

Ohio – 2012



Robert L. "Bob" Evans President, Bob Evans Farms

4-H Activities: Lifelong promoter of 4-H Conservation and Natural Resources Education. Initiated the Ohio 4-H Competitive Trail Ride. Sponsored "Acre for Wildlife" at local 4-H camp sites and initiated capital improvements to his local 4-H Camp with a \$250,000 challenge grant. Annually donated Quarter Horse colts to deserving 4-H members in Ohio and surrounding mid-western states. Served on the Ohio 4-H Foundation Board of Directors 1975-80 & 1982-91.

Honors: Only person bestowed a lifetime membership on Ohio 4-H Foundation Board. Ohio State Fair Hall of Fame, 1976. Ohio Governor's Award, 1978. Ohio 4-H Hall of Fame, 1982. The Ohio State University Distinguished Service Award, 1988.

Home: Gallipolis, Ohio

Nominated by: Ohio 4-H

Internet: [Bob Evans - History & Legacy](#)

Year Inducted: 2012

Bob Evans, founder of Bob Evans Farms, Inc. and the popular restaurant chain, has given generously of his time, talents, and money to support 4-H. He promoted 4-H Conservation and Natural Resources Education books for 4-H member's leaders and sponsored "Acre for Wildlife" projects at five camp sites. He encouraged the major improvements of Canter's Cave 4-H Camp near Jackson with a \$250,000 challenge grant. Bob initiated and sponsored the Ohio 4-H Competitive Trail Ride at his Rio Grande farm and gave Quarter Horse

colts to selected 4-H members in Ohio and other Mid-western states. Bob also encouraged the improvement of swine production by supporting many county and state fairs.

Bob sponsored the trophies for the 4-H Natural Resources Day and was involved in the start of Sale of Champions at the Ohio State Fair. Bob served on the Ohio 4-H Foundation Board of Directors from 1975-80 and from 1982-91. The work of 4-H has been enhanced by the interest and work of Bob Evans, and for his dedication to Ohio 4-H, he was the only person to be recognized with a lifetime membership on the Ohio 4-H Foundation Board. All of Bob's children and several grandchildren were 4-H members. Bob Evans Farms, Inc. has continued to support Ohio 4-H both financially and with company representation on the Ohio 4-H Foundation Board. Three employees have served on the board since the mid 1990's.

Quote: The only thing better than sausage is 4-H!