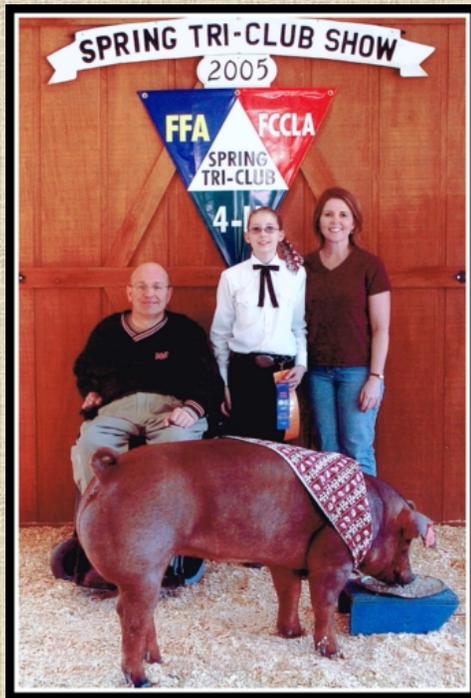


2022 Tri-Club Honorees

Bracewell LLP & Steve Gerdes



Since 2005, Bracewell LLP has participated annually at the Spring Livestock Show & Fair. With only a couple exceptions, over the last 17 years Bracewell has been a Top 10 Buyer every Show. During that time, Steve Gerdes, along with Brian Teaff, have come out to raise the paddle on behalf of Bracewell and Barron Wallace. Barron represents Spring ISD with public finance matters and Steve assisted the District with the tax portion of those public finance transactions. In other words, Barron and Steve help facilitate the bond sales that have built most of the schools in SISD.

Steve Gerdes shares:

“I participated starting at age 8 in 4-H and FFA growing up in Walnut, Illinois. I remember how important it was to my educational development to learn a sense of responsibility and to manage a budget for my projects. Essentially, each project is a small business endeavor.

Community businesses provided an essential function to realize revenue from these 4-H and FFA projects, which because of their size, would otherwise be difficult to market.

As a Houston area law firm, Bracewell is part of this community and has had a commitment to education dating back many decades. As a member of this practice group prior to my retirement in 2021, supporting Tri-Club allowed me the privilege to give back to the process and programs that were so important to my early development. It has been a very rewarding experience to observe over the span of the 17 years the hard work, commitment and development of these wonderful students. This has been a humbling experience for which I am profoundly grateful.

As a local business, we at Bracewell are proud to support the Spring ISD community and to represent the Spring Independent School District. As a member of the Bracewell team that represents Spring ISD, it has been a profound privilege to have this opportunity to give back to these students in a manner that reflected what I was given many years ago when I was at a similar point in my life.”

Steve has been supporting the Spring Livestock Show & Fair since 2005. Steve participates on behalf of Bracewell but also makes a matching donation of his own as an added opportunity to help more Exhibitors. Marsha Perez shares that Steve’s support of her own children has been invaluable and definitely lead to the successes they had at the Show. Steve’s support of Spring Tri-Club goes beyond just participating by purchasing projects, he has made donations to Scholarships that have impacted Exhibitors by helping with their college goals.

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Barron Wallace shares:

“For more than 17 years, Bracewell and its Partners have been proud to support the Spring Livestock Show & Fair. We are certain that the values of responsibility, hard work and leadership better prepare our students for any challenges that they may encounter as they become adults. Equally important, providing students that live in large metropolitan areas with an opportunity to expand their horizons through FFA and 4-H is critical to better understanding the shared connection between humans and the animals that cohabit this earth. Bracewell salutes Spring ISD and Spring ISD Exhibitors.”

Bracewell certainly has its fair share of Live Auction purchases but is best known for purchasing projects in the Private Sale or helping Exhibitors who maybe did not receive a bid that matched other sales by giving an Add-on. Supporting Exhibitors in this manner is very important to Steve because as he stated, Steve raised livestock growing up and he knows what it's like to work hard but your project not make the sale.

Brian Teaff shares:

“Having grown up by the beach in Southern California, the concept of a livestock show was completely foreign to me until I moved to Texas and began working at Bracewell – boy was I in for a treat! Attending the Spring Livestock Show & Fair has become an annual tradition for me. From overbidding on a Single Broiler (which was the record until 2021!) to purchasing amazing embellishments that hang in my office, the Show is one of the best days of my year. Most importantly, I've gotten the opportunity to meet the amazing students and support their dreams. While Bracewell is an international law firm, we are deeply committed to our local roots and appreciate the opportunity to be involved with Spring ISD and the Spring Livestock Show & Fair.”



The Spring Livestock Show can always count on Bracewell to support the students in Spring ISD. Jana Gonzales shares that each year we see them purchasing animals in the Auction as well as purchasing animals through the Private Sale for those students that didn't make Live Auction. Their commitment to Spring ISD is huge! For many years you would see Steve Gerdes attend the Auction and if he couldn't be there he would send a representative. The support Bracewell gives to the Spring Livestock & Fair and Spring ISD is so appreciated and we cannot thank them enough. Thank you Steve and Bracewell for the friendship, support and generosity.

Bracewell has made a difference in the lives of many Exhibitors in ways that cannot be measured and that is the reason we honor Bracewell today. Spring Tri-Club acknowledges that Bracewell's support is so very much appreciated and recognize Bracewell and Steve Gerdes for all of their efforts over the years to promote agriculture in our Spring ISD community.