

For the alumni and friends of Dalhousie's Faculty of Agriculture

Agricola News

Volume 39, Number 1, 2013

COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURE



**DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY**

Inspiring Minds

Faculty of Agriculture

Agricola News

For the alumni and friends of Dalhousie's Faculty of Agriculture

A Message from the Editor



Happy New Year to you and your family!

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the first edition of the Agricola news from the newly formed Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture. The Agricola News is continuing to publish stories and reports of events that we think will be of interest to you, our alumni.

Thank you to everyone who attended one of the recent alumni events in N.S., N.B. and P.E.I. These events provided alumni with an update on the new Faculty of Agriculture and an opportunity to ask questions. Dr. Harold Cook, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture and Susan Spence Wach, Associate Vice-President Academic Planning led these events.

If you were unable to attend one of these events, a video of the presentations is available on our website dal.ca/agalumni. If you have any questions or comments get in touch at alumniac@dal.ca or 902 893 6022.

As we move into a new and exciting time for the Faculty of Agriculture, it is good to look back and recall our memories of NSAC as these will always be with us, as an important part of our lives.

This edition features an article about P. Max Kuhn and Manor House farm, about the struggle of one man to farm and gain an education in the early decades of the 20th century, written by his son Bernie (Class of '39). Although the farm is now gone, the memories remain.

In keeping with the theme of preserving our memories, the Agricultural Campus library has started a new project to digitize all editions of the Agricola news, which you can read about on page 13. Do you have any editions from before 1979 that we could use to add to our collection?

Classes celebrating honour year reunions this year are those ending in "3" and "8" (ex: 1963 and 1988). If you are a member of one of these classes, please get in touch with your class life president, or contact me. We are always pleased to help with all aspects of reunion planning, and hope to see many classes celebrating reunions this summer. Read more about the 2012 reunions on page 16.

I hope that you enjoy this edition, and please get in touch if you have ideas for articles for future magazines.

All the best



Hannah Pugh

KEEP IN TOUCH! Follow us Online

You can reconnect with former classmates, hear about events and find out what's going on campus by following us online.

Facebook: facebook.com/dalagriculture

If you haven't already, sign up for our monthly alumni **e-News** by sending a request to agalumni@dal.ca

To request your version of **Agricola News** electronically e-mail us at agalumni@dal.ca

"In Touch!"

Submissions for the regular feature in *Agricola News* can be sent to agalumni@dal.ca, through a Facebook message, or by mailing the Development & External Relations Office, PO Box 550, Truro, NS B2N 5E3

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Agricola News

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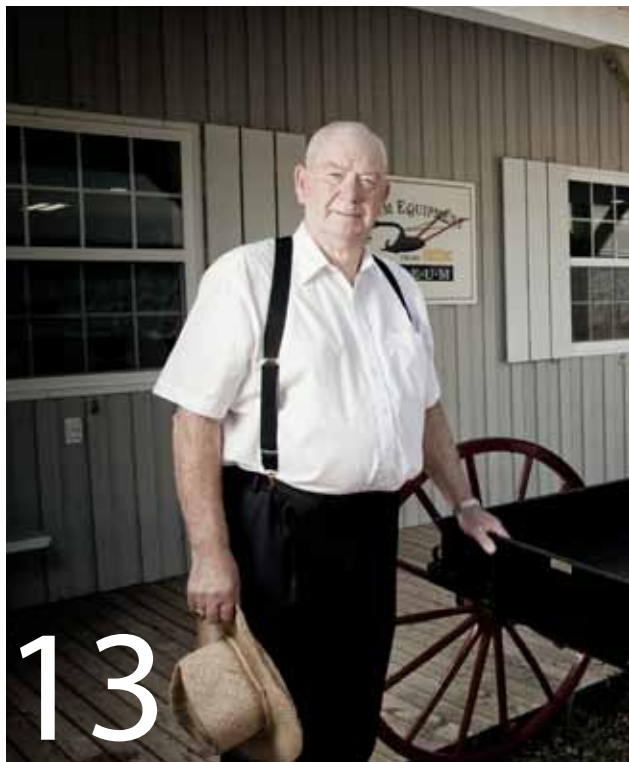
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Contents

Volume 39, Number 1, 2013

COVER

Cumming Hall, the current administration building of the Faculty of Agriculture, has seen many changes for over a century. It was constructed in 1904, after the transition of the two schools of Agriculture and Horticulture and the provincial farm into the College of Agriculture. The name of the institution most often used was the 'Nova Scotia Agricultural College', but 'College of Agriculture' was the name engraved above the door.

HIGHLIGHTS

A different route to farming 10

Can't expect to inherit the family homestead? Try finding a partner who's looking to grow his legacy, not sell it.
Pat Dunphy (Class of '07)

Agricola News Online 13

Want to catch up on some old memories? You're in luck! The MacRae Library has digitized back issues of the Agricola News (formerly called Alumni News) to 1979 in DalSpace for you to read!

My father and his farm 14

A story of farming in the early 20th century. Peter Max Kuhn's battle for success and education on Manor Hill Farm, written by his son Bernie (Class of '39).



REGULAR SECTIONS

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Welcome Messages | 04 |
| Around & About | 06 |
| In Memory | 09 |
| Events & Reunions | 16 |
| Athletics | 24 |
| In Touch | 26 |
| Look Who's Talking | 27 |



A Message from...

The Dean



One of my favorite parts of being Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture is being able to interact with our students and alumni. This fall, I've been impressed with several activities, either student-led or directly engaging our students.

I attended events of College Royal and commend our students for their leadership and high level of participation and

enthusiasm. I think it is safe to say that one of the most influential experiences for me on this campus four and a half decades ago relates to my opportunity for leadership as president of this historical event.

The Scholarship Awards Banquet this fall was also remarkably impressive in the large number of awards acknowledged through this event. Both the leadership of the Dalhousie Agricultural Students' Association, particularly the president Paul Manning and the student newspaper, the Golden Ram, have been impressive in the maturity and insightfulness provided to the student body.

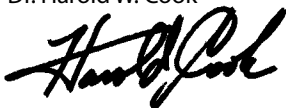
We are part of a university that strives to be "the best" with strong emphasis on excellence in consideration of our student's collective futures. And what could be a more exciting example than the outstanding achievement of our own Paul Manning who has achieved the pinnacle of being named as a Rhodes Scholar.

The recent Blue and Gold Awards Gala highlighted the importance of honoring the achievements of those who learned and grew here in the past and subsequently went on to extensive community service. That is what the educational experience on this campus is about for so many.

The spirit and quality of teaching and support for the personal development of our students is still alive and well on this campus and your experience and time spent here as students is still reflected in the activities and ideals of your Alumni Association.

So we have much to celebrate as we continue to adapt and engage in the ongoing process of transitioning to a Faculty of Agriculture within Dalhousie University. I assure you, as an alumnus myself, your alma mater is alive and well and thriving. I extend best wishes to you and yours for a New Year filled renewed vigor and optimism for our collective future as part of the Faculty of Agriculture.

Dr. Harold W. Cook

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harold Cook".

Dean, Faculty of Agriculture
Principal, Dalhousie Agricultural Campus

The Alumni Association



It has now been several months since the September 1st merger of NSAC into Dalhousie University Faculty of Agriculture, Dalhousie Agricultural Campus.

Prior to this event and since, I have made every effort to hear the thoughts on the transition from Alumni, current students, staff and members of the community.

One of my Alumni Association colleagues described the name change of the institution as similar to a woman changing from their maiden name to their married name and the identity adjustment that one goes through for a period, until, after a time, one becomes comfortable with the new name.

The previous NSAC Alumni Board of five alumni representatives is intact and active as the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture Alumni Association. As president of the Association, I also sit on the Dalhousie Alumni Association (DAA) board of directors. The DAA is very supportive of the Agricultural Campus and we envision a number of joint initiatives in the future.

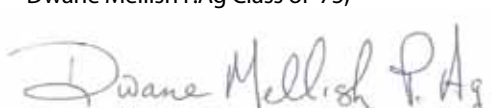
We have been assured and have experienced that all targeted funds to the Agricultural Campus will directly benefit students and activities on the Agricultural Campus. I had the pleasure to sit at a table of students who received one of the Alumni Family Bursaries and I encourage you all to contribute to this fund.

The Association continues to have strong staff support through the Office of External Relations from both the Agricultural and Halifax campuses. The staff at the Agricultural campus will continue to organize reunions, manage the alumni ring, celebrate the accomplishments of our alumni through the Blue & Gold awards program and provide the Agricola News magazine and the monthly E-News.

So many of the aspects we have known for many years are very much in place. Is everything the same? Of course they are not and we would not expect them to be with such a change. In this new structure we are trying to find/keep our identity not unlike the person who no longer uses their maiden name.

Maybe to help us through this transition, we need to think of an alumni initiative that will permanently and publicly display and celebrate the history of the NSAC campus. Please send us your ideas.

Dwane Mellish P.Ag Class of '75,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dwane Mellish P. Ag.".

President, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture Alumni Association

Agriculture student is ready for Rhodes

Paul Manning, 2013 Rhodes Scholar

Ryan McNutt



When you're applying for a Rhodes Scholarship, it's hard not to get caught up in looking forward: ahead towards the tantalizing opportunity to study at the University of Oxford, supported by one of the world's most prestigious scholarly awards.

But as he sat down to write his application, Paul Manning, a fourth-year Environmental Sciences student in Dal's Faculty of Agriculture, instead cast his gaze backwards, towards a vivid memory from his childhood growing up in Canning, N.S.

"I started my essay with a story about my brother and I when we were kids," he explains. "One day we ran into this collection of hundreds and thousands of ladybird beetles being sucked away by the ocean on the salt marsh that we lived on. We started moving them from the water, doing what we could to help. That memory got me wondering about the impact of our actions, and ideas about modifying landscapes to support beneficial insects within an ecosystem."

Saturday night, Manning lived another moment he won't soon forget. While walking alongside classmates in Truro's Santa Claus Parade — wearing a cardboard airplane, no less — he got the call that he had been awarded one of the two 2013 Rhodes Scholarships for the Maritimes.

"I could barely hear it over the music of the float, and people in the crowd," he laughs. "The others on the float knew I was waiting for the call, so it was really tense and when the secretary said he had some good news for me, I was in complete shock, so incredibly excited."

The Rhodes Scholarships, awarded since 1903, were established from the will of famous magnate Cecil Rhodes. They're awarded throughout the Commonwealth, the United States and Germany, providing full expenses to travel to, and study at, the University of Oxford for two years, with an option for a third. Their value is in excess of \$100,000.

Rhodes candidates must have exceptional academic records, but the scholarships are not awarded on grades alone. Candidates are expected to show "integrity of character, vigour, interest in and a respect for their fellow human beings, the ability to lead and the energy to use their talent to the full."

Manning, who specializes in organic agriculture, certainly fits the bill. He has a stellar academic record, with two Undergraduate Student Research Awards from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) to his name. He's currently working on his fourth-year project on nocturnal pollinators in blueberry production.

He's also the president of the Dalhousie Agricultural Students' Association, representing all students on Dal's Agricultural Campus in student government and leading the planning of major events, such as orientation. He's interned with the Canadian International Development Agency, organized flood relief efforts for Pakistan and is an accomplished athlete — he was the named most valuable player on the Rams' cross country team last year.

As suggested by his application, Manning's interest in nature and agriculture stretches way back.

"I worked on farms growing up in the summers as a child for pocket money, though I spent most of my time being distracted by grasshoppers and bumblebees," he says. "My family lived near many fields, with a beef farm across from my family's home. My first favourite book was a book on native flowers."

Manning says he's had countless mentors among his professors — "too many to name them all" — but he does cite two in particular: Nancy Pitts, assistant dean of internationalization, who encouraged him to successfully apply for an inspiring internship in Ethiopia following his first year; and Chris Cutler, entomologist, who is supervising Manning's fourth-year project.

"Besides being obviously very bright, amiable, and active in the community, Paul exudes a passion for nature, particularly aspects related to insects and ecology," says Dr. Cutler. "His level of intellect and enthusiasm are rare and will undoubtedly give him continued success in life."

Manning's plan is to pursue a Masters of Science in Zoology, with a focus on ecology and conservation. He says he's excited to study in an environment with the scholarly diversity that Oxford offers, but he's eager to make his career back home when all is said and done.

"I really want to come back and work in the Maritimes, and work in the agricultural sector, hopefully with some teaching and research . . . I'd love to be in the Annapolis Valley. It's where I call home, and there's some amazing agriculture to work on, but I'd love to be anywhere in the Maritimes, really, especially Nova Scotia. It's where my roots are."

Around & About...

A first for women in agriculture

Jennifer MacDonald (Class of '87)



In early 2012 Jennifer became the President of the Agricultural Alliance of New Brunswick, the first woman ever to be elected to this position. This is not her only first as she was also the first female member of the executive of the Canadian Charolaise Association. Jennifer is excited about her new role with the AANB, the great team of staff and other board mem-

bers that she has to work with and the opportunities that the role gives her to promote the views of the agricultural community.

"My priority in this role is to be the voice for producers who don't have a voice. Not everybody is comfortable speaking in public or able to articulate their needs and experiences. I want to be the voice for these people, to ensure that they are heard."

One of her major goals is to raise awareness of the importance of agriculture, especially with those outside of the industry who may not appreciate its importance. She often uses a saying from her friend Brenda Schoepp, to illustrate this point.

"My grandfather used to say that once in your life you need a doctor, a lawyer, a policeman and a preacher but every day, three times a day, you need a farmer."

Jennifer grew up on the family farm in New Brunswick, MurMac Farm, which was a mixed farm. She believes that her experience as a 4H member gave her the skills for her achievements today.

"As a 4H member I was immersed in public speaking and leadership building activities from a very early age."

Jennifer studied Animal Science at NSAC with a minor in Agricultural Business and is certain that she learned a great deal more than what she found in books.

"For me, it was about personal growth, growing up and living away from home for the first time. I know that university and college aren't for everyone, but I think as many people as possible should experience them."

After graduating from NSAC she worked in various agricultural roles. In 1996 she became an independent financial planner which is a career that she enjoys because of its flexibility to fit in with a farming lifestyle.

An inspiring member of many organizations, some of Jennifer's roles include Chair of Board of Directors for the Atlantic Agriculture Leadership Program and Chair of Board of Directors of the New Brunswick Cattle Producers. She is also a board member of Minister's Round Table for Agriculture and the Canada Beef Board.

Jennifer is an excellent role model for young women in agriculture who aspire to be leaders and have their voices heard.

"My advice to young women in agriculture is above all to believe in yourself and your own abilities. Don't be afraid to ask questions and search for as much information as you can."

Outside of work Jennifer enjoys travel, highlights being visiting China, France, many of Canada's provinces and territories, and several points of interest in the U.S. Jennifer also enjoys the people that she meets and experiences that she has on her journeys.

Mad about horses

Lloyd Palmer (Class of '55)



Lloyd was born in Kensington, Prince Edward Island, and grew up in Summerside and Charlottetown. His interest in agriculture developed at a very early age while vacationing at his Aunt and Uncle's farm in Poplar Grove. He enjoyed watching Standardbred

horses and bought his first horse at the age of just fourteen with money he earned from delivering the Charlottetown Guardian.

"I called my first filly Paper Girl," says Lloyd. "I trained her at the race track in Charlottetown. This experience was instrumental in my choice of agriculture as a profession."

Lloyd graduated from the degree program at NSAC in 1955 and completed his BSc. in Agriculture at Macdonald College in 1957, specializing in Animal Husbandry. Lloyd believes that one of the benefits of NSAC in those days was that it gave one an excellent grounding in basic agriculture while still completing all of the science courses required for a science degree.

"NSAC holds very special memories for me. We had a very small but closely knit student body. We knew every student and all of the professors knew all of us. I had a particularly close relationship with Win Langille, who was very supportive of my career and interest in horses, with whom I am still close friends today."

After graduating Lloyd was employed by the Extension Branch of Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Marketing as the Assoc. Agricultural Representative and later, Agricultural Representative for Pictou- North Colchester. In this role he really enjoyed meeting farm families through 4-H, Farm Management, and Farm Organization programs.

In 1964, Lloyd took a leave of absence to study for his Masters Degree at Michigan State University. With the support of his wife Marion, they packed three children and belongings into the car and drove to East Lansing. Lloyd graduated in June of 1965 with his MSc specializing in Extension Personnel Development

and Rural Resource Development. His hard work paid off, as he was promoted to Regional Extension Supervisor for Central Nova Scotia in September of that year and moved to Truro.

In 1970, Lloyd was offered an interview with the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture and Forestry for the Director of Extension position.

"While driving back from the interview I saw how beautiful the island of my childhood was, and decided I would like to move back. I was offered the job and we moved to Charlottetown. I was looking forward to the new challenge, but I'll never forget the wonderful people of Nova Scotia that I grew to know and appreciate so much, or the Department of Agriculture and Marketing Staff that helped me be prepared for my new task".

His career with the PEI Department of Agriculture and Forestry went from strength to strength, holding roles including Director of Extension, Director of Management Services and Deputy Minister of Agriculture. He was also Manager of the Land Development Corporation for three years, Manager of the Crop Insurance Agency and influential in the PEI Potato Industry as general manager of the Potato Board from 1989 to 1994.

Not content with his achievements so far, after retiring in 1994 he took on responsibility for the World Potato Congress in the role of President & CEO until 2007.

"It was a great feeling to promote the potato industry development worldwide by organizing Potato Congresses in different countries around the world, including England, China and South Africa. We shared information on promotion, marketing, consumer trends, processing trends and new varieties, which was really beneficial for all those involved."

Despite huge achievements in his career, horses have always held an important place in Lloyd's life. He raised four colts from his first horse Paper Girl, and raced three of them. Lloyd was bitten by the harness racing bug and raced all over Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

"It was a big thrill driving Ira D Clegg in winning the Monctonian Preview in 1964. 'Allspice' was my first to get to the races and my favorite. She couldn't leave very fast, but once you got to the 3/4 pole, all you had to do was chirp to her and she would take off. I won the Jr. Free ForAll with her in Truro in 1958 when she was 6 years old."

Lloyd continued his passion of breeding, training and racing Standardbred horses, both in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. He was active in promoting the breeding and raising of Maritime Breds and was a Charter Member of the Maritime Colt Stakes Association, of which he is now an honorary life member. He also completed a study of the P.E.I. Horse Industry in 1980.

Lloyd and Marion moved from their farm in Bunbury in 2000 and built a retirement home on the Northumberland Strait in Rice Point where they are enjoying retired life. They have four children, Meredith, Lloyd Junior, Patty and Tammy.

Lloyd enjoys golf and says "I'm playing better at 77 than ever before, as I have more time to spare." He adds, "that doesn't mean I'm good at the game."

A new career, as a professional parent ***Andrea Munroe (Class of '06)***



Andrea started her career as a graduate working in agriculture, but now makes her living from Enchanted Forest, a store selling environmentally-friendly, socially-responsible, and natural products for parents.

Andrea studied plant science at NSAC. During her time there, she benefitted from an NSERC research grant and was deeply involved with youth

exchanges and the WUSC program.

"I loved the small size of the agricultural campus," says Andrea. "Some of the professors that I studied with were the best in the world."

After graduating in 2006, she worked for the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada, based at the Agricultural Campus, as a research technician.

"Then I had a mid-twenties life crisis," she said. I really enjoyed my research, but I wanted to be out of the laboratory, working more with people."

Andrea retrained as a birth doula, and became certified to assist women and families at the birth of their children. She also trained as a Placenta Encapsulation Specialist, and is a founding member of the Canadian Association of Placenta Services Providers.

"I was bit by the baby fever bug, supporting women and couples through the transition to parenthood became my new passion."

Not completely satisfied with her new role, in 2011 Andrea took over Enchanted Forest from her sister, Erin Comeau, a small online business which provided Canadian-made and environmentally-friendly products for parents.

"I took ownership of Enchanted Forest in 2011, and I am committed to offering products that meet my values of environmental and social responsibility, health, and child honouring. I am passionate about supporting local crafters and business, and buy as close to home as possible."

Enchanted Forest successfully grew from a small home-based and online boutique and in November 2012, Andrea opened a store in downtown Truro, a welcome addition to a town which didn't previously have a store of this kind.

"The business is going well so far, I really see this becoming not just a store but a centre for learning about child birth and parenting, and soon to come are workshops in baby sign language, infant massage, childbirth preparation, mother wellness and many more."

Andrea lives in Truro with her husband Marcus Fiddes (Class of '07) who is a member of the grounds maintenance team at

the Agricultural campus, her three year old son Alden, and has another baby on the way. When she is not working or busy with her family she enjoys hiking and camping.

Even though she doesn't work in the agricultural field any more, Andrea's learning from the Faculty of Agriculture is still close to her heart.

"After my experience at the OACC sustainable agriculture is still a great priority of mine. I have a backyard garden, raise my own chickens and buy local and organic produce whenever I can."

Enchanted Forest can be found at 5 Commercial Street, Truro or www.enchanted-forest.ca

Precision Agriculture

Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture research reduces agrochemical use in wild blueberry fields.



William MacKenzie (Class of '12) Aitazaz Farooque (Class of '11)

Researchers at Dalhousie's Faculty of Agriculture have recognized the need to reduce the amount of agrochemicals used in wild blueberry fields. Dr. Qamar Zaman, Associate Professor and Precision Agriculture Research Chair, in collaboration with many industry partners, launched an initiative to develop precision agriculture technologies in Atlantic wild blueberries. Many Faculty of Agriculture alumni are involved in different stages in the project.

What are the challenges to wild blueberry producers?

To remain competitive in a global economy, the horticultural sectors throughout Canada and beyond must adopt more efficient and economical approaches to food production. Some of the largest horticultural producers and processors in North America have set the goal of reducing agrochemical input onto their crops by 20-40 percent in the next five years. The development of innovative new technologies that will work to apply agro-chemicals site-specifically, efficiently and cost effectively will allow North American wild blueberry producers to reduce their agrochemical impact, and remain competitive.

Why is a Precision Agriculture Research Program important?

Traditionally, wild blueberry producers manage their fields as uniform production units, but there is a lot of variability in the characteristics of the fields. For example, unevenly distributed weeds and bare spots need more accurate spot-applications of agrochemicals within wild blueberry cropping system.

Precision agriculture technologies can be used to apply the agrochemicals more accurately. This will save agrochemicals and money, increase farm profitability and also reduce environmental contamination.

"Our innovative technologies can manage fields on a site-specific basis, saving time and money while being more environmentally friendly" said Dr. Zaman.

What are the benefits of this research?

Cost-effective and reliable precision agriculture systems are being developed to map soil variability, weeds, bare spots and fruit yield within wild blueberry fields. These maps are the basis for the development of variable rate technologies to improve crop productivity.

Variable rate applicators (sprayer and spreader) are being developed for spot-application of agrochemicals in real-time within wild blueberry fields using computerized controllers, sensors, digital color cameras, custom made image processing software, and more.

In addition, a sensor fusion system is being developed to incorporate into a blueberry harvester to improve its berry picking efficiency.

Why is this research important for the wild blueberry industry?

Dr. Zaman and his team have formed partnerships with different industry partners to develop techniques that are relevant to their needs. One example of this is a long-term project with Doug Bragg Enterprises which aims to improve harvesting efficiency using precision agriculture technologies. Peter Swinkles (Class of '75), engineer with Doug Bragg Enterprises believes that this project is very important for the industry.

"When blueberry producers want to increase their operations, it is very expensive to start new fields. The most economical way to develop production in Nova Scotia is to focus on improving the yield of the fields that we already have."

Dr. Zaman hosted a successful two day international workshop in precision agriculture in February 2012 at the Agricultural Campus.

Why are precision agricultural methods successful?



Dr. Qamar Zaman, Precision Agriculture Research Chair

Precision agriculture technologies allow corrective agricultural practices on an as-need basis to maximize profitability, minimize environmental impacts and ultimately lead to a more sustainable industry.

"This is a completely collaborative team effort, says Dr. Zaman. "Academia, industry partners and government funding agencies are working together to produce excellent results."

Dr. Zaman has assembled a large team of researchers including graduate students from the Faculty of Agriculture, post-doctoral fellows, research assistants and visiting scientists. These include Travis Esau (class of '08 & '12) who is completing his PhD in the development and evaluation of a variable rate sprayer to improve spot-application of agrochemicals.

"I took mechanical engineering at school, but I grew up on a blueberry farm," says Travis. "So I like the practical elements.

With this project I can get out into the fields to conduct my research."

Many other students are working on the project, including graduate student Aitazaz Farooque (Class of '11) who is investigating how to improve berry picking efficiency of the blueberry harvester for his PhD.

Steps for the future

Dr. Zaman has applied for a patent for the software that drives the sensing and control system of the variable rate sprayer. Research is continuing, and further enhancements to the many precision agriculture projects are in development.

In Memory

The Faculty of Agriculture and the Alumni Association acknowledge the passing of the following alumni and extend our deepest sympathy to friends and family.

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| Mr. Willis M. Bonnyman | 1938 |
| Mr. Wilbur A. Frizzell | 1939 |
| Mr. Donald P. Tompkins | 1940 |
| Mr. Charles E. Cook..... | 1951 |
| Mr. Roger Otley | 1955 |
| Mr. Aurèle J. Gaudet..... | 1956 |
| Mr. Bruce F. Newcombe..... | 1984 |
| Mr. Zhuhui Ye | 2012 |

Aurèle Gaudet, Class of '56



The Faculty of Agriculture was saddened to hear of the passing of Aurèle Gaudet after a courageous battle with ALS on January 7, 2013, at the age of 81. After graduating from NSAC in 1956 Aurèle worked as an agrologist for the province of New Brunswick until his retirement

in 1991. Aurèle will be remembered as a popular and social member of his class, an enthusiastic attendee at annual reunions.

A different route to farming

Can't expect to inherit the family homestead? Try finding a partner who's looking to grow his legacy, not sell it.

Pat Dunphy (Class of '07)



Pat Dunphy didn't take a 'kid takes over from dad' route into agriculture. But the PEI farmer's unconventional career path may soon be more common.

Dunphy earns a salary running a farm owned by outside investors while slowly building up his own operation on the side. Ask him what's been the key and the 28-year-old gives an answer that some might find surprising.

"Looking back over my path, I'd say it's all about communication and building relationships," he says.

Dunphy's certainly no newcomer to agriculture – his family has been farming in the Cherry Valley area on PEI's south shore since the mid-1800s when his great-great-great-grandfather (also named Patrick Dunphy) emigrated to Canada in the wake of the Irish potato famine. His father grew seed potatoes, raised hogs, and had a cow-calf operation on 300 acres. But it was hard to make a living at that scale, and before Dunphy had finished university, his dad had traded farming for work in Alberta's oil patch.

Although he worked on a neighbour's dairy farm throughout his school days, Dunphy figured his future lay elsewhere. He was a top student in high school and when he graduated in 2002, he won a full scholarship to the University of PEI's business school.

"Don't ask me why I picked business," he says now. "I was a chemistry and science kind of guy. I didn't enjoy it at all and ended up only staying one semester."

Not knowing what to do next, he spent a few months "trying to find myself."

"But you can only do that so long before the bills come due," he says. "So when I heard through the grapevine about this potato farm that was looking for a guy, I thought I'd give that a try."

Along with potatoes, the farm also produced feed for the two owners, who both had their own separate livestock operations. It was Dunphy's first experience cropping on a large scale and "the first time I realized that I really enjoyed crop farming," he says.

"Then I thought, 'If I'm serious about this farming thing, I'd better get an education.' One of the partners who owned the potato farm had gone to Nova Scotia Agricultural College, and I thought I'd follow suit."

Dunphy took plant science and headed back to the farm at every chance – not just during school breaks, but often making the seven-hour round trip on weekends when he could manage it. When he graduated in 2007, he asked the farm's owners if they would rent him 20 acres and the equipment he'd need to seed and harvest a flax crop. And since all he could afford upfront was the inputs, would they also allow him to pay the land and equipment rental once the crop was sold?

"They agreed and I have to say that after that first crop, I was pretty much addicted," says Dunphy.

This was also when he began to realize that relationships were

going to be critical for him in his farming career.

"I know other guys had approached them in the past to do the same thing and they'd not taken them up on that offer," he says. "I can't say why I was given that chance, but I'm glad I was."

Dunphy would go on to be promoted to field manager, while expanding his own farming sideline. His next crop was soybeans. That's not a common crop in spud country, but Dunphy knew some growers were doing well with new varieties, so he rented land from his father and equipment from his employers, and worked his way up to 200 acres of beans. Along the way, he met two investors from the American Midwest who had bought land in PEI for which his employers did custom work.

"I just happened to say, 'If you ever need any help with anything, give me a call' – you know, the sort of thing you say to neighbours and such. Well, sure enough, that winter (in 2009), they gave me a call."



Once again, relationships led to opportunity and Dunphy now grows 2,000 acres of soybeans and corn for his new employers, and crops 500 acres of his own (although he's currently looking to buy land). He describes himself as more of a farm manager than a farmer and says it's hard to imagine how he would be able to acquire the assets he'd need to establish his own operation.

"Would I be willing to go without the steady income of being a farm manager in order to go out on my own? I don't know," says Dunphy. "To do the kind of farming that I'm doing now – to have a large combine and pretty modern equipment – when you're standing in my shoes, it seems well near impossible."

But in the next breath, he says "maybe it isn't."

"I know here in PEI – and I would think in the rest of Canada – there's a real shortage of young people in agriculture," he says. "What I've seen is that the older generation is more willing than ever to welcome new ideas and younger people into their operation."

There are also a fair number of young people, like himself, who want to farm for a living but don't have an operation they can take over, says Dunphy, who is president of the PEI Young Farmer's Association.

"I also know two fellows who were a year ahead of me in college who ended up doing the same thing that I am," he says. "Their situation was similar to mine – the home farm wasn't doing so good or there wasn't room to bring on another person – but they've found a way to make a living from farming."

How it will play out is hard to predict, but Dunphy says there are opportunities for what he calls "creative" approaches to farm transfers. Many farmers don't have anyone to pass the farm onto, but don't want to see an operation they've built over a lifetime simply wound down and its assets sold off.

"Farmers are a proud bunch and I don't know that getting a cheque from selling the farm excites them that much," says Dunphy. "If they don't have a son or daughter or an in-law wanting to take over the farm, then bringing in someone would be the next best thing."

Even though the costs of buying a commercial-sized farm are enormous, that's not necessarily an insurmountable barrier if the owner is willing to stage that transaction over a long enough time frame, he notes. In Dunphy's view, the tricky part is those other two things – relationships and communication.

The first partly depends on showing you have the necessary production and business smarts, but it's also about things such as a shared passion for a farm and having a vision for its future, says Dunphy.

"I think for the older farmer, it would come down to looking at that person and being able to see an image of themselves if they were 30 years younger," he says.

And then, when the time is ripe, the two parties need to talk about what might be possible.

"Getting an older person to talk about what they see happening in the next 10 years or so can be like pulling teeth," he says. "But that's where the communication comes in. You need to find a way to have those conversations."

This is Dunphy's sixth farming season and he says it's too early to say if he might go that route. But he's confident such opportunities are out there.

"Look at my situation – you wouldn't have seen this sort of thing very often 20 years ago. But times are changing."

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Dr. Leslie MacLaren to take sabbatical



In December 2012 a reception was held to show the Faculty of Agriculture's appreciation to Dr. Leslie MacLaren for the outstanding contribution she has made to the academic environment over nearly two decades and particularly over the past eight years. Dr. MacLaren has provided exemplary academic leadership in many roles including Co-President and Vice President – Academic.

We all wish Leslie the very best in her well-deserved transition as she moves into her administrative leave. Dr. Claude Caldwell will serve the Faculty of Agriculture in an interim role as Associate Dean, Academic for the next 18 months.

Purchase your own piece of NSAC history



Varsity Alumni may be interested in obtaining a "vintage" uniform. The Athletics department are selling old NSAC uniforms. Most sets cost \$5.00, shooter shirts are also \$5.00 and soccer sets (2011-12) are \$15.00.

You can also purchase Adidas hoodies from 2012 Men's Basketball Nationals and Crystal Mugs (\$10).

Contact Cathy Myette on 902 893 7567 or cathy.myette@dal.ca for your piece of history!

Dalhousie Alumni Awards



Faculty of Agriculture graduates are now eligible for the Dalhousie Alumni Awards, in addition to the Faculty of Agriculture Blue and Gold Awards. Anyone can nominate a graduate in one of the four DAA categories. You can read more about the awards at: alumniandfriends.dal.ca

You can submit a completed application through the website, or contact Hannah Pugh at 902 893 6022 or hannah.pugh@dal.ca if you have an idea for someone you'd like to nominate. It would be amazing to have a winner from the Faculty of Agriculture!

Honouring former classmate



You might remember the article in the last edition of the Agricola news which featured photographs of the new memorial bench, on the Agricultural Campus' section of the beautiful Coquebid trail. The bench is to honour the memory of former NSAC principal

Herb (Class of '52) and his wife Mary MacRae, generously donated by Rod and Robin MacLennan.

While the class of '52 enjoyed their 60th reunion on campus in July 2012 they took some time to visit the bench and reminisce about their experiences and their former classmate who became principal of NSAC in 1972.

Members of the class were gifted with a copy of the photograph as a memento of their reunion and copies were sent to the MacRae family.

Learning that Lasts

Page Baird, Class of '54 is one of the 2012 honourees in the Faculty of Agriculture's Learning that Lasts campaign. The campaign honours faculty, staff, students and alumni who give of their time and talents to the Faculty and their community. The campaign officially launches in the New Year. Keep posted to the Faculty website for more details dal.ca/agriculture

Page Baird (Class of '54)



The goals of the Antique Farm Equipment Museum are like any other: to provide enjoyment and preserve history. Home to over 2000 historical pieces, this volunteer-run museum has come a long way since its humble beginnings in the late 1980s, thanks in large part to Page Baird.

Page plays a major leadership role amongst the handful of regular volunteers who keep the museum running. He is the "hands-on guy" and has been the driving force behind a number of museum projects. Extremely talented with his hands, Page performs the majority of the restoration work on donated pieces. He was also heavily involved with the construction of two new buildings to house the growing collection in 2005 and 2009. He actively seeks out appropriate additions to the inventory and regularly uses his woodworking talents to raise money for the museum, which operates solely on donations and fundraising efforts. Thanks to Page's hard work, the museum saw more than 4000 visitors in 2011.

The Antique Farm Equipment Museum is providing a vital service to Atlantic Canada by preserving and displaying our agricultural heritage and it is volunteers like Page Baird who are making it happen.

Agricola News Online

Back-issues of Agricola News now available online!

Want to catch up on some old memories of the NSAC? You're in luck! The MacRae Library has digitized back issues of the Agricola News (formerly called Alumni News) to 1979 in DalSpace for you to read!

Some interesting tidbits from some of the earlier publications include:

- Vol.3, No.1, 1979: Construction of the Dining Hall and Alumni Theatre
- Vol.5, No.1, 1981: NSAC to get degree granting status
- Vol. 9, no.1 1985: NSAC and Dalhousie University signed their historic agreement to grant the Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture.
- Vol. 11, no. 1, 1987: The house at 179 College Road became NSAC International.
- Vol. 14, No. 2, 1990: MacRae Library officially named

Have a look and find your own favourite editions and articles, we would love to hear about them.

You can find the complete list of Agricola News (56 issues so far) currently available in DalSpace: <http://dalspace.library.dal.ca/handle/10222/15585/browse>. You can also link to this page through the website dal.ca/agalumni

By the way, we are still looking for issues prior to 1979! If you have an issue that you wish to donate or lend to the library so we can digitize it, please contact Erin at Erin.MacPherson@dal.ca

We are working on other digitization projects, including the NSAC Calendars, that we hope to share with alumni in the near future. Stay tuned!



My father and his farm

A battle for success and education

by *Bernie Kuhn (Class of '39) with assistance from Mary (Kuhn) Osbourne*



P. Max Kuhn, ca. 1930

Peter Max Kuhn, known as Max, was born in Woodlawn near Dartmouth, NS in 1887 and grew up in Lawrencetown, Halifax County at the head of Cole Harbour. He was the first of eight children. His father Peter McNab Kuhn owned the diked 2300 acre Cole Harbour marshlands and 500 acres of upland that included the old Robertson House and a small, stony farm.

The family tried for 20 years without much success to maintain the dike and use the marshlands to raise beef cattle. Max, his brother Wilfrid and his father had to fight storms and the inexorable seas with only a horse, wagon

and hand tools to keep the seas from washing out the dike-dam, and this harsh work left its mark on the boys. The upland farm was needed for family subsistence and some cash income, and Max as a youth took responsibility for it, and by his late teens he had become the chief farmer and marketer while his father did other work to supplement the family income.

The Kuhn children lived so far away from public schools that they could not attend, and their mother home-schooled them all. The children missed the usual associations with other children, and Max never played team games, rode a bicycle or learned to swim. Family recreation was mostly at church, Sunday School and family gatherings.

Despite the difficult circumstances of their upbringing, the children, all but one who died as a child, became educated, responsible citizens and community leaders. This was largely due to the heroic efforts and example of their mother Frances Mary Foster.

Max spent one year on a Harvest Excursion to the Canadian West, but he was happy to return home. He attended NSAC for a year and a half, as he saw farming as his career and he wanted to learn improved farming methods. He did not graduate in 1911 because of demands for him at home which his father thought

were more important, and Max was very disappointed. He stayed on at the Lawrencetown home until he was 30 years old because the family needed him so much.

In 1917-18 Max acquired his own farm with 20 acres of cleared land with clay-loam soil, outbuildings and a house on a hill, right on the edge of Dartmouth at that time. He called it Manor Hill Farm. He was married in 1918, and he and Jessie Brown started their life together there.

Manor Hill farm was a handsome place compared to Max's old home. It prospered during the 1920's, and Max added two large greenhouses, a big new barn, a dairy building and a deep drilled well to his property. His motive power was 4-5 horses, and he used an array of horse-drawn implements and wheeled vehicles.



The new barn at Manor Hill Farm, ca. 1931

At first Max kept only about six milking cows in the old barn and sold his milk in bulk to Woodlawn Dairy, but to satisfy an ambition to have a modern milk production and retail dairy business, he expanded to 16

milking cows, new milking and processing facilities, and a new horse and milk delivery wagon

Max valued highly his training at NSAC, and he put it to good use at Manor Hill Farm, especially in soil management, animal husbandry, horticulture and farm engineering.

Manor Hill Farm grew about fifteen different kinds of vegetables, almost everything that would sell in town, besides timothy hay for the animals. Max's specialty was cabbage which grew well on his land, and he shipped much of it to the West Indies. Growing and marketing of vegetables was very labor-intensive, required temporary hired help and much know-how and intelligent attention from the farmer.

In 1928 Max suffered the tragic loss of his wife, and he was left with five young children. He married again in 1931 to Eva Morash of Cole Harbour, who courageously took over the busy household.

The depression of the 1930's was hard. It was difficult to sell all his produce, and sometimes Max resorted to long, searching routes to stores and homes to dispose of it. Besides, he struggled to develop his retail dairy, and he could hardly make any money. His driving ambition had caused him to overextend at a bad time,

and the depression stressed him severely. In late 1937 he overworked, became exhausted, caught cold and pneumonia, and passed away in January 1938.

Max was always active in church, school and other community affairs in Woodlawn. His other breaks from farm work were occasional Sunday drives and a few trips to New England. His life was characterized by service to family and community, love of farming and home in Halifax County, and almost boundless energy and ambition.

Max's widow Eva liked farm work, and she took over Manor Hill Farm and Dairy after Max was gone, but it proved too much for her, and the farm was sold in 1942 to a Woodlawn couple. It later passed to developers who turned it into Manor Park subdivision, one of the first in the explosive growth of Dartmouth into Woodlawn and Cole Harbour that started about 1950.

Cole Harbour and Woodlawn were called the 'breadbasket' of Dartmouth and Halifax, but their market garden farms and dairies were over-run by urban expansion. Manor Hill Farm was one of the many productive farms that disappeared. Their loss was hard to accept, but beyond control.

The Kuhn family started the P.Max Kuhn Scholarship at NSAC in 2006 to honor their father Max and to give back to the community and country that raised and educated them in much better circumstances than their father had. We are an extension of those who preceded us, and we project ourselves into the future by the example, leadership and support that we give to our young people. It does not take much wealth to help students significantly. It has been very rewarding to the Kuhn family, and we recommend it to other alumni and friends of the Faculty of Agriculture. The staff has been very cordial and efficient in establishing our scholarship, and we have had pleasant relations with them.

Post Script: The Kuhn family donated the 2300 acre marshlands of Cole Harbour in 1998 to the Province of Nova Scotia to be kept as a nature preserve named after Peter McNab Kuhn. In this way the inability of our grandfather and preceding owners to successfully farm the marshes became of beneficial use to the public and creatures of nature. You can view the Peter McNab Kuhn Conservation Area by walking the 6 km Salt Marsh Trail from Cole Harbour shore to West Lawrencetown.

Editors note: Do you have a farm in your family that you'd like us to write a story about? If so please get in touch with the editor.

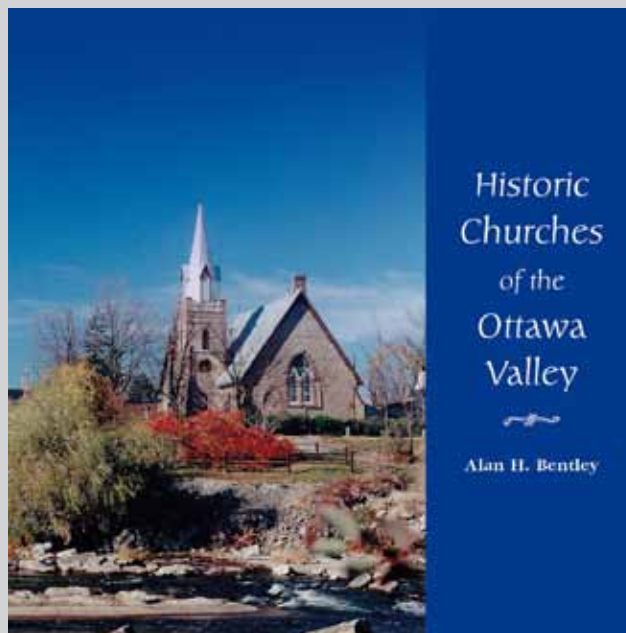


The new milk wagon and Dolly the horse, ca. 1932

Alumnus becomes author *Alan H. Bentley (Class of '59)*

Historic Churches of the Ottawa Valley is Alan H. Bentley's illustrated account of many of the historic churches found in Ottawa and its surrounding communities. Alan H. Bentley's collection, containing his own photographs of the church exteriors, effectively brings the many beautiful churches contained within its pages out into the open and provides the information necessary for further exploration. *Historic Churches of the Ottawa Valley* is a valuable resource for historians and visitors to the Ottawa area. The book is available from General Store Publishing House.

Alan H. Bentley was born and raised in Nova Scotia. While growing up on an apple and poultry farm in the Annapolis Valley, he attended the Berwick Baptist Church with his parents and his grandfather who were faithful attendees. Following high school, he attended the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, the Ontario Agricultural College, and the University of Guelph. Alan located to Ottawa in 1967, where he had a career with Agriculture Canada before retiring in 1995. It was at this time that he developed an interest in the churches of Ottawa. As a result, he roamed the area for the past fifteen years, photographing most of the churches on the Ontario side of the Ottawa River. It is this interest that has resulted in the publication of this book.



Events & Reunions

Class Reunions 2012

As usual, Open House day on July 26 was hot and sunny and filled with fun. Over 1400 people attended, including a coachload of Dalhousie employees from the Halifax campus, keen to learn about their new Faculty. Among the highlights, of course, were the four reunions that took place that day where classes of '52, '61, '62 and '67 were welcomed back to campus. Class of '61 had enjoyed their 50 year reunion in 2011 so much that they decided to come back for their 51st reunion. Dr. Harold Cook, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture (Class of '66) took the opportunity to visit old friends and acquaintances and met all the reunion classes to update them on the merger progress.

Class of '52

Members of the class of '52 who travelled from as far as B.C. enjoyed an afternoon on campus reminiscing and having a lively discussion about the upcoming merger with Dr. Cook. A particularly poignant moment for them was visiting the new memorial bench near Jenkins, donated by Rod and Robin MacLennan in memory of their former classmate, and former NSAC principal Herb MacRae and his wife Mary. Read more about the bench on page 12.



Class of '61

Returning to campus for the second year in a row for their 51st reunion, class of '62 enjoyed a varied program including a tour of campus, visits to the Franklin's farm in North River and the Phillip residence in Valley followed by a soiree at the Best Western Glangarry Hotel in Truro.



Class of '62

What better way to spend a 50th reunion than right where it all began – on campus! Members of the class of '62 gathered for a talk from Dick Huggard (Class of '56) and Dr. Cook (Class of '66), a private tour of the Agricola collection, enjoyed a bbq with current staff and other reunion classes and ended an exciting visit with brunch at the Beeler residence in Brule. The class also used this opportunity to start a Class of '62 50th reunion fund and to date have raised over \$2000 to be used for scholarships for current students. Any further donations to the fund are very welcome. The class brought in and displayed their NSAC memorabilia. Thank you to Evans Estabrooks who donated his large collection of items to the Agricola Collection.



Class of '67

Class of '67 enjoyed their 45th reunion as many classmates had not been in touch for several years. Highlights included a group lunch, tour of campus, tour of the farm museum and meeting other classes at the evening bbq.



Class of '56 reunion

by Ted MacNinch



The Class of '56 held its 56-year reunion at the Stanley Bridge Resort on PEI on September 5th and 6th with two thirds of the remaining 28 members of the class and their spouses, in attendance. Doug Byers, Shirley Byers, Don MacNeil and Marilyn MacNeil, this year's organizing committee, developed a great program that involved not only entertainment and networking, but also enlightenment on the evolution of NSAC to a Faculty of Agriculture of Dalhousie University and

aspects of its research. The Class of '56 views their annual reunions as both social events and also as a forum to promote interaction between alumni and staff.

A good time was had by all. Associate Professor of Environmental Sciences, Dr. Robert France, Class of '56 scholarship winners Jeff Campbell and Jillian Eisenor gave presentations on their ongoing research studies in the ALUS and Watershed Management areas which are supported by the Class of 1956 scholarship funding. The funding of graduate level research, a growing area on campus, is an area that needs more support. In addition, Graeme Linkletter (Class of '58) gave a presentation on the history of PEI agriculture.

Dr. Richard Donald, Associate Dean, External Strategic Partnerships & Acting Associate Dean, Research, confessed that Jim Goit (former Executive director of External Relations) had warned him about the Class of '56 and that we were a 'force to be reckoned with' and that our class has

made a serious commitment to supporting the future of our alma mater. Dr. Donald gave a heartening presentation of just what the incorporation of NSAC into Dalhousie University means to both institutions in these times of tremendous opportunities in the food and agriculture areas where international connections, business, social sciences and distribution matters are of prime importance. He delved into the synergistic effects of the merger. He stressed that what is happening is the next, and best step, in the evolution of NSAC, which has been courted by several other Maritime universities, among which the Dalhousie connection was considered to constitute the best fit. The Faculty of Agriculture can now avail itself to the very considerable resources of the parent university and focus on excellence in teaching and research, the pursuit and handling of intellectual property etc.

Dr. Donald emphasized the challenges ahead to make this Dalhousie merger work and asked for support from all quarters. He indicated that we are very fortunate to have Dr. Cook, an alumnus with a thorough grounding concerning NSAC and



what it stands for and a thorough grounding on Dalhousie University and how it functions, directing this very important transition. We learned that Dalhousie is also very supportive of maintaining and nurturing our close community of alumni and they will do their best to ensure that classes such as ours feel part of the new institution and are engaged in its future.

Mr. Brian Crouse, Academic Advisor and Coordinator, First Year Transitions and Intentional Advising, maintains that the institution seeks former graduates who have done well in their careers and entices them to return to their alma mater to serve in a variety of capacities; this is very evident in the selection of Dr. Cook.

Class of '59 Gathering in Bible Hill, Nutby and Tatamagouche

By Dale Ells



Nine classmates and their family added up to a group of eighteen for our



tour and meal on June 27th, 2012.

We began at Perennia Park (formerly Agri-Tech Park) where we had a welcome snack and a tour of the new Atlantic Centre for Innovation. This part of the day was hosted by David Fullerton, the Faculty of Agriculture Industry Liaison Officer.

We then went to the NS Power Wind Farm in Nutby for a tour of their site which had 22 large turbines in operation. This location is the high part of mainland Nova Scotia. After the driving tour we stopped at the base of one turbine for a Q & A time and were invited to climb up the steps and enter the stem of the turbine if we wished. Several did that.

Our third stop was at the Train Station Inn, Tatamagouche, where we had visiting time in the club car followed by lunch in the dining car. It was an enjoyable outing and it was there that several class members expressed a desire for a PEI event in 2013.

Haybale sculpting at orientation 2012

In a growing tradition the Faculty of Agriculture External Relations Office sponsored the haybale sculpting competition and bbq during orientation week. Over 200 new students, split into teams from residences and off-campus battled to create a sculpture from 30 haybales in under two hours. In unison with orientation week's theme of 'Get on Board' the sculptures were inspired by all things nautical. They were judged on originality, creativity, team work and team spirit which encouraged a great atmosphere complete with house songs. Pictured is Fraser House's winning sculpture of Rocky the Ram sunbathing with a sea monster. Many thanks to judges Scott Jeffrey (Class of '96) and Jenna Forsyth (Class of '01).



Scholarship Banquet 2012

Thirty-eight percent of the Faculty of Agriculture's student body were honoured during the 2012 scholarship banquet in early November, with the presentation of almost \$1 million in scholarships and bursaries to deserving students.

"Our Scholarship Banquet provides an occasion to bring together our students who are scholarship recipients with the sponsors of our many scholarships," said Dr. Leslie McLaren, Associate Dean, Academic. We are fortunate to have the commitment from so many alumni, businesses and farm organizations to provide scholarships to both recognize academic achievement and provide motivation to deserving students, while assisting financially with ever increasing education costs."

First Presentation of Edward Brown Memorial Bursary & Scholarship



In memory of Edward Brown (Class of '54), a new \$2,000 bursary was presented to Madeline Doiron, Moncton, NB, a 4th year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student. In addition, a \$1,000 scholarship was presented to Robin MacInnes, Truro, NS, an M.Sc. student at the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture. Ken

Brown, son of the late Edward Brown, is shown offering congratulations to Robin (centre) and Madeline (right). A \$25,000 donation was also made from the Brown family to the Alumni Family Bursaries.

\$2,000 William D. Swetnam Memorial Scholarship



The Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture was pleased to have Mrs. Mary Swetnam, son Peter Swetnam (Class of '89) and grandson William Swetnam (current student), attend Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture's recent Scholarship Banquet to present the \$2,000 William D. Swetnam Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is named in memory of Bill Swetnam, Class of '56. Paul Manning, Canning, NS, a 4th year B.Sc.(Agr.) Environmental Sciences student, was the 2012 recipient. The scholarship is presented to an Atlantic Canada student in the B.Sc.(Agr.) program who has displayed leadership qualities while maintaining an outstanding academic performance during their program at the Faculty of Agriculture.

Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture Alumni Family Bursaries Presented at Scholarship Banquet



At the recent Scholarship Banquet the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture was pleased to present \$10,000 in a combination of \$1,000 and \$500 bursaries to family members of Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture Alumni studying at the Truro campus. Dwane Mellish, President, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture Alumni Association, is shown with some of this year's recipients. Back row: Dwane Mellish, Connie van den Heuvel, Heatherton, NS, a 3rd year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student. Front row: Erica Brenton, Lower Onslow, NS, a 1st year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; Andrea Hamilton, Lower Onslow, NS, a 1st year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student; and Catherine Harrop, Shubenacadie, NS, a 1st year B.Sc.(Agr.) International Food Business student.



Michael Perry, Director, Alumni Engagement, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, is shown with some recipients of the bursaries.

Back row: Michael Perry; Amy Versloot, London, ON, a 4th year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; Matthew MacMinn, South Branch, NS, a 1st year B.Sc.(Agr.) Agricultural Business student.

Front row: Anne Woodbury, Kingston, NS, a B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; Katherine Mitchell, Village Green, PE, a B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; and Katelyn O'Connell, Brookfield, NS, a 1st year Diploma in Business Management student.

The Faculty of Agriculture would like to extend sincere thanks to all our donors for their generous contributions which assist our students.

Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame Inductees 2012

The Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame was established in 1968 as a means of celebrating individuals in Atlantic Canada for their contribution to the development of the agricultural industry in the region. Each year, one person from each of the four Atlantic Provinces is honoured at an induction ceremony and reception held at the Faculty of Agriculture during October.



Case van Dyk has etched out a place in this province's agricultural landscape through his innovative production and processing of the blueberry. Case's signature product, van Dyk's 100% Pure Wild Blueberry Juice is found on shelves and in kitchens across the globe. Recognized for its pioneering design, van Dyk's blueberry juice won the 2005 award for Best New Juice Innovation at the 2005

World Juice Congress in Madrid, Spain. His work earned him a nomination from the Lunenburg/Queens Federation of Agriculture in recognition of his entrepreneurial spirit, commitment to agriculture, and his passion for innovation.



Bert Dykerman has influenced the agricultural industry in Prince Edward Island with his belief that innovation and cooperation between farmers are keys to success. Bert was a founding member of the PEI Vegetable Growers' Co-Operative, which now markets root crops to markets in Canada, the United States, the Caribbean, Europe, and Scandinavia. Bert was nominated by the PEI ADAPT Council

in recognition of his valuable contributions agriculture in PEI and to farm families in PEI and abroad.



Robert Theriault is well known for his commitment to quality seed production and his dedication to sustainable farming. He was recognized for his valuable work in promoting the importance of soil and water conservation by receiving the 2010 Leadership Award from the New Brunswick Institute of Agrologists. These achievements

earned him a nomination from the Agricultural Alliance of New Brunswick in recognition of his service to industry and his dedication to the preservation of soil and water resources.



Mary Lester is a producer, leader, and volunteer recognized for her cheerful smile and willingness to help others. To accommodate the incredible demand for her fresh produce, Mary co-founded Lester's Farm Market, well-known in the St. John's and Mount Pearl community as much for the quality produce as for Mary's keen interest in connecting with her customers. Newfoundland youth have

benefited immensely from Mary's extensive involvement in the 4-H program. Mary was nominated by the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture for her dedication to her customers and the youth of Newfoundland.

To read more about this year's inductees, visit the AAHF online: dal.ca/aa hf

2012 Blue & Gold Awards Gala

The Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture honoured three outstanding alumni during the annual Blue and Gold Awards program Friday, November 9th, 2012.

"Each of our recipients has made significant, yet different contributions to the industry and our communities, said Faculty of Agriculture Alumni Association President Dwane Mellish. "The common thread among them is their time spent on the agricultural campus. We are proud to have contributed to their success."

"As a former recipient of the distinguished alumnus award, I appreciate what an honour it is to be acknowledged in this way," explained Dr. Harold W. Cook, Dean Faculty of Agriculture and Principal, Dalhousie Agricultural Campus. "These recipients have distinguished themselves, each in their own unique way using their energy and talents and we celebrate their accomplishments."



Young Alumni Achievement Award

The Young Alumni Achievement Award recognizes the outstanding achievements of Faculty of Agriculture alumni within 10 years of receiving a degree/diploma or within five years of receiving a graduate degree. Alumni are recognized for truly outstanding achievement that may have earned them regional, national or international prominence through service to humanity, in their profession and/or volunteer organizations, through community service, the advancement of knowledge and service to the Faculty.

Alumni Volunteer of the Year

The Volunteer of the Year Award honors a volunteer, who has consistently and enthusiastically donated their time and talents to advancing the objectives of the university and/or the Alumni Association and with whose support has significantly enhanced the success of various programs. The nominee must be a member of NSAC's Alumni Association and have represented NSAC as well as an ambassador.

Distinguished Alumni Award

The Distinguished Alumni Award is NSAC's most prestigious award, recognizing truly outstanding service and commitment to NSAC, industry and the Alumni Association. Nominees must have distinguished themselves in their area of expertise, bringing honour to the university.

And the winners are...

Mary McPhee

Young Alumni Achievement Award 2011

Mary was raised in Parrsboro, Nova Scotia. She graduated from NSAC with a Diploma in Technology in 2003 and a Bachelor of Technology in 2005.

As a student, Mary was involved in every aspect of student life. She showed a real love of theatre, which led to her involvement in the AC Theatre society. Although never on stage, she was involved in every other aspect of the performance including stage management, costume design, hair and makeup. Kent Loughhead, director of the group remembered Mary as a back-seat director, someone who would be watching the rehearsals, and would jump up and shout out ideas. They were always good ideas!

She set a great example as a student, by serving as vice president on the Student Union Executive then president for three years. Many staff still remember Mary as someone who was really actively involved in campus life.

After graduating Mary worked for Agrapoint, the Ships Company Theatre and the Town of Parrsboro planning department. In her role as a community development coordinator her work

was instrumental in leading to a Communities in Bloom four-star rating for Parrsboro.

Mary is employed by the Fundy Ocean Research Centre for Energy, Canada's lead test centre for tidal energy technology. She manages FORCE's public facility, which offers educational exhibits and tours, interactive displays, a small theatre, and a direct view of the ocean test site in the Minas Passage, where 14 billion tonnes of water flow past at speeds up to five metres per second.

Mary lives in her hometown of Parrsboro with her partner Rob Fancy. Friends and colleagues describe Mary as dedicated to everything that she does and a person who always gives 110%.

Mary is an exceptionally active volunteer in her local community both at an organizational and hands on level. Mary is a director of Ship's Company Theatre, a member of the local trails committee and is active in the local Historical Society.

Her many activities also include being a regular volunteer for the Eco-Kids project which encourages children to play outdoors after school. She runs in a number of charitable events to raise money for the Age of Sale Centre and other organizations.

"I am so happy to see that Mary has been selected to receive the Young Alumni Achievement award," said Jeff McCallum, a friend and former student.

"I am very proud of Mary and all that she did for the school while she was attending the AC and all that she has always contributed to her community at home. She really is an amazing woman and someone that I look up to for inspiration."

Arnold Hagen Alumni Volunteer of the Year 2011

Arnold was raised on a mixed farm in Springfield, Prince Edward Island. He attended Nova Scotia Agricultural College in 1983, to study in the animal science department.

Graduating with an Animal Science technician diploma in 1985, the focus of Arnold's studies changed direction and he received a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics in 1988.

Immediately after graduating, he was hired by Scotiabank in Saint John, New Brunswick and spent the next two decades moving up through the banking world at various locations in New Brunswick, Halifax and Prince Edward Island.

Arnold transferred to Truro in 2005 after accepting a position with the Commercial Banking Division of Scotiabank. He settled in Bible Hill where he still lives with his wife Heather and two daughters Bethany and Olivia. In his spare time he enjoys curling, golf and harness racing.

While a student on the Agricultural Campus, Arnold had a dream to one day own his own business. This lifelong ambition was realized in January 2011 when he purchased the Harris Home Hardware Building Centre on Pictou Road from the founder of Harris Home Hardware. In this role he really enjoys working with staff and customers.

His commercial career went from strength to strength and in May 2012 he opened a new branch on Willow Street. Arnold has gone above and beyond to dedicate time and energy into his local community.

Showing dedication to the Rotary Club of Truro he has been

a member since 2005, a member of the club executive for two years, was named Rotarian of the Year in 2007-08 and was recognized with the Paul Harris Fellowship in 2011.

Fellow Rotarian Jim Goit remembers Arnold's excellent coordination of the club's two major fund raisers, the Annual Community Yearbook and the Annual Auction.

Other achievements include serving as board member and chair of the Colchester East-Hants Health Centre Foundation.

Sharon Crowe, Executive Director of the Health Centre Foundation describes Arnold as a really committed and hard working volunteer with the Foundation, who has held the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, Chair and currently holds the Past Chair title.

"Arnold began volunteering with the Foundation prior to accepting a board position, working on our biggest fundraiser of the year, our annual Gala. Arnold is a very well-respected member of our board and our community, and has been extremely generous with his time and his talent."

While living in the Summerside area of Prince Edward Island, Arnold was also a board member with the Prince County Hospital Foundation

Arnold holds strong ties to the former NSAC, being actively involved in the Alumni Association.

He chaired the association from 2007 -2010 and in this role was instrumental in bringing together the Alumni Association and the former NSAC Foundation.

Arnold strongly believes that getting involved in your community is not only a terrific way to meet people but, from a personal standpoint, an effective means to develop your life experiences.

Arnold is a perfect example of the belief that one person can make a difference.



Arnold and President, Faculty of Agriculture Alumni Association, Dwane Mellish

Peter S Clarke Distinguished Alumnus 2011

Peter is a fourth generation farmer of Southview Farms, a 750-acre family farm in Woodville, Nova Scotia. He left the family farm to begin studies at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in 1965. After his time at the Agricultural Campus he returned to the farm where, with his father Harry and other family members, has

made many improvements and developments over the years.

In the mid 90's a farm feed mill was installed to make feed for pullets and layers. In 2007 egg production was doubled by purchasing additional quota. Southview Farms was a leading promoter of intensive cereal management and using tram lines as a way to service crops.

Peter has been instrumental in working in cooperation with agriculture organizations to improve farming methods in the region. This includes involvement in grain test plots in cooperation with the former NSAC and the Department of Agriculture. He also hosted many tours and equipment demonstrations. Peter is known locally and nationally for excellence in the agriculture and agri-food industry. He is specifically renowned within the Canadian egg and poultry sector for his work in setting high quality standards for food safety, for which he has received numerous awards.

Throughout his career Peter has dedicated countless hours to provincial, national and international boards. He served on the Nova Scotia Egg Producers board since 1987, and is a consultant on the Animal Welfare Committee of the United Egg Producers of the USA.

As a representative of Nova Scotia on the Egg Farmers of Canada Board of Directors since 1995, he chaired the Budget, Research and Production Management Committees and was elected as First Vice Chair in 2006 and Chairman in 2011.

Peter was previously Chairman of the Board of Directors of ACA Co-operative, a company that under his leadership achieved consolidated sales in excess of \$100 million. He was also past President of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture.

Peter served as chairman of AgraPoint, Nova Scotia Winter Grain Marketing Board and Atlantic Grains Council. Other past achievements include appointments as the Atlantic representative on the Canada Grains Council, the Nova Scotia representative on the Net Income Stabilization Account and as a member of the Advisory Committee of the Atlantic Veterinary College.

Peter's commitment to the sector has not gone unnoticed. In 1990 he received the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists inaugural Outstanding Farmer Award. He was also the recipient of the Eastern Kings Chamber of Commerce 2006 Kings County Business Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2007 for his outstanding commitment within the Canadian Egg and Poultry sector, Peter was honored with the Order of Nova Scotia.

Despite all this success Peter is a very humble individual who credits his accomplishments to the great people with whom he has had the opportunity to work.

Aside from his dedication to the agricultural industry, Peter has devoted himself to his local community. He served as a volunteer firefighter for nineteen years in the Waterville and District Fire Department, and is currently a Rotarian in the Rotary Club of Kentville, which he has been involved with for almost twenty years.

Peter and his wife Janet have two children, Jeff and Trish who are both graduates of NSAC and six grandchildren.

Peter would describe himself as passionate about agriculture and proud to be a farmer.

Peter has truly distinguished himself in his area of expertise, bringing honour to the Agriculture sector.



The Clarke family and friends

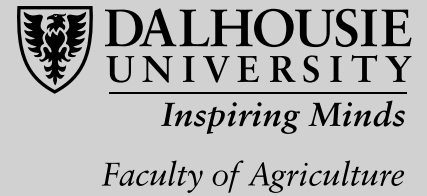


Peter, Mary and Arnold



Mary with family and friends

Faculty of Agriculture Annual Appeal 2012-13



As the Faculty of Agriculture at Dalhousie University, we still require your help to embrace change and to support and enhance our student experience on this campus.

We pride ourselves on our excellent scholarship program, but we are always striving to provide further support. The demographics of our student body have changed dramatically. In each of the last three years only 50 percent of our first year class comes directly from high school. The other half is a combination of those who have transferred, are on exchange, participating in distance education and visiting or mature students. There is less support available for this group, but no less need.

We hope, with your help, to develop an endowed scholarship that will annually award at least \$1000 to a deserving student in one of these groups.

This will have a significant impact on our students.

It's not too late to donate!

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Athletics Update

Faculty of Agriculture Athletics

Following the NSAC/Dalhousie Merger on 1 September, 2012, the RAMS continue to compete in all the same athletic associations – ACAA, CILA (woodsmen) and AIEL (equestrian). This continues the tradition of our student-athletes (160 athletes this year) participating on various varsity and club teams producing an enhanced student experience through athletics. The RAMS are now sporting new Dalhousie Black and Gold uniforms and continue to represent the Campus well!

Eastlink Agri- Golf Classic – July 2012



The 16th annual athletics fundraising event was held at the prestigious Royal Oaks Golf Club in Moncton, New Brunswick. A beautiful course was the back drop for a great day of golf for the 27 participating teams. All of the teams have a strong connection with the Campus, the agricultural industry, the event and include former varsity athletes. Many of the teams have played in the event for over 14 years.

Category winners include:

Overall – McCullum Farm

Alumni – Downhill Golf Team

Business – Shurgain

Farm – Fisher Farms

Sponsor – Coca Cola

Deputy Minister's Challenge – NS Dept of Agriculture

The 2013 Eastlink Agri-Golf Classic will be held on July 19 2013 and the course will be announced and listed on the website early in the New Year.

Varsity and Club Team Updates for Fall 2012

Varsity Homecoming - October 2012

The men's and women's basketball teams were pleased to be able to compete against the Alumni Teams at Varsity Homecoming. The DAL AC Rams men defeated the Alumni by a small margin, while the Alumni women came out on top in that match-up. There was great participation on both the men's and women's alumni teams and all enjoyed reliving their time as RAMS!

Homecoming 5 K – October 2012



Another successful 5K Run was hosted by Athletics in October. 86 runners enjoyed the campus and Cobequid Trail on a chilly but sunny day. Many alumni participated in the run with Jonathan Fuller achieving the fastest time of the alumni participants. Chris Ross was the highest placed DAL AC student.

Jonathan Fuller (Class of '86)

Golf

Two golfers represented DAL AC in ACAA competition, including a wet and windy final two days at the ACAA Championships at Crowbush Links on PEI. Although neither golfer broke into the top 6, both put up good rounds considering the less-than-ideal conditions.

Equestrian

A team of 12 riders was selected and over three competitions, the RAMS placed third in the first competition, and second in the second competition before jumping into first place in the third. The team is now planning lessons and group work-outs for second semester and aims to repeat the first place finish for the remainder of the AIEL schedule.

Cross Country

Both men's and women's teams had a great season this fall. The men were challenged by MTA, but finished the ACAA championship in first place earning the first banner for cross country in quite some time. The women also had a good season and finished in third place at the championships. ACAA All-Conference Team members from DAL AC include Kevin Morin and Paul Manning.

Rugby

Although playing a short season, the RAMS showed a tremendous work ethic and therefore improvement over the fall season. They finished

in second place and met annual rivals MTA Mounties in the ACAA Final at MTA. The game was a great show of skill and determination on both sides ending regulation in a tie. Only after the second OT period did the Kicker for MTA pull out a 3 point win (23-20) for the Mounties. The RAMS received a silver medal for their outstanding effort. ACAA All-Conference Team members included Holly Morton, Georgia Lewis, Becky Blank, Joan Cole, and Jeannette Van der Linden. Whitney Shaver was selected as the ACAA Rookie of the Year.

Soccer

Both the men's and women's teams had a great number of rookies, which will reap benefits in next years season. This year, although competing well in every game, the RAMS had difficulty finding the back of the net. Although they did not make play-offs, four members were selected to the ACAA All-Conference Teams: Chris Morash and Chris Ross on the mens side and Melissa Bahri and Leah Cook on the women's.

Volleyball

The women are off to a good start and look forward to playing more home games in second semester. With only 3 returning players, the RAMS are re-building but competing very well in their first few league matches. They are presently in a three way tie for third in league play with a 3-4 won/loss record.

Basketball

Both teams are filled with rookies who are developing and improving with every outing. The men have 2 returning players while the women have 3 returnees. Second semester will see both teams play at home more, and expect the results to reflect the speed at which the teams are improving. Leading the teams at this point are rookie Tyler MacDonald for the men and rookie Theresa Rankin for the women.

Woodsmen

The team is off to a tremendous start for all 4 groups. The Men's A team is undefeated at the half way mark, while the Women's A Team is challenging for the top spot with a couple of second place finishes. Showing the depth of the program, the B teams on both sides are also consistently in the top 4 as well. The Rick Russell Memorial Competition (Feb 9) will be the highlight of the year after the third competition which will be at MAC in January.

Badminton

A new team for the 2012-13 year, RAMS badminton is already making its mark in the ACAA. After many years without a badminton program, DAL AC has 9 student-athletes who are immediately competitive. Leading that group are Chris Ross (first in men's singles in the first ACAA competition of the year) and Kayla Wolfe. Both are former CEC badminton players. With a second place team placing in the first competition, the RAMS are working hard to challenge for an ACAA Team banner in February.

All team profiles, pictures and results are available at dal.ca/about/agricultural-campus/athletics-recreation

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In Touch!

Class of '48

Turner, Weldon... retired in 1990 but still on the go. Turner resides at Peoples Park Tower in Moncton, New Brunswick.

Class of '77

Sampson, Glen... was appointed as minister of St. Lukes Presbyterian Church in Bathurst, New Brunswick in May, 2012. In addition to his new career, Sampson continues to work as a consultant in the landscape industry and teach continuing education courses at the Faculty of Agriculture.

Class of '79

Hutchison, Robert... has been very busy recently changing careers. Hutchison was previously employed as a Landscape Architect for the City of Toronto, became a house husband and is currently a high school teacher for the Greater Essex County District School Board in the field of construction and green industry. He has embraced this change in his life and does love it most of the time.

Class of '80

Jarvis, Patrick... began making African drums in October 2004 which has become his full time occupation. Jarvis is the founder of Ancient Hermit Drums and married Joanna Crinion of Ottawa in May 2010.

Class of '93

Eaton, James... studied Soil Science when attending NSAC and now has a new job, teaching Electro-Mechanical Engineering and Robotics at Algonquin College in Ottawa.

Class of '94

Tibbetts, Sean... successfully defended his Doctoral thesis at Wageningen University of Life Sciences in The Netherlands and received his PhD in Fish Nutrition on January 17, 2012.

Class of '99

Welland, Lisa... this veterinary graduate has recently moved home to Nova Scotia from British Columbia.

Class of '03

Devanney, Michael... has recently moved to Melbourne, Australia and is employed as an Economics Consultant for the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Class of '05 & '06

Bernard, Sally & Mark... were selected as Parade Marshalls for the July 2012 Gold Cup Parade in Charlottetown, PEI. Recipients of Atlantic Canadian Outstanding Young Farmers Award and a Faculty of Agriculture Blue and Gold Award, they were a perfect fit for the parade's theme of celebrating Old Home Week and bringing the farm to the city.

Berlin Wall Artifacts

The Truro Agricultural Campus houses some wonderful assets and key historical artifacts. Students in the Leadership Development and Social Action class took a walk to and talked about the significance of these concrete structures along the Cobequid Trail. These are part of the Berlin Wall, constructed in 1961 and retained and guarded until 1989. The artifacts were kindly donated to the Campus by the Town of Truro in December 2011.



Look Who's Talking

Steve Brogan (Class of '98)

Look Who's Talking is a regular section in Agricola News. Each issue, an alumni discusses his or her thoughts on various topics relevant to the Faculty of Agriculture.

Biography

Steve Brogan is a post-doctoral fellow in Renewable Energy, working with Dr. Kenny Corscadden.

Born in Charlottetown PEI, but spending most of childhood in Nova Scotia, Steve graduated from NSAC in 1998 with a diploma in Engineering. He continued his education at the University of Saskatchewan, earning a Bachelor's in Engineering in 2004.



He accepted a position with DGH Engineering Ltd. In Winnipeg, and was employed with various projects including red meat processing and development of greenhouse gas guidelines for pork producers under a grant from the Canadian Pork Council. During this time he picked up a copy of 'Intensive Pig Production', a book by Seaton Baxter, which inspired him to contact the author. Steve wrote Professor Baxter a letter and was surprised and excited to receive a response offering him a PhD position at the University of Dundee in Scotland.

Steve relocated to Scotland and completed his PhD in Natural Design. During his time in the UK he also taught at the Scottish Agricultural College and did consulting work in wind energy. He returned to Canada and the Faculty of Agriculture in 2012.

Steve lives in Bible Hill with his wife Mary Beth and their new baby Howard.

The Agricultural Campus is a pretty unique place, as we hear over and over. What's your favourite characteristic of the Faculty of Agriculture?

I would say it's small, but perfectly formed. I've studied at three different universities and this one has, by far, the best community feel to it. It's small enough so you can become friends with students across all disciplines. The professors care about all students here, not just those that are the highest academic achievers.

What needs improving?

The status of agriculture in general. I believe the agriculture industry in Atlantic Canada needs to emerge from the 'culture of defeat' and realize its true status as the foundation of all other industries. The Faculty of Agriculture can be at the forefront of promoting this change.

If a graduate from 1950 arrived on campus today, for the first time since graduation, what do you think they would notice as the most significant change?

Aside from the buildings and the infrastructure, the biggest change is in the demographics of the student body. In 1950 almost all of the students would come from a farming background, and now the majority come from different backgrounds, and from all over the world.

If you had a vision for the Faculty of Agriculture and how it would look 20 years from now, what would it look like and why?

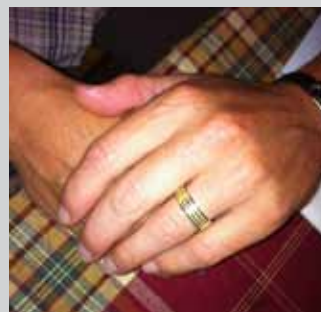
I would like to see the Agricultural Campus at the forefront of

appropriately integrating academic research and technology with the actual practice of farming. This will be possible so long as the faculty here continue to be engaged with industry at a cultural level.

We are a few months into the merger with Dalhousie University. How do you feel about it? Have you seen a lot of change on campus?

The only physical change that I've seen is the signage on campus. I am a little sad that the NSAC name hasn't remained. However every single person that I have met from Dalhousie's Halifax campuses have a great attitude, are very easy to work with and hold the Agricultural Campus in high regard. This bodes well for the future.

The first Barley engagement ring!



Congratulations to Suzie Blatt (Class of '92) and Doug Vaughan who were engaged on August 18 in Wolfville, NS, using a Faculty of Agriculture gold ring as their engagement ring, the first time that the ring has been used for this purpose.

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