

It's Finally Here!
 It's true, SAGA officially
 has a website!
www.saskaggrads.com
 Check it out for all of your SAGA Reunion and
 Agriculture Alumni News
 Note:
 Members will soon receive an email from
 the Website with instructions on how to Log
 On as a member of SAGA

Top College Grad 2008



Jenna Drinkwater

Born in Baltimore, Maryland while her father was completing his post-doc, Jenna Drinkwater has lived in Saskatoon for the majority of her life and considers it to be home.

From a young age, she has been interested in plants, gardening alongside her mother and cultivating a small plot of her own. A grade 6 science project, looking at the effects of different liquids on bean germination and growth, allowed her to begin an exploration of the science behind plant growth, piquing her curiosity in this area and establishing the path she was to follow to this day. Two years later, she was given the chance

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Alberta Agricultural Hall of Fame

Ed Schultz 64C was among three Albertans recognized for their contributions to agriculture as they were inducted into the Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame on September 26, 2008.



Ed's passion for the pork production industry saw him dedicate a lifetime career to improving a vital part of the Alberta agricultural economy. He was General Manager of Alberta Pork for 33 years.

Ed Schultz (right), was accompanied by his wife Judy when Alberta Minister Groenenveld inducted him into the Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame.

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**What do I get
for being a
SAGA member?
Turn to page 2
for details.**

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to work with the company Performance Plants as part of the Connaught Student Biotechnology Expo. Jenna's interest in plants continued as she attended Walter Murray Collegiate in Saskatoon and after careful consideration, she decided that post-secondary education in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources would best serve her desire to become a "plant scientist" - a decision she has not regretted. She has worked on a number of different research projects throughout her university career, which have helped her to narrow her focus.

In addition to her studies, Jenna has also been involved with a number of hobbies. For the majority of her undergraduate career she has been an active member of the university's Horticulture Club. Jenna has also been a member of Girl Guides for sixteen years. She has been a member of the University Chorus and also enjoys playing the piano. She is also an active member of the Zodiac Tapestry handbell group. Within the next year, Jenna plans to pursue a Masters degree in plant breeding, possibly continuing on to a PhD.



Why am I a SAGA Member?

by Chelsea Bulani 05C

Have you ever asked yourself why you joined SAGA? Or why you should join SAGA?

How many times has an Ag Grad asked you the same question?

SAGA is committed to maintaining the close bonds of Diploma and Degree Grads of the College of Agriculture and Bioresources at the University of Saskatchewan. The organization acts as a liaison between the alumni and the college and current students as well as providing an annual organized reunion weekend. As well, SAGA helps to provide support to the College by way of fundraising for capital and non-capital activities. By becoming a member, Agriculture Grads can take advantage of the many benefits SAGA has to offer.

Membership in SAGA provides you with 3 issues of The SAGA (the publication of the Saskatchewan Agriculture Graduates Association), access to the SAGA Website members only area, access to the annual SAGA reunion weekend as well as a way to contact your former classmates and College Alumni.

The SAGA Reunion weekend is the keystone event for SAGA every year. Reunion chairs are chosen for 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and even 60 year reunions. These chairs work closely with SAGA to organize the reunion and ensure that the members of the reunion years are included in the activi-

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"As a valuable leader in the pork industry on the provincial, national and international stages, Ed's tremendous efforts and accomplishments have helped pork producers receive better returns for their product and improved the lives of many Albertans" stated Ed Stelmach, Premier of Alberta's. "Ed is indeed a worthy addition to the Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame."

Born in Spalding and raised in the Quill Lake area of Saskatchewan, Ed was a 1964 graduate of the College of Agriculture, U of S.

In 2006, he was named to the POWERLIST as one of Alberta's most influential people by *Alberta Venture Magazine*.

ties. The SAGA reunion weekend consists of a curling bonspiel, hockey tournament, mixer (formerly known as the Smoker) and a banquet. By becoming a SAGA member, you can ensure that you don't miss out on the festivities! Honorary Life members are presented at the main reunion banquet from Degree and Diploma graduates. This is an excellent way to honour your classmates in a formal setting, and perhaps be honoured yourself!

The great part about becoming a SAGA member is the cost! Annual memberships are \$10 and Life Memberships are \$100 (by far the best \$100 you'll ever spend). Membership is required to partake in the Reunion weekend activities. The SAGA Reunion weekend has numerous costs over and above what SAGA handles on a daily basis which means that there are also costs associated with it separate from the membership fees. In short: 1 - \$10 annual SAGA membership + 1 - \$10 mixer ticket + 1 - \$35 banquet ticket = a weekend of memories with former classmates that you will never forget!

SAGA is the best way to keep in touch with your former classmates. It acts as a liaison between you and the college, and ensures that you won't miss out on your class reunion year. You will be kept up to date on the activities of the college and other Agriculture Alumni through The SAGA and the SAGA Website. And you get all of this for only \$10 per year or \$100 for life.

2009 SAGA Reunion Weekend

January 10 & 11, 2009

**All Events at TCU Place, Saskatoon
(formerly Centennial Auditorium)**

January 10

7 pm Annual Meeting

8 pm Mixer/Casino Night

SAGA members and guests \$10 per person at the door.

Membership to SAGA is \$100 for life
or \$10 for annual membership.

Rooms are available for Reunion Year groups.

Room rental is covered by your admission
to the Mixer for groups over 20.

January 11

74th SAGA Reunion Banquet

4:30 Cocktails

5:30 Banquet

Program and group pictures to follow

Banquet tickets will be available at the Mixer from
Reunion Coordinator Carl Lyn (306) 956-7656
or Lynn Horn (306) 249-0850 at \$35 each.

Ticket availability cannot be guaranteed at the door.

Curling and Hockey tournaments

Reunion Rooms Available - Small or Large Groups

Reunion Years Degree & Diploma:

1949, 1959, 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999, 2004

Reunion Chairs contact: Carl Lynn 956-7656 or lynnc@agr.gc.ca

2009 Reunion Chairs (updated)

Degree

1949- Steve Burkell, 2002 Cairns Ave. Saskatoon, Sask, S7J 1T4
(306) 343-1370 Email: NA

1959 - Elwood Hart 394 Ormsby Road West NW, Edmonton AB, T5T 5P4
(780) 489-2646
Email: ehart@shaw.ca

1969 - Terry Martin, Box 75, Parkside, Sask S0J 2A0
(306) 747-3042
Email: tvhpm@sasktel.net

1979 - Ken Sapsford, 51 Campus Drive, Saskatoon, Sask. S7N 5A8
(306) 966-4999
Email: k.sapsford@usask.ca

1989 - Allan VanCaeselee, PO Box 309, Indian Head, SK S0G 2K0
(306) 695-3925 Cell: 660-7763
Email: allan.vancaeselee@brettyoung.ca

1999 - Robert Stone, PO Box 555, Davidson, Sask, S0G 1A0
(306) 567-2816 Cell: 567-8528
Email: rob.stone@plantpioneer.com

2004 - Jennifer Garner W (306) 778-8702 Res (306) 778-3943
Email: jgarnerpioneercoop@sasktel.net

Diploma

1949 - Bill Heenan, Box 28, RR # 2, Site 200 Grand Coulee, Sask, S4P 2Z2
(306) 757-8493 Email: NA

1959 - Barry Raymond, PO Box 190, Aneroid, Sask, S0N 0C0
(306) 588-2544 Email: NA

1969 - Barry Hodge, 221 Copeland Drive, Saskatoon, Sask, S7H 2Z4
(306) 373-2154 Wk (306) 244-3248 Cell: 292-8439
Email: bhodge@sasktel.net

1979 - Virginia Peters, Box 322, Perdue, SK, S0K 3C0, 237-9506
Email: bvpeters@sasktel.net

1989 - Don Mitchell, Box 277 R.R.# 9 Saskatoon, S7K 1P3, (306)-374-1240
Email: blucher@sasktel.net

1999- Need a volunteer
Contact Carl Lynn at lynnc@agr.gc.ca or (306) 956 7656

2004 - Need a volunteer

HOCKEY is HERE!

WHERE? - Aberdeen, SK.

WHEN? - Saturday, January 10th, 2009 starting bright and early from 8 am on Saturday running until 7 pm. Finals are on Sunday morning, January 11th, 2009.

COST? - To be determined once teams register but it usually costs around \$25/player depending on the number of players on your team.

Register your team by contacting either Mark Kuchuran at (306) 229-1120 or by email at mark.kuchuran@basf.com or Gerrit Baan at (306) 665-4535 or by email at gbaan@fna.ca

CURLING

AG GRAD WEEKEND JANUARY 10 & 11, 2009

We need YOU! Come for the FUN!

Enter as a team or an individual and we will find you a team.

Entry fee is \$100.00/team or \$25.00 per person. The entry fee includes ticket to Mixer

The event will be held at the Granite Curling Club in Saskatoon.

For more info or to enter a team, contact:

Virginia Peters 306-237-9506 or bvpeters@sasktel.net.

or Ewald Lammerding at (306) 477-1369 or eflammerding@sasktel.net

President's Pen

Remember!! ... I am again reminded of the importance of the 11th hour, on the 11th day, of the 11th month, and the significance of this great sacrifice for freedom that occurred in our history. This point was brought to my attention after reading the summary minutes from the *SAGA* History publication compiled in 1980. The annual general meeting minutes outlined the number of Ag Grads that served during World War II. Many of our own traditions and events evolved before and during that time.

One *SAGA* tradition is the newsletter. It provides updates and information regarding activities of fellow Ag Grads, and to remember those who have passed on (Empty Saddles). As we move forward, the newsletter continues to evolve. You now have the option of receiving a printed or an electronic copy.

To ensure that we keep you informed of *SAGA* activities, we need your current address. For address updates and requests, please contact our Registrar, **Richard Bellamy**, at (306) 651-3441.

On one hand, tradition continues, and the other hand, computer technology has allowed us to develop our own website. We're excited about this website and anticipate endless possibilities. Please be patient with our website team as this development and evolution continues.

I encourage everyone to attend the *SAGA* Reunion Weekend. Our planning committee has put together a wonderful weekend of fellowship and activities, January 10 and 11, 2009. More details are in this newsletter.

As history has reminded us of our past, our present reminds us that our college is going through some changes, too. **Dr. Mary Buhr** will become our new Dean of Agriculture and Bioresources, and will arrive early next summer. Dr. Buhr will be our honorary guest at the *SAGA* banquet on Sunday, January 11. She will share her vision for the college at that time . . . both challenges and opportunities in this new era. I encourage you to attend the Gala banquet and welcome her to our College and traditions.

In the spirit of tradition, I was recently honored to attend the 70th Annual Awards Gala "Bean Feed", hosted by the U of S College of Agriculture and Bioresources. More than 80 awards, valued over \$450,000, for more than 100

students! Ag-Bio students were recognized for their outstanding achievements and received scholarship funding for ongoing studies in their respective disciplines. The tradition has evolved from beans and wieners to a Gala Award dinner! It was wonderful!

The long tradition (since 1930) of the "Senior Stick" was awarded to **Patrick Brick** by his fellow students from the Agriculture Students' Association (ASA). The Senior Stick is awarded to a graduating student who has demonstrated an enduring spirit of leadership to students and their time spent within the college. Congratulations Mr. Brick!

Dr. C.M. (Red) Williams received special recognition for his 54 years of teaching within the College. Tradition and evolution hand in hand. *SAGA* congratulates Dr. Williams for his long tenure in educating pliable minds and enhancing character!

Let the tradition continue and history evolve...

**SAGA President
Jim Bessel 88S**

Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission Scholarships

Catherine Folkerson, Executive Director of the SDCD, is pleased to announce that the commission will be funding three College of Ag undergraduate scholarships of \$2,000 each to:

Lisa Mallow of Wolseley (2nd year Animal Science)
Jennelle Monteuil, Rosetown (3rd year Agribusiness)
Alison Higgins, Saskatoon (4th year Animal Science).

Graham Dietrich of Leader, a Diploma student, received \$2,000.

SCDC increased its graduate scholarship fund from \$15,600 to \$18,000 in July and awarded three two-year scholarships to: **Darlene Klassen**, **Stephanie Collins** and **Sujeema J. Abeysekara**. In addition **Mr. Zafer Bashu** is completing the second and final year of his scholarship for a value of \$15,600.

In total this year alone, SCDC funded \$87,600 in scholarships.

Congratulations to these 2008 Graduates

Jenna Drinkwater - SIA Medal Winner in the Bachelor of Science in ariculture and the Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness and the Frank Sosulski Prize in Crop Science and Plant Ecology.

Bethany Yewsuk - Fulton Family SIA Prize Winner in the Diploma in Agriculture

Laura Hoffman - William Allen Memorial Prize in Agricultural Economics

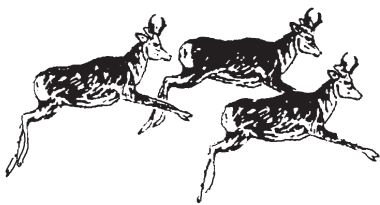
Hanny Elsadr - Saskatchewan Horticultural Association Prize

Xin Zhou - Molson Canada Award of Excellence

Brooke Aitken and Tamara Bogdan - Norman H. Pearce Awards in Animal Science

Cara Drury and Jessica Forrester - P.M. and Y.Y. Huang Distinguished Undergraduate Award in Soil Science

Thundering Herd



Congratulations to **Vern Racz 68C** on receiving a special recognition award for contributions to forage and beef extension in Saskatchewan.

Brent 80C, Pat 82S and 86C and Norm AgEng 50 Flaten travelled together to Norway and Germany in August, visiting Norm's father's home farm in the Sogn fjord, Norway - incredible scenery. All of these Flatens have had recent changes. Norm sold most of the farm at Weyburn 2 years ago and moved into the city. He retained a quarter section to farm and develop wildlife habitat... always a farmer. Brent is now with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture as the Integrated Pest Management Specialist at the Agriculture Knowledge Centre in Moose Jaw. In November, Pat assumed the role of Research Manager at the Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission.

Wilf Keller 69C is the new President and CEO of Genome Prairie after retiring from PBI/NRC

in Saskatoon where he was a scientist and research director. Genome Prairie is a not-for-profit organization supporting and managing large-scale genomics and proteomics research projects in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Focused applications include agriculture, animal health, and human health. Through partnerships with provincial government, academic, and industry organizations, Genome Prairie facilitates enhanced, sustainable research capacity in the region, builds public awareness of genomics, and provides a forum to discuss ethical, economic, environmental, legal and social issues. The ultimate goal is to reap the full economic benefits of research for the Prairies. With its partners, Genome Prairie has supported more than \$160 million of research activity in plant, animal and human genomics, bioinformatics, instrumentation development and bioethics since 2000. Genome Prairie is one of six genomics centres that form the Genome Canada network. Genome Canada, the country's primary funding and information resource for genomics and proteomics, is an independent agency funded by the Government of Canada. The agency has invested more than \$700 million in more than 115 projects across the country. Matching funding from partners brings the total to more than \$1.5 billion.

Robert Jorgensen 65S and his

wife, Julie, along with their son and three daughters and families hosted a 100th birthday celebration on Aug.9, 2008 for the Jorgensen Family Farm. Over 200 family and friends gathered at the farm. Richard Nagel 65S and wife, Thelma, were among the guests. The weather was perfect. They were delighted to be able to celebrate their ancestors' dream.

Eli Partyka 81C is moving from Switzerland to Warsaw as Head of Marketing for Syngenta in Poland. Eli, who has been working for Syngenta (ICI, Zeneca) the past 25 years, left Canada in 2000 where he has worked and lived overseas in India, Korea and Australia prior to moving to Syngenta's HQ in Basel, Switzerland 5 years ago. Eli and his wife, Sherrie, hope their sons Nick (attending U of Toronto) and JP (now living in Sydney, Australia) will find Warsaw interesting enough to visit now and then. They are also hopeful that anyone else that might be reading this might drop in for a visit the next time they are travelling through Poland.

Sonja Meier 06C is the newest addition to the agronomy team at the Saskatoon Co-op Agro Centre. She works under the direction of **Rich Szwydky 91S and 94C**. She looks forward to meeting customers and helping them with their agronomy needs. She grew up on a grain farm near Ridgedale.

Agricultural Student Association News

The ASA has a full slate of activities including several Clubs already keeping students busy with extra-curricular events. The most prestigious event is that the ASA and the U of S will host the World Association of Agricultural Councils {WAAC} Annual Conference.

WAAC

The focus of this event will be on leadership development and the showcasing of Saskatchewan as a leader in Agriculture. The ASA has several tours planned that will highlight the richness and diversity of the Saskatchewan agricultural industry, plus organizing many workshops that will assist delegates in refining their professional and leadership skills. The WAAC will be held March 11 - 14, 2009.

Stockman's and Rodeo Club

A diverse group dedicated to learning more about Ag production, specifically the livestock sector. Over 60 students from 1st year to Master's participate in three areas - Range, Judging and Rodeo Teams. Tours and guest speakers are regularly incorporated.

U of S Rangelands Club

11 members this year will travel with their coach to the 62nd annual Society for Range Management Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. They will also compete in the Undergraduate Range Management Exam.

Ag Business Club

This club is designed to help students who are interested in AgriBusiness, by connecting them to the many Specialists and Companies in the Ag Industry. Planned events are a trip Winnipeg to tour Ag facilities and Businesses, as well as getting some wide ranging projects up and running.

Horticulture Club

Over 100 students will learn about Horticulture and Horticultural practices in a hands on way. They grow fruits and vegetables in greenhouses over the winter, and then use the College facilities for cooking and canning their bounty. A great side benefit is also learning how to make wine from what was produced.

CAMA

The goal of the Canadian Ag-Marketing Assoc. at the U of S is to provide students [mostly from Ag and BioResources, but also some from the Edwards School of Business] with opportunities for professional development and industry networking. The group also participates in a Marketing competition in the US each year, which provides experience in developing marketing

plans.

In January, the ASA looks forward to being professional card dealers again at the 2009 SAGA Mixer. We all had an extremely good time last year meeting Ag Alumni. Later in the month we will be doing our Annual Sask. Challenge, where students debate meaningful subjects and the winners walk away with a prize. The ASA also sells Agro clothing, which makes a perfect Christmas gift or for any time of the year.

Kara Fowler

ASA Rep. on the SAGA Executive

2008 SAGA Executive

Honorary President - **Glen Hass 60C**

Past President - **Ken Sapsford 79C**

President - **Jim Bessell 88S**

Vice President - **Carl Lynn 74C**

Secretary - **Teri Ife 97S**

Treasurer - **Hugh Beckie 86C**

College Development Officer - **Mark Wartman**
Membership

Chelsea Bulani 05C and Vernon Racz 68C

Banquet

Lisa Horn 94C and Shelagh Steckler 03C

Mixer

David Hryhor 72C

Derek Wilfing 02C

Louie Bossaer

Hall of Fame - **Bob McKercher 54C**

Alumni - **Bryan Harvey 60C**

Newsletter - **Bernie Sonntag 62C and**

Ewald Lammerding 88S

ASA - **Kara Fowler**

Curling -

Ewald Lammerding 88S and Virginia Peters 79S

Hockey - **Mark Kuchuran 99C and Gerrit Baan**

Crop Production Week - **Les Henry 64C**

Registrar - **Richard Bellamy 66S**

Members-At-Large -

Eric and Patricia Johnson 82C,

Irene Ahner 65C,

Juanita Polegi 83C and

Larry White 64C

AG GRAD FORGES AHEAD

Iranian immigrant **Majid Damircheli 01C** has faced many obstacles in his life, but still wants to do right in his adopted country. He and his wife Nasrin had to flee Iran because of a story he had written about horses seeking freedom. They escaped to Italy, where Nasrin learned he had a bounty on his head. They approached the Canadian Embassy, and were eventually granted political asylum in Canada.

They lived first in Toronto, where they discovered his veterinarian technician and Nasrin's nursing degrees were not recognized in Canada. They opted to move to Saskatoon, where Majid graduated from the College of Agriculture with a BSA in 2001. He worked a variety of jobs around Saskatoon, including a bee farm and a swine operation, all while he and his wife were raising two children as he attended classes.

Majid and Nasrin opted to follow her dream, and open an assisted care home for the elderly. With much hard work they had formed their own company, Northern Lights Care Homes in 2006, operating 3 facilities in the city. And Nasrin was accepted into the licensed practical degree program at SIAST (Saskatoon).

But, adversity visited once more, when Nasrin died in a car accident in June 2007. For a long period of time Majid was lost without his best friend, but his children, Siavash, 17 and Sara, 12, helped him overcome the pain and slowly refocus on the plans he and Nasrin had made.

Majid is now in the process of opening a fourth assisted living home, in Winnipeg.

Taken from an article by Darren Bernhardt of the Star Phoenix 09/18/08

The Pooped Deck



Bill Turner 66C and **Bernie Sonntag 62C** recently escorted a group of Chinese officials from the National Peoples Congress in Beijing and several provincial congresses to various sites in Saskatchewan as part of a

Parliamentary Centre project that is assisting China in drafting new legislation aimed at altering their present laws respecting agriculture technology extension and rural financial services.

Tour stops included the Indian Head Experimental Farm, PFRA Forestry Centre, Farm Credit Canada, Credit Union Central, Agriculture Knowledge Centre in Moose Jaw, Irrigation Diversification Centre in Outlook, Western Development Museum, Canola Development Commission, Pulse Growers and the U of S Crop Development Centre

Contributors along the way included **Blair McLinton 85C**, **Laurie Tollefson 75C**, **Richard Wharton 77C**,

Catherine Folkersen 92C and **Grant Wood 79C**.

Glen Hass 60C, in response to the '61C claim to a reunion record, noted that the '60C class has held 44 consecutive summer reunions and, with the four special reunions at SAGA gatherings, it is 48 class reunions for the '60C.

Kurt Klein 63S, 70C continues to teach and assist graduate students with their research projects at Inner Mongolia Agricultural University in Hohhot, China.

Bob McKercher 54C and son Grant recently went on an excursion to spend time with the polar bears of Churchill, MB. Accompanying them by air on the one day trip was **Bill Dougall 75S**, who tried mightily to keep Bob from touching noses with the cuddly bruins. Bob and Bill were longtime baseball and basketball rivals back in the days when they lived near Rosetown and Plenty.



Fall Convocation Grads

BSA degree

Keller Jillayne Kristen
 Stephens Danielle Tara
 Fullerton Leah Nadine
 Adamson Jeffrey Bryan
 Beatty Jacqueline Nicole
 Reese Andrew Scott
 Leis Katie Elizabeth
 Baillargeon Kelly Raymond
 Fowler Drew Richard
 Gulka Kaitlyn Lacey
 Arlt Timothy Jordan
 McArthur Brennan Raun Francis
 Poggemiller Ryan Dale
 Petruic Nicholas Anthony

Sagin Arlene Valerie
 Martinka Lane Jeffrey
 Dolman Michael Shane
 Omaryono Irma Juwita
 Fehr Jason William
 Vargo Jesse Dean
 Mattus Amy Dawn
 Buhr Stephen Kent
 Weatherald Blake Birnie
 Burnett Wyatt Walter
 Carlson Mark Vincent
 Hunter Amanda Evelyn
 Zimmer Dale Leonard
 Remple Jordan Dennis
 Moatshe Tsholofelo
 Reynoldson Brice Wayne

Saufert Jason Mervin
 Jordet Kyle Leslie
 Bennett Jeffrey Charles

B.Sc. (Agbus) Graduates

Lawrence Russell Jay
 Gruza Jamie Jerry
 Mackow Kyle Gregory
 Anderson Leigh Craig
 Gleim Tanya Marie
 Owens Matthew Robert
 Gutzke Tiffany Ann

Alumni's gifts support future Ag College Development

Greetings to all graduates of the College of Agriculture and Bioresources. We hope that all is well with you and that you are looking forward to a great reunion this year. We would like to raise two subjects for your consideration. First, we would like you to consider encouraging your class to join together in making a gift to support students and the College. Second, we would invite you to consider leaving a bequest to the College in your will.

The College has seen many successes over the past decade; from our beautiful and functional building to world leading research, to graduates who are providing leadership in Saskatchewan and around the world. Generous gifts from individual Alumni and from specific graduating classes enable your College to continue to provide necessary support to students, researchers and faculty. Many of the gifts have enabled us to continue to build and maintain this world class facility.

The Class of 1943 set up a Scholarship to help students meet the challenge of funding their education. Other classes like the Class of 1963 have set up a Bursary to help students with financial need. Individual and Class donations to the Agriculture Enhancement Endowment enables the College to provide a flexible range of support to students and the ongoing work of the College.

For this and other Colleges bequests from wills are an essential element in successful development. We would like to invite you to personally consider leaving a bequest

to the College in your will. We have witnessed the remarkable support of many Alumni for the College through bequests. Recently one of our Alumni, Adam Winisky, made a bequest of over \$5 million through his estate. Along with Adam's gift, every bequest over the years has been significant and together they have enabled the College to accomplish its many exciting goals. We hope that as you look to the future and think about your legacy, you will join with Adam and many other faithful alumni in making a bequest to the College in your will.

We look forward to hearing from you and to seeing you at your reunion. If you have any questions, if you need more information on any method of support, or if I can be of any help as you consider your support for the College please contact me at mark.wartman@usask.ca

Mark Wartman,
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Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A8
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Fax: (306) 966-8894
Cell: (306) 381-6899
www.agbio.usask.ca

Agriculture Students Association

Hello Fellow AGROS,

This year the University of Saskatchewan has the unique opportunity to be the host University for the World Association of Agriculture Councils (WAAC) conference. This event is held annually in different universities across the continent. In recent years, it has been hosted by the Universities of Guelph and Iowa, and Purdue University.

This is the first time the event has been in Saskatchewan. During the week of March 10-15, 2009 agriculture students from across North America will visit our province to gain insight into Saskatchewan's thriving agriculture industry, partake in leadership development seminars, and learn why our University is considered a leader in agricultural education and research.

If you are interested in supporting this conference please contact me at sad074@mail.usask.ca or Sarah Anderson at sja869@mail.usask.ca.

One of the great things about the agriculture industry is the connections. We are hoping that some U of S grads will be able to support us financially or provide us with additional insight into the agriculture industry.

If there is an issue in agriculture that you feel should be addressed at this International Conference please contact Sarah or me.

Stephanie Dreger
ASA President 2008-09

Alumni nominations

The University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association is seeking nominations for the 2009 Alumni Awards.

If you know a successful U of S graduate who deserves recognition, we encourage you to submit a nomination.

For more alumni award information go to:

<http://www.usask.ca/alumni/alumnisite/association/awards.shtml>

or contact:

Dawn Warren

University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association
Alumni Successes Committee

Tel: 1-800-699-1907 or 306-966-4070

E-mail: dawn.warren@usask.ca

Sara Williams 87C Winner of the 2008 Prairie Garden Award for Excellence

by Linda Pearn

Chair of The Prairie Garden Awards
Board.

The Prairie Garden Award for Excellence is presented annually to an individual or group making a significant contribution to the advancement and/or promotion of horticulture on the Northern Great Plains. In 2008, this award was presented to Sara Williams.

Sara was born in Washington, DC, and graduated from the University of Michigan with a BA. She taught as a Peace Corps volunteer in Tanzania and as a volunteer with the United Nations Association of Great Britain in the Amazon basin of Peru.



She emigrated to Saskatoon, **Sara Williams 87C** Saskatchewan, and received both BSA and MSc degrees from the University of Saskatchewan. She worked as the Horticulture Extension Specialist with the Extension Division, University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon from 1989 until her retirement in 2001.

Through her employment and personal love of horticulture, Sara brought horticulture to many Saskatchewan gardeners. Some of her major projects were: founding editor of *The Saskatchewan Gardener / The Gardener for The Prairies*; initiation and management of the Saskatchewan Master Gardener Program; and was a member of the team that developed the Prairie Horticulture Certificate.

Sara is the author or co-author of a number of books and articles on a wide range of horticulture topics. Books titles include *Creating the Prairie Xeriscape*, *Best Trees and Shrubs for the Prairies* (co-authored with Hugh Skinner), *Best Groundcovers & Vines for the Prairies* (with Hugh Skinner), *Perennials for the Plains and Prairies* (co-authored with Edgar W. Toop), and *In a Cold Land: Saskatchewan's Horticultural Pioneers*.

In addition Sara has written many newspaper and magazine articles and established herself as a well-known radio and television presence. Volunteer work and organizations include Saskatoon's Forestry Farm Park; Gardening at the Zoo; Perennial Plant Association; Saskatchewan Perennial Society; Skinner Arboretum Corporation; Saskatchewan Horticultural Association, to name a few. Sara has received many awards and honours over the years. Sara currently resides on five acres of sandy soil near Saskatoon where she has developed a beautiful and extensive garden - a popular garden tour destination.

Congratulations to Sara Williams for her contribution to the advancement and promotion of horticulture on the Northern Great Plains. The Prairie Garden Award for Excellence - www.theprairiegarden.ca/award.html.

Editor's note - article courtesy of The Prairie Garden

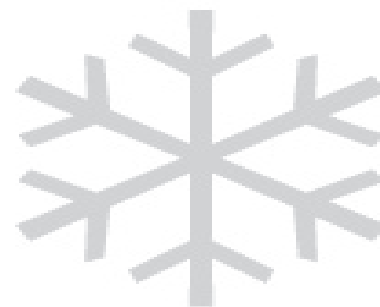
What's Ernie Barber Doing Now?

Having spent a year as acting provost shepherding the university's second integrated plan to completion, Ernie Barber will now take on a leadership role for one of the key components of that plan - enhancing teaching, learning, and the student experience.

While the plan did not specifically call for the creation of a vice-provost of teaching and learning position, "we know there is a need to provide an even better academic experience for students and for all those engaged in that experience with students," said Barber whose two-year term in the post began July 1.

According to Brett Fairbairn, provost and vice-president academic, the new vice-provost will lead the university's academic innovation agenda.

In addition, Barber will be asked to oversee the development and implementation of the Foundational Document on Teaching and Learning, direct the work of academic and instructional support units like the University Learning Centre and the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education. He will also be the primary contact for associate and assistant deans, promote the use of teaching evaluation tools and work with the provincial government on new programs and program changes.





Saturday, January 10 to
Saturday, January 17, 2009

(All events at the Saskatoon Inn
unless otherwise noted.)

Saskatchewan Ag Grads Association - January 10 & 11
TCU Place, Granite Curling Rink & Aberdeen Rink

Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission - January 12
Flax Day 2009

Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission - January 12
Canaryseed Development Commission of Saskatchewan - January 12

Saskatchewan Pulse Growers - Pulse Days 2009
Poster Session - January 12
Prairieland Park, Hall B

"Celebrating 25 Years" - January 13
Saskatoon Inn (Live) and Prairieland Park (Video)

Saskatchewan Oat Development Commission - January 13

Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association - January 13 & 14

Saskatchewan Mustard Development Commission - January 14

Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission - January 14 ▶ **Canola Days**
Saskatchewan Canola Growers Association - January 15

Canadian Wheat Board Day - January 16

Saskatchewan Fruit Growers Association - January 16 & 17
Heritage Inn

Special Session • Prairieland Park - Hall B
Wednesday, January 14 • Everyone Welcome!

Beef on a Bun - 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Presale Tickets - \$10/person (Starting January 12 - Rm 234, Saskatoon Inn or Prairieland Park Show Office)

Special Session Presentation - 7:00 pm (No Charge)
Fertilizer Supply, Demand and Price Outlook

David Asbridge - Doane Advisory Services - St. Louis, Missouri

Crop Production Week Sponsors:



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Agriculture

Details available at www.cropweek.com
or Phone Kevin and Marlene Hursh (306) 933-0138

**A Conference: March 23-25, Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon
Landscapes Transformed:
The Quiet Triumph of Conservation Tillage and Direct Seeding**

**Hosted by: Knowledge Impact in Society, a project
at the University of Saskatchewan**

This conference will be the first to highlight the past, present and future of one of Canadian agriculture's greatest achievements. Over the two days, speakers and panelists will relive the unusual and often times unconventional pathways of knowledge sharing, innovation and adoption that led to the development of a multi-pronged success story on the Canadian prairies. Internationally renowned speakers will provide perspective on future challenges and opportunities for continued success in direct seeding in North America and internationally.

For further information, please contact:

**Lynette Keyowski 99C
Knowledge Impact in Society
University of Saskatchewan
(306) 545-1414
lynette.keyowski@usask.ca**

Three Generations of Tollefson Agros

They are all descendants of Lars and Lily Tollefson, pioneers who homesteaded near the town of Ettington in southern Saskatchewan. Two of their six children are Ag grads. The connection with the College has continued in subsequent generations. It now includes 7 members and will span 75 years with the graduation of Brett Tollefson in 2011.

Torvald (Torie) Tollefson 36S 42C served in the army and subsequently took a job with the VLA (Veterans Land Act). He retired from the VLA in 1974 as Supervisor of lands and loans.

Ivar Tollefson 40C, MSc in 1947 and PhD in 1950 in agricultural biochemistry at the University of Minnesota. Ivar enjoyed a long career in the food and pet food industry. He retired in 1983 but continued working as a part time consultant till 1996.

Tim Tollefson 84C is the third generation to farm the Tollefson homestead. **Brett Tollefson**, son of Tim, is in the 2nd year of his BSA program.

Laurie Tollefson 75C, MSc 85 Soil Science has had a long career in irrigation development with PFRA and including many years as the manager of the Canada Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre (CSIDC) at Outlook, SK.

Errin Tollefson Siklinka 06C, daughter of Terry, works as an agronomist for Cavalier Agro, Meota, SK.

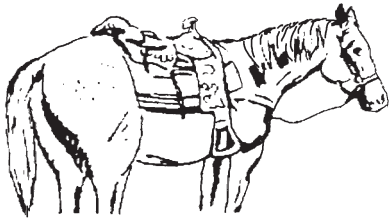


Front row L to R: Ivar Tollefson, Torvald (Torie) Tollefson. Back row L to R: Tim Tollefson, Brett Tollefson, Laurie Tollefson, Errin Siklinka (Tollefson) and Terry Tollefson

She is currently the manager of Cavalier's newest outlet at Medstead. She and her husband Nathan farm near Glaslyn.

Terry Tollefson BSc 73, MSc '76(Soil Science) spent the majority of his career (22 years) balanced between farming at Mossbank and teaching in the Diploma program. In 2005 he accepted a full time appointment in the College and has focused on the new Agronomy programs for both the Diploma and Degree.

Empty Saddles



Andrew James Glashan Bunn 54C was born at Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan, July 10, 1928 and passed away October 2, 2008. He was predeceased by his dear wife of 47 years, Mary Margaret Bunn (2006). He is survived by his son Alan (Jackie), daughters Brenda (David), Judy (David), Wendy (Sam), his nine grandchildren and his twin brother **Thomas 54C**.

Following graduation, Andrew worked for Intercontinental Packers from 1954 to 1962, and for Federated Co-operatives Ltd. from 1962 to 1969. From 1969 until his retirement in 1993, he worked as a swine specialist for the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, based in London.

He was the proud recipient of numerous awards for his devoted service to the swine industry in Ontario. For Andy, his cup was always half full, never half empty. He loved life and ensured that he lived his to the fullest. He was an avid curler, golfer, and a beloved benevolent patriarch of an adoring family.

Kenneth Leo Melsted 53C born June 19, 1931 passed away on October 16, 2008 at the Royal University Hospital with his wife, Margaret, and grandson, Sheldon Morrison, at his side; the result of a traffic accident. Ken was born on the family homestead. After graduating he married Doris Rhodes in 1953. Twins,

Bruce and Patricia, were born in 1954. Throughout his life, Ken was very active in many organizations; Wynyard United Church, St. Andrews College, Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, Eastern Star, Shriners and Free Masons. He contributed many articles to *Grainews* over the years.

Ken was a true farmer all his life, teaching his son Bruce from an early age, then enjoying semi-retirement as Bruce gradually took over the farm.

Tragedy struck in 1998 when Bruce was killed in a plane crash. Ken stepped back into farming, guiding Bruce's young sons, Ryan and Graham; proudly watching them successfully operate and expand the farm.

Arnold Wesley Tremere 62C, beloved husband of Marcella Tremere, passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 26, 2008, at the age of 67 years at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital following a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Arnold was born in Shaunavon on April 14, 1941. He was raised in the Scotsguard area on a mixed grain and beef cattle farm. He attended school in Austinville, Scotsguard and graduated from Shaunavon High School. He attained his BSA in 1962 and MSc in 1964.

On August 7, 1962 he married Marcella Fritz in Shaunavon.

While in attendance at the U of S he received the NRC Fellowship, two NRC Assistantships and the Agriculture Foundation Scholarship. He received his PhD in 1968 at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

Arnold was employed as a Nutritionist and Director of Nutrition and Research in the Agriculture Division at Maple Leaf Mills in Toronto for 12 years. They then moved to Calgary where Arnold was the General Manager of Maple Leaf Mills, Western Region, for three years.

He was appointed as the Canadian International Grains Institute first director of Feed Technology from May 1982 to October 1989; following that he was the Executive Director of C.I.G.I. in Winnipeg until his retirement in 2002.

While at C.I.G.I. he made many friends from all over the world and visited many countries. He served in an executive capacity on numerous committees before retiring to Medicine Hat in 2002.

Family was very important to Arnold, especially his girls, whom he accompanied and coached in soccer. Arnold himself enjoyed golfing, curling and the friendship of the Seniors Slow-Pitch Ball Club.

Leslie Fleming Voice 74C passed away peacefully at his home on November 1st with his family by his side. He was 56 years of age.

Les was born on September 13, 1952 in Saskatoon. He attended Bradwell Public School from Grades 1 to 4, Elstow Public School for Grade 5, and then Clavet Composite School for Grades 6 to 12.

Following graduation from Grade 12, he enrolled in the College of Agriculture at the U of S, graduating with High Honors in Agriculture Economics in 1974.

The family lived in the small village of Bradwell until 1959 and then moved out to the Voice family farm. A new home was built in 1961 and Les's heart was soon in the grain farming business.

Les and Bonny were married in the fall of 1972 and moved to the farm in the spring of 1974 to begin their life on the land. Their first child was born in December 1977 and two more followed in 1979 and 1982.

Morton Torrance 64S passed away
continued on page 15

continued from page 14

on November 4, 2008 after a courageous battle with cancer. Mort was born on March 8, 1944 in the Elrose Hospital.

Mort was raised in Elrose and received all of his schooling there, after which he enrolled in the School of Agriculture. He then farmed with his father and uncle. Later Mort and his brother continued to farm, now his son Mark will continue with Neal. Mort always said that he had a good life farming with his brother. He also enjoyed his Provincial Government job as a Livestock Inspector.

Mort was always involved in hockey with the community; he was a member of the Local UGG, Director of the Cutting Horse Association, Lions, Parish Church Council and his political party. He earned many trophies for calf and team roping as well.

In Mort's own words, "My biggest thrill was all my years associated with Scouts Canada. I didn't join scouts for the youth; I joined it for me because I had fun".

Mort was very honored to be at the World Scout Jamboree. For the last ten winters Mort and Sharyn enjoyed their winters in Arizona where they developed a large group of friends at the park. Mort's most treasured times were spent with his family whom he always said were the most important of all to him. His smile, laughter and friendship will be remembered and missed by everyone.

Henry Joseph Hudek 40C passed away on May 7/08 in Greenwood Village, CO, USA. His wife, Julia Ward, passed away in 2006. He is survived by two sons, a daughter, brother **Ed 40C** and two sisters.

Henry was born on the quarter section where the town of Hafford is now situated. He took his primary education at Hafford and grades 11 and 12

at St. Peter's College, Muenster. He obtained BA, BSA and MSc (AgEcon) degrees at the U of S. He joined Statistics Canada thereafter.

He then joined the Canadian Army as a lieutenant during WW2. He made it to the embarkation line-up twice, but was called back to Ottawa both times for special duties. He volunteered for action in the Pacific, but was ordered back to Ottawa. A couple of years later he resigned and entered graduate studies at Iowa State University where he attained his PhD in economics.

He taught for a few years at a university in New Orleans before joining the staff at Colorado State University from which he retired. In retirement he was involved in commercial real estate in both Ft. Collins and Phoenix. He was an avid hunter and always had venison, elk, antelope and, sometimes, bear in his freezer. He spent the last 10 years of his life in care and nursing homes.

Hedlin, Ralph Olaf 48C, 49 MSc, of Calgary passed away on Nov.18/08 at the age of 88 years. He was born in Renown SK. He excelled as newspaper columnist, a political strategist, an entrepreneur who helped found Canada's first real economic consultancy and a serious thinker and writer about history, in particular the challenges and the opportunities of Western Canada.

He relished competition, he built strong friendships and through it all, he loved to hunt and fish and he never forgot his roots. He served in the RCAF during WWII.

He and his first wife raised four children in Winnipeg. Ralph became a writer and photographer for the *Country Guide*, *Winnipeg Free Press*, *Field and Stream* and *MacLean's*. He and his partner Merrill Menzies established the Hedlin Menzies consultancy which was later sold.

His first marriage ended and he and his second wife, Heidi Redekop, played an active role in business and politics in Toronto and Ottawa.

In the mid-1980's his lifelong interest in western Canada drew him to Calgary where he and his partner, Terry Lauder, established the Hedlin Lauder consultancy to the oil and gas industry.

He bought a ranch - the 7H - which became a magnet for friends, family and business associates. He later wrote for *Alberta Report* and the *Calgary Herald*. He was a friend and confidant to three premiers - Duff Roblin, Sterling Lyon and Peter Lougheed.

From the *Green and White*:

HAYER, Dr. Cecil Berdine, 46C, MD'46(Univ. of California at Berkeley), PHD'54(Iowa State Univ.), of Kemptville, ON, d. May 29, 2008..

GISLASON, Conrad, 47C, of Leslie, SK, d. June 19, 2008.

MELSNESS, Floyd Donald 47S, of Saskatoon, SK, d. May 13, 2008.

GLENDINNING, Lorne Wallace, 49C, of Regina, SK, d. June 8, 2008.

NEIBRANDT, Harry Frederick, 52S, of Yorkton, SK, d. July 2006.

TROYER, Cameron George, 52S, of Calgary, AB, d. May 13, 2008



