



HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO™

Fall 2008

# HLM MAGAZINE

**NASA Longhorn Project • Rodeo Uncorked!  
Remembering Clayton Underwood**





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March 3 – 22, 2009

# A Message From the Chairman



Thank you! Thanks to our members, volunteers — those who volunteer their money supporting our programs and the more than 20,000 volunteers who donate their time and talents — and a great staff that work together to put on this remarkable event. This is quite a feat, as the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's™ size and magnitude makes it an overwhelming civic event. You are a wonderful example of what can be done when volunteers work together. Every year, the Show has an estimated worldwide economic impact of more than \$386 million — comparable to a Super Bowl. All that the Show is and all that it does are thanks to the many individuals who contribute to make the Show the biggest and best in the world. You make it happen each year.

My first event as the new chairman of the board was an incredible opportunity to meet more than 300 young Texans. The Metropolitan, Opportunity and School Art Scholarship Banquet in May gave me a preview of a very bright future, as I was able to present many of these students with their scholarship certificates, meet their families and hear their stories.

The Show's spirit of giving continued throughout the summer months when more than \$1 million in college scholarships were presented to 70 Texas 4-H members in June at the Texas 4-H Roundup in College Station. Then, in July, Texas FFA members also received more than \$1 million during the Texas FFA State Convention in Lubbock. This was the first time that the scholarship monies exceeded \$1 million annually for each of these organizations. These outstanding young Texans have made a mark in their respective organizations, and thanks in part to the Show, they are able to continue their educational growth.

Each year, the Show helps put more than 2,000 students in colleges and universities across the great state of Texas. It is said that the average college graduate can earn \$1 million more, over the course of a lifetime, than a high school graduate. With more than 20,000 students who have been impacted by the Show, that is a substantial contribution to society and the communities in which these recipients live.

So many times we get wrapped up in the excitement of the Show, and we forget about how we are making a difference in the lives of the leaders of tomorrow. Scholarships are just a part of a bigger picture — the Show also makes an impact on the many hardworking exhibitors who raise their yearlong livestock projects; the talented young artists in the School Art Program; the 4-H and FFA members who study to compete in the Show's various judging contests; and the thousands of children who explore the Show's wide variety of agricultural and educational exhibits.

Each year, volunteers work more than 1 million hours — an average of 67.8 hours donated by each volunteer. Thanks to your efforts, we are able to make a difference.

I want to express my gratitude for the opportunity to represent this fine organization. Some of my greatest memories were made here at the Show, and I look forward to creating more. I am excited to continue my journey in my new role as chairman of the board of this amazing organization.

Thanks again,

Butch Robinson

# Rodeo Uncorked!

By Kristi Van Aken

**H**ouston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ events often involve fierce competition, exhibitions, livestock and horses, saddles, chaps, championship buckles, and, usually, a little dirt. The events of Rodeo Uncorked! feature all of these elements — though the only dirt of note might be the “terroir” where the grapes are grown.

From the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo International Wine Competition to the Roundup and Best Bites Competition, and, finally, the Champion Wine Auction and Dinner, Rodeo Uncorked! is a premier attraction for the Show. “When we started, no one knew what was going to happen,” said Charles M. “Bear” Dalton, chairman of the Wine Competition Committee and a key collaborative force behind creating the event. “But, so far, the committee has netted the Show about \$4.5 million in four years.”

The Wine Competition and Auction Committee, formed in 2003, oversaw all Rodeo Uncorked! events. The popularity of each was profound, and managing three major events became a logistical feat too great for one committee. The Wine Competition and Auction Committee split into the Wine Competition Committee and the Wine Auction Committee in 2007.

As its name indicates, the Wine Competition Committee is responsible for the competitive events. First up is the International Wine Competition. The committee sends

invitations to thousands of wineries throughout the world. As the entries pour in, committee members organize, encode and label the nearly 2,000 entries to ensure integrity of the double-blind tasting. They then select qualified, unimpeachable judges and hire an outside accounting firm to audit the results. Competition winners are notified via e-mail, and the committee corrals the top wines to be poured at the next event, the Roundup and Best Bites Competition.

Championship wine and award-winning food are hallmarks of the Roundup and Best Bites Competition, which also includes the awards ceremony for the winning wines. The winners in each category are announced, and medals, saddles, chaps and buckles are awarded accordingly. As the more than 200 wines are poured — the Champions, Reserve Champions and Double Golds in each category — a new competition begins. More than 60 of the best Houston-area restaurants and caterers serve signature bites of their top-tier cuisines, each vying for the most votes from the more than 3,000 attendees in order to be named “Best Bite.”

“It’s awesome food and awesome wine. People come to eat, drink and be merry,” said Stephanie Earthman Baird, vice chairman in charge of the event. “We do it not only to showcase the wines and support the wineries that have supported us in our competition, but it also serves as one of our fundraisers,” said Baird.

The other Rodeo Uncorked! fund-raising event is the Champion Wine Auction and Dinner. Conducted by the Wine Auction Committee, it is a lavish affair that starts with a reception and silent auction, features a gourmet meal served with award-winning wines, and culminates in a live auction of the Champion and Reserve Champion wines. Hard work helps ensure action at the auction. “We go out and secure commitments from buyers so that we’ll have a lively auction,” said George A. DeMontrond III, chairman of the Wine Auction Committee.

Top Texas wines were among those garnering big bids at the event. Before the auction, 60 Texas wines won Champion, Reserve Champion or Texas Champion awards in the International Wine Competition. The agricultural impact is impressive. Texas is the nation’s fifth-largest wine-producing state, with more than 130 wineries. According to the Texas Department of Agriculture, the state’s wine industry contributes approximately \$1 billion to Texas’ economy.



Photo by Tim Fulton

2008 Top All-Around Winery title went to d’Arenberg.

“The Texas wine industry should be extremely proud of its outstanding performance against very challenging competition,” said Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples. “Texas wines more than doubled their success in this year’s competition over last year. Once again, these awards let consumers know premium-quality, world-class wines are being made right here in the Lone Star State,” said Staples.

Some of those world-class, Texas wines were served, among others, during the 2008 Show at a wine bar named Vintners Corral — a new addition to the Rodeo Uncorked! agenda.

Vintners Corral was located in Carruth Plaza, complete with tables and seating. “Guests [can] sit and enjoy a taste or a glass or a bottle of wine. We [have] a venue for folks who are looking for a place to stop and relax,” said Dalton.

Entering its fifth year, Rodeo Uncorked! has proved that wine and wine enthusiasts add a new element of membership and a different kind of culture to the Show. “I think it brings people who sometimes aren’t involved with the Rodeo, with livestock or school art, and so it brings new faces to the Rodeo, which is good,” said DeMontrond.

Bringing new faces to the Show, promoting Texas wine and agriculture, finding creative ways to attract more attendees



*2008 International Wine Competition Grand Champion Best of Show Buyers*

and raising \$4.5 million in four years all are impressive achievements. Nonetheless, the committees are aiming even higher. Not only did they raise their sales and fund-raising goals for 2008, but now some of the proceeds of Rodeo Uncorked! are earmarked as educational funds — money going directly to youth education. So, although 21 is the minimum age to be able to raise a glass at the Roundup and Best Bites Competition, bid at the Champion Wine Auction and Dinner, or enjoy an adult beverage in the Vintners Corral, those who benefit directly from these events — the scholarship recipients — are considerably younger, needing to age a few more years before they can make their own toast. 🍷



*Rodeo Uncorked! Vintners Corral*

# Students, Steers and Space

By Bill R. Bludworth

**T**ruly a marriage made in the heavens — the 12-year-old NASA Longhorn Project has come a long way. What began in 1996 as collaboration between NASA's Johnson Space Center and the Clear Creek Independent School District now provides hundreds of students a hands-on learning environment in a visionary, educational partnership.

George W.S. Abbey, then director of JSC, saw a 1960s-era photograph of cattle grazing on the old West Ranch. That ranch later was to become the site of JSC, and that very acreage just happened to be undeveloped, waiting for a worthy purpose. With an inspired vision of creating a high-tech agricultural program, Abbey approached Dr. John E. Wilson, then-superintendent of CCISD. Together they saw an opportunity, and they formed a partnership that would create unique educational opportunities for Texas students.

JSC allocated a 53-acre site for the NASA Longhorn Project; once again, cattle would graze on the land. CCISD provided a source of students; young minds soon would gain knowledge firsthand, rather than only from a textbook. Next to join this worthy project was the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™. At the urging of the Show's Executive Committee member P. Michael Wells, the Show would assist in acquiring equipment, cattle and other donations. It was not long before the Gulf Coast chapter of the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America became a partner and provided Texas Longhorn cattle for the project. The melding of the energies and resources of these four education-oriented groups spurred the project with a tremendous jump-start.

JSC located the Longhorn Project and its facilities on a tract west of Rocket Park, between NASA and Space Center Houston. Thirty-five acres of the land is used for grazing pastures. A feedlot takes up 11 acres, while 7 acres are used for aquaculture ponds, gardens and orchards. A landscape of native Texas flora, complete with a waterway, graces the site and serves as an outdoor classroom for educators, students and scientists alike. Portable buildings house classrooms, offices and workspaces. A focal point within the project is the Show-funded Western Heritage Pavilion, accessible via the Space Center Houston tram stop at Rocket Park. This open-air structure holds a commanding view of the Longhorn Project.

Along with Texas Longhorns, rockets and rocket scientists, about 150 whitetail deer roam another JSC tract. The wildlife herd is managed by Texas A&M University personnel. The facilities are united under the auspices of the CCISD Center for Agriculture, Science and Engineering.

The Longhorn Project is overseen daily by Cindy Schnuriger, a graduate of Texas A&M University. She is a CCISD employee who enthusiastically supports her students, the partnership and the goals of the program.

The project's pasture and feedlot can accommodate up to six trophy steers, chosen by the National Steer Selection Committee, which includes Don Jordan, a current Show Executive Committee member, and past Show president and chairman of the board; Dorie Damuth, a lifetime director of the Show; and Schnuriger. The entire project is overseen by



Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo

the NASA/CCISD Longhorn Project Development Board, whose members include representatives from NASA/JSC, CCISD, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, TLBAA, Space Center Houston, Galveston/Bay Area Master Naturalists, and community business leaders.

Currently, there are four steers, including Texas Twister, donated by the Hillman family. The late Hal Hillman, a former Show president and chairman of the board, gave the steer its name because of the double twists in the steer's magnificent broad horns. When the JSC retires trophy steers, they go back to their home ranches.

TLBAA members and volunteers also donate breeding stock, which yields project livestock for select CCISD FFA students to raise on-site and to exhibit statewide. Gene Hollier, a Show director who has been involved with the Longhorn Project since its inception, said, "The achievements of the students who are selected into the program have been staggering. They work at the project daily, weekends and holidays included. They show their [Texas Longhorn projects] around the state, and they have hundreds of ribbons to prove it. It gives one a huge sense of pride to be a part of this great endeavor."

Another significant program is an advanced research- and laboratory-based science class on genetics. Taught by Schnuriger and others, during the 2007-08 school year more than 4,000 CCISD seventh-graders were immersed in the scientific methods of observation, data collection and

experimentation. Also, in a pilot program, 387 third-graders participated in a science lesson at the CASE Center. Serving as an introduction to collecting data and determining outcomes, the students focused on survival characteristics of the various fauna and flora that are part of the Longhorn Project. Damuth, owner of the Flying D Ranch, said, "It is one of the most rewarding projects I have ever had my hand in."

The Longhorn Project has lessons designed for the benefit of CCISD high school agriscience students. Conducted in a large animal, veterinary-type facility, students learn about genetics, parasite control, injection procedures, livestock handling, routine animal health care, palpation, management and nutrition.

Building upon its 12-year history, the Longhorn Project holds lofty goals. It seeks to expand as a forum for kindergartners to high school seniors, with an emphasis on the agricultural, biological, earth, and aerospace sciences, in a hands-on laboratory environment. It also desires to offer the FFA opportunities to other school districts. According to a CASE publication, "Through agricultural education, students learn science, mathematics and technology skills that are the cornerstone of the expertise that will be needed to run the space program in the future."

The facility is open daily, except Dec. 25. Its unique location allows visitors to ride the tram for a stop at Rocket Park and the Western Heritage Pavilion to learn about the Texas Longhorns. According to Schnuriger, people from all over the world visit the project daily. Each year, more than a million people learn about this Texas treasure. 🇺🇸



# Grand Lessons Learned

By Nan McCreary

Grand champion junior market exhibitors say there's no thrill like being in the winner's circle at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™. For these youngsters, earning a place in the limelight is the big payoff for a demanding schedule, long hours and sheer determination. But, they say the rewards are far greater than a banner and prize money. All agree that the efforts required to compete in the world's largest livestock show teach invaluable lessons that will hold them in good stead throughout their lives.



*"I learned that hard work pays off," said Charla Leopold, 11-year-old exhibitor of the 2007 Grand Champion Pen of Broilers.* Charla, who hails from Thrall, Texas, has been showing animals since the third grade, so she knows the drill: tending livestock every morning and evening, selecting and following feeding programs, and keeping the environment comfortable and healthy. That's a big job for an 11-year-old, but she thrives on it.

"Charla loves animals and she realizes that there's a potential to earn college money from hard work," said her mother, Holly. "She's also learned that if she makes an effort, she is fully capable of reaching her goals."

Barely a "tweenager," Charla is already gaining priceless business experience. "This is really a meat-production industry," Holly explained, "and raising livestock teaches responsibility and how to run a business." Holly said that Charla has learned essential business skills such as how to select a product, develop a business plan, track expenditures and ultimately, take the product to market. Clearly, Charla's 2007 investment was a success: she sold her pen of broilers for a world's record \$201,000.

For the Leopolds, showing livestock is a family affair. "It's a part of our lives," said Holly, "and having a daughter win was a big achievement for all of us." But the greatest reward, she said, is the family bonding that develops from sharing and achieving mutual goals. "Charla has learned that families can work together and that it's a good way to share family time," noted Holly. "When she's older, she can look back and remember and be grateful."

*Colton McCulloch, exhibitor of the 2007 Grand Champion Lamb, agreed that you can't put a price tag on experience gained from competing in livestock shows.* The Bryan, Texas, teenager, who has been showing sheep since he was 8 years old, said if there's any lesson he's learned, it's the importance of accepting responsibility. To prepare for the Houston Livestock Show™, Colton spent nearly a year with his sheep, following a strict regimen of feeding, watering, grooming and exercising the animals. "I would come home from school every day and work the sheep," Colton remembered. "It's a commitment and you have to stick with it."

So how does a busy teenager find the time, and the self-discipline, required to raise a prize-winning animal? "I love it to death," Colton said. "My heart is in the barn." Colton's determination also is driven by a strong desire to win — a lesson learned long ago from his father. "My dad taught me that if I keep my priorities in line, I will do all right in life," he stated. "You take care of business, and then you go play."

For Colton, his year of hard work paid off. His Grand Champion Lamb triumphed over 17,000 others, and sold for a record \$170,000. "The Houston Show is the Super Bowl





said one of the biggest challenges was when the goat got sick 10 days before the Show. “We’ll be sharing goat stories for a long time,” he laughed.

For Rebecca, the experience provided life lessons in self-discipline, commitment and responsibility. “I’d tell myself, ‘I’ve got to do this,’” she remembered. “Once you make a commitment, you have to follow through.” The experience also taught Rebecca about choices. “I learned that I was doing what I liked to do,” she said. “I love working with animals.”

David, ever the proud father, observed that Rebecca has thrived as a result of her win at the Houston Livestock Show. “By winning, Rebecca learned that she can accomplish her goals,” he said. “When a child gains self-confidence, it changes their world. They discover that good things can happen if you persist and follow through.” David said the experience also strengthened their family bond. “Raising animals gives us something in common,” he said. “It keeps the family on the same page. And the memories we’ve created are invaluable.”

of livestock shows,” beamed Colton’s dad, Clay. “It was an unbelievable thrill, like winning the World Series.”

Like others who make the journey to championship, Colton had his family as traveling companions. His older sister has shown livestock, while his dad has served as teacher, counselor and friend. “Colton has acquired valuable life skills from this experience,” noted Clay, “and he has learned the importance of family values.” Colton agreed wholeheartedly. “Throughout this process, you form a bond with parents,” he said. “My dad is like my best friend. Nothing can take that away.”

*Rebecca Wilson, a 14-year-old from Stephenville, Texas, who raised the 2007 Grand Champion Goat, also credits her family for their support on the road to victory.* “Raising goats has always been a family thing,” said Rebecca, noting that everyone gets involved in the process, including her dad, mother and younger brother. “We all work together and support each other,” said Rebecca. “When you are doing your part, it helps everyone.”

Rebecca and her family spent two to three hours a day for eight months raising the prize-winning goat. Plus, they had to deal with speed bumps along the way, such as scheduling conflicts and unexpected illnesses. Rebecca’s dad, David,



Clearly, raising prize-winning livestock — or any livestock — teaches life lessons that can’t be learned in a textbook, a lecture hall or a computer program. For grand champion exhibitors at the Houston Livestock Show, the lessons learned are all part of a day’s work. But they are lessons that will last forever. 🐐

# Shall We Dance?

*By Stephanie Earthman Baird*

From dancing in place during a RODEOHOUSTON™ concert to “Dancin’ in the Dome” at The Hideout, award-winning country acts at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ provide the perfect opportunity to tap your toes. One of the oldest arts, dance, along with music, expresses the soul and spirit of a culture. Country and Western dancing is a part of this universal language, and its roots spread deep and wide. It is not the steps that make Country and Western dancing special, as there are only a few basic dance steps in the world, but rather its history and its style.

During the pioneer days of the United States, immigrant settlers had little or no familiarity with each other’s customs. From the festive rituals of Germany, the pubs of Ireland, and the ballrooms of France, early settlers brought unique dance combinations to the growing nation. As they adjusted to their new home, these pioneers gathered and danced on common ground through community events.

Barn raisings, quilting bees and other social celebrations laid the foundation for the development of Country and Western dance. At these events, the traditional dances of faraway places mixed, mingled and evolved into American versions of formal squares and rounds. “Squares” refer to structured group dances, while “rounds” are dances performed simultaneously by partners following each other around a large circle.

Squares and rounds graced the dance floor at both formal and informal gatherings. Formal invitations to social balls included dance cards, which listed 10 to 12 dances to be performed in sequence. Farmers and country folk usually were not invited to the formal balls of the upper class. Instead, dressed in their Sunday best, they found themselves in neighbors’ homes, where everyone was invited. These barn dances, which originated in Scotland in the 1860s, were at the core of Country and Western dancing and remained popular until the early 1900s.

Traditional squares danced in the early days, such as France’s quadrille and the contra, form the root of American square dancing. Three round dances — the schottische, polka and the waltz — were integral to square dancing groups at the time.

At the beginning of the 20th century, American dancing changed profoundly. Quadrilles and contras declined in popularity. People modified the waltz and forgot the polka. The fox trot, Charleston and rumba dominated the dance

floor instead. It took nostalgic yearnings after World War II to spawn a rediscovery of the old-fashioned square dance. Groups expanded, new groups formed and new callers — the people who called out the next move — developed. Meanwhile, round dances were set to new music and rhythms.

With the advent of radio, the offbeat cadence of Country and Western music shaped Texas-style dancing. Radio stations helped combine country music, barn dancing and square dances. Hillbilly, mountain and folk music moved traditional dance patterns closer to modern Country and Western dance.

Jazz even played a role in the dance’s development in the early ‘30s. Texas’ Bob Wills jazzed up country string instruments and created a genre of music known as Western Swing. Today’s modern country swing dance was influenced directly by Wills’ music and the way folks moved to its beat.

However, it was not until the 1970s and 1980s that traditional Texas dances gained national attention under the name of Country and Western dancing. Discos gave way to dance halls, honky-tonks and country dance clubs. Movies, such as “Urban Cowboy,” had everyone dressing and dancing like cowboys and cowgirls. In 1982, Congress named square dancing the nation’s official folk dance.

According to Rick Archer, owner of a local dance club and studio, “Urban Cowboy” caused seismic shifts in the Houston dance scene. “I watched Houston nightclubs switch from disco to Western dancing with staggering speed,” said Archer.

But, disco did not die without leaving its footprints on Country and Western dance moves. “Practically overnight, we stepped across the floor in a more sophisticated manner with added turns and spins. Guys started moving forward with their right arm around their partner’s back instead of crooked around her neck,” explained Archer.

Texas dances mostly are variations of the traditional two-step. Once a rather simple barn dance consisting of a basic walking step, the Texas two-step borrows figures from both the international fox trot and swing. It consists of two long steps and a step-close-step to two-four time. Texans sometimes add a personal touch with a unique crouch and gait, but generally, excessive pumping of arms up and down is considered embarrassing.

Texans also enjoy other traditional dances, such as the polka, the waltz and the swing. The polka is a high-energy dance

moving counter-clockwise around the floor. This dance originated from a Bohemian peasant girl and was introduced to society in 1844. Today's Texans step left-close-left, right-close-right — a two-step with a hop.

Dancers still get cozy with the once taboo waltz. Gentlemen steer and whirl ladies around the dance floor to this fancy Bohemian two-step called a redowa. In Texas, the waltz inspired such songs as Earnest Tubbs' "Waltz Across Texas." "With your hand in mine, I could dance on and on; I could waltz across Texas with you," Tubbs sang.

Otherwise known as the jitterbug, the swing, with its fast spins and intricate patterns, is a versatile dance that ranges from freestyle to highly choreographed movements. At its root is a jazzy two-step danced by African-Americans on the plantations in the South and modernized during Wills' era.

Texans also participate in line dancing — where no partner is needed. Line dances are patterned after the German schottische and what would now be called "clogging." These dances typically require high energy and lots of noise. Walking, kicking, swiveling and turning sequences progress in line, much like skaters. Songs such as "Achy Breaky Heart" and "Boot Scootin' Boogie" are famous nationwide as line dance music. And, the ever-popular "Cotton-Eyed Joe" still draws big audiences to the dance floor. As the country music group Alabama sings, "I remember down in Houston, we were puttin' on a show, when a cowboy in the back stood up and yelled, 'Cotton-Eyed Joe!'"

Whether kickin' up their heels or scootin' a boot, Texans can always find a reason to dance! 🤠



# INCOMING Chairman of the Board

By Kenneth C. Moursund Jr.

On May 15, 2008, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ board of directors elected Charles R. “Butch” Robinson as the Show’s chairman of the board. Although Robinson has been affiliated with the Show, as both a member and a volunteer, for more than 25 years, his ties to the Show predate his work as a volunteer. Like many other native Houstonians, Robinson’s introduction to the Show came as a child, when he attended the Houston Fat Stock Show.

Robinson’s official involvement with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo began after he purchased a ranch in 1983. Needing to buy cattle, Robinson attended the Show and bought several bulls. With those purchases, he decided to become involved with the Show and joined that year as a life member. In 1988, Robinson joined the Range Bull and Heifer Committee, which now is known as the All Breeds Livestock Sales Committee. In 1992, he served on the Resource Renewal Committee, which is now a part of the Facility Services Committee. Robinson joined the Grand Entry

Committee in 1993, where he later served as vice chairman. Joining the Cutting Horse Committee in 1997, he served as chairman from 1998 through 2000. He was elected to the board of directors in 1997.

He served as a vice president of the Show from 2001 to 2003, and was officer in charge of the Agricultural Mechanics, All Breeds Livestock Sales, Junior Commercial Steer Feeding and Management Contest, and Trail Ride committees. Robinson was elected to serve on the Show’s Executive Committee beginning in 2006, where he served as chairman of the Executive Committee’s audit subcommittee and as a member of the Rodeo Institute for Teacher Excellence™ board of directors.

As chairman of the board, Robinson’s job is described by the Show’s bylaws. The chairman is required to serve as the Show’s top-ranking volunteer, to preside at all meetings, to work with the Show’s president to formulate policy recommendations to the Executive Committee, and to represent the Show throughout the community.

“I obviously accept that definition, but representing more than 30,000 Show members and more than 20,000 Show volunteers is a large part of my role,” said Robinson. “I am just like every other volunteer — I get paid the same, but my job is just a little broader.”

Robinson is a graduate of Rice University and is active in the Rice University “R” Association as well as the Owl Club. When he is not working on behalf of the Show, he is self-employed in the oil and gas industry. He also is a rancher with a cow/calf and horse operation.

Robinson lives in Houston with his wife, Paula, a Houston native who is a life member of the Show and is a member of the Trailblazer Committee. For many years, they have been champion buyers at several of the Show’s auctions, including the Junior Market Lamb, Poultry and Steer auctions. They have three children — Monica, Ashley and Andy Robinson — who are all life members of the Show. Eldest daughter, Monica, serves on the Breeders Greeters Committee. The entire family is excited by Robinson’s election as chairman of the board. “This is an exceptional honor, privilege and responsibility. We thank the membership for its faith and trust,” said Robinson.



# INCOMING *Executive Committee Members*

By Katie Lyons

## Wayne Hollis



Wayne Hollis could not be more excited about his new role with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™. "The Show has provided me with an opportunity to be involved with the number one charity in the state of Texas that benefits the youth," he said. "From the junior exhibitor, to the scholarship recipient, to the

Special Children's Lil' Rustlers Rodeo, I know I have made a positive impact on a child's future as a member of the Show."

Hollis joined the Corral Club Committee in 1968. He later volunteered on the Breeders Greeters and Commercial Exhibits committees. He served as chairman of Commercial Exhibits from 1991-93 and also volunteered on the Agricultural Mechanics Committee. Hollis became a Show vice president in 1994 and has since volunteered with the Grand Entry, Directions and Assistance, Wine Auction, and Ranching & Wildlife committees. He also has served as chairman of the Lifetime Vice Presidents Committee.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is definitely a Hollis family affair. His wife, Peggy, serves on the International and Trailblazer committees. Their daughter, Brooke Hortenstine, and her husband, Blake, live in Dallas. Brooke is a Show life member and attends many Show events. Wayne and Peggy's son, John Hollis, has volunteered on Breeders Greeters and is currently on the Ranching & Wildlife and Team Penning and Ranch Sorting committees. John's wife, Marsha, has served on Poultry Auction and is currently on Special Children's. They have a daughter, Katie Jane.

Hollis is special accounts sales manager for Mustang Cat, a heavy equipment distributor of Caterpillar products in Southeast Texas.

## Jack A. Lyons



Jack Lyons did not think twice about committing himself to many more years of loyal support when he was asked to join the Show's Executive Committee. "The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo has been our charity of choice for the past 26 years and major part of our family," said Lyons. "Having the opportunity to meet

some of our scholarship recipients and hearing how we have made a difference in their lives has been the most gratifying experience for me."

Lyons became a Show life member in 1981 and began volunteering on the Quarter Horse Committee in 1982. He has been a member of the World's Championship Bar-B-Que Committee since 1990, where he served as chairman from 1998-2000. He was elected to the board of directors in 1995 and became a Show vice president in 2002. Currently, Lyons is chairman of the Rodeo Institute for Teacher Excellence™.

Lyons is the managing director at John L. Wortham & Son LP. His wife, Nina, is a Show life member and has been a member of the Quarter Horse Committee for 23 years, where she has served as vice chairman. Jack and Nina have three children and one granddaughter, Berklee. Their son Chad is a life member, and his wife, Katie, serves on the Magazine Committee. Another son, Allen, also is a life member and volunteers on the Ranching & Wildlife Committee. Their daughter, Sara, attends Texas Christian University.

# INCOMING

By Gina Steere

## David Boothe



David Boothe became involved with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ in 1983, when he was asked to join the International Committee by Sid and Betty Wolfenson.

His family is a close-knit group, and over the years, the Show has become a true family affair. His wife, B.J., serves on the International Committee. Their daughter, Lisa, served during the

inaugural years of the wine committees, and their son, Greg, is currently a vice chairman on the Equipment Acquisition Committee.

Serving as vice president of the Show, Boothe will be the officer in charge of the Agricultural Mechanics, International, Lamb and Goat Auction, and Western Art committees.

“Becoming an officer for the Show has been the most outstanding honor of my life,” Boothe said. “I look forward to attending the scholarship award functions, meeting the students and learning more about their goals,” he said.

Boothe is a native of Baytown, Texas, and is president of Landmark Interest Corporation. He has worked in the construction industry for more than 40 years. His family has a home in Wimberley, Texas, and they try to spend as many weekends there as they can.



## George A. Buschardt



George Buschardt, a native Houstonian, remembers attending the Downtown Parade as a child and going to the Sam Houston Coliseum to see Gene Autry.

“Friends talked me into joining the Show in 1972,” Buschardt said. “The first committee I volunteered on was Horspitality. I served on Horspitality up until they started the Rodeo Merchandise Committee.”

Buschardt was a founding member and vice chairman on the Rodeo Merchandise Committee. He then moved to the Membership Committee in the early 1990s and became chairman from 1999 to 2001.

Buschardt will serve as officer in charge of the Events and Functions, Houston Metro Go Texan, Jr. Rodeo and Membership committees.

“I am thrilled to death,” Buschardt said regarding his new position with the Show. “Luckily, I have all good chairmen and just want to assist them in continuing to do the wonderful jobs they do.”

His wife, Sharon, is an active member of the Show and serves on both the Poultry Auction and School Art Auction committees. Buschardt said, “She was working those while I was chairman of Membership. People would joke, ‘Here come the Buschardts — they are going to sell us memberships, poultry or school art.’ They’d dodge us.”

The Buschardts have two sons and three daughters. George Jr. serves on Horspitality and Agricultural Mechanics; Matt serves on Horspitality; Stacy Markham serves on School Art Auction; her husband, Tom, is past chairman of The Hideout Committee and a member of Grand Entry; and Sheila serves on the Rabbit Committee.

Buschardt owns and runs an independent insurance adjustment service, Buschardt Claim Service.

# Vice Presidents

## Tom Davis



Raised on a ranch in West Texas, Tom Davis exhibited cattle all over the state. He joined the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo so he could take an active role in helping Texas youth in the same way he was helped.

Davis first volunteered as a member of the Steer Auction Committee in 1989. Moving through the ranks, he became chairman in 2003. He was elected to the board of directors in 2000.

Davis is one of the initial founders of the Silver Spur Club as well as the wine committees and became the first chairman of the Wine Auction Committee for the 2008 Show.

A new vice president of the Show, Davis is the officer in charge of the Endowment, Equipment Acquisition, Rabbit, Steer Auction and Veterinarian committees.

"The thing I enjoy most about the Show is working with the kids and their parents," Davis said. "As an officer, I will be exposed to so much more of this. I feel very honored to be selected and look forward to the experience."

Together with his brother, Bob, Davis founded Davis Brothers Construction in 1986. Davis Brothers is a general contracting firm that builds apartments, condos and university dorms.

Davis has two children, Thomas and Elizabeth. Thomas lives in Colorado and is in the environmental business, and Elizabeth lives in Dallas and currently is attending Southern Methodist University earning a master's degree in business administration.

Davis enjoys traveling the world, hunting, fishing, snow skiing and cooking for his friends.

## Warner D. Ervin



Growing up in Manvel, Texas, Warner Ervin was actively involved in 4-H, FFA and the county fair. As a professional educator, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo was the perfect fit for Ervin to get involved in an organization that benefits youth and supports education.

Ervin and his wife, Melba, began attending the Show 30 years ago because of their son,

Warner II. "As a toddler, he enjoyed dressing like a cowboy, and I have pictures of him riding the mechanical bull at the Show when he was about 3 years old," Ervin said. "To this day, every time he goes to the Show, he always finds his way to the mechanical bull."

Ervin realized early in his career that the Show was a tremendous opportunity to support academic achievement, hard work and strong family values.

"I feel humbled and privileged to serve as an officer. The [Show] has a long tradition of supporting education, raising scholarship money and providing world-class entertainment. I am honored to become a part of this fine tradition," Ervin said.

Ervin is officer in charge of the Black Heritage, Ladies' Go Texan, Speakers and Special Attractions committees. "I am most looking forward to working with each of my committees to help more students receive college scholarships," he said. "I am also looking forward to recruiting more people from all walks of life to become active members of the Show."

Ervin's wife, Melba, volunteers with the Calf Scramble Donors Committee and has assisted in evaluating Show scholarships for the past nine years. They have a daughter, Mauri; a son, Warner II; and a precious granddaughter, Seciley. Warner II participated in the calf scramble and competed in the steer and heifer shows when he was in high school. He became a life member of the Show for his 18th birthday.

Ervin is the South Regional Superintendent for the Houston Independent School District.

# INCOMING

## Vice Presidents

### Tom Lippincott



Tom Lippincott easily recalled the first performer he ever saw at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. It was Merle Haggard in 1978. However, the concert that stuck in his mind the most was the one given by Hank Williams Jr. in 1983.

"Although my grandfather had season tickets since the '70s, I am the first in my family to join the [Show] and a committee," he said.

After four years at college, Lippincott appreciated the importance of education and how fortunate he was to be able to attend college. The idea of being able to meet others who believed the same way and make a difference in the lives of young people, made volunteering with the Show easy.

He joined the Show in 1991, volunteering on the Breeders Greeters Committee in 1994. He was a founding member of the Gatekeepers Committee and served as a vice chairman from 2003 to 2006. He became chairman of Gatekeepers in 2006 and helped to grow the committee from 480 committeemen to 1,015 committee members within three years.

Lippincott expressed a great sense of responsibility in becoming a new vice president for the Show. "There are many, very large footprints in the dirt on the trail in front of me," he said. "The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is at such an outstanding level in its history, and I am so looking forward to helping it reach even higher levels going forward."

Lippincott will be the officer in charge of Gatekeepers, Directions and Assistance, Rodeo Express and Grand Entry committees. "I am looking forward to being a part of these large, and very visible, service-oriented committees, exceeding and excelling in putting a personal, welcoming and most helpful face in front of our 1.8 million Show visitors," Lippincott said.

Lippincott is self-employed in commercial real estate. He and his wife, Courtney, have two boys: Merritt, who is 4 years old, and Wiley, who is 2 1/2 years old.

### Ken McGuyer



Ken McGuyer first joined the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo at the request of some of his friends who were committee volunteers on the Corral Club committees. The Show itself has been in his life since he was a youth, when he attended events held in the Sam Houston Coliseum.

"I remember going to the old Coliseum and seeing Gene Autry when I was very young," McGuyer said. "I

remember that I thought the Coliseum was very large, until I served as a volunteer in the Dome. I am still amazed at how big it is from the floor of the Dome."

He is proud to be given the opportunity to serve as a vice president of the Show. "It is the greatest honor to be elected as a vice president of the Show, and I am still asking myself if it is true," he said. "I have been blessed in this life and would like to give something back. I am looking forward to getting to know all of my chairpersons and going to the scholarship banquets and meeting the recipients."

McGuyer will be the officer in charge of three separate Corral Club committee divisions and each of their 17 committees.

McGuyer has a ranch located in Flatonia, Texas, where he raises Black Brangus cattle.

McGuyer is president of Petro Chem Refrigeration in La Porte, Texas. His three daughters are all grown now, and he proudly states that he has six grandchildren. He spends his time volunteering for the Show, Tejas Vaqueros social trailriding group and the Masonic Lodge.



# INCOMING *Chairmen*



**JIMMIE ALLEN**  
Quarter Horse



**LINDA SUE BARNES**  
Area Go Texan  
(Co-Chair)



**STUART BEKEN**  
Judging Contest



**TERRY BODKINS-AGRIS**  
School Art Auction



**MICHELLE BRIDGES-PAHL**  
Western Art



**ED BULLOCK**  
Rodeo Contestant  
Hospitality



**BETH CARDONO**  
School Art



**CHIPPER CLAWSON**  
Feed Store



**SANDRA CROOK**  
Trailblazer



**ERNIE DAVIS**  
Junior Commercial Steer Feeding  
and Management Contest



**GARY DEITCHER**  
Membership



**ERIKA ERIKSSON**  
The Hideout



**LOREN FUHRMAN**  
Corral Club –  
Ticket Sales



**STEVE GANEY**  
Transportation



**TOM GODWIN**  
Veterinarian



**RICK HARSCH**  
Commercial Exhibits



**BART HENDERSON**  
Stockman's Club



**CHESTER HOWARD**  
Souvenir Program

# INCOMING *Chairmen*



**DOUGLAS  
JESKE**  
Paint Horse



**LARRY  
KERBOW**  
Corral Club – General



**MICHAEL  
KHUSHF**  
Corral Club –  
Special Services



**KEVIN  
LECK**  
Trail Ride



**JEFF  
LEWIS**  
Corral Club –  
Division I



**GLENN  
LILIE**  
Ranching & Wildlife



**MIKE  
MARTINEZ**  
Go Tejano



**DAN  
MCGAUGHEY**  
Committeemen's Club



**SHANNON  
PHILPOT**  
Calf Scramble  
Greeters



**ALEX  
PRINCE**  
Black Heritage



**FRANK  
RESURIZ**  
Appaloosa



**WESLEY  
SINOR**  
Gatekeepers



**EMMETT  
STORY**  
Llama and Alpaca



**TOMMY  
WALKER**  
Livestock



**LARRY  
WALTERS**  
Agricultural Mechanics



**MIKE  
WELLS JR.**  
Steer Auction



**JAMES  
WILLIAMS**  
Horse Show Announcers



**MICHAEL  
WOLLAM**  
Calf Scramble Donors



**MEL  
WRIGHT**  
Area Go Texan (Co-Chair)

# In Memoriam:

## Clayton Underwood

By Marshall R. Smith III

On June 9, 2008, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ lost a longtime friend, member and volunteer upon the death of Clayton Underwood.

Underwood became a member of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in 1970 and was elected to the board of directors in 1976. He served as a Show vice president from 1980 to 1982, was elected to the Executive Committee in 1995, and became a lifetime member of the Executive Committee two years later.

He served on the Communications, Horse Show Advisory, Quarter Horse and Steer Auction committees, and was the first chairman of the Lifetime Vice Presidents Committee.

A close friend and fellow Executive Committee member, Jim Bloodworth, tells a definitive story of Underwood's love of his family and his horses. As a member of the Show's Executive Committee, Underwood was asked to present awards to the winners of some horse events, but did not know that his grandson, Chase, was one of the winners. "That was a moment that he cherished forever," said Bloodworth.

Underwood was famous for innovative ideas that benefited the Show and volunteers. One such idea was making sure that every committee member was wearing his or her own badge, and ensuring that no one was loaning a badge to someone else. He would stand at the badge gate just to watch people coming into the Show to make sure no one was passing a badge back to someone else. He said that loaning badges was taking away from the money going to student scholarships.

Underwood also was known for his courtesy. Bloodworth said, "He was a Southern gentleman, and when it came to the ladies, he would tip his hat to greet someone. He always greeted his male friends as 'partner.'"

Bloodworth noted that Underwood was a true game hunter, traveling all over the United States to pursue his passion. In Alaska, he had what was called a "sweep," bagging a caribou, a moose and a grizzly bear in one trip.

Born June 30, 1928, in Mason, Texas, he graduated from Menard High School in 1945. He attended Sul Ross College and majored in industrial engineering.

In 1950, Underwood joined the U.S. Army, served with the 34th Infantry Division during the Korean War, and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Oak Clusters as well as the Purple Heart.

When he returned home, he went to work for Loftland Steel Company, and in 1960, he purchased the company and

formed Confederate Steel Corporation, where he retired as president and chief executive officer. In the early 1960s, he formed the Winwood Corporation, a leasing and major equipment company, where he served as chairman of the board. He also was president of the Winwood Production Company.

Underwood served on the boards of many civic organizations, such as the Leukemia Society of America, the American Diabetes Association, the Jerry Lewis Telethon for Muscular Dystrophy, the 100 Club of Houston, the Farm and Ranch Club, and the Bill Williams Annual Capon Dinner. He was a member of the Arabia Shrine Temple, an endowed member of the Masonic Lodge, an award recipient of the Book of Golden Deeds for The Exchange Club of Houston, and a member and past president of Tejas Vaqueros, a social riding organization.

Underwood is survived by his wife, Trudie Marie; three daughters, Kelly Underwood, Holly Price, and Melissa Banhagel; and one son, Bryan Underwood. He had eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

His friends and family say that they will remember him for his generosity, his work on behalf of Texas young people for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and his hard work to further the educational opportunities the Show provides for young Texans. 🇺🇸



# Drawing Crowds WITH HIS MUSIC

By Melissa Manning

RODEOHOUSTON™ fans filled Reliant Stadium on March 21, 2008, to hear the popular, Texas artist Pat Green. Some also might have recognized Brett Danaher. He is the band's guitarist who holds a reputation for his enthusiasm on stage, his skill and his ability to fuse the band's sounds — a cross between rock, country and blues.

What music fans might not know about Danaher is that he not only is a talented musician, but he also is a former high school athlete and an accomplished artist. In fact, Danaher won Best of Show in the School Art Program for his drawings all four years he competed, and he earned one gold medal. His art portfolio also earned him a \$2,500 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ School Art Scholarship in 1995.

Despite this skill and his musical talent, Danaher, the second of four children to Connie and Bob Danaher, never expected he would become a professional musician. His early passion was playing baseball. "We had lots of energy, so we spent most of our time outside playing baseball," Danaher said. "I loved the game."

Danaher first picked up a guitar when he was a boy, after his dad brought home a drum set and bass guitar. One brother wanted the drums, so Danaher was left with the guitar. The family formed a band that started playing festivals and fairs, but Danaher said they were not very good. "I think they let us play for the novelty of it, because we were little kids," he said.

He said he lost interest in playing the guitar for a while, and then, it became an obsession when he was 15. He was a fan of blues and moved to blues-rock when he began to emulate the sounds of the blues-rock, guitar-legend Stevie Ray Vaughn. "I'd spend hours with his records," he said. "It consumed my life at the time."

Despite his growing passion for guitar, it was still something Danaher did not seriously consider as a career, partly because of his love for baseball, and because his family had been raised with the uncertainty and instability that the music business often brings. "When I was a junior in college, if you would have asked me if I was going to make a living playing guitar, I would have laughed at you. My dad was a musician, so we grew up with the reality of the music business. Sometimes there were gigs and sometimes not," he said.

Born in Houston, but raised in Huffman, Texas, Danaher was a popular, active student. He was a freshman, sophomore and junior class favorite, and was selected as "Mr. Hargrave High School" his senior year in 1995. He was vice president of his junior class, editor of the career day newspaper and a member of the National Honor Society.

He was a varsity baseball player all four years, and he was selected to the All District Team four years running. Danaher said he had illusions of playing baseball in college and beyond but realized that dream would not become a reality when he went to tryouts. Coaches were looking for two things he did not have: foot speed and arm strength.

Luckily for him, he had other talents. His mother had instilled in all her children a need to be focused on both academics and other activities. "My mom was adamant we all go to college. She insisted that we were all active in school and wanted us to have stability and a normal life," he said.

It was his high school art teacher, Lisa Van Etta, a Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo committee member, who encouraged Danaher to apply for a School Art Scholarship. "She was the reason I was considered for a Show scholarship, and winning it made a big difference for me in that it, along with another scholarship I received, allowed me to finish college having only to take minimal financial aid." Danaher earned a degree in industrial distribution/supply chain management from Texas A&M University in 1999.

While in college, Danaher continued to play guitar and started picking up gigs to make extra money, playing in different cover bands in College Station, Texas. Two years into his college career, he found himself between bands. That was when he was asked to sit in with the Pat Green band, which needed a guitarist. "I sat in with the band at the old Satellite Lounge in Houston, and it went from there."

Green's band already had begun to build a loyal college-student fan base by playing at fraternity houses. The fraternity fans viewed the band as "their band," he said, and

they would follow it to local clubs. "It got to the point where we had so many guys at the shows we'd say, 'Hey, can we get some girls in the audience?'"

Since then, the band has had little trouble attracting a more diversified audience, and its popularity has grown considerably. Pat Green and the band went on tour with Kenney Chesney in 2005 and 2007, which provided a chance to play in front of thousands of new fans in sold-out stadiums.

One of the biggest thrills for the band, though, is playing the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Danaher said. "RODEOHOUSTON is the biggest show of the year for us. It is something we all look forward to, and it is fun to be part of something so big."

The experience also has helped Danaher appreciate more fully what it means to have been honored by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo for his art, and ultimately, with a scholarship. "When you are in a position to visit the Show as someone who grew up in the area, [and] then you have a chance to come back and play the Show as a performer, you understand what a vast undertaking it is and how much is involved. It makes me even more grateful and proud to be a part of the Show." 🐮



# SAFETY Committee

By Sonya Aston

As the first responder for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™, the Safety Committee, headed by committee chairman Jimmy White, is 796 members strong. A first responder takes the responsibility of being first at the site of an accident or emergency situation to protect human life.

With all of its exemplary work, it is no surprise the Safety Committee was awarded the Texas Department of Health Services 2007 EMS First Responder Award. This highly prestigious award is given to one organization each year that has shown excellent response to the community that it serves.

“It is consistent good works that got us the award,” White said. “Everyone accepts the award because everyone is part of the team. Everyone is part of the unit, and that is why we have done such a great job.”

Many of the volunteers are professionals in a safety-related field. Nevertheless, there is mandatory training for every member. Members are trained to use the automated external defibrillator, or “heart starter,” and other equipment available to the committee.

In 1981, 27 firemen from various committees banded together and formed the Safety Committee. Initially, their duties were to staff a first aid room. As the Show has grown, so have the responsibilities and talents of the committee. Now organized into four groups, the committee performs its duties at Memorial Park, where the trail riders meet, and at Reliant Park during the run of the World’s Championship Bar-B-Que Contest and the Show. The Safety Committee even provides medical response to the RODEOHOUSTON™ contestants in Reliant Stadium.

The largest division, the medical group, provides medical attention to visitors who walk into the five first aid rooms, and leaps into action to rush to on-site emergencies. Each medical group member must be a certified emergency medical technician, EMT-intermediate, EMT paramedic or registered nurse to volunteer. Medical needs run the gamut from small scrapes and blisters to asthma and heart attacks.

“At the first aid rooms, we look at a lot of blisters during the Rodeo — a lot of blisters,” said White. “Everyone can’t wait to wear their brand new boots.”

Then, there are the accidents and emergencies. The majority of the volunteers’ time is taken up by medical calls. Wearing red vests, members of the medical team respond quickly and professionally to all emergency calls.

Roaming over the Show grounds, scouring for, uncovering and responding to safety concerns is the duty of the safety division of the Safety Committee. Acting as the liaison between the Show and the Houston Fire Department Fire Marshal’s office, these volunteers keep aisles clear, and, in general, keep hazards at bay. These highly visible members sport blue vests and have significant inspection experience from their everyday jobs.

The commanding voice of the Safety Committee is the communications division. Enthusiasm, dedication and the ability to work under pressure are essential characteristics for these volunteers. Those seeking help contact the communications group by dialing 832.667.3616. Volunteers quickly dispatch a medical team to an emergency site.

Last, but by no means least, the investigations division acts as the ears of the committee. Lawyers, professional police officers and constables take photographs of accident sites, interview witnesses, and prepare reports. Only a select few work in this division after first completing three years of volunteering with other divisions.

Visitors to the Show never plan or anticipate a sudden illness, an emergency, or a safety hazard. Fortunately, the foresight, planning and professionalism of these committee volunteers help them in helping others. For the Show, whether to remove a splinter, to bandage a blister, or even to deliver a baby, the Safety Committee will step up and extend its care and compassion. 🏠





# RODEO

NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS INFORMATION & UPDATES

## Roundup

### ➤ Scholarships Awarded to Texas Students

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ hosted 324 talented high school seniors on May 20, in Reliant Stadium. Students were honored for their academic and community achievements with a scholarship presentation, totaling \$4.86 million.

A four-year, \$15,000 scholarship from one of three Show scholarship programs — Metropolitan, Opportunity and School Art — was awarded to each of the high school seniors to attend a Texas college or university.

This year, twins were abundant at the annual Scholarship Banquet. Three sets of twins were recognized for their academic achievements. Kaveeta and Natasha Marwaha from Kingwood, and Kristen and Kimberly Palmer from Pasadena, received Metropolitan scholarships. Keith and Nicholas Rice from Angleton, received Opportunity scholarships.

On June 10, the Show awarded 70 Texas 4-H members with four-year, \$15,000 scholarships totaling \$1,050,000 during the Texas 4-H Roundup in College Station.

Seventy Texas FFA members received four-year, \$15,000 scholarships at the FFA State Convention in Lubbock. Another \$1,050,000 was awarded to these outstanding young Texans.

In 2008, the Show scholarship was raised to \$15,000, a significant increase from the \$12,000 scholarships previously awarded.

### ➤ Executive Committee Member to Be Inducted Into AQHA Hall of Fame

R.H. "Steve" Stevens of Houston, will join four others as inductees into the American Quarter Horse Associations' Hall of Fame during the 2009 American Quarter Horse Association Convention, March 6-9, in San Antonio.

Stevens is an AQHA life member and served as AQHA president in 2003. He is a Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Executive Committee member and lifetime vice president, and serves on the board of directors. A past president of the Texas Quarter Horse Association, he was



elected to the AQHA board of directors in 1987. Stevens served on the board of regents (1999-2005) at Texas A&M University, his alma mater.

Induction into the hall of fame is one of the highest honors bestowed by AQHA. Stevens will join 135 people and 79 horses already inducted into the Hall of Fame.

### ➤ Lifetime Vice President Receives Highest Association Honor

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo lifetime vice president Dr. Max C. Butler was honored with the Texas Medical Association's 2008 Distinguished Service Award at the association's annual conference in San Antonio.



Butler began practicing medicine in Giddings, Texas, in 1959, and has dedicated his career to serving patients one-on-one. He was nominated for the award because of his outstanding leadership to the medical profession and exemplary achievements in medical science, public service and service to the medical profession.

### ➤ RODEOHOUSTON™ Legends Pass Away

Rock pioneer Bo Diddley passed away as a result of heart failure on Monday, June 1, in Archer, Fla., and country music legend Eddy Arnold died Thursday, May 8, in Nashville, Tenn., just days before his 90th birthday.

Diddley, who performed at RODEOHOUSTON in 1997, was known for his homemade square guitar and unique sound. The rock legend had been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, had a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame, and received a lifetime achievement award at the GRAMMYs in 1999. Diddley also played for Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton.



Arnold performed seven times (1951, '53, '60, '64, '67, '72, '82) at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. The successful country music star began his career in the 1940s, and sold more than 85 million records. Inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1966, 37 of his hits crossed over to the pop charts. The biggest of those, "Make the World Go Away," reached the pop top 10 during the fall of 1965, when it was heard on the radio alongside the latest records by the Beatles, the Supremes and the Rolling Stones.



# 2009 SHOW DATES

TUESDAY, MARCH 3 - SUNDAY, MARCH 22

[www.rodeohouston.com](http://www.rodeohouston.com)



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