

THE SAGA

PUBLISHED BY THE SASKATCHEWAN AGRICULTURAL GRADUATES ASSOCIATION

Volume 231

November 2001

THE SAGA has a new editor

Jack Braidek retires



above: Jack '51C and Joan Braidek

Jack took on the editorship of *THE SAGA* in June 1991, when illness forced **Lin Boyes '48C** to retire from that position. This issue, the thirty-second under his editorship, will be his last, as he gives way to his successor, **Bill Strautman '82C**.

Jack had experiences that helped him in the editorial job. He knew many grads having taken one year of the Diploma program in 1945/6, then the BSA program 1947/51. Those were years with very large classes, and being active in student affairs he got to know many of those who graduated from 1948 to 1953. His employment in the Ag Rep service, the Pool and Western Producer allowed him to keep in touch with many grads, the College of Agriculture and the University. It also provided him with an understanding of fashioning a phrase and getting it into print.

Jack and Joan have six children located in Ottawa, Vancouver and Saskatchewan. They look forward to having more time to spend with their children and grandchildren. Also further exploring Canada, compiling a family history and reducing the items on that neglected 'job list.'

Bill Strautman: New editor

Bill has a background of experiences that he will find useful as *SAGA* editor.

He was raised in the Speers, SK district on the 3000 acre grain and beef farm of his parents **Chuck '53S** and **Margaret Strautman**. As a youth he was a 4-H beef club member and enthusiastic participant in sports. And he was much involved in college activities, being internal vice-president and receiving sport and social awards. He chose the soils option and graduated in 1982.

After graduation Bill's first job was with Alberta Agriculture - one year at Brooks, then as district agriculturist at Foremost for three years. Then he went back to school, receiving a Bachelor of Journalism from the University of King's College at Halifax in 1987.

His employment since then has been with the media: Three years as a reporter/field producer with Ag Com Productions, Regina, followed by some freelance writing, and from 1994 through 1997 in Winnipeg with UGG publications, including *Grainews*, *Country Guide* and *Cattleman*, becoming editor of *Canola Guide* in 1996. In 1998 he helped conceive and launched *The Western Producer's FARMING* magazine and continues to co-edit that publication. Bill and his family live at Rouleau, SK where he coaches ball and hockey, is a 4-H leader, on the rink, parks and recreation boards and involved in theatre. An action guy for sure!



(above) Bill Strautman, with his wife Teresa and children, Alex (4) and Hannah (7).

Ag Grad Bonspiel

**Saskatoon: Friday Jan. 11 to Sunday,
Jan.13, 2002.**

Draw times and locations

The first games will be played on Friday, Jan 11 at 4:00 PM at either the Granite or Hub City curling clubs (Depending on the number of teams entered in the Hutcheon Event, there may be a 2 PM draw).

A schedule will be listed in the Thursday, January 10th issue of the *Star Phoenix* in the SPORTS section.
Rules

- * Every rink will play at least three games.
- * All games will be eight ends, except for the finals, which will be ten ends.
- * In the eight end games a buzzer will be sounded 25 minutes before the hour. This will signal the teams to complete the end plus one more.
- * Ties will be decided by skip rocks with sweepers.
- * Each rink will have at least three SAGA members.
- * Non-members can play lead only.
- * Hutcheon Event curlers shall be 50 years and older
- * The entry fee will be \$20 per player if paid by January 4 and \$22 if paid after that date or at the door.
- * Graduates must have paid their annual or life membership in SAGA before curling

Bonspiel entries

- * Limit of 32 rinks in the regular draw and 16 in the Hutcheon event.
- * Entries close at midnight, January 4th, 2002
- * Entries from individuals are welcome, and every attempt will be made to find you a team.
Please indicate the position you prefer to play.
- * Please complete all parts of the entry form and forward it with payment to:

Adrian Johnston or
12 - 425 Pinehouse Drive
Saskatoon, SK.
S7K 5K2
Ph: 651-0391 Fax: 956-0605
Email:

Todd Ehman
Box 397
Dundurn, SK
S0K 1K0
Ph: 492-4795
Email:

ajohnston@ppi-ppic.org

ehman@sask.usask.ca

EMAIL: entries will be accepted by Email message, and your confirmation will be an Email reply. Email entries still must supply all of the information requested below. Email entries received before Jan 4 qualify for the fee of \$20/player when paid on arrival at the rink.

Prizes

There will be prizes for the two finalists in all four events.

AG GRAD BONSPIEL ENTRY FORM

Position	Name	Complete mailing address for all members	Grad Year		Life Member	
			C	S	Yes	No
SKIP						
THIRD						
SECOND						
LEAD						

Team Name: _____ Hutcheon Event Yes No

Email Address: _____

Phone number where you're staying in Saskatoon _____

14th Annual SAGA Hockey Tournament January 11 & 12, 2002 Agri-Place Arenas, Saskatoon

Teams:

- non-contact, no slapshot rules will apply.
- SAHA officiating.

Competitive - guaranteed three games

\$600/team

8 team limit

Recreational - guaranteed two games

\$400/team

6 team limit

Due to limited ice time, the first teams submitting a \$100 deposit will be confirmed for the tournament.

Submit your registration and deposit to the contacts listed below by December 15, 2001.

Rules

- each team must have at least 75% School or College of agriculture grads or under grads.
- grad participants must be SAGA members.

Schedule

Friday, January 11: 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Saturday, January 12: 8:00am to 6:30 pm

(Note: This schedule allows participants to attend the Mixer on Friday and Banquet on Sat.)

Contacts:

Dave Norris

or

Jason McMartin

Box 598

333 Birch Crescent

Delisle, SK S0L 0P0

Saskatoon S7M 2M6

Tel. 221-9443 or 493-2608

477-9405

Fax 493-2468

dave.norris@aventis.com

Agricultural Hall of Fame

On August 5, 2001 six people were inducted into the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame (SAHF). Two of them were well known Ag Grads.

Burt Craig'44C of Saskatoon, was an important developer and promoter of canola. During his 39-year career, most of it with the National Research Council at Saskatoon. He devoted himself to developing the canola industry through research and getting the industry to accept rapeseed oil as a high quality edible oil.

Jim Webster'49C of Regina served as an effective extension worker and senior administrator during 38 years in the public service of Saskatchewan. Jim sought ways to advance the agricultural industry and worked closely with farm families and organizations.

The other individuals inducted into the SAHF last August were:

Jim Lewthwaite of Redvers, former editor of the Redvers Optimist and a founder of Canadian Western Agribition.

Lillian McConnell, Regina-based home economist, who taught homemakers and farmers how to use electricity and natural gas effectively and safely. She was the 'Penny Powers' with SPC from 1956 when power line electricity came to rural Saskatchewan.

Oscar Mosing of **Moose Jaw**, provided excellent leadership in rat control programs in Saskatchewan.

Senator Herb Sparrow of North Battleford was inducted into the Hall for his leadership in soil conservation.

Thundering Herd



Valerie Smith'86C has changed locations and embarked on a new career. She moved from Prince Albert, after 14 years, and now lives in Saskatoon, where she is the executive director of the Saskatchewan 4-H Council.

Bob Evans'79C, president and GM of Gates Fertilizers at Nipawin, sent along a newsy note. Says they are soldiering along selling farm supplies, some of which ends up on the farm of his partner, **Terry Gates'68C**, who seems to farm about half the countryside. Bob says it's not easy squeezing out any margin from Terry and others like him. But there was a fair average crop in the districts so they should be able to hang on for another year.

Andre Laforge'78C works for Bob at their Carrot River office and is recovering from a broken wrist. He and his wife Betty have three future agros at their house, named Stefan, Marcel and Chantelle.

Evans said a group of grads and their families got together at Elkwater, on the AB side of the Cypress Hills this summer. They included **Bob and Marilyn Evans, Garry'79C** and **Karen Schultz** of Regina, **Ken'79C** and **Joyce Sapsford** of Perdue, **Eric Gustafson'80C & Deanne Belisle'79C** of Regina, **Dave'79C** and **Carol Lundquist** of Maidstone, **Bob'79C** and **Carol Meister'83C** of Gull Lake. And of course there were scads of kids

too. They must have had a good time 'cause in 2002 they will congregate at the Manitou Springs Campground north of Watrous.

Dean Meyers'92C, a past president of ASA, is now a farmer and rancher at Minton, SK.

Wayne Borys'71C now calls Fort Qu'Appelle home, at least that is where he gets his mail.

Wendy Elliott'86C of Fergus, ON reports that she, **Paul Johnson'92C**, **Garth Lipinski'94C** and **Paula Brand'85C**, have recently completed their Masters in Business Administration in Agriculture from the University of Guelph. They were a part of the third class to complete this electronically-delivered program, offered jointly by Athabasca University, University of Guelph and University of Minnesota.

Lloyd Johnston'71C, is now a resident of Westrose AB and employed as managing director of the Alberta Dairy Board. But that could change because he is currently working with the dairy industry to transfer most responsibilities from government to industry. It is an interesting way to work yourself out of a job - not a normal objective for a bureaucrat!

Tim Bray'95C is the new director of production for Genex Swine Group of Regina. Genex is an independent, Canadian-owned company that markets genetically superior breeding stock to commercial producers.

Gordon Bacon'81C is Pulse Canada's new chief executive officer and will co-ordinate market development, research and policy. The position of president at Pulse Canada has been eliminated due to the organiza-

tion's increased focus on research and development.

Bryan Harvey'60C, Professor of Plant Sciences (since 1966) now serving as Coordinator of Agricultural Research, has been elected chair of University Council. He will serve in that position until June 30, 2003. Bryan has worked for years to make council play a more significant role in the academic affairs of the university.

Dave Christensen'58C, received the University of Saskatchewan Distinguished Researcher Award for his work in dairy cow nutrition.



Diane Knight'90MSc. (above) is the director of the soil science department's mass spectrometry facility, U of S. Established in the 1960s, the facility was upgraded in 2000 and is now one of the few of this calibre in Canada.

Mass spectrometers can measure slight differences in mass between atoms, so they are used to detect tiny amounts of the elements in soils. But it can be used for many other things, like tracking nutrients eaten by domestic and wild animals and birds. Units have also been used by a USA company at airports to detect microscopic traces of explosives or drugs, on the skin or clothes of passengers.

Message from the Agros

Doesn't it make you want to be back in school again?

As predicted, another Ag Bag Drag (Goose) was held and everyone attending had a good time. It was nice to see some of the old grads back - some older than others! There were also some 80 visitors from far-off lands, like the U of A, U of M and Olds College. It was a beer-throwing good time and we look forward to the 2002 edition. Even Maclean's has noted this annual cabaret in its ranking edition.

The Agros are gearing up for their largest charity fund raiser of the year - the 2002 TELEMIRACLE BEDPUSH. The committee is in place and it is making miracles happen. The first bedpush was in 1982 and it has taken place most of the years since, raising more than \$40,000 for Telemiracle.

In 1994 the Telemiracle committee decided that pushing a bed to Regina to raise money was a tired tradition, so they held a Dance -A-Miracle instead. This involved dancing on a flatbed truck all the way to TELEMIRACLE. The BEDPUSH was revived in 1997/8 and raised \$10,000, a figure we hope to reach or exceed this year. We would like

to see more grads support this project and the college spirit. Give us a call at 966-7742 if you have an interest.

One of the Agro-affiliated clubs is the U of S Stockman's and Rodeo Club. Every year it holds an intercollegiate judging competition and this year it is open to Saskatchewan 4-H club members as well as students from ag colleges across the country, such as Guelph, U of M, U of A, Olds and Lakeland Colleges. It will take place on January 26, 2002 at Wheatland B building, Prairieland Exhibition, Saskatoon. A special guest at this event will be **Jeff Goodwin**, 4-H and Youth Specialist at the University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho. He will address the subject "Obligations and Opportunities of Youth Livestock Project Ownership" and deliver a fun motivational presentation entitled "Catch the Can-Do Attitude." Grads are invited. Get more information on times and tickets from Stockman's president **Kelly Howe** at 966-7742.

Happy trails,

Barbara Wilson
PRO, Agricultural Students Association

President's Pen



It is hard to believe that it is almost a year since I became president of the Sask. Agricultural Graduates' Association. I have enjoyed the year and found it both challenging and rewarding.

As you look through this issue of *THE SAGA* you will see a few minor changes to our reunion weekend. Hopefully, those changes will allow more grads to participate in the various events, including the annual general meeting and the debate on Friday.

In this, my last president's column I thank all executive members for work and dedication this year. Without their effort the grad reunion would not run smoothly. A special

welcome to a couple of guys who will be front and centre in our association next year. They are **Jim Vancha'79C**, the incoming president, and **Bill Strautman'82C**, the incoming editor of *THE SAGA*. Thank you fellows, for stepping forward and taking on those jobs.

I wish also to give a special thank you to **Jack Braidek'51C** for ten years as our newsletter editor. I know that he has worked hard to ensure that SAGA members received a quality newsletter. I know it has taken considerable dedication and persistence to fashion those 31 newsletters and get them out in a timely fashion.

Have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Take time to celebrate everything that that is good in your world. I look forward to seeing you at the Ag Grad reunion in January.

Larry Hayes'80C

Crop Production Week Saskatoon: Jan. 7 to 12, 2002

THE SAGA has usually carried a detailed Crop Production Week schedule of events. But the list of organizations taking part and the details of their programs has grown too long for us to handle. So this year we are listing below the main events, when and where they occur.

We invite you to get detailed program information on your computer at

www.cropweek.com

Or you may telephone Marlene or Kevin Hursh at (306) 933-0138

Focus on Flax

Flax Development Commission
Monday Jan. 7, 2002: 8 AM to 4PM
Saskatoon Inn

Pulse Days 2002

Sask. Pulse Growers
Monday Jan. 7: 11 AM to 5 PM
7 PM - Wine & Cheese and poster session
PrairieLand Exhibition
(video feed to Saskatoon Inn)

Tuesday, Jan. 8: 8 AM to 5 PM
Saskatoon Inn
(Video feed to PrairieLand Exhibition)

Sask. Seed Growers Association

Tuesday, Jan. 8: 12:30 PM to 5:15 PM
6 PM Banquet & awards
Saskatoon Inn

Wed. Jan. 9: 8:15 AM to noon
Saskatoon Inn

Canola Days

**Sask. Canola Development Assoc.
& Sask. Canola Growers Assoc.**
Wed. Jan 9 : 1 PM to 4:30 PM
Saskatoon Inn

Thur. Jan 10 : 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
6:30 PM Banquet
Saskatoon Inn

Sask. Mustard Growers Association

Wed. Jan. 9 : 8:45 AM to 2:15 PM
Saskatoon Inn

Canadian Wheat Board

Friday Jan. 11 : 8:30 AM to 3 PM
Saskatoon Inn

Sask. Hemp Association

Friday, Jan. 11: 9:30 AM to 3 PM
Saskatoon Travelodge, Galaxy B room

Public Information Session

**Wednesday, January 9 at
7:00 PM**

Saskatoon Inn

**Subject: Market Opportunity:
The Business of Organic Farming**

Speakers:

"Overview of organic crop and livestock markets"
Ann Cooney, Ag Economist, U of S
"A retailer's perspective", Suzanne Stoeckle,
Community Natural Foods, Calgary
"Production challenges and research directions"
Blaine Reckseidler, Sask. Agriculture & Food
"A producer's perspective"
Ian Cushon, Organic Producer, Oxbow

Editorial: Some parting thoughts

Dear reader:

You have been very fortunate. Most editors bore their readers with editorials in each issue. Not so *THE SAGA*: Until this issue I have carefully restrained the urge to mouth-off until this, my final go at being the editor. Here goes—

On being editor

I have enjoyed being editor. Sure, it took time away from other activities, but it was a very satisfying experience, arguably more satisfying than alternative uses of my time and energy. But I am also happy to leave - to do other things and to give you a chance to sample the efforts of a new, younger editor. I am confident that Bill will do a first class job.

S.A.G.A.

The Saskatchewan Agricultural Graduates Association was formed in 1935, twenty two years after Reuben Wesley Brown emerged as the first BSA grad and Tom Brydon as the first diploma grad in 1913. The founders of the SAGA were mostly young grads(then), among them **John Mitchell'24, Vic Graham'27, Rupert Ramsay'29, Hadley Van Vliet'34.**

The Association has grown to 2000 members and its history is rich with achievement. But in the last 10 years there has been little change in membership even with 150 new graduates per year and considerable effort in wooing them into membership. The result is that today there are many more(living) grads who are not SAGA members than are. This has implications for the College and the University.

The College & U of S

The University and the College have always been active in communicating with Saskatchewan citizens and

selected audiences beyond its borders. The messages have been several - student recruitment, extension work, and more recently promotion of the institution and seeking financial support. The methods used have changed over time with face-to-face encounters such as farm camps, agriculture trains, servicing extension meetings and 4-H being replaced by other activities.

SAGA has been an important link between the College and the country but there is both a greater need for better communication and opportunity to do so. The need is obvious - governments are not increasing advanced education spending as needed in the modern economy, so the university and individual colleges are tapping non-government sources.

The growing list of grads in all colleges represents opportunity for better promotion and financial support. But harnessing that potential needs to happen. We know that grads who get THE SAGA enjoy reading about their fellow grads and news about the College, but extending the mailing to non-member grads would be costly. One possibility is to distribute THE SAGA on a web page to all ag gads. It may improve readership by sending out an occasional letter reminding grads to read the web site.

My first contact with the U of S staff was in 1941 at The North Battleford Fair. I thought they were nice, capable people. Later, the university did a pretty good job of preparing me for the future. I am proud of the U of S and have a special warm spot in my heart for you grads and our College.

Jack Braidek'51C

SK Ag Grad Assoc. 2002 Reunion Activities Jan. 11 & 12

Friday, Jan. 11

**PrairieLand Exhibition,
Cascade room**

9 AM Annual general meeting

10:30 - debate

**"Be it resolved that
our food is safe"**

Affirmative: Red Williams,
Animal Scientist
Other speaker TBA

Negative: Hart Haidn,
Centre for Sustainable
Agriculture
Other speaker TBA

12 noon - lunch

12:40 - Guest speaker:
Dean Ernie Barber

4:00 - first curling draw

5:00 - first hockey games

8:00 -1- SAGA Mixer
Saskatoon Inn
(\$9 each/grad and escort.
No charge for students)

Saturday, Jan.12

All day -Cheering the curlers and
hockey players.
- visiting & getting primed
for the evening do.

SAGA Banquet (Saskatoon Inn)

5:30 cocktails

6:30 dinner

7:30 awards and presentations

9 to 1 dance

(The banquet charge is \$27.50
per person)

Empty Saddles



BURNARD, Howard LeRoy '53C "Roy" of Yarmouth, NS, passed away peacefully on October 11, 2000. Born in Saskatchewan, on October 28, 1928, he was a son of the late Leslie and Alma (Roy) Burnard. He attended school in Theodore and Yorkton, Teacher's College and the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. He met and married Elizabeth Moses in 1953. Roy owned and operated a large farm while living in Saskatchewan. He taught in Moose Jaw, Theodore and Ituna before moving to Yarmouth, Nova Scotia in 1965. He taught at Yarmouth Junior High and later moved to Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School. When he retired in 1984 he was an administrator at Yarmouth High School Annex. At that time Roy was awarded a diploma (complete with cap and gown) making him the first Honorary Graduate of YCMHS. Roy's life had been a full one. Over the years he served as a 4H leader, Sunday School teacher, cub leader, Chairman of the Ushers, Trustees and Deacons at Zion United Baptist Church. Recently Roy was made an Honorary Deacon. His focus has been one of love for family and friends. His life has made a difference to many people and he will be greatly missed. Roy is survived by his wife, Betty; daughters, Kathy (Al) Mohle, Yarmouth; Linda (Jim) Wheadon, Cambridge, Kings Co.; son, Arnold (Lorraine Carter) Burnard, Lockhartville, Kings Co.; brother, Allan (Bernice), Calgary; grandchild-

dren, Adam, Erin, Rebecca, Kenneth, Margaret and Morgan. Donations may be made to the The H.L.(Roy) Burnard Memorial Bursary Fund which has been established to honour his memory.

Sally Campbell of Victoria, BC, passed away on March 15, 2001. She is survived by **Joe Campbell'41C**, her husband for 46 years.

Elsie Ada Chapman passed away at Chateau providence, St. Brieux on October 17, 2001. Elsie was born at Little Woody, SK on Jan 1, 1920 and moved with her family to Meskanaw in 1933. Following service in the RCAF she married **Earl Chapman '46C** in 1947 and they raised their family of three sons while farming on the Laurel Co-op Farm until 1971, before retiring to Melfort. Elsie moved to St. Brieux in May, 2000.

Ken Charabin'47S of North Battleford, died in hospital on April, 29 2001. He is survived by his wife Dorothy and children Dale (Lynn), Laurel, **Tim '88C (Tracey '91C)**, Glen (Iris); grandchildren Ashley, Neil, **Ryan '01S**, Eric, Daniel and Matthew; great grandchildren Rhett and Ali. Ken farmed in the Brada district just east of North Battleford, with sons Dale and Tim and grandson Neil. They farmed together as Charabin Seed Farm Ltd. and were widely known for their production and retailing of pedigreed seed. Ken was active in many community activities and was recognized through several awards. These included Distinguished Graduate in Agriculture from the U of S in 1986, Outstanding Service Award from the Canadian Seed Growers in 1990, Honorary Life Member of SAGA in 1989. Ken was instrumental in the development of a school for the

mentally challenged in North Battleford. The Charabin Family was recognized as the Farm Family of the North West Region of Saskatchewan in February 2001.

Edmund Reginald Dorosz '66C, '71DVM, passed away suddenly, due to an aneurysm, at Fort McLeod, AB, on August 13, 2000. Ed was born at Regina in 1944 and is survived by his wife Sandra (McLean), son **Sean'93C** (Valerie) of Saskatoon; daughter Sarah (Jason) Baker of Lethbridge; granddaughters Miranda and Natalie Dorosz. Ed began a solo vet practice at Regina, then formed Sherwood Large Animal Clinic with Ron Clarke, then moved to Oyen, AB where he established the Oyen Veterinary Clinic and AI Unit. After nine years they moved to Vermilion, AB where Ed taught at Lakeland College, then returned to veterinary practice with Bill Lichtenberger at Fort McLeod. After three years he 'retired', to write two books, "Let's Cook For Our Dog" and "Let's Cook For Our Cat". And he continued to do contract work for veterinary pharmaceutical companies and as veterinarian for Lethbridge Downs racetrack. He was also an artist, fly fisherman and golfer. He lived his motto: "Do something creative today."

Margaret (Stuart) Dutertre of Wakaw, SK, born in 1913, passed away on December 22, 2000. She was a strong supporter of organizations that she felt improved the lives of SK people and made many friends throughout the province working for the NFU, cooperatives, credit unions, Sask. Wheat Pool and CCF/NDP. She is survived by her husband Verdun and daughter **Jeannette Chandler '76C**.

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Muriel Adele Rose Eichorst (nee Turner) of Lanigan, passed away on September 25, 2001 after a four year fight with cancer. She was 58 years old. Muriel was born at Nokomis and taught school before marrying Gordon in 1964. She is survived by Gordon, their two sons, **Rob '91C** (Allison) of Melfort, Rick of Lanigan; grandsons Adam and William Eichorst.

Douglas Raymond Gardner '64C of Regina, age 59, succumbed to brain cancer on October 4, 2001. Mercifully, the disease was asymptomatic and undiagnosed until weeks before his death, leaving Doug healthy and able to enjoy his final harvest. Predeceased by his father Raymond and brother Trevor, he leaves to mourn his wife Maida, his eldest son Jim (Joan Markland); daughter Wanda (Miles) Koperus and granddaughter Akina Koperus; youngest son Andrew; his mother Gene Gardner; brother Neil (Carol) and special Aunt Echo Gardner. Doug farmed and acquired many friends and co-workers in his association with John Deere, SIAST, provincial government departments, fast cars and various boards and committees. His counsel was sought by many for his expertise in agriculture and mechanics. He will be remembered as a strong man who could always be counted on to lend a hand.

Cecil James Hale, of Saskatoon and formerly of Lancer, SK, died at Saskatoon on July 9, 2001 at the age of 89 years. He is survived by Catherine, his wife of 59 years; children Terry (Linda) of Tisdale, Gwen (Harold) of Medicine Hat, Sharn of Saskatoon, **Ken '73C** (Wendy) of Lancer, Ruth (John) of Shellbrook; 15

grandchildren, seven great grandchildren; sister Hannah Christian of Sidney, BC and brother Herbert Hale (Gertrude) of Saskatoon.

Norman Garfield Huffman, retired farmer of Aberdeen, SK, passed away on July 7, 2001 at Stensrud Lodge, Saskatoon at the age of 89 years. Norman is survived by his wife Beatrice; children Cameron Huffman of Saskatoon, Marion Huffman (Heinz Tenfelde) of Whonnock, BC, Gregory Huffman (Marianne) of Nashville, Ten., Patricia (**Eric '82C**) Johnson of Battleford; Vincent Huffman (Kay) of Meadow Lake; six grandchildren; brothers Clarence (Doris) and Alvin (Phyllis); numerous nieces and nephews that include **Kim Huffman '81C**.

Edward Cecil Hultgreen, age 90 years, passed away in Saskatoon on August 9, 2001. He is survived by his wife Joyce; son **Gordon '72C** (Val) of Humboldt, SK; daughter Karen (Lee) three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Peter Stushnoff, 89, of Langham, SK, died at his residence on October 21, 2001. He was predeceased by his wife Mary, and is survived by his children, **Cecil '63C** (Jeanette) **Stushnoff** of Fort Collins, CO; Jerry (Lynne) **Stushnoff** of Abbotsford, BC; Norma (Gerry) O'Brien of Fairmount, BC; and **Harvey '79C** (Noelle) **Stushnoff** of Idaho Falls, ID; seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Cyrus Clarke Udell, born at Viscount, SK in 1912, died at the Royal University Hospital, Saskatoon, on July 15, 2001. He was widely known as a horse and cattle breeder. Cyrus is survived by his wife Kerstina; their children **Terry**

Udell '68S, Kenny (Valerie) Udell, and Scott (Lynn) Udell; six grandchildren and one great grandchild. He was predeceased by daughter **Connie Blacklock '71C**.

Arthur Murray Wilson '46S of Regina and formerly of Meyronne, SK, passed away peacefully after a lengthy illness on August 28, 2001, at the age of 79 years. Murray was predeceased by his parents, Berethe and Gordon and is survived by Dorothy, his wife of 49 years; daughter Donna (Dave) Wintermute; sons Blair (Jolene), Kevin (Cathy), Gavin (Ruby); daughter Stacey; eleven grandchildren and his sister Fern (Keith) Lawrence. Murray was committed to his family and faith. He enjoyed people and was especially thankful for the kindness of friends, neighbors and health care providers.

Jessie Mary Shewan Zeman, born in Colonial House at Scatness, Virkle, Shetland Islands, passed away on November 17, 2001 at the Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon. She was predeceased by her parents George and Johan MacAskill Shewan; her sister Alice Shewan Hooker; infant son Norman; father-in-law Joe Zeman Sr. and the mother-in-law she never knew, Sophia Voytilla Zeman. Left to mourn are her husband **Joe Zeman '44C**; her four children, Gary Dale, Brenda (Tommy Lee) and Kevan; five grandchildren.

College of Agriculture happenings

The College of Agriculture is a very large, complex operation, that is always adjusting to meet new challenges. The challenges come in many forms, adding staff to take on new or expanded programs, more space, funding, new equipment, more students and so on. It is a much different place than existed at the outset, or even 15 years ago.

The ongoing changes and the ongoing interest by SAGA members in the College, have encouraged succeeding editors to include some information on happenings in the College in each issue. Our thanks to Dean Barber and Chris Maloney, manager of information services for making that information available.

Jack Braidek, Editor

New Appointments at the College

Graham Scoles Acting Associate Dean

Dr. Graham Scoles has been appointed to a one-year term as Acting Associate Dean of Research. Graham has been head of plant sciences since 1998, first coming to the college as a faculty member in 1979. Graham's appointment marks a change in duties for the associate dean position, which previously did not have a research designation. This division of duties will enable Graham to concentrate his efforts on nurturing the already extensive applied and basic research efforts in the college. As research dean, Graham will over-

see the college's research facilities and trust funds, liaise with the research centres associated with the college and oversee the college's research chair programs. In addition to his duties as dean, Graham will maintain his research program in crop molecular genetics and his role as coordinator of a \$20M prairie-wide genomics program aimed at understanding how crops respond to environmental stresses.

* * *

George Khachatourians Professor and Head, Applied Microbiology and Food Science

A twenty-year member of the department, **Dr. George Khachatourians** began a five-year term as head of Applied Microbiology and Food Science this fall. George first joined the U of S in 1974 as a member of the Department of Bacteriology in the College of Medicine. His recent research interests include applications of microbiology to insect pest management and animal feed modification, study of mycotoxins, and effect of environmental stress on molds. He has an extensive publication record in the areas of biocontrol of insects, genetics of fungi, applied mycology. He has been an editor of four books - Food Biotechnology: Microorganisms (1995), Biotechnology's Impact on Global Agriculture and Food Production (2001), Transgenic Food Crops (2002), and Applied Mycology and Biotechnology in Agri-Food Production, (in two volumes: 2001 and 2002). As department head, George plans to focus on providing a better and more integrated experience

to undergraduate and graduate students in the department. He feels strongly about encouraging research intensity and the teacher/scholar model for departmental colleagues. He says, "We anticipate some major changes over the next few years, particularly in our leadership in agricultural microbiology, food science, food technology and post harvest agriculture. I am looking forward to creating a stronger department and hence contributing to a strong and sustainable College."

* * *

Pauline Molder, MSc Ag Economics Manger, Experiential Education

This spring, Pauline Molder was appointed to the newly-created position of Manager of Experiential Education. In approximately 15 years with the College, Pauline has been a graduate student and professional research associate with the department of Agricultural Economics and, since 1997, co-ordinator of the co-operative education program in agriculture. 'Experiential education' is a recent initiative undertaken by the college that aims to improve undergraduate programs through activities that focus on developing career readiness skills in addition to technical skills. The experiential education initiative encompasses a broad range of new and ongoing programs, such as the existing co-operative education and internship program. One new area that will receive emphasis is agri-entrepreneurship, supported by the CIBC Centre for Agricultural Entrepreneurship endowment. This 'virtual' centre will make possible a number of new

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programs including a new scholarship for work experience available to second year students. Over the next year, Pauline will focus on developing new programming and on exploring partnership opportunities with industry.

Research briefs...

In the most recent round of funding from SAF's Agriculture Development Fund, announced in August, the College attracted nearly \$1.6 M for twelve projects. Following is a brief sketch of some of these projects:

Hamburger helper

Dr. Gary Dykes has undertaken a project that will examine how the ingredients commonly used in processed meats can influence the survival and growth of bacteria that cause food poisoning. The results will be used to develop better methods to make processed meat safer for the public.

Applied Microbiology and Food Science, \$106 K

Actual project title: "Growth, Survival and Control of Foodborne Pathogenic Bacteria on Processed Meat as Indicated by Intrinsic Parameters"

Closing the generation gap in chickpeas

The objective of Dr. Tom's Warkentin's project is to develop doubled-haploid technology for chickpea. In traditional breeding programs, several generations of inbreeding are required to produce true-breeding lines. With chromosome doubling agents, genetically identical fertile plants can be produced in one generation. This is called doubled-haploid technology and can be used in chickpea breeding to significantly accelerate breeding for disease resistance, early maturity, and crop quality traits. In addition, doubled-haploid true-breeding lines used in conjunction with molecular marker-assisted selection are more efficient.

Plant sciences (Crop Development Centre), \$217K

Actual project title: "Development of Microspore Culture Technology for the Production of Doubled-Haploids in Chickpea"

Strawberry fields endeavour

The basic premise of Dr. Karen Tanino's project is to create new strawberry export markets for Saskatchewan. Although there is currently no strawberry industry in the province, growing conditions here are ideally suited for

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1940 Degree Grad Reunion

Twenty-one young men graduated in the spring of 1940: eight grads and five wives attended a class reunion in Regina June 13-15, 2001.

They had a social gathering the first evening and toured Government House and the RCMP barracks the next day that included a parade of officers and a good look at the museum. On June 13 they toured the City of Regina in a double-decker bus, then on to Moose Jaw for a walking inspection of the famous "Al Capone tunnels." **Maurice** and **Toba Brounstein** hosted the group at their home on the final evening of the reunion.

Those attending were **Walter** and **Velma Brice** of Saskatoon; **Maurice** and **Toba Brounstein** of Regina; **Harvey Dunn** of Chandler, Arizona; **Ed** and **Christine Hudek** of Winnipeg; **Bruce** and **Grace Martin** of Victoria; **Norman Sharf** of Debolt, AB; **Fred Schroer** of Unity; **Ivar Tollefson** of Idaho Falls and **Evelyn Thode**, widow of **Bill Thode**, of Saskatoon.

(My apology to this class for not including this item in the August issue. Editor)

Gib'49C and **Marjorie Wesson** were so excited celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on July 19th that they did not report it in time for the August issue. They said: "We were married in St. John's Anglican Cathedral in Saskatoon and probably never gave a thought to '60 years down the road.' We had a wonderful family reunion with all 24 of us from five years to 83 ... it was quite a party! Our children, Heather, Bruce and Graeme, arranged a memorable occasion, one we will never forget."

Ron'48S and **Marguerite Gallaway** of Estevan decided on a July 28th celebration of their October 19, 50th wedding anniversary. Friends came from Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan. Grads attending were **Carman'49C** and **Dot Cooke**, **Clark'48S** and **Anne Lewis**, **David'80S** and **Kim Gallaway**, **Dale'56C** and **Britta Hardy**. Also in attendance were ag engineer **Norm'50** and **Vie Flaten**.

Jessie and **Gary'61C Carlson**, **Joan** and **Bob'61C Baker** attended a summer farmyard barbecue at Carrot River to help **Doreen** and **Bob'61C Gilmour** celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary (October 14, 2001). Gary was the best man at the Gilmour wedding and Bob Gilmour was best man at the Carlson wedding on October 7, 1961. **Pat** and **Bob Bullock'61C** had called in to visit the Gilmours earlier in the week, before boarding the train excursion to Port Churchill, MB.

Gary reported that the Carrot River area had excellent crops this year. Also that he is enjoying his first term on the U of S board of governors as a representative of the U of S senate. He chairs the lands and facilities committee and is excited about the retail shopping mall development on 48

acres of university land. The lease could yield an annual income of \$1.5 million to be used for scholarships, bursaries, research and technology projects.

Bob'54C and **Norma Mc Kercher** were away in Scotland for over three weeks in late September and October. Over the years Bob has been a faithful supplier of copy for this publication, but the safari to Scotland reduced his contribution to this issue.

Retired fertilizer salesman **Milt Reusch'50C** of Battle Lake MN says that he and Audrey are doing well, though slowing down somewhat. He sends his regards to the troops of '50C. Milt says their postal address has been changed to facilitate 911 calls. (contact ye editor if you want the correct address)

Art Wood'51C and spouse **Sheila White** of Edmonton can tell you a lot about the roads in Western Canada. Early in the year they were out to Manitoba to visit her ailing mother, then to attend her memorial service in July. In June they attended the class of '51 reunion in Saskatoon, then on September 21 they headed west, visiting friends at Vancouver, Galiano Island, Victoria, Sooke, Chemainus, Duncan, Nanaimo and Port Alberni. They report that their western swing was made in glorious weather with picnics all the way.

Ann Saville'47C sent along a note of appreciation and news from their new home at Eastend. Articles in the August SAGA by Prof. Bob Forshaw and Hartley Fredeen stirred up some happy memories. And sadness over the death of Bud Smith. "There was never a dull moment when he was

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about," she said. Ann and Bill's oldest son is on the ranch; daughter Susan, a teacher by training, is doing social work and youngest son Jim runs a bed and breakfast north of the ranch.

Arthritis has forced Ann into activities less rigorous than horse riding. Bill is recovering nicely from prostate cancer and a heart attack. In fact his doctor said he was perfect, but Ann thinks that is a terrible thing to say to any husband! Anyway, Bill is back to the tack: He has rebuilt 320 saddles and adds to that total and related tack items daily.

From the BC rain forest & thereabouts

Chuck'52S and **Margaret Strautman** showed up for their annual pilgrimage to the Playmakers Old Timers Hockey Tournament at Victoria in March with the Saskatoon Silver 70's. They proceeded to Duncan where they played havoc at the home of **Art'48C** and **Phyllis'48Lab Tech Strautman** for a few days. In June Chuck, Art and their spouses drove to Midland, Michigan, to attend the wedding of

Tina, great granddaughter of Fred, the oldest Strautman brother, who had passed away last January. Since then Chuck has been plagued by a bout of shingles - but they are easing up and a return to the rink this winter is likely, if not already a fact. Margaret figures that by age 78 he should have heard the message and quit hockey.

Walter'51C and **Joy Doyle** returned to their Victoria home after spending the summer 'up country' at Kipabiskau Beach near Tisdale, SK. Walter is no doubt back building homes while Joy is humbling her bridge opponents. While in SK they attended the 50-year reunion of that outstanding agro class of 1951 in June. Attending also from Victoria were classmates **Jim (Holly) Rooke** and **Paul Turner**.

Bob'56C and **Marie Warner**, formerly of Melfort and now of Victoria enjoyed Thanksgiving with Art and Phyllis Strautman. Bob suffered a stroke and is a resident of George Vale centre and moves about in a wheel chair. He is able to spend a good part of his days at home: his interest in and

skill at cards is undiminished.

The magic of electronic mail has advanced to Duncan, BC! **Art** and **Phyllis** have listened in on that new-fangled 'phone and heard happy news from **Bill'48C** and **Gene Till** of Lloydminster. They had been in Australia from mid-August and welcomed a new granddaughter Maya Jane Till Rogers in Brisbane on September 26. The parents are Margo (Till) and Steve Rogers. Grandparents Bill and Gene are reported to be doing as well as expected, and are probably back home as this edition is being written.

Our sympathies go to **Joe Campbell '41C** of Victoria who reported the death of his dear wife Sally. He added: "To simplify my life I sold our condo and moved to an assisted living home called Somerset House. It overlooks the water and we are well cared for. Should any of my Agro friends care to look me up, you'll be treated to an evening meal. My working days are nearing an end. I owe much to the Agriculture faculty at the U of S."

Professors retire

Bob Baker'61C, professor of Plant Sciences since 1978 has retired. Bob began his research career with Agriculture Canada, then moved to the Crop Development Centre in 1978, then into the Crop Sciences Department because of his interest in teaching.

Iain Christison who toiled many years as a professor in Animal and Poultry Sciences and the last few as Assistant Dean (Academic), chose retirement, effective October 1, 2001.

Graham Jones retired this summer after 38 years with the College. He grew up in London, England, took his first degree at Leeds, came to Canada in 1957 and completed his PhD at McGill before coming to Saskatoon in 1963.

Graham served as department head in Agricultural Microbiology and Food Science (formerly Dairy Science) for eleven years before being invited to serve as associate dean of the College during the last six years. Graham has said he enjoyed the teaching and administration and was pleased to be a part of the significant changes in his department.

Best wishes for the holidays.

From
SAGA

Tom Brydon changes pace

by Bob Forshaw,

Animal Science Professor, '43 to '47

One of the very fine people that I came to know during my four years at the University of Saskatchewan was Tom Brydon, farm foreman. Tom came from Brotherstone, Scotland and prepared himself for the position by being the first graduate of the Diploma in Agriculture program at the U of S in 1913: He served as farm foreman from 1912 until retiring in 1948.

Though he never talked a great deal about himself I soon realized he was a tremendous person. His diary, which he kept faithfully, told him exactly what he wanted to know. For example, "We finished seeding two days earlier a year ago." He was interested in every phase of the farm, including the wages paid, which were not the best by any means.

Tom never talked about retirement and I felt that he would go on as long as there was a farm. However, one day shortly after returning from the funeral of a relative in Victoria, he told me that he and his wife would be retiring to Victoria - not to live in an apartment but on a small holding.

His Victoria relatives were willing to help them move and almost every

mail brought a clipping mentioning this or that piece of recently-logged land available at a decent price.

Finally he convinced them he was not interested in clearing five acres of three and four foot stumps, rather they wanted a small acreage of cleared land on which they could build a house. In a few days there was a letter saying a Chinese market garden had been for sale, but the sign had fallen down into the brambles. "That sounds like we might like the property", Bob said to me. "I believe you are going to Vancouver soon, could you go across to Victoria and look it over?"

So over I went, introduced myself to the Chinese owners and found the property was still for sale. After checking it over closely I wrote a long letter to Tom recommending he purchase it at the asking price. Using the services of a lawyer Tom immediately bought the place but did not go out to see the property for some time. When he did go out he said to the owners, "Do you remember the big, tall man who came to see you a year ago?" "Yes, he bought the land," they said. "No, he didn't. My name is Tom Brydon and I bought the place." Their reply was that they sold it too cheap, to which Tom responded that he had

paid what they asked and looked after all the expenses.

The Brydons lived in a house on the university grounds, near the Livestock Pavilion, so when the time came to move Tom had the CNR spot a freight car nearby, where the coal was unloaded. His plan was to go out exactly the same way as the early settlers had come to the Prairies - and at the same reasonable rate. This meant that he had to have some livestock, so he arranged to buy some Plymouth Rock hens through Professor Wilf Rae. He built a stall for a cow, with pens above for the chickens and bought a good Jersey cow from Harold Latrace.

At that time the NRC building was being constructed and the contractor staff got to know the Brydon's well, often using their telephone. On the morning Brydon's were about to leave they discovered that a number of kegs of spikes and nails had been placed in the freight car by the contractor. It was their thank you to the Brydons for their many kindnesses. It was especially appreciated because in (post-war) 1948 nails were in short supply and difficult to find. The gift helped them to build a happy retirement home near Victoria.

Big box stores on U of S land

The University of Saskatchewan has leased 48 acres of land to developers on which they will build retail stores. The arrangement could deliver up to \$1.5 million to the University landlord every year.

The land in question is triangular in shape, bounded on the north and east by Circle Drive; on the west by Preston Avenue and on the south by the CPR tracks.

The first phase of construction will see a 110,000 square foot Canadian Tire anchor store, and ten retailers occupying stores 10,500 square feet and larger. Some preparatory work is now underway on the site, such as reshaping the land and installation of deep water and sewer lines, but the

main construction effort will begin in spring with occupancy a year hence.

The second and third phases of the project will be anchor stores of 100,00 square feet each with no smaller stores. The developer, Rencor Developments Ltd. is hopeful that construction of one of those stores would begin next year.

The area will be serviced by a four-lane extension from the Attridge Drive overpass, now being completed, westward to near the track crossing on Preston. (That would make it uncomfortably close to the Crop Development Centre buildings, but that is an item for a future article!).

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nigh-quality strawberry production. The advantage of the "Northern Vigour" variety of strawberry this project will develop, is that there is a ready demand for these higher quality plants in the United States. Encouragingly, crops from the one commercial initiative last year were pre-sold before spring planting.

Plant Sciences, \$27 K

Actual project title: "Northern Vigour of Strawberry Crowns: Addressing Commercial Development Needs"

Overcoming organic farming obstacles

Dr. Diane Knight's project will examine management strategies for increasing available soil phosphorous and controlling weeds in organic systems. Management strategies examined will include soil amendments, green manure crops and different crop varieties. Field experiments will be conducted on organically managed land on producer's farms and at the Agriculture and AgriFood Canada Research Station at Scott, SK.

Soil Science, \$286 K

Actual project title: "Saskatchewan Organic On-Farm Research: Soil Fertility and Weed Management"

Helping chickpeas leave the nest

Western Canada faces a unique challenge in chickpea production. It is the only major export production region in which the chickpea crop matures in the fall season. Dr. Tom Warkentin's project will investigate the potential impact of four genetic traits as part of an overall strategy to reduce the season length requirement for chickpea. Combining these traits will lead to improved yield stability, improved crop quality and increased water use efficiency in crop rotations in the target soil zones.

Plant sciences (Crop Development Centre), \$164.5 K

Actual project title: "Stabilizing Yield and Quality: Early Maturity Chickpea for the Prairies"

Changing chairs

Dr. Roger Cohen, Professor of Animal and Poultry Science, was this summer appointed Acting Executive Director of CSALE, the Centre for Studies in Agriculture, Law & the Environment. Cohen has 34 years of research experience and a strong interest in an interdisciplinary approach to research involving environmental issues and sustainable agriculture, especially relating to agriculture. Cohen's appointment.

The appointment of former CSALE Executive Director **Richard Gray'79C** into the position of Head, Department of Agricultural Economics prompted the appointment.

Home Grown



Dean'92C and Tanya'93BSN Meyers are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Jordan Mackenzie on February 24, 2001. She weighed 7 lb 11 oz and measured 19

3/4 inches. Brother Dustin Michael, born Nov.22, 1998 will have to move over and make room on the tractor seat with Dad.

*Merry Christmas
and
Happy 2002*

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(add pages if needed)

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