



International Milling Education Foundation  
*Sowing the Seeds of a Stronger Industry*

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## Honoring a Mentor

*Since the inception of the International Milling Education Foundation, IAOM Emeritus Member and past IAOM President Richard Ferrell has been a regular supporter of the endowment.*

*"I was initially prompted to make a direct personal donation to the IMEF due to my conviction that the goals of the foundation are sound," Ferrell stated. "Then, as an alternate, I decided to make a donation in Dick Bradford's name because I am convinced that Dick would have been a strong supporter of the IMEF, had it been organized during his career in the milling business."*

*According to Ferrell, Bradford came up through the old hands-on system of learning-by-doing. Then, because of the educational opportunities afforded by IAOM, Bradford was able to improve his qualifications in the milling industry on a more formal basis.*

*"After he became a supervisor and later a mill manager, he had the opportunity to mentor and influence many Pillsbury millers – with some of them going on to significant leadership roles in the IAOM."*

*Ferrell was one of the millers on whom Bradford had a direct impact.*

*"When I first met Dick, he was at the Pillsbury Los Angeles Mill in Commerce, Calif., and he had already served as president of then AOM. I was a relatively new member, and Dick encouraged me to volunteer as a district officer in Minneapolis, which I later did."*

*Ferrell said that any time he saw Bradford over the years they would invariably talk about the value of IAOM membership.*

*"His actions were certainly as loud as his words: Dick regularly attended district and national meetings throughout his career and into retirement.*

*"Being trained as an engineer, you could say my opportunity to eventually become a plant manager of a flour mill was directly linked to Dick and the IAOM educational programs," Ferrell continued. "And carrying this forward, the production and IAOM activity contributed to my later engineering management opportunities. The education gained from association activity gave me a broader understanding of milling and mill management."*

*Having worked in the milling industry for over 30 years, Ferrell noted that all aspects of the business went through considerable change in that period.*

*"Where the path leads in the future, and how the overall business will be managed is anyone's guess, but there will hopefully be a need to convert wheat to flour, and if so, there will be a need to train those responsible for the process. The IMEF can be one of the major sources of funding for that training," Ferrell emphasized.*

*"Individual contributions are important to the IMEF's educational goals – and I plan to continue to support the IMEF each year – but I believe that the IMEF must receive significant international support from both mill facilities and corporate offices to accomplish its goals," Ferrell said. "The benefits are potentially enormous for all concerned."*

*"As milling technology expands, the need to provide expanded educational programs for manufacturing operatives will be more important than ever," Ferrell continued. "I hope our contributions will significantly fund the refinement of existing, and the development of new IAOM educational programs and services."*

*"An IMEF contribution is an easy way to honor a mentor and say, 'Thanks! I could not have done it without you!'"*



*A philanthropic partner of the International Association of Operative Millers*