

# TLBAA SPECIAL AWARDS

The TLBAA special awards will be presented Friday, January 15, 2021 as a part of Texas Longhorn Weekend. Nominators provided background information on each nominee. All active TLBAA members in good standing are encouraged to vote for one fellow breeder in each of the categories for the special honors. Votes can be emailed to [awards@tlbaa.org](mailto:awards@tlbaa.org). If unable to email you may fax to the TLBAA office, and it will be forwarded to the awards committee.

**Deadline for votes: December 20th, 2020, 5pm CST, no late ballots will be accepted. Only the official ballot with member name and TLBAA # included will be accepted.**

## Dave Evans Breeder of the Year Award



### **Greg & Beth Tanner**

We are nominating Beth and Greg Tanner, of Tanner Longhorns, for the Dave Evans Breeder of the Year Award. Beth and Greg have been fixtures on the Longhorn show circuit for many years. Their animals consistently receive the ac-

colades of judges at every show. Families throughout the circuit often utilize Tanner Longhorns for pasture breeding services, hoping to mimic the quality found in a calf carrying the TL brand. Additionally, exhibitors wait with anticipation each season for the Tanner Longhorns next "big reveal" of calves, hoping to add one or two calves to their own show string. This year at the World Expo, the Produce of Dam, Get of Sire, and Grand Champion Bull winners were produced by Tanner Longhorns. Additionally, the Female Grand Champion, Female Reserve Grand Champion and Mature Female Reserve Grand Champion all list a Tanner Longhorn bull or dam on their registration papers. Clearly, Beth and Greg Tanner have put together a title winning, championship worthy breeding program and deserve to be recognized for their efforts. ★



### **Ross Ohlendorf**

I would like to nominate Ross Ohlendorf as breeder of the year.

It does not take much time visiting with Ross or his father Curtis, to realize what a huge impact they have on the Longhorn breed. The Rocking O herd is a fine example of breeding with a purpose. In addition to retaining a huge herd of cattle, Ross sells great numbers of cattle to people in all aspects of the breed whether show ring, horn or breeding stock. The ranch is consistent in its sales and promotion of the breed. Also to be noted is their support and participation in numerous Longhorn sales events. Ross and his family are easy to visit with, which lends a favorable shine on the Longhorn industry as a whole. Ross Ohlendorf with Rocking O Longhorns seems to be a strong ambassador of the breed through and through. ★



### **John & Christine Talley**

John and Christine Talley, having no prior experience with cattle, have worked diligently to build an impressive breeding program, one of the strongest in the industry. They carefully research ge-

netics and production for animals to add to their herd. Christine has developed an eye for cattle that is impressive. John knows more about the cows than most people give credit.

They have assembled a string of outstanding herd-sires with some of the greatest genetics in the Longhorn industry. They are always striving for perfection and to create total package animals. Their success is evidenced by their phenomenal winning record in multiple futurities and being highly competitive in horn measurements.

John and Christine take great care of their herd with an outstanding nutrition program along with excellent management practices. It seems like overnight, they have created such an impressive program. It has been exciting to watch the rapid progress of this breeding program in such a short period of time. The Longhorn breed is better because of them and their contributions. We are both proud and honored to nominate them for the Dave Evans Breeders of the Year Award. ★

# NOMINATIONS

## Jack Phillips Award



**Donnie Taylor**

The reason this individual is being nominated is because of his undying dedication to our industry. Many people associated with Longhorn cattle have seen Donnie and his wife, Marilyn at countless shows, sales and other events promoting and supporting the Longhorn cattle industry. He is a Lifetime member of both the TLBAA and the Ark-La-Tex Texas Longhorn Breeders, giving of his time and energy to help these associations thrive. Donnie previously served as a Director of the TLBAA, representing Region 7. Both Donnie and Marilyn are currently serving on the Ark-La-Tex Board, as well as serving as Co-Show Chairs. Behind every good man is a good woman. As a team, they have for years been an integral part of this association's success.

Donnie has been instrumental in the success and fun surrounding our shows, wanting those who attend to enjoy and remember their time spent with us. This is evident with the many hugs he receives at the beginning of our events.

He was key in starting the Boppa Calf Donation program, benefiting the TLBT youth. This required giving of his time locating quality animals for this youth program.

He has for years served this affiliate, without seeking recognition. That's why he is being nominated for the Jack Phillips Award. ★



**Terry & Tammy King**

If you look up the word diligence in the dictionary you will see it defined as making a constant effort to accomplish something or attentive and persistent effort. If there was a Longhorn dictionary you would be sure to find the name Terry and Tammy King.

Since our first venture into the Longhorn industry in 2017, Terry and Tammy have been generous in both their time and knowledge of the breed. This generosity was not because they had something to gain, but because they wanted to share their passion for these animals.

Terry has served nationally on the TLBAA Board of Directors, yet they are both as passionate about promoting Longhorns close to home. They have both been in leadership roles in the Southeastern Texas Longhorn Association, serving as Vice-President and Treasurer for many years. They also worked in collaboration to create the Southeastern Winchester Futurity, which is now considered one of the most competitive futurities across the country. The Kings have also graciously opened their home and working pen to host the Horn Showcase satellite measuring for many years.

The breeding program they have developed is purposeful in combining outstanding genetics, horn growth and conformation. The program truly speaks for itself when you see the number of rifles and awards they have won at futurities all over the nation and throughout many years. Yet even with their success in the industry they both remain quiet spoken, humble and genuinely passionate about promoting this breed. ★

## Elmer Parker Lifetime Achievement Award



**Dora Thompson**

Dora Thompson has been a long-time breeder of quality Texas Longhorn cattle. Anyone who has had the privilege of visiting her ranch in Mansfield, Louisiana can attest to that. Along with a quality breeding program, she is a gracious host. She welcomes anyone to come out, look at her herd and talk cattle. She can spend hours telling her guest about each animal explaining their qualities. She takes time to explain her program, as well as explaining what has and hasn't worked. Her love for Longhorns is contagious. By the time you saddle up

and leave, you are convinced. Few people leave without taking one home.

She serves as a mentor and encourager for new and seasoned breeders alike, promoting the cattle, the TLBAA and its affiliates. She is currently serving on the TLBAA Board of Directors, representing Region 6 as well as serving as a Director for the Ark-La-Tex Texas Longhorn Breeders Association. She graciously serves and supports these associations with her time, sponsorships and donations. One such donation is to the TLBT Youth. She has faithfully donated quality heifers to calf programs, which insures these recipients the beginning of a future herd. Her dedication to both preserving and promoting the Longhorn breed and associations is immeasurable. ★

TURN THE PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL NOMINEES  
AND OFFICIAL BALLOT



### **Ron & Jo Jones**

I would like to nominate Ron and Jo Jones for the Elmer Parker lifetime award. They spent over 35 years breeding registered Longhorns in Salida, Colorado. Ron and Jo were the owners of the great Gunman bull.

They had a fine herd of cows to utilize this special animal. They sold many herd sires and a lot of cows loaded with the Gunman genetics.

Ron and Jo bred such a fine herd almost every female they owned was home raised. They truly bred and owned one of the finest home grown herds in the nation. These special animals garnered a good number of Horn Showcase winners. They were steadily among the leaders in sale prices.

Ron was one of the breeders instrumental in establishing the Horn Showcase. He pushed the bar ahead for the direction this breed has taken with horn. A good number of programs have ridden the Jones Ranch genetics to much success. A vast number of animals carry Jones Ranch/Gunman genetics in their pedigree.

Ron and Jo Jones have the highest of integrity and are just honest as anyone comes. When Ron tells you something about the trait of one of his cows that is just what it is.

It would be nice to see this outstanding couple rewarded for their dedication to the improvement of this breed of cattle. Their program made it possible for countless other breeders to reap rewards using these genetics in their own herds. ★

## **MEL RALEY RISING STAR AWARD**



### **Wes & Suzanne Smith**

We met Wes and Suzanne Smith in January 2019. Wes reached out to us about a cow he saw on our Facebook page. We learned that he and Suzanne were just starting out in the breed. I invited them to join us for Texas Longhorn Weekend in

Fort Worth. Since that first meeting, Wes and Suzanne have built a sizable herd of registered Texas Longhorn cattle. They have established their brand, Southern Longhorns, and have become a leader in the sales and promotion of Registered Texas Longhorn Beef. They committed themselves to making Longhorns a full-time business and in 2 years they have attained that goal. Wes and Suzanne also support their local community by sponsoring events to raise funds for cancer patients and have initiated a program to give youth an opportunity to learn about raising Longhorns primarily for beef production. These up and coming breeders will tell you they are learning new things each day but they are definitely seizing opportunities to network and learn all they can about the breed and to advance the benefits of Registered Texas Longhorn Beef. ★



### **Adam Clark**

Adam Clark of HollyBilly Farms is a breath of fresh air to the Longhorn industry. He is humble, but passionate with a touch of humor, about the great cattle and breeders alike. Adam jumped in to help with the 2019 Horn Showcase with unbridled enthusiasm after only having

Longhorns since 2017. He wrote and performed a song to commemorate the special event that had the audience cheering. While Adam is humorous by nature, he is also serious about bringing the Longhorn industry together and moving it forward by finding common ground amongst it's members. He has worked diligently at building his own herd, while also helping with his parent's herd. His many acts of assistance to others often goes unnoticed and unrecognized because of his selflessness. He does not seek recognition for his own good deeds. I believe Adam embodies many of the great attributes that Mel Raley possessed. I am proud to nominate Adam for the Mel Raley Rising Star Award. ★



### **Don Bartlett**

This award fits Don to a T. Don loves the Longhorn breed. He shows and tells everyone he comes in contact with how awesome of a breed of cattle they are. Once Don bought a few he knew he wanted to be a top breeder! He purchased 50% ownership in Rowdy HR, 2017-2018 Bull of

the Year. Don supports sales through consignments, purchases and sponsorships. Don has supported our youth by donating cattle to the youth. Don is active in futurities and is always positive. Don promotes his program through his website and many ads in Trails Magazine. He is a true Rising Star for our breed! ★

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## DAVE EVANS BREEDER OF THE YEAR AWARD

- Greg & Beth Tanner, Stephenville, TX
- Ross Ohlendorf, Austin, TX
- John & Christine Talley, Boonsboro, MD

## JACK PHILLIPS AWARD

- Donnie Taylor, Huntington, TX
- Terry & Tammy King, Westville, FL

## ELMER PARKER LIFETIME AWARD

- Dora Thompson, Mansfield, LA
- Ron & Jo Jones, Salida, CO

## MEL RALEY RISING STAR AWARD

- Wes & Suzanne Smith, Stamford, TX
- Adam Clark, Edwardsburg, MI
- Don Bartlett, Frisco, TX

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ TLBAA Member # \_\_\_\_\_

**ONLY THIS OFFICIAL BALLOT WILL BE ACCEPTED - Printable version available at [www.tlbaa.org](http://www.tlbaa.org)**

*Thank you to everyone who participated in nominating their fellow breeders for these special awards.*

### Voting Rules:

- Must be an Active or Lifetime member in good standing
- The Official ballot must be used. Please do not just email names
- Only one vote each per membership number
- Only select one person for each of the four awards

If you have any questions, please contact the TLBAA office:  
817-625-6241 or [tlbaa@tlbaa.org](mailto:tlbaa@tlbaa.org)

If you have any doubt as to whether your mail, email or fax made it through to the TLBAA office, please reach out to check prior to the deadline.