

2017 Honor Roll Recipients

The Canadian Charolais Association recognizes individuals who have contributed to the development and success of the Charolais breed in Canada, and who are very involved, as likely are their families, in community and beef industry affairs. This is the highest honour to be bestowed within the organization.

To be considered for nomination to the Honor Roll, the individual should be recognized by his fellow breeders as a leader in promoting Charolais, his provincial association and the CCA, participate in and promote Charolais educational and performance programs, demonstrate innovative management systems or programs which promote Charolais.

Nomination procedures are available on the CCA website.

Bob and Monette Palmer Bladworth, Saskatchewan

Robert (Bob) Palmer grew up in the Bladworth area. Monette, on the other hand, was the daughter of a Canadian WW2 soldier and a young war bride and came across the Atlantic. As fate would have it, she met up with Bob sometime in the late 1950s while she was attending high school in Girvin. Upon graduation, Monette left for the bright lights of Calgary where she was employed with

Manix Construction. Bob followed her to the big city and began working at Burns Meat Packing.

June is a special month for Bob and Monette, as they were married 55 years ago on June 16th. Monette, as an 18 year-old bride, threw herself into farm life. She had a huge market size garden, magnificent flower garden, abundant fruit trees and became an outstanding cook. She was also an active livestock-field partner working beside Bob feeding cattle, driving grain trucks and hauling meals to the field. She always said, "If you don't work, you don't eat!" Bob always loved animals, particularly horses, as he rode horses to school for many years and became an accomplished rider. Two horses stand out in his memory, Dart, a Darnore Pony who was excellent with cattle and Goldie, a Palomino. Bob and Dart were often called upon by family and neighbours to round up and move cattle. Their relationship obviously worked, Bob and Monette both have very strong personalities, love farm life, worked hard and complemented each other's skills.

In 1971, Bob and Monette purchased their first Charolais bull to put on their commercial cows. They were convinced that the end result was worth pursuing and then

purchased some E and F 7/8 females a couple of years later. They registered their first females in 1974. They bought a bull calf in 1975 at the second Canadian Western Agrigento from Don Pochylko, he was a Carotin son. In 1977, they purchased a 1/8th semen interest in Poker King Jr along with Jim and Marge Crab, Jim Cruikshank, Bill and Joe Wagner, Ken and Lorraine Quayman and Marvin McDonald from Don Pochylko. In 1979, they sold a Poker King Jr heifer calf, RGP Perfection 1 125L, at the SanDan sale. She sold for \$9000 to Don Phillips of Stone Del Farms, Hartville, Ohio. She then went on to be U.S. National Champion. Miss RGP Kay 65M was purchased inside a female and turned into a great success story for the Palmers. She was the 1984 World Charolais Show Grand Champion Female, with her two Knockout twin heifer calves at side.

In 1978, they joined the Bug Breeders Club and sold in the sale for many years. They also sold in the Sterling Collection sale, as well as the Copper Classic sale held in conjunction with Canadian Western Agribition. Whenever they sold a female in a sale, she always came with breeding rights to anything in their semen tank. Bob and Monette bought into many top quality bulls over the years with E-CEE Katmandu 200B being on of the best. He was purchased out of the Sterling Collection sale from Emile Carles.

In 1983, Bob and Monette were named the Saskatchewan Charolais Association Breeder of the Year at the Saskatchewan Royal. This was an annual event that included the AGM, a very strong sale and an awards banquet. In 1990, they hosted an on farm sale called "Palmer and Friends," which was very successful.

Monette served as a director on the Saskatchewan Charolais Association board. They supported the work of the association by making sure fundraisers always went well. They



Bob and Monette Palmer

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are the proud owners of many quilts auctioned at the Saskatchewan Royal over the years.

Bob and Monette did their share of judging over the years, including the PNE show in Vancouver and Ag Ex in Brandon. Bob also selected cattle for the Canadian Western Agribition sale and the Sask Royal. In 2001, Bob and Monette were presented with the Saskatchewan Charolais Association Honour Scroll for their dedication to the Charolais breed.

Bob and Monette travelled a lot throughout Canada and the United States promoting Charolais and always believed that the people were the best part of the business.

Congratulations to this couple on their contributions and leadership made to both their large extended family and to their large Charolais family. Bob and Monette are sharing their knowledge with the next two generations now.