

AWARDS

Presented at the
2011 General Meeting
of the ASSBT

Hyatt Regency
Albuquerque, New Mexico

March 2 - March 5, 2011

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

The ASSBT awards Honorary Membership to individuals who have rendered outstanding service to the beet sugar industry or have by virtue of scientific accomplishment acquired the admiration and respect of the Society.

This year the Society awarded one Honorary Membership:

Mr. Kepa Pete Chertudi

Mr. Kepa Pete Chertudi was born in Guernica, Bizcay, Spain and, at the age of twenty-seven, immigrated to the United States. Mr. Chertudi began his career with The Amalgamated Sugar Company in 1969, when he was hired at the Nyssa, Oregon factory as a window washer. At the time he was hired, he was a degreed engineer with a Masters in Engineering, but did not have a good command of the English language. He enrolled in college at Ontario, Oregon to study English and, since he held a Masters Degree and knew Spanish, he was accepted as a Spanish language instructor on the college staff while a student.

With his many talents, Mr. Chertudi was soon promoted to Factory Chemist at the Nampa, Idaho factory in 1970, and then to Factory Superintendent (Plant Manager) at the Mini-Cassia factory in 1976. In 1980, he was promoted to General Superintendent and was transferred, shortly thereafter, to the Corporate Office of Amalgamated Sugar Company in Ogden, Utah. In April of 1981, Mr. Chertudi was promoted to the position of Vice President of Operations. The Snake River Sugar Company was formed in 1994 and, in 1997, acquired the operating assets of The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC. The Corporate Office moved to Boise, Idaho in 2003 and in 2005, he was promoted to Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, a position he held until his retirement in December of 2007. Mr. Chertudi's long and distinguished 38 year career with The Amalgamated Sugar Company had humble beginnings, but concluded with his holding one of the Company's highest and most influential positions.

During Mr. Chertudi's twenty-six year tenure at the helm of Amalgamated's Operating Department, his many accomplishments, achieved through the application of new or improved technology, are far too many to list, but generally included major factory upgrades, expansions and process improvements. Improvements were made throughout all factory operating areas, ranging from beet handling to high speed packing and utilized equipment and technologies from major suppliers such as Alfa Laval, Ari, Babbini, BMA, Concetti, Honiron, Maguin, Putsch, Stord and others. Some of the most notable factory improvements included the expansion of the Mini-Cassia factory from 9,000 to 18,000 tons-per-day, installing chromatographic

separator technology at both Twin Falls and Nampa factories and installing the largest steam dryer in the world at the Nampa factory. Although the many projects envisioned and championed by Mr. Chertudi have significantly driven company successes, perhaps the greatest impact came through the encouragement and development of his people. A “people person” nature and “never give up” fighter personality, though seemingly incompatible traits, were a rare and powerful combination that instilled a craving for innovation and performance that would extend beyond his service to benefit The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC well into the future. He understood the power of people and the value of their contributions to overall company success.

In addition to Mr. Chertudi’s many accomplishments with The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC, he also served on the Beet Sugar Development Foundation Education Committee from 1988 to 2007, has been a long time member of the American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists and held memberships and participated in technical meetings at Sugar Industry Technologists and the International Commission for Sugar Technology in Europe.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

The ASSBT awards Meritorious Service Awards to members who have been outstanding in promoting the objectives of the Society or have made significant contributions to the beet sugar industry.

This year, the ASSBT awarded three Meritorious Service Awards:

Dr. Albert Sims

Dr. Albert Sims has been an active member of the ASSBT for the past 15 years. He has presented numerous oral and poster presentations at Biennial meetings. He has published in the Journal of Sugar Beet Research and, on occasion, served as a reviewer for Journal articles. Dr. Sims has presented research information to thousands of growers at annual production seminars at American Crystal Sugar Company, Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative and Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative growing areas. He has excellent oral and written communication skills. He has organized tours of sugar-beet research trials in the Red River Valley and Southern Minnesota on many occasions. Dr. Sims readily answers phone calls from cooperative agriculturists, consultants and growers on a wide range of nutrient management related topics.

Mr. Mark Bredehoeft

Since 1989, Mark Bredehoeft has been intensively and professionally active in the sugar beet industry. His professional activities began soon after receiving his Masters of Science Degree from North Dakota State University when he went to work as an Agriculturalist for Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative (SMBSC). In 1991, he became SMBSC's Research Agronomist in a research department with little more than a couple of hand sprayers. Since that time, with his leadership, SMBSC has developed a sophisticated research department that conducts over 100 experiments annually. Mr. Bredehoeft has developed relationships with, and the respect of, researchers from the University of Minnesota, North Dakota State University, South Dakota State University and Texas A&M University. Though his academic training was in the area of Weed Science, his research activities have expanded into the areas of Soil Science, Agronomy, Plant Pathology and Plant Physiology. He has been instrumental in developing and delivering high quality educational programs to sugar beet producers using research-based information from his own and his colleagues' experiences and those of his university contacts. Both, Mr. Bredehoeft's research and educational activities are driven by his desire to improve sugar beet production for the producers.

Dr. John Lamb

Dr. John Lamb received his Doctorate from the University of Nebraska in Soil Fertility and Management in 1984. Since then, Dr. Lamb has been employed by the University of Minnesota and has been involved in the sugar industry conducting research and making presentations of his research to growers and the industry. Dr. Lamb is highly respected for his knowledge and experience in the study of Soil Fertility in sugar beets and other crops. He has been involved in the industry by assisting growers and industry agricultural staffs in production decisions and assisting the industry in regulatory policies proposed by government agencies. He has also been involved in writing bulletins for Fertilizing Sugar Beets in Minnesota and North Dakota. Dr. Lamb was the primary author in writing the newest bulletin for fertilizing sugar beets in Southern Minnesota. He was a driving force in the reduction of nitrogen rates for sugar beet production in Southern Minnesota. The primary objective of his work has been to increase sugar production in sugar beets.

FORTY-YEAR VETERAN AWARD

The ASSBT awards Forty-Year Veteran certificates to those individuals competing forty years of service to the beet sugar industry.

This year the ASSBT awarded 32 certificates:

Alvin Bangart, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Dennis Burthwick, American Crystal Sugar Company
Dean Campbell, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Larry Carlson, American Crystal Sugar Company
Dennis Costesso, The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC
Verdie Crist, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Russell Day, The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC
Robert DeVries, American Crystal Sugar Company
Jim Emmons, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Reinhard Floeter, American Crystal Sugar Company,
Emerald Performance Materials & Putsch
Roy French, Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative and
Hydrite Chemical Co.
Marilyn Fulk, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Jerry Garner, The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC
Dan Hamburg, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Lupe Hinojosa, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Gerry Holbrook, The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC (Retired)
Jim LaFrenz, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Gary Larson, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Bill McNeer, Holly Sugar and Emerald Foam Control
Dan Mashue, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Guadalupe Molina, American Crystal Sugar Company
Gary Netherland, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Jerry Oren, Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative
Harriet Paris, Wyoming Sugar Company
Diane Patterson, The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC
Dave Rademacher, Syngenta
Chris Rhoten, The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC
Dewane Roberts, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Michael Rucker, The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC
Larry Schneider, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Ron Sterling, The Western Sugar Cooperative
Dale Walker, The Western Sugar Cooperative