

# 1990's Distinguished Service Awardees

## **Jack Laurie, Cass City**

### *Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1991*

As a leader in agriculture and president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, he has developed a rare ability to recognize policy challenges and then bring together diverse interests and viewpoints to find solutions. His talent for concisely analyzing the interrelationship of agricultural, environmental, social and educational issues has brought him national recognition. He has been a true advocate for the enhancement of human and natural resources in rural Michigan.

## **Tom Reed, East Lansing**

### *Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1991*

As CEO and general manager of the Michigan Livestock Exchange, he distinguishes himself by innovative and insightful leadership that accrues national and international benefit. One of Michigan's top agricultural leaders, his career is characterized by dedicated enthusiasm for agriculture. His public service, as chair of the MSU Board of Trustees, is guided by ardent support for higher education through the land grant philosophy.

## **Marion Van Slooten, West Olive**

### *Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1991*

His zest as an ardent civic and humanitarian leader is eclipsed only by his ability and dedication to Michigan's nursery industry through innovation and support of research in horticulture forestry. His interest in human, plant and animal life has brought him worldwide recognition as a conservationist who seeks to inculcate a responsible stewardship for earth's resources in all who are tangent to and benefit from the agricultural lands.

## **Robert D. DeBruyn, Zeeland**

### *Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1992*

His peers agree that his enthusiasm and positive leadership in the fruit and vegetable industry has made an indelible mark that will be a benchmark for future decades. He has been an effective agricultural leader and spokesperson at the national and state levels, a mentor for the Michigan Vegetable Council, an innovative farmer, model employer, and a strong supporter of MSU's agricultural research and Extension Services.

## **Barbara M. Radewald, Niles**

### *Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1992*

Her long, ardent leadership in Michigan agriculture from the family farm to improved state and federal legislation is a hallmark for others. Her enthusiasm for advancement includes consistent support for American Agri Women, Michigan 4-H youth, MSU's agricultural research and Extension programs, the Michigan Vegetable Council and the Women for Survival of Agriculture.

**Richard G. Krafft Jr., Frankenmuth**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1992***

As president, general manager and treasurer of the Star of the West Milling Company, he brings to focus abilities and service that undergird a remarkable leadership for industry, education, research and legislation that enables vigor in all of Michigan agriculture. His dedication has brought advancement to his civic and business community and MSU's agricultural research and Extension education programs.

**Homer R. Hilner, Okemos**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1993***

Michigan state conservationist for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service since 1981, he has earned wide recognition for distinguished leadership in developing effective cooperation with numerous federal, state and local agencies. His efforts have conserved Michigan's land and water resources for agriculture and our citizens. His close ties with MSU's agricultural research and Extension education programs have been effective in developing a more sustainable agriculture for Michigan.

**Donald Keinath, Caro**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1993***

A diligent steward of his agricultural lands and a successful business person, he is a dedicated leader for Michigan's crop seed, sugar beet and dry edible bean production and marketing. His ability has taken him to national and state levels to promote effective policy for a sustainable agricultural industry. He is admired for his community, youth and church service and his continuing support of Michigan agricultural research and Extension education.

**Delton Parks, Grand Rapids**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1993***

Under his leadership, Country Fresh became one of the largest dairy foods operations in the United States. His food industry expertise has earned him peer recognition throughout the nation and Canada. Among his many duties, he chairs the G. Malcolm Trout Council, the International Dairy Foods Association and the Milk Industry Foundation for 1992-93, while supporting MSU and the dairy food industry with vision, drive and honor.

**Arnold Hentschl, Harbor Beach**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1994***

His dedication and service to Michigan's animal agriculture are regarded by many as unequalled in the livestock and dairy industry. Known for his cogent insight and leadership within his profession at the state and national level and for his support of MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine and Department of Animal Science. He has also distinguished himself admirably in community outreach.

**William W. Austin, Hartford**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1994***

The president of Dowd Orchards, Inc., and director of Shafer Lake Fruit, Inc., he has demonstrated outstanding leadership within Michigan's fruit industry and made significant contributions to his community. His interest in and support of MSU research and Extension education earned him peer recognition as one of the most competent practicing pomologists in Michigan horticulture.

**Harry A. Foster, Okemos**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1994***

He has proven himself one of the most competent and important persons between the farm gate and the retail counter in Michigan's fruit and vegetable industry and has garnered state and national recognition. A leader in the creation of marketing organizations and systems, he is also a stalwart in civic service and in support of MSU's agricultural research and Extension education.

**Burton D. Cardwell, East Lansing**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1995***

Highly regarded for his selfless service to the people of Michigan through his work at the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Dr. Cardwell has won the confidence of his colleagues within state and national government and from MSU's agricultural research and Extension education programs, and is considered one of Michigan's most effective advocates for agriculture and agribusiness.

**Thomas Guthrie, Delton**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1995***

Acknowledged as a competent, environmentally oriented farmer, his leadership has forged collaboration at the local, state and national levels to solve critical issues facing agriculture. He is the co-founder of the Michigan Agricultural Stewardship Association and is active in Michigan Farm Bureau and other agricultural organizations. His dedication to youth, MSU agricultural research and Extension education helps foster a sustainable agriculture.

**John M. Robertson, East Lansing**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1995***

His astute leadership of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division is characterized by his peers as being composed of farsightedness, creative problem solving and coalition building to manage and enhance Michigan's fishery, wildlife and wetland resources for all citizens. He is an effective link between MSU researchers, Extension educators and those benefitting from Michigan's Great Lakes resources.

**Donald J. Fedewa, East Lansing**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1996***

The state statistician for the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistical Service for 18-1/2 years, he has earned recognition throughout Michigan's natural resources and production agriculture for his guidance of one of the most accurate, comprehensive and innovative agricultural statistical database information collections systems in the United States. He is respected for his work in all facets of Michigan agriculture, for his ability to foster interagency cooperation and for his extensive collaboration in MSU research and education programs.

**Jack W. Knirk, Quincy**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1996***

Considered by his peers to be one of the Midwest's top beef cattle producers, he is well known in the U.S. and Canada, as a competent, environmentally oriented farmer who through his leadership has worked at the national and international level to address issues facing livestock agriculture. He is known for his support of community and agricultural organizations and for his dedication to church, 4-H youth, and MSU agricultural research and Extension education programs.

**Ronald W. Stebbins, St. Johns**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1996***

His peers consider him one of the most effective and accomplished leaders to appear in Michigan's agribusiness community and one of the more generous in 'giving back' to his profession and community. His ability has taken him to national and state levels where he consistently sought to bolster Michigan agriculture. He is admired for his service to his community and his church and for his continuing support of Michigan agricultural research and Extension education.

**Gordon LaFontaine, Houghton Lake**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1997***

His peers consider him one of the outstanding supporters and leaders for turfgrass research and education in the United States. He is also a successful businessman who has been a benefactor to many individuals and organizations in his community and Michigan. He was the driving influence behind the creation of MSU's Hancock Turfgrass Research Center, the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, and the Michigan Turfgrass Founder's Society which contribute to researching. He is involved in many organizations such as the Michigan FFA and MSU Extension.

**Herb & Florence Reiley, Bellaire**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1997***

Diligent stewards of their agricultural lands and a successful business team; they have distinguished themselves in Michigan's potato and Christmas tree industry and have also become widely known for their leadership, by example, in water, soil and wildlife resource management within their community. They are active in and generous contributors to numerous local youth and civic organizations, community government, Michigan Farm bureau and MSU Extension education.

**Deanna Stamp, Marlette**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1997***

Raised in a progressive dairy atmosphere provided by her parents, and using experience provided by her integral role in the Dale-Stamp Farms, a fifth generation family operation, she has become one of Michigan's prominent agricultural leaders. She has provided a well-grounded, constructive balance in leadership roles to major agribusiness in the past decade, and contributors insightful support to Michigan agricultural research and Extension education throughout the state.

**William R. Rustem, Mason**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1998***

He has dedicated his professional career to the furtherance of improved and sound environmental and agricultural policies for Michigan and the Great Lakes area. His leadership in public affairs and education and his effectiveness in bridging gaps between public and private interests in environmental and natural resource matters are widely appreciated as is his service to MSU Extension and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

**Stuart Reinbold, Saginaw**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1998***

He embodies all of the traits of Michigan's top professional farmers, from the way he manages his land, to his contributions to the community, and his steadfast interest in agricultural research. This includes nearly 50 years of on-farm research in cooperation with MSU and more than 20 years with Terra international and Star of the West Milling Company. His dedication to family and agriculture has earned him recognition for this foresight, integrity and leadership across the land.

**Larry & Edie Young, Howard City**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1998***

Their management of Sandyland Farms, a second-generation family business and partnership with their sons, has won national attention for production of quality products, cultural practices that safeguard the environment, astute marketing and personnel management skills. Their years of leadership at the state and national levels and their close relationship to MSU research and teaching are a hallmark in the ever increasing technical advancement of agriculture.

**James E. Byrum, Onondaga**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1999***

He has dedicated his professional career to sound educational and management policies for production agriculture and agribusiness. He has earned broad recognition for distinguished leadership in developing effective cooperation with numerous international, state and local agencies that substantially benefit Michigan's food and fiber industry. He ardently supports the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources student activities and Extension education programs.

**Philip J. Korson II, Haslett**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1999***

An outstanding leader in Michigan's cherry industry, his influence and dedication to Michigan's horticulture industry are without peer. He is recognized for his exceptional ability to garner teamwork and agreement in commodity marketing programs, in creating crop enhancement initiatives, and in forming effective state and national industry coalitions. He is a visionary and an influential advocate for MSU agricultural research and Extension education programs.

**Charles Markley, Byron**

***Distinguished Service Awards - Agriculture and Natural Resources Week, 1999***

A stalwart leader in Michigan's beef cattle industry, he has dedicated a major portion of his talent to the furtherance of improved and sound marketing and management practices for producers in the state. He has also earned recognition for his leadership in beef cattle circles at the national level. His close ties with MSU's agricultural research and Extension education have been effective in developing a more sustainable animal agriculture for Michigan.