

**Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Award Presentation 2016**  
**Family Narratives for Awards Committee Meeting & Awards**  
**As of 8/22/17**

**Century Awards:**

**Iwasaki Bros. Inc.**-Founded in Washington County in 1917 by Yasukichi Iwasaki. Applicant is Iwasaki Bros. Inc./Jim Iwasaki

Yasukichi (Billy as he was known) purchased the land in 1917. Early crops included dairy cattle into the early 1920's. In 1928, the first greenhouse and bedding plants were produced. Early in the 1930's tomato, cucumber, asparagus, corn, and strawberries were added to crop rotation. In 1941, when the executive order requiring all Japanese American families to be shipped to "concentration" camps the farm went through a period when the government took the land from 1942-1945. The Iwasaki family was one of the first to return to the area, one of the few that owned their land, and one of around 10 that returned to Washington County. The main crop today is bedding plants and beef cattle. The nursery produces vegetable starts and other bedding plants for a delivery area that expands to Idaho, Canadian border, and south to Ashland. Jim is the current owner and grandson of the Founders.

**Haskin Heritage Century Farm**-Founded in Linn County in 1917 by Ernest & Lydia (Weirich) Haskin. Applicant is David H. & LaLona McCready

Ernest & Lydia purchased the land in 1917 from Louis & Martha Perkins. Early crops were vetch, oats, potatoes, onions, wheat, clover, and beans. Corn, sorghum and broom corn were added in 1918. In the 1940's-50's the farm raised hybrid corn, cucumber, and squash seed. The main crop from 1980's to current day is sugar beet, vegetable, and grass seed. The family also hosts the "Benevolence Garden" that raises various vegetable crops that are offered to community for missions, food banks, and soup kitchens. David is the great grandson of Ernest and Lydia.

**Kranberry Acres**-Founded in Coos County in 1917 by Leslie Kranick. Applicant is David Kranick and Marci Murray.

Leslie Kranick purchased the land in 1917. The early crop on the farm was cranberries and that has continued for the 100 years. In more recent years, new varieties of cranberries have been produced that allow for higher yields. Over time as well mechanization helped improved the efficiency of the harvest period. Today the farm continues to raise cranberries and is proud of it's 100-year heritage. David Kranick is the grandson of Leslie.

**Sievers Farm**-Founded in Morrow County in 1907 by Will & Gertrude Sievers. Applicant is Diana Arvieux, Rosemary Wood, & Trudy Stenger.

Will Sievers purchased the first tract of land in 1907 and another tract in 1908. The early crop was wheat production. The farm raised wheat until the late 1980's when the Conservation Reserve program (CRP) program became available in Heppner. The farm was transitioned from wheat land to grass land for CRP management at that time. The farm continues in the CRP program today with Diana's husband Daniel overseeing the management of that. Diana, Rosemary, and Trudy are granddaughters of Will and Gertrude.

**Four Ridge Orchards**-Founded in Washington County in 1908 by Finis Brown. Applicant is David & Bonnie Brown.

Finis purchased the land adjacent to where he grew up from his uncle Jim Brown in 1908. The early crops on the farm included dairy cattle, hay, grain crops, and other variety crops. The first walnut trees were planted around 1940 on former pasture. The dairy herd was sold around 1970 and primarily grains were grown at that time. The first filberts were planted in 1978 and those and the walnuts continue today. David is the grandson of Finis.

**Stubblefield Ranch**-Founded in Umatilla County in 1876 by Francis Marion Stubblefield. Applicant is Margot Turner.

Francis purchased 160 acres from John Murphy in April 1876. The early crops were wheat, peas, barley, hay, cows, & pigs. After World War II, they ceased raising livestock and focused on the grain crops of wheat, barley, and peas. Francis Marion was killed in an accident with a bull on the farm in 1893, leaving wife Adaline and three young children and one on the way to the farming. While it's unclear who helped the family at the time, it's assumed his brother Joseph helped some, and it's an amazing accomplishment to keep it going after a tragic event like this. Today wheat, peas, & garbanzo beans are the main crops grown. Margot is the great granddaughter of Francis Marion.

**Shady Brook Farm**-Founded in Yamhill County in 1917 by Fred & Estella Bunn. Applicant is Tom & Lona Bunn.

Fred and Estella purchased the land from the Shirers family in February 1917. The early crops were Grade A dairy (Jersey cows). The cows were all originally milked by hand until the purchase of milking equipment. Overtime it switched from dairying to hogs. A variety of crops were also raised in addition to the dairy, including corn, corn silage, kale, potatoes, walnuts, cherries, and berries. Over the years, cattle sheep, goats, horses, chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, and rabbits were added. Crops included corn, wheat, oats, barley, hay, and a variety of fruit and berry crops. Today meat goats, poultry, and fruit and nut trees are raised on the farm. Tom is the grandson of Fred and Estella.

**Cattrall Brothers Vineyards**-Founded in Yamhill County in 1917 by John C.J. Sartore. Applicants are William (Bill) and Thomas (Tom) Cattrall.

John purchased the land in 1917 after saving his earnings as an engineer at a cold storage plant in Astoria, OR. The early crops were strawberries, dairy cows, chickens, eggs. He never owned a tractor and used horses well into the 1970's. The dairy was one of his prides and he was featured on the front of Dari-gold magazine at the age of 74. The main crop today is wine grapes (Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris, & Muscat). They are the oldest organic certified vineyard in Oregon and the first grapes were planted in 1973. The family maintains a large garden and orchard with many trees planted by their uncle John. Bill and Tom are grand-nephews of John C.J. Sartore.

**Misner Family Farm**-Founded in Linn County in 1902 by Henry & Alice A. Boyle. Applicants are Michael & Therese Misner.

Alice & Henry purchased the land in 1902 from Enoch & Rosetta Miller. They had moved from Chatam, Ontario Canada to Crabtree Oregon. The early crops on the farm were tobacco, wheat, oats, barley, hay, peaches, and raspberries. After the irrigation, well was put in 1953 pole beans, bush beans, and peppermint were added to list of crops grown. In the 1950's, chickens were raised and the eggs sold to a

local hatchery. Today the main crops are polled Hereford cattle, Netherland dwarf rabbits, and chickens. Michael is the great grandson of Henry and Alice.

**Bar M Ranch**-Founded in Linn County in 1891 by Riley C. Margason. Applicants are Gary & Ingrid Margason

Riley purchased the land in 1891 with a business partner William Dick with each having half ownership in the land. He and his wife Molly became sole owners in 1903 when they purchased Mr. Dick's portion. The early crops were wheat, oats, barley, hairy vetch, hay, clover, fruit orchard (plums, pie cherries, apples, pears), walnuts, filberts. They also had sheep, chickens (sold eggs), dairy cows, cattle and pigs. The early farming on the property was indicative of the day it was subsistence farming, they raised all they needed for their family on it. In the later years, crops were grown more for a profit as well. The introduction of grass seed into the Willamette Valley gave them more options. Today chickens, balansa clover, fruit trees, & grass seed are the farm's main crops of the day. Gary is the great grandson of Riley.

**Haslebacher Farms**-Founded in Marion County in 1911 by Ferdinand Haslebacher. Applicants are Raymond & Mary Haslebacher

Ferdinand purchased the land in 1911. He later purchased adjoining land as well. The early crops on the farm were dairy cattle, grains, hay, hops, berries, & row crops. The dairy continued until about 1920 until the land was cleared for Hop production. Hops and berries were planted then and produced up until labor became an issue at which time mechanized row crops were produced on the farm. Today hazelnuts are the main crop on the farm. Raymond is the grandson of Ferdinand.

**Belshe Ranch**-Founded in Sherman County in 1916 by Clay & Susanna Belshe. Applicant is Martin James Belshe

The original Belshe Ranch was homesteaded in 1881 by James R. Belshe and his wife Susanna. However, they later sold that property, and the present Belshe Ranch was founded in Sherman County in 1916 by Susanna Belshe and her son Clay. Susanna as widow of James R. Belshe obtained a homestead grant in November 1915 for 160 acres. In May of 1916, a Homestead grant was issued to her son Clay Belshe and in December of 1916 Clay purchased his mother's homestead. Clay as part of the Homestead Act, as amended, added an additional 480 acres making a total of 800 acres in the original ranch. Early crops were hay and pasture for work horses. Over time additional acreage was added in other areas of the Sherman County so that today Belshe Ranch consist of several thousand acres raising wheat and barley and for many years included a cow/calf operation. The Ranch is presently operated by Martin James Belshe, great grandson of Clay Belshe.

**Oak Creek Farm/Coyle Family**-Founded in Linn County in 1914 by W. Hiram Skeels. Applicant is Alton Jefferson Coyle.

W. Hiram Skeels and his wife Nellie purchased the land in 1914. W.H. was known as a local "horseman" due to his skill and quality of his breeding herd. He was considered the "go to guy" for all the locals when they had trouble with their horses. The early crops were horses, dairy cattle, chicken, feed crops, silo corn, and grain. All the milking of the cows was done by hand. Overtime they started raising other livestock that included beef cattle, sheep, and goats. The main crops today are beef cattle and hay for feed. Alton is the grandson of W. Hiram Skeels.

**Kee/Crofoot Ranch**-Founded in Sherman County in 1917 by Frank & Iva Kee. Applicant is Dell and Nikki Squire.

Frank and Iva purchased the first 320 acres in 1917 from C.F. & Etta Coe. They sold it to their son Eben Kee and wife Edna Crofoot Kee. The early crops on the ranch were cattle and soft white wheat. Over the years, different varieties of wheat have been discovered and the use of horses has all but disappeared. Mechanization of planting and harvesting has taken the place of the horse driven machinery of the past. The ranch still raises cattle and soft white wheat today. Dell Squire is the nephew of Eben & Edna Crofoot Kee, his mother Myrtle Crofoot Squire was Edna's sister, and Eben was the son of the founders Frank & Iva Kee.

**Basil & Mary Stupfel**-Found in Marion County in 1917 by Basil & Mary Stupfel. Applicant is Mark Stupfel.

Basil & Mary Stupfel moved from Wisconsin in 1917 to St. Paul Oregon and purchased the land at that time. They had to remove the hop yards that existed due to the Prohibition Act of 1916 that decimated hop prices. The early crops they raised were Guernsey dairy cattle, hogs, cherries, corn, grains, & hay. In 1949, they changed over to beef cattle and discontinued the hogs in 1979. Today they raise beef cattle, alfalfa hay, wheat, vetch, cherries and walnuts. Mark is the grandson of Basil and Mary.

**Herring Farm**-Founded in Yamhill County in 1916 by Fredrick C. Herring Sr. Applicant is Lea O. Herring.

Fredrick and wife Sophie purchased the land in 1916 with funds from Fred's father Bland. The 133 acres included a rocky hillside with timber and rolling fields of high quality farm land with Woodburn grade soil. There was also a home that was said to be built by the original DLC holders John & Susan Williamson. The early crops were walnut and prune orchards to produce cash income quickly. They added a prune dryer in 1920's. Over the years, cattle and cherries were added as well as row crops like strawberries after the development of irrigation. Generations of area school children picked strawberries at the Herrings in the 1950's through 1980's. Market changes lead to the removal of the prunes and strawberries over time. Today the farm raises hazelnuts and pasture land. Lea Herring is the widow of the late Bland Herring (2<sup>nd</sup> generation), his parents were Fred and Sophie Herring.

**Charles M. Colton & Sons**-Founded in Baker County in 1917 by William H. and Charles H. Colton. Applicants are Robert Colton, Lorene Colton, & Michael R. Colton.

William H. and son Charles H. Colton and his wife Edna purchased the land in March 1917. The early crops were sheep for wool and meat, replacement ewes, and pasture and grass hay. Cows and yearling calves were added in about 1960 to gradually build up the herd. The sheep were sold in 1973 as we were unable to continue taking them to the high mountain pasture during the summers. Today the ranch raises cattle and grass hay. Robert is the great grandson of William H. and Michael R. is the great-great grandson of William H.

**Nicholson Home Ranch**-Founded in Klamath County in 1898 by William Elmore Nicholson. Applicant is Nicholson Investments, LLC.

William E. Nicholson purchased the ranch in October of 1898 from George Shepard. He married Nellie Sturges and they moved into the homestead cabin on the ranch and started their family. In the early years of the ranch William tried to produce a variety of crops that included carrots, potatoes, alsike clover.

Clover was raised for high quality seed production along with grass and oats. They also had a dairy cow operation until Bangs disease wiped the herd out in the early 1930's. A new direction was contemplated at that time and William E.'s sons, Stewart & Theodore, began a feeder operation, selling grass fat cattle for processing. Cattle were wintered in the bald hills of Northern California and summered grazing the native grass of the home ranch. Later, lighter cattle were grazed and sent to feedlots. The current crop raised on the ranch today is beef cattle. William (Bill) S. Nicholson lives on the ranch today. William S. is the grandson and Larry W. is the great grandson of William E. Nicholson.

**C & S Waterman Ranch**-Founded in Coos County in 1917 by Charlie Frank (C.F.) & Mabel Waterman. Applicants are C&S Waterman Ranch, LLC (Charlie and Sharon Waterman).

Frank (C.F.) & Mabel Waterman purchased the ranch in 1917. The early crops were dairy cows, beef, sheep, chickens, pasture, hay, Easter lilies, oats, and timber. Over time the ranch has become less diversified due to economics. The cattle and sheep were more efficient in use of the pasture land and the non-productive agricultural areas were planted into timber. Today the ranch continues to raise beef cattle, sheep, hay and timber. Charlie is the grandson of C.F. and Mabel Waterman.

### **Sesquicentennial Awards:**

**Voss Farms**-Founded in Clackamas County in 1853 by Joseph & Elizabeth Voss. Applicants are Jeannette Voss and Julie Edy.

Joseph Voss made a DLC on the tract of land in 1853. They had travelled from Wisconsin by wagon train to Oregon in 1852. The early crops raised on the farm were cattle, sheep, and grains. Over time the crops changed significantly to reflect the market and region. Berries, orchard crops, and Christmas trees were added over the years. Today the farm raises primarily cereal grains. Jeannette and Julie are the great granddaughters of the Joseph and Elizabeth.