

Meritorious Service Awards

J. Philip Abbott

Mr. Abbott started his career in the beet sugar industry in 1948 as a student engineer at Holly Sugar Corporation's Western District Engineering office in Alvarado, California. In 1950 he transferred to Colorado Springs as a Field Engineer and became resident Engineer at Holly's Brawley, California factory during its expansion from 1958 to 1960. He was then promoted to Western District Engineer and transferred to the San Mateo office where he was principally involved with the engineering design for Holly's new Merrill E. Shoup factory being built in Hereford, Texas. In 1966 he was promoted to Assistant General Engineer and transferred to Colorado Springs, Colorado and in 1984 was promoted to Director of Engineering and Chief Engineer. Mr. Abbott was educated at Notre Dame where he earned Bachelor of Science Degrees in both Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. His studies were interrupted between 1943 and 1946 when he served in the United States Army. He has been a member of the ASSBT since 1966 and has authored or co-authored several papers at biennial meetings.

Elmer Bonetti

Mr. Bonetti was born and raised in the Salinas Valley of California. He graduated from high school in King City, California and received an Associate of Arts Degree in 1949 in Biology from the University of California at Berkeley. He joined Union Sugar in April of 1950. He then served in the United States Army for two years and saw service in Korea. Mr. Bonetti returned to Union Sugar as an Agricultural Field Representative in 1953. He was named Assistant District Agricultural Manager in Salinas in 1970 and served in that position until his promotion to District Agricultural Manager at Salinas in 1974. He also served as Mayor of King City, California. In 1977 Mr. Bonetti was elected Vice President of Agriculture for Union Sugar and transferred to Santa Maria. In this position he supervised all agricultural activities for Union Sugar, including responsibility for seed production, processing and distribution. He is a former Director and Past President of West Coast Beet Seed Company, and has also served

as President of the Beet Sugar Development Foundation. His present position is Agricultural Manager for Holly Sugar Corporation at Betteravia. Mr. Bonetti is serving his community now with his membership in the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce, Santa Maria Valley Economic Development Association, and the Santa Maria Rotary Club.

Susan S. Martin

Dr. Martin, a member of the ASSBT since 1974, has served as program chair for physiology and as a reviewer for the ASSBT Journal. She currently chairs the Society's publications committee, which has been responsible for the recent major revisions of the Society's research journal, now renamed the Journal of Sugar Beet Research. She has authored or co-authored 19 papers presented at ASSBT meetings and has published papers in the Journal. Following graduation from the University of Colorado with a B.A. in Chemistry (1960), she was employed as Research Chemist with the Department of Wildlife Resources at Utah State University (1960-68), where she was responsible for the analytical chemistry for a large research project concerning stream pollution by uranium mills. While at Utah State, she also completed a Master's Degree in Plant Biochemistry. She then attended the University of California at Santa Cruz, where she added to her knowledge of biochemistry, botany, and plant physiology and gained a major research interest in the complex biochemical interactions among organisms. After receiving her Ph.D. degree in 1973, Dr. Martin joined USDA-ARS's Sugarbeet Research group at Fort Collins. Her sugarbeet research has been diverse, but focused around two major areas: the analysis of sugarbeet quality-determining chemical components, and the study of biochemical host-pathogen interactions in sugarbeet diseases. She also has shared willingly her knowledge of chemistry and plant physiology to help industry and other researchers solve biochemical problems. She is an affiliate faculty member of the Department of Biology at Colorado State University, and a member of several other professional and honorary societies.

Robert N. Sanborn

Mr. Sanborn started work in a sugar factory at Fort Collins, Colorado, owned by Great Western Sugar Company, in 1949, while a student at Colorado State University. Upon graduation

in 1950, he was hired as an apprentice Agricultural Fieldman by Great Western and reported to work in Scottsbluff and Gering, Nebraska factory Districts. Later in 1950 he moved to Wheatland, Wyoming, and helped receive beets in Bayard, Nebraska, temporarily. He was transferred to Mitchell, Nebraska, as Fieldman in 1950 and continued until 1962. As Assistant Agricultural Manager, Robert worked at the Scottsbluff-Gering factories until 1969 when he was appointed Agricultural Manager in Greeley, Colorado. Two years later he was promoted to Assistant District Agricultural Manager at Johnstown, Colorado. In 1973 he moved his family to Fremont, Ohio, to work as District Agricultural Manager in the Fremont-Findlay areas. He worked in this capacity for seven years and retired from Great Western Sugar after 30-1/2 years of service. In 1979, Mr. Sanborn was hired by Monitor Sugar as General Agriculture Manager and was promoted to Vice President of Agriculture in 1982. He is a Director and Past President of the Beet Sugar Development Foundation and a Director of the West Coast Beet Seed Company.

Richard C. Zielke

Dr. Zielke has been a member of the ASSBT since 1960, serving as a member of the bylaws committee, as Agronomy Section Chairman, twice as Agricultural Program Chairman, on the Board of Directors, representing the Eastern U.S., and as the General Program Chairman. He has authored or co-authored many papers presented at the biennial meetings. Following his graduation from the Ohio State University in 1957 he worked briefly as a soil surveyor. Upon receiving his M.S. degree from the same institution in 1960, he began his career with the Northern Ohio Sugar Company in Fremont, as General Research Agronomist. In 1965, he moved to the USDA station in East Lansing, Michigan, where for eight years he worked as research agronomist and completed his Ph.D. degree in 1970. In 1973, he assumed the position of Director of Research for the Farmers and Manufacturers Beet Sugar Association located in Saginaw, Michigan. During this time, Dr. Zielke served as a member of the Board of Directors and as President of both the West Coast Beet Seed Company and the Beet Sugar Development Foundation. Since 1982, he has been employed by Michigan Sugar Company as its Director of Research.

Honorary Life Member



Dr. Donald Dickenson,
Director of Agricultural Research,
Holly Sugar Corporation

Dr. Dickenson was born and raised on a farm near Paris, Ill. After over two years of Army service in World War II, he attended the University of Illinois, receiving both the B.S. and M.S. degrees. He attended the University of Minnesota receiving the Ph.D. degree in 1957, with a major in Plant Genetics and a minor in Plant Pathology. He joined Holly Sugar Corporation in April of 1953, as a plant breeder and pathologist at Sheridan, Wyoming. A year later, he was transferred to Tracy, California, where he participated in the Variety Improvement Program, producing several hybrids and a monogerm male-sterile used in many other Holly Hybrids. In 1971 he was transferred to the Holly main office in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he has headed the Beet Quality Improvement Program to date, as Director of Agricultural Research. He served the Society as General Program Chairman in 1972 and 1973, as director in 1968-69; 1974-75 and 1978-80 and on the nominating committee in 1968-69. He has served as director and President of the Beet Sugar Development Foundation and as a Director of the West Coast Beet Seed Company for several years. He has authored or co-authored 16 papers at Society meetings, publishing several. He has served on several industry committees as well.

40 YEAR VETERAN AWARDEES

Fred Cook
Holly Sugar Corporation

Robert K. Oldemeyer
Hilleshog-Mono Hy Sugar
Beet Seed Company

Robert F. Ginn
Holly Sugar Corporation

Lawrence Olmstead
American Crystal Sugar
Corporation

Emmett Gunderson
American Crystal Sugar
Corporation

Gordon Olson
American Crystal Sugar
Corporation

Leland Juve
American Crystal Sugar
Corporation

Waldo Peterson
American Crystal Sugar
Corporation

Glen Kerr
American Crystal Sugar
Corporation

Norris Twaite
British Sugar plc

Donald Lind
Holly Sugar Corporation

Glen Yeager
Holly Sugar Corporation