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Paul Noland Inducted into Arkansas Veterans' Hall of Fame

"Arkansas Veterans Honored for Service" by Laurinda Joenks for NWA Democrat-Gazette

"He was in a pretty tough situation," Brian Noland of Little Rock said of his father, Paul. "He was in some very fierce battles. He lost two commanding officers in one day. He probably deserved the Purple Heart. He took on shrapnel but didn't go back because he'd probably get shot by a German sniper."



Paul Noland during WWII

PFC Paul Noland served as a light mortar crewman in the Army in World War II, participating in three campaign battles in Europe, according to a Hall of Fame biography.

He served in the Battle of the Bulge, just before the Allied forces got into Berlin, Brian

Noland shared. His father's troop also liberated a concentration camp in Czechoslovakia and monitored the camp in 1945-46. He earned three Bronze Battle Stars, the World War II Victory Medal and the Combat Infantry Man and Expert Infantryman Badges.

"I wish he could be here [for the induction ceremony]," Brian Noland said. "He was very proud of his service."

Paul Noland's military experience shaped the rest of his life also. "He was just happy to get away from it," Brian Noland shared. "He was alive when so many of his friends died in the conflict. He came back and wanted to make a better place in this world."

"Once he got away from the military, he realized how fortunate he was, and made it a life of service."

"His award is also for public service," reads the Hall of Fame biography.

Paul Noland was an agriculture professor for 43 years at the University of Arkansas and retired in 1994 as the head of the animal sciences department, according to his obituary provided by his son. Paul Noland died Dec. 31, a loss still fresh in Brian Noland's heart. In 1995, Paul Noland was inducted into the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame.

"He touched the lives of hundreds of stu-

dents," Brian Noland said.

Paul Noland served 13 years on the Fayetteville Board of Directors and as mayor for five years. He was a member of the Fayetteville Lions club for more than 50 years, district chairman of Boy Scouts of America and an active 65-year member of Central United Methodist Church in Fayetteville.

"Some might chuckle at the honor of having one's name on a sewage treatment plant, but the one on the city's east side is formally known as the Paul R. Noland Wastewater Treatment Plant," reads a January editorial memorializing Noland in the Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. "He worked hard to get it built, and imagine what kind of limitations Fayetteville would have faced without adequate facilities. He knew it's not just about flushing toilets; it's about the capacity to grow as a community."

Noland moved his family to rural Panama for two years in 1955, working on an agricultural research mission sponsored by the university and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He and his wife, Eunice, returned to Panama many times over the next 60 years, and in 2009, the Panamanian government awarded him the country's highest civilian honor, the Vasco Nunez de Balboa Award. }

Ranch Horse Team Kicks Off Competition Season

Whitley Vann, Lensay Watson, and Ashton Williams started the 2016-2017 Ranch Horse Competition season with a bang, all placing at the American Stock Horse Association Region 3 Championship at MSU on October 23rd. Since its formation in January, the University of Arkansas Ranch Horse Team has already claimed the Reserve National Champion title in April, only three months after the team's official formation.

At the October competition, Vann won the Non-Pro Regional Championship, Watson won the Novice Reserve Regional Championship, and Williams placed third in Novice Reserve Regional. Moreover, Watson and Williams placed second and third, respectively, in their reining classes, and Watson won the Ranch Trail portion of the competition.

"We had students competing in the Novice division and the Non-Pro division. They all did really, really well," said Ranch Horse Team Coach, Daniel Potter. Potter competed in the Open while at the event and won the 3-5 year old horse division.

"There are 4 divisions," said Potter. "There's 'Open,' which is open to the public. Most are people who have been paid to train horses. The next level is 'Non-Pro.' They have the same level of difficulty as the open riders—they're just in a different group because they're not professionals. Then there's a division called 'Limited Non-Pro.' That's intermediate, if you will. Then there's 'Novice.' They're more of the cattle working division, but they're not necessarily your beginner riders."

Within each division are four separate events. Each event gets more complex as the competition goes on. The goal is to identify the ideal ranch horse—a horse that is able to

adapt to any ranching situation.

"There's 'Ranch Pleasure,' which is just 'how nice is your horse to ride from part A of the ranch to part B of the ranch?'" explained Potter. "They have to show their horse at a walk, jog, lope, extended lope, extended trot, and all the transitions in between. Your horse needs to be really good at being able to haul tail somewhere, and then when you get there calm right back down and go to work. Maybe there's a horse that's really good at working the cow, but he's amped up all the time—he's not going to do very well in that class."

"The next event we do is 'Ranch Trail.' It's kind of like an obstacle course. You have to work a gate without getting off of your horse, drag logs, and then there's usually a bridge to go over, a bunch of logs laying out that your horse has to pick its way through—that sort of thing. That's all to simulate the things you'll have to do while you're out working. Lensay Watson's horse is really good at the trail."

"The next event is 'Reining,' which is spins and sliding stops—kind of to show how agile and fancy your horse is. We've got two really good reining horses—one of them Ashton rides, and the other one Lensay rides."

"The fourth event—which is the culmination of it all, and why we do the competition—is 'Cow-Horse.' It takes a good rider and a good horse to keep it all under control." Riders must direct a cow around the arena in a certain format without the losing control of the cow or herd.

"We are making a lot of progress with it being only our ninth month as an organization," said Potter. "They've got their eye on winning Division 2 this year. It's really neat. We've got good students and good horses." }



Ranch Horse Team from left to right: Lensay Watson & JR, Ashton Williams & Sherman, Whitley Vann & Cupcake, Kyle Kennedy & Little Bit, Alexa Selman & Doc, and Daniel Potter & Chief.

Departmental Highlights



Will Pohlman

• Animal Science student Will Pohlman will serve as a Signature Scholar for the University of Arkansas Honors College in Spring 2017. This has won him a seat in the Honors College Signature Seminar "Teeth: Evolution's Bite" by Dr. Ungar.

• We have a new YouTube channel! Find us on YouTube @University of Arkansas Dept of Animal Science. We've been working hard to make videos that are both educational and entertaining! You can also follow the YouTube link at the top of our website at animal-science.uark.edu.



Dirk Philipp filming at the farm.



James Koltes

• The University of Arkansas chapter of Sigma Xi Honors Research Society hosted a lunch seminar on October 28th with Dr. James Koltes as the keynote speaker. His presentation was titled "Genes in cattle, genes in humans, understanding the complexities of iron regulation."

• Congratulations to Karen Anschutz, Shawn Curtis, and Toby Lester for their dedicated service to the University of Arkansas Department of Animal Science. Anschutz has served as a Program Technician for 25 years, Curtis has served as an Instructor and Farm Foreman for 25 years, and Lester has served as a Program Technician for 20 years. All three were honored at the Employee Service Awards Banquet in October. }



Honoree Toby Lester helping prepare a cow demonstration for students at the Livestock Barn in 2012.