

David Allen

David Allen, Reedsburg, Wis., will be honored as the 74th recipient of the Master Breeder Award of the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) at the Jersey Breeders' Recognition Banquet in Gettysburg, Pa., on June 23.

The Master Breeder Award is bestowed annually to a living AJCA member, family, partnership or corporation that, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, has bred outstanding animals for many years and thereby made a notable contribution to the advancement of the Jersey breed in the United States.

The household sire names of "Valentino," "Irwin," "Visionary," and "Volcano" all have one thing in common, the 2017 Master Breeder recipient—David Allen.

His keen eye for cows and his breeding strategy of making profitable and production-oriented Jerseys, has gained international acclaim through bulls that he has placed into A.I. companies, especially within recent years.

"Mr. Allen's track record is one of selecting females for genetic investment, and building on their genetic potential through an effective embryo transfer program," said Joe Stanek, former sire analyst for Accelerated Genetics in a letter of support.

"When you are heavily involved in the growing Jersey genetics business, not one day goes by that one does not hear new stories and news regarding All Lynn genetics," wrote Russell Gammon, past Jersey Program Manager at The Semex Alliance. "Through wise investments in leading genetic stock, both females and semen, throughout his Jersey career, David Allen has always worked for excellence.

"When we talk about All Lynn Jerseys, we are referring to a life's work."

David's Jersey career officially began in 1954 when he and his brother Paul, were given a Jersey calf by their grandfather. However, it wasn't until 1984 that owning and working with the Jersey breed stirred his passion. It was at this point, that his eldest daughter, Raquel, convinced him the 45 grade Holsteins weren't for her and she needed something "her size." So David and family traveled to Fond du Lac, Wis., and purchased a cow and a calf at the Jersey Protein Sale managed by Jersey Marketing Service. Over the next two years more Jerseys were added and there was no looking back for the Allen family.

Those that have watched David through the years, realize what a keen eye he has. He is a student of pedigrees and constantly



studies sale catalogs, magazines and advertising to find the right fit for him. It will be a deep-seeded pedigree, that fits a gap which David can have an opportunity to fill a niche in the genetic world.

In 1985, at The All American Sale, David purchased a young cow named Hi-Land Fascinator Fern. She was appraised Excellent and was just fresh on her third lactation. She was purchased at a time that embryo transfer was just beginning to take off. "Fern" was heavily flushed in the All Lynn herd and embryos were sold both domestically and internationally from this young cow. When it was all said and done she had 47 registered progeny in the AJCA herd book, not counting the numerous offspring that still carry on in herds around the globe, including All Lynns Merchant Florino-ET, GJPI +42, at Accelerated Genetics.

In 2006, David made another female purchase that would impact the Jersey breed globally. He privately purchased a cow named D&E Paramount Violet from AJCA Master Breeder's Donnie and Elsa Sherman, Hilmar, Calif. It was from a cow family bred 14 generations by the Sherman family and more than half a century strong.

"Violet" proved to be a cow that the

Jersey breed needed, as her sons, daughters and grandsons are found on nearly every genetic list that the AJCA publishes. She is a prolific flush cow, with 80 sons and 55 daughters registered. Thirty-nine of those sons carry NAAB stud codes. "Violet" finished in a tie for 10th place in the 2015 Jersey Journal Great Cow Contest.

Her son, All Lynn Louie Valentino-ET, GJPI +87, has more than 11,000 daughters included in his April 2017 genetic summary. Marketed by Select Sires, "Valentino" and Allen have been recognized by the company for the success he has brought to their Jersey program. He currently ranks as the #1 Jersey bull for units sold in Select Sire's history and is still going strong.

Another All Lynns bull gaining international appeal is All Lynns Valentino Irwin-ET, GJPI +80. He is a son of "Valentino," and was bred by David's grandson, Tommy, from a purchase he made in the Pot O'Gold Sale—Jars of Clay Iatola 16710 2751. With a high genomic Jersey Udder Index of +25.8, he was used heavily with more than 2,200 daughters on his April summary. His son, Heartland Irwin Texas-ET, GJPI +65, ranks second in the breed for GJUI at +31.0.

Her daughters have made an impact as well. All Lynns Louie Venetia-ET, completed a record that ranks among the top 25 in breed history for milk at 42,360 lbs. milk, 1,674 lbs. fat and 1,423 lbs. protein at five years old in 305 days. Another daughter, All Lynns Impuls Virginia-ET was purchased in the 2008 Pot O'Gold Sale by Brock Tate, Hilmar, Calif. She was a GJPI standout and is the dam of CDF Viceroy-ET, GJPI +184, at Jerseyland Sires.

The All Lynns Jerseyherd is consistent with production as well having a 2016 AJCA lactation average of 20,827—999—743 on 79 records. The cows are milked in the herd of Tim and Ann Ryan. It has an average appraisal score of 84.3 on 100 cows of which 19 are Excellent and 71 are Very Good.

"Mr. Allen's success as a breeder of Registered Jerseys impacting the breed is built on his effective business plan, starting with key genetic investments and effective utilization of embryo transfer technology to perpetuate the genetics involved," wrote Brian Barlass, president of the Wisconsin Jersey Breeders Association in a letter of support.

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AJCA Master Breeder

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The herd consistently ranks among the top five herds in the nation for GJPI. Currently, 12 heifers rank among the top 500 of the breed including JX All Lynns Leonel Verse {4} with a GJPI of +196.

The herd is enrolled on REAP. They have been Equity supporters for many years and utilize the AJCA's appraisal program to help in marketing their herd. The farm is also a regular advertiser in *Jersey Journal*. They are avid supporters of consigning to the National Heifer Sale, All American Jersey Sale and also the Pot O'Gold Sale as well as state and other regional sales. In 2012, All Lynns Hendrix Nitro, GJPI +111, was selected to be syndicated in The All American Jersey Sale. He was purchased by Select Sires and a syndicate of members for \$34,800.

"It should be noted David's honesty and fairness in the many business transactions I have personally dealt with him is beyond reproach," stated Brian Guell, Hilmar, Calif. "It is half the reason why we like to come back to the All Lynn herd. The other reason is that David has bred many outstanding animals thereby making a notable contribution to the Jersey breed in the United States."

Not only is David known for the great cattle he breeds, but also for his generosity and giving and his love of family. He is always one of the first to volunteer his help and service to organizations and good causes. He has served on Milwaukee Cooperative Milk Producers board of directors as well as The Lakeshore Cooperative. He and his family have hosted numerous events at the farm, including the AJCC Research Foundation Benefit Auction in 2011 during the AJCA-NAJ Annual Meetings. He has donated calves to help farming families in need across the United States. He and his wife, Karen, also open their doors to schools for field trips and to 4-H and FFA dairy judging teams to practice.

One of David's greatest joys though is spending time with his grandchildren and sharing his love of Jerseys and Jersey genetics with them. He can recall many times of just sitting with his grandchildren and teaching them to read pedigrees and judge cattle. As well, they have spent many hours reading publications and sale catalogs always adding to their "wish list" of animals and genetics they want to incorporate into their herd. His grandchildren, Tommy, Samantha and now Sophie, have all made purchases in the Pot O'Gold Sale. Tommy and Samantha have both attended Jersey Youth Academy and have been active in the both the state and national Jersey events.

In May 2011, all of the All Lynn grandchildren were featured on the cover of the

Jersey Journal, as a preview to the AJCA-NAJ Annual Meetings that year.

"David can be counted on as a major supporter of AJCA sponsored sales, as both a consignor and a buyer," said Richard Smith, ABS Sire Analyst in his letter of support. "His cattle have certainly strengthened the quality of sales while his bids have strengthened the sale average and rewarded other breeders for their participation.

"In my opinion, David Allen has proven to be a man of integrity, a man with a broad commitment to family, community and to the Jersey breed."

Master Breeders

- 1944 William MacPherson, Thomasville, Ga.*
- 1945 W. R. Kenan, Jr., Lockport, N.Y.*
- 1946 George W. Sisson, Jr., Potsdam, N.Y.*
- 1947 E. S. Brigham, St. Albans, Vt.*
- 1948 Guy Miller, Modesto, Calif.*
- 1949 Dr. Howard D. Odum, Chapel Hill, N.C.*
- 1950 Judge J. G. Adams, Asheville, N.C.*
- 1951 N. M. Tibbles, Independence, Ore.*
- 1952 Frank W. Barber, Fayetteville, Tenn.*
- 1953 Herman F. Heep, Buda, Texas*
- 1954 Dale Dean, Ridgeway, Mich.*
- 1955 Maurice Pollak, Lincroft, N.J.*
- 1956 J. L. Hutcheson, Jr., Rossville, Ga.*
- 1957 John R. Sibley, Spencer, Mass.*
- 1958 J. Chester Elliff, Tullia, Texas*
- 1959 A. W. Sweet, Sixes, Ore.
- 1960 Col. H. G. Wilde, Lenox, Mass.*
- 1961 C. Edward Knolle, Sandia, Texas*
- 1962 Russel Hoar, Newark, Ohio*
- 1963 William Ross Proctor, Pittstown, N.J.*
- 1964 Clifton F. Russell, Rossville, Ga.*
- 1965 Chester Folck, Springfield, Ohio*
- 1966 C. Scott Mayfield, Athens, Tenn.*
- 1967 E. E. Greenough, Merced, Calif.*
- 1968 Henry Uihlein, Lake Placid, N.Y.*
- 1969 Charles S. Kelly, Hudson, Wis.*
- 1970 H. Fowler Hupman, Springfield, Ohio*
- 1971 Milton Humbert, Cleveland, Tenn.*
- 1972 Willis Rupert, New Waterford, Ohio*
- 1973 Earl Hutchinson, Tunbridge, Vt.*
- 1974 Antone J. Regli, Ferndale, Calif.*
- 1975 Mrs. Diana Ryan, Newport, R.I.*
- 1976 James and Georgia Pappas, Modesto, Calif.*
- 1977 Mrs. H. G. Wilde, Lenox, Mass.*
- 1978 Henry W. Black, West Baldwin, Maine*
- 1979 John Bishop VI, Columbus, N.J.*
- 1980 Mrs. A. G. Rankin* and Sons, Faunsdale, Ala.
- 1981 W. L. Payton, Stephenville, Texas*
- 1982 Curtis Hobson, Athens, Tenn.*
- 1983 Stanley N. Chittenden, New Lebanon, N.Y.*
- 1984 Walter H.* and Joan Brown, Hughson, Calif.
- 1985 Newell Mills, Fallon, Nev.*
- 1986 John R. Owen, Lewisburg, Tenn.*
- 1987 Robert S. Pike* and Family, Cornish, Maine
- 1988 Ray Chamberlain, Wyoming, N.Y.*
- 1989 Ralph* and Betty Reichert, Riley, Kans.
- 1990 Stanley K. Bansen, Dayton, Ore.*
- 1991 Henry P. Knolle, Sandia, Texas*
- 1992 Phil V. Fanelli, Hilmar, Calif.*
- 1993 Dr. J. J. Mainati, Newberry, S.C.*
- 1994 Walter and Sally Goodrich, West Danville, Vt.
- 1995 Edward*, Harold, and Donald* Wright, White River Junction, Vt.
- 1996 Elmer D. Larson, Roy, Wash.*
- 1997 Albert Bradford, Turner, Maine*
- 1998 Robert Stiles Family, Clear Brook, Va.
- 1999 Robert and Barbara Howard, Tillamook, Ore.*
- 2000 Charles L. Lutz, Newton, N.C.*
- 2001 Duane Kuhlman, Snohomish, Wash.
- 2002 Duane Wickstrom, Hilmar, Calif.
- 2003 James Chaney, Bowling Green, Ky.*
- 2004 Charles J. Steer, Cottage Grove, Tenn.
- 2005 William G. Mason Family, Buhl, Idaho*
- 2006 Aaron F. Richards, Farmington, Utah*
- 2007 Robert Bignami, Orland, Calif. and Harlan Askeland*, Orland, Calif.
- 2008 James S. Huffard III, Crockett, Va.
- 2009 Ahlem Farms Partnership and Ed Fisher*, Hilmar, Calif.
- 2010 Donald* and Elsa Sherman, Hilmar, Calif.
- 2011 Dan Bansen, Dayton, Ore.
- 2012 Dutch Hollow Farms, Schodack Landing, N.Y.
- 2013 Bearl and Joanne Seals, Cloverdale, Ore.
- 2014 Silver Spring Farm, Syracuse, N.Y.
- 2015 Lyon Jerseys LLC, Toledo, Iowa
- 2016 Eric Silva and Paula Wolf, Beaver, Ore.

