

# International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame (U.S.) Nominees for 2020

*Below you will find the list of candidates for the 2020 International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame (U.S nominees). The candidates are listed in alphabetical order and comments submitted about each can be found by clicking on the candidate's name. Please cast your vote by Sept. 21.*

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[Arnie Gervasio, Ringoes, N.J. & Wellington, Fla.](#)  
[Paul Goodness, Round Hill, Va.](#)

[Gordon Goss, Monroe, Wash.](#)  
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[Jim Halverson, Lomita, Calif.](#)  
[Wayne Hand, Brunswick, Ga.](#)  
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[Jack Kohler, Pevely, Mo.](#)  
[Eugene W. Layton \(deceased\)](#)  
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[Jason Liburd, Louisville, Ky.](#)  
[Lonnie Lindsey, Jonesboro, Ark.](#)  
[Bill Liskey, Livermore, Colo.](#)  
[Bob McCarthy, Medfield, Mass. \(deceased\)](#)  
[Richard McChesney, Mt. Washington, Ky.](#)  
[Chester \(Chet\) F. McMillan, Canton, Ill.](#)  
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[Joepaul Meyers, Gatesville, Texas](#)  
[Mike Miller, Huntsville, Ala.](#)  
[Elmer Morefield, Elburn, Ill.](#)  
[Dallas Morgan, Locke, N.Y.](#)  
[John Muldoon, Alex, Okla.](#)  
[David Nadeau, Lexington, Ky.](#)  
[Charlie Neilson, Phoenix, N.Y.](#)  
[Dick Neville, Mt. Sterling, Ohio](#)  
[Steve Norman, Georgetown, Ky.](#)  
[David North Sr., San Martin, Calif.](#)  
[Raymond Oliver, Hawk Point, Mo.](#)  
[Gene Ovnicek, Penrose, Colo.](#)  
[Rob Palmer, Bryant, Wis.](#)  
[Daniel Phillips, Greensboro, Md.](#)  
[Floyd Piazza, Harborcreek, Pa.](#)  
[William Pieh, Burlington, Wis. \(deceased\)](#)  
[Sonny Pistilli, Bethlehem, Pa.](#)  
[Bob Plant, Walworth, N.Y.](#)  
[Patrick Reilly, Kennett Square, Pa.](#)

[David Richison, Carson City, Nevada](#)  
[Jeff Ridley, Leighton, Iowa](#)  
[David Russell, Flemington, N.J.](#)  
[Ted Shanks, Lihue, Hawaii](#)  
[Daniel Sherwood, Brookfield, Vt.](#)  
[Vern Smith, Bend, Ore.](#)  
[Duke Snyder, Wyoming, Iowa](#)  
[Ralph Snyder, Vero Beach, Fla.](#)  
[Matt Spinelli, Okeechobee, Fla.](#)  
[Terry Stever, Sulphur, Okla.](#)  
[Morris Stewart, Lancaster, Ill. \(deceased\)](#)  
[Tom Stovall, Katy, Texas](#)  
[Stewart Strauss, Woodbourne, N.Y.](#)  
[Danny Terry, Pilot Point, Texas](#)  
[Shane Togami, Solvang, Calif.](#)  
[Scott Tomlinson \(deceased\)](#)  
[Harry Trosin, Tishomingo, Okla.](#)  
[Conrad Trow, Goshen, Ky.](#)  
[Helmer Undeberg, Elgin, Minn.](#)  
[Bob Urich, Des Moines, Iowa](#)  
[Russ Vanderlei, Northwoods, Ill.](#)  
[Joseph Vanzego, Clarksburg, Md.](#)  
[Kurt vom Orde, Chapel Hill, N.C.](#)  
[Roy E. Wagoner, Idaho Falls, Idaho](#)  
[Edward Warrington, Townsend, Del.](#)  
[Michael Weaver, Killingworth, Conn.](#)  
[William Wedekind, Hagerstown, Ind.](#)  
[Tom Willoughby, Crown Point, Ind.](#)  
[Ken Wurst, Homerville, Ohio](#)

## U.S. Nominees

### **Richard Albrecht, LaGrangeville, N.Y.**

Rich Albrecht graduated from Cornell University's farrier program. Over three decades he has helped thousands of equines, from mini-donkeys to draft horses — forming lifelong relationships with many of his clients and serving as a mentor to his daughter, who is also a farrier.

Albrecht has also donated his time to doing numerous trimming and shoeing demos for local Girl Scout groups, helping them earn their horsemanship badge at a local barn. He is known to have spent many late nights making out-of-the-way stops to replace a lost shoe for a child heading to a Pony Club or 4-H meet the next morning. His professional associations include AFA, Empire State Farrier's Association.

#### **Endorsments:**

- “He’s a good, honest man who made an honest living being a farrier. He attends several clinics a year and has attended the AFA convention several times.”
- “He might not have worked with the most expensive horses or traveled to Florida following the show season, but he still made an important difference in many horses’ lives — giving each the same amount of care they deserved.”

### **Todd Allen, Vandergrift, Pa.**

Todd Allen is a 1985 equine science and farrier craftsmanship graduate of Northwest Missouri State University. He studied under Dr. Doug Butler then served a 1 ½-year apprenticeship with Bruce Wilderouter. In 1988, he achieved his CJF and, at the time, was the youngest to do so.

Todd has written numerous articles for *American Farriers Journal* on high-low syndrome and has given talks in classrooms and at roundtables at the International Hoof-Care Summit. He is an NEAEP board member, and a past member of the AFA and MEFA.

He has taken in many apprentices and started a group called “Farrier Friday,” where a clinic would let a farrier bring in a lame or problem horse. All the farriers in the area would evaluate, compare notes, vote on the best procedure, and then shoe the horse at no cost. His professional associations include: AAPF, NEAEP, AFA and MEFA.

#### **Endorsements:**

- “He loves his job. including myself, and taught us how to shoe, correct problems, deal with vet/farrier relations, and for some of us, to be a father figure.”
- “Todd keeps to himself and is very humble, but is always willing to help anyone in need.”

### **Ray Amato, Sr., Saratoga, N.Y.**

Ray Amato handled stake winners and Grade One winners and champions. He shod a Kentucky Derby winner, Super Saver, and played a major role in the careers of the following horses:

- Jersey Girl (Grade I winner)

- Rags to Riches: she stumbled out of the gate during the Belmont Stakes. Since Amato doesn't leave any shoe exposed, she was able to recover without injury and go on to beat Curlin, becoming the first filly to win the Belmont in over 100 years.
- Quality Road: He came to our barn with major quarter crack issues, which Amato was able to solve and maintain throughout his career. He went on to win multiple Grade I race and set track records throughout the East Coast.

**Endorsements:**

“I can't speak highly enough of Ray as a farrier and as a person.”

**Bob Bachen, Albuquerque, N.M.**

Bob has displayed commitment, passion, creativity and innovation — all in support of the farrier industry. Bob has made many positive contributions.

**Suzanne Knox Basin, Alford, Fla. (deceased)**

Suzanne Knox Basin, was one of the first few women to become a union farrier. She was tested by Herman Combs in 1989. She raced and won as an owner with Ta Raja and Mademoiselle Max in Ohio in 2009.

She worked hard all the way up to the end, still shoeing horses with a trach in her throat. She passed away after a 15-month battle with cancer in her throat and lungs.

Sue was a well-known woman in Florida and Payson Park where she shod for leading trainer Billy Mott.

**Don Baskins**

Born in 1931 in Wyoming, Don Baskins started shoeing at the age of 12. He attended high school in Colorado and then moved to California. He enlisted with the Marine Corps Calvary unit during the Korean conflict. After his discharge, he worked in the movie industry, shoeing horses on set during the age of Westerns.

His wandering spirit took him to shoe horses in New Mexico, Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas and Texas, with a few jaunts by jet to Arizona and Florida for special customers. He focused his career on all varieties of horses: show, cutting, reining, pleasure, ranch and even “pet.” He published a book about farriery, called “Well Shod” in 2004.

**Endorsement:**

“Don Baskins influenced a large number of farriers and horseshoers throughout the middle to southwestern United States during his career. Many wanted or wished they had the time or opportunity to ride with him to pick up just part of the knowledge he had collected over the years. I can safely say I couldn't have gained a greater start anywhere else.”

**Jim Bayes, Glenwood, Ark.**

I have known Jim for over 30 years. In my opinion, he is the very best blacksmith I know. I have seen him shoe horses that had cut their legs to pieces, and when he shod them — not a hair was out of place. He has shod some of the best racehorses, including Cigar and Alysheba.

### **Waid Benson, Colleyville, Texas**

Waid Benson began shoeing horses at the age of 15 in 1959 under the watchful eye of Grapevine, Texas, Master Blacksmith Bill Millican. He continued to advance his skills, and shod horses all over north Texas until he joined the Army in 1967.

Waid served under the rare MOS 44D20, Blacksmith/Farrier category until 1970, when he returned to civilian life. In 1972, he helped start the North Texas Farriers Association in an attempt to advance the professional standing of farriers.

He was licensed by the Texas Education Agency, and taught full-time at the North Texas Horseshoeing Institute until 1980, when he started Diamond W Blacksmith. He is also licensed by the Texas racing commission. He is known and respected by farriers, veterinarians and customers all over North Texas.

### **“Tuck” Birdsall, Saratoga, N.Y.**

Tucker Birdsall, also known as “Tuck,” started his career in 1966 shoeing horses in the Adirondack Mountains of New York State. In 1968, he went to the Midwest Horseshoeing School and studied under Lester Hollenbeck. He worked for a year and then returned to shoeing school to attend the advanced course. He worked with all types of horses in New York and Vermont.

In 1980, he passed his fire test to shoe Standardbreds at the Meadowlands in New Jersey. In the summer of 1981, he took and passed the tough fire practical and written test at Belmont to shoe Thoroughbreds. He has been shoeing Thoroughbreds since then at Saratoga, Belmont and Aqueduct.

He designed an orthopedic brace, which has saved many racehorses’ careers including “Turn Back the Alarm,” who broke her leg and then raced successfully. He has shod hunters and jumpers for nearly 30 years in the winter months. He has been an asset in the industry and has always helped fellow horseshoers and veterinarians alike.

### **Gary Bonde, Brentwood, Calif.**

To say that shoeing race horses is in Gary Bonde’s blood wouldn’t be much of a stretch. His grandfather and grandmother bred and raised race horses, and his father and uncle both were race horse shoers. Gary apprenticed under his father, who is a Hall of Fame member, and joined the Journeyman Horseshoer Union in 1974.

He earned a reputation as a talented corrective shoer, that resulted in trainers flying him to different tracks to care for foot problems from quarter cracks to a horse hitting its feet. He is respected by farriers and veterinarians alike.

Bonde has helped many young men learn the art of shoeing, not only on the horse but also working in the forge. Most of them went on and passed the state shoeing exam.

Bonde has shod several top horses on the West coast, including: Lady Secret, who won the Eclipse Award; Spain, who earned second in the Breeder’s Cup; and Lady Magdalene, who won a \$150,000 purse.

### **Roland Bowman**

Ronald Bowman left the family farm after graduating from high school and attended the farrier school in East Lansing, Mich., in 1959. There, he learned the trade from Hall of

Fame member Jack MacAllan. He specialized on shoeing equine athletes, including barrel racers, ropers, reining and cutting horses.

Many of the horses he has shod competed for world titles in American Quarter Horse Association, National Reining Horse Association, National Cutting Horse Association, Professional Rodeo Association and the Women's Professional Rodeo Association

**Endorsements:**

- “He has helped not only young horseshoers trying to learn the trade, but also trainers — and the horse itself.”
- “After Mr. Bowman shod the horse, its ability to handle the ground dramatically improved and I went on to win the Triple Crown.”

**Paul Brooker, Boston, Mass.**

One cannot think of the International Chapter of Journeyman Horseshoers Union & Allied Equine Trades (JHU) without thinking of Paul Brooker. He has devoted his life to that great organization. Brooker has a long history of working on the union's behalf, through good times and bad. He has worked with many union candidates preparing them for the JHU test, which is required for admittance to that prestigious group.

Now in his 70s, Paul is still an active horseshoer as well as JHU national director. He can be seen working in the paddock at Suffolk Downs every racing day, as well as shoeing horses on the backside in the morning. Brooker has shod many stakes winners over the years and worked for several Racing Hall of Fame trainers. Although he is best known for his work on the Thoroughbred tracks, he is also an accomplished gaited horseshoer with an encyclopedic knowledge of all shoeing styles and techniques.

**Endorsements:**

- “Paul never hesitates to share his vast wealth of knowledge and is very well liked and respected among his peers.”
- “Although his accomplishments are many and varied, Paul will probably be best known as the man who saved the JHU.”

**Blake Brown, Penryn, Calif.**

Blake Brown has built a lifelong career on an exhaustive study of conformation and how it influences hoof balance. He has always understood the complexities of each horse as an individual and uses proper shoe placement to achieve optimum comfort for the horse, bearing in mind the demands on that particular equine athlete.

Brown pursued his in-depth understanding of clinical farriery by working at the Conejo Valley Veterinary Clinic from 1969 to 1976. He also served as a farrier instructor at the T-Bone Horseshoeing School in Malibu, Calif., and was the resident farrier at Loomis Basin Veterinary Center in Loomis, Calif., for 30 years. He founded a farrier and veterinarian forum to emphasize continuing education and partnerships between farriers and veterinarians. Brown's dedication to the advancement of farriery is also evident in contributions to the development of many products widely used today in the therapeutic treatment of horses.

**Denny Bryan, Lakeside, Calif. (deceased)**

Born in Buffalo, N.Y., in 1937, Denny Bryan started shoeing in 1950. He spent 22 years shoeing harness horses as well as Saddlebreds, hunters, jumpers and performance competitors. He started in the horseshoeing supply business in 1974 when he purchased The Gist Supply.

**Endorsement:**

“Denny has done so much for the farrier profession, especially helping young farriers. He is a true friend to all and really deserves to be recognized in the International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame.”

**William “Pat” Broadus**

Pat grew up in the business and when he was 6 years old he told everyone he was going to be a horseshoer. Pat worked alongside his father for many years and then started his own business which was built around caring for Thoroughbreds in the racing industry. From Louisiana, Kentucky, New York and countless tracks in between, Broadus' work spoke for itself and he developed an outstanding reputation.

Always willing to mentor, or share his knowledge, over the years Brodus has presented at and offered hands-on demonstrations. He is also one of the founders of “The Forge of July” a free forum where horseshoers can gather for a weekend to have hands-on clinics. He has shod many great horses that have won stakes around the country, including more than 100 Grade 1 winners and over 250 Graded Stakes winners.

**Endorsements:**

- “He has furthered the industry and benefited countless horses with his innovative ideas such as the Hanton shoes which he developed and patented.”
- “One of the most impressive things to me is his willingness to share his knowledge with others. Pat is accessible, generous and always willing to help those of us who share the goal of helping horses.”

**Curtis Burns, Royal Palm Beach, Fla.**

Curtis Burns started his career as a horseman training race horses. He is a natural problem solver, which led him to come up with innovative ways of dealing with lameness. Burns has developed many styles of polyurethane and synthetic shoes and pads and is the inventor and founder of Polyflex Horseshoes. Additionally, he has developed techniques for gluing shoes, patching cracks and remedies for treating many foot problems.

Apart from his innovation, Burns is highly sought after in the Thoroughbred industry as a go-to guy when high-profile horses are having foot problems. He has successfully worked on many graded stakes winners, Breeders Cup winners and even a Triple Crown winner. He fosters collaboration among farriers, veterinarians, owners and clients alike.

**Endorsements:**

- “If ever there was a man with brilliance and common sense, it is Curtis Burns.”
- “Curtis is well-liked and highly respected as a farrier and innovator. He has always been quick to help a colleague and spends many hours a week giving advice to farriers in need of a consult.”



- “His ultimate goal is to shoe every horse with the intention of getting them back to work comfortably and successfully. No science projects, as he believes that the work he does is useless if another farrier can’t replicate it.”

### **Rick Burten, Champaign, Ill.**

Rick Burten has been practicing horseshoeing for over 30 years and unselfishly shares his knowledge and experience with farriers whenever help is needed. He has contributed to local and national farrier organizations.

In his normal work, Burten deals with all kinds of cases from simple backyard horses to national show horses and complicated therapeutic work. A big proponent of continuing education, he has presented many clinics, served as an official horse show farrier, been extensively involved with the American Farrier’s Association certification programs and has deeply involved with numerous activities with horseshoeing organizations.

#### **Endorsements:**

“I believe Rick would be an awesome addition to the Hall and has earned the honor.”

### **Leroy Calvert, Paton, Iowa**

Leroy Calvert is perhaps best known for his involvement in the Iowa Professional Farriers Association (IPFA). He was there at the charter meeting and he took on the office of treasurer. He held this position for the next 25 years. The first to arrive and last to leave at every IPFA clinic, no job from making coffee to registering attendees was too small for Calvert.

Having done shoeing demos at in-house IPFA clinics, Calvert has always amazed all who attend with his knowledge and shoeing skills.

#### **Endorsements:**

- “Leroy is one of the humblest farriers you will ever meet. He is a man of few words, but when he speaks, you will benefit if you listen.”
- “I feel Leroy is very deserving of this recognition, considering his skills, work ethic, personality and willingness to help others. They just don’t come any better than Leroy.
- “Leroy is our #1 farrier, as well as a good friend. He’s not afraid to work! What more can I say? Leroy certainly deserves this recognition and award.”

### **Joseph Campbell**

Joseph Campbell is son of Hall of Fame inductee Elmer Campbell. He shod horses with his late twin brother, Charlie. Joe got his big break when Elmer got hurt in 1978. The responsibility of shoeing a horse named Affirmed fell, literally, into his lap. Since then, he has worked on thousands of horses and when he visits Saratoga during the training months has been known to lend a helping hand to fellow farriers during the day.

#### **Endorsements:**

- “I can’t think of a nicer man. He works the afternoon races in the paddock at Saratoga making sure every horse is ready to run. He will answer questions from race fans and always wears a smile on his face. I have had the pleasure of working

with numerous trainers, exercise riders, veterinarians, and racing officials who all speak extremely highly of Joe.”

- “Whenever there is a question about horse shoes or shoeing, everyone reaches for their phone to text the same person, Joe Campbell.”

### **Wes Champagne, Altadena, Calif.**

Top level farriers all over the United States and Europe know that if they have a problem with a horse, they need to call on Wes Champagne. Champagne is not afraid to think outside the box. He will find new ways to help a horse if traditional methods are not effective. His creativity and innovative methods have made him the most sought-after farrier on the Southern California racing circuit.

Known for perfecting the technique of patching a quarter crack without lacing or screws, Champagne created the acrylic pads for sore footed horses and mastered the glue-on shoe. He is extremely foot-conscious and treats each horse as a unique shoeing experience. He has shod for Hall of Fame trainers Laz Barrera, Bobby Frankel, Neil Drysdale and Richard Mandella. Horses that he has worked under have won over 250 Grade 1 stakes races, including 25 Breeder’s Cup races all over the United States. He joined an elite company of farriers by becoming just the 12th farrier to ever shoe a Triple Crown winner. (American Pharoah in 2015).

### **Endorsement:**

“He is the most innovative and creative farrier in the race horse industry. His passion for his work and his perfectionist nature has made him a leader in this specialty.”

### **Brent Chidsey, Cynthiana, Ky.**

Brent Chidsey began his shoeing career in 1990, working with local farriers near his home in central New York State. He started building aluminum anvil stands and shoeing boxes for local farriers, which led to attending trade shows at Cornell University and the Southern New England Farriers’ Association Fall Clinic.

The desire to have his own aluminum shoeing rig inspired Chidsey to build his first rig in 1994. He used this custom shoeing body as a display and was given a deposit check at the clinic by a local Massachusetts farrier for his first order.

His firm now has a crew of 15 full-time employees working in a modern 18,000-square-foot facility. The company has built over 1,000 rigs of all shapes and sizes for farriers and veterinarians.

### **Brian Clegg, Branson West, Mo.**

Brian Clegg is the founder and owner of Brian Clegg Farrier Services located in Branson West, Mo. He is the premier farrier in southwest Missouri. Based on his impeccable work ethic and expertise, he has built an outstanding business.

Clegg is not only a consummate professional, but also a devoted humanitarian. He has donated time, materials, labor and expertise to Equi-Librium Therapy Center, a non-profit organization that has been providing equine-assisted therapies to children and adults with disabilities since 1995. In 3 years, Clegg has donated more than \$4,000 in farrier services to ETC as an in-kind donation.

**Endorsements:**

- “He always makes sure that my horse has the perfect trim and fit for her shoes, which is extremely important to me because she has navicular disease. Brian goes out of his way to make sure his clients are well taken care of.”
- “As a therapeutic riding facility, our horses are our heart and the life blood of our organization. Brian Clegg is a very, very large part of our success.”
- “Brian’s philosophy is to equip horse owners and managers with the very best knowledge in order to promote the overall health of the horse.”

**James Cloutier, Mason, Mich.**

James Cloutier’s extensive knowledge of his profession, honesty, integrity, and his solid work ethic put him a cut above the rest. In addition to his work for clients, he has also worked with Dr. Frank Nichols from Michigan State University on chronic equine laminitis cases.

He has earned a reputation not only for his shoeing, but his professional conduct. He never gets caught up in “barn gossip,” and brings sophistication and dignity to the farrier profession. His gentle approach to horses has also earned him the admiration and appreciation of his clients.

**Endorsements:**

- “Jim never hesitates to talk about what he is doing and is always willing to explain each step and why. He is an expert at giving sound advice about any hoof problems and proper treatment, something which he has done for folks who are not his clients.”
- “I have observed Jim while working and he has always been kind to horses. He doesn’t threaten them, hit them or speak loudly or harshly. They trust him. Jim is just one of the all-around best in the business.”
- “My horse was 13 when my vet and Jim worked together on the correcting treatment for his founder and lameness. It was Jim that continued with a specific way of trimming that changed my horse’s posture enough to relieve the lameness. My horse was 13 at the time, and is 29 today. Jim is still his farrier.

**R.H. “Dick” Coffman, Harrisonburg, Va.**

Dick Coffman shod his first horse at age 12. He has over 50 years of experience in the profession. Coffman has worked on all breeds, but his expertise is with the American Saddlebred and Tennessee Walking Horse. He is an ardent enthusiast of the Saddlebred — he has been training, showing and shoeing them for many years.

Coffman was also a charter member of the Virginia Horseshoer’s Association, as well as a member of the board of directors. Over the years, he has tried to help younger horseshoers with questions they have pertaining to the profession.

He has an old-fashioned, practical way of looking at the horse and coming up with the type of shoe that is needed, as well as answers to problems when they occur.

### **Chad Cross, Fort Scott, Kansas**

Chad Cross is a teacher and head coach for the rodeo team at Fort Scott Community College. He was named the National College Rodeo Coach of the Year in 2014 and in the classroom, he educates students in basic horseshoeing principles.

Raised on a ranch in south central Kansas, Cross earned his bachelor's degree in agriculture economics and a master's degree in teaching from Northeast Oklahoma State University.

As a coach he believes everyone comes with an opportunity to do great things. "I can influence them, but it's up to them. His message to students is that winning isn't the ultimate goal — a great performance is what they should be shooting for. His favorite part of coaching is seeing his students achieve more than they thought possible.

### **Barry Denton, Skull Valley, Ariz.**

Growing up on a ranch, Barry Denton learned to shoe horses at an early age. That led to shoeing for other ranches and locals in the area. A dedicated farrier for nearly 40 years, Denton has shod well over 39,000 horses during his career.

He branched out to training and won the Championship Amateur Reining title in 2007-2008. He is possibly one of the only owners/riders/trainers to have shown his horses. He also made the bridle bit that he has competed with.

His extensive experience with Standardbreds and harness racing gave him superior forging skills and made him a virtual database on how to deal with lameness and interference issues. He is often called upon for assistance with a specific case or a request to write an article on a leg or hoof problem plaguing the industry.

Denton was actively involved in growing the Arizona State Farriers Association, as well as the American Farriers Association. The Brotherhood of Working Farriers Association bestowed their highest honor upon Denton in 2012 by initiating him into their International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame.

### **Endorsements:**

- "The true professional is one who goes the extra step. Barry was always ready to do so and was instrumental in our development of and continued love of horses."
- "Barry is the quintessential horseman's horseshoer. A natural horseman, Barry has educated himself by reading everything from science to books to the practical to be the best at what he does — and he loves horses, which is a must."
- "Barry was instrumental in keeping our endurance racing horses healthy and sound. He did more than just take care of their feet — he also taught us about conformation, lameness evaluation, hoof care and nutritional supplementation."

### **John Duckworth, Shawnee, Kan.**

John Duckworth is the consummate professional. His knowledge of equine lameness and corrective shoeing techniques is unsurpassed. He is not only an outstanding farrier, but also a community leader and volunteer. He served on the American Royal Rodeo Committee for several years, has mentored numerous young farriers, and is always available to provide guidance and advice. He is very proactive in the need for horse owner education and each year teaches a class on lameness and shoeing at the Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Duckworth is widely known for the high quality of his work. He provides both craftsmanship and knowledgeable insight into his approach to caring for horses. He has maintained a loyal base of horse owners and has nicely balanced services to new clients and those needing specialty farrier assistance.

Countless horses with navicular disease and other foot disorders have been improved by his good work.

**Endorsements:**

- “Any surgical success I have had with lameness cases always depended on good farrier support with ingenious shoeing after surgery, and John was always there with good suggestions and sound farriery work to get the desired results.”
- “John Duckworth has started and financed a retirement farm where horse owners can send their horses for a more peaceful life in their older years.”

**Richard Duggan, Ramsey, Minn.**

Richard Duggan began his horseshoeing education in a 10-month program at Anoka Vocational Technical College. A year after graduating, Duggan was invited to teach a class in farrier science at the school, which he did until it closed in 1976. Meanwhile, he attended St. Cloud State University to earn his teaching degree. He went on to open the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing in 1977.

A leader in the community, Duggan organized the first meeting of the future Minnesota Farrier’s Association in the ’70s. He served as president for 15 years. Duggan was also the first Minnesota farrier to become a certified as a farrier and then a journeyman farrier with the American Farrier’s Association.

Other career highlights include:

- Opening the first farrier supply store in Minnesota
- Founding the Minnesota Horse Expo
- Starting his own horseshoe making business: Duggan Manufacturing
- Involvement and leadership roles in American Farrier’s Association, Minnesota Farrier’s, Minnesota Horse Council, Minnesota Horse Expo, and American Professional Farrier’s Association

**Endorsements:**

“Richard can't boast of any nationally known achievements in competitive horseshoeing. He's just a man of integrity who is there for anyone who wants to excel in the farrier trade.”

“Richard Duggan’s experience and knowledge gives every student the skills and time necessary to develop into a successful farrier.”

“Richard has been an advocate for continuing education, peer support and competition.”

**Austin Edens, Graham, Texas**

Austin Edens began shoeing by working as his father’s apprentice. In 1999, he received his Journeyman status and represented the AFA in Great Britain as a member of the Cultural Exchange Program. He has served a number of years on the AFA Team, including a term as team captain and does numerous clinics.

**Douglas Eidenier, Aiken, S.C.**

Douglas Eidenier went to the Macomb, Ill., farrier school to learn under Les Hollenbeck, owner and instructor. Eidenier has been a farrier for over 45 years, and shod horses at the racetrack. He also manufactured shoes in Michigan for 12 years.

He goes to educational clinics to learn more about horse care, and enjoys being an instructor. He likes to keep improving his practice and spend time interacting with other shoers at clinics and conferences.

He loves working with horses. He got the love of horses from his dad. He has been around horses all his life and has many years of experience with all types of corrective shoeing.

**Endorsement:**

“Douglas always comes when I need him. It doesn’t matter when or what time — if I need him, he will be there.”

**Jeff Engler, Walla Walla, Wash.**

Jeff Engler has been a very successful farrier for decades. He achieved the level of CJF with the American Farrier’s Association. He was honored to tour the world and compete on behalf of Team USA as one of the top farriers in the nation.

While practicing in Texas, Engler served as president of the Texas Professional Farriers Association. He was also elected vice president of the American Farrier’s Association.

Turning his sights on a way to maximize his teaching skills by contributing to the higher education of young farriers, Engler accepted the position of farrier instructor at the University of Walla Walla. He sustained a potentially career-ending injury caused by a tragic hammer-to-anvil accident in the early 2000s, resulting in the loss of sight in one of his eyes. After this accident, Jeff was determined to emphasize exactness and safety with even more passion in his instruction of farriery.

**Endorsements:**

- “Having several apprentices over the years, including all of his sons, Jeff made huge impacts on-up-and-coming young farriers. He has been positively impacting professional farriers around the globe for many years.”
- “Through his patience and instruction, he has afforded my family a very successful farrier practice that has sustained us for over a decade and will continue in the future.”
- “I can think of no better farrier who deserves to be awarded this fine honor than my mentor and friend Jeff Engler.”

**Jorge “Coco” Fernandez, Shell Beach, Calif.**

Jorge “Coco” Fernandez is the number one farrier of the Peruvian breed and has worked actively with the Thoroughbred and racing industries in both Peru and the United States. He regularly conducts seminars for farriers on trimming, shoeing and general footcare throughout the United States, Central America and South America, and has influenced farrier work in many breeds.

He is passionate about educating horse owners, farriers and breeders. In his many years of practice, he has become wonderfully innovative in contributing to the health and well-being of the horses he has worked with.

**Endorsements:**

- “Coco is an exceptional farrier and a masterful teacher who has contributed greatly to equine orthopedics. He is an excellent candidate for the International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame.”
- “Coco has demonstrated a unique ability to advance individual understanding of the hoof to a variety of listeners ranging from the new horse owner to the experienced professional.”
- “Coco Fernandez took over treating my severely distressed and well-loved big Peruvian Paso. This was the first time I experienced a Master Farrier specializing in equine orthopedics evaluate a patient and begin the long-desired healing process.”

**Larry Galbreath, Brookville, Pa.**

Larry Galbreath was a farrier in western Pennsylvania for approximately 30 years. Because of his involvement with various associations, many farriers have benefited from his knowledge and willingness to teach and share.

Known for the quality of his workmanship, Galbreath was always modest and unassuming. He was never after notoriety, even though he could win or place in just about any horseshoeing contest. This lack of ego made him open to anyone who would show interest in learning. Galbreath was a dedicated teacher of all he knew. He was the secretary of the MEFA for years and was a leader in western Pennsylvania.

Galbreath had a stroke less than a decade ago, which financially ruined his family. His wife had to sell their house, all his tools, etc., to pay for the nursing home care he has been receiving. Galbreath sits in the nursing home and no longer has farrier visitors since he has been off their radar too long.

**Endorsement:**

“Larry was a dedicated teacher of all he knew.”

**Pat Gallahan, Gilbert, Ariz. (Deceased)**

Pat Gallahan was a farrier and teacher, sharing his knowledge at Western’s School of Horseshoeing. He was very active in the Arizona State Farrier Association, holding leadership roles and managing contests and forging practices at his house. There was no place he wouldn’t go to help with a lame horse — making trips to Yuma or San Diego — wherever he was needed.

Gallahan was always there to help anybody and any horse he could. He had great ideas when it came to lameness or gait problems and would work hard to solve the horse’s problem. He deeply cared about his profession and took part in many certifications, clinics and farrier contests.

Gallahan was an American Farrier’s Assn. (AFA) certification examiner and former chairman of the certification committee.

**Arnie Gervasio, Ringoes, N.J. & Wellington, Fla.**

After giving up a career as a highly successful horse trainer, Arnie Gervasio began shoeing full-time in the late 1960s, focusing on Quarter Horses. Working at the American Quarter Horse Congress for approximately 20 years, he shod many halter, reining, Western and English pleasure Quarter Horse world champions.

At the urging of long-time U.S. Olympic team farrier and International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame member Seamus Brady, Gervasio transitioned to shoeing hunters, jumpers and dressage horses in the late '80s. Since then, he has earned an excellent reputation for keeping top-performing show horses working at the peak of perfection.

Besides working with many of the top show horses in the world, Arnie also serves as a hoof-care consultant for a number of leading veterinarians. He designed the Sure Slide shoe in the 1980s, which was the first manufactured sliding plate for reining horses.

Gervasio continues to shoe over 300 horses per month, traveling to many areas of the United States, Europe and Canada. He winters in Florida for the Wellington Equestrian Festival. His client list reads like the "Who's Who" of leading show jumping and dressage performers, and he is one of the busiest men in the shoeing business.

**Endorsements:**

- "He is a very accomplished, all-around horseman. Very few people in the farriery world have such an extensive knowledge of horses."
- "He is an outstanding, skilled craftsman in using all of the materials that are involved in modern farrier work."
- "He has a proactive approach to hoof-care concerns that draws on his vast experience in providing high-quality footcare."

**Paul Goodness, Round Hill, Va.**

Paul Goodness began shoeing horses for his family's business and quickly began an apprenticeship in 1973. In 1976, he attended a formal 6-month farrier school near Syracuse, N.Y. In 1981, he was accepted to the farrier internship program at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine, New Bolton Center. After completing this program in 1983, he moved to Virginia and began building a sport horse and corrective shoeing practice.

In 1988, he opened the area's first referral-only therapeutic farriery clinic in Round Hill, Va. Building on the success of this venture in 1992, he founded and managed one of the country's first group farrier practices, Forging Ahead LLC.

From 1992 to 1996, Paul was an official farrier for the United State Equestrian Team (USET) and traveled extensively, managing the hoof care of international competitors representing the United States, culminating with his role as the official farrier at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. After the Olympics, he began limiting his travels and focused on therapeutic farriery and the development of the Forging Ahead Farrier Internship Program that taught advanced techniques to farriers from all over the world.

He currently works at the Marion DuPont Scott Equine Medical Center (EMC) in Leesburg, Va.



**Endorsements:**

- “Many farriers have benefited from the book chapters he authored in *Current Techniques in Equine Surgery and Lameness*, the papers he authored in *AAEP Proceedings* and the speaking he has done at the International Laminitis Conference and Rochester Equine Clinic, as well as the hundreds of articles he has contributed to as a consultant.”
- “Paul has been a mentor, a role model and the biggest influence in my career. I can only hope to one day be that to others in the profession and create a legacy as great as he has.”

**Gordon Goss, Monroe, Wash.**

Gordon Goss' hero, confidante and friend was his grandfather, Willard B. Goss. As a child, Gordon watched his grandfather shoe horses, build wagons and repair and build farm tools. From this and watching other farriers, Gordon knew that one day he would be a horseshoer.

Goss started his shoeing career in the U.S. Army in 1959. There, he met a sergeant who taught shoeing at Fort Bragg, N.C. He worked with the sergeant on shoeing 40 horses every month.

During this time, Goss met Frank Duff, a gaited horse and Walking Horse shoer from Pennington Gap, W.Va. Gordon worked with Duff off and on while in the Army and for several years after he was discharged.

After Gordon was married in 1965, he built his first barn and started shoeing horses for a living. He shod Saddlebreds, hunters, jumpers and Morgans before he switched to Arabians.

Over the years, Gordon has shod for the Region V show and the Scottsdale Arabian shows. He's shod over 100 National Champion Arabians and does corrective work for the Pilchuck Veterinary Hospital in Snohomish, Wash. He was one of the pioneers who organized the Farriers Association of Washington and has served in numerous roles with the group.

**Endorsement:**

“Gordon has helped many young farriers get started in the business. He trains them through ride-alongs and other programs that help them work their way through the certification process over the years.”

**Margie Lee Gustafson, Woodside, Calif.**

Margie Lee Gustafson has been shoeing since 1983, became a certified journeyman farrier in 1991 and has served as a tester since 1991. She shoes full-time and focuses on English performance horses in dressage, hunter/jumper and 3-day eventing.

Gustafson was the first woman president of the American Farrier's Association in its 47-year history, and served for 6 years in that role. She also served on the Board of Directors for 2 years. She was elected vice president first, then president elect the next year, then president, and finally immediate past president. Gustafson now serves as

Communications Director. Other roles she's had at AFA include: six years as Sponsorship Chairman; 25 years on the Rules Committee (taking over as chairman for the 9 months after the outgoing chairman retired); and on the marketing committee before taking over as chair of communications.

She's also be involved with many other organizations:

- She served on the Board of the Western States Farriers Association. She wrote and produced the Western States Farriers Association Newsletter for many years.
- Helped start Women Horseshoers of America and traveled with its members all over the world to teach clinics and enter competitions.
- Served as co-chair of the Northern California Classic for 30 years

She only stepped away to compete with her own horses in FEI Grand Prix Dressage horseshows, working now toward a Gold Medal and Gold Bar in Formal Dressage and Freestyle.

### **Endorsement:**

“She has given literally thousands and thousands of hours of service. She put in the years and was mentored by excellent people, but she also had the drive and she did the work.” Margie also donates her farrier services to the National Center for Equine Facilitated Therapy in Woodside, Calif.

### **Charles Hall, Elora, Tenn.**

Charles Hall is a man who is as committed to learning, observing and studying not only the hoof but also the whole horse — body, mind and personality as they come.

Hall never stops seeking answers and trying innovations to improve a horse's life. He also mentors many students throughout as he is an excellent instructor and knows his craft. He has held clinics to teach horse owners how to care for and even do trimming on their horses.

Hall demonstrates his passion as a farrier through his willingness to help any horse. He takes on difficult horses that no one can trim and successfully rehabilitates “wild” ones. Time and again, he has used his craft on foundered horses, diseased hooves and incorrect trimming.

He is committed to advancing his own knowledge, performing countless dissections on cadaver hooves and legs so that he can better understand how to help living horses. He attends clinics and studies at universities.

### **Endorsements:**

- “Charles misses no opportunity to advance his knowledge and education and therefore has an incredible understanding of equine anatomy and physiology.”
- “I have owned horses both in the U.S. and England. Without a doubt, Charles is the best farrier I have come across.”
- “Charles not only brings his hoof-care expertise to our barn, but he is also willing to share his knowledge. He is extremely patient with both horses and donkeys. He understands the needs of our equines that range in age from 6 to 31 years. I feel extremely blessed to have Charles Hall as my farrier.”

**Robert E. Hall, Shelocta, Pa.**

Robert Hall is one of the most dedicated and ambitious men in his trade. He obtained his degree in mineral engineering from Penn State University, worked in the mines with the R & P Coal Company and finally decided, with the coal industry waning in western Pennsylvania, to go at it full-time as a farrier. He graduated from the Eastern School of Farrier Science in Martinsville, Va.

One of the most endearing qualities about Hall that sets him apart is his lack of prejudice. He won't exclusively work with select clients. He treats each owner and every horse as if they were equal.

From all the faithful ponies and first horses of new owners to those of veteran horse folk such as trail riders and Quarter Horse Congress contenders, world-class studs, show barns, reiners, jumpers, breeding farms — he does them all with the same care and detail. Whether they're headed down the trail or into the world class show rings, he does them all without an ounce of discrimination.

He's done multiple 4-H Club clinics, was featured giving instruction on the farrier craft on the local Fox television channel a few years back and continues to educate himself as well as others. In the educational department of his vocation, he's taken on many assistants and apprentices over the years and only the select few, the "strong ones," survive his character-building criticism, his pushing work and his killer schedule.

**Endorsement:**

"Bob deserves the recognition of being part of this honorable group of illustrious craftsmen. I have yet to meet another who is as full of life, charisma and fun-loving as this man. In my mind, he is the best farrier and deserves the acknowledgement and recognition for being so."

**Jim Halverson, Lomita, Calif.**

Back in 1973 in Southern California, I had been shoeing for over a little over a year, struggling like most in a time when a lot of help was not given freely. Jim Halverson from Lomita, Calif., would stop his Chevy truck, coal forge smoking, and watch me work for a few minutes. He said, "You do a nice job, but you need help. Be at my house in the morning and you can ride with me and we'll talk."

It was like he came from heaven! He and his wife Darlene were the best. I spent a couple days around him every chance I could. He not only changed my thinking but also "cleaned up" my style and ability to see what a horse needed. I have kept in touch with him for 40 years and will forever be in his debt. He is special!

**Wayne Hand, Brunswick, Ga.**

Wayne Hand graduated from horseshoeing school in Kentucky. He has been in business as the Hammer and Hoof Farrier Services for over 10 years.

**Charlie Hill, Queen Creek, Ariz.**

The name "Charlie Hill" is synonymous with the term "consummate farrier." Hill's farriery talents are known by many, but he brings something to the stable that is generally unmatched by other farriers: the ability to communicate very effectively with horses and people. He is a true "Horse Whisperer."

Hill's remarkable evolution in the art of basic shoeing techniques and dedication to the overall training and well-being of the horse served the horse industry very well, as well as sharing that experience. His "CHILL-Method" clinics incorporate years of applied animal behavior techniques that exploit the horse's natural instinct to the horseman's best advantage. His shoeing is an extension of his overall "savvy" of anatomy and observations of physiological mechanics.

Hill has enriched the lives of all horses and horse people that he has connected with. He is the ultimate educator, implementing the "CHILL-Method" logic of man and animal, resulting in behavior modification and logic learning for both species.

**Endorsements:**

- "Because of his acquired expertise and willingness to educate, Charlie deserves this recognition. In one sentence: Charlie Hill lives what he teaches, and never stops learning and educating."
- "Even if Charlie and I had a difference of opinion about a shoeing prescription for a specific diagnosed clinical issue, Charlie would follow my directions to the letter. This way we both learned an individual horse's response to our applied shoeing therapy. If I was wrong, we would know what to do to change the shoeing prescription."
- "Charlie knows more about a horse's foot than anybody I know. He even makes the shoe to fit the need."

**Tom Hix, Hartwell, Ga.,**

Tom Hix has attended farrier school, is a member of the BFWA, continues his education, loves the animals, treats them with care and is working to start a research facility. He loves dealing with problem hooves. No writings as of yet, but a great farrier!

### **J.W. Hollis**

J.W. Hollis shod for Martha Josie for many years. He has also shod many horses that have gone to the National Finals Rodeo (NFR) and some of the top cutting horse facilities in the Louisiana and Texas areas.

### **Karl Horvath, Jr.**

In 1951, Karl Horvath began his farrier apprenticeship under Ollie Burton, working the Big 3 South Florida tracks in the winter, with summers at Suffolk Downs, Narragansett Park and Rockingham. Literally working for pennies, Horvath was compensated with spare horseshoe boxes filled with the coins. As he scraped to get by, he earned the nickname “Buck,” as in “doing anything to earn a buck”.

He graduated to Journeyman Farrier in 1954, and in the spring migrated north to Scarborough Downs in Portland, Maine. As the days shortened, so did Horvath’s time in the northeast. In September 1954, he moved back to Florida, working the Hialeah/Gulfstream/Tropical Park circuit, and managed to earn enough money to marry Joan Perry.

Horvath went on to work for a gentleman named W.H. Bishop, whom Horvath called his lucky charm. Bishop had a big stable at Monmouth Park and hired the struggling blacksmith.

Through the years, Horvath worked for a number of great trainers and notable stables:

One of his last trainers was Jimmy Jones, the final “master” of legendary Calumet Farms before its decline. Horvath’s career highlight came in 1961: winning horse racing’s Triple Crown.

Working with Jack Price and Dorchester Farms, Horvath shod the legendary Carry Back, who won the Kentucky Derby and Preakness. That same year, he tended to Sherluck, trained by Harold Young, who won that year’s Belmont, denying Carry Back a special place in history.

Beyond shoeing horses, Horvath was also a true blacksmith, a master of the hearth and anvil, crafting iron into specialty horseshoes. He was a part of the last generation that regularly created and used their own shoes.

### **Steve Huber, Trumansburg, N.Y.**

Steve Huber’s career began in 1954 when he attended Michigan State’s Horseshoeing School. When he started out, he earned as little as \$6.50 a horse.

In 1960, Steve approached Ludwig Statenmueller, a Hall of Famer, with the idea of the Garden State Horseshoer’s Association. Together, they started the association with three goals: to establish a forum to discuss and eventually standardize prices; establish a means for farriers to share their knowledge and expertise; and encourage professional conduct among farriers.

An active and avid supporter of the industry, Huber encouraged the Garden State Horseshoer’s Association to provide clinics and acted as a clinician for them. He helped start the first horseshoeing contests for the Garden State Horseshoer’s Association, holding them at his private farm.

Huber gave generously of his time to establish the barns and grounds at the U.S. Equestrian Team (USET) in Gladstone, N.J. He was one of the first farriers for the U.S.

Equestrian jumping team. He also was the farrier at the prestigious Washington D.C. International Horse Show for a number of years.

Huber left New Jersey in 1976 to re-establish his business in New York State. At that time, the Garden State Horseshoer's Association recognized his contribution to the profession with a lifetime achievement award and made him the first lifetime member of the association.

During his career of over 55 years, Huber shod hunters and Saddlebreds, as well as show horses including Morgans, gaited horses, Arabians and the occasional Standardbred. He remains the consummate professional, and holds his work and conduct to high standards for his work as he continues to shoe horses into his 70s.

### **Roy Hurt (Deceased)**

Roy Hurt was my farrier for over 20 years. He recently passed away. He was a Master Farrier that helped horses other farriers had failed to help.

### **T.J. Jones, Boyton Beach, Fla.**

T.J. Jones is an established leader in the farrier industry, not only in South Florida but also on the international show horse circuit. The caliber of the Grand Prix jumpers and dressage horses that he shoes is a testament to his expertise. The fact that he has been the exclusive farrier to most of his elite clientele for more than a decade speaks volumes of the consistency of his work and his dedication to the horses in his care.

At one time or another, Jones has helped or been a mentor to half of the farrier population in South Florida. Yet it doesn't stop in Florida: there are numerous farriers around the country who take advantage of his trips to their areas, hoping to improve their skills or move up a level by working with him at shows

His greatest contribution to the farrier industry, however, has been his unique relationships with veterinarians. Being a professional horseman with an extensive background in equine sports medicine, he can address problems from a medical perspective. He has earned the respect and confidence of the veterinarians he works with, which has helped pave the way for many other farriers who often found these relationships trying.

### **Endorsement:**

“T.J. is someone who is not only the consummate professional farrier, but also an exceptional and ethical horseman who has helped his fellow farriers every step of his way to the top.”

### **Ronald Kass, Sr., Perkasie, Pa.**

Ronald H. Kass, Sr. began his farrier career in 1964. He owned and showed Arabians and was interested in learning the farrier trade. Bob Chase of Penndel, Pa., was the farrier that Kass used to shoe his own horses. He taught Kass the basics of the farrier trade.

Kass worked at the Liberty Hill Racetrack shoeing standard bred horses, and also did plenty of farm work. When he was fully established in 1977, he moved on from the racetrack with a wealth of knowledge. He found working with show horses extremely rewarding and continued to develop his skills. Many of his clients went on to win prestigious awards including Frank and May Chapot, Olympic medalists in show jumping. While working for the Chapot family, Kass shod horses like Gem Twist, which represented the United States in the Seoul Olympics and won a silver medal.

Over the years Kass became interested in corrective shoeing and he is considered to be one of the best corrective shoers in the Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York areas.

He was instrumental in establishing the Pennsylvania Guild of Professional Farriers, along with Joseph Brando, Sr., and Greg Galster. Hass was the first vice president of the organization.

Another way Kass contributed to the farrier profession was through invention. He developed a line of tool boxes that have been in service for over 40 years. His other inventions include a hoof-picking device known as “Pic N Pac” and a mane-braiding tool

called “Speedy Pull Thru,” as well as an “Anvil Welding Table.” He also designs equine-related jewelry.

**Endorsement:**

“His passion for horseshoeing has touched the lives of many and will always remain an everyday part of his life.”

**Tim Keller, Monson, Mass.**

Tim Keller has been a farrier for Morgan show horses for 40 years, shoeing more world champion Morgan horses than any other farrier. He was the farrier at the Morgan Grand National for 25 years.

Over the years, Tim has dedicated his life to the farrier industry and has helped out many other farriers, trainers and horses. He is well-respected throughout the country as a top farrier for the Morgan breed. Tim has served as a mentor to many young people starting out in farrier work and, when asked, is always generous about sharing his thoughts and knowledge about shoeing problems.

In addition to his farrier work, Tim is a major force in our United Professional Horsemen’s Association Chapter 14. He has been instrumental in the creation of Chapter 14’s fundraising on behalf of professional horsemen in need, and also in the establishment of a prestigious award honoring outstanding sportsmanship within the professional horsemen’s industry.

Keller was inducted into The Northampton Hall of Fame in recognition of his many years of service and dedication to the New England Morgan Regional Horse Show.

**Endorsements:**

- “Tim Keller is a master farrier, a credit to his profession, a role model of professionalism in his field and compassionate and caring towards both the equines and humans in his care.”
- “To say that Mr. Keller is the most important ingredient in the success of the horses in my program is an understatement.”
- “His contributions to the advancement in the care and maintenance of the horse’s podiatry needs are legendary.”
- “Tim pioneered the concept of analyzing structure with an eye for balance, an approach that was completely cutting edge. Teamed with the famous veterinarian Dr. Stuart Harvey, the pair transformed how we looked at “form to function.”

**Wayne Kloby, Huntingtown, Md.**

Wayne Kloby has been a farrier for more than 30 years. He’s been called out day and night — and even on his honeymoon. He’s worked with many horses, from horses getting their first trim to some now in their 30s. He’s worn his chaps and hat backwards for those horses who have a fear of the farrier; he’s gone through more apples than a cider press. He’s worked wonders with horses whose owners thought that they’d never be able to walk again.

Kolby has earned the respect of every vet that he has worked with. He can tell you the name of any horse he’s done. He’s done championship hunter/jumpers, draft horses,



miniatures, everything from show horses to backyard ponies. He's worked with abused horses. His love of horses has only increased with the years.

**Endorsements:**

- "He's been around horses his entire life, and I can think of no one who deserves to be in the Horseshoeing Hall of Fame more than Wayne Kloby."
- "Wayne Kloby has been an excellent farrier. He has been shoeing my horses for over 20 years. He did remarkable work on a club foot, keeping the horse usable for many years."

**Jack Kohler, Pevely, Mo.**

Jack Kohler started his career while in his third year of high school, working under Joe Kutz in St. Louis. He then went to the California Poly Horseshoeing School one year after high school. Afterward, he returned to again work with Kutz to get more experience preparing to go out on his own. He has been shoeing for over 40 years. He works on all breeds, doing both show horses and backyard horses. He works with most of the veterinarians in St. Louis and surrounding areas.

Kohler came up with the tape to measure the hoof to get the right amount for each width and length of steel. He would help anyone who asked or needed help. He also instructed an evening course to help those interested in learning more about shoeing. The course was at Jefferson College in Hillsboro, Mo., for about 5 years.

**Eugene W. Layton (deceased)**

"Gene" Layton was a fifth-generation blacksmith. His family emigrated from Yorkshire, England, to Nova Scotia. Layton worked for Cornell University from 1931 until his retirement in 1965. He started his work at Cornell at the New York State College of Agriculture, in the Farm Practice Shop. At that time, the university owned a large number of draft horses used for farm work. Layton's expertise was not only used to maintain the horses' feet, but his blacksmith skills were also valuable to produce wagon and harness hardware. He also regularly consulted with the veterinary college.

Upon the untimely death of Professor Henry Asmus, Layton was appointed to the Resident Farrier position at the veterinary college. Here he was able to redesign the Farrier Short Course offered by the veterinary college. He was also tasked with providing instruction to veterinary students for corrective and therapeutic shoeing techniques, as well as cattle trimming.

His extensive background of draft horse shoeing was particularly useful in keeping hard-working farm horses sound. He is also credited with bringing the "Scotch" style of shoeing draft horses to North America.

Layton helped establish the blacksmith and farrier tool collection at the Farmer's Museum in Shelburne, Vt. In 1962, he assisted H.R. Bradley Smith in writing the book *Blacksmiths' and Farriers' Tools at Shelburne Museum*. Layton wrote two articles for the book: "How to Shoe a Horse" and "How to Turn a Shoe."

One of Layton's shoe boards is hanging in the National Farrier and Horseshoeing Museum in Sulphur, Okla. A beautiful collection of sensible show draft horseshoes is still hanging in the farrier shop at Cornell University, serving as an inspiration for current students.

**Will Lent, Shelby, Mich.**

A highly successful long-time draft horseshoer, Will Lent started making a line of Scotch bottom shoes in 1978. When he started the business, he didn't have any machinery for the first 6 years and only used a forge, anvil and a set of torches to make these shoes. He drew toe clips on a leg vise as he still does today.

For Lent, one of the keys in the process of becoming a Scotch bottom shoe manufacturer was actually nailing them on in his shoeing work with draft horses. He fully understood what farriers needed. He always focused his talents on how to manufacture the best product for the application while manufacturing a large variety of draft shoes.

**Jason Liburd, Louisville, Ky.**

Even though Jason Liburd has held other jobs, he has been around horses almost his entire life. He has been riding, training and shoeing horses for over 20 years now. Hailed as one of the top jockeys and farriers in the English-speaking Caribbean, his love for Thoroughbred horses took him to the United States of America.

Late race horse trainer Dan Bartlette and Nevis Equestrian Centre owner/certified farrier John Guilbert, who started him on the road to horseshoeing, encouraged him to pursue horses full-time in 2008 when Nevis' horse racing industry experienced a paradigm shift. He moved to St. Kitts in 2009 when the Belmont Estate Horse Racing Track opened on the island and in July of 2011, he migrated to the United States to work at the Kentucky Derby.

At the Kentucky Derby, Liburd found his niche as a professional exercise rider and later as a certified farrier. Having apprenticed under three of the greatest farriers in the world, Dr. Redden, Ian McKinlay and Mark Dewey, he learned how to effectively combine his competence with his horsemanship. Liburd merged his strengths and is now a sought-after equine podiatrist.

His goal is to prevent lameness, concussions, abscesses, quarter-cracked hooves, wall separation and unaligned gait.

**Endorsement:**

"He is thorough, welcomes hard work and always goes the extra mile to ensure his customers are pleased with his service."

**Lonnie Lindsey, Jonesboro, Ark.**

Lonnie Lindsey has been shoeing horses for over 50 years and has helped many young farriers get their start. He has shod every type and breed of horse, from backyard pets to World Champions.

Lindsey is the farrier that all other farriers in this area turn to for questions and problems they may have, and he is always willing to help. He spent years educating himself by going to clinics and conventions.

**Bill Liskey, Livermore, Calif.**

Bill Liskey started breaking horses with his brother Bob when he was around 11 years old. He started shoeing in 1955. Known as an honest, hard-working farrier with a very kind heart Liskey's quarter crack repair techniques have revolutionized the industry, and

have repaired hooves that thought to be unrepairable. He has devoted a lifetime to the well-being of horses.

Besides working at various barns at many Bay Area tracks, Bill would also shoe at rodeos he took his children to. He has volunteered his time to help many young horsemen with their farrier education by allowing them to hang out and watch him work. Liskey also helps the Alameda County Sheriff's Department when they have stray, abandoned or neglected horses in need.

Later in life, Liskey fought cancer but he didn't let that interrupt with his shoeing. After treatments, he went to Golden Gate Fields and maintained his regular clients, taking care of all their shoeing and hoof-care needs. He never missed a day because of his cancer, even when he received invasive procedure; he maintained his responsibilities to his clients, their trainers and owners.

#### **Endorsements:**

- "Over the years, I have witnessed many farriers' work and overall abilities. Mr. William "Bill" Liskey has excelled time after time in cases that seemed hopeless for some horses. He brought their hooves into healing and back to the wining circle."
- "Bill is extraordinary in quarter crack patches; I have not seen anyone who could compare with his expertise."
- "Bill Liskey was born a cowboy, and learned the value of hard work in his youth. He's never forgotten where he came from or what matters most"

#### **Bob McCarthy, Medfield, Mass. (Deceased)**

Bob McCarthy was a farrier all his life, learning the trade from his father, Jack McCarthy. He is a true tradesman and has unselfishly passed on his knowledge to others. He has always supported the American Farrier's Association (AFA) and has been president of the Southern New England Farrier's Association.

McCarthy was always looking for new ways to make things better for horses. He was always on the leading edge of technology and did many unique things with acrylic repairs on seedy toes and with fiberglass patches on quarter cracks.

He has trained many of the top farriers in the southern New England area. He also served as president of the Mickey Mouse Horseshoers Association, a group he started to bring all of his former apprentices together each year.

In addition, he shod racehorses for several years and was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the New England Equitation Championships. His commitment to his profession, his dedication to the betterment of the horse and his high ethical standards make him an ideal candidate for the Hall of Fame.

#### **Endorsements:**

- "Bob was simply the best farrier in the hunter and jumper world in New England for many years."
- "He always loved a challenge, such as trying to help horses that were hitting themselves while racing or training."

- “Bob trained many fine young men to become great horseshoers. He once told me that a testament to his teaching would be to see the student outperform the teacher.”

**Richard McChesney, Mt. Washington, Ky.**

Richard McChesney was born into horseshoeing. His grandfather, father, uncle and cousin shod horses. He apprenticed with his dad and passed the IHJU test in 1970. McChesney has shod two Kentucky Derby winners and has worked the paddock at Churchill Downs for at least 10 years. There have been very few horses he was not able to get to the starting gate with all four shoes on in only a few minutes.

McChesney brought the other horseshoers together as a close-knit group and was always ready to help if anyone needed assistance with a problem horse.

**Endorsement:**

“He is a fantastic person and a horseshoer that can properly balance a horse to keep it running year after year.”

**Chester (Chet) F. McMillan, Canton, Ill.**

Chester (Chet) F. McMillan has shod horses for over 40 years. He shod the average working man’s horse, the trail riding horse, and the horses and mules for local horse shows and the Illinois State Fair.

Chester was born in Fulton County, Ill. He lived on a farm and learned the basics about shoeing from his father. He furthered his career in horseshoeing learning even more from his father-in-law George Brown (inducted into the Horseshoeing Hall of Fame in 2006).

McMillan shod many horses with sore feet. He would make his own packing and/or pads for the animals. He made shoes for the Belgians, Percherons and Clydesdales that he shod over the years. He is perhaps best known for shoeing Bud the Clydesdale at the Peoria, Ill. Glen Oak Zoo and the horses at Wildlife Prairie State Park. Chet also took his blacksmithing to a further level in the late 1970s and early 1980s. He built a wagon and a horse cart and also repaired other types of horse-drawn carriages for some of his clients.

In addition, he has volunteered for 43 years at the Historical Rasmussen Blacksmith Museum in Lewistown, Ill. In the early years of volunteering, he would shoe horses on the premises. Now he does the work of heating the forge and bending the iron to make horseshoes.

**Endorsement:**

- “Chet was deliberate and precise with his shoeing, which resulted in getting calls from owners of every breed from miniature horses to draft horses.”
- “Chet was forthright with answering questions and giving us suggestions. We appreciated the benefit of his knowledge. He was dependable and reliable, and served his customers faithfully for many years.”

**Bob Mederos, Brentwood, Calif.**

A farrier for nearly 40 years, Bob Mederos’ clientele consists of all phases of Western, English, hunter/jumper and dressage. Bob shoes many national and world championships.

Mederos began competing in shoeing and forging contests in 1994 and his goal was to become an American Farrier's Team member. He achieved that goal in 1997 and again in 1998. He enjoys teaching shoeing and forging clinics and judging contests. He also enjoys preparing his apprentices for competition and certification and helping them develop quality shoeing skills and needed business management skills.

### **Gil Meeker, Phillipsburg, N.J.**

Gil Meeker is the farrier for Mylestone Equine Rescue (MER), a horse rescue nonprofit organization. He has been a dedicated part of the organization, always responding when needed. He has traveled to the farm at night, on weekends and holidays.

Most horses housed at equine rescues have been starved, abused and neglected — which affect their hooves and legs. Many need special shoes and other treatments that require individual consideration. With some rescues, Meeker works closely with the veterinarian in making a joint effort to decide what is best for the horses. Meeker is a team player, weighs all the alternatives and makes every effort to do what is best for the horses.

### **Joepaul Meyers, Gatesville, Texas**

Joepaul Meyers is a third-generation farrier whose journey began in 1972. He attended Oklahoma Farrier College in Sperry, Okla. under Bud Beaston. His mentors include Jim Halverson, Jay Sharp and Jack Miller. He has dedicated himself to the medical side of the profession and his in-depth knowledge of equine. His travels have taken him to 22 states, Canada and Mexico, where he has worked with as many as 53 veterinarians and in all disciplines, specializing in lameness and orthopedics. He has taught at the trade school level and university level where he instructed graduating vet students.

Joepaul has been a Certified Journeyman Farrier of the American Farrier's Association since 1979 and is a founding member of the Oklahoma's Farrier Association. He served as secretary and was a long-time board member. He is a 39-year member of the Texas Farrier Association and also a 16-year member of the New Mexico Horseshoer's Association. He was an AFA competitor for 12 years and co-judged several AFA contests during his career. In 1999, he assisted and instructed the Mexican National Team for Sydney, Australia.

He has conducted many horseman clinics for local chapters and 4-H clubs. He has lectured in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Kansas. He has written numerous articles and currently advises for AllExperts.com. Through his company, Osage Equine Products, he has invented and manufactured a sole poultrice and has patented "Osage Hoof Conditioner."

### **Endorsements:**

- "I have known and worked with Joepaul for over 30 years. He has challenged me to become a better veterinarian and a better person."
- "I have qualified for the National Team Roping Finals three times and part of the reason is that Joepaul keeps my horses sound. He deserves this honor and he has earned it."

### **Mike Miller, Huntsville, Ala.**

Mike Miller began shoeing horses in 1969. Originally from Ithaca, N.Y., Miller went to farrier school at California Poly in San Luis Obispo, Calif., in 1969. From that start, he paid his way through medical school and became an orthopedic surgeon who was known for his skill in performing hip replacements. Miller has done clinics in orthopedic surgery around the world.

Throughout his medical career, farriery was still Miller's passion, and he continued to push himself to pass the CFJ, as well as to compete at the World Championship Blacksmiths competition in Calgary, the AFA Convention and numerous contests. Miller served as a judge and clinician, even doing farrier clinics in places like Brazil. He also judged the Canadian Nationals competition.

Miller became the fourth American to achieve the level of Fellow of the Worshipful Company of Farriers, and the first to do so at an exam not held in the United Kingdom. He is also the only American FWCF that is not currently in the International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame.

As part of his fellowship, Miller wrote a thesis based on research about trimming methods and the effects of the horse's foot. He subsequently published his thesis, titled "The Mirage of the Natural Foot, Science and Snake Oil in the Barefoot Trimming Debate." This book is being distributed to improve the lot of farriers and horses everywhere.

### **Elmer Morefield, Elburn, Ill.**

Elmer Morefield has provided the vets of the Illinois Equine Hospital and Clinic with valuable assistance in the management of major orthopedic shoeing problems. He is an extremely creative individual who can make any shoe or splint.

Morefield shod polo ponies and draft horses for me and the shoes stay on. When repairs are necessary, he makes them properly. Morefield is a craftsman with both his shoeing and blacksmithing work. He has had several apprentices who went on to become quality farriers in their own right.

### **Dallas Morgan, Locke, N.Y.**

Dallas Morgan is a native of Australia and literally came to America with next to nothing. He was the farrier for Kansas State University from 1993-1997 while his wife Jessica attended vet school there. From there, they moved to Yorba Linda, Calif. and then Corona, Calif. Morgan had a successful shoeing practice in southern California. In the mid-2000s, the Morgans headed east and ended up buying an old winery in central New York State and converted it into a veterinary hospital and farriery clinic.

Morgan has spent a lot of time with legendary shoemaker Bob Marshall and quickly excelled at shoemaking. He was a member of the 2000 American Farrier's Team and a former winner of the Calgary Mail-in shoe. Morgan also started a tool making company called Roo Tools that specialized in making fullers and creasers. He's a Mustad clinician and has put on numerous shoeing and forging clinics all over the world. He's also judged many contests and helped more than a few farriers make it to the American Farrier's Team. His shoemaking and everyday shoeing are what perfection and the ideal standard of excellence is all about.

Morgan also competes in eventing and has built a world class 3-day event course in his own backyard!

**Endorsements:**

“Not only is he so talented and giving of his time and knowledge but, he has to be one of the humblest people I've ever met. It's never about ‘me’ with Dallas. He's the first one to say ‘How can I help.’”

“Dallas has the credentials to be a Hall of Fame Member. I can think of no one who more deserves to be nominated to the 2020 International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame.”

**John Muldoon, Alex, Okla.**

John Muldoon's experience in the field began at the age of 9, shoeing horses for friends and family. He furthered his education at the Western School of Horseshoeing in Phoenix, Ariz.

Muldoon has tried to close the gap between veterinarians and horseshoers by seeking veterinarians' input on the shoeing of lame horses. He has served as the hospital farrier for a busy seven-doctor equine practice and works with several other veterinarians in the area in a similar capacity. His formal training in engineering and horseshoeing are complementary. He is well-read on the latest shoeing materials and techniques.

He developed a hospital plate for chronic abscess horses that has done wonders in speeding the recovery process and aided tremendously in helping keep the abscessed area clean and free of debris.

He has shod horses in the hospital with navicular disease, angular limb deformities, founder, white line disease and recurrent abscesses. Given the opportunity, there is not a foot-related problem that he could not solve with shoeing.

**Endorsements:**

- “John's philosophy of ‘I don't do corrective shoeing, I just shoe correctly’ exemplifies his common sense. Over the last 12 years, I have used John exclusively for difficult foot cases. He is always up-to-date with the current literature and footcare schools of thought.”
- “Because of John's expertise, care and good judgment, several horses have been kept more comfortable and their careers have been prolonged. Horses with navicular
- “A large part of my veterinary practice deals with lameness originating in the foot region. John Muldoon has been invaluable in restoring soundness to hundreds of horses with various foot problems. We have become dependent on his ability to provide biomechanically sound solutions to various problems.”

**David Nadeau, Lexington, Ky.**

Before he had a driver's license, David Nadeau was sent to horseshoeing school. He was taught by Don Canfield. Many years later, Nadeau took his American Farrier's Association journeyman test with Canfield and they were the first two AFA journeymen in Kentucky.

Nadeau moved to Lexington in the late 1970s. He was one of the first horseshoers for Kentucky Horse Park. He was the first shoer for Kentucky Equine Education Program (KEEP). He did all the work for the city of Lexington and Riding for the Handicapped for

many years. Nadeau was also the volunteer shoer for many of the shows at Masterson Station and Kentucky Horse Park.

Nadeau was an official shoer for the World 3-Day Event during the '80s — the first World Event in the U.S. Nadeau was also the official shoer for two National Arabian Shows.

Nadeau was the official farrier for Fasig-Tipton at Saratoga, N.Y., for 12 years. He was the horseshoer for Overbrook and Lanes End Farm, the number one and number two Thoroughbred farms in the nation, for 30 years. He is believed to have shod more million-dollar yearlings than any other person. He has also been asked by Kentucky Thoroughbred Association and Keeneland to fly to other countries to be a shoeing demonstrator.

Nadeau and his sister have given more than \$30,000 to a horse sanctuary and have adopted several horses. He still donates his time to shoe at some of the small horseshows.

**Endorsement:**

“This area is lucky to have David Nadeau here. In addition to his shoeing, he has worked with many of the local horseshoers to improve the horseshoeing trade and help owners understand more about what a horseshoer can and should do.”

**Charlie Neilson, Phoenix N.Y.**

Charles Neilson is a 1956 graduate of the Michigan State University Farrier School and was instructed by the famous Jack McAllen. After he'd been shoeing full-time in upstate New York, the demand for his services exceeded the time there was to fulfill them. In 1969, Charles started the Eastern States Farrier school to meet the need for qualified farriers in the area.

Patterned after Michigan State's farrier course, the school was a 12-week course, enrolling 12 students at a time. He owned and operated the Eastern State Farrier School from 1968 to 1980. He had a major impact on the careers of many up-and-coming horseshoers with his specialization in lameness and instruction. Charlie was a dedicated horseshoer for over 40 years. He retired at age 70.

**Endorsements:**

- “Charlie's dedication and passion to the equine industry, as a farrier and educator, make him an outstanding Hall of Fame candidate. Countless students and professional farriers are benefactors of his knowledge and inspiration.
- “Charlie's ability to shoe horses was matched only by his care for them. He always took extra time to help the horse and the customer.”

**Dick Neville, Mt. Sterling, Ohio**

From very humble beginnings in Franklin, Ind., Dick Neville has been a farrier since the age of 12, when he shod his own saddle horse.

Neville started shoeing Standardbreds exclusively when he was 19. He has shod for many Standardbred Hall of Fame trainers, including Delvin Miller, Billy Haughton, Stanley Dancer, Howard Beissinger, Glen Garnsey and George Sholty. Some of the famous Standardbred horses he has shod include Nevele Pride, Silent Majority, Abercrombie,



Most Happy Fella, French Chef, Falcon Almahurst, Florida Pro, Striking Mystery and Imperfection, to name a few.

Among the many highlights of Neville's career is the fact that he has shod more Hamiltonian winners, Little Brown Jug winners, World Champions and Triple Crown winners than any other farrier. He has been practicing his trade for 50 years and is still going strong, despite suffering a major life-threatening illness.

His strong work ethic, honesty and loyalty are the reason he has kept some of the same valued customers for over 40 years. He has shod equine legends and worked for some of the top trainers of all time, yet he remains humble and modest. It would be the greatest honor for Dick to be recognized by his peers. I sincerely hope you will consider this superb farrier and horseman.

#### **Endorsements:**

- “He has shown professionalism since his earliest days. He is a life-long learner, always updating his knowledge. He treats his ‘patients’ and their owners with equal care.”
- “In 35 years of owning and training Standardbred horses, Dick Neville is the best farrier I have seen. After 50 years of helping trainers get the best from their horses, I believe it is past time that he is recognized.”

#### **Steve Norman, Georgetown, Ky.**

Commonly known as “Stormin Norman,” Steve Norman has a reputation of being one of the most respected, professional and devoted horseshoers in the business. He is a perfectionist in his craft and as an educator. He is often asked for his expert opinion and advice, not only by his colleagues but also by horse owners and trainers.

Norman has been a horseshoer for over 30 years. During his illustrious career, he has shod numerous Grades I, II and III stake horses, including three Kentucky Derby winners and many more.

Over the years, Norman has worked for many accomplished trainers, including current and future Racing Hall of Famers.

Norman's publications have appeared in numerous journals. His knowledge of horse racing has helped manufacturers develop several types of racing plates and shoe designs for synthetic, dirt and turf tracks.

His demeanor, work ethic and horsemanship all epitomize the word “professional.” I marvel at his continued contributions to the horse industry. He has been influential in promoting and attaining horse excellence.

#### **David North Sr., San Martin, Calif.**

David North started his shoeing career in 1956, immediately after he left the U.S. Marine Corp. I think he went to school at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo or Porterville, Calif.

In 1962, North passed the test and joined the International Union of Journeyman Horseshoers (IUJH). He was the first person to pass the test in over 7 years. He was the first to pass the test in the San Francisco local on the first try. For the test, he had to: forge two bar shoes, toed and punched; forge one with a blocked heel and sticker; forge a hind shoe with an outside sticker that was punched; and plain shoe a pony, all in 4 hours.

The union testers wanted the shop to remain closed, but they had no choice but to approve Dave North since they could not fault his work.

North has shod horses in the Midwest, New York and all along the East Coast. For many years, he worked in Colorado, shoeing long-footed horses. His passion is on the West Coast. He has worked at just about every race track in California. Living in Monterey Bay, but still shoeing horses in the Morgan Hill area. North's home was a solid wood, unpainted Chinese junk.

North is a man of many talents. He made his 200-pound anvil himself by taking all of the cut-off heels from racing plates and welding them together with the tig welder that he connected to his alternator on his S2 Toyota pickup. Every tricky new tool or invention that other farriers only dreamed about, he had in that truck.

**Endorsements:**

“Dave North Sr. has been an inspiration for years to many. If anyone belongs into a true Horseshoeing Hall of Fame, it's the gentle giant, Dave North.”

**Raymond Oliver, Hawk Point, Mo.**

Raymond Oliver is truly “a farrier you can count on.” He is always helping his clients with emergencies or educating them on different situations. He also writes for the *Central State Horseman Newspaper*. He really knows his stuff and he's great at taking care of his clients. He knows they are first on his priority list.

**Gene Ovnicek, Penrose, Colo.**

Gene Ovnicek is one of the most knowledgeable, dedicated and humble farriers and equine researchers in the field today. The groundbreaking research that Ovnicek has conducted has been the impetus for further research, such as the tremendous contributions from Dr. Ric Redden, Dr. Bob Bowker and Dr. Barbara Page — not to mention countless others.

Ovnicek is the founder of the Equine Digital Support System, which is used for laminitis, navicular and other severe hoof pathologies. Ovnicek's innovative development of shoeing materials and supplies has changed the shape of the farrier industry's methods and materials. Ovnicek and his family are responsible for starting the Equine Lameness Prevention Organization with close to 100 members directed by vets and farriers from the U.S. and abroad. The organization provides continuing education and conducts research. The group is also responsible for hosting natural balance trimming and shoeing certification programs.

**Endorsements:**

- “Although Gene is considered to be a leading farrier and researcher, he is very humble and a gentleman. The search for a better understanding of the equine foot has not always been an easy road. Often subject to criticism, he takes everything in stride with the thought that nothing worthwhile comes easily.”
- “He is the first person in line to greet you with a handshake and a smile, regardless of who you are or whether you share similar views. When young people in the industry look for role models, I believe Gene could be at the top of the list.”

**Rob Palmer, Bryant, Wis.**

To say that this Rob Palmer has changed the lives of my horses is an understatement. I am active in animal rescue. I do not buy horses. I adopt them. I have only one horse that I bought, and that was before I knew anything about it. Most of my horses have had serious hoof issues.

Palmer cares for the entire horse, not just the hooves. Many times, after treating the horses, he will take the time to call or meet with my vet and will wait until we reach him so that if there are medical options needed, we can discuss them.

Here are just a few of the horses he has helped:

Montana — a spotted saddle horse that developed laminitis after founder. His X-rays showed coffin bone rotations of 20 and 25 degrees. That was 10 years ago, and Montana is still with me.

Sheba — a massive Percheron with horrible feet. She could barely stand and was a farrier's nightmare. A horse that was previously sedated for footcare let Palmer handle her feet.

Nellie — an abused quarter horse. I would schedule a whole day for her trimming since she could run for hours when she saw the old farrier's truck pull up. Not so with Palmer. She came willingly and would even stand by him while he worked on the other horses.

In addition to the sometimes-weekly visits to my gang, Palmer is always there for emergencies. He has come on weekends and once even in the middle of the night when a foundered horse broke out of his pen.

**Endorsment:**

“Rob has trimmed my horses for 24 years. He is very kind and takes his time with every horse. He helps out 4-H kids whenever they need something done, even if they don't have money.”

**Daniel Philips, Greensboro, Md.**

Throughout his career of 38 years, Dan Philips has inspired and helped numerous farriers and veterinarians further their careers.

He has battled numerous health issues, but always seems to have a positive attitude. I have known Phillips for many years and in that time, I have never heard him speak an unkind word. He started shoeing in 1968 and has worked in about all of the disciplines from Thoroughbred racehorses to Standardbred racehorses, hunters, jumpers, drafts and backyard pleasure horses.

**Floyd Piazza, Harborcreek, Pa.**

A son of immigrants who came to this country for a better life, Floyd Piazza has been shoeing horses full-time for over 50 years. When his parents could not find a farrier to shoe their work horses, Piazza stepped up to the plate and learned the trade by doing.

He has worked 7 days a week covering all of Pennsylvania's Erie County, as well as parts of New York and Ohio. If he put shoes on your horse, you could be sure they would stay on and that at the next visit, he would remember exactly what your individual horse needed.

He has also done all kinds of therapeutic horseshoeing work, saving many animals that normally could not have been saved. If your horses appeared to have leg, foot or even shoulder problems, you called Piazza. His wealth of knowledge with the individual equine “way of going” was a true gift to his clients.

His prices were always the most reasonable around. If he knew you were having a rough time financially, he would give you a break.

He always made sure to set aside extra time to help when county fairs and horse shows were held by working earlier in the mornings and later in the evenings. He wanted to make sure that folks would be able to show their horses.

Now well into his 70s with health issues, Piazza still shoes on a limited basis. His lifelong hard work, dedication and accomplishments for horses and their owners cannot be surpassed. Here is a man that should be recognized for the amazing impact he has had in the horse world.

### **William Pieh, Burlington, Wis. (Deceased)**

William S. Pieh nailed on his first set of horseshoes when he was 12 years old. He apprenticed under two different horseshoers (Ken Baldwin of Rockton, Ill., and Tom Mazy of Johnstown, Ohio) and worked with several others on a cooperative basis. In 1954, he studied horseshoeing at California State Polytechnic College in San Luis Obispo, Calif. He earned his B.S. Degree in Animal Husbandry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, College of Agriculture in 1964.

Throughout the mid-1960s and early 1970s, Pieh also served as the official horseshoer for the Milwaukee Circus Parade. He launched the Centaur Company in 1960, buying out a faltering business’s inventory and maintaining the horseshoeing supplies in his parents’ garage before moving to Johnson Street in Burlington. As the business grew, he moved into his own building on Spring Street in, storing much of his inventory in large semi-trailers. The business eventually expanded again, with a two-story addition, to house the growing mail order inventory and incorporated to become Centaur Forge, LTD.

Pieh designed a popular 130-pound horseshoers’ anvil, named the Centaur anvil. It was one of the foremost anvils for teaching students because of the many compound curves it had.

Pieh was instrumental in the fruition of forging competitions and blacksmithing demonstrations around North America and attended most of these events, offering both support and equipment to make them successful. He also developed a Centaur line of coal forges, including the popular truck model coal forge.

Pieh was a founding member of the American Farrier’s Association and the Farrier Industry Association, as well as the Upper Midwest Horseshoers Association, the Upper Midwest Blacksmith Association and the Artist Blacksmith Association of North America. He was treasurer of the Upper Midwest Horseshoers Association and the Upper Midwest Blacksmiths Association.

### **Sonny Pistilli, Bethlehem, Pa.**

Born in New Jersey, Sonny Pistilli began working with horses at age 17. His career spans over 50 years. He started his career in 1968. He could not find anyone to shoe his horses to his satisfaction, so he started riding with Seamus Brady. Pistilli just wanted to be able

to shoe his own horses. He ended up staying with Seamus for 4 years. Today, he is one of the most respected farriers in the New Jersey and Pennsylvania areas.

Pistilli became a master farrier and is certified with the AFA and the BWFA as such. He is also a certified BWFA master educator. From hand making shoes to correct a variety of gait problems and lameness concerns, to shoeing the show horse, pacer, trotter, jumper, hunter, and so on, Pistilli has a wealth of knowledge and experience.

His contributions to the industry are many. His school, Far Hills Forge — established in 1978 — has created many good horseshoers; his short sessions get farriers ready for their certifications; and he is always willing to share his knowledge. He has been published several times in *American Farriers Journal* and has donated a week of education at the International Hoof-Care Summit for the raffle.

Pistilli has been a member of the American Farrier's Association since its inception. In the early 1980s, he was the president of the Garden State Farrier's Association. He is a highly recommended teacher and farrier, and has shod horses for celebrities such as Robert Duval and Jackie Kennedy Onassis.

#### **Endorsements:**

“Sonny taught the business of farriery: how to run a business, how to buy supplies, how to communicate with clients, billing, etc. The way Sonny shared his knowledge, both in the shop and the business end of shoeing, couldn't be matched by any college.”

#### **Bob Plant, Walworth, N.Y.**

Over his nearly 30-year shoeing career, Bob Plant worked countless hours to expand his shoeing talents and footcare knowledge. He had the ability to quickly grasp new shoeing concepts and utilize them in his everyday shoeing work. Being innovative, Plant was always in demand for tackling many of the worst therapeutic shoeing cases.

He always promoted his craft to the highest levels, whether it was with a client or through his work with the American Farrier's Association. Both his work and attitude are world class.

Few people have accomplished more than Bob in the area of farrier education. Whether it's on the local level or the national level, he has been a hard worker who has always been more than willing to tackle any assignment.

#### **Patrick Reilly, Kennett Square, Pa.**

Patrick Reilly is the farrier for New Bolton Center's School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to moving to Pennsylvania, Reilly worked as the resident farrier at Rochester Equine Clinic in New Hampshire from 1998 until its closure in 2005, and subsequently served as a consulting farrier for the Tuft's Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine and the Myhre Equine Clinic. Prior to his tenure as a referral farrier at a veterinary clinic, his practice concentrated on shoeing for the performance horse. His family consists of his wife Karen (who is a FEI level dressage rider and judge) and his sons Patrick and Cooper.

In 2006, Reilly joined New Bolton Center as chief of farrier services and director of the Applied Polymer Research Laboratory. The farrier service continues to explore new materials and techniques for the advancement of hoof care, with studies under way to include the development of a protocol for in-shoe force measurement as a means of

quantifying the effect of different shoes on the hoof. In addition, computer analysis of the hoof will assist in the accumulation of data which will lead to a better understanding of deformation of the equine hoof as seen in underrun heels and hoof capsule distortion.

### **David Richison, Carson City, Nevada**

Dave Richison is a longtime horseshoer and was a licensed plater on the California tracks for many years. He shod many top Thoroughbred horses and Secretariat when he raced on the West Coast.

After moving to Carson City, Nev., in the early 1980s, he has continued to shoe. He and his wife Sharon own and operate Washoe Valley Farrier Supply. They have been instrumental in organizing and promoting educational clinics for the Northern Nevada Farrier's Association. He was president of the Western States Farrier Association and helped form the Nevada Professional Farriers Association.

### **Endorsement:**

“Dave has done it all in the farrier industry. He was a successful horseshoer in southern California, then went to the racetrack and shod many winning horses and worked for many of the top trainers in the world.”

### **Jeff Ridley, Leighton, Iowa**

Jeff Ridley attended Oklahoma Horseshoeing School and then apprenticed with a respected Certified Journeyman Farrier when he began his horseshoeing career. In 1996, he obtained his own Certified Journeyman Farrier status with the American Farrier's Association (AFA) and in 2003, he successfully met the requirements of the AFA's therapeutic endorsement program. He also served as a tester for the AFA's certification program.

Ridley has always had a special interest in long-footed horses and soon became known as one of the best in this discipline in the Midwestern United States. He is a sought-after and popular clinician at farrier seminars across the country.

Ridley served as President of the Iowa Professional Farrier's Association from 2004 to 2006. During his tenure as President of the IPFA, he also served on the American Farrier's Association Executive Committee as a board of director's representative.

Around the same time, he became involved in the AAEP Vet Farrier Student Short Course program. In 2010, Ridley updated and improved the farrier side of the AAEP short. Recently, he made his first trip on an AAEP Equitarian project, which is designed to treat horses and train farriers in third world countries.

Ridley initiated the American Association of Professional Farriers and organized the Hoofcare Essentials Clinics to give back to the industry, provide continuing education opportunities for farriers and help support the local vendor. In order to utilize the expertise of the board of directors, the clinics were held in conjunction with a scheduled AAPF board meeting at a vendor location. Ridley was one of an “all-star” lineup facilitating and providing a free clinic to those in attendance. Ridley now holds the AAPF office of immediate past president.

### **David Russell, Flemington, N.J.**

David Russell is one of the top farriers in the northeast. Russell has had a very successful farrier business since the early '70s. He has won the North American Challenge Cup and served on the USA Farrier's team with the likes of Bruce Daniels, Bob Pethick and other Hall of Fame shoers. Russell competed until the late '90s. Now at the age of 64, he still shoes full-time as he contemplates when to retire and pursue other endeavors.

### **Ted Shanks, Lihue, Hawaii**

Ted Shanks is a longtime veteran farrier from Tennessee. He has lived and shod horses in the islands for many years and worked very hard to improve the farrier business there.

There have been many workshops and seminars due to his great interest in farriery. Anyone that is (and should be) interested in the behavior part of horsemanship should attend one of his seminars. He has helped many people in this industry with his presentation of "The Willing Participant."

Shanks is an outstanding blacksmith and tool maker, a friend to all and a good Christian man. He goes out of his way to help others. He has attended all of the AFA conventions since 1984 and is eager to get to more.

### **Endorsement:**

"Ted Shanks is a perfect example of what belongs in the International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame. He has an enormous love and passion for the farrier industry and its people. He has always been helpful and encouraging to young farriers, and even us older ones. Ted deserves the honor of the International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame."

### **Daniel Sherwood, Brookfield, Vt.**

Daniel Sherwood is a no-nonsense, straightforward and honest person. He works for the good of the horse. He is always open to learning and considering something new, but it has to make sense to him. He does not get sucked into hoof-care fads.

Sherwood's horsemanship skills are admirable. Horses quickly pick up that he is honest and fair. If a horse needs correcting, the correction always matches the offense; it's never over-exaggerated or soft and unclear. Horses mind him out of respect and trust, not fear.

Horses that were previously unsound because of various foot problems have become sound under Sherwood's care. Dan is prompt, courteous and meticulous. He exercises extreme care in trimming and setting the shoes, whether for an old retired pony or a high-performance horse. He exemplifies the best in quality work and service.

### **Endorsements:**

- "We have never seen this man out of sorts or short-tempered. His demeanor is always uplifting."
- "His rhythm of working around horses makes him a pleasure to observe. He commands attention and respect from horses, but never uses more pressure than is needed to get the job done. He is never in a hurry, and he spends a good deal of time shoeing each horse. He is excellent at working with young horses, as well."
- "Dan is not only very knowledgeable in his way of shoeing horses, but is also very talented with the forge. He excels in everything he pursues. He is a man we respect and admire; he has worked hard for many years and deserves all the credit

he can get. In our eyes, Dan is as good as they get. It's rare in these days of transient times to have the privilege of using the same farrier for so many years."

### **Vern Smith, Bend, Ore.**

Vernon Smith was known on the West Coast for his gaited horseshoeing, although he shod horses of all disciplines. As Reuel Darling says, "He was very hard to follow." Smith was the farrier for the National Horse Show at the Cow Palace in San Francisco. Gene Armstrong used to take his farrier classes from Cal Poly there every year to see Smith in his environment. He had to be versatile and still be able to shoe a very diversified set of horses.

Vern always made time for the students and was quite gracious in sharing his skills. A real gentleman, he exemplifies the person that should be in the Hall of Fame: a person who worked hard at his craft and achieved a great degree of success within his profession, but always maintained a real sense of humanity and generosity of spirit.

### **Duke Snyder, Wyoming, Iowa**

Duke Snyder has the eye for how the tiniest details affect how an animal travels. Younger farriers may have better backs — but it's the journeymen like Snyder who have the eyes that only years of shoeing can give you.

Snyder has always shown exceptional knowledge of horse anatomy and health. Besides doing a great job, being a good man and representative, he always shows concern for the horse and its care. He seems to consider his horse friends as his own.

### **Endorsements:**

- "Duke has done much for the horse and farrier industry. I also refer him to anyone looking for a farrier. They would get their money's worth with Duke. He is honest, fair and personable. He gives the association a good name. I don't feel he wants or cares about awards, he just seems to be concerned about the horses' and clients' welfare and keeping them healthy. I count on him!"
- "I have a horse with laminitis and abscesses that can be quite a challenge. Duke has always been more than willing to arrange his schedule to accommodate me and my horses' needs. He always seems to know instinctively the right shoe or the corrective treatment."
- "Duke has been doing excellent farrier work for us for more than 30 years. He takes care of the horses' hooves and helps the humans to find better ways to safely work with the horses. He is also a kind and caring person, willing to share his vast knowledge to help others with their horses."

### **Ralph Snyder, Vero Beach, Fla.**

After receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in animal science from Oregon State University, the quiet-spoken, ex-Marine lieutenant Ralph Snyder spent 2 years as an apprentice to an Oregon smithy before settling in the East. At first, he worked primarily with Standardbred racehorses, but as word of his success spread, he was called upon to work for the U.S. Olympic team and top dressage competitors.

The turning point in his career — and the catalyst that helped fashion this highly competent horseshoer into a recognized master farrier — was his association with the



legendary Jack Anderson. Snyder spent 6 years studying with and assisting Anderson. Sometime during that period, Anderson put “the magic” in Snyder’s eyes.

Some of Snyder’s accomplishments include: learning how to lace quarter cracks (he did more than 50 during his career); developing and marketing Luma Shoe (the first wide web shoe on the market); lecturing on using aluminum in the forge at Michigan State University, as well as lecturing on balance to Pennsylvania and New Jersey vet associations; making leg braces for lame horse; teaching four successful farriers; shoeing horses for the England, Germany, U.S. and Italy Olympic teams; and writing and publishing *Emergency Horseshoeing*.

**Endorsement:**

“Ralph Snyder was consulted by some of the top horse owners in the country, and traveled throughout the country diagnosing elusive problems that prevented valuable racehorses and show stock from realizing their potential. His ability to diagnose unusual horseshoeing problems is nationally renowned.”

**Matt Spinelli, Okeechobee, Fla.**

Matt Spinelli started shoeing horses at age 13. He shod all types of horses over many years. He makes Damascus steel tools and knives — some of the most ornate items I’ve ever seen. The dexterity and speed he exhibits is beyond belief.

I’ve known Spinelli since 1970. At this time, he was moving to Florida and gave me a lot of his work. He helped me a lot.

His work has always been impeccable. Other farriers who know Matt agree he should be in the International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame. Why? He has done all this with the loss of his right hand — now that is talent and determination.

**Terry Stever, Sulphur, Okla.**

Terry Stever has been professionally shoeing horses for more than 45 years. He has dedicated over 35 years shoeing at the All American Quarter Horse Congress in Columbus, Ohio. During his time at the Congress, Stever has been invited to speak several times and perform hands-on shoeing seminars.

Stever has shod countless AQHA World Champions, and at the AQHA World Championship horse show. He was also the official show horseshoer for the Denver National Western and Pre-Denver Quarter Horse shows for over 10 years. He has served many trainers who show at the highest level.

Stever has dedicated his working life to the betterment of the horses he shoes. He has also generously mentored many students from Kentucky Horseshoeing School, giving students one-on-one tutoring.

Some of Stever’s career highlights include his graduation from the North Texas Horseshoeing Institute and being certified in “Diseases of the Horse’s Foot” by Charles Raker. Stever also served on the Connecticut Horseshoers Association board of directors from 1974 to 1981 and was an honored speaker at Cornell University for conferences in 1978, 1979 and 1980.

In 1997, Terry was part of the Southern Farriers Association Clinic, where he demonstrated and spoke about “Shoeing the Reining Horse.” Over the years, he has also

been a clinician for Anvil Brand Farrier Supply and Oklahoma Farrier Association clinics.

### **Morris Stewart, Lancaster, Ill. (Deceased)**

Morris Stewart was a farrier from 1935 to 1966. During the day, he shod horses for perennial leading trainer Everett Hammond and several others at Fairmont Park and Cahokia Downs near East St. Louis, Mo.

Ahead of his time, Stewart put serious emphasis on daily and weekly care of each animal's hooves and legs. He was asked by the racetrack to check each animal's right hoof before each race in the evening or afternoon, which he did for years, to assure that they were not suffering from any malady prior to racing that night. He would, though not often, pull a horse out of competition that he felt was not sound.

He was a registered horseshoer in the state of Illinois for several decades and was a proud member of the International Union of Journeymen Horseshoers of the United States and Canada for many years. He was a humble man who never sought praise or attention, though he certainly deserves accolades for mentoring other farriers and trainers in better hoof-care maintenance and preventing disease and injury.

He mentored several young farriers both in east St. Louis and southern Illinois over the years. He was always patient with his time and expertise, quick to praise and slow to criticize. He never charged a young prospect for his time, no matter the length.

### **Tom Stovall, Katy, Texas**

I have known Tom Stovall for close to 30 years and throughout that time he has been a constant mentor and colleague. He has been one of my "go-to guys" for any speed horse related problems. His sensible pragmatic approach to keep horses, more specifically — speed horses, in work and winning has been a life-long undertaking.

He has left a significant mark in the horse industry though out his life. Being raised in the South Texas brush country, growing up using horses to make a living ranching and rodeoing developed his "no-nonsense approach" to keeping horses sound and working. Stovall has been a pioneer in the development of educational platforms. He helped form the Texas Professional Farriers Association from its original Gulf Coast Horseshoers Association into one of the premier state farrier Associations in existence.

He was a pivotal component in the original AAEP "Wet Lab" at Texas A&M University School of Veterinary Medicine. To put it plainly, he paved the way for competent vet/ farrier relationships by going to the root and educating young vets coming out of prestigious schools.

He traveled extensively, shoeing race horses and barrel horses for some of the top trainers and competitors in the nation for years. During these travels he developed a product that was, and still is, the best sole toughener on the market today: Durasole.

Tom wasn't only a great Farrier, educator, and innovator. He was also a husband, father and friend.

### **Stewart Strauss, Woodbourne, N.Y.**

Stewart Strauss is a master farrier who has been working on the craft for over 50 years. His formal training started in 1965 at the shoeing school in Porterville, Calif. after he served in the Army and was working for UPS. He studied with Hank McEwan and then

went on to take the first advanced course that was offered by Arizona State in Tempe, Ariz., in 1968 with Don Canfield.

He has had about a dozen apprentices and loves to pass on the knowledge he has acquired. He is always building on his skills and trying new things even after all these years, whether it has to do with reworking steel or building a foot back using acrylics. He will work at something until he masters it.

He even started working with copper about 20 years ago because it has so many incredible properties. He has used copper in many different applications and has helped comfort many horses. He works bar steel, draw clips and rework shoes and pays such close attention to every foot.

It didn't and doesn't matter if it is a mini or a draft, a pet or competitive show horse, he still takes care and pride in his work, with each and every foot. He has worked on cases that nobody else wanted.

Although his name may not be out on the big circuits, it is a name well known amongst the many horse owners and trainers that he has helped. He remains a master farrier, always working on his craft and sharing his knowledge when he can.

### **Danny Terry, Pilot Point, Texas**

Danny Terry has been shoeing horses for over 50 years, and for most of those years at the highest level. He has specialized in the AQHA Western Pleasure horse and has been one of the premier farriers at the World Show as well as the Congress for many years. Terry has probably shod more Western Pleasure World Champions and Congress Champions than anyone ever will.

Terry has influenced and taught many young farriers over the years. His help has benefited many other young farriers across the country. He has always been willing to share his many years of knowledge, always giving back to the trade that he says gave him so much. He was also a rodeo cowboy for much of his life, riding bulls professionally for many years.

### **Endorsement:**

“I can honestly say he has taught me the ins and outs of shoeing the Western Pleasure horse, bringing my knowledge and technique to a new level. His help put me in a whole new league. I'm fortunate enough to work on some of the best Pleasure horses in Texas and the country, with much thanks to Danny.”

### **Shane Togami, Solvang, Calif.**

For over 37 years, Shane Togami has been working to serve the equine industry with new and innovative solutions to shoeing and hoof care. Togami uses the highest degree of excellence attainable, along with the most advanced technology available, the highest degree of integrity possible and the greatest amount of creativity imaginable.

Togami opened the California Equine Podiatry Center, located in central California, where he combines his experience with therapeutic shoeing and Grand Prix and Olympic sport horses to bring the most up-to-date solutions for today's equine athlete. He continues to broaden his knowledge in an effort to fulfill his passion for helping horses excel on their feet as best he can.

Togami continues to research, attend conferences and work alongside some of the top professionals in the industry, both in the United States and abroad. His dedication and passion for helping horses fuel his desire to continue to learn from some of the best equine podiatrists and veterinarians around. He has worked with Burnie Chapman, Dr. Christopher Pollitt, Dr. Ric Reddin, Rob Sigafos, Rob Spencer, Dr. Raul Bras, Bob Pethick, Dr. Frank Reilly and many more on a variety of complex lameness issues.

There are many clients past and present that would agree that Shane Togami has made and continues to make a positive and instrumental impact in the hoof care world with his expertise in both lameness issues and shoeing high level sport horses. He has helped hundreds of horses and is still going strong.

**Endorsement:**

- “Shane Togami saved my horse from developing founder and possibly losing his life.”
- “He is a truly humble farrier that not only helps the horses but also helps his fellow farriers in many ways.”

**Scott Tomlinson (Deceased)**

Scott Tomlinson was born in the Amish country of Lancaster, Pa. At the age of 16, he apprenticed for a 3-year stint with Bob Charles, a teacher at the New Bolton Center in Pennsylvania. Not content to teach just how to put ready-made shoes onto local horses, Charles insisted that Tomlinson learn how to make his own tools and shoes from bar stock. The anatomy of the foot was most important in his early training.

Tomlinson developed into a true farrier and his reputation grew with him. He was approached by E. P. Taylor of Winfield Farms, Canada, and was brought to Canada as the lead farrier for the farm. He continued his education of the horse and its foot while working closely with the farm veterinarian. During his time at Winfield, he was asked to make a farrier training film for the University of Guelph veterinary college in Ontario.

In 1983, he participated in the live horseshoeing contest at the Calgary Stampede and at the early age of 28, he was crowned “World Champion” over farriers from 11 countries. His reputation continued to grow and he concentrated on teaching other young people the art of corrective shoeing. His reputation was such that he was sought out by large farms that had horses with corrective problems. Several times he was flown down to Ocala, Fla., just to take care of an expensive horse with a foot problem. His travels also included assignments in the Caribbean to work on a difficult problem.

He returned to the States when his young daughters became of high school age. He located his family in Lexington, Ky. During his time in Lexington, he developed the D-100 anvil, which is still being sought by farrier museums.

**Harry Trosin, Tishomingo, Okla.**

Harry Trosin graduated as part the second class of the Oklahoma Farriers College (OFC) in 1965. He returned to OFC on three separate occasions in order to be an instructor there. He shod throughout Oklahoma, mainly running Quarter Horses and rodeo horses until a trainer convinced him to move to Ruidoso, N.M., and take a chance at building a business there. The first meet wasn't a success. He ate every 3 days if he had money, but shod as many horses as people would let him. Towards the end of the meet, he acquired a

few barns, but again he would have to move to Texas to maintain the accounts — so he did. Over the next 5 years in Texas, Trosin developed a good business shoeing for some of the region's largest training barns, including H.C. Werner Jr., Bill Leach and Hugh Tucker.

Trosin also met farriers who convinced him that he had the wherewithal to pass the Union test in California and that he could make a better living and have a better quality of life if he did. Trosin once again pulled up stakes and moved to accept a new challenge. Eventually he became licensed to shoe at the California tracks, where he would continue to shoe until he retired in 2006.

Over the span of his career, Trosin shod countless Stakes winners, no less than three World Champion Racing American Quarter Horses through their respective World Championship Campaigns and an additional two World Champions for a portion of their respective campaigns. He also shod 33 divisional champions beginning in 1975 with Elan Again and ending in 1999 with Hateful Hanna.

### **Conrad Trow, Goshen, Ky.**

A native of Durban, South Africa, Conrad attended Kentucky Horseshoeing School in 1996 and returned home to Durban to start his farrier practice. After some years at home, Conrad returned to the KHS in 1999 to apprentice under Mitch Taylor. Conrad has since established himself among the best of the best in horseshoeing in the United States.

Along with his successful private farrier business, Conrad has been a member of the American Farrier's Association National Horseshoeing Team, where he has won gold both nationally and internationally in horseshoeing competitions. Trow was also a member of the 2007 American Farrier's Association 4-man World Draft Horse Team which won at the Calgary Stampede in Canada. In addition, he was part of the 2-Man Draft Horse Championship team which won at the AFA Convention in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006. He also holds a diploma with The Worshipful Company of Farriers.

### **Helmer Undeberg, Elgin, Minn.**

Helmer Undeberg was one of the top farriers in the country until he retired in 1987. Undeberg enjoyed over 40 years of shoeing and racing. He also created all his own remedies, methods, even his equipment – from scratch. He traveled the country shoeing top Arabians and harness horses and was a self-made expert on the mechanics of the hoof, leg and gait.

He taught some of the early shoeing courses in American colleges, including the University of Minnesota, the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and the State University College of Cobleskill in New York. He attended a meeting in Jackson, Miss., which resulted in the creation of the American Farrier's Association.

When the AFA began its farrier exchange program, Undeberg hosted farriers from England and Scotland. He also shared techniques with farriers from Germany, Russia and Italy at AFA meetings.

Undeberg was no single-breed shoer. What made him so popular and sought after was his ability to shoe almost any breed or type of horse and improve its gait. He also studied how the hoof and leg impact everything in the horse's body from circulation to digestion.

Long before animal science programs offered courses in equine anatomy, Undeberg was riding along with vets, studying horse cadavers and asking questions.

**Endorsements:**

- “Undeberg is a top shoer, but he’s also a top-notch horseman. He understands the whole horse. Undeberg focused on humane methods.”
- “He had the character to go along with his craftsmanship. He was known for his standards as much as for his shoeing skills.”

**Bob Urich, Des Moines, Iowa**

Bob Urich has been shoeing for more than 30 years and always has plenty of valuable guidance and advice to offer young farriers. He belongs to several farrier organizations and has presented many farrier clinics. Anyone who can shoe for more than 30 years, still remain positive and continue to influence younger shoers deserves to be recognized.

**Russ Vanderlei, Northwoods, Ill.**

While I have learned a lot of things from other members of the Farrier Hall of Fame, I learned the most important things from Russ Vanderlei. I learned what undying compassion is. I learned what it truly means to help a fallen brother

When I was hospitalized a few years back with what the doctors believed was bronchitis and I had a week coming up that covered over 600 miles, 5 days and 34 horses. Vanderlei hopped on a plane and came down to help me.

Two weeks later, I was diagnosed with spinal meningitis; to make matters worse, the infection was not human — it was equine. I was literally battling for my life. Of the 14 people that have ever been recorded to have had this, the majority died of massive heart attacks. Vanderlei called me every day (at least once) and 2 weeks after that first trip, returned to do more shoeing.

I lost count of how many multi-state trips that Vanderlei made. He also has a large, active practice of his own. He’d double up the workload at home so he could make the trips here. He has a terrible pair of knees that need to be replaced; yet, he never once complained or wavered.

When I finally was able to do a little work, he came down and literally held my hand while I struggled with my rehab back into practice.

Vanderlei taught me that it may not seem like a big deal, but picking up the phone and asking someone how they are doing only means something if you are prepared and willing to step up to the plate and lend a hand, no matter what it means to your own schedule. I am afraid I never truly understood any of that until now.

**Joseph Vanzego, Clarksburg, Md.**

Learning to shoe horses in the U.S. Army in 1942, Joseph Vanzego has spent a lifetime working with equine feet. Referring to himself as one of the last of the “Buffalo Soldiers,” he was still shoeing horses at the age of 82.

**Kurt vom Orde, Chapel Hill, N.C.**

Kurt vom Orde was a 1972 graduate of Danny Ward’s Horseshoeing School in Martinsville, Va. After graduating, he practiced with logging, draft and Standardbred racing horses in Maine and Saddlebred and other gaited and show horses in southern

California before opening a shoeing practice in the mid-1990s in central North Carolina, primarily shoeing event, show jumping and dressage horses.

Since 2002, he has worked at least 3 days per week in a podiatry practice in Chapel Hill and at North Carolina State's College of Veterinary Medicine. Besides doing meticulous routine shoeing of adult performance horses, he is very capable of dealing with and helping to create mechanical treatments for various cases of foot conformation problems, such as foal issues, long toe/low heels, cracks and separations, medial/lateral imbalances and laminitis. Vom Orde has been instrumental in the return to and maintenance of soundness in countless horses.

He has participated in data collection of case material and helped co-author some papers, lectures and chapters in *Equine Podiatry*. He taught 5 years' worth of equine-oriented veterinary students at NC State University's college of veterinary medicine, as well as clinical faculty and house officers.

He has been a long-time member of the North Carolina Horseshoer's Association.

#### **Endorsements:**

- “Kurt was one of the most liked, trusted and respected employees at NCSU. His patience with teaching and explaining what he was doing at any time was second to none — numerous veterinary students and clinicians benefited from spending time observing Kurt as he worked, or from sitting down with him to look over foot radiographs and ponder management of a case.”
- “Kurt has the full respect and admiration of a large group of specialist equine veterinarians in academia.”

#### **Roy E. Wagoner, Idaho Falls, Idaho**

Roy Wagoner's horseshoeing career covers nearly 80 years, from his start as a boy holding horses for the blacksmith as he put shoes on his dad's horses, to his care for horses in the Army, to his own horses as a farmer and rancher, and to the race track as a professional farrier for over 40 years.

After high school, Wagoner joined the Army. He was assigned to the 76th Horse Drawn Artillery. They pulled the French 75-millimeter guns. Wagoner often had his team harnessed and hooped first, and was seldom beaten.

In the early '60s, he began shoeing, learning what he could from other farriers and blacksmiths. As the years went on, he became the go-to guy for foot problems. He competed in several shoeing competitions, winning several “Eagle Eye” competitions.

He served as the director of the Idaho Falls Junior Posse, a youth group supporting kids and their horsemanship skill. He donated his time for 10 years serving as the kids' advisor, horse doctor, farrier and chaperone.

He has owned several racehorses and chariot teams. He kept his flat track horses on their feet, as well as his chariot team, which he also drove.

In the late '70s, he discovered the American Farrier's Association and became a member. In the early '80s he became a certified farrier.

In the '90s Wagoner was nominated and voted into the Anvil 21 club.

Wagoner volunteered his time and team for 30 years of the annual Shiners Charity Chariot Race in Jackson, Wyo., with all funds collected going to the Children's Hospital.

Even though he no longer shoes, he remains very interested in the trade. He has attended almost every annual convention and claims to learn more every year.

### **Edward Warrington, Townsend, Del.**

Edward Warrington shod his first horse at the age of 17 and began his professional horseshoeing career in 1957. He is very well known in the harness racing industry and has shod for Hall of Fame trainers such as Stanley Dancer, Billy Haughton and Harry Harvey. He is not, however, limited to Standardbred race horses and has over the decades developed clientele in all aspects of the horse world.

In 1970, Warrington opened a farrier school in Townsend, Del., at a time when there were very few such schools. His shoeing school eventually closed in 1985. In that 15-year span, he taught hundreds of farriers. His was perhaps one of the first schools to include equine veterinary practitioners on his instructional staff, such as William Wright and William Moyer.

In 1991, Warrington was chosen as the official U.S. equestrian team farrier for the World Pairs horse driving championship in Austria. This included preparing the team for selection, through training in Germany and during the competition.

Warrington has over 50 years of shoeing experience.

### **Endorsements:**

- “He is a consummate horseman, devoted family man, a devoted Christian and a consistent and wonderful example of those few, rare individuals ‘who give back.’”
- “Ed and I gave some of the very first joint (veterinarian and farrier) presentations at national meetings that I am aware of, such as the annual American Association of Equine Practitioners convention (AAEP). I cannot begin to relate the number of times I have sought his advice.”
- “His approach to any horse is thorough, thoughtful and based on how they move and how they are made. He was one of the very first that I encountered that utilized as well as defined/described the term ‘foot balance.’”

### **Michael Weaver, Killingworth, Conn.**

Michael Weaver was born in Middletown, Conn., on June 11, 1952. After a very successful high school athletic and academic curriculum, he enrolled in Southern Connecticut State University as a physical education major in 1970.

Weaver began his shoeing career with Edward Strain in his first year of college and continued to excel in the industry. Weaver began a full-time career in horseshoeing and desired the knowledge of all breed-shoeing techniques to further his personal strengths. George Fitzgerald was the leader in the industry on the East Coast. Weaver began an apprenticeship with him with Strain’s encouragement.

Weaver and Strain’s work ethic and partnership demonstrated their expertise as the officiating blacksmiths for the National Horse Show at Madison Square Gardens and then the Meadowlands for over 20 years. After mastering all breeds and the specialization requirements of the modern industry, Weaver and Strain began their masters’ career as hunter/jumper, equitation and dressage farriers with Grand Prix level horses. This participation brought Weaver to an international level of expertise requiring travel and



continuous industry education. Weaver found enjoyment in the horse and the exhibitor, developing a relationship between the horse, rider, farrier, trainer and veterinarian that could not be duplicated for success.

Weaver was one of the founders of the Connecticut Horseshoers Association and educated many shoers. He was also influential in initiating the Cornell University horseshoeing seminar series, which continues today.

**Endorsement:**

“Mike was always enthusiastic about helping other fledgling shoers, no matter who they were or where they came from. He never said no when someone needed his help or advice.”

**William Wedekind, Hagerstown, Ind. (Deceased)**

Located in east central Indiana lies the small town of Hagerstown, the home of William Jennings Wedekind, a farrier who was given the title of “The World's Greatest Horseshoer” by the judges at the 1892 Chicago World's Fair for his impressive exhibit of horseshoes and horseshoeing tools.

At the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago, the display consisted of about 350 pieces, approximately 250 of which at that time were samples of the latest improved methods of shoeing, counterbalancing, and gaiting horses.

At the award ceremonies, Wedekind swept all of the prizes in his division. He won for the best workmanship, for the largest quantity of items displayed, for the latest cuts in shoes for gaiting horses and for the latest cuts in tools: keeping rivets tight in tongs, using tribble gearing in nippers, and inlaying felt into handles for absorbing moisture.

The judges also gave a special award, a scroll that said: "To Mr. William Wedekind of Hagerstown, Indiana, for his exhibit of horseshoes and horseshoe tools, we give an award for peculiar genius and advancement shown by an adaptation of tools which results in a product of superior excellence and adaptability to purposes required and which displays merit in both workmanship and finish."

The display case and its contents took Wedekind 2.5 years to complete. Its estimated value at the time of completion was \$20,000. At the close of the World’s Fair, Wedekind declined an offer of \$100,000 for his exhibit. He turned down numerous job offers to return home and serve the small community that he loved.

Due to his talent and ability, his services were soon sought after nationwide. Horses were brought to him for shoeing, and he also traveled extensively, shoeing some of the best horses in the country.

**Tom Willoughby, Crown Point, Ind.**

Over his nearly 40 years as a farrier, Tom Willoughby has displayed fairness to his customers, care for their horses’ well-being, professionalism with peers, and he has contributed to the trade by teaching and helping many young farriers in their careers.

Willoughby’s incredible knowledge of horses, their feet and the mechanics of their movement is imparted to his apprentices with an honest and humble manner, making him an amazing teacher. He is always willing to share his knowledge with apprentices, peers and horse owners in order to collaborate and positively impact the horse community.

His wisdom, humility, honesty and trustworthiness regarding horse care are

unmatched. His reputation precedes him among farriers and blacksmiths. His clients have the utmost respect and appreciation for his honesty and deep knowledge of horse health.

**Endorsements:**

- “There really isn’t anyone else I trust with my horses! He is always willing to come trim and shoe my three Quarter Horses, even when I decide to go to a show at the last minute. Their hooves always look fantastic.”
- “Tom has been many things to me over the years: teacher, mentor, co-worker and friend. Without Tom in my life, I would have never become a farrier. Tom is a man of integrity and commitment to this industry.”
- Tom is a hard-working, honest man of great character. He has always kept my show horses sound and moving their best. We have had multiple top 10 Quarter Horse Congress winners/state high point hunters under saddle, all-around horses over the years.

**Ken Wurst, Homerville, Ohio**

Ken Wurst was a farrier for 40 years. He learned the trade at Smokie Ward’s Horseshoeing School. He became a CJF and went on to make the U.S. Shoeing Team as a participant and an alternate in the early ’80s. While Wurst was competing, he placed first in many of the classes. He is a member of the MEFA in Ohio where he helped at hammer-ins. Wurst has judged many shoeing competitions, including the Calgary Stampede.

Because of his years of experience in shoeing and his knowledge of horse physiology, Wurst often serves as a consultant to area veterinarians in matters involving lameness in horses and hoof-related problems. In his travels around the country, Wurst has shod countless horses, including World Champion Saddlebreds, Morgans and Arabians.

Wurst also does his part to promote farriery by speaking and giving demonstrations at horse clubs, elementary schools and high school “Career Days.”

In addition to the professionalism and high quality of workmanship that Ken brings to horseshoeing, he places a high degree of importance on his work ethic. He has built his reputation on being reliable and staying until the job was finished right.

**Endorsements:**

- “When Ken shoes horses, he is able to easily identify what is best for each individual and the particular discipline the owner wants to pursue. This is why many of his clients have stayed with him for 30 years and longer.”
- “After a career of over 40 years as a farrier, Ken is now retired, but has left a legacy of professionalism in the world of horseshoeing. The quality of his work set high standards that others should strive to follow.”
- “Although he enjoyed being up front as a speaker, Ken was always ready to learn and expand his knowledge from others working in the farrier world.”