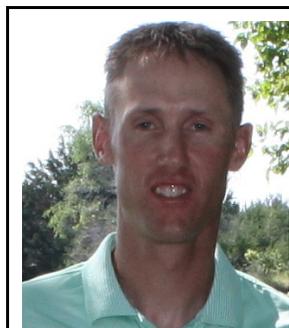


Meet the 2013 NGC Presenters

(in alphabetical order)



Chad Buell

Chad Buell owns and operates Shovel Dot Ranch with his wife, Tricia, their four children and his parents, Homer and Darla Buell. After receiving a B.S. in Agribusiness from UNL, he returned to the ranch, which is located in north central Nebraska. Currently, the ranch calves 700 cows and heifers, retaining their own heifers for breeding. They also run a backgrounding operation, running about 350 home-raised steers and another 500 purchased steers. They sell yearling cattle through the summer from July to September. In 2012 the Buell Family, which includes Chad's family, his parents, and the family of his uncle Larry Buell, received the Leopold Conservation Award for Nebraska.



Homer Buell

Homer Buell was raised on the family ranch in Rock County and is co-owner of Shovel Dot Ranch. He holds a business degree (marketing) from UNL. He served in the Nebraska National Guard 1969-1975. He has been and continues to be a member and has held leadership positions in many cattle and civic organizations as well as his church, including National Cattlemen's Beef Association, Nebraska Cattlemen, Sandhills Cattle Association, Sandhills Task Force, Sandhills Cowboy Hall of Fame, Nebraska and American Hereford Associations, American Legion, Nebraska 4-H Foundation Board, Nebraska Ag Builders, University of Nebraska President's Advisory Council, UNL Center for Grassland Studies Citizens Advisory Council, and the University of Nebraska Foundation's Campaign for Nebraska – Sustainable Animal Production Systems. Honors include induction into the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement, University of Nebraska's Block and Bridle 2009 Honoree, and his family receiving the 2012 Leopold Conservation Award.

Homer and his wife, Darla (Myers), have two grown children, Tara and Chad.



Terry DeGross

Upon graduation from Colorado State University with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, Terry DeGross joined a beef cattle veterinary practice in Burwell, NE. The practice services parts of seven counties in north central Nebraska, which is in the eastern range of the Sandhills. He created his current business, Management Information Systems, in 1994 and left the veterinary practice at that time. MIS provides financial and production record keeping systems for several area ranches.

Terry has served on the board of directors of the Nebraska Cattlemen and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. He held an adjunct instructor position with the University of Nebraska from 1990 through 2008. During that time, he served as a mentor and instructor in the areas of accounting and financial management for the Beef Cattle Production Management program at the Great Plains Veterinary Educational Center at Clay Center.

He and wife, Linda, have three children and eight grandchildren.



Jim Faulstich

Jim Faulstich and wife, Carol, own and operate Daybreak Ranch in central South Dakota along with their daughter Jacquie, son-in-law Adam, and their two children, Alexis and Caleb. Jim and family use a holistic approach to manage a Red Angus cow herd, custom graze yearling heifers, and also operate an upland bird and whitetail deer hunting enterprise. Jim is chairman of the South Dakota Grassland Coalition, attends the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) state technical committee meetings, led the movement to bring the Leopold Conservation Award Program to South Dakota in 2010, and gives presentations on ranch adaptive management and conservation to many groups including the South Dakota Grazing School.

Jim and family have received the National Cattlemen's Beef Association Environmental Stewardship Award for Region VII, Society for Range Management's Excellence in Grazing Award, South Dakota Wildlife Society's Citizen Award, the National NRCS Excellence in Conservation Award as part of the leadership of the South Dakota Grassland Coalition, and South Dakota State University Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta Distinguished Alumnus Award.



Grady Grissom

Grady Grissom has been a manager/partner at Rancho Largo Cattle Co. since 1995. Rancho Largo is a 14,000 acre ranch east of Walsenburg, CO, where the fundamental philosophy is: maximum ecosystem health equals maximum ranching profit. Strategic time-controlled grazing allows cattle to fill the ecological niche as the primary large grazing ruminant.

After receiving a B.A. in Geology from Princeton University in 1984, Grissom worked on ranches in eastern Colorado until he returned to graduate school in 1987. He finished a Ph.D. in Geology at Stanford University in 1991 and worked as a farrier in the Bay area until 1995 when he landed at Rancho Largo. (Photo credit: This head-and-shoulder shot was cropped from a photo by Courtney White of the Quivira Coalition.)



Charles Hibberd

Charles Hibberd returned to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in October 2012 as the Dean and Director of Extension. He served as the District Director of the UNL Panhandle Research & Extension Center from 1994 to 2007. In between he was the Director of Purdue Extension. Prior to his first position at UNL, he was on the animal science faculty at Oklahoma State University, from which he received his M.S. and Ph.D. in the area of animal nutrition. His B.S. in animal science was from UNL.



Karla Jenkins

Karla Jenkins received her B.S. from Texas A&M University and her M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is the Cow/calf Range Management Specialist for UNL at the Panhandle Research and Extension Center in Scottsbluff. The research program includes finding more efficient and economical ways to produce beef cattle while sustaining the range resource. That often includes using by-products such as distillers grains or beet pulp in the diet or alternative crops such as peas. Additionally, crop residues and forage crops are studied for their value for beef cattle. Her extension program involves working with producers to explain and implement practices found to be beneficial through the research program.



Doug Olsen

Douglas Olsen farms and ranches in Banner County, located on the western edge of the Nebraska Panhandle. He and his father, Arthur, operate Olsen Ranches, Inc., a fourth-generation family business. Douglas and his wife, Pamela, have two sons, Isaac and Luke. Olsen Ranches, Inc. is a diversified crop and beef cattle operation that was named the 2004 Beef Improvement Foundation Commercial Producer of the Year and the 2012 Hereford Innovator of the Year by the American Hereford Association. Additionally, Douglas serves as chairman for the Panhandle Cooperative Board and is a member of the Banner County Volunteer Fire Department. He previously served as president of the Kimball, Banner, Cheyenne County Extension Board. Douglas is a 1994 graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, with an Agricultural Honors degree.



Lyle Perman

Lyle Perman is a fourth-generation South Dakota farmer/rancher. He was raised five miles east of Lowry, SD on a diversified farm and ranch. His maternal and paternal great grandparents homesteaded within 20 miles of the current ranch.

Lyle graduated from South Dakota State University in 1977. With his wife, Garnet, he established Rock Hills Ranch in 1976. Located near Lowry, the ranch grew to approximately 7500 owned and leased acres. Their son, Luke, joined the operation in 2006, and three years ago he and wife, Naomi, moved into full-time management of the ranch, with Lyle and Garnet helping as needed.

Farm and ranch concerns include a cow/calf operation, hay and crop production, and a small hunting operation. Management decisions are based on a holistic model with a focus on improving the production and diversity of the native grassland. Sustainability is important, as the long-term goal is to provide the opportunity to make a living on the land to the sixth generation. To help cash flow on the ranch, Lyle started in the insurance business in 1985, which continues today.

Lyle is a member of the SD Cattlemen's Association, Farm Bureau, National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the SD Grassland Coalition. He also serves on a regional advisory board for SD Game, Fish and Parks.



Jeff Pribbeno

Jeff Pribbeno was raised in Imperial, NE, where he is now president and owner, with wife Connie, of Wine Glass Ranch, a ranch that operates and manages the 125-year-old family-owned farm and ranch operation in Chase County. They have a summer calving cow/calf herd, a yearling stocker and custom grazing operation, and raise wheat, corn, milo, millet and sunflowers. They also operate a guided pheasant hunting and hunting lease business on the ranch called Open Country Adventures.

Jeff has been a member of National Cattlemen's Beef Association since 1978 and has served on the Foreign Trade Committee for many years. He was selected as the Nebraska delegate to attend the Young Cattlemen's Leadership Conference in 1986, and was appointed National Young Cattlemen's Leadership Conference chairman in 1987. He has been active in Nebraska Cattlemen since 1977, having served on the Board of Directors along with heading various committees through the years and as president 1995-1996. He is also a member of Nebraska Wheat Growers Association and Sandhills Cattle Association.

Jeff graduated from the University of Nebraska with a B.S. in Agriculture. He participated in the Nebraska LEAD program in 1989. He and Connie have two married sons: Logan who is operations manager of Wine Glass Ranch and Max, a banker in Fort Collins, CO.



Bob Price

Robert E. (Bob) Price was originally raised in northeast New Mexico on a ranch near Mt. Dora. He graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1975 with a degree in Agricultural Economics. Following graduation, Bob moved to Gracie Creek Ranch, a commercial cattle ranch near Burwell, NE. He has two children: Aaron, who works for the USDA in Des Moines, IA, and Lindsey (Price) Smith, who works with him in the day-to-day operations at Gracie Creek Ranch.



Sarah Sortum

Growing up on her family's Sandhills ranch in Loup County, NE, Sarah Sortum gained a deep appreciation for the region's unique beauty and strong heritage. Like many young people in rural Nebraska, she found herself at a crossroads upon graduation from high school; economic opportunities seemed too few and far between to make coming home to live and work in the place she loved a reality.

After receiving a B.S. in Social Studies from the University of Minnesota, Sarah and her husband, Mark, managed a high-end guest resort ranch near Steamboat Springs, CO. When the time came to start a family, the couple decided to return to Nebraska. While working for her family's operation, Switzer Ranch, as well as her brother's business, Calamus Outfitters, Sarah began to study market-based solutions to conservation and other strategies to support the long-term sustainability of the ranch, and the Switzer family as a whole.

Currently, Sarah is the Director of Planning for the Gracie Creek Landowners while working for Calamus Outfitters and the Switzer Ranch. Her full-time job is being "momma" for her two boys, Emmett (age 6) and Henry (age 5). In 2010, Sarah's childhood dream of living and working on the family ranch became a reality when she and her family moved back onto the home place.



Lindsey Smith

Lindsey (Price) Smith graduated from Oklahoma State University in 2008 with a degree in Agribusiness. She worked at a family-owned community bank in Morrison, OK for three years after graduation. She returned to Nebraska in June, 2011 with her husband Clayton Smith, who graduated from Oklahoma State University with a degree in Veterinary Medicine. Lindsey and Clayton live in Custer County, NE. Clayton works as a veterinarian in Broken Bow and Lindsey works with her dad, Bob Price, at their commercial cattle ranch, Gracie Creek Ranch, near Burwell, NE.



Dan Stelling

Dan Stelling has been grazing commercial cows and farming in the Pierce, NE area since 1979. He has been running between 200 and 280 cows for the past several years, currently having scaled back to 200 due to the dry conditions. Some of these cows are their own and some are managed for an absentee owner.

A lifelong resident of Pierce County, he has been active in the church, been a member of the local school board, local fire and rescue board as well as many other volunteer positions. Dan and wife, Melinda, currently lead FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) for Pierce High School. He has three grown children and enjoys fishing, hunting, golf and watching high school sports.



Burke Teichert

Burke Teichert was born and raised on a family ranch in western Wyoming. He received a B.S. in agricultural business from Brigham Young University, and a M.S. in agricultural economics from the University of Wyoming where he was on the faculty for one year. He later taught classes in agricultural marketing, agribusiness, and farm and ranch management at Brigham Young University. In the early 1970s he worked for Carnation Co. Genetics Division marketing artificial insemination programs and coordinating sire proving programs.

In the mid 1970s he was introduced to planned, time-controlled grazing and almost immediately began to implement these concepts in operations. In the 1980s he managed seven cattle ranches for the LDS Church, and in the 1990s was General Manager and later Vice President and General Manager with AgReserves Inc. He was involved in seven major ranch acquisitions in the U.S. and the management of a number of farms and ranches in the U.S. as well as Canada and Argentina. Over the years he has developed a reputation for organizing ranches to be very cost-effective with very efficient, small crews.

Currently Teichert is a principal in Carrus Management Solutions and works as a speaker, consultant and contract manager.



Jerry Volesky

Jerry Volesky is a Range and Forage Specialist stationed at the UNL West Central Research and Extension Center. His primary area of research is on grazing management and systems. His current projects include: rangeland – controlling downy brome in rangeland, grazing systems effects on Sandhills plant communities, and grazing systems effects on yearling performance and diet quality; forage – yield and quality of stockpiled cool-season perennial grasses, forage production under different irrigation water allocations, effect of N fertility and irrigation water allocation on cool-season grass yield and quality, and summer annual forage evaluation.

Jerry received a B.S. in Biology from Dickinson State University in North Dakota, M.S. in Range Science from North Dakota State University, and Ph.D. in Range Science from South Dakota State University.



Sean Whipple

Sean Whipple is a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Panhandle Research and Extension Center in Scottsbluff, NE. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees in wildlife biology from the University of Nebraska-Kearney, and a Ph.D. in entomology from UNL. The research focus of his doctoral degree was the ecology of dung beetles in the Great Plains and subsequent benefits to the agricultural community through their role in dung removal, nutrient cycling, and the biological control of dung breeding pests and parasites. His research on dung beetles has been featured in National Geographic News, MSNBC, GEO magazine, Science Daily, and the Entomological Society of America. He also conducts research on topics including insect pest ecology and resistance management, plant and insect physiology, insecticide efficacy, plant-insect disease interaction, and molecular genetics. He has nine peer-reviewed publications and 12 extension publications on the impact of insects in agriculture.