

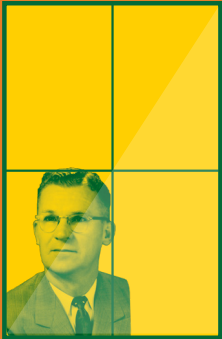
Pearls & Rubies

THE MAGAZINE OF FARMHOUSE FRATERNITY

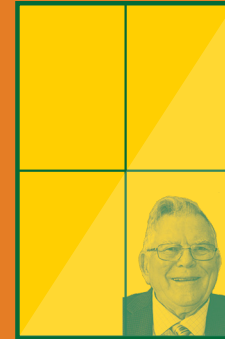
YEAR 112 / WINTER 2017/18



A



HOUSE



OF



INNOVATORS



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“The world needs innovative fraternities now more than ever.”

FARMHOUSE FRATERNITY was founded on April 15, 1905, by a group of young men who took pride in their agricultural heritage. Since that day, our fraternity's culture has been strongly rooted in our shared values, our commitment to transparency and in the spirit of innovation. Even our very name is a testament to the idea of innovation. In a world filled with Greek-lettered fraternities, FarmHouse stands proudly apart from the rest, while also standing for something more: Faith, Ambition, Reverence, Morality, Honesty, Obedience, Unity, Service and Excellence.

As FarmHouse men, we can also be proud of our non-secretive Ritual. We know that being initiated into any fraternity is one of the most meaningful events in a man's life, and that joining FarmHouse has the potential to have a positive impact on every aspect of his life from that day forward. We take pride in the fact family and friends are welcomed to share this milestone occasion with us.

FarmHouse has also been a leader in ensuring students have a living and learning environment that places a priority on education and safety. In 1974, FarmHouse was the first North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) member to mandate alcohol-free housing. At the time, this was considered to be an innovative stance, and it has helped generations of men have a positive fraternity experience, and has no doubt helped to ensure our Fraternity consistently ranks among the highest for academic success.

The International Fraternity has also long been a leader in providing innovative educational student programs. In fact, FarmHouse has earned 2 NIC Laurel Wreath Awards specifically for educational innovation and excellence. Today, nearly 40 percent of student members participate in an in-person training program every biennium. These programs support students at every stage of their academic career, from the To Be and Become leadership program specifically designed for first-year college students, to The Journey, an international service-learning experience.

Our commitment to innovation doesn't just apply to what we do on campus. After graduation, FarmHouse continues to challenge its members to be innovative in their career choices, and to think of unique ways they can continue to be of service to their communities, and to the world at large. This issue of *Pearls & Rubies* highlights how 18 men are doing just that.

The world needs innovative fraternities now more than ever. FarmHouse has a unique opportunity to continue to lead by example. We have the ability to demonstrate the incredibly positive impact fraternities have on individual men, on the university experience and on the world beyond. To do so, we must continue to strive to be the best we can be. Progress must mark our every step.

To take FarmHouse into the future, we cannot simply rest on our laurels; we need a renewed spirit of innovation. We must be innovative in the educational and leadership opportunities we provide our members; ensuring that we remain relevant. We must evaluate and enhance the new member experience; ensuring that it consistently and holistically builds men. We must build a strong and committed network; ensuring that our student and alumni members can easily connect with each other for mentoring and support. And we must never forget our lifelong commitment to our Fraternity.

We must be nimble and adaptable as we continue on our journey of innovation. We must recognize that while “progress shall mark our every step,” innovation is a process, with continual learning opportunities from both successes and from changes that don't produce results as planned. Most importantly, we must continue on our journey of innovation together, as student members, alumni, parents and FarmHouse friends.

We invite you to participate in the discussion of the future of FarmHouse Fraternity by attending our 50th Biennial Conclave, to be held July 25–28, 2018, in Kansas City, Mo. This Conclave will be a celebration of our fraternity's legacy, and an opportunity for us to support its future.

Fraternally,

Gabriel Eckert (KS 95), CAE
President, International Executive Board

PRESIDENT@FARMHOUSE.ORG

FarmHouse Flashback



Calendar

January 4-7, 2018
FarmHouse Leadership
Institute/GROWS
Kansas City, Mo.

April 20-22, 2018
12th Annual Foundation
Power of 7 Seminar
Asheville, N.C.

May 16-18, 2018
To Be and Become:
Emerging Talent
Retreat
Kansas City, Mo.

May 19-26, 2018
The Journey:
FarmHouse
Honduras

July 26-29, 2018
50th Biennial Conclave
Kansas City, Mo.

George W. Beadle (NE 24) on the July 14, 1958 cover of *Time*. Learn more about his, and other early FarmHouse men's, innovative legacy starting on page 10.

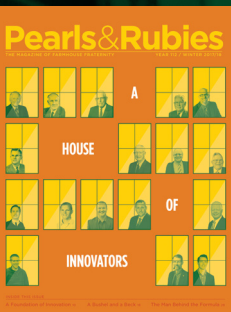


Pearls&Rubies | Spring 2018

What makes a house a home?

The food and hospitality industries touch millions of people, in at least some shape or form, each and every day. It's no secret that FarmHouse members shape the world of food production, consumption and even the dining experience. So, it seems fitting that the next issue of *Pearls & Rubies* will tell of the stories of those industries and the people that make it all happen.

If you or a brother has an interesting story or notable impact in the realm of food and hospitality—big or small—we'd love to share it. Send story ideas and contact information to jared@farmhouse.org by January 15, 2018.



Cover left to right: Sonny Beck (PU 59), George Beadle (NE 24), D. Howard Doane (MO 05), Claude B. Hutchison (MO 05), Jeff Lowe (OK 93), Orville Vogel (NE 29), Robert Walton (OK 58), Dick Kruse (KS 64), Mike Marty (IA 87), Quentin Dudley (NE 09), Robbie Hable (IA 13), Ryan Downs (NE 88), Loren Peterson (NE 75), Ryan Raguse (ND 07), Cameron Dunlap (NM 93), and Trevor Tune (MO 12)

Pearls&Rubies

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advocate | collaborate | educate



FRATERNITY
COMMUNICATIONS
ASSOCIATION

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The origins of FarmHouse are rooted in innovation, many thanks to our founders that started it all.

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Sonny Beck (PU 59) has impacted the seed industry as CEO of Beck's Hybrids – but more than that, he's doing his part to help farmers succeed.

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Ten alumni answer our question: What makes your work innovative?

27 Good Genetics

From farm to FarmHouse to USDA's Secretary Honor Award recipient, Dick Frahm (NE 58) devoted his career to being a leader in animal genetics.

28 The Man Behind the Formula

Bob Walton (OK 50) developed a formula that changed the way an entire industry breeds dairy cattle for maximum production.



Sonny Beck (PU 59), Master Builder, accepts the FarmHouse Foundation's Philanthropy Laureate award at the 49th Biennial Conclave in August 2016.

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The Landscape is a six part series focused on the current landscape on our college campuses.

In the last Landscape, we talked about fraternity at a turning point—a critical moment—and in doing so, outlined our trade association's efforts to re-frame fraternity. However, understanding the turning point isn't just about campus support from the NIC, industry wide programming and lobbying efforts.

To dig into our landscape, we must explore challenges one-by-one. In the past year, fraternities have struggled with racially insensitive incidents, homophobic and anti-semitic behavior, hazing, sexual assault and alcohol abuse. FarmHouse, like other fraternities, also has challenges, and in the past few months its become readily apparent that we have work to do in these areas.

In this issue, we're continuing the conversation with a story from one of our own members, and while his story doesn't necessarily reflect everyone's, it does help us begin an important conversation over the next few issues about challenges we have to face together.



Transparency in Acceptance

An open letter by Chris Steppig (IL 13), who tells his story of sexuality, acceptance and encouragement to change the rhetoric.

IN THE FALL OF 2012, when I joined FarmHouse as a new member at the University of Illinois, I was welcomed by a group of roughly fifty other young men who were just like me. Most were from small, rural towns. Although not all of us were from an agricultural background, there were only a few who sought degrees outside of agriculture. We relied on each other for motivation to get to class, and routinely worked together to outperform the other agricultural fraternities in the classroom. Outside of school we could be found traveling in packs, whether it was on our way to a social with ladies of a sorority, or to the local watering holes depending on the night. The spirit of congeniality was alive and well.

As an underclassman, I had found a place on campus to call home with a group of men that I could rely on. It was refreshing to feel included in a group of guys who were well-respected on campus by other students, faculty and staff of the university. During my time living in-house, FarmHouse would allow me to connect with other chapters at the FarmHouse Leadership Institute, afford countless opportunities to network with leaders both within FarmHouse and outside of the organization, as well as

support my study abroad program to the Netherlands. It wasn't until my senior year that I felt like I was on the outside looking in; no longer well connected to the brothers who had made my transition to campus a smooth one.

The driving force behind this change was something that many FarmHouse men are uncomfortable talking about: the sexual identity of our members. It seemed to simply be the expectation that each of us would be interested in women. If there was suspicion that any of us were not strictly heterosexual, the brother in question would be the topic of discussion in hushed tones for days, if not weeks. Being "gay" was the worst insult that could be dealt, not a title that one of our brothers could be comfortable identifying with.

So, you might imagine the dilemma that would arise when I told my brothers that gay is exactly the demographic with which I identify. Although I have only been comfortable identifying as a gay man since 2015, I have known that I was not heterosexual since my early teens. Although my parents are fully supportive of me being gay, I always thought it was expected that I would someday bring a woman home, introduce



Chris Steppig (IL 13) lower right, at a philanthropy event called Mud Olympics with brothers and AOPi in the fall of 2012

her as my significant other and that there was no way around that. In college, I surrounded myself with folks who had the same thoughts. “Why don’t you have a girlfriend?” was a common question. Until three years ago, I was not willing to admit that I was not, nor had I been, looking for a girlfriend all along.

It wasn’t until I admitted that simple, yet monumental fact to myself that I felt I could begin living authentically. After realizing that I was comfortable with my own sexuality, I noticed that I had few people with whom to share this new part of my life. I wanted others to know who I truly was, although the fear of what they might say about this revelation was numbing. With apprehension, I told my immediate family and close friends from home that I had been on a few dates recently, and that they had been with a man. The relief felt when this news was met with positive responses was comparable to Atlas shrugging off the weight of the world.

Coming out to the chapter, however, was another story. It seemed there was never an appropriate time to bring it up to FarmHouse brothers. Sexual orientation was certainly not a dinner

time conversation. I struggled to find a way to share a part of my life that I was excited about with a group of men I felt would not agree with it. As I faltered in initiating the conversation, I distanced myself from those I called my brothers. Although I was being honest with myself, I was no longer being honest with my brothers.

When the opportunity finally arose to discuss being gay with a group of brothers, there was far less excitement than there was from family and friends at home. I had a hard time seeing why this was the case, since FarmHouse had been my home away from home during my time at college. I still looked forward to going to class or social events with “the guys,” but to me, it felt like a new and uncomfortable undertone had made its way into our encounters. Backhanded comments and inappropriate jokes that would have been good-natured before, felt like harsh statements said with malice. Relationships with many brothers continued to feel strained, and I moved out of house for my final semester at the University of Illinois.

It seemed like a shame to leave on a low note, and some could argue that I was running away from an issue instead of working to find a

solution to it. My letter, however, is the beginning of my solution and I hope this message starts a new rhetoric in chapters throughout the country.

As an organization that has always been innovative in our approach to fraternity, I have to wonder, where is our innovative spirit when it comes to truly celebrating the differences in our membership? I recognize the organization has policies that prohibit discrimination based on race, ethnicity and sexual identity. However, I have to wonder, do today’s students have the skill set to understand how that policy should be enacted in their brotherhood? As the Object of our Fraternity says, “the spirit of congeniality shall reign at all times; and every member shall be honest with himself as with his brothers.” I recognize that my own transparency came late, but wonder how we turn this statement into practice within our brotherhood. I share my story in hopes that it does not create derision, but instead fosters conversation that encourages our chapters across the country to take a deeper look at how FarmHouse can truly be a welcoming home for all members.

Fraternally Yours,
Chris Steppig (IL 13) *

Founded as a local fraternity in 1976 by Ricky Toole, Gary Long, Rick Honour and Gary Deal

Principals include: trust, honesty, perseverance, brotherhood, unity and dedication

Created as an offshoot of a national fraternity in response to local hazing and lack of brotherhood throughout the organization

Philanthropies: Cystic Fibrosis and Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 17

Primarily military/corps of cadets, but recruiting more civilian members

Consistently the most ethnically diverse member of the IFC at UNG

Motto: Small in Size, Large in Heart

Never has had a "pledge" period

Resulted from the consolidation of North Georgia College and State University (NGCSU) and Gainesville State University in 2013

Originally founded in 1873 as North Georgia Agricultural College, the first co-educational college in Georgia

One of six Senior Military Colleges, with Reveille, Retreat, and Taps played every day on the Dahlonega campus

Over 19,000 students at 5 campuses across Georgia

Over 100 academic fields
ung.edu

Membership Growth

Best of the Last

Becoming North Georgia FarmHouse

BY SCOTT MARSHALL

BRINGING AN ESTABLISHED GROUP into the fold can be difficult, but for the brothers of the Sigma Omega Fraternity, FarmHouse International was a clear, obvious choice.

Founded at the University of North Georgia (UNG) in 1976, Sigma Omega is the last local fraternity for this institute to remain alive and thriving, but with the growth of the University, they were required to either expand into Sigma Omega National or merge with another organization. Sigma Omega looked at the resources available to them and decided to join another national organization, and a two-year process of searching began.

"We wanted to ensure we stayed true to the principles of our founders and after searching for a long time, we saw that the men of FarmHouse most closely aligned with our values, how we treat each other and how we see the fraternity experience," says Anthony Twitty, current chapter president. "We are honestly looking forward to how much we can grow ourselves but also help FarmHouse as a part of their brotherhood as well."

Sigma Omega was formed by brothers of a large national fraternity with a large chapter at UNG. While that fraternity has been gone from the campus for over 30 years, Sigma Omega continues to thrive. They were focused on the smaller size, with brothers knowing each other well, and no differentiation between class years. Most importantly, they separated from the national in response to hazing and lengthy pledgship programs.

"We started off by eliminating the pledge program. When we voted someone in, they were a fully voting brother right away," says Davis Palmour, an ΣΩ alumnus from the 1970s and a former Dean of Students. "Of course, we taught the history and traditions

as well, but that came about by spending time with each other and being around each other, not through heavily structured, formal classes that often lead to hazing." That tradition continues to this day.

Two mottoes have continued forward, unchanged through the years: "Best of the Last" and "Small in Size, Large in Heart."

The smaller size of FarmHouse International, combined with a brotherhood that clearly takes pride in creating ties with each other, first attracted the notice of those researching national organizations.

"We knew there would be things that would change. We knew our name would have to change. We wanted to be sure the principles that we were founded on did not change," Caleb McCain, a former president, said. "And while some of the changes will hurt a little, it was

"The quality and dependability of these men has not changed. And I see that same honor and integrity in FarmHouse."

FarmHouse that really listened to us and understood us. We know it will be a good thing for both organizations as we start to become FarmHouse and contribute."

Sigma Omega brothers also historically take leadership roles at the University, currently with multiple officer positions in the IFC, the Corps of Cadets and leading specialty units and clubs. The current president is also the commander of Scabbard and Blade, the military honor society at UNG, and holds the cadet rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Membership Growth

Upcoming Expansions

ARIZONA STATE

Spring 18

UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL MISSOURI

Fall 18

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Spring 19

UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA - BERKELY

Spring 19



If you are interested in volunteering with an upcoming expansion, contact Christian Wiggins, chief executive officer, at christian@farmhouse.org.



Left to Right: Ernie Cole, Ronnie Turner, and Larry Duckett, executive officers, 1978; Cornhole boards being prepped with the Sigma Omega and FarmHouse Crests; Current brothers at a chapter meeting in December 2017.

UNG is one of six senior military colleges in the United States, but the only one that is solely Army based. Similar to Texas A&M and Virginia Tech, UNG has both civilian and military students. The overwhelming majority of members and alumni of Sigma Omega have been in the military themselves. Although they do not have any nationally prominent alumni, among their numbers they can count multiple university deans, state and federal judges, local commissioners and politicians and, of course, hundreds of military officers and veterans in both the U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps. They even count a winner of the U.S. Army's grueling Best Ranger Competition among their alumni.

Because of this tie to the military, one of their two philanthropies is the local chapter of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV). Members of the DAV have occasionally attended Sigma Omega

chapter meetings and vice versa. Annual raffles and other fundraising events by the chapter directly assist the DAV members in the area. Having several brothers and alumni injured in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Balkans over the years, this is especially important to the brotherhood.

Having read about FarmHouse's partnership with the National Bone Marrow Registry, the value of making a difference one person at a time, based off the experiences of a brother, was another reason for the brothers to choose FarmHouse.

Even many alumni, who were naturally reluctant at first, have since become not only more accepting, but more supportive of the change. "I first thought, 'why?' Then I thought, 'why these guys?' But the more I read and the more I hear about the integrity and the brotherhood

of FarmHouse, the better I think this will be," says Andrew Buchanon ($\Sigma\Omega$). "I can see this as being of benefit to both FarmHouse and us alumni as well as the current brothers," says Tyler Dunlap ($\Sigma\Omega$). "Individual chapters may have their own personalities, but overall, it seems FarmHouse is a good match."

Change is not easy. Large national fraternities come and go at UNG every year, but we have endured," said CPT William Webb. "The school is no longer the small, mountain college it once was, but the quality and dependability of these men will not change, in spite of all the changes going on around them. I look to see that same honor and integrity in FarmHouse."

The colony at UNG is already moving quickly to meet the requirements for full chapter membership. While they won't forget their past, they are looking forward to their future as FarmHouse brothers. *

50th Biennial Conclave

CONCLAVE is the biennial gathering of our brotherhood to discuss the important and relevant issues facing our Fraternity. The Business Meeting of the chapter and association delegates provides the opportunity for the membership to share in the governance and leadership of FarmHouse and help set the course for the Fraternity for the next biennium. Conclave was first held in 1917 and this year marks the 50th time we've gathered as a Fraternity.

In addition to the important legislative business conducted, the event provides educational sessions and workshops that promote personal leadership development and chapter health, social events to enjoy our fraternal bonds of brotherhood, recognizes our accomplished brothers with our highest honor (the Master Builder of Men award) and outstanding chapters with the Award of Excellence and Ruby Cup announcement, memorializes our brothers who have passed and elects leadership to the International Executive Board of Directors.

Master Builder of Men Nomination

THE MASTER BUILDER OF MEN AWARD was established in 1950 by the National Executive Board. It is the highest honor FarmHouse Fraternity may bestow upon an alumni member. The award recognizes and publicly acknowledges the member's unselfish leadership and service to his fellow men, both within the Fraternity and beyond. Neither position, nor wealth, nor occupation enters into consideration for the award, but simply his contributions in helping others and living the values of the Fraternity as a Builder of Men.

A Master Builder of Men is a member of FarmHouse Fraternity who: possesses a continued interest in improving both the chapters and associations of the organization and is a leader in the Fraternity; demonstrates interest in young people by providing help and encouragement, allowing them to better themselves through further development and growth; embodies the Fraternity's principles in his daily actions; and, is a gentleman and respected citizen of his own personal and/or professional community.

Master Builder of Men nominations are to consist of the following:

- a biographical sketch of the nominated Brother;
- a detailed statement of the nominee's service and leadership to the Fraternity;
- a nomination letter from a chapter or alumni member, chapter, association or fraternal group;
- and at least two, but no more than four, letters of support from persons addressing the nominee's accomplishments and character.

Who Attends Conclave?

Anyone is welcome! Each chapter and association is required to send a voting delegate; however, all chapter members and alumni brothers are encouraged to join us and learn from one another. Additionally, a special series of events will be included for House Directors and local chapter support volunteers.

Why Should I Attend?

Education, networking and fellowship! Improve yourself, improve your chapter, prepare yourself for the future and celebrate the benefits of the FarmHouse member experience!



A posthumous nomination may be considered if the man passed less than two biennia (four years) prior to the nomination. Individuals nominated but not previously selected may be considered again if not selected; however, it is requested nomination materials be updated.

To be considered for Conclave 2018, nominations are to be mailed no later than March 1, 2018. Address entries to:

AWARDS COMMITTEE
FARMHOUSE INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY
7306 NW TIFFANY SPRINGS PARKWAY, SUITE 310
KANSAS CITY, MO 64153

It is encouraged that materials be submitted via email to fhhq@farmhouse.org. Submitted materials will be reviewed by the Awards Committee, comprised of previous recipients as selected by the Awards Chair and International President. Final selection is made by the International Executive Board of Directors based on the recommendation of the Awards Committee.

The selected Master Builder of Men Award recipients will be notified by the International President and invited to attend the 50th Biennial Conclave, July 26, 2018, in Kansas City, Mo.. Additional questions may be directed to Christian Wiggins, chief executive officer and executive director, at 816.891.9445 or by email at christian@farmhouse.org.

International Executive Board Nominations

FARMHOUSE INTERNATIONAL

FRATERNITY is looking for volunteer leaders like you! FarmHouse is currently recruiting volunteers to leadership roles with the International Fraternity, including nominations for the International Executive Board (IEB), the governing board of directors for the International Fraternity, and seeking volunteers for IEB-Appointed Committee and Officer positions. These volunteer leadership roles are an excellent opportunity for you to give back to our Fraternity and we need your support! The Nominations and Elections Committee is open for nominations for alumni seats. The nomination deadline for consideration for the International Executive Board is April 27. Additionally, anyone may self-nominate or sign-up for one of a number of volunteer leadership positions available with an IEB-Appointed Committee or Officer position.

What is the International Executive Board?

The International Executive Board (IEB) is the governing board of directors for the International Fraternity. The eight seats are held by alumni members, elected to four-year terms serving Conclave to Conclave. The Executive Director serves as a non-voting ex-officio member as well. The IEB is charged with creating the International Fraternity's vision, mission and accompanying goals to reach strategic objectives; set policy and ensure compliance; approve budgetary planning and achieve fiduciary responsibility; ensure good governance through strategic leadership and executive director oversight and serve as a voice for and publicly represent the International Fraternity when called to do so.

What is the time commitment and expectations?

Those members slated for election to the IEB are expected to attend the Fraternity's 50th Biennial Conclave, July 25–29, 2018, in Kansas City, Mo., to assume their seats and begin their service. Additionally, the IEB meets in person twice a year (fall and spring) and often monthly via conference call. Although

not a requirement, from time to time IEB members are invited to attend and preside at chapter charterings, colonization ceremonies, milestone anniversary events and FH educational programs (such as FLI, GROWS, RLCs, To Be and Become, etc.). Additionally, the IEB holds a meeting prior to the start of each biennial Conclave.

Members of the IEB are expected to attend all meetings, as called by the International President or Executive Director. Additionally, members of the IEB are expected to resign from any other designated volunteer role, such as a chapter advisor or director of an Association, so as to avoid a conflict of interest. IEB members are encouraged, however, to participate in FarmHouse programs and events hosted by chapters and associations in their area.

Who is eligible for nomination?

Any alumni member is eligible for nomination. The nominee should have an interest in FarmHouse and a commitment to its leadership. While not a must, experience with non-profit management or previous volunteer board experience is helpful. It is not necessary for a nominee to have held an elected office or official role at the chapter, advisor or association level or to have been involved with the International Fraternity, but it is important that he have a commitment to leadership and service to FarmHouse.

Additionally, the IEB has three officer roles of president, vice president and treasurer. In submitting a nomination, a candidate should expressly state his interest in one of these officer roles to be considered by the Nominations and Elections Committee for the office. These officer roles serve two-year terms, Conclave to Conclave, and along with the executive director/secretary constitute the IEB's Executive Committee.

How am I nominated?

Brothers interested should submit nomination materials by April 27, 2018. Men nominated should share relevant leadership positions, professional contributions and skills that are applicable to service on a non-profit/fraternal

association board of directors, as evidence of a willingness and preparedness to serve in this important leadership role.

What does the nomination process include?

Once nomination materials are received, all documents will be forwarded to the Nominations and Elections Committee. This committee is chaired by International Treasurer Patrick Robinson (KY 98), and includes Shawn Eagleburger (IA 02), Ryan McConnaughey (WY 06), Jeff Davis (SD 78), and Tim Hadecheck (KS 07). Each member of the Nominations and Elections Committee will review nomination materials, scoring each nominee independently. A combined tally of scores from the approved rubric will provide a ranking for review and consideration.

Nomination should be sent no later than April 27, 2018. Email nominations to Christian Wiggins at christian@farmhouse.org. Printed entries may be mailed to: FarmHouse International Fraternity; 7306 NW Tiffany Springs Parkway, Suite 310; Kansas City, MO 64153

If necessary, the Nominations and Elections Committee will extend invitations to conduct phone interviews with nominees to help make the final determination of the slate of proposed candidates for the IEB. In accordance with the International Fraternity's By-laws 2012-14, Article III, this slate will be announced by June 11 to the membership, specifically to the chapter and association Conclave voting delegates and will include biographical information on each slated candidate.

The full slate will be presented and each member introduced during the Opening Business Meeting during Conclave on Wednesday, July 25, in Kansas City. The slate will then be voted on for approval during the Closing Business Meeting on Friday, July 27, at which time the new IEB members will assume their seats. *



BY: CHAD HARRIS (IA 98)

Merriam-Webster defines innovation as “the introduction of something new—an idea, a method, a device.”

The origins of FarmHouse are rooted in innovation. Innovative ideas, methods and devices, were exhibited by the actions and decisions of our seven founders following a seminal innovative movement in higher education, industry and agriculture, that allowed the timing to be right for our founders to meet one another and to form FarmHouse.

A generation before our founding, the advancement of public higher education dramatically changed with the passage of the Morrill Act of 1865, creating the land-grant public university system. For the next 150 years, these institutions would grow to become the engine for educating the majority of college students in America, be the source of new technology, serve as economic engines for states and apply research and knowledge in practical ways.

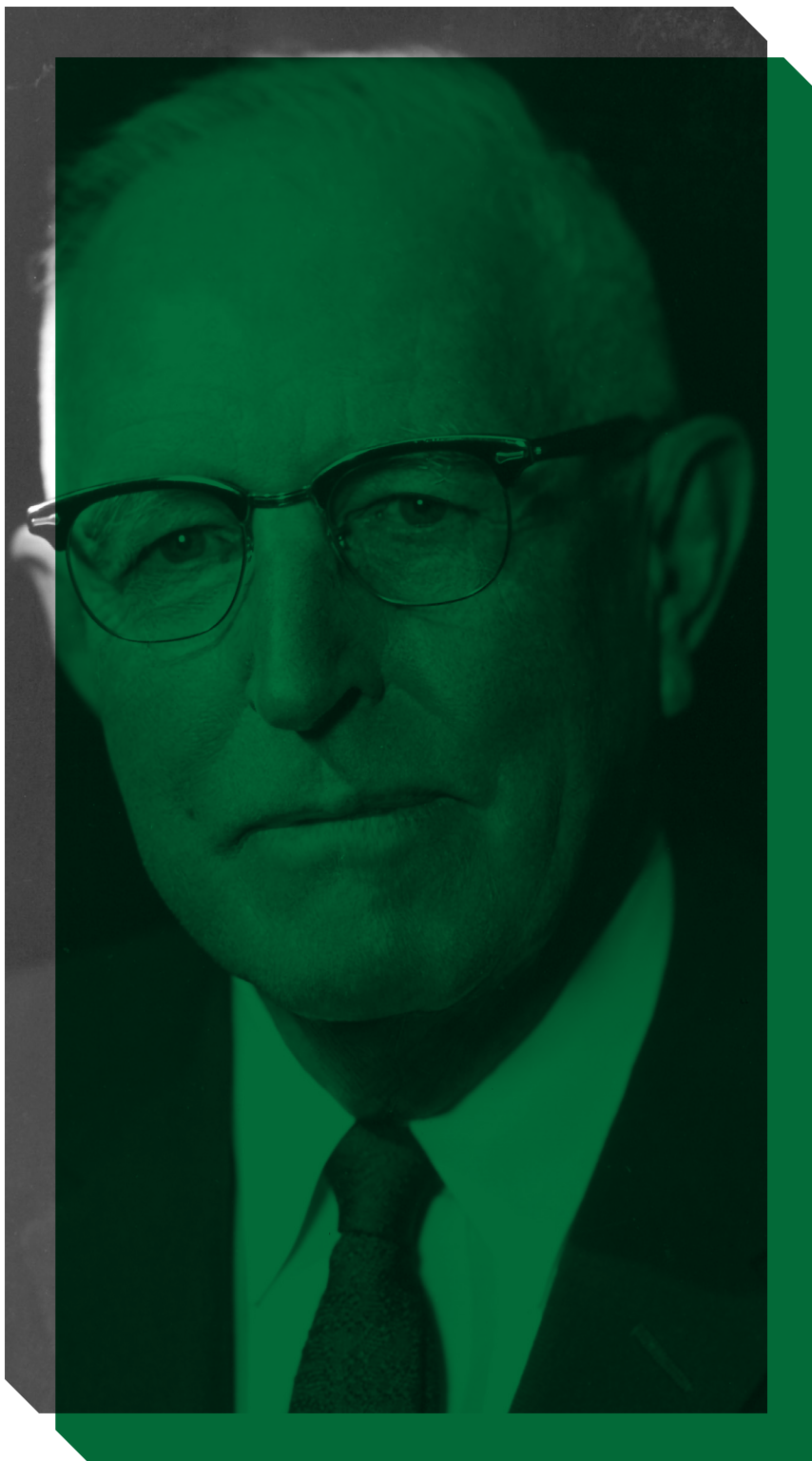
The land-grant campus laboratories and classrooms had a new purpose—not just to share knowledge for practical application, but to expand knowledge and research, thus creating new academic disciplines not previously studied, including agronomy, genetics, animal science, land management and ecology.

Coupled with the industrial revolution of the late 1800s, agriculture at the

beginning of the Twentieth Century, entered a new era—one where scientific knowledge and research was being applied, along side mechanization, yielding an unprecedented expansion of agriculture, science and technology.

In the next century, farms would grow in size and scope, beyond those of family owned operations for their own subsistence; crop production would diversify and yields improve from genetic technology; animal diseases would be vaccinated allowing production to meet market demand and bringing new food sources to new markets; and communities of academics and professionals would congregate through associations to share knowledge and innovative ideas with one another.

Leading many of these innovative efforts were FarmHouse men.



D. Howard Doane (MO 05)

Most notable among our innovative brothers, is our founder, D. Howard “Daddy” Doane. The leader of the founding group of seven, his leadership in establishing the Fraternity was the first of many innovative things he would achieve in his long life. Following graduation from the University of Missouri, Doane served as a county extension agent in the State of Missouri. He soon realized the need for his peers in other counties to learn from one another to share ideas of how they conducted their important work. He used his strong organization skills to establish a network of county extension agents in Missouri. The idea caught on and soon spread to other states, an early precursor of what would become the National Association of Extension Agents.

Doane returned to Mizzou and joined the faculty in the College of Agriculture, to help establish a new academic discipline, that of farm management. The industrial revolution ushered in a new era of mechanization for agriculture, allowing farms to grow in size and new industries to emerge to help feed the growing population of the United States. As farms grew, a need arose to manage the business operations and to manage the land in use as a good steward.

He was a leader in helping apply academic teachings to this profession through the establishment of the first farm management program. Such would become his life’s work, when he would later leave higher education to establish Doane Agricultural Services, a company that would provide professional farm management to agriculture, a first-of-its-kind company in the country.

Doane’s organization and leadership skills were unending and came to use again in this sector, when he gathered peer professionals to establish an association to support the profession. The American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers (ASFMRA), which boasts 2,100 professional members from 31 chapters across the United States, was founded by Doane. His legacy is honored still today with its highest professional award recognizing innovation in the profession and outstanding achievement bearing his name.



Claude B. Hutchison (MO 05)

A contemporary founding father of Doane, was Claude B. Hutchison. He is best known for his career as a leader in academia as the first Dean of Agriculture at the University of California-Davis, Dean of Agriculture at the University of Nevada-Reno, Provost of the University of California and later mayor of Berkeley, Calif. But, his career in academia began in research, as a faculty member in a new and emerging field of science: genetics.

It took several years to realize the impact of Gregor Mendel's discovery of genetics in the 1860s, but by the early 1900s, rapid application of his theories and early research were being applied to numerous fields of study. Beyond application of his theories, the study of genetics itself emerged as a new area of necessary study.

A prominent researcher in this newly emerging field was Cornell University professor, Rollins Emerson. Although not a FarmHouse man, he knew many and studied at the University of Nebraska and at Harvard University, before joining the faculty at Cornell. In establishing the new department of genetics, he recruited the best and brightest minds of the day, including his former colleague at the University of Nebraska and Harvard, Claude Hutchison.

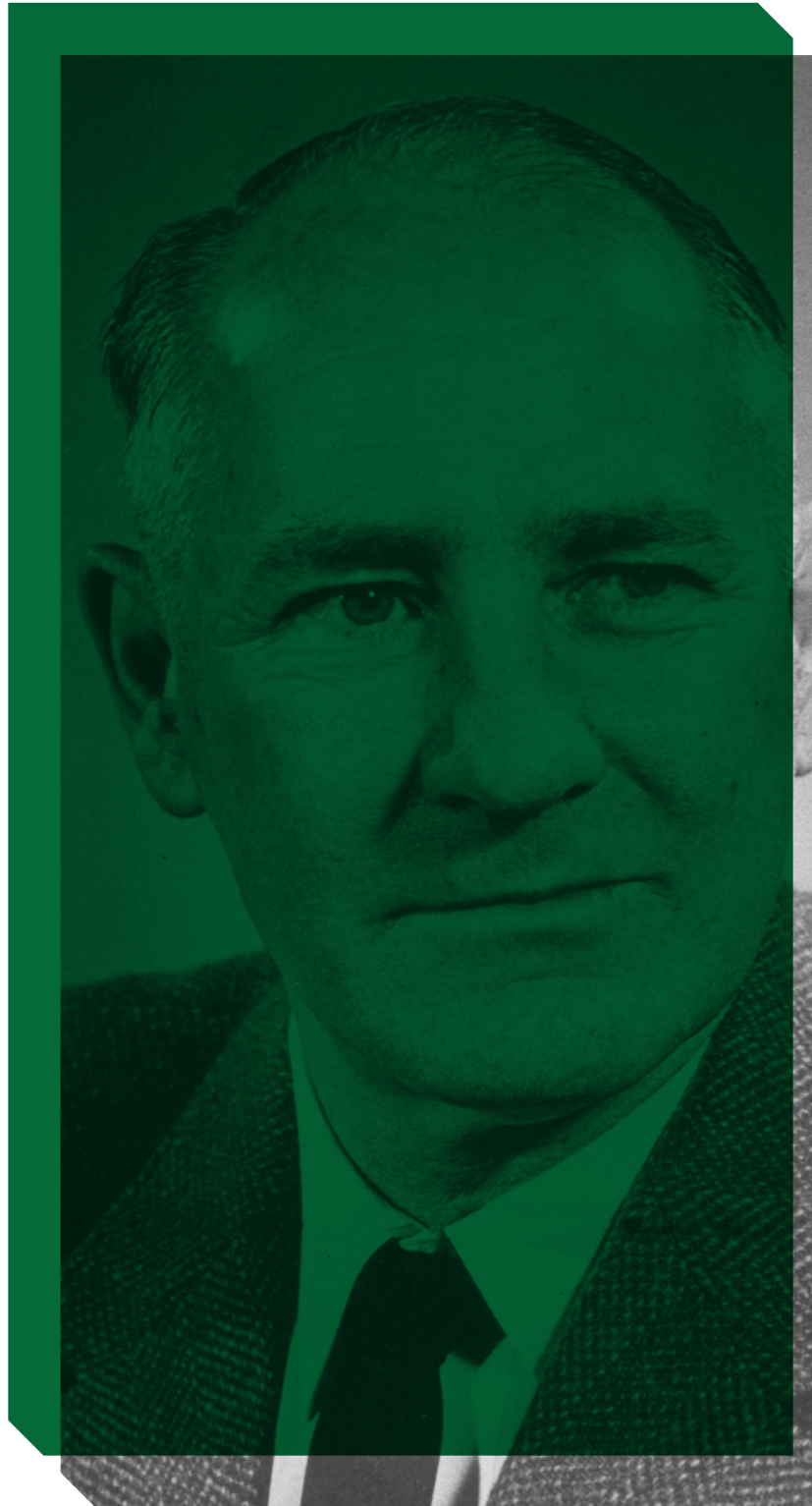
An early member of the faculty, Emerson and Hutchison were leaders in supporting the rapid expansion of the study of genetics and heredity science. Hutchison would leave Cornell in 1925 to head West to the University of California, but his shoes would soon be filled by another innovative FarmHouse man, George Beadle (NE 24).

A Foundation in Innovation

George Beadle (NE 24)

A native of Wahoo, Neb., Beadle studied agriculture at the University of Nebraska, before arriving at Cornell in 1927 to pursue his doctorate. He earned his doctorate in 1931 and his dissertation research focused on Mendelian asynapsis in corn. His academic career and research would span decades, including faculty roles at Cal Tech, Harvard, Stanford and he became President of the University of Chicago in 1961.

His early research studied the development of eye pigment in fruit flies and led to his seminal biochemistry research on the genetics of the fungus, *Neurospora*, commonly known as bread yeast. This research and its accompanying discoveries with fellow researcher, Edward Lawrie Tatum were internationally recognized when they were together awarded the 1958 Nobel Prize for Medicine.



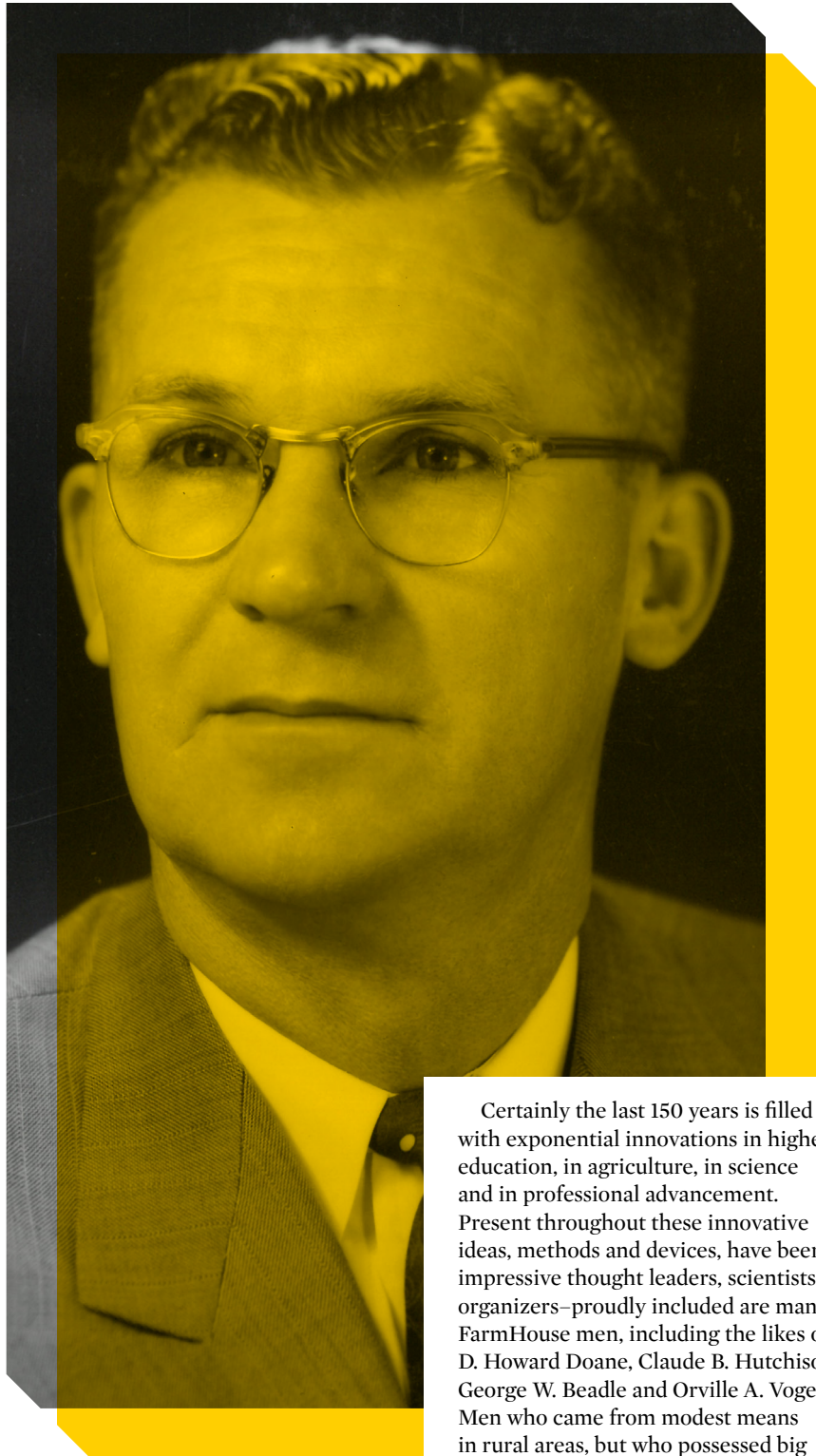
Orville Vogel (NE 29)

Innovation in a different sector was provided by another Nebraska FarmHouse man, Orville Vogel. Like Beadle, Vogel grew up on a farm and earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Nebraska. He joined the faculty at Washington State University in 1931 and led the USDA's Science Experiment Station in the Pacific Northwest, specializing in wheat production and breeding.

Vogel led the team that developed Gaines, the first of several new wheat varieties bred from Norin 10, that produced 25 percent higher yields than previous varieties and had much shorter straws, making them more wind tolerant and more drought resistant. Vogel was a friend and collaborator with his fellow native Midwesterner, Norman Borlaug. Vogel contributed wheat varieties to Borlaug's research at the University of Minnesota, which led to the "green revolution."

Borlaug's research allowed for wheat production in new areas of the world, which previously had not been able to grow wheat, thus improving food and nutrition in impoverished populations and bringing stability to many foreign governments. Borlaug's work was recognized with the 1970 Nobel Peace Prize. During his acceptance, he credited his many collaborators in his research, including Vogel.

Today a state-of-the-art research facility for biosciences bears Vogel's name on the Washington State campus, as a testament to his innovative research in wheat genetics.



Certainly the last 150 years is filled with exponential innovations in higher education, in agriculture, in science and in professional advancement. Present throughout these innovative ideas, methods and devices, have been impressive thought leaders, scientists and organizers—proudly included are many FarmHouse men, including the likes of D. Howard Doane, Claude B. Hutchison, George W. Beadle and Orville A. Vogel. Men who came from modest means in rural areas, but who possessed big ideas, that were nurtured, supported and flourished into innovative achievements. Many call them innovators. We proudly call them brothers.*



Brian Huseman (OK 91)

VICE PRESIDENT OF PUBLIC POLICY AT AMAZON

Leadership Spotlight

What is your current profession?

I'm currently the Vice President of Public Policy at Amazon, based in Washington, D.C. I lead our U.S. and Americas policy teams, handling all of our federal, state, and local policy work in the United States and North and South America.

What prior career opportunities helped you attain your current role?

After graduating from Oklahoma State University, I went to law school, had two different federal judicial clerkships, and then moved to D.C. I started off as a prosecutor at the U.S. Department of Justice then went to the Federal Trade Commission then moved to the private sector, working at Intel Corporation's D.C. office before coming to Amazon over five years ago.

What do you enjoy most about your professional work?

I love working for a company that is so innovative and customer-focused! I never know what the next day has in store, but I know that it will be exciting and at the forefront of technology and innovation.

How did you come to first know about FH?

I pledged FarmHouse in the spring semester of my freshman year, so I had the opportunity to get to know some of the brothers and learn about the chapter before joining. Oklahoma State FarmHouse had (and still has!) a group of smart and talented guys who are leaders on campus and give back to the community. It seemed like it would be the perfect fit, and it was.

Any standout moments you had as a FH undergraduate?

Some of my favorite times were directing our participation in the "Varsity Revue" show singing/dancing competitions. We won two years in a row, first with Chi Omega and then Kappa Delta. It was so much fun to work as a brotherhood on something creative and outside of our comfort zones. Of course, going to Oklahoma State, I also remember a lot of trips to Eskimo Joe's with the pledge class!

What did you learn from your FH chapter member experience that had "staying power" with you in your career?

FarmHouse allowed me to get to know a very diverse group of people that are now lifelong friends and connections. Finding common threads with people that are so different from you was an exciting opportunity. During our time in FarmHouse, we challenged each other to work hard and to be the best versions of ourselves. That sense of embracing camaraderie and teamwork towards a common goal has stuck with me throughout my entire career.

Reflecting on your chapter experience, what leadership skills did you attain that you are able to attribute to FH?

I became very comfortable with public speaking thanks to FarmHouse, which has been an important part of my career at every stop along the way. FarmHouse helped me grow in a lot of ways, and was an important part of my development and maturity as I went through school.

How are you involved in the Fraternity today?

My alumni connections are very strong, and I'm in professional contact with several FH members from other chapters. Staying connected to FarmHouse has helped open doors for me both socially and career-wise. Working at Amazon, you never know what fields you may come across, and it's been exciting to meet other FarmHouse members in other industries.

I was the alumni relations officer my senior year. I make sure to read all of the updates from my chapter, and I always read this newsletter cover to cover. Living across the country, it's hard to get back to the chapter house. But I would say to the actives that there's never too much news or updates for your alumni.

Of the Fraternity's principles, does one speak to you more than others or guide you in your life today?

To me, they all do. They speak to working hard, being a good person, treating those around you well and with respect, and giving to the community. Keeping

those principles in mind is important and something FarmHouse has taught me to always be aware of.

What are essential skills you believe students need today to be successful in their career?

The most important thing is to always be willing and prepared to try new things. While you may already have a career trajectory in mind coming into school, don't let that guide you down one lane. Have an open mind and embrace the unfamiliar; you just might end up in a much more exciting place than you thought you would.

As you start your career, remember to raise your hand and be willing to take on responsibilities you may not be comfortable with or may not be in your job description. Showing dexterity and a willingness to take on any job isn't just a great way to impress your employers—it's how you grow and develop. Also, never expect that your work is always going to be straightforward and clear; be willing to embrace some ambiguity. Most importantly, enjoy your coworkers and make sure you're having fun. If you're not having fun, you're not in the right place.

What is an impactful book you would recommend?

I recently finished a book called 'Give and Take: Why Helping Others Drives Our Success' by Dr. Adam Grant. We have a monthly book club in the office at Amazon, and it was one of our team reads. It's about how passion, drive and luck aren't the only factors to success—rather, having a work style of giving more than taking is often the key to a rewarding professional experience.

Are you involved in the HQ search process for Amazon, and can you give any insight to our Alumni about what you all are considering?

I am. We're all definitely energized by the responses we've received. We asked cities across North America to think big and I personally love seeing the creativity that's been shown so far. Right now, we're continuing to evaluate the responses we've received based on several key factors, including talent, real estate opportunities, partnership opportunities, and locating in a business-friendly environment. *

Pictured: Sonny Beck (PU 59) with his two sons, Scott (PU 84) and Tony (PU 92), and Sonny's father, Francis in the 1990's





A Bushel and a

BECK

There's something about Midwestern road trips that always seem to soothe the soul. Whether it's the lull of the car on cruise control or the infamous "license plate" game, a comfort is found in hitting the highway and gazing out the window at corn, soybean, wheat and alfalfa fields that make up rural America.

WHILE THE RICH SOIL and lush fields are a version of sightseeing for many, those carefully managed acres are taken care of by some of the world's best stewards—farmers. And if you enjoy those views long enough, there's no doubt you'll come across small signs pegged into the ground, just short of the field and shy of the asphalt, with "Beck's" written on them. More than a brand or company, Beck's is a family—from its leadership to its values.

A Bushel and a Beck



**Beck's is the largest
family-owned, retail
seed company in
the United States.**



Sonny wearing his senior cords (pants) from college celebrates Homecoming 2017 with his wife, Glendia, outside the new Purdue chapter house.

“Being family-owned means we’re able to live out our dream of being on the farm and help other farmers,” says Lawrence “Sonny” Beck (PU 59), master builder, chief executive officer of Beck’s Hybrids.

Growing up on a diversified crop and livestock farm in Atlanta, Ind., Sonny always knew farming was his calling. After earning his bachelor’s degree in plant breeding and master’s in agricultural economics from Purdue, he answered that call—one that had grown from 80 to 666 acres, along with a small seed business.

“Before I left the university, my advisor said, ‘Are you sure you want to go back to the farm?’ And I said, ‘Yeah, I’ve got to give this seed thing a try,’” says Sonny. “That was a challenge, and I’ve always accepted challenges.”

Five-plus decades later and Beck’s is the largest family-owned, retail seed company in the United States. More than 600 employees fulfill their passions each day with one unified mantra adopted by Sonny and his father—help farmers succeed.

“A lot of the skills I acquired at FarmHouse are very transferable,” says Sonny. “We had a 7-foot center in the house for basketball, and I learned that you don’t win the final four by having five, 7-foot centers. You need a balance of players with different skill sets”

And in the late ‘80s and early ‘90s, Sonny found his final four. Himself, as well as his son, Scott (PU 84), Dr. Kevin Cavanaugh and Tom Hooper make up Beck’s leadership team.

“In my pledge class, I learned to trust fellow members to do their job, and that’s what we do every day here,” he says. “You don’t let them down, they won’t let you down.”

Beck’s ideals have curated a culture within the organization—one built upon integrity and teamwork and bound by employees that believe in the company, doing the right thing.

“About eight years ago, we were continuing to grow really fast here,” says Sonny, whose company has tripled every ten years since 1992. “What could potentially impact us could be the culture. That’s when we developed ‘Attitudes and Actions,’ and began hiring people that fit that mold.”

A quick one-pager, “Attitudes and Actions” details Beck’s core values of teamwork, integrity, adaptability, innovation, commitment and passion. It does away with policies and regulations, and provides a humanized approach to an otherwise strict, corporate rule book.

So commitment for example, that’s just not to our company, but to me it means my faith, my family and my business—and I encourage my employees to adopt that as well, because unless you put a proper balance on all, you can’t have quality life.”

Leading by example, especially through Beck’s values, is a no-brainer for Sonny. And while he handles typical CEO duties, he still makes time to fulfill the passion that began his career.

“I love the agronomy side. Figuring out what’s wrong or right in the field and how you can make that plant grow better,” says Sonny, whom often times gets a little dirt under his nails before coming into the office each day.



Middle: Sonny’s graduation from Purdue in 1962. He is pictured with then Purdue University’s President, Frederick Hovde (left), and George A. Ross (right). Sonny won the G.A. Ross Award as Purdue’s Outstanding Senior Man.

Bottom: Sonny showing off some Beck’s corn in the 1970’s



A Bushel and a Beck



Today and always, Sonny still likes to get his hands dirty.

“Being family-owned means we’re able to live out our dream of being on the farm and help other farmers.”

As an innovative seed company, Beck’s is always doing research. Now, they’re attempting a 400-bushel, six-acre plot. This research project is dedicated to just one thing—growing 400 bushels of corn per acre.

“It’s not economical yet, but if we can do it, then we can figure out if it’s economical for farmers,” he says.

Hearing the passion in Beck’s voice as he describes the research plans—from hybrid types to water treatment to special ingredients fed daily to each corn plant—is undocumentable. The nature of his explanation flows as seamlessly as an IV would in a hospital, and it’s clear to see that improving the farming aspect is really what gets him up in the morning.

One of the truths about Beck’s is their commitment to their mantra of helping

farmers. Practical Farm Research (PFR) is conducted and published—now a 400-page book—and has nothing to do with selling seed or hybrids. It’s simply a compilation of 100 tests that touch on everything from seed planting distance to nitrogen levels in the soil to improving the biological life of the soil.

“The goal of PFR is to help farmers figure out how to make more money,” he says. “It’s fun to be on the forefront to see how farmers can succeed in the future. That’s how we survive. Figure out how to help farmers succeed, and the rest will be OK.”

So as the center lines become a blur, the cruise is set and views are taken in, it’s inevitable to now think about the farmers who planted that road-trip scenery—and the seed that started it all. ★



Sonny addressing the crowd at the grand opening of Beck’s Hybrids aviation hangar in September 2016.

Innovation goes beyond new gadgets and Silicon Valley startups. It's there, too, but it's also everywhere around us—ingrained in what we do, how we think and how businesses are operated. And some of the best innovators out there happen to be our very own alumni.

A

HOUSE

OF

INNOVATORS



A House of Innovators

To get to know the stories behind these innovators, we asked them—from an app developer to a NASA data specialist—what makes your work innovative? While innovation is the common thread woven throughout each response, everyone has their own take on innovation and how they got to where they are today—which all just happened to start with FarmHouse.



“If you want something new, you have to stop doing something old.”
—Peter F. Drucker

RYAN DOWNS (NE 88), Master Builder

Chief Executive Officer, Proxibid

I believe that at its core, innovation is all about solving problems—that’s how Proxibid, an online platform that connects buyers and sellers of highly-valued items across 15 industrial and collectible categories, came to be. Traditional auction companies needed a means to reach bidders outside the geographical markets they historically served in an effort to compete and remain relevant with the internet’s new age. Proxibid solved this problem by designing software that allows bidders from anywhere in the world to participate in live auctions as if they were there in person.

The need for innovation is pronounced in our business—it’s even one of our

company’s core values. We take steps each and every day to ensure we’re doing what we can to foster innovation across the organization. Innovation is apparent in our daily practices, four of which I believe are crucial to not only Proxibid’s success, but every company striving to be an innovation leader.

Be knowledgeable about what’s going on in the market, not just with your competitors, but with technology generally. Talk with your customers frequently about their challenges, opportunities and ideas.

Enlist all your team members in the innovation process—from implementation to celebrating the best ideas.

Discuss the next big ideas for your business regularly on the executive-level.



QUENTIN DUDLEY (NE 09)

Synthetic Biologist

As my undergraduate years progressed, I became engaged with and motivated by the challenges of climate change and the need for sustainable, low-cost chemicals and natural products. This inspired my decision to pursue a Ph.D. at Northwestern University in synthetic biology, a field endeavoring to “design and construct biological systems, machines and organisms for useful purposes.”

My research project developed a new way to harness the catalytic machinery of cells and build a “cell-

free” bioproduction platform where sugars, enzymes and cofactors placed in a test tube in which a cascade of 20-plus enzymatic reactions can produce a high percentage of the target chemical.

One of the innovations in my process was to build the enzymes themselves in the test tube which allowed me to prototype new versions of the enzymes without needing to ever put the enzyme DNA into a living organism. At this time, I’m working as a postdoctoral fellow at the John Innes Center in Norwich, United Kingdom, where I’m developing new genetic tools and engineered plants to probe which enzymes make which plant metabolites.

“Share your thoughts openly, do not guard them, worry less about others competing with you and be glad you created something worthy of notice.” —George Church



MIKE MARTY (IA 87)

Management Accountant, Get a JAHB, LLC

Between 1996 and 2006, I created Just Another Holy Book (or J.A.H.B.) to see if I could innovatively make a truthful life and a good life synonymous with a happy life. Intended not to replace the Bible, but to excite people to read their unabridged versions.

A House of Innovators

Often in the Bible, and in the contemporary world as I see it, people who believe in abiding by high principles do not always succeed at being happy. Sometimes they're downright miserable, or else they have to constantly remind or convince themselves that they're better off by living this way, even though they're not really sure they believe it.

In JAHB, I have tried to streamline some of the biblical ideas in a way that can motivate people, not by envy, nor by greed, nor by fear, but by something higher and better; an inspiration that is motivational inwardly and outwardly, and not selfishly, but with concern for the good of the whole breadth of existence.

“To be a philosopher is not merely to have subtle thoughts, nor even to found a school, but so to love wisdom as to live according to its dictates, a life of simplicity, independence, magnanimity and trust. It is to solve some of the problems of life, not only theoretically, but practically.”
—Henry David Thoreau



“Just like an airplane that is constantly adjusting its way to its destination, success is the same way. You must constantly adjust your way to success.”

RYAN RAGUSE (ND 10)

Chairman, Myriad Mobile

Ideas have never been a shortage for me, so it all comes down to execution and getting them off the ground. Even more important is seeing them through. While I work in the technology sector now, I'm a farm kid by nature—same with my co-founder, Jake Joraanstad, chief executive officer of Myriad Mobile. Our will to contribute to the farm in an innovative way was how Bushel, the grain industry's first automated mobile app platform for

elevators and cooperatives to connect with their growers and deliver real-time actionable information, came to fruition. This platform provides a wide-range of information to growers at their fingertips—from scale tickets to contracts to cash bids.

Success is never really a big break, but a thousand little breaks over time, and always includes many people and a great team. Our entire company takes a philosophy of innovation. We are constantly playing with new technologies, creating business cases for them, and even incorporating them into client solutions and product strategies.

CAMERON K. DUNLAP (NM 93)

Systems Engineering Group Lead, Peraton

I support NASA's Space Network (SN) and the Tracking, Data and Relay Satellite (TDRS) constellation. The SN manages millions of bits of data every day for many of NASA's missions that are both earth facing, like the International Space Station (ISS), and outward facing, think Hubble Space Telescope. A good example of the data that we handle was President Trump's call to Astronaut Peggy Whitson to congratulate her on having spent 534 days (and counting) on board the ISS.

You can say my whole job is centered around innovation. I'm leading a group of systems engineers that manage projects and develop the requirements to maintain and sustain the SN and support new missions. One of my projects is to provide system upgrades to support testing for the next generation of human space flight. My time with FarmHouse has proven to be one of the keys to my success, if you can call it that. As a chapter officer, a chapter advisor, an international volunteer, and eventually an International Board member, I was able to learn and hone the skills needed to help me stand out in a sea of technical people.



“Use that big brain of yours, and find a different angle.”
—Disney's Big Hero 6

A House of Innovators

“Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower.”
–Steve Jobs

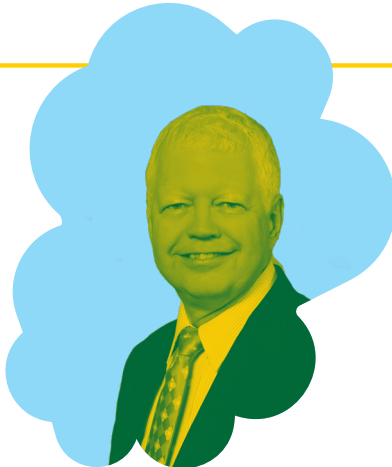
TREVOR TUNE (MO 13)

Director Of Operations, Capital Innovators

Capital Innovators was founded in 2010 on the belief that great tech companies can survive and thrive in St. Louis, Mo. We invest in early-stage ventures and run a group of six companies at a time through an intensive, three-month program in St. Louis designed to give mentorship, capital and the resources startups need to achieve the next level in their growth trajectory. In my role, I manage the accelerator program by recruiting and sourcing deal flow, conducting due diligence, assisting with investor and mentor relations, and innovation consulting for both portfolio companies and larger corporations.



Each day I get to work with some amazing startup founders who are changing the world with their products and services while simultaneously advancing economic development in the St. Louis region, which is also my hometown. All indications point to the long-term viability of the entrepreneurial community in St. Louis, and it is a great opportunity that I am very thankful for.



LOREN PETERSON (NE 75)

Entrepreneurial Advisor at EAS-MKE, LLC

There are countless innovative ideas in our society, but what most innovators don't anticipate is how difficult it is getting their innovations developed, tested, funded, scaled, marketed and distributed to customers.

The business of commercializing innovation has been the focus of my career for the last 25 years, having been involved as a startup company CEO for several innovative life sciences companies, as a venture capitalist that provided funding to innovative startup companies, and now as the entrepreneur-in-residence for multiple universities in southeast Wisconsin.

In this role, I work with university administration and faculty members to identify and develop strategies and tactics for developing and commercializing innovative research that has the potential to address needs in the marketplace, often

through the formation of new companies established for this purpose.

As one example, over the last six months I have worked with two physics professors who have developed and patented a new graphite-based material that, among other things, should improve the life and cycle time of lithium ion batteries. With my help, a new start-up company was formed, a license to the patent (which is owned by the University) was negotiated, meetings held with potential customers in the consumer electronics, drone, aviation and electric vehicle manufacturing fields, and preliminary discussion held with potential sources of capital that will be needed to fund pre-revenue operations. All of this has occurred while the new company continues to develop, design and test its innovative material in lithium ion batteries in different applications and conditions. The innovators have quickly learned that the business side is as important as the technical side in making this innovation a success.

“Innovation requires more than a great idea.”



“We don’t create the wind; we merely adjust the sails.”

ROBBIE HABLE (IA 09)

PhD Candidate in Chemical and Petroleum Engineering

The idea that we don’t create the wind, we merely adjust the sails was first taught to me by my grandparents who introduced me to the sport of sailing. Comparable to the well-known serenity prayer, this phrase is applicable to many aspects in life and to the idea of innovation in engineering. The fundamental principles and laws of science are taught from high school to college. The most exciting part of engineering

and scientific research, however, is discovering how we can navigate these principles and manipulate certain variables to resolve a variety of problems.

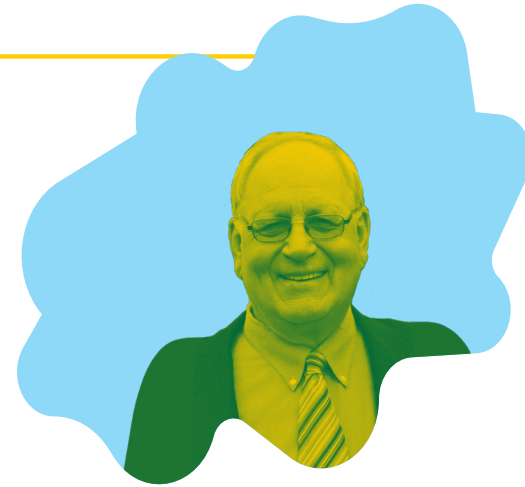
The desire to develop new ways to produce energy and chemicals sustainably ultimately led me to pursue a PhD in chemical engineering at the University of Kansas. Developing a greater understanding for chemical principles, as to optimize and create new methods for the conversion of biomass to commodity fuels and chemicals is how I adjust the sails towards innovation.

DICK KRUSE (KS 63)

Farmer and Lifetime Entrepreneur

Throughout my 75 years, I’ve been involved in a variety of businesses, but above all, I’m a farmer first. I’ve come to learn that entrepreneurship is where creativity comes from. You have to recognize a need to be innovative and successful within your niche. If it were easy, everyone else would do it.

While being successful in business has blessed me to be able to care for my family and do things like donate a restored John Deere tractor to nearly every FarmHouse chapter in the United States as a fundraising effort, I find the most success in mentoring the next generation. I’ve had wonderful mentors and it is part of my ministry to mentor young men—which I do through the Power of 7. I mentor an active member for a year and we talk about once a week—from career stuff to love life—I really welcome those questions and conversations. I covet and enjoy the energy of youth, and by helping them get started and handle their innovative idea, I’ve gotten more than I’ve given.



“If you fear to fail, you will.”



“Innovation is the act of assembling seemingly unrelated ideas into new and effective solutions to real-world challenges.”

JEFF LOWE (OK 93)

Owner and Principal Consultant, Bitness Labs

Currently, I am owner and principal consultant at Bitness Labs. We are focused on helping clients succeed at web development by offering services in three practice areas: operations, project management and development. Clients often face common challenges when starting their first or running multiple simultaneous development projects. However, every organization is unique, comprised of a collection of unique individuals and purposes. Their challenges

almost always require solutions tailored to them, resulting in a mix of “what’s been done before” with “what’s never been done.”

Over the years and through career, hobby and life experiences, I’ve developed my own perspective on innovation. I consider innovation the act of assembling seemingly unrelated ideas into new and effective solutions to real-world challenges. This requires understanding a broad range of unrelated topics, empathy to other people’s problems, and a pragmatic creativity that links the two together. Curiosity, experimentation and empathy are keys. *



GOOD GENETICS

From farm to FarmHouse to USDA's Secretary Honor Award recipient, Dick Frahm (NE 58) has devoted his career to being a leader in animal genetics.

GROWING UP ON A SMALL irrigated crop and livestock farm near Lyman, Neb., Dick Frahm (NE 58) never imagined he would leave the farm.

"I loved farming," he says. "I seriously considered dropping out of school after my freshman year so I could get started on my farming career."

But after Frahm's freshman year, the rural high school he attended added on a building dedicated to a new vocational agriculture (vo ag) program scheduled to begin that fall. The new instructor, Mr. Kenneth Ware, visited Frahm's family farm to inform, or persuade as Frahm might say, about the program and how he could be involved.

Fortunately, he didn't drop out—he decided to give the new program a shot.

"I thrived in the new vo ag and FFA programs," says Frahm, who ended up attending his state FFA convention that same year. "This experience exposed me to a whole college devoted to the study of agriculture."

In the fall of 1957, Frahm enrolled in the College of Agriculture at the University of Nebraska—the first one in his extended family to attend college. His first semester, he pledged FarmHouse (one of his "better decisions" he says) and began working in the department of animal science. There, he quickly got to know most of the faculty.

"Dr. Lavon Sumption (MN 49) took a keen interest in me," says Frahm. He was the swine geneticist and taught the animal breeding course—he became my mentor and friend."

So when it came time for Frahm to

make a decision on his future, genetics is what caught his attention.

"I finally faced the reality that it was not feasible for me to have a career in production agriculture," he says. "I turned my attention to determining what my future career should be. I was completely captivated by the introduction to genetics course I took."

From there, Frahm was hooked. Early in his senior year he decided to pursue a doctorate degree in animal genetics, with the goal of becoming a university professor.

Supported by a national Science Fellowship, he enrolled at North Carolina State University, where he completed his master's degree and then his doctorate in genetics and statistics.

"I began my career in the department of animal science at Oklahoma State University in September 1967," says Frahm, who taught undergraduate and graduate courses in animal genetics and breeding. "My research with beef cattle genetics focused on increasing beef production efficiency through selection and crossbreeding. This research yielded 34 journal articles, 126 research reports and 64 abstracts."

Those accomplishments, along with training 25 graduate assistants, serving as chair for the faculty and athletic councils, becoming a full professor and then being recognized as the 1978 Outstanding Faculty Member led to becoming head of the department of animal science at Virginia Tech University in 1987.

While becoming head of a top-ranked department may seem like a career peak,

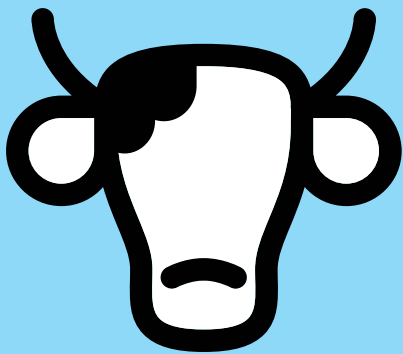
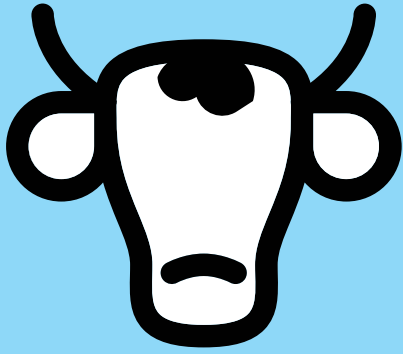
Frahm did anything but slow down.

"In 1992, I was recruited by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to be the National Program Leader for Animal Genetics. I was specifically directed to provide leadership to establishing a nationally- and internationally-coordinated research program to map the genomes of agriculturally important livestock species."

This amazing group of scientists, working diligently together, have mapped the genomes of the livestock species. This includes DNA sequencing just like the Human Genome Project—a major achievement. Genomic information is now a major component for most research in the biological sciences and is already being used by agricultural industries to develop more effective strategies for genetic improvement of animals and plants. This technology is also being used in vaccine development and for designing products with nutritional and health benefits.

His multi-decade work in the industry didn't go unnoticed. In 1997 and 2000, he received the USDA Secretary's Honor Award by former Sec. Daniel Glickman. And in 2001, he was honored with two awards from the American Society of Animal Science: Fellow Award and the Rockefeller Prentice Memorial Award in Animal Breeding and Genetics.

Beyond his career in genetics, Frahm served in the Army from 1965–67 on a special project at the Pentagon—entering as a first lieutenant and exiting as a captain. He also prides his accomplishments through the help and support of his wife, Joyce, and their two daughters. *



The Man Behind the Formula

Bob Walton (OK 50) developed a formula that changed the way the entire industry bred dairy cattle for maximum production.

IT ALL STARTED WHEN HE WAS 13.

While most boys were consumed with sports and acting ornery, Dr. Bob Walton (OK 50) got hooked on genetics.

“I was going to breed a herd of cattle that was homozygous for all the good genes,” says Walton, who was involved in his high school’s 4-H and FFA chapters. “We now know you can’t do that, but I sure started with that idea.”

While his first attempt wasn’t a home run, it was by no means a failure, but a drive to improve and be the best geneticist he could be.

After moving his senior year and graduating high school in Arkansas, Walton returned to his home state of Oklahoma to pursue a bachelor’s degree in dairy science. After he completed his degree, Walton headed to Sweden to continue his studies. A year in, he left Sweden and spent time in England as a farm manager. There, he was part of building the first elevated milking parlor in Europe—but little did Walton know, he would eventually make a larger impact on the dairy industry.

Fast forward to 1962. Walton had completed his master’s in animal breeding at Oklahoma State University, his doctorate in animal breeding, genetics and statistics at Iowa State University and was now an

associate professor at the University of Kentucky, in Lexington.

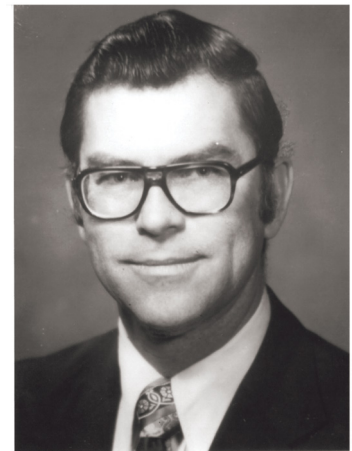
“Studying and teaching at Kentucky, I learned more about the industry, artificial insemination, et cetera, and I began a pipe dream during my fourth year,” says Walton.

That dream was unknowingly picked up by the American Breeders Service (ABS), who interviewed Walton to be hired on as a geneticist—a stroke of luck he was grateful to accept. Before he knew it, he was leaving academia, the space he had begun and thought would complete his career, for a corporate adventure.

Like everything he had accomplished up to that point, Walton was determined. He jumped in head first and let his knack of learning lead the way—developing an indexed mathematical formula that would significantly enhance the dairy, beef and crop agriculture business.

“I developed the Estimated Daughter Superiority (EDS) formula utilizing my studies from Sweden, which evaluated the production of a dairy cow versus the production of her herd mates,” he says.

The formula also takes into account the cow’s mother and what her production was, as well as the production of her herd mates, and then compares that information to the entire breed. The sum of the formula



Dr. Robert E. Walton

The Man Behind

the Formula

provides insight to the cow's production compared to others to then breed for better productivity.

This was a huge change for the industry and ABS. For the first time, there were tested genetic values to support the numbers involved. And just three years later in 1965, his formula was adopted by U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and renamed Predicted Difference.

"While there are some new bells and whistles to the USDA formula, it's the same base as to what I started with," says Walton. "It feels pretty incredible to have had an impact on the industry like that."

An impact it has been. According to values pulled by Walton in 2011, the number of cows in the United States have been reduced by 63 percent, but milk production has increased 64 percent. Meaning, on average, each cow produces roughly 346 percent more milk today than she did 66 years ago. He attributes those successes to improved management, nutrition and veterinary care, but doesn't discount that a major advancement has been genetic improvement through the use of artificial insemination (AI). The formula has also been adapted to beef and row cropping.

While Walton pioneered the start of using scientific figures and genetics compared directly to production, his career doesn't solely hang on the Predicted Difference.

"I'd been at ABS two years and I recognized that even though ABS was bigger than anyone in the industry, competitors were taking business away from us. I wrote a letter to the executives of the company to say these are the five problems I see and here are the five solutions," says Walton. "But they didn't acknowledge my letter."

More than a year later, Walton's problems he had addressed in his letter were becoming true and ABS was beginning to fail. Out of the blue, he got a call from the president of the company asking Walton to be at a meeting the next evening.

"When the meeting was over that night, I was put in charge of the company."

Walton now oversaw the entire dairy and beef breeding programs, as well as the domestic and international marketing programs. Overnight. And what do you do



I've always said that you need to be able to teach them if you're going to lead them, so they'll want to follow you. And I think I did a pretty good job of that.

when you're handed the keys to the city overnight without warning? For Walton, it was to put those five solutions he identified in his earlier letter into practice. One of which was his management style.

"I try to pick good people for the job. I give them a lot of freedom. I think that's the way to foster creativity, and creativity is important," Walton said in a 1988 *Milwaukee Journal* article, one he still references today.

"For much of what I did at ABS, I was still a teacher," he says. "It served as great preparation to where I ended up. I've always said that you need to be able to teach them if you're going to lead them, so they'll want to follow you. And I think I did a pretty good job of that."

Walton spent 30 years at ABS, which was acquired by Grace Animal Services in 1986 where he served as president until his retirement in 1992. His time at ABS touched the entire industry, but in true Walton style, he didn't stop there.

From leading the team that produced the first set of roundup ready soybeans to writing and establishing the bylaws and rules for Simmental cattle registration and much more, he hasn't missed a beat. He also has a hand in the next generation—playing a role in providing scholarships to undergraduates and graduates pursuing careers in genetics.

"Someone invested in me way back. I'm just paying forward."

Throughout his career, his knowledge base was just as well known as his smile and authenticity. And while someone with his level of success has a lot to be proud of, Walton is most proud of his family.

"First I did genetics, got to market it and expand it domestically and worldwide. The dream kept expanding. It was a lot of hard work—never knowing where you're going. I never let that bother me, though, I was confident and just did it." ★

SHOP AT THE OFFICIAL ONLINE STORE AND
SHOW OFF YOUR FARMHOUSE PRIDE!



VISIT US ONLINE AT FHGEAR.COM

You give more. You inspire. You make a difference.



Jeremy Settles (NM 94)

I'VE SEEN THIS TIME AND AGAIN during my service as a Foundation Trustee.

Last fiscal year was no exception when 2,588 FH brothers and friends invested in the FarmHouse Foundation.

You, our donors, laid the foundation for current and future generations of men by investing in chapter housing.

Three chapters dedicated their new living/learning spaces last fiscal year, over \$2.4 million was granted to 12 chapters for educational portions of chapter housing and an additional \$1.93 million was raised and will be saved for future grants.

For Joey, this meant a place to call home with brothers to stand with him through life. To Joshua, his new house is much more than a place to live, it is a symbol of the impact FarmHouse has made on generations of young men and reaffirms his decision to be part of something bigger than himself.

Thanks to you, all of this and more was possible for hundreds of young men now living in renovated or new chapter houses.

Your generosity inspired Lukas to pursue his dream of a career in custom residential home building. Your support traveled to Ireland with Alex and to Prague with Wyatt. You lessened the financial burden of college and encouraged Riley after a tough semester.

In fact, 107 undergraduates received over \$89,000 in scholarships last fiscal year. Plus, of the five new endowment funds established by donors, three will provide future scholarships in perpetuity.

Because of you, all of this and more was possible for the individuals who received academic and study abroad scholarships.

More than 600 young men benefited from the \$204,000 granted to the International Fraternity and individual

chapters for leadership programs last year.

You challenged Andrew to bring effective leadership and positive change to his chapter and campus. You taught Dylan that being a great FH man and leader is not a destination, but a way of life.

Your support of leadership training made all of this possible and not only influenced these young men, but the future of FarmHouse, our country and the world.

You broke records. More Chairman's Club members than ever before (108) contributed \$700 or more to the Annual Fund to join. Eleven gave \$7,000 or more to attend the Power of 7 Seminar, another record.

Your unrestricted support made it possible for Blane and other members of our newest chapters to attend leadership conferences. It supported the Volunteer Leadership Summit and other new and important initiatives of the Fraternity. It fueled our operations.

And you inspired us with your outpouring of generosity, until the very last minute, for *Live. Learn. Lead.*—*The Campaign for FarmHouse.*

When the dust had settled on Feb. 28, 2017, over \$23.6 million had been donated or pledged for the educational portion of chapter housing (live.), scholarships (learn.) and leadership training (lead.), blowing the \$20 million goal out of the water.

For six years, you stepped forward to guarantee the future of FarmHouse through the most ambitious fundraising initiative in the Fraternity's history.

For all of this, we thank you.

Let's take a moment to celebrate.

To acknowledge an outstanding fiscal year. To recognize all that has been achieved and all that is now possible for FarmHouse—thanks to you.

We celebrate you! Each milestone, success and goal achieved is only possible because of your excitement for FarmHouse and belief in the power of Building the Leaders of Tomorrow.

Gratefully,

Jeremy Settles (NM 94),
Chairman, Foundation Board of Trustees
Co-Founder, OroSolutions



[farmhouse.org/foundation/
annual_report17/](http://farmhouse.org/foundation/annual_report17/)

“Through my leadership experiences in FarmHouse, I have learned that being a great FarmHouse man is not a destination. It is a way of life. It doesn't stop when you graduate. In fact, this is just the beginning of my legacy as a strong, well-mannered and well-grounded individual.”

**—Dylan Rodriguez
(MI 16)**



FarmHouse Foundation Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Highlights

3.1.2016-2.28.2017

In February, Live. Learn. Lead.—The Campaign for FarmHouse concluded, raising over \$23.6 million in six years.

WHO GAVE?

2,588

Donors including undergraduates, alumni, parents and friends

10.8%

FH Alumni who gave FY 16-17

VS

2.6%

NIC fraternities average giving

4,103

(a new record) Total gifts to the Foundation

108

individuals joined the Chairman's Club, each giving \$700 or more to the Annual Fund

850

undergraduates donated

\$8,725

to the Ruby Society

FARMHOUSE DAY OF GIVING

28 days (February 2017)

630 donors **\$513,000** given or pledged

HOW MUCH?

\$17,569,399

Total Assets at the end of FY 16-17

\$2,944,395

Total Granted to the Fraternity

\$3,264,961

Total Given in FY 16-17

TOTAL GIVEN

HOW WERE YOUR GIFTS USED?

\$2,471,092

was administered for the educational portion of new or renovated chapter houses on 12 campuses. Additionally, \$1.93 million was raised and will be saved, for future grants for projects at 22 chapters



The Foundation administers three housing loans totaling \$2.3 million through the Chapter Housing Loan Program

5

new endowments were established by donors

5

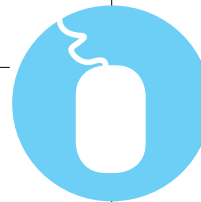
individuals joined the 100 Legacies in the Making Campaign—67 individuals have pledged over \$4.46 million in future estate gift commitments as part of the Campaign

\$89,950

in scholarships awarded to 107 undergraduates

\$25,381

in grants were made to four chapters and associations for in-house computers and technology



GRANTS

218

total grants were made

\$4,454

was distributed to the chapters' foundation councils for their specific educational uses and needs through the Annual Fund's re-contribution program

\$82,525

for the Foundation staff to administer the educational grants in support of the International Fraternity, chapters and associations

\$204,134

granted to the International Fraternity and to individual chapters for leadership programs.

\$66,859

supported the operations of the International Office, membership database, online communications to all members and *Pearls & Rubies*

Foundation Donors



Larry Bayless Ronald Bergan Lloyd Bettis Frank Bezdicek Scott Carlson Ken Converse Randall Crom Michael Dikeman Gabriel Eckert Stephen England Jason Helvey Michael Holmberg Steven Hunt



Cale Kassel Ike Kvasnicka Bruce Maunder Jerry Moss Richard Shafer Terry Strueh Eric Thurber Steven Vinyard Peter Wenstrand Wayne White Maurice Williamson Kevin Wittrock

34 Alumni Join Top Honor Roll Clubs

THE FARMHOUSE Foundation welcomed 34 new members into its highest giving societies between March 14, 2017 and October 17, 2017.

CORNERSTONE SOCIETY

Accumulative gifts of \$500,000 or more

Ronald Bergan (ND 62) is CEO of Fargo Assembly Company, a privately-owned wiring harness manufacturer. He and his wife, Mary Alice, live in Fargo, N.D.

CENTURY CLUB

Accumulative gifts of \$100,000 to \$249,999

Roy Thompson (MN 49) † was a retired agronomist and administrator at the University of Minnesota. He served in the U.S. Army counter intelligence corps in Japan and his professional career was devoted to agriculture in numerous parts of the world. He and his late wife, Blythe, traveled extensively for pleasure and agricultural work. He lived in St. Paul, Minn. He died February 25, 2017, at age 89.

Roger Tremayne (NE 67) is the owner of Circle T Feedlot. He and his wife, Lea Ann, live in Walthill, Neb.

DOANE CLUB

Accumulative gifts of \$50,000 to \$99,999

Lloyd Bettis (IA 67) is retired chairman/CEO of the National Bureau of Property Administration, a property tax consulting firm representing Fortune 500 and international firms nationally. He and his

wife, Kathryn, live in Chicago, Ill., and Naples, Fla.

Frank Bezdicek (MN 67) is founder and owner of The Other Right Answer, LLC, a marketing communications consulting firm. He retired as director of marketing communications activities for the Land O'Lakes Animal Milk Products Company and Feed Division in 2004 after over 30 years at Land O'Lakes. He led the fundraising efforts for the Minnesota FH building campaign. He serves as a chapter advisor and on the Minnesota FarmHouse Association Board. He lives in White Bear Lake, Minn.

Randall Crom (IA 76) is retired from USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service where he served as a veterinary medical officer. He and his wife, Julie, live in Washington, D.C.

Steven Hunt (KS 78) is a managing partner with Tayjen Holdings, LLC. He is former CEO of U.S. Premium Beef, the nation's premier producer-owned beef marketing company, which he helped found in 1996. He and his wife, Mary, live in Liberty, Mo.

Isaac Sheppard (MI 54) is a self-employed structural engineer. He co-led Michigan State's housing renovation campaign. He and his wife, Donna, live in Rochester, Mich.

Peter Wenstrand (IA 70) owns and operates a corn and soybean farm near Essex, Iowa, where he and his wife, Dana, live.

H.K. WILSON CLUB

Accumulative gifts of \$25,000 to \$49,999

Larry Bayless (PU 61) is retired general manager of seed operation of Bayless

Hybrids, Inc., his family's seed operation. After almost 60 years, his family's seed operation was sold in 1994 and he retired. He and his wife, Carolyn, live in central Florida with a summer residence in Waynesville, N.C.

Kermit D. Coggshall (IA 59) is the owner of Midland Foods, a packaged frozen food distributor. He and his wife, Janis, live in Dallas, Texas.

Kenneth Converse (SD 81) is vice president for institutional advancement at Buena Vista University. He served as the International Fraternity's director of expansion from 1984–1992. He is a past Foundation Trustee and Chairman of the Board and helped lead Campaign 2005. He was named a Master Builder in 2010. He and his wife, Karna, live in Storm Lake, Iowa.

Michael Holmberg (MN 68) is retired farm chemicals editor for *Successful Farming* magazine. He spent most of his career as an agricultural journalist with Meredith Corporation in various roles. He and his wife, Sally, live in Pleasant Hill, Iowa.

Eric Poppe (NE 88) is a noise and vibration integration engineer for General Motors. He and his wife, Patti, live in Grass Lake, Mich.

Maurice Williamson (PU 61) † was retired executive secretary of the Purdue Ag Alumni Association. He was a founding member and past president of the National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association and was a member of the board of directors for the National Agricultural Hall of Fame. He founded the Pioneer Village at the Indiana State Fair and was one of the best-known agriculturalists in the nation. He lived in West Lafayette, Ind. He died January 30, 2017, at age 91.

Foundation Donors

1905 CLUB

Accumulative gifts of \$10,000 to \$24,999

Thomas Brown (AR 82) is the manager of processing for Pilgrim's Pride, the second-largest chicken producer in the world. His son, Tucker (AR 14) is the most recent chapter president. He and his wife, Carolyn, live in Mount Pleasant, Texas.

Scott Carlson (ND 84) owns and operates Carlson Financial Services. He is a registered investment advisor, chartered financial consultant and chartered life underwriter. He and his wife, Tami, live in Valley, Neb.

Michael Dikeman (KS 63) is professor emeritus of animal sciences and industry, in a split teaching and research appointment, at Kansas State University. His research has focused on the interface between beef cattle production/genetics and carcass composition, meat tenderness and meat cookery. He has received numerous teaching and research awards, published over 400 articles, and has spoken at many conferences during his tenure. He and his wife, Earline, live in Manhattan, Kan.

Ted Dorn (AR 81) is co-president of three Simmons Foods, Inc. affiliates—Simmons Feeds Ingredients, PRO*CAL and Sensora LLC. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Fayetteville, Ark.

Gabriel Eckert (KS 95) is executive director of the Building Owners and Managers Association of Georgia. He is also a consultant, strategic planning facilitator, speaker and author of the best-selling book published by ASAE, "From Insight to Action: 6 New Ways to Think, Lead and Achieve." He is International President of FarmHouse Fraternity. He lives in Atlanta.

Stephen England (NE 66) is owner and president of Investment Property Exchange, Inc., a client-based practice to solve real estate problems in investment real estate including agriculture, commercial, hospitality and multi-family. He and his wife, Jeanine, live in Kearney, Neb.

Jason Helvey (NE 93) is a radiologist and an associate professor of radiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He and his wife, Sarah, live in Omaha, Neb.

Cale Kassel (IA 05) is an anesthesiologist and an assistant professor in the department of anesthesiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He and his wife, Katie, live in Omaha, Neb.

Ike Kvasnicka (MN 76) is a cattle sales specialist for Purina Animal Nutrition, LLC, covering northern South Dakota and eastern North Dakota. He has worked for Purina for 38 years. He and his wife, Cheryl, live in Aberdeen, S.D.

James Leonard (OH 60) is a retired Colonel in the U.S. Army. Before retiring, he was vice president of Battelle Memorial Institute, a nonprofit applied science and technology development company. He lives in Columbus, Ohio.

Bruce Maunder (NE 53) is a research advisor for the National Grain Sorghum Producers. He provides leadership in the areas of research and education, strengthening research funding for public sector sorghum researchers and strengthening ties between sorghum scientists. Before this, he had a 20-year career with DEKALB and retired as senior vice president of DEKALB Genetics Corporation. He and his wife, Kathy, live in Lubbock, Texas.

Thomas Messersmith (NE 68) is a rancher. He and his wife, Sara, live in Alliance, Neb.

Jerry Moss (PU 73) owns Moss Family Farms, Inc., farming corn, pigs and managing farms in Iowa. He lives in Baylis, Ill.

Richard Shafer (OK 63) is a veterinarian and retired manager of consumer health services at the Fort Worth Health Department. Prior to this, he retired after 26 years in the U.S. Air Force, and was manager of the Air Force Environmental Health Services at the Air Force Surgeon General's Office in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Diane, live in Newkirk, Okla.

Terry Strueh (PU 66) is retired vice president of governmental relations for Purdue University. Prior to this, he served as a delegate to the Second World Food Conference of the United Nations and as president of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture. He chaired the United States-Canadian Provinces Agriculture Accord and was on advisory committees for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the U.N., USDA Meat and Poultry Inspections Service, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Census Bureau. He lives in Lafayette, Ind.

Eric Thurber (NE 89) is founder and managing director of Three Bridges Wealth Advisors. Prior to this, he was a senior


wealth director and senior vice president at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney. He serves as an associate at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research and has trained in Stanford University's Executive Education Program. He lives in San Francisco, Calif.

Steven Vinyard (AU 78) is retired president and owner of FabArc Steel Supply, Inc., a steel fabrication facility, providing AISC certified fabricated steel to industrial, commercial, government, healthcare, manufacturing and automotive customers. He and his wife, Gena, live in Anniston, Ala.




Wayne White (NE 50) is retired vice president of DEKALB, where he spent his career working in a number of positions. He and his wife, Joan, live in Rio Rancho, N.M.

Kevin Wittrock (OK 78) is an investment adviser representative for Voya Financial Advisors, Inc. He is a certified financial planner, a licensed real estate agent and an appraiser. He and his wife, Monica, live in Edmond, Okla. *

FARMHOUSE
DAY OF GIVING
FEBRUARY 28, 2018



LEARN MORE:

-  FARMHOUSE FOUNDATION
-  FARMHOUSE 1905
-  FARMHOUSE FRATERNITY

A Gift That Was Grown

PLANTING A SEED, in a way, is investing. The sower puts the seed into the soil and looks forward not only to its next harvest but future harvests to come. As farmers, Pete (IA 70) and Dana Wenstrand spend their careers planting seeds for the future.

They also have taken advantage of a unique and meaningful way to give, quite literally, from the fruits of their labor to invest in FarmHouse.

Pete and his wife, Dana, no-till farm corn and soybeans in southwestern Iowa, near Essex. Both are heavily involved with their church, local community and with various state organizations.



Pete (IA 70) & Dana Wenstrand

This involvement includes Pete's tenure as president of the Iowa and the National Corn Growers Associations, Dana's training and consulting business, IMAGE, and their joint efforts in serving St. Mary's Church, the Diocese of Des Moines and on the Board of Governors for the Iowa State University Foundation.

Discussing his involvement Pete said, "I've been exposed to corporate leadership programs and found them to be very beneficial at any point in my career. FarmHouse's leadership programs are not only during college but prepare young men for lifelong achievement."

Their service to others is rooted deeply and plays a large role in how Pete and Dana give of their time, talent and treasure. Dana is from a large family and as she puts it, it wasn't by choice that they didn't have their own children.

She said, "This has caused us to think more about our giving—focused on what is important to us and where we give."

With many family farms often being multi-generational, the Wenstrands view charitable giving, and leadership programs in particular, as a way to continue their legacy and further their personal mission.

When they started an endowment to support FarmHouse's leadership programs with the FarmHouse Foundation, Dana said, "It goes back to our mission. How do we pass on to the next generation? This endowment creates a legacy of our values, of how we operate and how we live."

Noteworthy about much of their giving is how they give—grain. While the bank hasn't begun to accept semi-loads of yellow dent corn as legal tender, they have found that by working with their local grain elevator and the FarmHouse Foundation, they can provide a meaningful gift with additional tax advantages.

"Raising corn and soybeans is our livelihood," Pete said, "As grain producers, we have found that giving a 'Gift of Grain' is more rewarding and satisfying than simply writing a check."

Given their involvement in promoting the agricultural industry, Pete says donating grain is their signature giving mode.

"The process is very simple. Make sure communication is straight between you, the elevator and the Foundation."

Dana noted, "The farmer can play a great role in teaching about their profession. It causes the organizations we invest in to watch the grain markets, too."

"Our relationship with FarmHouse has been extremely positive," Pete said, "As a society, it is important for young men to surround themselves with talented, capable, ethical people. It opens doors to other opportunities."

Through a desire to pass on their values, mutual to them and FarmHouse, Pete and Dana have found a way to blend together their labors, beliefs and personal mission through their philanthropy and are transforming lives today and in the future.★

HOW TO MAKE A GIFT OF GRAIN

Benefits

- By gifting grain to the Foundation, you avoid including the sale of the agriculture gift in your farm income.
- You will receive a donation receipt from the Foundation for your tax purposes based on the value of the grain.
- If you do not itemize your taxes, the gift will reduce the income you have to pay taxes on.
- Expenses to grow the donated crop are not segregated out, so you still deduct the expense of raising your gift.

Steps

1. Contact the FarmHouse Foundation at 816.891.9445 for instructions and documents needed.
2. The Foundation will set up an account at your preferred elevator.
3. Deliver the grain.
4. The grain will be transferred as a gift to the Foundation by having the elevator send a warehouse receipt with the FH Foundation as the owner/seller.

To learn more about giving grain and how to do so with crop insurance and FSA programs, visit FARMHOUSE.ORG/FOUNDATION/GIFTS_GRAIN.HTM.



How One Sentence Can Change Lives

WHAT IF ALL YOU HAD TO DO to ensure FarmHouse continues to *Build the Leaders of Tomorrow* for years to come is to write a simple sentence? *It really is that simple.*

Including the FarmHouse Foundation in your estate will give future generations of FarmHouse men opportunities to learn and grow both in and out of the classroom through leadership training, academic scholarships and a home away from home. Estate giving is the ultimate gift—a lasting tribute to your interest in and support of FarmHouse and an inspiration for others to follow.

This is a popular gift to give because it is:

- **Affordable.** The actual giving of your gift occurs after your lifetime, so your current income is not affected.
- **Customized.** You can designate your estate gift for unrestricted support or to benefit a specific leadership program, chapter or establish an endowment fund in your name.
- **Flexible.** Until your will goes into effect, you are free to alter your plans or change your mind.
- **Versatile.** You can give a specific item, a set amount of money or a percentage of your estate.

PUT IT IN WRITING

If you are ready to include a gift to the FarmHouse Foundation in your will, ask your attorney to add this suggested wording to your will:

“I give and bequeath to the FarmHouse Foundation (Federal Tax ID #36-6111880), a not-for-profit 501(c)3 trust agreement domiciled in Missouri, the sum of \$ _____ (or _____% of my residuary estate) to provide funding for [insert program or chapter to benefit] OR be used for educational purposes as the Foundation Board shall determine.”

Every gift begins with an important question: **How can I make a difference in the lives of others?**

An estate gift to FarmHouse can do just that. Doing so, you will join our *100 Legacies in the Making* that recognizes those who have generously included FarmHouse in their planned giving. Plus, your generosity will inspire others to follow your example. Your philanthropy and dedication to FarmHouse will change lives, not just someday, but every day and forever.



Homer Barnett (MN 40) †
John Beckett (IA 30) †
Rick Berg (ND 78)
Lloyd Bettis (IA 67)
Frank Bezdicek (MN 67)
Brent Bible (PU 93)
Olin & Paula Branstetter (OK 48) †
Martin Clark (IA 49) †
Richard Clark (WY 59)
James Congrove (KS 58)

100 Legacies in the Making Campaign Donors (as of 12/5/2017)

Tarry Edington (MI 61)
Ward Edwards (IL 32) †
Jim Fitterling (MO 80)
Roy Frederick (NE 63)
Darrell Godfrey (IA 73)
Larry Hageman (OH 78)
James Herbert (TN 61)
Michael Holmberg (MN 68)
Merle Hunt (IA 42) †
Terry Jaspers (SD 74)
Milton (MN 53) & Pauline Jellum
Kirby (ND 76) & Donalee Josephson
Dale Kennen (MN 60)
Jay Koths (MI 47)
Chris (CO 67) † & Vicki Lembcke
Jerry Lindley (PU 52)
Randy Linville (KS 73)
Steven Lonergan (IA 85)
Arthur Magnusson (MN 37) †

Patrick McAllister (SD 79)
John Moseman (NE 40) †
Jason Mott (MO 91)
Orville Mowery (IL 25) †
G. Richard Munson (KS 73)
Scott Nagel (MN 85)
Gene Nesbitt (CO 60)
James Parochetti (IL 59)
Roland Peterson (MN 77)
Don Pettengill (MI 58)
Gene Pickler (NC 54) †
Dallas & Brenda Powell
Ken Pruitt (MO 51)
Gyles Randall (MN 60)
John Riley (KS 79) †
Russell Roberson (AU 78)
David Rock (KS 77)
Louis Rosenau (ND 68)
Richard Ross (ID 57) †

James Rupp (CO 82)
Lawrence Schrader (KS 60)
Jeremy Settles (NM 94)
Dean Sims (IL 37) †
Roger Sorenson (MN 50) †
James Spicer (IL 62) †
Charles Stuber (NE 49)
Laurent Taylor (ID 62)
Roy Thompson (MN 49) †
Jeff (ND 79) & Jan Topp
W. Lee Tucker (KY 51) †
Vince Ulstad (ND 78)
Albert Vannice (MI 63)
Jerry Walker (NC 96) †
Pete Wenstrand (IA 70)
Thomas Wickersham (IA 38) †
James Wieland (ND 72)
Robert Wiles (MI 63)

A Tax-Smart Way to Invest

WITH THE STOCK MARKET regularly breaking records at the closing bell, many of your investments are likely worth more today than what you originally paid.

Time to sell?

If you do sell, you might have to pay capital gains taxes. There's a better option that provides you with valuable tax incentives as well as the satisfaction of supporting a worthy cause such as giving your stock to the FarmHouse Foundation.

When you donate appreciated securities that you've owned for more than one year, you will receive two tax benefits:

1. You are entitled to a federal income tax deduction based on the current fair market value of the securities, regardless of their lower original cost.
2. You will be exempt from paying capital gains taxes on any increase in value—taxes you would pay if you sold the stock.

Reap the Rewards

To realize full tax benefits from your gift, keep the following IRS guidelines in mind:

- Donate long-term appreciated property. For short-term assets (owned one year or less), only the amount you originally paid is deductible.
- Watch the ceiling. The gift deduction for long-term capital gain property is limited to 30 percent of your adjusted gross income in the year of your gift, but the excess is deductible over the next five years.

We're Here to Help

To use your stock holdings to support the FarmHouse Foundation, please contact Allison Rickels at 816.891.9445 or allison@farmhouse.org.

Together with your advisor, we can help you fulfill your charitable goals and protect your assets from unnecessary taxes.

HOW TO MAKE A GIFT OF STOCK

If you have the physical securities:

- Hand-deliver them to us; or
- Mail us the stock certificate and stock power form in separate envelopes for your protection.

If you don't have possession of the physical securities:

- Contact the FarmHouse Foundation for stock or mutual fund transfer information;
- Inform us how you would like your gift designated;
- Instruct your broker to electronically transfer your intended shares; and
- Ask your broker to notify us once the transfer is complete.



Give through our secure website
farmhouse.org/foundation



Make a gift on Facebook
fb.com/FarmHouseFoundation



Support FarmHouse while you shop
smile.amazon.com/ch/36-6111880



PROVIDE FOR YOUR FUTURE

and future generations of FarmHouse men

Did you know you can earn an excellent rate of return if you establish a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) with the FarmHouse Foundation? Today's low interest rates offer great incentives to open a CGA with the FarmHouse Foundation. For as little as \$10,000, you can ensure fixed income during your lifetime (or even that of your spouse), a charitable tax deduction during the year in which you make the gift and the pride of knowing you will provide for future generations of FarmHouse men. The chart to the right includes the rates the Foundation currently offers. Contact us to find out how you can receive extra income while at the same time changing lives, not just someday, but every day and forever.

To learn more visit: farmhouse.org/foundation/giving_guide.htm

One Life Annuity

AGE	RATE
60.....	4.4%
65.....	4.7%
70.....	5.1%
75.....	5.8%
80.....	6.8%
85.....	7.8%
90 & over.....	9.0%

**Joint-Life annuity rates are also available*

Cheers to 44 Years!

Alumni and friends celebrate Bob Off's 44-year tenure and legacy



Bob (CO 64)
and Linda Off

HOW DO YOU HONOR SOMEONE who has influenced generations of FarmHouse men and given more than four decades of service to the Fraternity and Foundation?

You travel, send cards and make thoughtful gifts from near and far to celebrate!

Over 55 FarmHouse alumni and spouses gathered in Minneapolis on November 11, for Bob Off's (CO 64) retirement celebration at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel. Those present toasted Bob, shared special memories and FarmHouse stories, and the evening culminated with two special announcements.

In toasting Bob, the FarmHouse Foundation Trustees and Staff announced the creation of the new **Robert L. Off Servant Leader Award** to recognize individuals who have tirelessly contributed their time, leadership and resources in meaningful ways to advance the FarmHouse Foundation. The first recipient will be honored at the 50th Biennial Conclave.

And, Allison Rickels, Foundation Executive Director/CEO, surprised Bob and Linda with news that over \$50,000 has been donated by alumni, friends and undergraduates to establish the **Robert L. and Linda K. Off Endowment Fund**.

The Foundation thanks the 97 FarmHouse brothers, friends and interfraternal colleagues who made this possible, which surpassed the initial goal to raise \$44,000. The purpose of the Fund is to provide permanent funding to inspire new educational initiatives, support the operations and staff, and meet the changing needs of the International Fraternity and the FarmHouse Foundation.

"Wow! You all know how to throw a party," said Bob. "We enjoyed it immensely! It may have become an over-used cliché, but Linda and I were truly 'blown away' by the thoughtfulness and generosity of those alumni and friends of the Fraternity and Foundation that made a contribution to The Robert L. and Linda K. Off Endowment Fund that was announced."

"It has been my honor and privilege to have served the Fraternity and Foundation," he continued.

"I could not have done so without Linda's support and work behind the scenes for nearly 45 years. We were, and are yet, a team especially when it comes to FarmHouse.

The income from the Endowment shall be used, 'to support educational programs for the betterment of FarmHouse International Fraternity and the operation of the FarmHouse Foundation'. The

principal can also be used as a mortgage loan for the Foundation's Chapter Housing Loan Program. That pretty much covers the waterfront as to what the Fraternity must do to continue to be Builders of Men: provide safe, comfortable and affordable housing as well as top-notch educational programming going on inside every chapter house.

Thanks again for a memorable evening. We will never forget it and those who made it happen."

Additional gifts to the Bob and Linda Off Endowment Fund are continually welcomed. A list of donors will be kept and shared with them from time to time.



Past Fraternity Executive Chad Harris (IA 98) and new Fraternity Executive Christian Wiggins congratulate and thank Bob Off (CO 64) for his 44 years of leadership & service to FarmHouse.

Alumni NEWS

Alberta

Robert Saik (AL 81) spent a day discussing technology with Bill Gates, in particular his views on how modern farming technology can be leveraged to feed a growing population in an environmentally sustainable way.

“I think it was my work as an advocate for genetic engineering that caught Gates’ eye,” says Saik.

Robert is the founder of The Agri-Trend Group of Companies. He is the author of “The Agriculture Manifesto,” one of the Amazon 2014 Best of Books and delivered a speech at the 2014 TEDx in Red Deer, Alberta.



Kansas State

John R. Hill (KS 83) and his wife, Carol, purchased controlling interest in City Bancshares, Inc., the parent company of The City State Bank, Fort Scott, Kansas. John has been with the bank since 1990 and now serves as president and chairman. He and Carol also own and manage a real estate investment portfolio in Fort Scott. Their daughter, Meredith, is a junior in the K-State College of Architecture.

Rodney Oliphant, DVM (KS 59) † was posthumously inducted into the Cattle Production Veterinary Hall of Fame for his work in beef cattle. He was an Air Force veterinarian in Merced, Calif. After his military service, he practiced in Goodland, Kan., before returning to Offerle to start and manage his own practice and cattle herd. He was known as a leader in the industry and a pioneer in preventative beef medicine. He passed away on September 19, 2012.

Ohio State

John Foltz (OH 79) has been appointed to lead the department of animal sciences at The Ohio State University as chair. Prior to his appointment, John was a special assistant to the President for Agricultural Initiatives at the University of Idaho as well as dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at Idaho. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural economics from The Ohio State University. Upon graduation, he worked for six years as a district manager for Ralston Purina in Ohio and Pennsylvania, marketing livestock feed and animal health products. Subsequently, he received his Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Purdue University.



Illinois

Andrew DeSutter (IL 06) joined the Prairie Farmer Cultivating Master Farmers program. **Ron Lawfer** (IL 79) and his wife, Julie, are one of the Master Farmer families serving as a mentor for the Cultivating Master Farmer Class of 2019. Andrew and his wife, Adrienne, farm near New Windsor, Ill. Ron and Julie farm near Kent, Ill.

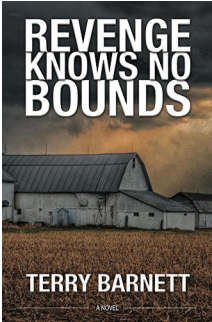
Iowa State



Don Greiman (IA 48), his wife, Yvonne, and their family were recognized by Iowa State Athletics as the 2017 Cy's Favorite Alum—an award that recognizes alumni spirit and athletic booster support. Over the past 60 years of their loyal fan support for the Cyclones, Don and Yvonne have only missed 15 home football games. An Air Force veteran, Don has given back not only to the nation but he has made a significant impact in the beef industry. He carried a 44-year tenure on the Iowa State Fair board, was a major part of starting the Certified Angus Beef Program and has been involved with the American Angus Association. One of Don's sons, Brad, is a 1974 initiate of the Iowa State Chapter.

Alumni News

Purdue



Terry L. Barnett (PU 77), recently wrote his first novel, *Revenge Knows No Bounds*—a spy/mystery thriller using themes of agriculture. Terry grew up on a farm and cherished his FH years very much. He self-published the book under a company he purchased, Bondegard Press, which he picked because Bondegard roughly translated means “farm house” in Dutch. Terry’s book is available on Amazon. (Remember to support *The FarmHouse Foundation* by using AmazonSmile).

Minnesota



Dr. Andrew Peterson (MN 66) has been named the 2017 North Dakota Veterinarian of the year. Andy grew up on a farm near Hunter, N.D., and graduated from Hunter High School. He then spent two years in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps, before returning to North Dakota and working in Park River and later Lisbon, N.D. In 1975 he started the Enderlin Veterinary Clinic and continues to practice mixed animal veterinary medicine. The NDVMA Veterinarian of the Year Award was established in 1975, in order to recognize the time and efforts by its members, above and beyond that of normal participation, for the good of the Association and/or profession.

Missouri



Brian Fenimore (MO 85) took the bench in August as one of three bankruptcy judges for the Western District of Missouri Federal Court last week. Prior to joining the court, Brian was a partner for Lathrop & Gage in Kansas City. His selection was announced earlier this year. Brian succeeds U.S. Western District Bankruptcy Judge Arthur B. Federman.



Leroy Van Dyke (MO 50) is well known for his country music with hit songs like “Walk On By,” which was the number one country single for 19 weeks in 1961. Recently, his song “The Auctioneer” was picked up by Subway Restaurants for their advertising campaign. Leroy raises mules, is a member of the National Auctioneers Hall of Fame and is a veteran of the Korean War.

Nebraska

Greg Ibach (NE 81) has been confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as the USDA Undersecretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs. Sonny Perdue, USDA Secretary, said that, “Greg Ibach will bring experience and integrity to his new role at USDA, and carries with him the knowledge he’s gained in the dozen years he has served as Nebraska’s Director of Agriculture. His expertise in a wide cross-section of agricultural issues will be invaluable to our customers: the farmers, ranchers, foresters, and producers of America. I look forward to working with Greg and urge the Senate to continue to act on other nominees who are awaiting confirmation.” Prior to his confirmation, Greg served as the Nebraska Director of Agriculture since 2005 and is an inductee of the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement.



North Dakota State



Mark Jirik (ND 95) has been hired as the new director for the Northern Crops Institute (NCI). Jirik holds a master’s degree in agricultural economics from the University of Illinois and a bachelor’s degree in agricultural economics from North Dakota State University. He has more than 17 years of experience in commodity merchandising and commercial management at Cargill. NCI supports regional agriculture and value-added processing by conducting educational and technical programs that expand and maintain domestic and international markets for northern-grown crops.

Oklahoma State



The Oklahoma State University FarmHouse Association hosted their annual meeting in Stillwater, Okla. on July 29. Pictured is part of the approximately 75 Oklahoma State FarmHouse men that gathered. A group of around 50 men, ranging from incoming freshmen to those in their sixties, either played or rode around the golf course heckling those that thought that they could play during the morning golf scramble.

South Dakota



Spencer Chase (SD 11), a reporter for *AgriPulse*, took home the top honor for younger media professionals during the National Association of Farm Broadcasters' Annual Meeting in Kansas City, Mo. The award was established

in 1995 and serves to recognize farm broadcasters with less than five years of membership. It's an honor to publicly acknowledge new broadcasters, not only for their dedication to the field of farm broadcasting, but also for the new perspectives and passion they bring and breathe into the craft.

Southern Illinois

Daniel Suess (SIU 13) has been named the Director of Tobacco Enforcement and Prevention. The position is through the Illinois Department of Human Services. Daniel is a past undergraduate member of the Fraternity's International Executive Board. Daniel had worked on the policy team for Governor Bruce Rauner.

Tennessee

Dennis Beavers (TN 94) has been appointed to head the USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) operations in the state of Tennessee. The FSA administers a wide range of farm programs from farm loans and commodity programs to disaster assistance and conservation programs. Dennis is a co-owner of a hymnal publishing business and was on the campaign staff in Alabama for President Trump.

Virginia Tech



Dustin Rinehart (VT 10) took on a new role as the Director of State and Local Government Relations for the Port of Virginia. The Port of Virginia is an authority within the Commonwealth tasked to oversee six ports: Portsmouth Maritime Terminal, Newport News Maritime Terminal, Norfolk International Terminal,

the Virginia International Gateway, Richmond Maritime Terminal, and Virginia Inland Port. Dustin will be responsible for ensuring the future of the Port by securing the funds and process to dredge the channels to reach 55-feet to prepare for even larger vessels to reach the Commonwealth's ports. He formerly led the legislative and political office for Barry Knight of the Virginia House of Delegates, where he was instrumental in the development of Virginia ABC law, agricultural policy, and the development of the Commonwealth's budget.

Western Kentucky

Brian Lacefield (WK 95) has been appointed to head the USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) operations in the state of Kentucky. The FSA administers a wide range of farm programs from farm loans and commodity programs to disaster assistance and conservation programs.

Alumni News

Wisconsin-Platteville



Travis Clark (WIP 94) and his family received the Platinum Award of Achievement from the National Mastitis Council for 2016 Milk Quality. This is the second year in a row that their farm, Vision Aire Farms, LLC, in Eldorado, Wis., won the award. The award recognizes the top six farms with the best milk quality across the nation. In addition to milk quality indicators, such as somatic cell count (SCC) and standard plate count (SPC), judges looked at specific details about

each operation, including milking routine, cow comfort, udder health monitoring programs, treatment and prevention programs, strategies for overall herd health and welfare, and adherence to drug use and record keeping regulations.



During this year's homecoming, the UW-Platteville FH Association held an open house to showcase the newly remodeled chapter house that was completed during the summer. Over 70 alumni, family and friends attended the open house, which featured lunch and house tours. *

JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL



**FARMHOUSE
NATIONAL
WESTERN
STOCK
SHOW
BREAKFAST**

*Hosted by the Colorado
FarmHouse Association*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2018
Centennial Room in
the National Western Complex

*Please RSVP by January 8, 2018
at csu.farmhouse.alumni@gmail.com*

**Cost for breakfast is \$25/person not
including NWSS grounds admission.**

*Registration begins at 8 a.m.
Breakfast and program begins at 9 a.m.*

*Come meet Christian Wiggings, the
Fraternity chief executive officer, network
with fellow alumni and hear details about
the state of our Fraternity.*

IN Memoriam

Colorado State

RONALD R. TIDBALL ('51); 09/29/2016; 86; Colorado Springs, Colo.

ROBERT L. VITERA ('57); 16/10/2016; 78; Minden, Neb.

Idaho

MARK L. LIERMAN ('67); 08/01/2009; 61; Kailua, Hawaii

STEVEN A. WHEELER ('75); 03/20/2014; 57; Pocatello, Idaho

Illinois

WILLIAM F. DEHORITY ('54); 07/20/2017; 82; El Paso, Ill.

NEAL E. ECKERT ('56); 07/10/2017; 78; Round Rock, Texas

Iowa

WILLIAM G. ZMOLEK ('42); 09/01/2017; 86; Ames, Iowa

Kansas State

QUENTIN N. CARNAHAN ('47); 04/04/2017; 88; Wamego, Kan.

DALE E. NAIMAN ('66); 08/06/2017; 70; Colorado Springs, Colo.

DAVID A. SCHONEWEIS ('51); 11/09/2017; 86; Manhattan, Kan.

Kentucky

LEWIS H. BURFORD ('51); 04/23/2017; 87; Lexington, Ky.

RICHARD D. CLEMENTS ('51); 10/27/2017; 86; Lewisburg, Ky.

WILLIAM B. POOR ('52); 01/16/2017; 83; Lexington, Ky.

JUSTIN K. STONE ('94); 12/28/2015; 41; Versailles, Ky.

Michigan State

STANLEY S. KRESGE ('52); 07/03/2017; 88; Perrinton, Mich.

BERTON S. SHEPPARD ('55); 08/02/2017; 80; Colfax, N.C.

Minnesota

MELVYN L. FAHNING ('55); 81; 10/07/2017; Farmington, Minn.

LAWARENCE C. THIMIJJAN ('62); 05/29/2008; 65; McConnells, S.C.

JOSEPH A. ZETAH ('55); 11/04/2017; Minneapolis, Minn.

Missouri

OWEN M. MCCAMMON ('47); 02/21/2016; 89; Dallas, Tex.

WILLIAM H. PFANDER ('42); 06/18/2017; 93; Prescott Valley, Ariz.

WILLIAM C. STRINGER ('61); 06/22/2017; 84; Rocheport, Mo.

Nebraska

STANLEY MATZKE ('53); 11/02/2017; 84; Lincoln, Neb.

DENNIS L. SEDLAK ('55); 05/25/2017; 79; Decatur, Ill.

North Dakota State

DOUGLAS M. MEIER ('66); 03/28/2017; 69; Cathay, N.D.

Ohio State

KENNETH E. KELLOGG ('54); 09/10/2017; 84; Belleville, Ill.

ROGER LAWRENCE ('43); 04/19/2017; 95; Ames, Iowa

ROBERT SCHERER ('97); 04/07/2017; 88; Circleville, Ohio

JOHN A. STEVENSON ('97); 10/29/2015; 82; Circleville, Ohio

Oklahoma State

MERRILL B. BURRUSS ('57); 08/02/2017; 80; Geary, Okla.

L.E. CASTLE ('47) 09/03/2017; 91; Jet, Okla.

The following are notices received by the International Office between July 1, 2017 and November 20, 2017.

Listed by—Name (Initiation year); Death 0/0/0000; Age at time of death; resided in



ED LONG (OK 53), Master Builder

BORN SEPTEMBER 4, 1934, former State Senator Edwin "Ed" Long, 83, he devoted his life to making a better world. Through business, politics, church involvement, community and national leadership, he gained respect for his sincerity and dedication in making things happen.

Long was born in Garber, Okla. He graduated from Oklahoma A&M with a degree in agriculture education in 1956. At OSU, Long was a member of FarmHouse Fraternity, later served on the International Fraternity Board and was recipient of the Master Builder of Men award in 1994. Long was named an OSU Distinguished Alumni and a Distinguished Agriculture Alumnus.

In the 1970s, Long served on the Oklahoma Wheat Commission and traveled around the world developing new markets for wheat. Long served on the Board of Regents for Oklahoma A&M Colleges 1979–88, including a term as chairman.

In 1988, he was elected to the Oklahoma State Senate from District 19 and served two terms. Long is known as a pioneer in the development of early childhood education in Oklahoma. He authored legislation to establish the Parents as Teachers program in the state, and worked to pass legislation that created a state pre-K program. He also helped establish the Rise School in Stillwater, which serves children with developmental disabilities. Long was recognized in 2017 by the World Autism and Savant Foundation.

Upon retirement, he was an active member in his community and church. He participated in global mission work with a particular passion for the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Long died October 12, 2017, in Stillwater, Oklahoma. He was 83 years old. *

IN Memoriam

RICHARD V. UNDERWOOD ('51); 08/09/2016; Fairbanks, Alaska

Purdue

PHILIP Q. MICHAL ('59); 10/09/2017; 77; Crawfordsville, Ind.

MARK W. PICKERING ('73); 63; 10/27/2017; Knightstown, Ind.

JOHN M. YODER ('52); 09/07/2016; 84; Evansville, Ind.

Texas Tech

SAMUEL E. CURL ('80); 08/02/2016; 78; Granbury, Tex.

Wyoming

DENNIS R. DALY ('57); 12/06/2014; 76; Douglas, Wyo.

GORDON W. ROBERTSTAD ('50); 01/23/2016; 92; Flagstaff, Ariz.

FarmHouse Photo



Cheers to 44 years! Celebrating Bob Off's (CO 64) retirement in Minneapolis on November 11, 2017 with his wife Linda and Allison Rickels.



FARMHOUSE FRATERNITY

7306 NW Tiffany Springs Parkway, Suite 310
Kansas City, MO 64153-9905

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SAVE THE DATE

50TH BIENNIAL CONCLAVE

JULY 25—28, 2018

KANSAS CITY, MO.

FOR MORE INFO ON PAGE 8

