

NEWS RELEASE

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## Oklahoma Cattlemen Honor Richard Gebhart as a Hall of Fame Inductee

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK. July 27, 2015 – The late Richard Gebhart was inducted into the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association Hall of Fame during the recent Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association (OCA) Convention and Trade Show.

Richard Gebhart, passed away on May 31. At the time of his passing, he was serving as OCA president and would have finished his term on July 25, 2015.

Richard is the third inductee into the OCA Hall of Fame and will always be remembered as an exemplary leader in the beef industry.

Richard and his family operated Beacon Hill Ranch, a Hereford operation established in northeastern Oklahoma in 1909. He was an active volunteer leader in the cattle industry for many years at all levels. Nationally he was named treasurer of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and served as chairman of the Federation of State Beef Councils and vice chair of the Joint Issues Management Subcommittee. He also served as an advisor on several sustainability efforts involving the beef supply chain, and participated in writing a comprehensive Life Cycle Assessment of the U.S. beef supply chain.

"He was an outstanding leader with an unparalleled vision and commitment for moving our cattle industry forward," said newly elected OCA President, Charlie Swanson.

In Oklahoma, Richard was extremely active in the beef cattle industry. He was a lifetime member and president of the OCA. He was vice-chair and former treasurer of the Oklahoma Beef Council. He was a past chairman of the Tulsa State Fair Junior Livestock Auction Committee and served as a board member of the Rogers County Cattlemen's Association, as well as treasurer of the Rogers County Fair Board.

"Richard was always fully engaged to the task at hand. His laughter and smile were contagious and his words were always seasoned with wisdom and sound thought," continued Swanson. "While he will be sorely missed, we honor his legacy by dedicating ourselves to continuing the highest standards that he held for himself and his industry."

In addition to the ranching operation, Richard was professor of operations management and director of assessment in the Collins College of Business at the University of Tulsa (TU). He held a law degree from TU; an MBA from Syracuse University; a master's degree in agricultural economics/animal science from Mississippi State University; and a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Arkansas,

doing post graduate work at the University of Kansas. Before joining the faculty at TU, Richard served a thirty year career in the U.S. Army as an infantry officer retiring as a colonel.

“In honor of Richard, the family has established an education leadership fund through the Oklahoma Cattlemen’s Foundation that will assist students who are seeking advanced degrees and have long-term goals for active leadership in the beef cattle industry,” Swanson said.

The OCA represents more than 5,500 Oklahoma ranching families. The OCA exists to support and defend the state and nation’s beef cattle industry. The OCA officers, board of directors and membership encourages you to join us in our advocacy efforts to ensure less government intervention, lower taxes and a better bottom line. For more information about OCA membership, the Gebhart Legacy Fund, the theft reward program or activities call 405-235-4391 or visit [www.okcattlemen.org](http://www.okcattlemen.org).

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Photo Cutline: (Left to right) OCA President Charlie Swanson, Susan Gebhart, Roxanne Gebhart, Erica Boyer, Matt Boyer and OCA Executive Vice President, Michael Kelsey.

