

THE SAGA

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Volume 241

May 2006

College Grads honored with Order of Canada, Hall of Fame



Lorne Babiuk, 67C has been invested as an Officer of the Order of Canada.



Pat Atkinson (left), Minister of Advanced Education and Employment, presented Glen Hass 60C (centre) with his Hall of Fame certificate. He was joined by his daughter Carol Meister 83C (second from left) wife Elaine and son Darryl Hass.

Peck and Hougham Named SAGA Life Members



Life Member College Jack Peck 51C and his wife, Lee.



Life member Robert (Bob) Hougham 49S (right) and his wife, Joyce.

New vision for the College of Agriculture

By Ernie Barber

Agriculture is a value chain that uses natural resources - soil, water, air and sunshine - and converts them through sustainable plant and animal production systems into a wide range of food and bioproducts. Agriculture will be a solution provider for many of society's greatest issues - how to sustain human life in a post-fossil fuel era, feed a growing world population, protect our natural environment, improve human wellness, reduce health care costs, and power a robust economy.

The College of Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan is proud to play an important role in helping shape this industry. Our world-class faculty shares a responsibility with the rest of the University for education, research and service in agriculture.

At the same time, we increasingly recognize the need and opportunity to apply our expertise within a broader bioresources paradigm. We intend to embrace all renewable resource systems, those that involve harvesting of biomaterials such as agriculture and forestry, as well as those that involve conservation and recreation.

Saskatchewan people are blessed with an abundance of natural resources which will undoubtedly contribute in significant ways to our future economy. Our province is challenged to develop strategies for how we will maximize our economic, social and environmental wealth through the use of these resources.

I believe that we must connect those resource development strategies to a

plan for how we will develop our bioeconomy. For the next quarter of a century, Saskatchewan's economy may be driven by the export of abundant non-renewable resources such as oil, gas, and uranium. In the longer term, our prosperity will depend upon how well we use our renewable resources to power the bioeconomy. Agriculture and forestry are examples of sustainable production systems that will be key to realizing this objective.

In anticipation of a world that becomes increasingly dependent on renewable resources, the College of Agriculture sees the need to apply what we have learned in agriculture to all land and resource systems throughout the province extending through the Boreal forest into the Arctic. We want to develop a sense of social responsibility among students, faculty and the community regarding the responsible use of natural resources. We seek a holistic understanding of the required balance among all land and resource users. We also value a growing partnership with Indigenous Peoples concerning the conservation, management and development of land and resources.

With this shift to a broader mandate comes the need to change the College name. A name change will signal that we are serious about our expanded footprint and will show that the University supports the focus on renewable resources. I believe that agriculture, and especially the role of farmers, will garner new understanding and support from the public by being framed within a renewable resources paradigm.

An expanded College name will

also help to overcome some of the unnecessary limitations that many people have placed on the word "agriculture" and open up the public's understanding of our academic programs in environmental science, crop and animal production systems, biotechnology, food and bioproducts, resource economics and policy.

The decision to seek an expanded mandate and college name was not made hastily. It is an enormous challenge to identify a name that is broad and inclusive without being constraining. The new college name must broadly convey a positive image about what we do. I am recommending that we retain "agriculture" as part of the new name and that additional words be added. It has been suggested that "renewable resources" would be a suitable addition and it is one that I am comfortable with because it encompasses our expanded footprint.

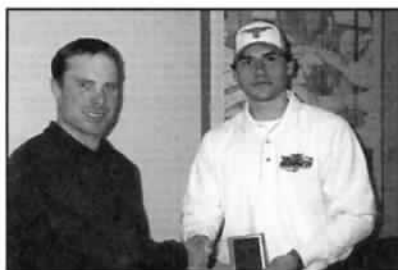
A name including the words "agriculture" and "renewable resources" will be inclusive of our role in agriculture and incorporate the entire value chain from environmental inputs to finished biobased products and services. The extended name would better embrace the rural economy and of our mandate for responsible development and utilization of resources. This change will show that agriculture remains central to our activities and that we are expanding our vision for the future.

I am very optimistic about the future of a Saskatchewan that maximizes wealth through the bioeconomy, an economy that is powered by the responsible development of renewable

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ASA Report

Trent Dewar, PRO



C. Schellenburg receives the award for best speech during the ASA-sponsored Sask Challenge. See story Page 10.

As the temperatures rise outside, there is growing anticipation from the students inside about their summer jobs and other summer activities. This was my final semester and I am proud to be a product of the College of Agriculture. The experience has been positive and I look forward to the doors that are opening for me.

We Agros were very busy with Telemiracle this year. We managed to raise \$7321 for Telemiracle 30. Fund raising activities included pledge books, casino night, steak supper, exec auction, donation from Farm Credit Canada and others. Since Telemiracle was in Regina this year, we pulled out the bed for another bed-push.

About 25 students participated in the 2 1/2 day journey. The weather was pleasant for the first half day, but it deteriorated quickly and we had to depend on our BLUE power to push us along. We arrived in Regina and were storm stayed for the night.

As I become an alumnus, I will be watching for the bed in two years when Telemiracle is once again in Regina.

Call for Nominations:

SAGA Honorary Life Members

Please send nominations to the SAGA address

or to:

Colin Peterson

Box 675, Dalmeny, SK.

S0K1E0

email: peterson@sask.usask.ca

Manitoba soil conservationist joins Soil Conservation Council of Canada Hall of Fame



Left to right - Doug McKell, Executive Director, SCCC; Bob's daughter, Charla Tillapaugh; Bob and Faye Bradley and Eugene Legge, President, SCCC.

Bob Bradley 62C of Brandon, a retired agrologist who over a 36 year career with the provincial and federal governments and industry associations actively promoted soil conservation practices, becomes the 16th person inducted into the Hall of Fame since the award was established in 1990.

"Bob Bradley is truly a deserving recipient of this recognition," says Eugene Legge, SCCC president and a farmer from Holyrood, Newfoundland. "Through his work with Manitoba Agriculture and PFRA as well as the Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Tillage Farmers Association and the Manitoba Zero Tillage Research Association, he has been instrumental in raising the awareness of hundreds of producers to the concepts and practices of soil conservation.

"His contribution through one-on-one contact with producers and local farm groups in organizing meetings, field demonstrations and producing manuals and other extension materials will be of value to farmers for generations to come."

Bradley was born and raised on a farm near Hazelcliffe, Saskatchewan. He received his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, majoring in soil science from the University of Saskatchewan in 1962. He and his wife Faye continue to live in Brandon.

Thundering Herd



Brian McIntyre 64C was recently surprised and honored by receiving the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal at a ceremony in Lloydminster on October 27, 2005. He also recently received the River Junction Recreation Association volunteer recognition award. He and his wife Donna are still farming in the Neilburg area and still keep busy with many community activities.

Shereice Avis 99C has been in Stettler, AB, for 1 1/2 years as an Account Manager for RBC. Earlier she was an Agriculture Account Manager with RBC in Shaunavon, SK, for 3 years. She has joined the ranks of the SAGA life members. She can be reached at ecavis@telus.net

Larry Brack 82C recently joined Canadian Sky International and is helping to broaden the company's business interests. Canadian Sky had previously focused on immigration from Europe. They have now set their sights on China through a private trade mission to Harbin in NE China. They are representing companies selling products or services in the agriculture sector. Interests include dairy embryos, flax products and Saskatoon berry products.

There is also an immigration focus wherein some Chinese families are interested in sending high school students abroad for study in English.

Weyburn is the target area because of its similarity to the Harbin area.

Barry Rapp 83C, formerly an Ag Rep is now employed with Heartland Services. He is at the same home address in Regina, but goes to Moose Jaw a few days each week and does some out of province travel.

Sharon Bucsis 81C, Account Manager, Agriculture, for the Royal Bank has transferred from North Battleford to Regina. She added a note that she does not want a name change for the College.

Wilf Keller 69C, Research Director, Plant Biotechnology Institute, NRC, in Saskatoon was recently the recipient of the Saskatoon Rotary Clubs' Golden Wheel Award for 2006 in the Science and Technology category. The award recognizes Wilf's exemplary science achievements in biotechnology, team leadership and public communication.

Berny Wiens 67C and **Grant Wood 79C** are working with an organization called Canada Ukraine Agrarian Development to facilitate improved access to technical information for small farmers in one region in the Ukraine.

Murray Fulton 77C, a University of Saskatchewan agricultural economist, has been awarded \$300,000 from the federal Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for a three-year project designed to help the agricultural sector, universities, and government exchange information and adapt within a rapidly changing agricultural environment. The multidisciplinary project will be led by Murray and will involve some 22 other U of S

researchers in a variety of disciplines including soil science, the study of cooperatives, commerce, and law.

"Professor Fulton's project presents an exciting opportunity to build upon interdisciplinary research success in areas of innovation, rural economies, environmental issues and governance, and to disseminate this knowledge to Prairie communities at a time when they are under extreme stress," said U of S Vice-President Research Steven Franklin.

The \$300,000 comes through SSHRC's new Knowledge Impact in Society (KIS) program and will be matched by the U of S, bringing the total for the three-year project to \$600,000.

Gerry Luciuk 67C completed 35 years with government and PFRA this spring. The full freedom game is just around the corner. In the meantime, he has been traveling Canada with regional services of PFRA as well as some international work in Ukraine and in Cuba this winter.

Bryan Harvey, PAg, 60C, was presented with a Distinguished Agrologist award at the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists awards dinner in Yorkton in April. It was presented in recognition of Brian's work as a plant breeder and his contribution to the Profession of Agrology.

Kari Nicolas, PAg, 99C, received the Outstanding Young Agrologist award at the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists award dinner in Yorkton in April. Kari was recognized for her work in agriculture extension with the Extension Division at the U of S.

2006 CURLING REPORT

The 2006 Bonspiel had 16 teams in the Regular draw and 4 in the Hutcheon. All 4 finals gave us an excellent example of the curling prowess of SAGA members. Seesaw battles, a come from behind win, a last rock nail biter and some pretty good body checks!

The Hutcheon Trophy was rediscovered by Les Henry, who had conveniently misplaced it back in '02 whilst bragging of his own skills. It was a conversation piece for many years in the Soils coffee lounge. In the meantime Les purchased another trophy to cover his tracks, but has now managed to sneak it in as a donation to SAGA as a replacement for the next Trophy to be retired. He would like us to call it the Rennie Trophy in honor of former Dean, Don Rennie, 1984 - 1989. Thank you, Les.

Prizes were donated to SAGA for 2006 by Cargill, the ASA, Kinsmen Telemiracle, Bayer Crop Science, Farm n' Garden and AgriCore. Thanks to those companies and the Agros.

Winning rinks for 2006 were:



HUTCHEON Gord Thomsen, Bill Hunt,
John Hoffort, Jack Drew



"A" Rory Cranston, Jordan Mueller,
Mark Ferguson, Lee Kalcits.



"B" Don Mitchell, Kathy Hay,
Michelle Greschuk, Brad Hovland



"C" Lorence Peterson, George Wilson,
Kurt Sawatzky, Blair Cummins

Thanks to all the curlers who participated in our 2006 SAGA Bonspiel. It was fun making new friends, greeting old ones and shootin' the breeze. We fully expect the winners to return and defend their titles. Please be sure to come again and bring more friends and classmates. You are all invited.

Pooped deck



Robert Tredgett 47S has recently moved to Apt.105, 1255 Verdier Ave., Brentwood Bay, BC, V8M 2J1

Garnet Altwasser 62C is finally retired and spending time on the markets and trying to contribute his 2 cents worth on the ranch. He appreciates how SAGA contributes to keeping the information flowing to him and his fellow ag grads.

Gordon Wilson 48C received the Friend of Meewasin Award 2005 for his volunteer leadership in the Kiwanis Memorial Park Improvements and celebrations throughout the past 15 years. Gordon was born in Limerick, attended Regina College, enlisted with the Regina Rifles in

1939, flew Spitfires in the Air Force and completed 5 years of service in 1945. He has been an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Saskatoon for 15 years.

Bernie Sonntag 62C has taken on an assignment as an International Adviser to the President of Inner Mongolia Agricultural University. This is mainly a volunteer activity. The main responsibility is to coordinate and promote increased interaction between IMAU students and faculty and western Canadian universities and agricultural research agencies.

David A. Johnson 56C was unable to attend his class reunion in January as he and his wife of 46 years Ruth Higgins (U of T 57) were en route to find a new home on the west coast. They have now moved into one at "Arbutus Ridge". Classmates Stu Whitney and Ray Coutes (respectively Sooke and East Saanich BC) took them out for lunch at the Olympic Golf and Country Club in Colewood and brought them up to speed. They now reside at 3534 Arbutus Drive South, Cobble Hill, BC, V0R 1L1, email: tumbleweed56@hotmail.com

Art Delahey 52C says, "Can you top this?" Art's granddaughter, Carly Summach, is graduating in Animal Science this spring as a fourth-generation Delahey Agro. Art's dad, J.R.,

was in the '27 class, Art graduated in '52 and son Rod made it in '80. Carly is a daughter of Art and Liz's oldest, Lee, and hopes to get into the vet college. Congratulations!!

Bob Blakeley 51S reported to SAGA on behalf of his Class of '51 Voc Ags. He and his classmates gathered at the 2006 Crop Production Week and then attended the Ag Grad reunion. The present list of grads totals 42 - 23 attended the reunion, 20 were accompanied by spouses. The spouses made sure that the men got to the right place at the right time. This class claims the record for turnout percentage for classes 55 years or more after graduation; they have not been challenged. The 51s attended the banquet and surprised the younger groups by standing up when recognized by the chairman. The younger groups also seemed surprised that many still had hair, albeit somewhat grey. Bob, on behalf of his class, thanks SAGA for continuing the annual reunion tradition to keep them "Forever Young".

Gary Carlson 61C received a special medal at the Sask. Ag Hall of Fame induction ceremony in 2005 for his immense contribution to the formation and subsequent operation of that important institution. For a good description of Gary's contribution see the Special Tribute on the following website www.sahf.ca

Dean's Report

resources, including agriculture. The College and University commitment to the people of Saskatchewan is unwavering. Like our founders, we look forward to the future and we will draw on the energy of our students, the experience of our faculty and staff, and the passion of our alumni to ensure we are on course.

Note:

The faculty of the College of Agriculture met at a special

meeting in April to decide on a new name for the college. After a lengthy discussion, the name College of Agriculture and Bioresources was selected. This name will now go forward to the U of S decision-making bodies for final approval. If all goes according to plan, the name change should come into effect by January, 2007.

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Note from editors:

The plan for the newsletter is to produce three issues per year - spring, summer and winter. This plan cannot work, however, if SAGA members at large don't provide a good proportion of the input. This is especially critical for the summer edition. You will note how short the Thundering Herd and Pooped Deck sections are in this edition. While we prefer email input, we'll take it any way you can give it

to us - email, fax, letter, phone call or in-person contact.

You can now update contact information yourself on the University Advancement website. Please use the following link to update your information.

<http://www.usask.ca/alumni/alumnisite/services/address-update.shtml> If you have any trouble please inform SAGA.

The President's Pen

The 2006 SAGA Reunion was another success. Thanks to those who took in the events and enjoyed some time with fellow grads. The SAGA Executive would like to encourage all grads attending the Crop Production Show in the future to stay the extra day and attend your SAGA Mixer and the other weekend events. The reunion is a great place to network.

I would like to thank all of the class reunion co-ordinators who volunteered to contact their classmates and organize their get-together. It was a pleasure to have **Mason Simmons 46S** attend and celebrate the 60 year reunion on behalf of his class of 1946. At the Banquet we also enjoyed the rousing cheers from the School Class of 1951 who celebrated their 55 year reunion this year. Thanks to **Mike Kirzinger 96C, Terri Eife 97C, Brad Hovland 89S** and **Glenda Howarth 97C** for a well-organized Banquet and Mixer. It was wonderful to share memories with the classmates of my husband, **Ian 76C**, and to hear how accomplished everyone's careers and offspring are.

I would like to thank **Carla Trobak 96C, Teri Iffe 97S, Brad Hovland 89S, Ewald Lammerding 88S, Kristian Holden 01C** and **Trent Doer (ASA rep)** who have completed their terms on the executive and made sure the reunion weekend ran smoothly. Their hard work and enthusiasm will be missed.

Thanks to **Colin Peterson 95C** for his dedication and well done job as SAGA president last year. Colin, on behalf of SAGA, was very involved as a judge and promoter of the SAGA Team Challenge, an academic competition for Agriculture students held the weekend following the SAGA reunion. This January, Colin was also the recipient of the Agriculture Students Association's Professor of the Year award. Congratulations!

I would like to welcome the new executive members for 2006: **Ken Sapsford 79C, Melissa Stuart 04C, Kathy Vancha 05S, Chelsea Bulani 05C, Stephanie Huber 99C, Virginia Peters 79S, Sandy Russell 99C, Jim Russell**

96S, Steve Cuddington 95C, Angela McKague ASA. Thanks also to our returning executive: **Glen Hass 60C, Colin Peterson 95C, Bev Magill 94C, Pat Flaten 82C, Richard Bellamy 66C, Mike Kirzinger 96C, Glenda Glezy 97C, Bernie Sonntag 62C, Frank Dunlop 63C, Les Henry 64C, Lanette Ehman 96C, Jeremy German 01C, Bob Mc Kercher 54C** and **Fred Fulton 50C.** I look forward to working with you to make the 2007 SAGA Reunion a memorable and great time. Vice President **Ken Sapsford 79C** will be co-ordinating the reunion classes; contact him for information on your class reunion.

SAGA continues to have close ties with the College. I attended the ASA graduation on January 28th on behalf of SAGA to bring greetings and to present the Tommy Fraser Memorial award to **Rebecca Gummesson.** It was a pleasure to meet a new and enthusiastic group of upcoming Ag Grads. The SAGA executive is looking forward this fall to meeting the new ASA executive and members. Dean Barber had requested input from SAGA on the proposed College name change. Thanks to **Glen Hass 60C** for representing SAGA on this committee.

In closing, I would like to encourage all SAGA members to email our SAGA newsletter editors: **Bernie Sonntag 62C** (bsonntag@shaw.ca) and **Frank Dunlop 63C** (the-saga@shaw.ca) any news and updates on yourself or your fellow grads. SAGA will continue addressing the challenges of communicating with members, recruiting recent graduates, and improving attendance and activities at the reunion. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact any of your executive members as the SAGA executive's role is to serve the membership and make the annual reunion a success. It is an honour to be president of SAGA and continue my family tradition as a SAGA member. See you at the 2007 Reunion - have a great year.

Judy MacMillan, C79
SAGA President

Reunions

The degree class of 76 agricultural graduate reunion



Thirty years and still going strong was the theme for the degree class of 76 reunion in Saskatoon in January. The class of 76 had 71 grads in total. There were 63 guys and 8 gals. The organizing committee was able to locate 68 of the grads from the class. One member of the class passed away several years ago, and they were not able to locate 2 grads.

The weekend reunion brought 35 of the class back to Saskatoon. It was a wonderful weekend to catch up with people and was a great time for everyone. The reunion started with a reception on Friday night in association with the events of the annual "Ag Grad" weekend, followed by a brunch on Saturday morning and then attending the annual Ag Grad banquet and dance on Saturday night. A big thank you to members of the Sask. Ag Grad Association for all the work they do in organizing the weekend and helping out with the organizing details.

The class is truly following its true passion with 80 % working directly in Agriculture. Of those involved in agriculture: 15 are farmers, 4 are veterinarians, 10 work in various agencies and departments for the federal government, 8 work in various agencies and departments of the Sask provincial government, 1 is a university researcher and professor and 4 are in private business related to agriculture

The class also stayed close to the nest with 48 in Sask., 8 in Alberta, 6 in Manitoba, 2 in B.C., 1 each in Ontario, Quebec and the USA, and 1 in Australia - a full 95 % of the class is in Western Canada. The class has been productive with an average of 2.58 children per family and, most notably, the

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Crop Week & Crop Production Show 2007

The 2007 Crop Week dates are January 8-13 at the Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon. Come a few days early for Ag Grad events and take part in meetings of Seed Growers, as well as Canola, Pulse, Mustard, Canary seed, Flax, Fruit, Herb & Spice Growers and an information day by the Canadian Wheat Board.

A Special Session Wednesday evening will deal with a topic of current interest to Saskatchewan farm families. The week is jam-packed with information and opportunities to share ideas with Ag Grads and others.

At the same time (Monday to Thursday) you can take in a wide array of exhibits and information booths at the Crop Production Show at the Exhibition grounds.

Hockey Report

The annual SAGA Hockey Tournament was a success, but we are looking to be bigger and better for 2007. This year the Oilers won the final and got their name on the coveted Rennie Hockey Trophy. We will be looking for teams this fall with the intent on drawing as many agriculture grads and friends back for another fun weekend of socializing and a few games of hockey. If you have any input, or would like to enter a team please contact Jeremy German at 343-7017, or Steve Cuddington at 492-4617.

A Call to Duty

Mason Simmons 46S

The 1946 School of Agriculture class will be gathering for their 60th anniversary on June 22, 2006. A 6:00 o'clock dinner will be served in the south dining room, Park Town Hotel.

In 1946 some 70 young men and 1 lady graduated. Today there are 42 still going strong. They have met several times over the years, the last one held in June, 2001, their 55th anniversary. On that occasion 55 grads and wives were present.

"Our vigor wanes with middle age,

We find our footsteps lagging;
Our backbones creak,
Our sight grows weak,
And yet our tongues keep wag-
ging".

Come on "46 Voc Ags" let's get together for our 60th, and we'll talk up a storm !!

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children are a very accomplished bunch with most having pursued undergraduate degrees and many in graduate and doctorate programs. It was rewarding to see the success of the class and their children.

A special part of the Friday evening was spending time with many former profs from the U of S, including Dr. Williams, Dr. Christensen, Dr. Harvey and Les Henry.

The Friday evening and other events provided great opportunities to visit with many friends from other years and the graduates of the school from '76.

It was a wonderful event and the class committed to a 35 year reunion in 2011.

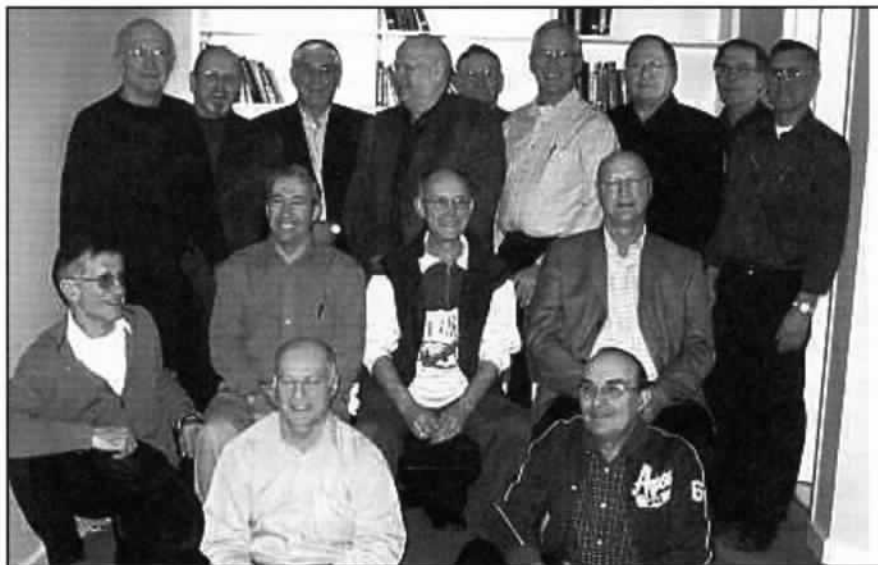
Degree Class of '66 Celebrates 40th Reunion in Style

The BSA Class of '66 celebrated with a great get-together at the Saskatoon Inn over the SAGA weekend. A total of 18 classmates (out of a class of 62), most with spouses, got together for all or part of the SAGA weekend reunion. Class President and Senior Stick Bill Turner kicked off festivities with a welcome to everyone at a dinner on Friday evening at the Saskatoon Inn. Most took in the Dean's address at the SAGA Annual Meeting and the mixer on Friday evening, then attended the SAGA dinner and dance on Saturday night. The Executive Suite at the Saskatoon Inn served as the hospitality suite for many shared memories and stories. Activities concluded with brunch on Sunday.

To mark the occasion, the class produced a special newsletter with life story updates contributed by 30 classmates. The newsletter was shared by email on Friday of the reunion weekend with everyone who could not make it to the reunion - in addition, everyone attending received a hard copy. A fundraising challenge, as part of the reunion celebration, saw the class of '66 raise over \$20,000 in pledges towards construction of the planned Feed Technology Facility at the University of Saskatchewan. Dean Barber noted that this facility is the highest priority research-infrastructure investment in the College of Agriculture, and is a critical missing link in the emerging bio-resources research and development cluster at the University.

The class plans to dedicate existing and future funds it raises to the memory of classmates who have passed on - which, to date, includes Brian Afseth, Keith Ayres, Roger Demong, Dr. Ed Dorosz, Vern Rossvold and Ken Time.

1966 BSA Classmates Attending their 40th Reunion



(l to r, Back row: Edgar Harder, George Pearson, Rick Armstrong, Art Westlund, Jim McWilliams, Bill Turner, Cec Werner, Dennis Simpson, Ralph Stredwick. Middle row; Leonard Hewson, Kurt Sawatzky, Wayne Pander, Paul Douglas. Front row: Ron Plunz, Rod Altwasser. Missing: Albert Kowalenko, John Buchan, Jim Braaten).

College Class of '86 - 20 Year Reunion

Although the turn out to our reunion weekend was low, those who attended had a wonderful time reminiscing as if no time had passed since we were all together at U of S. We got caught up on Friday night at both the class reception and the "Smoker" that followed. The SAGA banquet on Saturday gave us more time to visit and Brad Holt did a superb job with his speech on behalf of the 86 Agros.

Thanks to all who attended and for those who didn't - keep open the second weekend in January 2016 for our 30 year reunion!

Back Row L to R - Blair Harris, John Cote, Annette Zatylny, Janet (Campbell) Nameth, Raelene (Allard) Petracek, Alice (Lipsey) Wilson, Rob Jones, Corey Loessin, Lorna (Petersen) Stephen

Middle Row L to R - Grant Chapman, Harvey Petracek, Jim Butz, Brad Holt, Kevin Daniels

Front Row (standing) L to R - Allan Nameth, Bruce Harrison, Brian Nybo, Taras (Atari) Borowitz

Sitting L to R - Tom Scott, Craig Rath

Also at the reunion, but not in the photo, were Jo-Anne Relf-Eckstein, Pat Flaten, Jeff (Akins) Bruin, and Darwyn Pidwerbesky.



Home Grown

Suzanne Hogg (Carruthers) 98C and **Kelly Hogg 97S** recently made an addition to their family. Dylan Martin Hogg was born on December 8th, 2005 weighing in at 9lbs. Dylan is a little brother to Sydney Marie who was born January 7th, 2004.

Kelly and Sue were married in Mexico on December 12th, 2002. They are both farming full time on a mixed operation just north of Swift Current.

Rod Piche 88s and **Isabella Poisson 91C** welcomed Anik Alysse Piche into their home on 10/06/05 weighing in at 8 lb., 11 oz.

Sask-Challenge

On January 25th and 26th, the Agriculture Students Association hosted Sask-Challenge, an annual academic competition for undergraduate students. Students competed in debates, a team challenge, paper presentations and agriculture Jeopardy.

SAGA sponsored the team challenge portion of the event again this year. In the SAGA team challenge, teams of 4 students are given an agriculture problem and are isolated for 3 hours to come up with a solution. The team has 15 minutes to present its ideas to judges and answer questions.

The 2006 SAGA team challenge was to set up a small business to keep agriculture graduates in Saskatchewan. There were many great ideas and very good presentations.

Students developed many different types of businesses, such as an environmental consulting company, a specialty flax paper plant and alternative fuel businesses such as grain-burning stoves and bio-diesel companies. SAGA presented the team challenge awards to Lyndon Butler, Amy Mattus, Katie Leis and Drew Fowler at the banquet on January 27th.

If you are interested in helping judge this great event, please contact a SAGA executive member. SAGA and the ASA would appreciate your assistance in the many academic events involved with Sask-Challenge. Helping with Sask-Challenge is a great way for SAGA to be involved with the current agriculture students who are the future of our organization.

Note from a "Has Been Dean"

John W. B. Stewart P.Ag.

The retirement option was especially welcome in 1999 when, after a very busy year working on grants for the 6th floor for the Agriculture building, getting the Virtual College of Biotechnology grounded, and a family wedding, Ann and I headed west to set up our home on Salt Spring Island in BC. Surely, without the distraction of a busy schedule, my golf, tennis and carpentry skills could be elevated to higher levels. Well, nice plans but the reality was different! Yes, the new home called for upgrading of basic carpentry skills but extra time on the golf course had little effect on a burgeoning handicap. Ann really enjoys life on the island. She has raised her tennis game to much higher levels while steadfastly refusing to get involved with golf and has continued her interest in theatre and choral projects.

For me, other distractions began to become quite important as I was helping SCOPE (Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment) edit books and interacting with IAI (Inter American Institute for Global Change Research) headquartered in Brazil. I knew IAI quite well as I had been a member of its Scientific Advisory Committee while at the U of S.

Now 6 years later, I have spent two 6-month periods as Interim Director of IAI while they looked for a permanent Director. In-between these assignments SCOPE editorial duties were demanding and interesting. Incidentally, recent SCOPE books are available in the U of S Library. IAI has just completed its second Directorial search and has appointed Professor Holm Thiessen to the position on a leave of absence from

the University of Gottingen, Germany. Holm is a Ph D graduate of the University of Saskatchewan and was an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Soil Science, before accepting the Gottingen chair. Regarding the Uof S connection, recently I had the pleasure of serving with Bryan Harvey on a scientific panel of the International

Assessment of Agriculture Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD).

So that is what keeps us going - currently, life has taken on a slower pace as I have had a hip replacement and am getting fit again to resume the onslaught on my inadequate golf. Life has completed a circle.

Reunion Weekend 2007 January 12 & 13 - Plan to Attend

SAGA ANNUAL MEETING
Friday, January 12, 2007
THE SASKATOON INN
All SAGA members welcome!!!

SAGA MIXER
Friday, January 12, 2007
8:00 p.m.
THE SASKATOON INN

SAGA BANQUET & DANCE
Saturday, January 13, 2007
5:30 p.m. Cocktails
6:30 p.m. Banquet
THE SASKATOON INN

Reunion Years 2002, 1997, 1987, 1977, 1967,
1957, 1947 and 1937

Talk to your classmates now!

This is your year!

Get everyone there!

Herders in Inner Mongolia

Basil Fritz 73C

The weather here is mama hu hu(not too good, not too bad), but maiwente (no problem)!!

I am currently working in the Chinese Autonomous Region of Inner Mongolia in a Sustainable Agriculture Project funded by CIDA. The goals of the project are to achieve environmentally sustainable grassland management, halt degradation, while at the same time increasing farmer/herder profitability. This is a very tall and often conflicting order, especially when the current national policy promotes increasing livestock numbers as a means of increasing herder incomes.



A Mongolian herder

rainfall can be as low as 50 mm. The rest of Inner Mongolia's rainfall ranges from 200- 350 mm and higher in the northern forested areas. Seventy percent of rainfall occurs in June, July and August making for a slow start to spring growth.

Traditionally herders in the grasslands have been semi-nomadic, but in recent years a transition is taking place. Permanent living quarters are being established, with herders moving livestock to winter and summer pastures. One of many policies of the National government, in an attempt to restore the grassland, has been to develop a National Fencing Program, resulting in a rapidly changing landscape. Further changes to the semi-nomadic ways of herders have come about as a result of planned migration of Chinese farmers from over populated areas of the country. The changes, however, have not been very smooth.

It will take considerable time and effort to influence the deep-seated traditional ways of the Mongolian herders. They are learning and adopting new livestock practices and management techniques in an environment where self-sufficiency is being replaced by the economic realities of China joining the WTO.

Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, (1 of 34 provinces) in China, has a population of about 23 million, 65% of which is rural. This is in contrast to the entire Chinese population of about 1.3 billion, with an urban/rural split of almost 40/60% respectively. There are 49 ethnic groups living in Inner Mongolia, the largest group represented by the Han Chinese who tend to be the crop and dairy farmers and the Mongolians, who are the herders raising mainly sheep, but also goats. The average land allocation is four ha/person, while the national average for China is less than half of that. Generally speaking the grassland herders have larger land allocations for herding purposes. The land allocation system was established in the late nineties, based on a herder's livestock numbers and family size at that time.

The grasslands of Inner Mongolia make up approximately 75% of the total land base and include grassland types of meadow steppe and typical steppe in the north east to transition and desert steppe in the south west. Most of the herding on the grassland consists of meat sheep and goats with some dual purpose cattle, but also includes a sizeable Cashmere industry. There are camels in the driest areas; those grasslands bordering the Gobi desert where annual

SASKATCHEWAN AGRICULTURAL GRADUATES ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FISCAL 2004-2005

NOVEMBER 1 , 2004 to OCTOBER 31, 2005

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSE</u>	
MEMBERSHIPS	990.00	NEWSLETTER	4850.84
HOCKEY	927.00	HOCKEY	200.00
CURLING	2105.00	CURLING	1442.96
BANQUET	11,149.52	BANQUET	11,359.18
MIXER	3906.92	MIXER	6,450.88
INVESTMENT	9000.00	MISC. EXPENSES	<u>2731.08</u>
BANK INTEREST	1.82		
INVST. INTEREST	225.00		
HISTORY BOOK	360.00		
DONATIONS, ETC.	345.00		
MISC. INCOME	<u>113.19</u>		
TOTAL INCOME	\$29,123.45	TOTAL EXPENSES	27,034.94

<u>TREND ANALYSIS</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
BANK BALANCE	\$11210.81	\$7107.63	\$4041.58	\$6130.09
INVESTMENTS	\$36018.87	\$40690.54	\$42779.80	\$37,158.74
TOTALS	\$47229.68	\$47798.17	\$46821.38	\$43,288.83

GICs; COMPANY

PACIFIC & WESTERN \$9000.00 Cashed

<u>MUTUAL FUNDS:</u>	<u>CURRENT VALUE</u>
TEMPLETON GROUP	\$10,936.10
MACKENZIE	\$10,148.71
DYNAMIC	\$10,450.27
CLARINGTON	<u>\$5,623.66</u>
TOTAL	\$37,158.74

Prepared by _____
Carla Trobak (Treasurer)

Audited by: _____
Lorence I. Peterson P.Ag.

Witness: _____
Richard Bellamy (Registrar)

Empty Saddles



Donald Warren Lamont Read 50C passed away in Swift Current Hospital Sunday December 11, 2005 at the age of 84. Don spent his working career as a research scientist at the Agriculture Canada Swift Current Research Centre.

Adam Winisky 35C, age 96, passed away at Saskatoon City Hospital on September 18, 2005. He was born at his father's homestead near Langham. Later the family moved to land south of Saskatoon. Adam attended Albert School, Nutana Collegiate and graduated with a BSA in 1935. His multi-lingual skills took him to Europe as an immigration agent for Canada before WW II. He returned to farming and later generously supported the College of Agriculture through the A.E Winisky Research Trust.

Ted MacIntosh 48C passed away peacefully on Dec. 9, 2005. He was born on April 12, 1921 in Moose Jaw and grew up in Lumsden. Ted was a fighter pilot in the RCAF during WW II and flew missions over the Middle East. After graduation in 1948 he went on to a career in the public service. His sports interests included hockey, baseball, curling and golf. He curled in the national senior playoffs in 1973 and shot his age in golf at age 79.

Donald Ray Grant 55C died

unexpectedly, but peacefully, at home on Feb. 1, 2006. Don was born at Cut Knife on August 4, 1932. He was a first rate scholar and won the Governor General's Medal in high school and graduated with a BSA (Great Distinction) in 1955. He was a research chemist with Maple Leaf Milling Co. in Toronto before undertaking graduate studies at Washington State University in chemistry and completing a Ph.D. in 1963. This was followed by a 30 year career as a professor in the Department of Chemistry at the Uof S - teaching, research, graduate students, Department Head, Chair of the faculty association. He was also very active in his community - sports, community and charitable groups and church.

Douglas Haig Grant 40S, 49C passed away on Feb. 20, 2006. Doug was born in 1919 on a farm in the Dinsmore district. He graduated from the UofS with a Diploma in 1940 before joining the RCAF where he served until 1945. He returned to the UofS and obtained his BSA in 1949. He subsequently worked as an Ag Rep in Elbow, Swift Current and Saskatoon before moving into a management role in departmental headquarters. He was an active member of SIA and served on the 4-H Board, the UofS Senate and the Agricultural Hall of Fame Board. He was a life member of SAGA, a member of the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame and received the Distinguished Graduate Award from the College.

Velma May Brice, wife of **Walter Brice 40C**, passed away in Saskatoon on Feb. 7, 2006.

Helen Wilson, wife of **George Wilson 63C**, passed away in

Saskatoon on Nov. 9, 2005.

Caesar Julius Verbeke passed away on Feb. 17, 2006 in Saskatoon. He was born in Saskatoon on Dec. 24, 1914. He completed his schooling in Leroy and Bedford Road Collegiate. He enrolled in the School of Agriculture. He took up farming in the Leroy district. He and his wife were very active participants in many school, church and business activities, including school trustee, Knights of Columbus, Canadian Seed Growers Assoc and St. Thomas More College fundraising committee. They retired in Saskatoon in 1969.

(Editor's note: SAGA and university Alumni records do not show Caesar Verbeke as a graduate. SAGA members should be reminded that anyone having spent two years or more at the School or College is eligible for SAGA membership.)

Oswald Leonard Henry passed away on April 1, 2006 in Regina. He was a native of Guyana where he completed his first degree in economics. He was not a U of S BSA grad, but completed an MSc in ag economics in 1979 at the UofS under a CIDA scholarship. He was active in many community activities in Regina. He worked for several years in the Policy and Planning Secretariat of Executive Council. He later formed his own management consulting company in Regina.

Bill Noy 61C passed away at the Strathmore Hospital on September 19, 2005 at the age of 66 years. He was born on January 23, 1939 in Rosebud, AB. In university, Bill received many awards including the Tommy Fraser award for Outstanding Sportsman. Bill and Viv married in

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October 1963 and they returned to Rosebud to farm with his father. Bill was very active in community work, serving on the Rosebud Hall Board, the Rosebud Lions Club, Rosebud Gas Co-op and the Municipal Planning Commission. Bill and Viv retired to Strathmore in 2000. They became actively involved in the Strathmore Seniors Centre where Bill enjoyed many hours with new friends. Bill enjoyed a hard day's work on the farm, traveling, windsurfing, snowmobiling, camping with family and friends, a day's fishing at Fork Lake or a card game with friends. He was known as a prankster and his sense of humor was enjoyed by all who knew him. In later years, Bill was slowed down by Parkinson's disease, which he faced with courage and peace of mind.

Stuart Chamney Wright 41S

passed away on April 2, 2006. He was born on August 2, 1922 at Rockhaven, SK. He served in the Navy during WW II. He farmed for several years after the war and then joined Agriculture Canada in Regina. He transferred to North Battleford for the remainder of his career and retired there in 1983.

John Thomas (Jack) Kyle 46C passed away in Victoria on Feb. 21, 2006. He was born in Regina on May 22, 1924. After completing MSc and CB Administration degrees he spent 23 years with the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture in positions related to land use and machinery. He then served as Deputy Minister for Public Works before joining the University of Victoria as VP and Dean of Administration. From 1972-75 he was the Commissioner of Works and Operations in Winnipeg. He then served in Alberta as an ADM and then DM of

Government Services until his retirement to Victoria in 1984. He was awarded the Order of Canada in 1980. He was a long serving member of Rotary International and served his community in many other ways including Boy Scouts and the United Church.

Albert Duncan Scott 43C of Batavia IL and Professor Emeritus at Iowa State University died on Nov. 12, 2005, at age 84. He completed his BSA in 1943 in soils. Following military service he returned to the UofS for graduate courses and subsequently completed his PhD in soil science at Cornell University in 1949. He joined the faculty at ISU and advanced rapidly through the ranks to full professor. His career at ISU spanned 40 years. He was very active in scientific societies, traveled widely to other soils laboratories and authored many publications in his field of expertise.

Agriculture still offers opportunities

Andrew Laing

Following is an excerpt from a letter to the StarPhoenix by this third-year honors student in agricultural economics who was recently elected to the university senate.

Canadian agriculture in the 21st Century faces a tremendous number of challenges, and many pessimists claim this is evidence that agriculture is no place to make a living today. While it is true that many primary producers are facing severe problems, their struggles don't necessarily represent the entire food and bio-resource system. Besides, in crisis lies opportunity — namely the opportunity to help create solutions to the many challenges facing both farmers and society. In fact, with all of the challenges facing agriculture, there is a greater need than ever for people who are willing to take on these challenges.

The college of agriculture has been training the future leaders of agriculture for almost 100 years now. The problem in understanding agriculture (and the college) lies in those areas of the industry that don't involve primary production. Primary production today is defined by cutting

edge genetics, chemistry, engineering and human ingenuity. Plants and animals are adapted to climates and consumer needs. This allows farmers to produce, with limited resources, enough food to feed the world, safely and in a sustainable fashion. Businesses create sophisticated supply chains that are able to turn raw commodities into valuable consumer products. This is agriculture — a completely modern and highly developed food and bio-resource system. The college of agriculture is involved in each part of this system and it is one of our best-kept secrets.

Changing the name of the college can be compared to changing the window display of a store. The contents of the display might change a little, but the attributes that define the store will not change. The spirit, determination and commitment to excellence that define the college of agriculture will still remain. The college has contributed significantly to Canadian communities and those around the world, and it will continue to do so. Whatever name it goes by in the future, I am proud to be a part of the College of Agriculture and its tradition of making a significant difference in the world.

