



March 17, 2026

To: Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
Members and Affiliates

From: Doyle Anderson, Board President
Bobby Martens, Executive Director

Subject: Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
Hall of Fame Nominations

The Iowa Institute for Cooperatives Awards Program was initiated in 1999. Since then, 60 individuals have been inducted into the Cooperative Hall of Fame. At the direction of the Institute's Board, in 2005 we began a more formal approach to soliciting the nomination of individuals to be considered for induction into the Cooperative Hall of Fame.

This year the award will be presented to no more than two individuals at our annual meeting that will be held on **Wednesday, August 26, 2026**. We are seeking nominations for this year's award. Enclosed are the specifics of the awards program and a nomination form.

Iowa has a rich cooperative heritage as well as a diverse and active modern cooperative community serving its members today and planning for the future. We hope you will take time to help us identify individuals who have made significant contributions to cooperatives and nominate them for this award.

The selection criteria and procedure can be found on the back of this page. The nomination form can also be found on the Iowa Co-op Hall of Fame page under the "About Us" tab on our website at <http://www.iowainstitute.coop>. All nominations must be submitted on the form or in the same format and received at the Institute's office **no later than Friday, June 5, 2026**. Please expound as much as possible upon your nominee's background and accomplishments. This will be very helpful in providing the selection committee with the information necessary to make an informed decision. Please **submit nomination to info@iowainstitute.coop** or address your nomination to:

Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
Attn: Hall of Fame
2515 University Blvd., Suite 104
Ames, IA 50010

If you have any questions, please contact our office at info@iowainstitute.coop. We encourage your participation and involvement.

Iowa Institute for Cooperatives Hall of Fame Nomination

Nominee Contact Information

Name of Nominee _____
Cooperative or
Company Affiliation _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Email _____
Telephone _____
Spouse's Name _____

Nomination Submitted by:

Date _____
Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Telephone _____
Email _____
Co-op Affiliation _____

Please **submit your nomination to info@iowainstitute.coop** or address it to

Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
Attn.: Hall of Fame
2515 University Blvd, Suite 104
Ames, IA 50010

The nomination deadline is **Friday, June 5, 2026.**

Please complete the four sections below, each on a separate page and attach them to the cover sheet. For Section IV, please feel free to attach additional documentation to adequately show nominee’s contribution to the cooperative system in Iowa.

Section I-Cooperative System Involvement (10 Points)

Please provide locations, time frame and brief description of job title/position held.

Date Range	Location/Co-op	Job Title/Position Held
------------	----------------	-------------------------

Section II Community and Civic Involvement and Honors (10 Points)

Please list community and civic involvement and awards and honors received.

Section III--Career and Biographical Information (5 Points)

Please include other pertinent career or biographical information such as education. If nominee is a farmer, producer please include information regarding farming operation.

Section IV--Contributions to Success of Cooperative System (25 points)

Please tell us why this nominee should be inducted into the IIC Hall of Fame. Describe their contributions to the success of the cooperative system. Please refer to the selection criteria below as you are preparing your nomination. **Comments should focus on examples of cooperative promotion, education, unity, defense of the cooperative system and/or growth of the cooperative system, and inspiration to others in the advancement of the cooperative system.**

You may choose to demonstrate the applicant's contributions of advancement for Iowa cooperatives in the form of letters of recommendation, news articles and other published materials, resume or written narrative.

We strongly encourage you to attach up to five letters of endorsement supporting your nomination.

Selection Criteria

Late nominations will not be accepted.

Nominees are selected based on their significant contributions to cooperatives.

Individuals nominated:

- Have demonstrated commitment to cooperatives and to the principle of cooperation.
- Are/were willing to serve in leadership positions.
- Have demonstrated leadership in growth and service to their respective cooperative's members.
- Fostered and promoted cooperative education and a better understanding of cooperatives.
- Have achieved innovation and change to improve and promote cooperatives.
- Are/were involved in civic or community activities
- Are/were affiliated with the Iowa Institute for Cooperatives as individuals or through their cooperative.

Selection Procedure

- No more than two individuals will be inducted into the Hall of Fame annually.
- Consideration will only be given to complete nominations received prior to the deadline.
- Individuals or organizations may make nominations.
- Nominations not selected in the first year will be held in a selection pool for two additional years for a total of three years consideration. Nominations and letters of recommendation may be updated as addenda to the original nomination.
- The President of the Board of the Iowa Institute will appoint the selection committee.

**Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
Cooperative Hall of Fame
Award Recipients**

Year	Recipient
2025	Dyle Erickson
2025	Roger Arthur
2024	Don Feldman
2024	David Holm
2024	Keith Spackler
2023	Chuck Schafer
2023	Don Miller
2022	Dave Leiting
2022	John T. Ward
2021	Jim Carlson
2021	Brad Davis
2019	Randy Behrens
2019	Tom Leiting
2018	Art Churchill
2018	Bill Lester
2017	Tom Francis
2017	Jack Friedman
2016	Brent Bunte
2016	Marty Reagan
2015	Joe Anniss
2015	G. Joe Lyon
2014	Roger Koppen
2014	Larry Petersen
2013	Daniel Gardiner
2013	James L. Long
2012	Robert Bauman
2012	Garald Zomermaand
2011	J. Gordon Toyne
2011	Donald F. Williams
2010	Billy Hotchkiss
2010	Denis Leiting
2009	Glen Keppy
2009	Christian Nygaard
2008	Donald Gregg
2008	Robert "Bob" Jacobus
2008	Ivan E. Summa
2008	Roman Welter
2007	Tom Feldmann
2007	Donald Grigg
2007	Ken Hastings
2007	Wayne Seaman
2006	Karl Nolin
2006	Eugene Drager
2006	Robert Wallentine
2006	Vale Peter
2005	Matt Niess
2005	Urban Knobbe
2005	Carl Zurborg
2004	Tom Walker
2004	Stan Zylstra
2003	Larry Kallem
2002	John Peterson
2002	Dr. Roger Ginder
2002	Dr. Duane Acker
2001	Phil Dukes
2001	Leonard Boswell
2000	Travis Potter
2000	Gerald Pepper
2000	Tom Sharp
1999	Cooper Evans