a sophomore from Pierce; **Lindsay Kampbell**, a sophomore from Scottsbluff; and **Jordan Spatz**, a sophomore from Brainard. The Ambassadors are involved in many recruitment activities, including making high school visits, providing tours for prospective students and other groups, attending career fairs and events such as Husker Harvest Days, and working with the Animal Science Department Open House. They have also each taken on special projects, such as hosting an “overnight” for prospective students, developing a presentation for high schools and assembling packets of information which are available to schools and others.

## ■ Masters Week

**Mary (McGinley) Adolf**, President and Chief Operating Officer of the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation, was selected a 2002 UNL Masters Week participant. Mary was co-nominated by Nutritional Science & Dietetics and Animal Science. Mary is a 1977 BS graduate of Food & Nutrition and a 1980 MS Animal Science graduate (Roger Mandigo, advisor). She is a recognized expert on food safety and previously served as senior vice president of Ketchum’s Global Food and Nutrition Practice and as vice president of consumer marketing for the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association. She led the team that developed the award-winning “Beef, It’s What’s for Dinner” advertising campaign. Mary is the daughter of Pat and Norma McGinley, prominent cattle producers who ranch near Oshkosh.

## ■ Graduate Program

For the 2002-03 school year, 80 graduate students are enrolled, down slightly from last year’s 87 students. Countries of origin and number of graduate students from each area are as follows:

Argentina	1	Korea	1
Brazil	1	Mexico	6
Canada	2	Saudi Arabia	3
China	1	South Africa	1
Egypt	2	Taiwan	1
Guatemala	1	Thailand	1
India	2	United States	49
Japan	1	Venezuela	6
Jordan	1		

The number of students by discipline is:

Breeding and Genetics	18
Meats	17
Monogastric Nutrition	7
Physiology	10
Ruminant Nutrition	28

## ■ Bud Britton Animal Science Golf Classic

The Bud Britton Animal Science Golf Classic was held on May 17 with 34 participants. The results from the golf tournament are as follows: **Winning Team — Mark Allan, Stephanie Jaeger, Bill Matzke and Merlyn Nielsen. Longest Drive — Phil Miller. Closest to the Pin — Matt Anderson. Longest Putt — Caryl Carstensen.** Thanks goes to **Dave Ellis**, representing Elanco Animal Health, who helped sponsor the awards and also participated in the tournament. This year’s coordinator for the event was **Phil Miller, Ki and Darcy Fanning**, hosted the social following the tournament, and **Kim Hargrave** assisted in the planning of the event. Next year’s golf classic will tentatively be held on May 30, 2003 at the Mahoney Golf Course starting around 12:00 p.m.

## ■ Deaths

**Jim Wolf**, Wagonhammer Ranch, passed away April 9, 2002 after a lengthy illness. Mr. Wolf was selected the 1995 Block and Bridle Honoree in recognition of his contributions to the livestock industry. Jim Wolf was a cattleman from top to toe, a philanthropist, particularly to his beloved community of Albion, and a sterling Nebraskan. His passing April 9, 2002 at age 80 cost the Sand Hills and the state a remarkable man.

He spent much of his life — the part that wasn’t devoted to the Albion National Bank (which he owned until a decade ago) or to the many organizations he served (such as the Nebraska Community Foundation) or to causes he thought were right — with the Wagonhammer Cattle Co.

He was an innovator. He grasped, for instance, the benefits of cross-bred cattle in the early 1960s when that

trend was in its infancy. He was a Harvard Law School graduate who supported causes as diverse as the Nebraska Cattlemen and the Appleseed Foundation, which advocates for the poor and for packinghouse workers.

The Jewish heritage of Wolf and his wife Elaine, was a significant aspect of their prominence across the state. Wolf's dedication to the Anti-Defamation League, which works for religious, ethnic and racial tolerance, was typical, as was his support of Democratic U.S. senators from Ed Zorinsky to Ben Nelson.

Jim Wolf was important to the state during his long life, important to its cattle industry, its political life and its people. Many Nebraskans regret his passing.

**Darren Critser** (MS-94) passed away on June 16, 2002. Darren received his M.S. degree under the direction of Phil Miller in swine nutrition. About 2½ weeks prior to his death he was diagnosed as having a tumor which was causing severe headaches. Approximately a week after the discovery of the tumor, he was told it was malignant. Darren had been working for Danbred, Inc. in Seward, Nebraska.

**J. Gerald Beattie** — passed away on May 25 at the age of 83. Mr. Beattie was a swine leader in the state and the 1980 Block & Bridle Honoree.

**Mrs. Alice Rockwell**, who established a scholarship for Animal Science undergraduate students at the UN Foundation passed away in October 2002. A number of our majors have been recipients for the scholarship beginning with Dr. Brett White, who is now on our faculty.

## Emeriti Update

**John K. Ward** sends greetings from Kansas. John realizes how many new faces there are in the department when he starts to read the newsletter. He can remember those students he had in class that are now faculty members or those who are in other state organizations. John and his wife, Bonnie, keep busy with various volunteer activities and traveling.

**Paul Q. Guyer** has been able to enjoy his family even though he is on hemodialysis and does have some lower back pain which restricts travel and walking. In January, Paul and his wife, Reatha, took a trip to see their son and his family in Anchorage, Alaska to help initiate a new grandson. Paul admits that Reatha has developed into a skilled nurse and occasionally changes into a boss. Their son and daughter-in-law in Lincoln have three sons, and they get a chance to visit with them quite often. Their daughter and son-in-law live in Texas and they get to see the two granddaughters from Texas at least once a year. They have a large garden which they share with their neighbors and some varmints, too.

**1974 French Tour — Left to right —** (1) French Contact; (2) Monte Hendricks, Extension Agent, Scottsbluff; (3) Mick Evertson, Extension Agent, Kimball; (4) Francis Whiddon, St. Edwards; (5) Jerry Cumming, Genoa; (6) Ray Woten, Sidney; (7) Bill Pischel, Knox County; (8) Barb Young (Sebesta), Comstock; French Contact Anthony Stone.

## Emeriti/Retiree Reception

The morning of May 17, 2002, brought the buzz of many excited voices and relaxed conversation at a reception hosted by Animal Science. Twenty-three



emeriti and retirees were in attendance enjoying coffee, punch and delicious baked items provided by the staff. Many favorite stories were swapped and everyone was eager to learn about activities of their former co-workers. Some had returned to play in the Bud Britton golf tour-



ney that afternoon. In Don Beermann's absence, Irv Omtvedt, retired IANR Vice Chancellor and Vice President for

Agriculture & Natural Resources, wore his hat as Professor Emeritus of Animal Science, and presided over an informal ceremony. Irv asked each emeriti or retired staff person, standing in a large circle, to introduce themselves and give a description of their activities since their retirement. High achievers, this bunch!!

There was a retired faculty member who



had just remarried within the last two weeks. Many continued their work, many traveled, many enjoyed grandkids and families. There were connections to current younger faculty via parents known, and, of course, plenty of anecdotes and laughter. Newer staff enjoyed getting to meet the people about whom they'd heard so much.

In addition to many of our current Animal Science faculty, staff and graduate students, Ag Research Division Dean **Darrell Nelson** and Associate Dean **Dale**



**Vanderholm** joined the group. Special emeriti/retiree guests in attendance were: **Charlie Adams, Agnes Arthaud, Gayle Behrens, Roy Carlson, Don Clanton, Delwyn Dearborn, Ted Doane, Franklin Eldridge, Glenn Froning, Oliver Grace, Paul Guyer, Irene Hansen, Ted Hartung, Bob Kleis, Bob Koch, Austin Lewis, Irv Omtvedt, Kaye Peterson, Warren Sahs, Lavon Sumption, John Ward, Gene White, and Dave Williams**

Many people visited and lingered into the noon hour, and we think it safe to say that everyone enjoyed the memories and the fellowship. (Contributed by Nancy Savery)

## ■ Block & Bridle Activities

### **Block & Bridle Honoree of the Year**

**Frank Bruning** was born in Bruning Nebraska where he spent his entire life. He graduated from Bruning High school and afterward he attended the University of Nebraska for one semester before enlisting in the U.S. Marines. After being discharged from the U.S. Marines, he returned to the University of Nebraska majoring in Animal Science and received his B.S. degree in Agriculture in 1949. Frank was instrumental in forming the Rodeo Club, was a member of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity and quite active in other university activities. He married Mary Reiss. In 1950, they started a registered Hereford herd. In 1975, with their son Fred, they added registered Angus cattle to their operation. Recently they added a five-breed composite herd of cattle to their existing operation. These cattle are maintained near Bruning and Fairbury. They use innovative grazing practices which have been incorporated into a total life-cycle management program. In 1961, Frank and Mary created a unique business, Feedlot Fencing, Inc. that grew out of an innovative use of oilfield pipe and rods. This venture provides steel rods and pipe, along with gates and panels that Feedlot Fencing manufactures. Mary and Penni (Fred's wife) handle most of the fencing business management. In 1891, Frank's grandfather started Bruning State Bank. Frank became President of the bank in 1965 and Chair of the Board in 1987. The central mission of Bruning State Bank has always been promotion and support for agriculture and rural communities. Frank has been a central leader in the Bruning Community Foundation and is active in the Grassland Council. Frank has been a creator of educational opportunities for both "young and old" and helped create the Farmers and Ranchers College, which an annual event supported by area agribusinesses and the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension. Frank is also a supporter of area 4-H and local school activities. Frank continues to make lasting and positive impressions on youth who are our leaders for tomorrow.



**Frank Bruning**

## **Block & Bridle Awards 2001-2002**

**Benny Mote** — Outstanding Senior and Senior Workhorse  
**Megan Voss** — Junior Scholarship  
**Justan Wynegar** — Junior Activities  
**Kami Marsh** — Sophomore Activities  
**Catherine Hervert** — Outstanding Initiate and MAEC Junior Meats  
**Cory Schlueter** — Mike Cull Judging and Activities  
**Aaron Naber** — MAEC Senior Meats, MAEC Junior Livestock and MAEC Overall  
**Karina Dye** — MAEC Senior Livestock — 1st  
**Mark Hassebrook** — MAEC Senior Livestock — 2nd

### **Officers for Fall-2002**

**Megan Voss**, Waverly — President  
**Don Moss**, O'Neill — Vice President  
**Kerry John**, Miller — Secretary  
**Aaron Fehringer**, Humphrey — Treasurer  
**Adam Hamling**, Creston, — Marshall  
**Jennifer Witte**, Scribner — Assistant Marshall  
**Kim Becker**, Scribner — Historian  
**Nate Heidbrink**, Beaver Crossing — Assistant Historian  
**Kami Marsh**, Ord — News Reporter  
**Nick Weinrich**, Pierce; and **Genna Frenzen**, Fullerton — Ambassadors  
**Candice Olson**, Minden — Program Chair  
**Aaron Naber**, Roca — Social Chair  
**Rodger Johnson, Rosie Nold, Rick Rasby** — Advisors

### **Activities for 2002-2003**

Summer Executive Meeting	July 21
Premier Animal Science Events	June 24
State Fair Beef Pit	August 24
State Fair Herdsmanship	Labor Day Weekend
Big Red Welcome	August 25
Steak Fry/Prairie Stomp	September 6
Fall Kids' Day	November 6
Little MAEC-Market-Breeding	December 6
Holiday Luncheon	December 13
National Meeting	January 23-26
Big Red Beef Show in Columbus	March 22
State FFA Contest	April 4-5
Honors Banquet	April 25

## ■ Animal Science Graduate Association

### **Officers for the 2002-2003**

**Kimberly Whittet** (Ruminant Nutrition) — President  
**Jeremy Martin** (Ruminant Nutrition) — Vice President  
**Allen McDonald** (Ruminant Nutrition) — Treasurer  
**Steve Kitt** (Nonruminant Nutrition) — Secretary  
**Kimberly Hargrave** (Ruminant Nutrition) — Sergeant at Arms



## ■ Recent Department Awards and Recognitions

### Faculty

**Elton Aberle** — Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

**Charles Adams** — Honorary Member Lincoln Northeast Rotary Club

**Don Adams** — Cooperative Extension Distinguished Extension Specialist Award

**Mary Beck** — UNL Teaching Council and Parents Association “Made a difference” recognition, President of Poultry Science Association for 2002-03

**Don Beermann** — American Meat Science Association’s Signal Service Award

**Michael Brumm** — Gamma Sigma Delta Excellence in Extension Award, American Society of Animal Science Extension Award

**Dennis Burson** — Honorary State FFA Degree, Nebraska Chapter, and American Meat Science Association Distinguished Extension-Industry Service Award

**Ted Doane** — Director of UNL Emeriti Association

**Galen Erickson** — Member of Alpha Phi Chapter of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society, and Blue Ribbon Award from American Society of Agricultural Engineers

**Keith Gilster** — Honorary State FFA Degree, Nebraska Chapter

**Jim Gosey** — Senior Faculty Holling Family Award for Teaching Excellence

**Rick Grant** — Blue Ribbon Award from American Society of Agricultural Engineers

**Steve Jones** — UNL CASNR 2002 Distinguished Teaching Award, and American Meat Science Association’s Distinguished Teaching Award

**Rick Koelsch** — Blue Ribbon Award from American Society of Agricultural Engineers

**Austin Lewis** — American Society of Animal Science Fellow Award

**Bob Meduna** — Promoted to Extension Educator

**Jess Miner** — Promoted to Associate Professor

**Mark Morrison** — Outstanding Young Researcher Award, Midwest ASAS/ADSA annual meeting

**Merlyn Nielsen** — 2002 Sigma Xi Outstanding Scientist Award

**Jennifer Nixon** — Promoted to Associate Extension Educator

**Rosie Nold** — Cooperative Extension New Employee Award

**Irv Omtvedt** — Nebraska Farm Bureau Silver Eagle Award and Allen G. Blezek Friend of LEAD Award, Lincoln Northeast Rotary Club’s 2002 Outstanding Citizen Award

**Daniel Pomp** — Promoted to Professor

**Steve Pritchard** — Promoted to Extension Educator, and Distinguished Extension Service Award

**Rick Rasby** — UNL Teaching Council and Parents Association “Made a difference” recognition

**Tom Rathje** — Graduate Faculty Member

**Gary Stauffer** — Distinguished Extension Service Award

**Monte Stauffer** — Distinguished Service Award from National Association of Extension 4-H Agents

### Graduate Student Awards

**Julie Adams** — First place in graduate student poster competition at 2002 Plain Nutrition Council Spring Conference

**Mark Allan** — Milton E. Mohr Fellowship

**Rosemary Anderson** — John Hallman Award

**Hushton Block** — Third place in Ph.D. Paper Competition at Midwest ASAS/ADSA Annual Meeting, and Widaman Trust Distinguished Graduate Assistant Award

**Marianna Burks** — Frank and Inez Mussehl Graduate Fellowship

**Kelly Creighton** — Second place in Ph.D. competition paper session at Society for Range Management’s National Meeting, Frank and Marie Wheeler Fellowship

**Shane Davis** — 2002 Folsom Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award

**Bruce DeGroot** — Milton E. Mohr Fellowship

**Travis Farran** — Milton E. Mohr Fellowship

**Danilo Franco** — Mussehl Scholarship, and Frank and Inez Mussehl Graduate Fellowship

**Kim Hargrave** — First place in MS Paper Competition at Midwest ASAS/ADSA Annual Meeting; Gretchen Bechtol Lee Fellowship award

**Mohammad Jalal** — Widaman Trust Distinguished Graduate Assistant Award, Frank and Inez Mussehl Graduate Fellowship

**Wanda Kreikemeier** — Widaman Trust Distinguished Graduate Assistant Award

**Leanne LaBrash** — Mussehl Scholarship, Frank and Inez Mussehl Graduate Fellowship

**Casey Macken** — Second place in graduate student poster competition at 2002 Plain Nutrition Council Spring Conference

**Jeremy Martin** — Tony J. Cunha Award

**Allen McDonald** — Mohr Fellowship, and Widaman Trust Distinguished Graduate Assistant Award

**Khathu Nephawe** — William G. Whitmore Memorial Fund

**Derek Petry** — William G. Whitmore Memorial Fund

**Janice Rumph** — Warren F and Edith R. Day Student Aid Fund Award, and William G. Whitmore Memorial Fund

**Rami Sawalha** — Bukey Memorial Fellowship

**Sandra Senneke** — Milton E. Mohr Fellowship

**Hiroko Taira** — Frank and Inez Mussehl Graduate Fellowship

**Kyle Vander Pol** — William G. Whitmore Memorial Fund

## **Undergraduate Students**

### **Scholarships**

**Craig A. Burda**, Wilber; **Jordan M. Spatz**, Brainard ; **Gretja L. Schnell**, Lincoln; and **Melissa J. Senf**, Palatine, IL — American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Sophomores)

**Emily A. Buescher**, Deweese; **Bryan G. Carpenter**, Lincoln; **Genna M. Frenzen**, Fullerton; and **Justin V. Jensen**, Tekamah — American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Juniors)

**Sheryl L. Colgan**, Lincoln; **Caleb J. Harms**, Madrid; **Lynn A. Jirovsky**, Seward; **Daniel J. Longfellow**, Broken Bow; and **Melissa J. Waite**, Norfolk — American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Seniors)

**Emily Buescher**, Deweese — UNL Outstanding Student Leaders Award

**Brett Meyer**, Deshler — 1st Undergraduate Paper Competition Midwest American Society of Animal Science/American Dairy Science Assoc. annual meeting

**Don Moss**, O'Neill — \$2000 scholarship from National Meat Association and a \$500 travel award to attend annual convention

**Benny Mote**, Lincoln — Meat Industry Suppliers Assoc. Foundation Scholarship, 3rd Undergraduate Paper Competition Midwest American Society of Animal Science/American Dairy Science Assoc. annual meeting

**Jordan Spatz**, Brainard — Mohr Scholarship

**Jodi N. Corbin**, Burwell — ABS Global Scholarship

**Nathan A. Glaesemann**, Fairbury — Baltzell-Agri-Products, Inc. Scholarship

**Sarah L. Heidzig**, Auburn — Maurice E. Boeckenhauer Memorial Scholarship

**Robbie G. Petersen**, Fairmont — Robert Boeckenhauer Memorial Scholarship

**Sabrina E. Jansma**, Norfolk; and **Melissa J. Senf**, Palatine, IL — Lincoln Coca-cola Bottling Co. Scholarship

**Martin R. Moravec**, David City — Doane Scholarship

**Chere A. Cook**, Mills; **Adam E. Hamling**, Creston; **Megan M. Peterson**, Gothenburg; **Joseph A. Wendall**, Smithfield; and **Justan J. Wynegar**, Ulysses — William J. and Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship

**Genna M. Frenzen**, Fullerton — Nutrition Service Associates Scholarship, and Frank & Shirley Sibert Scholarship

**Libby D. Johnson**, Minden; and **Rachel A. Spatz**, Pierce — Chris and Sarah Raun Memorial Scholarship

**Jonathan M. Anderson**, St. Paul; **Jamie L. DeRoin**, Jackson; and **Travis W.E. Nienhueser**, Benedict — Walter A. and Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship

**Kristen A. Fellers**, Lexington; **Renee J. Minary**, McCook; and **Wade Kloeping**, Eustis — Max and Ora Mae Stark Scholarship

**Jordan M. Spatz**, Brainard — D. V. and Ernestine Stephens Memorial Scholarship

**Aaron P. Bessmer**, Pender; **Paul L. Guenther**, Bancroft; and **Robert D. Smith**, Spalding — Dwight F. Stephens Student Support Fund

**Emily A. Buescher**, Deweese; and **Gretja L. Schnell**, Lincoln — Arthur W. and Viola Thompson Scholarship

**Caleb J. Harms**, Madrid — Thomas H. Wake III Scholarship

**Amber Talbott**, Hoskins — Robert F. Lute Award

**Jessika Uden**, Juniata — Incoming Freshman — Robert F. Lute Scholarship

### **Staff**

**Deb DeWald** — NU Board of Regents Kudos Award for the month of November

**Ruth Diedrichsen** — Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources Outstanding Managerial-Professional Employee for January/February 2002

**Vicky Kobes** — Institute of Agricultural and Natural Resources Exemplary Service Award

### **Alumi Awards (Presently located)**

**Al Booren** — American Meat Science Association Meat Processing Award, East Lansing, MI

**David Buchanan** — American Society of Animal Science Distinguished Teacher Award, Stillwater, OK

**Casey Frye** — Member of American Meat Science Association Board of Directors, Nevada, IA

**Ann Hollingsworth** — Retiring American Meat Science Association Board Member, Carrollton, GA

**Steve Lonergan** — American Meat Science Association Distinguished Achievement Award, Ames, IA

**Wes Osburn** — Outstanding Young Teacher Award, Member of American Meat Science Association Board of Directors, East Lansing, MI

**Collette Schultz Kaster** — Member of American Meat Science Association Board of Directors, Milan, MO

### **University of Nebraska Service Awards**

**Bob Scriven** — 35 years

**Keith Gilster, Larry Larson, Don McClure, and Dick Meyer** — 30 years

**Tom Drudik, Roger Kittok, and Steve Niemeyer** — 25 years

**Jeff Perkins, and Steve Pritchard** — 20 years

**Clyde Naber, Nancy Savery, and Larry Zoerb** — 15 years

**Tom Dill, and Sheila Scheideler** — 10 years

**Eugene Andersen** — 5 years

## ■ **CASNR Alumni Board**

The following Animal Science graduates are members of the CASNR Alumni Board.

**Earl F. Ellington** — Faculty Liaison

**Ross Knot** (85 BS) — President

**Roger Bissell** (78 BS) — President-Elect

**Missy Girard** (98 BS) — Secretary

**Jennifer Boruch** (86 BS) — Treasurer

**Scott Kurz** (87 BS)

## ■ Academic Quadrathlon

Members of the 2002 winning team “The Brew Crew” were **Don Moss**, **Ryan Brewster**, **Jamie Bauman**, and **Melody Nelms**. The overall coordinator was **Jess Miner**, who also chaired the Quiz Bowl; along with help from **Keith Gilster** who chaired the Lab Practicum, **Bryan Reiling** as chair of the Oral Presentation section, and **Dennis Burson** who chaired the Written Exam. There were 12 teams made up from undergraduate students who competed in the departmental event. “The Brew Crew” then competed in the Midwest Animal Science Quadrathlon held in Iowa. The team placed 6th in Quiz Bowl and won the Meats Laboratory Station at the Midwest Quadrathlon.

## ■ Attention — Judging Team Alumni

— by **Rosie Nold**, *Extension Youth Specialist*

Have you ever considered putting your past judging team experience to work by coaching a 4-H judging team? Many county extension offices and 4-H programs have youth interested in judging livestock, meats or other areas, but have limited staff time available to commit to these programs. With a little time and sharing of your expertise, you could make a tremendous difference in the preparation of these youth for a state level judging contest and in their lifelong interest in these areas! Another area you might consider is working with a Livestock Quiz Bowl team. With questions covering beef, sheep and swine, this new event has generated a lot of interest among youth. However, just as with judging contests, some practice time is very beneficial to competing in the state contest, and leaders/coaches can help tremendously. If interested in sharing your skills, contact your county extension office.

You will also need to be aware that the schedule for state 4-H judging contest has changed in recent years. In 1999, PASE: Premier Animal Science Events was started. This two-day event is hosted by the department, starting the last Monday in June. The State 4-H Livestock, Meats, Poultry, and Dairy Judging contests, and the General Livestock Quiz Bowl are held during PASE. Faculty participate in hosting workshops, as superintendents for judging contests, and as judges for the quiz bowl. Awards presentations, social activities, the opportunity for youth to stay in the dorm, and \$500 CASNR scholarships for high individuals in the judging contests help make this a great recruitment tool. Approximately 375 youth have participated in the event each year.

## ■ Judging Team Activities

### *2002 Meat Animal Evaluation Team*



**Front row (left to right) Chris McGuire**, Red Cloud; **Gary Eggers**, Cairo; **Jason Pittack**, Tilden; **Jamie Bauman**, Martell, **Perry Brewer**, Coach; and **Dr. Keith E. Gilster**, Coach.

**Back row (left to right) Dr. Don Beermann**, Department Head; **Brandon Pohlmann**, Plymouth; **Dan Crawford**, Unadilla; **Erik Burken**, Blue Hill; **Jeff Meister**, West Point, and **Don Moss**, O'Neill.

The 2002 University of Nebraska Meat Animal Evaluation Team placed 1st in Market, Breeding, Meats and Overall in the Nebraska Prairie MAEC held at Norfolk, NE. Erik Burken placed 1st in Market, Meats and Overall and placed 2nd in Breeding. Dan Crawford was 1st in Breeding with Don Moss placing 2nd in Meats and Overall. Jamie Bauman placed 2nd in Market and 3rd in Overall with Chris McGuire placing 4th in Overall. The National Collegiate Meat Animal Evaluation contest which was held at St. Joseph, Missouri and Lincoln, Nebraska. The team placed 7th in Market, 7th in Breeding, 4th in Meats, 7th in Cattle, 8th in Hogs, 5th in Sheep and 7th in Overall Individual placings was Dan Crawford 10th in Breeding and 12th in Sheep; Erik Burken 15th in Meats and 16th in Cattle; and Dan Moss placed 13th in Meats.

### *2002 Livestock Judging Team Contest Results*

The 2002 University of Nebraska Livestock Judging Team include **Mark Hassebrook**, Bellwood; **Bryce Martin**, Lexington; **Clay Mead**, Kearney; **Benny Mote**, Happy, TX; and **Cory Schlueter**, Hooper. The team is coached by **Jeremy Martin**, Lexington, and advised by **Dr. Bryan Reiling**.

The spring of 2002, the team competed in the National Western, Denver, CO; Sioux Empire, Sioux Falls, SD, and Iowa Beef Expo, Des Moines, IA. In Denver, the team placed 14th overall, 13th in reasons, 8th in swine, 15th in sheep, and 16th in cattle out of 21 teams that competed in the contest. Individually, both Bryce Martin (4th) and Mark Hassebrook (6th) placed in swine judging. Martin was also the 3rd high individual in the beef carload judging contest. This is a competition where students





**Livestock Judging Team**

evaluate and compare pens of cattle, not individuals, and was thus a very challenging competition. At Sioux Falls, Martin was tied for 7th high individual in sheep judging and 14th high individual overall. At the Iowa Beef Expo, Martin was the 3rd high individual in beef placings and tied for 12th high individual overall. The team placed 8th out of 13 teams, 26 points out of the Top 5.

This fall, the team has competed in the National Barrow Show, Austin, MN; World Beef Expo, Milwaukee, WI, and American Royal, Kansas City, MO. At the National Barrow Show, the team placed 9th out of 15 teams. Individually, Hassebrook placed 19th (7 points out of the Top 10) and Martin placed 24th (11 points out of the Top 10). At the World Beef Expo, the team placed 3rd in sheep evaluation and Hassebrook was the 2nd high individual in that species category. Hassebrook also placed 12th in oral reasons. The team also competed at the American Royal in late October. A total of 97 individuals competed in the contest representing 21 different schools from across the country. In sheep judging, Mote was the 9th high individual, and the team placed 15th. In swine judging, Martin was the 11th high individual, and the team placed 18th. In cattle judging, Hassebrook was the 5th high individual, and the team placed 12th. In reasons, Hassebrook tied for 15th place, and the team placed 13th. Overall, the team placed 14th in the competition.

The team has been working hard, and they have made significant improvement throughout the year. There were 26 teams with over 120 individuals competing at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, KY. One of the highlights during this judging contest was **Mark Hassebrook being awarded a spot on the 2002 All-American Livestock Judging Team**. The team placed 5th in sheep, with Martin 18th, Schlueter 25th, Mead 41st, and Mote 42nd. The team placed 11th in swine with Hassebrook 2nd, Mead 31st, and Martin 50th. In cattle judging the team placed 4th, with Martin 3rd, Mote 19th, Mead 28th, and Hassebrook 43rd. In oral reasons the team placed 11th with Hassebrook and Martin placing 27th and 28th, respectively. Overall Schlueter tied for 50th individual with Hassebrook 32nd, Mead 30th and **Martin was Reserve**

**Grand Champion (2nd) highest individual in the contest.** The team themselves placed 7th overall. The 2002 Livestock Judging Team has made an impressive comeback and hope that they will serve as a stepping stone toward the rebuilding of the judging tradition at UNL. The students, Jeremy Martin, and I greatly appreciate the support of our alumni. Win or not, these students have bonded together as a team, have significantly improved their oral communication skills, gained confidence in themselves, and started networking with the leaders of our livestock industries. Additionally, throughout the year, these dedicated students have represented our university and this department with pride. (Contributed by Brian Reiling)

### **2002 Meats Team**

The 2002 Meats Judging Team, consists of **Jason Meents**, Blue Hill; **Genna Frenzen**, Fullerton; **Candice Olson**, Minden; and **Aaron Naber**, Roca. This fall will conclude a year of judging for this team, and this particular span of time is the most demanding with four contests over a six-week period.

The first contest this fall was the Iowa State Invitational held on October 12, 2002. Eleven teams with 70 contestants made it the largest in its 25 year history. The UNL team finished 6th in beef grading and lamb judging, 7th in reasons and pork judging, and finished 7th overall. Naber was 3rd in beef grading and 14th in total beef. Frenzen placed 10th in pork judging.

The team traveled to Plainview, TX to compete in the Excel-High Plains contest a week later. Thirteen teams with 80 individuals competed in this contest. UNL placed 3rd in placings, 5th in pork judging, 7th in beef judging, 8th in lamb judging and specification to finish 10th overall. Individual placings was Naber 5th in lamb judging, and 17th in placings. Frenzen placed 11th in pork judging.

The American Royal Meat Judging Contest was held in Emporia, KS with 13 teams and 85 contestants competing. Naber was 9th in beef, Frenzen 8th in pork, and 7th in placings. Meents was 8th in beef grading with the team finishing 10th overall. The International Contest consisted of 14 teams with 56 contestants. Frenzen finished 6th in beef grading, 8th I total beef, 10th in lamb, 8th in placings and 11th overall. Frenzen posted the highest score for the team this year, but she had the highest score ever in UNL Meat Judging. **Aaron Naber placed 1st in specifications with a perfect score**, 11th in beef grading and 11th in pork judging. Naber has the 2nd highest score in UNL Meat Judging history. Olson tied Naber with a perfect score. The team placed 2nd in specifications, 4th in beef judging, 6th in pork judging, 6th in reasons and 8th overall. This team is to be commended for posting the highest score every by a UNL team. The 2003 Junior Meats Judging Team begins competition in the spring semester, competing at the National Western in Greeley, CO in January followed by the Southwestern in Dallas, TX in early February. (Contributed by Perry Brewer)

## 2002 Horse Judging Team

The UNL team is comprised of **Abbie Grossnicklaus**, Shelby; **Dustin Paul**, Beatrice; **Mike Richardson**, Lincoln; **Tara Swanson**, Lyons; and **Jennifer Broz**, Wilber. The team competed in their first contest on October 18, 2002 at the All American Quarter Horse Congress held in Columbus, OH. The contest consisted of 12 senior college teams with 60 individuals. The UNL team finished 8th overall, 8th in halter judging, 7th in performance horse judging, and 9th in oral reasons.

The team's second contest will be held November 20, 2002 when they will compete at the American Quarter Horse World Championship Show in Oklahoma City, OK. (Contributed by Kathy Anderson)

## Alumni Newsletter Wins Award

Earl Ellington accepted a third place award from The National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association, Inc. for the Animal Science newsletter at their June annual conference in Park City, Utah. Earl wishes to express special appreciation to Minnie Stephens for her enthusiasm and hard work with the newsletter.

## Your Newsletter Committee

Earl Ellington (Chair), Dennis Brink, Ted Doane, Jeff Keown, Duane Reese, Nancy Savery, and Minnie Stephens 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 2003 Issue of the Animal Science Alumni Newsletter

All of us enjoy learning about classmates and other alumni from the Animal Science Department. We ask that you send information about yourself for the next issue of our alumni newsletter. We are planning two newsletters per year. Our next Alumni Newsletter is tentatively scheduled to be mailed in late August or early September. You might include memorable events from your college days, such as classes, club activities, employment, teachers, friends and other items of interest. 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 last page for more information and how you may obtain additional departmental information and activity notices via e-mail.

## Alumni News

### 1930's

**Christine Carlson Groppe**, 2562 Treasure Drive # 4004, Santa Barbara, CA 93105. She was on the Home Economics Meat Judging Team in 1931 and believe it or not it was the first girl's team under the direction of Dr. Loeffel. She is now 90 and in good health and enjoys living and being active. She enjoys receiving the Alumni newsletter. Her e-mail address is: [cgroppe@juno.com](mailto:cgroppe@juno.com)

### 1940's

**Harold Stevens**, B.S. 43, 203 E 17th St., Lexington, NE 68850. Harold was a county agent for many years in Dawson County and was recently elected into the National 4-H Hall of Fame. His selection for this honor was due to his many years of service working with 4-H youth. Harold retired in 1987 from the Dawson County Extension office where he was Chair from 1945 until his retirement.

### 1950's

**Milton "Cap" Dierks**, B.S. 54, became a member of the Nebraska Hall of Ag Achievement. "Cap" is a veterinarian, rancher and has served in the Nebraska State Legislature since 1986.

**Art, Neb and Rob Raun** received the Alumni Association Family Tree Award. At least 37 members from four generations of the Peter and Anna Marie Raun family have attended or are attending the University of Nebraska.

### 1960's

**Max L. Waldo**, B.S. 60, vice president/manager of Waldo Farms was one of the Nebraska Hall of Ag Achievement's honorees. Max is a nationally recognized leader in the pork industry. They have sold seedstock to customers in 49 states and 28 countries.

**Michael Neruda**, BS-68, has been named by Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Homeland Security and Strategic Initiatives. Mr. Neruda has served as a deputy undersecretary for Rural Development since June 2001. In his new position, Neruda will serve as a senior advisor on homeland security issues, as well as managing various strategic initiatives. He also served as a confidential assistant to Secretary Veneman during the first six months of the Bush Administration. Prior to joining USDA, Neruda was Staff Director of the Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities, Resource Conservation and Credit, Committee on Agriculture, U.S. House of Representatives. Neruda has served on the staff of several Members of Congress, including Rep. Fred Grandy and Senator Roger Jepsen, both of Iowa, and Senator Ed Zorinsky of Nebraska. He also served as a consultant for Representative Ron Marlenee of Montana on the House Agriculture Committee's Wheat, Soybeans, and Feed grains Subcommittee. Neruda served in several positions in the previous Bush Administration, including Executive Assistant to Agriculture Secretary Edward Madigan and Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration. Neruda is a Captain in the Navy Reserve and served on active duty during Operation Desert Storm. After the war he was chosen to serve under General Norman Schwarzkopf in various capacities. Mr. Neruda holds a MA

in Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma as well as a B.S. in General Agriculture from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

### 1970's

**Walter E. Turner**, 20 Amy Lane, Mantorville, MN 55955. Walter is working for A1-Corn Clean Fuel in grain accounting. He handles all the corn coming into the ethanol plant. He works with the selling and logistics of shipping distillers grains and ethanol. His e-mail address is: [walt20amy@yahoo.com](mailto:walt20amy@yahoo.com).

**Elton Lux**, B.S. 72, had a mural featured in the November 4, 2001 Palm Beach Post. He has done sculpting for Walt Disney World, and has been a cowboy, saddle maker, tooled-leather artist and horse trainer.

**Chuck Schroeder**, B.S. 73, resigned as Chief Executive Officer of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association to become the executive director of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. During his tenure, Chuck completed the merger of the National Live Stock and Meat Board and the National Cattlemen's Association and reorganized NCBA's Washington, DC office. He helped develop a strategy that stabilized and increased beef demand after a 20-year slide.

**William C. Schwartz**, 4957 Gullane Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Bill graduated with his Ph.D. degree in 1975 and is currently Vice President of NSF — Cook & Thurber. Bill previously was Vice President of Technical Services for Sara Lee Branded Foods, working in food safety, quality assurances, regulatory compliance and related initiatives. With NSF — Cook & Thurber he will be working with food safety and quality assurances. You may contact him by e-mail at: [Schwartz@nsf.org](mailto:Schwartz@nsf.org).

**Peter D. Duryea**, 1844 N. 52nd Street, Omaha, NE 68104. Peter is working as a Consumer Safety Officer for the USDA in Omaha. You can e-mail him at: [fourmaticman@earthlink.net](mailto:fourmaticman@earthlink.net) or [Peter.Duryea@usda.gov](mailto:Peter.Duryea@usda.gov).

### 1980's

**Laura M. Nettlenad**, B.S. 89, 2831 Tierra Drive #711, Lincoln, NE 68516. Laura is a Staff Assistant for the Nebraska State Patrol's Investigative Services.

**Terry R. Radke**, 4031 W 96th Street, Overland Park, KS 66207-3513. Terry spent 12 years working in feed research for Farmland Industries in Kansas City after his position was terminated he began working in the clinical research data management position at Pfizer Animal Health in April 2001. This position was recently relocated to Groton, CT and he decided not to move so he is making another career change.

**Curt Arens**, B.S. 86, 88664 550 Avenue, Crofton, NE 68730-4075. Curt and his wife, Donna own and operate their fourth generation family farm, Bow View Farm, near Crofton. This includes family birdseed production and processing, Christmas trees and landscape tree operations. They have a two-year old daughter and a new daughter born in January 2002. To contact Curt you may e-mail him at [bowview@bloomnet.com](mailto:bowview@bloomnet.com).

**Katherine (Powell) Wijnstein**, B.S. 83, 43503 Postrail Square, Ashburn, VA 20147. Kit and her family live in the Washington, DC area. She worked for an airline which

downsized and since her job was eliminated she is a stay-at-home mom. She misses the Midwest and continues to be a Big Red fan. Kit and her husband, August, would like to relocate to Nebraska and raise their two children in a smaller community. Kit can be reached by e-mail at: [Nebraska@aol.com](mailto:Nebraska@aol.com).

**Dabirichukwu A. Ngoka**, B.S. 77, M.S. 78, Ph.D. 81, 49 Mbano Street Aladinma Housing Estate, P.O. Box 6440, Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria. Dr. Ngoka is Chairman/CEO of DAEN Limited (Agricultural Consultants). He is retired from public service and keeps active with church programs, especially as a family counselor. He enjoys the Alumni Newsletter.

**Dr. Larry Roth**, Ph.D. 1987, works for Conklin Company, Inc. in Shakopee, MN. Larry and his wife, Kim, have two children — Britta Joy and Philip Isaiah, and live on a 13-acre farm in Minnesota where they raise laying hens and heifers for freezer beef off of pasture. His job with Conklin has taken him to Japan, the European Union and Israel besides the USA and Canada.

### 1990's

**Clarissa D. Ramel** is an Associate veterinarian at the Plattsmouth Animal Hospital in Plattsmouth, Nebraska. Her current address is 1721 Scarborough Drive, Apt. 2F, Bellevue, Nebraska. Her e-mail address is: [caseyramel@yahoo.com](mailto:caseyramel@yahoo.com).

**Travis R. Stuhmer**, P.O. Box 236, Burwell, Nebraska 68823. He has been working as a ranch hand with T & E, Inc. out of Grand Island, Nebraska since graduation. He is married and their first child was born in April 2002.

**Shad Stamm**, B.S. 95, HC 64, Box 26, Benkelman, NE 69021. Shad is co-owner of Stamm and Sons Farm/Ranch, LLC at Benkelman. He married in 1998 and their first child was born in 2001. He keeps busy with the farming/ranching operations but still has time to lead a 4-H club. He serves on the Dundy County school board and the Dundy Country 4-H Council.

### 2000's

**Jon Snoke**, B.S. 01 700 13th Ave. NE, Apt. #308, Sioux Center, IA 51250 is now working for TransOva Genetics, Inc. in Sioux Center, Iowa. He is working in the lab looking at beef embryos and if you want an explanation of what he does with these embryos you will need to talk to him. His e-mail address is: [jonsnoke@yahoo.com](mailto:jonsnoke@yahoo.com).

**Jessica Park**, M.S. 00, 518 B Preston Drive, Greenfield, IN 46140. Jessica received her M.S. degree in December of 2000 and is currently working for Elanco Animal Health in Greenfield, IN. Her e-mail address is: [jpark66@hotmail.com](mailto:jpark66@hotmail.com).

**Molly Wickham**, B.S. 00, 1635 North 123rd Street, Omaha, NE 68154. Molly is a second year law student at Creighton University School of Law. You can reach her by e-mail at: [mollyjane77@hotmail.com](mailto:mollyjane77@hotmail.com).

**Dr. James B. Lamb**, Ph.D. 1996, says he has finally found the job he always wanted and that he is working for Brigham Young University. Jim is at the Brigham Young Livestock Center in Rexburg, Idaho and on the staff there as a teacher.



## Animal Science Trivia



**Answer to last year's picture:** Front row: Sue White, Sutherland; Julie Means, Omaha; Deb Kleve, Waverly. Second row: Darrell Gerdes, Ainsworth; Bruce Treffer, Cozad; Chris Lofgreen, Lincoln; Sandy Perkins, Norfolk; Shelly Reissener, Papillion; Sally Pearson, Fremont; Linda Johnson, Blair; Galen Gerdes, Grand Island; and Craig Uhrig, Minatare. Third row: Greg Weers, Dillon; Julie Hart, Fremont; Groff Davenport, Omaha; Karen Kirwan, Imperial, Tim Holschleer, Cook, and John Slavens, Dakota City.

Do you recognize any of these faculty? The answers are located in this Newsletter.



Does anyone recognize any of these students? They took a French tour in 1974? Answers are hidden inside this Newsletter.

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## ■ Calendar of Events for 2002-2003

### SWINE

- ❖ NPPA Annual Convention, February 4-5, 2003, New World Inn, Columbus
- ❖ Nebraska Pork Industry Expo and Feeder Pig Show, February 5-6, 2003, Platte County Ag Park, Columbus, NE
  - **Educational Opportunities — 2003**
  - **Managing Your Unseen Employee: The Ventilation System**
    - February 18 — Ortmeier Building, West Point, 9:30 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.
    - February 18 — Gage County Extension Office, Beatrice, 9:00 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.
    - February 20 and 21 — Ag Park, Columbus, 9:00 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.
  - **Trucker Quality Assurance Certification for Producers**
    - January 22 — Gage County Extension Office, Beatrice, 9:30 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.
    - February 5 — Ag Park, Columbus, 1:30 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.
    - February 25 — Courthouse, West Point, 7:00 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
  - **Improving Your Ability to Compete Seminar Series**
    - Seminar 1 — Getting the Production Basics Right**
      - January 7 — Life Long Learning Center, Norfolk
      - January 8 — East Campus Union, Lincoln and College Park, Grand Island
    - Seminar 2 — Hog Marketing Basics**
      - March 4 — Life Long Learning Center, Norfolk
      - March 5 — East Campus Union, Lincoln and College Park, Grand Island
    - Seminar 3 — Pork Quality Basics**
      - June 24 and 25 (Tentative)
    - Seminar 4 — Marketing Quality — the “New” Marketing Challenge**
      - August 12 and 13 (Tentative)
    - Seminar 5 — Pulling It All Together — Effect of Non-production Issues on Ability to Compete**
      - November (Tentative)

### HORSE

- ❖ Horsin Around — February 22-23, 2003, Animal Science Building Arena featuring Steve Heckaman on Western Pleasure
- ❖ 4-H Hourse Stampede — March 15, 2003, Lancaster Event Center in conjunction with Nebhorse Expo
  - Horse Bowl Contest
  - Demonstrations
  - Public Speaking Contests
- ❖ District 4-H Shows — June 16-20 and June 23-25, 2003
- ❖ State 4-H Horse Show — July 13-17, 2003, Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE

### POULTRY

- ❖ Nebraska Poultry Industries Convention - March 5 and 6, 2003, New World Inn, Columbus, NE
- ❖ Midwest Poultry Federation Trade Show and Education Workshops — March 18-20, 2003, St. Paul, MN

### OTHER

- ❖ Animal Science Open House — February 8, 2003
- ❖ Block and Bridle Honors Banquet — April 25, 2003

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## ■ Alumni Information

**PLEASE NOTE:** In an attempt to improve our contact with alumni, the Department of Animal Science is in the process of 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: **vkobes1@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:

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News Items, Comments, etc.

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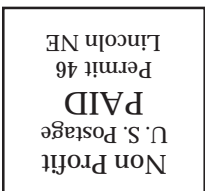
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
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