

## **Darald L. Marin – School 1963**

### ***Honorary Life Member 2012***

Darald L. Marin was born at Ceylon, Saskatchewan to Everett and Esther (Sabin) Marin and raised on the family farm, homesteaded in 1908 by Cloyd and Agnes Marin. He attended the one-room Troy School, Radville Public and High Schools, SAIT in Calgary, and finally the School of Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan, graduating with his diploma in 1963. Darald and Marlene (Harrison) were married 46 years ago, and have two daughters Giselle and Laura Lee (Jason), both living on farms in the Radville area. There are five grandchildren: Justin, Kailey, Conlin, Elsa, and Korbyn.

While pursuing his education, Darald purchased his first quarter of land and launched the start of a successful farming career. As a Saskatchewan Certified Seed Grower, Darald has grown and marketed seed for 35 years, operating two smaller custom seed plants before investing in and presiding over Souris River Seeds processing plant in Weyburn. Over the years, Darald farmed with his brother, Brian, his youngest brother, Garnet, and his nephew, Nathan. After spending winter months instructing Farm Management classes, Darald and Marlene began offering consulting services from their farm office.

Darald gained a great deal of experience farming the Solonetzic and saline soils of southern Saskatchewan. He pursued the trend of para-plowing soils, observing dramatic benefits in current crop production. Alfalfa was incorporated into the crop rotation, and marketed to the Pacific Rim, Wyoming, southern Montana, and locally. Darald harvested and sold kochia seed in the 1980's to assist in managing saline soils, and cooperated with the Agricultural Canada Research Station (Swift Current) and the Saskatchewan Research Council to investigate selecting a kochia cultivar for use in beef cattle rations. The Marin farm practiced zero till for thirty years, but two years of excessive moisture caused the lease operator to incorporate vertical tillage to prepare for the 2012 crop.

Darald's community involvement has been extensive, volunteering for Holy Family Church, Knights of Columbus, St. Oliver Board of Education, Radville Laurier Regional Park, Radville Cooperative Association, Radville Marian Health Centre, the local figure skating club, and Radville Housing Authority. He also served as alderman and mayor for the Town of Radville, a role highlighted by the establishment of the Long Creek Rodeo, which has become a significant financial contributor to Radville Marian Health Center. Darald is an active collector and preserver of historical artifacts, and owns the first tractor he learned to drive, a 1949 International Harvester WD6, as well as 30 other IHC tractors. Darald is currently president of the Western Canada Chapter 38 of the International Harvester Collectors Club.

Darald credits family, employees, neighbours, and many professionals and clients for his business success. In the end, though, Darald notes that the best decision he ever made was to marry the girl of his dreams, Marlene, whom he says makes the really big decisions in their business and deserves the most credit for their many successes.