



AGRICOLA NEWS

For the Alumni and Friends of Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Volume 32, Number 2, Winter 2008



A Family Legacy



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A Family Legacy

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Christmas Tree Research _____ 14

Mason MacDonald's research lab gets lots of second glances from students and staff who walk by. With dozens of Balsam fir cuttings on white paper on lab benches, the room has a Christmas feel to it.



Young Alumnus Achievement Award _____ 24

The 2007 Young Alumnus Achievement Award was presented to Trevor Dillman — Class of '00.



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The Honourable Dr. Roger S. Bacon Scholarship, Gifts of Securities, A New Way to Make Donations to NSAC, the John Reginald (Reg) Moore Bursaries and the first Presentation of the \$2,500 P. Max Kuhn Scholarship

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The Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame was established by the Atlantic Livestock Council in 1968 as a means of honouring individuals in Atlantic Canada for their contribution to the development of the livestock industry in the region.

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Front cover:

Six years after NSAC opened, Walter Oulton graduated. Little did he know, he had started a family legacy.

A Message from the Editor



What does family mean to you?

As the year 2008 begins to unfold and my husband and I prepare to welcome a new addition to our family, the air is

filled with excitement and expectancy at the changes this will bring to our lives. However, along with these changes comes an overwhelming sense of hope, joy and wonder at how this little one will fill our lives.

Family is such a special word. It conjures up many different images, feelings and memories, each as unique and individual as the people you ask, "What does family mean to you?"

At NSAC, family means a strong sense of community amongst staff and faculty. People feel connected to each other. Many staff members are alumni themselves who have met their future spouses here on campus. Students feel a sense of comradeship with their professors who know them by name. NSAC is truly a family affair and thus the theme of this first edition of 2008.

Many alumni have encouraged their children to attend their alma mater resulting in multiple generations of families attending our wonderful university. We decided to explore this issue further as you will see in our cover article entitled "A Family Legacy."

Our newly elected Alumni Board of Directors (see page 23) recently approved the concept of re-targeting the Association's scholarships to focus on alumni members and their families. Please

stay connected to the NSAC website and your Alumni E-News for more information on these scholarships as they are developed.

There have also been some changes to the NSAC family over the past few months. As you may be aware, Dr. Philip Hicks tendered his resignation effective October 8th, 2007

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People feel connected to each other. Many staff members are alumni themselves who have met their future spouses here on campus. Students feel a sense of comradeship with their professors who know them by name.

and the university is currently being led by two co-presidents, Dr. Bernie MacDonald, VP Administration and Dr. Leslie MacLaren, VP Academic, until such time as a new president is appointed. Along with a new president comes the possibility of a change in governance for NSAC. Be sure to read our co-

president's message in this issue to keep yourself abreast of the issues. The proposed legislation can be viewed at the following website http://www.gov.ns.ca/legislature/legc/bills/60th_2nd/1st_read/b107.htm

Several of our alumni were honoured during Homecoming Weekend this past October (see page 22). Our alumni have distinguished themselves through outstanding service to their alma mater, their communities, the Province of Nova Scotia and beyond. Many have achieved great distinction and success in their professional endeavours and have made significant contributions to progress in their field of work. Please consider nominating a deserving individual. Details on how you can do this can be found on page 25. Please note, we will be hosting a full summer reunion program July 24th to coincide with Open House activities and the annual

Agri-Golf Classic. Please consider completing our five second poll that appeared recently in the December issue of the Alumni E-news.

And so, as 2008 presses on, I hope you have many opportunities this year to hold those you consider family close to you. And if you are in the area, drop by and visit with your NSAC family. You are always welcomed home.

Stephanie Rogers

e-News Polls

Want to have your voice heard?
Log-on to nsac.ca/alumni/e-news/
and check out e-NEWS each month
for polls focused around you.

AGRICOLA NEWS

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A Message from NSAC's Co-Presidents

As interim co-presidents of Nova Scotia Agricultural College, we are very pleased to provide an update on the activities and developments taking place at your alma mater— it is certainly an exciting time.

As you may be aware, Dr. Philip Hicks tendered his resignation effective October 8th, 2007 and has accepted an offer from the United Arab Emirates' High Colleges of Technology, to head up the Dubai Men's College. Currently, we are leading NSAC as co-presidents until a new president can be recruited. Although we are enjoying the opportunities this presents us, we both look forward to the day a new president arrives!

The governance structure of NSAC has been a topic of ongoing discussion for almost two decades. NSAC and the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture have been working diligently to affect a change in governance that will make NSAC more like other post secondary institutions and set the stage for continued growth and development. Several options were considered and recently a governance model that establishes NSAC as a distinct legal government entity was chosen. Like most post-secondary institutions in Canada, NSAC will operate under a bicameral model governed by a Board of Governors and an Academic Senate. The model ensures that NSAC will be able to carry out its research and educational mandate more effectively in years to come and that NSAC employees maintain their same pay and benefits. The minister of agriculture, the Honourable Brooke Taylor, introduced the legislation directing the governance change on December 12th in the 2007 fall legislative session.

This past year, all six of NSAC's agricultural science majors in the Bachelor of Science in



Recently a governance model that establishes NSAC as a distinct legal government entity was chosen. The legislation directing the governance change was introduced on December 12th in the 2007 fall legislative session.

Agriculture program received accreditation from the Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC). This process involves evaluation by a team of professional agrologists and scientists of a detailed report on the academic structure and content of the program and the progress of graduates, as well as a two-day site visit by the accreditation team.

We had another successful year in research. In May, the grand opening of the Atlantic Poultry Research Centre was held. The Centre provides research capabilities in all phases of poultry production from hatching to value-added product processing. Also, the Government of Canada announced their investment of \$950,000 towards the Atlantic BioVenture Centre Microfactory project. An additional \$711,000 was awarded to the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada at NSAC to better identify research needs and to more effectively communicate results back to the sector.

The first group of Chinese students from the academic partnership link of NSAC with the Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University graduated from NSAC with their

B.Sc (Agr) at spring convocation. This link facilitates academic and research exchange and has given both Chinese and Canadian students the opportunity to build valuable international experience. NSAC currently has one student in China.

Fourteen faculty representatives from Ethiopia, Cambodia, Ghana and The Gambia were at NSAC for customized training, cooperative course development and meetings this spring. The purpose was to facilitate future linkages from four international development projects developed and managed by NSAC, and the visits were funded in part by the Canadian

International Development Agency. The local agricultural industry was very supportive, sharing their knowledge and expertise. Two NSAC Canadian students went to Cambodia to assist with project activities.

There are many more things that could be mentioned and we encourage people to visit our website nsac.ca or drop by the campus. We look forward to seeing you in the future.

Sincerely,

Leslie MacLaren, Ph.D., P.Ag.
Vice President Academic

Bernie MacDonald, Ed.D.
Vice President Administration

Around & About..

Mike and Brian Carruthers, Class of 1998 and 2002

Carruthers Farm Ltd.

Mike and Brian Carruthers, new generation farmers from Hamilton, P.E.I., respect the environment and work hard to produce dairy products that are safe, wholesome and healthy. Mike and Brian took over the family farm, Carruthers Farm Ltd., two years ago from their father, James. The farm had been in the family for generations and has steadily grown in size over the years. The Carruthers family knows and understands that agricultural practices, like most human activities, can have a significant impact on the environment. They use the Enhanced Environmental Farm Plan program as a guide to implementing environmentally responsible agriculture.

- Under a nutrient management plan, manure from the farm is used as a natural fertilizer source for their crops. This optimizes crop yield while protecting soil and water quality.
- A petroleum storage has been built that contains and controls fuel spillage.

- A pond has been created on the farm property that provides habitat for nesting ducks, amphibians, mammals and insects.



Peter Clarke, Class of 1966

Receives the Order of Nova Scotia

The Order of Nova Scotia is the highest honour of the Province of Nova Scotia. Established in 2001, it encourages excellence by recognizing Nova Scotians for their outstanding contributions and/or achievements. Members of the Order of Nova Scotia have distinguished themselves in many fields of endeavour and have brought honour and prestige to themselves and to Nova Scotia.



Peter Clarke resides on a fourth-generation, 750-acre family farm in Woodville, N.S. and 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 and has received numerous awards for this work. He is Chairman of the Board of Directors of ACA Co-operative, a company that under his leadership has achieved consolidated sales in excess of \$100 million. It is also the fourth-largest co-operative in Nova Scotia and the second-largest non-government employer in the Annapolis Valley, employing almost 675 people. His contributions to the agriculture and agri-food industry have left a valuable mark of excellence and outstanding achievement in our province. He is also active in his community, serving as a volunteer firefighter for over 19 years, a Rotarian in the Rotary Club of Kentville for over 15 years and he sits on international, national and provincial boards and committees, including the USA United Egg Producers, the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency, Nova Scotia Egg Producers and the National Pullet Growers Association.

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Class of 2007 Life Executive



Jeff Morton, President NSAC Alumni Association and Environmental Horticulture Instructor, is shown with the Valedictorian and Life Executive selected for the Class of 2007. David Brennan, Johnville, N.B., a graduate of the B.Sc.(Agr) program, Agricultural Business option,

served as the Valedictorian; Rebecca Daniels, Bridgetown, N.S., an Honours graduate from the B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science program, was elected Life President; and Holly McLean, Newport, N.S., a graduate from the B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science program, was elected Life Secretary.

Dr. Nancy Pitts, Class of 1978

Receives NSAC Teaching Award



For her commitment to her colleagues and her students and for her passion for teaching, Dr. Nancy Pitts is the 2007 recipient of the NSAC Teaching Award. Not only does Dr. Pitts have a Ph.D. in Food Chemistry, a subject she obviously brings to life as a teacher, but she also has a B.Ed. and is an excellent student, as she works toward completing her Masters of Adult Education.

The teaching activities of Dr. Pitts include teaching technical, undergraduate and graduate courses, designing curriculum, serving as a mentor to other instructors, planning and offering customized training to international colleges, participating and/or presenting in numerous instructional development workshops and conferences, publishing papers about teaching and innovating new teaching methods such as Chemistry of the Week (COW).

Her students, the real arbiters of teaching excellence, said she made them think for themselves and they describe her classes as interesting and interactive. They appreciate that she knows their names, even in large classes, and demonstrates genuine caring.

Her philosophy of teaching and learning includes the sentences "I see my task as helping my students gain a degree of scientific literacy that will allow them to continue learning science throughout their lives. I hope my interaction with students is balanced and appropriate through compassion."



Sarah Turner, Class of 1998

Alberta Veterinary Surveillance Network

Following six and a half years of holding the position as Manager of Alberta Quality Pork, co-ordinating the on-farm food safety (COA) and on-farm animal welfare (ACA) programs, I resigned to join

Alberta Agriculture and Food (AF) in October 2006. The Food Safety Division of AF whom I have worked for the past year is developing the Alberta Veterinary Surveillance Network (AVSN) of which I have been hired to coordinate. AVSN is being developed by a very talented and forward thinking group of veterinarians (spe-

Continued on page 29

Andrea Munroe, Class of 2006

Receives Internationalization Award

The recipient of NSAC's Award for Internationalization for the year 2007 is Andrea Munroe, an alumnus and staff member of the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada.

Ms. Munroe became involved in international activities at NSAC from her arrival as a student in 2000. As a member of Students for a Free Tibet she was active in fundraising for the Tibetan Children's Village and early on learned the importance of raising awareness of international initiatives through information

sessions for students. Ms. Munroe became a steadfast participant in the International Students' Association (ISA). Through her work with the ISA in organizing student activities such as International Night, events for International Development week and social outings to familiarize international students with the Nova Scotia culture and environment, she became very interested in international issues. This led to involvement in a tri-lateral exchange with Canada World Youth. The first three months included living and working with East African participants in Canada, followed by two month stays in Kenya and Tanzania.

Continued on page 29



Jenny Gilmore, Class of 1989

Sun Rae Framing & Artwork



"I want to live my dream." A common saying among many and one that Jenny Gilmore has made reality with her business Sun Rae Framing & Artwork. Jenny, a local artist, decided in 2006 to begin a framing business, in addition to her artwork. For the first year she ran the business from her home in North River, working out of her studio. With growing

demand it became obvious the business had to move to a central location in Truro at 29 Inglis Place. Sun Rae is able to frame any type of medium from oil, acrylic and watercolor paintings, needle work, medals and certificates and diplomas. Jenny's goal is to help customers find the right framing application for their treasured items. You can visit her website at www.sunrae.ca

Billy MacLellan, Class of 1994

Shore Lane Farms Demonstrate Commitment to the Environment



If you get a chance to tour Shore Lane Farms in Indian River you will see the commitment Ken, Clair and Billy MacLellan have for producing food that is safe, wholesome and produced in an environmentally sustainable manner. Shore Lane Farms is a modern beef and potato operation that is a striking example of the efforts Island farmers are making toward maintaining the environment. The Enhanced Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) program provides PEI farmers with a guide to implementing environmentally sustainable agriculture. The MacLellans were one of the first farms to implement the original Environmental Farm Plan. They have since revised and updated their EFP with an Enhanced EFP.

"We understand that anything we do can

have an impact on the environment and it's our goal to do our best to minimize this impact," says Ken MacLellan. Shore Lane Farms has implemented a number of environmental approaches that lessen the farm's impact on the environment:

- All fields on the farm are assessed for potential soil erosion and appropriate soil conservation measures are employed
- A Nutrient Management Plan is in place that aims to optimize crop yield and quality, minimize fertilizer input costs and protect soil and water.
- Manure from the beef operation is used as a natural fertilizer source for the potato crops.

Gerard Richard, Class of 1991

Red Country Farms



Red Country Farms in St. Nicholas, P.E.I. is a beautiful farm that has been passed down for generations. Currently, the man in charge is Gerard Richard and he oversees quite an operation. Gerry raises beef animals from birth to market and grows much of the feed needed for his herd. Gerry has fond memories of working with his father, Alphonse, when he was a boy and now enjoys having his own son, Kyle, with him on the farm. Gerry is a hard-working farmer who, in addition to producing high quality beef, volunteers much of his time on a variety of agriculture committees. A strong supporter of the Enhanced

Dave Weatherhead, Class of 1987

Lumberjack

NSAC Recruitment recently participated in the career trade show at the Future Farmers of America annual conference in Indianapolis.

While there, a Nova Scotia kitchen party was held with a group of agriculture high school teachers, chapter leaders and prospective students. An added bonus of participating in the Future Farmers of America conference was the chance to meet up with alumnus David Weatherhead. Dave was a graduate of the Agricultural Mechanization Technician program in 1987. A bull of the woods in his graduating year, David has kept up his woodsmen background from NSAC continuing to work with Stihl with their lumberjack shows. Dave lives in Wisconsin and, in addition to his forestry work, has taken up chainsaw carvings as a side line business. Dave is shown above at the FFA Conference where he acted as an announcer for the Stihl Lumberjack Show.



Environmental Farm Plan program, Gerry has sat on the EFP Steering Committee as the P.E.I. Cattlemen's Association representative for a number of years. He puts his support of the program into practice by implementing the following sustainable practices:

- The beef animals are housed on a covered feedlot with concrete flooring. This significantly reduces the potential for nutrient leaching from manure into the surrounding soil.
- Cattle are fenced away from a spring that feeds a stream on the farm.

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Nathan & Wendy Burns, Class of 1999 & 1997 Pat Jarvis, Class of 1980

Environmental Sustainability Practiced on Burns Poultry Farm



Nathan and Wendy are conscientious farmers who participate in food safety, animal welfare and environmental programs.

Nathan and Wendy Burns, from Freetown, P.E.I., are farm business people who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to producing high quality food in an environmentally sustainable manner. The young couple met while each was attending Nova Scotia Agricultural College. In 2001, they purchased a poultry farm owned by Nathan's family. They are the 7th generation of Burns to operate Burns Poultry Farm. On P.E.I., raising a family and farming go hand-in-hand. The Burns have four children, Mallory, Kendall, Mitchell and Shelby.

The Burns family have focussed on poultry production since the 1940s. The tradition continues today with Burns Poultry Farm specializing in egg production. Nathan and Wendy are conscientious farmers who participate in food safety, animal welfare and environmental programs.

Burns Poultry Farm completed the original Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) and recently revised their original EFP with the new Enhanced Environmental Farm Plan. The farm has implemented a number of farming techniques that lessen the farm's impact on the environment:

- Manure from the farm is stored in an up-to-date concrete storage.
- The majority of manure from the farm is used to grow milling wheat, the remainder is sold to local farmers as a natural nutrient source for their crops.
- The Burns farm fields adjacent to the Dunk River. Soil erosion is minimized with the use of grassed waterways and terraces.
- Buffer zones are in place adjacent to all watercourses to prevent run-off entry into the watercourse and filter out most of the nutrients and sediment.
- Fuel is stored in an approved petroleum storage.

Digby Artist Following His Own Beat



Patrick Jarvis, a woodcarver for 36 years, began carving traditional African drums in Weymouth Falls, N.S., about three years ago including Djembe, bougarabou, ashiko, djundjun and dondo. He is currently developing a line of drums for persons with disabilities. Visit his website at: www.ancienthermitdrums.com

NSAC Wins Award for Wool Quality



Marg Zillig (R) of the Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers presents the annual Award of Excellence in Wool Clip to shearer Valdis Peterson (L) and NSAC Sheep Unit Manager Gillian Fraser (M).

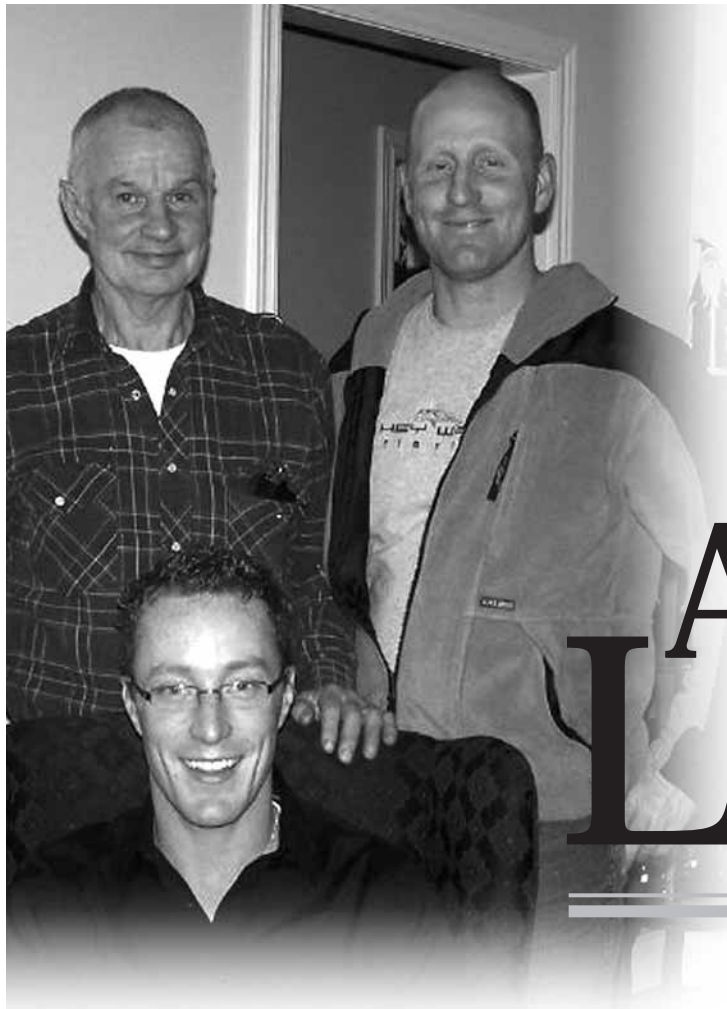
The 27th Annual Atlantic Sheep Sale was held September 1st at the Agridome in Bible Hill. This sale is the premier venue for dissemination of quality sheep genetics in Eastern Canada.

This annual national award recognizes high quality in shearing and wool management

Preceding the sale, shearer and NSAC alumnus, Valdis Peterson—Class of '81—and the Nova Scotia Agricultural College Sheep Unit were recognized with a Certificate of Merit for Excellence in Wool Clip for their

2006 wool consignment to the Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers (CCWG). This annual national award recognizes high quality in shearing and wool management and was presented by CCWG Atlantic Director Marg Zillig—Class of '82. This award demonstrates a commitment to produce a quality product and requires diligence in maintaining animals with a high quality of care, correct shearing technique and fastidious fleece handling and packaging.

It is a reflection of the commitment to quality by the entire Ruminant Animal Centre staff as well as the shearer. Congratulations to the team!



The Oulton family history at NSAC and the success of their company.

A Family Legacy

Many of you reading this have a long history with NSAC. However, few, if any, have a history that spans as much time, and includes as many family members, as the Oultons.

The Oulton name first appeared on the NSAC Convocation list in 1911, just six years after the university opened. Unaware of the legacy he was starting, Walter Oulton enrolled at Nova Scotia Agricultural College and studied agriculture during his two year education. In total, 15 people -12 by blood and three through marriage- in the Oulton family have graduated from NSAC. With four young children in the family, there is also little doubt that the tradition will continue.

"My children are absolutely encouraged to pursue agriculture by way of NSAC," says Michael Oulton ('63), the third family member to graduate.

Despite attending the same university, not all family members have studied the same thing.

"Some took farm programs and some took degrees in order to pursue further agricultural studies. When my grandfather attend-

ed between 1909 and 1911 though, the course was strictly agriculture," Michael says.

Naturally, each family member's different background means that the Oulton name reaches into many areas of agriculture. For example, Michael, his wife Dianne and two of their sons, Victor ('88) and

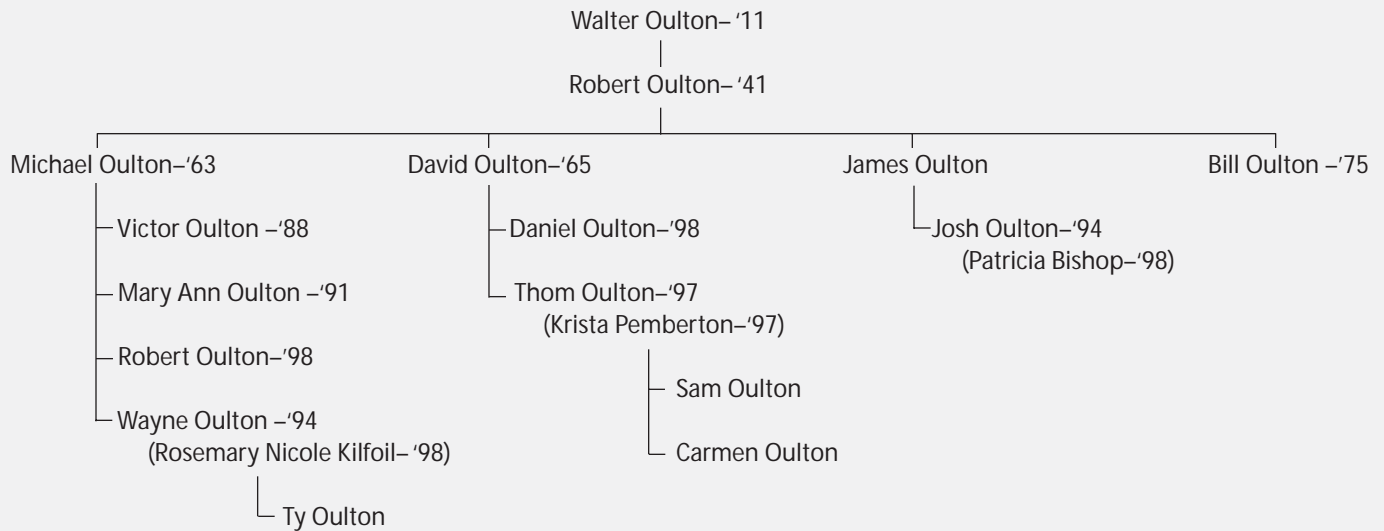
Wayne ('94), are actively involved in farm operation. Michael and Dianne's other son, Robert ('98), now lives in England and works as a vet-

erinary doctor. And, after many years of working in the agricultural industry, Mary Ann ('91), Michael's and Dianne's daughter, has moved on to teaching in Ottawa. No matter what they are doing now though, they are all proud to say they attended NSAC. However, without their passion for farm life, each Oulton graduate may have made quite a different university choice.

"There was always a lot to do so you were never bored," says Victor about growing up on a farm. His brother echoes this feeling when

In total, 15 people—12 by blood and three through marriage—in the Oulton family have graduated from NSAC.

Oulton



Mary Ann: Graduated on her grandfather's 50th anniversary and her great grandfather's 80th anniversary.

Robert: Graduated on his father's 35th anniversary and his brother's 10th anniversary.

Victor: Graduated on his father's 25th anniversary

he says, "I love every aspect of growing up on a farm. I love animals and was able to start my own enterprise at an early age."

Over the years, the Oulton family has not only been part of the agriculture industry in Nova Scotia, they have excelled in it. This is especially true for Michael, Dianne and their boys.

The husband and wife team purchased their first farm in 1963; a "small" 97 acres, as they call it. Two years later the two bought their current home from Michael's grandfather. Instead of moving Walter Oulton out, however, the three went into business together and created W.G. Oulton & Sons Ltd., a company that still exists today.

From their small beginning, Michael and Dianne have gone on to own five more farms and have added two of their sons to the partnership. Of Victor and Wayne joining the company Michael says, "They brought new energy and ideas to the farm operation to help make it what it is today."

Originally, the farm consisted of some pigs, steers, and one horse. Now, on 1,600 acres of land, the 1963 graduate of NSAC, his wife, and

two of their children raise Hereford cattle, sheep, deer, free-range chicken, turkey, ducks, and geese, horses, and even exotic birds and wild boar. All of the exotic and free range production done on the farm is marketed under the name Martock Glen Farm, although it now covers much more than just the exotic and free range stocks. As if running such a diverse farm wasn't keeping them busy enough, W.G. Oulton & Sons and Martock Glen Farm also own and operate a slaughterhouse, an orchard, and a woodlot. Of course,

marketing their products themselves and owning so much property means there is little time to tend to all of the necessities of a farm. As a result, the company now employs between 12 and 15 people to assist with the workload.

From their small beginning, Michael and Dianne have gone on to own five more farms and have added two of their sons to the partnership.



Michael, Dianne, Victor and Wayne aren't the only Oultons that have enjoyed success in the agricultural market. David Oulton ('65) currently farms cattle and poultry in the Windsor area and Bill Oulton ('75) owns and operates a hoof trimming business that has him traveling throughout the Maritimes. David's sons, just like Michael's, are also actively involved in the farming industry. Thom ('97) farms poultry and operates a residential develop-

ment business in Kentville. Daniel ('98) practices law in Wolfville while also raising poultry. James' son (did not attend), Josh ('96), just recently purchased an organic farm in King's County. In addition, Josh farms with Noggins Corner Farms. And Wayne's wife, Rosemary Nicole Kilfoil ('98), rounds out the agriculture job field by working at Royal Bank as an agricultural loans officer.

The 103 year history of NSAC has yielded a 99 year history for the Oultons. So far, it spans four generations and will likely continue. Michael says, "It has turned out to be a great family tradition; one that we are very proud of."

Over the years, the Oulton family has not only been part of the agriculture industry in Nova Scotia, they have excelled in it.



Thirty-one Years and Counting

The history of the van Dyks at NSAC.

Van Dyk Blueberry Enterprises, van Dyk Excavation & Trucking, van Dyk Real Estate and van Dyk General Trucking. Whether you have heard of these companies or not, as a grad of NSAC, you have likely heard the name before. The van Dyk family currently boasts seven NSAC graduates over the past 31 years, and three more are soon to be added.

The first van Dyk to attend NSAC was Gerry ('77). Now a partner in Ons Genoegen Farms and van Dyk Excavation and Trucking, Gerry graduated just a year before his sister, Jeannie ('78), and the same year as her future husband, John McLellan ('77). Jeannie van Dyk has since gone on to partner in van Dyk Blueberry Enterprises and serve as the chair of Farmer's Dairy Board. She also teaches the swine production portion of the animal agriculture course here at NSAC and, with her husband, partners in Lellavan Farms.

"NSAC has a strong research program and there were many opportunities for hands-on learning," says Jeannie of her time at the university. "I had an idea of what I wanted to do when I entered the university, but I quickly realized that it wasn't going to work out. However, I discovered that there were many other great opportunities in animal sciences. I finished my degree and have had a great career ever since."

Just one year after Jeannie graduated, her brother, Anthony ('79), graduated with a diploma in animal science. He also graduated with the knowledge base to own and operate van Dyk Real Estate and van Dyk Excavation & Trucking.

Not to be left out, Peter graduated as part of the Class of '84. After working at NSAC's swine unit for four years, he now partners with



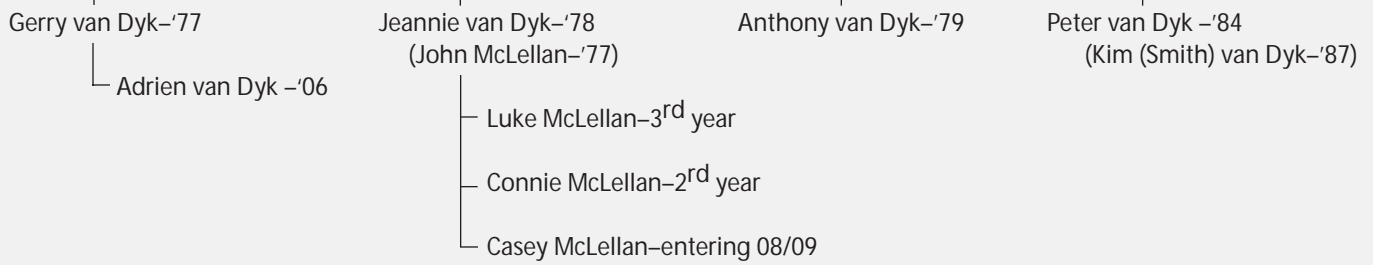
*Casey, John, Luke,
Connie Jeannie*

Gerry in Ons Genoegen Farms and with Jeannie in van Dyk Blueberry Enterprises.

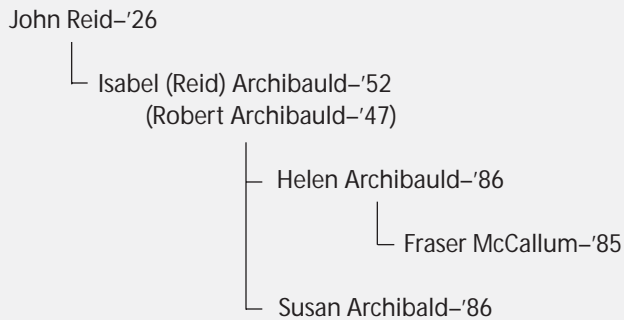
Although not all of the van Dyks work with livestock everyday, they are all still connected to agriculture in some way. Adrien ('06), Gerry's son, works as an assistant superintendent with Penn Hills Golf Course and Kim (Smith) van Dyk ('87), Peter's wife, is a junior high math and science teacher.

Regardless, all of the family members are proud graduates and happy to have the van Dyk legacy continue at least until 2010 when the youngest in the family, Casey, graduates.

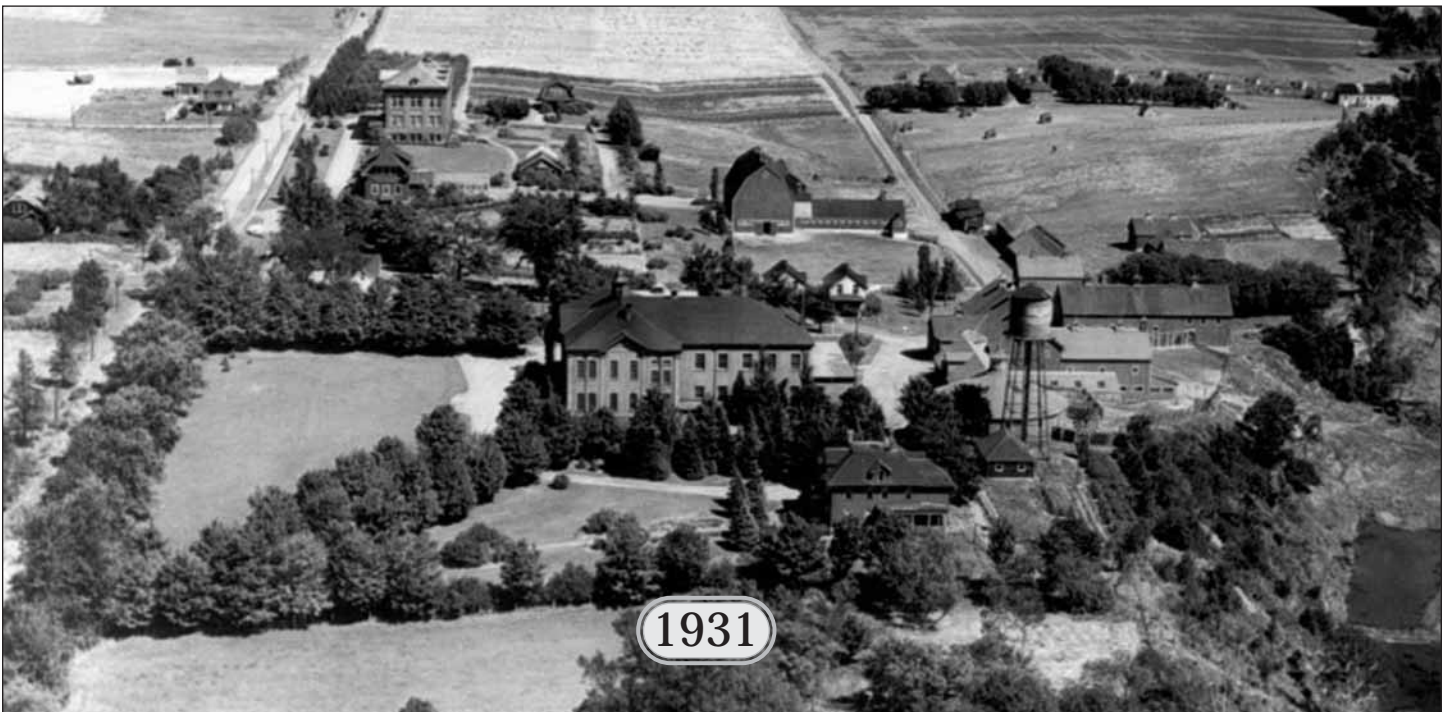
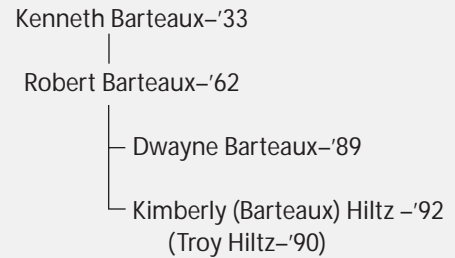
van Dyk



Archibald



Barteaux



NSAC's International Business Program Partnership with Netherland university

Starting this fall, NSAC will be accepting a select group of students to study in the Bachelor of Administration (Honours) in International Food Business, an offering of Dronten University of Applied Science in The Netherlands. The hope is that the program will soon be approved as a degree at NSAC as well, allowing students to obtain two bachelor degrees by the end of their four years of study.

The program takes a European approach to education and, as such, has some interesting components that will create a unique experience for students. The program begins with a two-week study trip to Iceland where NSAC students will be joined by their international counterparts from The Netherlands. This will help build relationships among a group of geographically divided students. Together, they will roll up their sleeves to jump into a real-life analysis of commercial market opportunities in Europe and North America for new Icelandic food products. This will give students an immediate sense of their lives after graduation.

The agriculture and food industry is one of the most important in Canada, employing close to 15 per cent of the workforce. As the fifth largest exporter of agricultural and food products in the world, the international marketplace is key to Canada's continued success. The program in international food business will help meet market demand for food business specialists who can work internationally. Not only will graduates be highly attractive to international food businesses at all points along the value-chain, but they will have the skills to become entrepreneurs in their own food business ventures.

The method of teaching this program is a new approach for NSAC and its students. The Bachelor of Administration (Honours) in International Food Business uses an outcomes-based learning model used by many European universities. In order to complete a series of real business tasks, students are provided with the necessary theories, concepts, skills and practices; they will be required to learn the theories and concepts independently. The typical North American model has the theories, concepts and practices shared in a classroom setting and the assignments are completed on the students' own time. While mentors facilitate and guide the process, student success comes through a balance of self-directed learning plans and working together in study teams. Professor John Stackhouse of NSAC compares the learning style to the case study methods frequently identified with business and medical schools. He states, "Since the problems faced by food business companies are not one-dimensional, the solutions to these problems require multi-disciplinary approaches."

NSAC is partnering with Dronten University of Applied Science in The Netherlands to offer part of Dronten's Bachelor of Administration (Honours) in International Food Business. Students from North America will study at NSAC for the first year, while European students are in Dronten. In year two, both groups will study together in The Netherlands and year three will be in Canada



at NSAC. Students can choose to study either at Dronten or at NSAC in their fourth and final year of study. In addition to the study opportunities with international students, program participants will complete two three-month work placements, one in North America and one in Europe.

According to Dr. Steven Russell, Head of the Department of Business and Social Sciences at NSAC and champion of this new opportunity, "The Dutch university is a perfect partner for such a unique and timely program."

Dronten University is located in the small town of Dronten in Flevoland, Netherlands, and is similar in size to NSAC. Like NSAC, Dronten is also actively involved in international education and projects. It has been offering a one-year international program for the past 10 years. The university specializes in agriculture and food chain management with an entrepreneurial underpinning.

For further information on this program, please contact:

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P.Ag. Co-ordinator
Canadian-Dutch International Food Business Program
Department of Business and Social Sciences
Nova Scotia Agricultural College
P.O. Box 550
Truro, N.S., Canada
B2N 5E3

E-mail: hgrant@nsac.ca

Tel: 902-893-7553 Fax: 902-897-0038

nsac.ca/internationalbusiness/

www.cah.nl/

NSAC Alumni Family Bursaries

In celebration of the fact that many students at NSAC are family members of NSAC alumni, the Alumni Association has decided to offer a new Family Bursary for the first time in 2008.

The value of the award will be \$1,000 for close family members, such as sons and daughters of alumni, and \$500 for more distantly related family members. The awards will be based on an application form available from the Awards Office at NSAC where the student will identify the family relationship and other factors such as grades and financial need. Selection will be made by NSAC's Scholarship Committee to the limit of the funds available. Both entering and continuing students are eligible for these awards. Winners of the bursaries will be announced at the awards banquet in October.

The Alumni Association Board has authorized \$4,000 annually to go toward the bursary from their scholarship funds. To get the

The Alumni Association Board has authorized \$4,000 annually to go toward the bursary from their scholarship funds.

award started, the NSAC Foundation will contribute a further \$6,000 annually from the Second Century Endowment Fund. This will be done for a three year period in order to generate a total of \$10,000 annually. Once NSAC knows how many people are eligible and

applying for the bursary, it is hoped that a significant fund raising effort can be mounted so that the Association fund will be able to take over and fully fund this initiative. The goal will then be to increase the value and number of awards.

Alumni have a long tradition of sending family members to NSAC. This new bursary recognizes this fact and provides financial support so that students will receive a great education and will be given a better chance to embrace their world.

Take it from TD Meloche Monnex

IDENTITY THEFT – BE AWARE!

TD Meloche Monnex is proud to present these safety tips to help you avoid falling victim to identity theft - the fastest growing type of fraud in the marketplace and the number one consumer complaint in North America.



What is Identity Theft?

Identity theft refers to use of your name and personal information by someone else for the purpose of committing fraud or theft. It takes different forms including:

- Financial fraud (bank fraud, credit card, taxes, debit card, mail fraud)
- Criminal activities (e.g. entering the country, organized crimes, drug trafficking, gaining access to restricted areas, etc)

Why should you be concerned about ID Theft?

Any personal identification (drivers license, credit card, SIN card) can be used to open credit card and bank accounts, redirect mail, rent vehicles, establish cellular phone accounts, and even secure employment. If someone has used ("stolen") your identity, you could be left

with bills, charges, bad cheques, and possibly problems with the law if your imposter has committed crimes.

What should I do if I think ID Theft has happened to me?

- Take immediate action. Contact other companies or agencies that may have accounts in your name.
- Contact the fraud departments of each of the two major credit bureaus and request a "Fraud Alert" be placed on your file:
 - Equifax 1 800 465 7166
 - TransUnion 1 877 525 3823

Once notified, these two agencies can provide you with copies of your credit reports. Certain fees may apply.



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New Atlantic Canada Christmas Tree Research Initiative to Benefit the Christmas Tree Industry

Mason MacDonald's research lab gets lots of second glances from students and staff who walk by. With dozens of Balsam fir cuttings on white paper on lab benches, the room has a Christmas feel to it.

The Balsam fir tree is a lush, full and fragrant tree which makes it a popular choice for a Christmas tree in Atlantic Canada, and a mainstay of Nova Scotia's \$30-million-a-year Christmas tree industry. According to Department of Natural Resources Christmas tree specialist Ross Pentz, tree sales have been declining while artificial tree sales have been increasing. "One of the main reasons cited why customers are switching to artificial trees is because of needle loss," said Pentz. MacDonald hopes to turn that around with a doctoral research project he is conducting with the Atlantic Canada Christmas Tree Research Initiative to understand why Christmas trees lose their needles.

The research team is studying the way the trees age (senescence) and the way they shed (abscission) in the hopes of creating a SMART Christmas tree that holds on to its needles.

The Atlantic Canada Christmas Tree Research Initiative, launched in 2005 under the leadership of Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) professor Dr. Raj Lada, is a joint effort by producers, scientists, exporters and extension specialists from across Atlantic Canada with a goal of finding ways to help the Christmas tree industry.

This initiative is funded by the Christmas Tree Council of Nova Scotia, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing Canadian Agriculture and

Agri-Food (ACAAF) program, which is delivered in Nova Scotia through Agri-Futures Nova Scotia. The Atlantic Canada Christmas Tree Research Initiative is also supported by the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources. Mason says most people just assume that a Christmas tree sheds its needles because it's dry.

"This isn't the case, he says. "Even with daily watering, needle loss can occur. Measuring water potential within the tree confirms that the tree is not experiencing any significant water deficit."

The research team is studying the way the trees age (senescence) and the way they shed (abscission) in the hopes of creating a SMART Christmas tree that holds on to its needles. And SMART in this case is aptly named, standing for "Senescence Modulating and Abscission Regulating Technologies."

The team is studying about 200 Balsam fir clones from a Christmas tree seed orchard in Debert, looking for genetic resistance to needle shedding. Eventually more clones from other provinces will be targeted. Mr. MacDonald is evaluating the needle loss from cuttings



Mason MacDonald in his tree research lab.

on a daily basis. "With this information, I'm trying to see which clone holds needles the longest," he says.

Although the research is only in its initial stage, the team has already identified several clones with exceptional needle retention and are now working on identifying physical characteristics that might promote this holding power.

In addition, research thus far shows that needle loss is a complex issue. "Cold acclimation is required for needle retention, with critical temperatures above zero," says Dr. Lada.

"Temperatures below zero were found to cause severe damage," he says. The research team is also investigating the role of ethylene in needle loss. Ethylene is a plant hormone that causes fruit to ripen and plays a role in the dropping of leaves and a plant's death.

In addition to the lab research, the team is also looking at the effect production methods in the industry have on needle loss.

"Mechanical stress occurs during transit or when moving trees," says Mason. "This may also play a role in needle loss."

MacDonald is registered for his Ph.D program at Laval University but is conducting his research at NSAC under the supervision of Dr. Lada.

As an NSAC alumnus, MacDonald says the decision to remain in Truro was easy.

Mason has strong ties to Truro and is not the only NSAC alumnus in his family. In fact, his mother, Gaye, graduated with her M.Sc. in Animal Science in 2006.

"My mom is a high school science teacher in Brookfield and we both attended NSAC at the same time. I was still working on my B.Sc. when she began her M.Sc.," he says.

MacDonald is the recipient of a prestigious Post Graduate Scholarship (Doctoral) award from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. ©

NSAC's Agricultural and Environmental Research Park

A Hub for Emerging Science & Technology Businesses

by K. Laurie Sandeson, Director, AgriTECH Park

According to the Association of University Research Parks (AURP) economic impact study in the spring of 2007, research parks in the United States and Canada directly employ more than 350,000 people and contribute more than \$31 billion annually to the economies of both countries. This data underscores the scope and importance of work being done currently in research parks across North America. Universities, industry and governments are working together on development initiatives that enable North America to compete in an increasingly global economy.

The AURP data shows that, in Canada, research parks employ about 90,000 people. Beyond the economic role that these parks play, there is also the fact that science, which is commercialized in research parks, has the potential to solve many problems. Innovations, such as, new types of functional health and wellness products, new technologies for energy savings and many other beneficial concepts are first developed in research parks.

AgriTECH Park, established in 1997, is NSAC's commercialization wing and research park. The campus-like setting has facilities for research and development, professional offices and light manufacturing. The park offers flexible leasing arrangements, shared business services and collaborative research opportunities. Perhaps the greatest attraction to new business start-ups is access to the research infrastructure and scientific resources at the Park's

neighboring university. NSAC, ranked one of the most research-intensive universities in Canada, has a number of unique, first-class research centres. The new Atlantic Poultry Research Centre, which opened its doors in the spring of 2007, is anxious to collaborate with industry on projects that will advance the sector. Other research facilities located on the university campus include the Aquaculture research facility and Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada. The Bio-Environmental Engineering and Atlantic BioVenture Centres are both located at AgriTECH Park.

Positioned as Atlantic Canada's 'Bio-Economy Village', AgriTECH Park is providing the fertile environment necessary to grow and develop innovative bio-economy products, services and technologies within the agri-food, marine and environmental sectors. It is appropriate then, that one of NSAC's newest research centres, focused on the creation of new wealth from under-developed and under-utilized Atlantic bio-resources, is headquartered at AgriTECH Park. The Atlantic BioVenture Centre's mandate is to establish, with corporate and government partners, a sequence of profitable technology and innovation-based 'agri-health', 'agri-energy' and 'agri-bioproduct' ventures which utilize and optimize bioresource raw materials to provide innovative natural products meeting modern consumer needs. The Centre is particularly focused on pursuing ventures which add value to the agri-food, seafood, aquaculture and environmental sectors by targeting

Continued on page 29

NSAC Highway Signs



In July 2006, NSAC entered into negotiations with the Town of Truro and the Village of Bible Hill to look into the possibility of signage on the Province's 100 Series Highways leading into Truro and Bible Hill. The signage would serve the dual purpose of promoting the two communities as well as the location of our university within them.

The Town of Truro, the Village of Bible Hill and NSAC made joint application to the Department for Community Identity Signs. The purpose of the joint application was to promote NSAC and show a true spirit of cooperation between the Town and the Village.

After much negotiation, design concepts were approved and three community identity signs were produced and erected in September. The sign pictured here is for northbound traffic on Hwy 102. The other two signs are for eastbound and westbound traffic on Hwy 104. ©



Development Update



Gifts of Securities to NSAC — Better Than Ever

Gifts of securities—that is, gifts of stock, bonds and mutual funds—have become a popular choice for some donors. Now, there's even greater reason to give.

Effective May 2, 2006 the federal government **eliminated the capital gains tax on gifts of securities to charitable organizations and qualified donees.** Donors can now donate listed securities to NSAC, obtain a tax-receipt for the market value of the gift and be completely exempt for any capital gains tax. The tax provision applies whether the securities are donated outright in a given year, or are donated through a bequest in your will.

Previously, donors were required to pay a capital gains tax on the donation of their securities. That tax substantially reduced the benefit of the donation. If you are considering a gift to the uni-

If you are considering a gift to the university and you own appreciated securities, please consider the alternative of making your gift in the form of securities.

versity and you own appreciated securities, please consider the alternative of making your gift in the form of securities. If you are considering selling all or a portion of your investment in securities that has appreciated significantly, you may want to consider donating a portion of the shares to NSAC. You could use the donation tax-receipt to eliminate the capital gains tax that you would otherwise have had to pay on the rest of the securities you plan to sell. Most gifts of securities are made through an electronic bank-to-bank transfer and can be done very quickly. The entire transaction can easily be accomplished over the phone by calling Jim Goit at 902-893-7950

Most gifts of securities are made through an electronic bank-to-bank transfer and can be done very quickly.

or by sending an e-mail message to jgoit@nsac.ca. He will assist you in transferring your securities to the NSAC brokerage account. NSAC will issue a gift-in-kind tax receipt representing the closing price of the shares on the date of transfer. A tax credit will be calculated and claimed in the donor's tax return for the year. A combination of the Federal and Provincial tax credits will result in a total benefit of approximately 50 per cent, based on the donor's net annual taxable income.

The gift of securities is a great way to increase the value of your donation to NSAC. Give it a try.

Please consult your own professional advisor for information tailored to your circumstances and to confirm the applicable tax benefits. ©

New Scholarship established for 2008

The Honourable Dr. Roger S. Bacon Scholarship in Agriculture



Dr. Roger S. Bacon was a dairy farmer and blueberry producer from Cumberland County, N.S. He was also a long standing MLA from this area.

During his political career, he was a well respected and long serving Minister of Agriculture and, for a time, Premier of Nova Scotia.

During his political career, he was a well respected and long serving Minister of Agriculture and, for a time, Premier of Nova Scotia. Dr. Bacon was responsible for a great deal of the expansion of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College during the 1980s. This included helping to initiate the Bachelors of Science in Agriculture degree program and supporting the construction of many buildings on the NSAC campus. 'Roger', as he was known to everyone, was the recipient of an Honourary Doctorate from NSAC/Dalhousie University in 2005.

In keeping with his lifetime interest and service to agriculture, Dr. Bacon has made a \$25,000 donation to establish an endowed fund to support a new scholarship at NSAC. **The Honourable Dr. Roger S. Bacon Scholarship in Agriculture** will be an annual scholarship for a technical, undergraduate or graduate student entering the final year of his/her academic program at NSAC and who has plans to pursue a long-term career in agriculture. The successful applicant of the \$1,000 award will be a resident of Nova Scotia. Academic performance and financial need are also key factors in deciding the award. A one page letter of application,

The legacy of his commitment to agriculture will be felt at NSAC long into the future.

which includes the applicant's career interests as they relate to agriculture and how their NSAC training will help to achieve this need, to be submitted to the Awards Office at NSAC.

Students at NSAC are extremely fortunate to have supporters like Roger Bacon. The legacy of his commitment to agriculture will be felt at NSAC long into the future. ©

First Presentation of \$2,500 P. Max Kuhn Scholarship



A new scholarship recognizing a farm background and a future career in agriculture was presented at NSAC's recent Awards Banquet.

Jaclyn Mosher, Newport, N.S., a 3rd year B.Sc.(Agr.) Agricultural Economics student, is the first recipient of the \$2,500 P. Max Kuhn Scholarship. Shown offering congratulations to Jaclyn are Jim Goit, Executive Director, Development & External Relations, NSAC; and Ross and Mary Osborne, Dartmouth, N.S. Mary is the daughter of P. Max Kuhn, who farmed in Cole Harbour, N.S., and attended NSAC in 1908-09. (P)



A New Way to Make Donations to NSAC

The annual appeal is in the mail and people have been responding well. Just a reminder - there is a new and easy way to make donations to support students and programs at NSAC.

We now have a secure, on-line donation page on NSAC's website. Just go to nsac.ca/donate and follow the instructions. Your donation will be acknowledged immediately and will be followed up with a receipt that can be used for income tax purposes.

Please consider supporting NSAC with your donations. So far this year we are slightly ahead of our five year average but the students of NSAC need your continued support to reach our objectives. (P)



John Reginald (Reg) Moore Bursaries

Reg Moore was born in Economy, N.S. on August 25, 1917; the fifth of six children. He was educated in Economy and Bass River, graduating in 1935. Reg then enrolled in Normal (Teachers) College in Truro. He taught in various locations in Nova Scotia until called up for service in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1940. Reg served as a staff pilot and as a Coastal Command pilot in Canada and the United Kingdom. Returning to Canada in 1945, Reg enrolled in Nova Scotia Agricultural College and graduated in 1947.

NSAC was an important influence on the life and career in agriculture of Reg Moore. Now a legacy provided by his sister will live on and help students for years to come fulfill their dreams.

After graduation, Reg accepted employment with the Canadian Farm Loan Board, now the Farm Credit Corporation, as a Loans officer (now called a Credit Advisor). In October 1947 he married Muriel Reid (1923-2004). They had three children, Gordon, Olga and Michael.

Reg spent his entire post war career at the FCC. First as a Credit Advisor, then as Branch Manager for Nova Scotia. In 1960 he was transferred to Saint John, N.B. as Executive Assistant to the Regional Manager Atlantic. By 1962 Reg was assigned to the Sussex, N.B., office where he completed his career, retiring in 1981. Reg, whose favorite expression was, "The farmer is the back bone of the country," passed away on February 4th, 1984.

Reg's sister, Mary, also born in Economy N.S., died on August 1, 2007 in Truro at the age of 101. As a tribute and memorial to her brother Reg, and in recognition of his life long interest in agriculture, Mary Chapman had a provision in her estate to create a \$40,000 endowment at NSAC to support the John Reginald Moore Bursaries. Two students from Colchester County, N.S., will benefit each year from this thoughtfulness.

NSAC was an important influence on the life and career in agriculture of Reg Moore. Now a legacy provided by his sister will live on and help students for years to come fulfill their dreams. (P)

Something to be Proud of

News from the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC) confirms NSAC's place as the main preparatory school for students leading to veterinary medicine. Half of the Canadian students (20) admitted to AVC this year were from NSAC!

NSAC Alumni - Embracing their World

Our December alumni profile has been posted on the NSAC website. Please visit nsac.ca/alumni/profiles to read all about the activities of Jamie Johnstone, Class of 1998 and 2000.

Organic Seed Tests will Provide Guidance to Maritime Farmers

In 2005, playing a leading role in organic research, the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada (OACC) began a two-year research program to evaluate the Maritime suitability of organic seed.

Operating from its home base on Nova Scotia Agricultural College's campus, OACC started testing organic carrot and broccoli seeds in hopes of providing farmers with information about preferred varieties for the area.

Project Co-ordinator Roxanne Beavers, Class of 2006, explains that "organic farmers are required to use organic seed, when it is available. The question is whether there are organic seeds adapted to this area. Organic seed is produced by following organic practices, just like other organic products. Supply of organic seed is limited and producers may be hesitant to plant them if their preferred variety is not available."

If the preferred variety is not available organically, farmers may be forced to use non-organic seeds, or try organically produced varieties that are less suitable. This puts the farmers at a competitive disadvantage, reduces demand and threatens the viability of the organic farm.

This problem was voiced by farmers at an Atlantic Canadian Organic Regional Network (ACORN) conference in 2004. Eager to make a difference, OACC and NSAC researchers partnered with farmers in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick to test different varieties of organic carrot and broccoli seeds. Carrots were selected for the trial as they are grown by many Maritime growers. For broccoli, there were very few varieties available as organic seed, and most were open-pollinated. Seeds were selected from a variety of large and small seed companies, with a few new unreleased varieties included.

Now, nearing the end of the second crop harvest, those involved are certain that the results will provide guidance to producers who are uncertain about the availability, quality and yield potential of organic seeds.

"The most important aspect of the project is that it will provide organic farmers with a better sense of what works well for the




area," says Beavers. "It will identify a few varieties available as organic seed that are better suited for the Maritimes."

After harvest, availability, yield and quality will be assessed. As part of the quality testing, consumer preference trials were held in September at Farmer's Markets in Dieppe, N.B., and Charlottetown,

P.E.I. Different locations were targeted the previous year when a local test was done in Truro. Participants tasted six varieties of carrot and were asked to rank them. Taste is a motivating factor that influences consumers to choose organic food and these results will be used when determining what varieties will produce crops better suited for Maritimers.

Once the project has been completed, the results will be posted on the OACC website early in the new year and presented at local ACORN conferences and farmer meetings beginning in March

2008. For more information on the Maritime Cultivar Trials, please visit www.oacc.info.

"Organic agriculture is a sector with a big future. This project is just the first step in the right direction, and will provide more information for Maritime growers who want to choose organic seeds," says Beavers. 

Organic agriculture is a sector with a big future. This project is just the first step in the right direction, and will provide more information for Maritime growers who want to choose organic seeds.

Update on the Change in NSAC Governance

Bill No. 107, the Nova Scotia Agricultural College Act, received first reading in the Nova Scotia Legislature on December 12th, 2007. However, the House ended its fall sitting before the Bill could proceed to second reading. The Bill will now be dealt with when the Legislature resumes in the new year. In the meantime, the proposed legislation can be viewed at the following website:

www.gov.ns.ca/legislature/legc/bills/60th_2nd/1st_read/b107.htm

An NSAC Management Committee for the Implementation of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College Act has been set up to facilitate the many implementation aspects of the governance change. The Committee consists of Dr. Leslie MacLaren, VP Academic and Co-President, Dr. Bernie MacDonald, VP Administration and Co-President, Dr. Glenn Stratton, Head of the Department of

Continued on page 23

Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame

2007 Inductees

The Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame was established by the Atlantic Livestock Council in 1968 as a means of honouring individuals in Atlantic Canada for their contribution to the development of the livestock 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 NSAC during the month of October. The 2007 inductees are:



William Hayden
Prince Edward Island

William Hayden's aim in business was to supply the early fresh market with potatoes. He has been very successful in this venture, always open to using new varieties and production techniques such as growing early potatoes under plastic to ensure his markets were well supplied.



Allister Marshall
Nova Scotia, Class of '55

The late Allister Marshall was involved with apple marketing through Scotian Gold Co-operative Ltd. He started at the board level as an associate director, then director and finally chairman in 1986. In that role, he was a key leader in the restructuring of Scotian Gold after a devastating fire destroyed the processing plant. Marshall was tireless in his quest to re-develop the Co-operative and led a small group of dedicated farmers in rebuilding its future.




Albert Neill
New Brunswick

Albert Neill is known for his accomplishments in breeding great Holstein cattle. He and his brother, Ronald, received not one, but two Master Breeder Shields from Holstein Canada. Heavily involved in breed associations, he was president of the New Brunswick Holstein Association, president of the New Brunswick Livestock Council and Breeder Co-op and president of the Fredericton Exhibition and Livestock Show. Albert was also named Stockbreeder of the Year in 1989 by the Maritime Stockbreeders Association.



Rick Woodford
Newfoundland & Labrador

Due to his belief that he could help influence change for agriculture and rural Newfoundland better within the halls of government, the late Rick Woodford offered himself in the riding of Humber Valley and was first elected to the Newfoundland House of Assembly in 1985. During his five terms in government as an opposition member, government member and Minister of the Crown, he was minister of several departments including the Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development, Transportation and Forestry and Agriculture. He made sure that the rural areas and rural economic generators such as forestry and agriculture got their fair share of available resources. 

Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame

The Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame operates as a result of the support given by agricultural organizations, public agencies, corporations and private individuals. Complete citations can be viewed at nsac.ca/halloffame

Autumn

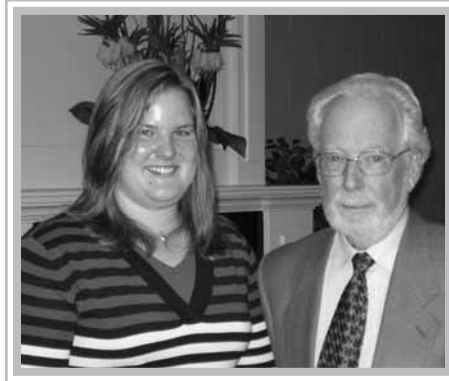


Assembly

NSAC Scholarship Banquet, October 25th, 2007

A highlight of Fall activities at NSAC is the annual Autumn Assembly program. Autumn Assembly provides an occasion both to recognize scholarship students and acknowledge contributors to the university's awards program.

While the overall focus of Autumn Assembly has not changed, the format in which we present this annual event has. The approach this year was to provide a more intimate, casual experience. Rather than the traditional stage ceremony in Alumni Theatre, donors were provided an opportunity to meet and interact with their scholarship recipients during an evening dinner in Jenkins Hall. The following are some highlights of the event.



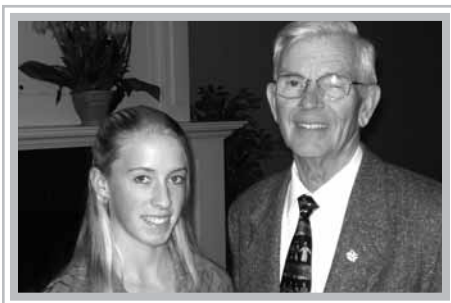
Laura Gow Receives \$1,000 Class of 1950 Bursary

Dr. Donald Young, representing Class of 1950, is shown congratulating Laura Gow, Bridgewater, N.S., a 2nd year Pre Vet student, on receiving the \$1,000 Class of 1950 Bursary. The bursary was presented at NSAC's Scholarship Banquet in late October.



Don Palfrey Memorial Scholarship

Prof. Glen Sampson—Class of '77—Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences, NSAC, is shown congratulating Lin Wu, Fuzhou, China, a 4th year B.Sc.(Agr.) Environmental Sciences student, recipient of the \$1,000 Don Palfrey Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship recognizes an undergraduate student carrying out a senior year research project in the area of pest management, with preference given to students involved in weed science. Contributions to the Don Palfrey Memorial Scholarship fund can be made through the NSAC Foundation office.



E.W. Walsh Memorial Scholarship

Mr. Fred Walsh—Class of '50—son of F. Waldo Walsh, made the presentation of the \$500 F.W. Walsh Memorial Scholarship to Janice Cameron, Shubenacadie, N.S., a 1st year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science.



Prajna Athletic Awards

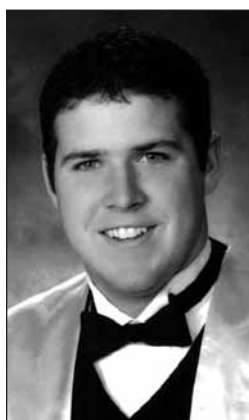
Two Prajna Athletic Bursaries were presented during NSAC's Awards Banquet in late October. Carol Goodwin, member, NSAC Scholarship Committee, is shown congratulating Tracy Marques, Aylesford, N.S., a 2nd year Diploma in Enterprise Management - Companion Animal student, a varsity Woodsmen athlete; and Jonathan Kennedy, Wallace, N.S., a 2nd year B.Sc.(Agr.) student, a varsity Basketball athlete. These awards were established by Dr. Andre Lirette, a former Professor in the Department of Plant & Animal Sciences, to recognize leadership and contribution to athletics and student life.



Sport Leadership Award and Athletic Awards

Judy Smith, Director of Athletics at NSAC, is shown with students receiving athletic awards at the Scholarship Banquet this fall. From left to right—Kyle MacRae, Great Village, N.S., a 3rd year B.Sc.(Agr.) Aquaculture student, a varsity soccer athlete; Benjamin Roy, Stewiacke, NS, a 1st year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student, recipi-

ent of the \$1,000 Sport Leadership Award; Nadine Brooks, Sackville, N.B., a 2nd year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student, a varsity soccer and rugby athlete; and Jessica Mitchell, Truro, N.S., a 4th year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; a varsity basketball athlete.



2007 Valedictorian Joins the Bigger NSAC Family

"If it wasn't for the professors who helped me, I probably wouldn't be where I am today."

Dave Brennan was elected valedictorian for the Class of 2007 and addressed his class during NSAC's 102nd Convocation ceremony, May 4th. As valedictorian, Brennan was excited, yet nervous to address his 143 classmates after he walked across the stage to receive his Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business with a minor in Plant Science.

Highly active in student life while at NSAC, Brennan was on the rugby team for four years as well as a member of the Student Representative Council. "I also worked and managed the campus pub and have been involved with the campus business club," replied Brennan when asked about his school involvement. During the winter 2006 semester, Brennan also participated in the North American Mobility Program spending the semester studying at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia.

Brennan's active involvement and academic standing have not gone unnoticed at

NSAC. In 2006 Brennan was named an NSAC All-Academic Athlete, an honour given to athletes who have demonstrated excellence in academics and athletics, achieving the required average of 75 or above while holding a position on a varsity team. This past fall, Brennan received the Farm Credit Canada Scholarship, an award granted to a Canadian student entering the fourth or final year of the B.Sc.(Agr.) program in the Agricultural Economics or Agricultural Business options. At Convocation, Brennan received a Bronze Distinction Medal, awarded to students who have demonstrated strong character and superior ability in intellectual endeavors and athletic achievement and who exhibit definite qualities of leadership.

When asked about his favorite memory from his time at NSAC, Brennan indicated that it's difficult to single out one event that he will carry with him forever. "To me the people here, both my fellow classmates and the faculty members make NSAC what it is. The faculty here are unreal in that they always have time to talk with you, whether it's for help in course work or just to have a laugh after class."

A native of Johnville, N.B., Brennan came to NSAC with strong family ties after graduating from Carleton North High School. "Both my mother, Carol Brennan—Class of '76—and father, Joe Brennan—Class of '74—took economics at NSAC before going on to the University of Maine to finish their degrees. My uncle, John Brennan—Class of '73—also came to NSAC and then went on to manage NSAC's farm and eventually became an assistant professor in the Business and Social Sciences department for a period of time. On my mother's side, I have two more uncles and two cousins who also attended NSAC," adds Brennan.

Originally, Brennan only intended to stay at NSAC for two years. "At first I planned to take the engineering program but, after talking with a couple of professors, I decided to switch to the business program. If it wasn't for the professors who helped me, I probably wouldn't be where I am today," adds Brennan who is thankful for his decision to stay.

"After graduation I plan to work for a few months in Canada and then work overseas, particularly in Europe in the agricultural industry," says Brennan who will never forget his fond memories at NSAC. ©

Homecoming Weekend 2007

October 19th and 20th

Alumni and their families were welcomed back to NSAC October 19th and 20th, 2007 for the annual Fall Homecoming Weekend.

Stay tuned, all those celebrating an anniversary in 2008 (Class years ending in 3 and 8) will be contacted soon, to begin the process of organizing their classes to return to campus. This year, campus will be open for the day - Thursday, July 24th, 2008 to coincide with NSAC Open House activities, an alumni program that

evening culminating in the Agri-Golf Classic to be held Friday beginning at 1 p.m. at Glasgow Hills, Hunter River, P.E.I. Keep posted to the alumni website for details as they develop. If you are interested in helping to organize your class, please contact us at alumni@nsac.ca

Distinguished Alumnus Award

The 2007 Distinguished Alumnus Award was presented to Dr. Harold William Cook, Class of 1964.



Dr. Harold Cook, a prominent Canadian scientist with a 28-year career in pediatrics and biochemistry research, is currently the 11th Dean of Dalhousie University's Faculty of Medicine.

Dr. Cook is one of the world's leading authorities on fatty acids and lipids with 130 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters to his credit. His reputation in the research community has brought him frequent invitations to speak at international symposia and many appointments to national and international committees and boards. At Dalhousie he has held a string of key university administrative positions, ranging from Chairman of the Faculty of Medicine's Radiation-Chemical Hazards Committee, between 1978 and 1980, to Interim Dean in 2003-2004.

Dr. Cook has also served as Director of the Atlantic Research Centre at Dalhousie University, as leader of the Clinical Genetics Program and as an affiliated scientist at the IWK Health Centre. He was a Visiting Professor at Harvard University and at the University of British Columbia. At Dalhousie he continues to be a Professor of Pediatrics and an Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Nomination Process

Please consider nominating a deserving individual for our 2008 celebration. You may do so online at nsac.ca/alumniawards.asp or by calling the alumni office at 902-893-7247.

Alumni Volunteer of the Year

The 2007 Alumni Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Dwane and Debbie Mellish—Class of '75 and '76.



Dwane and Debbie Mellish are enthusiastic volunteers who truly enjoy giving back to their community and to their *alma mater*. Always willing to lend a hand, they have repeatedly volunteered during NSAC events and are very active in their community. They can always be counted on for their support and their caring nature is sure to put a smile on the faces of others.

Dwane and Debbie are wonderful ambassadors for the university and we are proud of their accomplishments.

Alumni Services

Were you aware that NSAC's Alumni Office is ready and willing to help you organize your next class reunion or event?

If you are interested in bringing your class together for a reunion, please let the Alumni Office know at alumni@nsac.ca or by phoning 902-893-6721. We can help you with your preparations by providing class lists, booking rooms, sending letters to classmates and so on. We are here to help. Let us know what you need.

Summer Reunion 2007

Members of the Class of 1952 came together on Thursday, July 23rd as part of reunion celebrations and to participate in Open House activities on campus.



Members in attendance at the family alumni BBQ in Alumni Gardens included (L to R) Gus Smith, Bob Murray, Bill Hanlon, Joe Davidson, Lorne Cock, Vic Moses and Keith Hamilton.

Blue & Gold Awards Presented at Homecoming

As part of Homecoming 2007, a Blue and Gold Awards brunch was held to honour the many accomplishments of our alumni membership. Awards were presented for the Young Alumnus Achievement Award, Alumni Volunteer of the Year and Distinguished Alumnus Award. Full citations for the award winners can be viewed on the alumni website at <http://nsac.ca/alumni/awards.asp>

Alumni Association Executive



Jean Lynds 1990



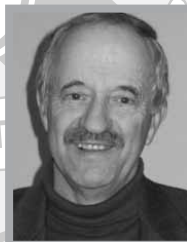
John Hutchings 1978



Arnold Hagen 1985



Dwane Mellish 1975



Laurie Hennigar 1960

During Homecoming 2007, an Annual General Meeting was held of the NSAC Alumni Association and a new board was elected including: Dwane Mellish '75, Laurie Hennigar '60, Arnold Hagen '85, Jean Lynds '90, John Hutchings '78.

Upcoming

This year the Alumni Association would like to try something different and are asking alumni to return to campus for reunion activities on Thursday, July 24th. A full schedule of events for those with class years ending in 3 and 8 will be planned around our annual Open House program and the Agri-Golf Classic. Keep posted to the alumni website for details.

The annual Blue & Gold Awards luncheon will still take place on campus in the fall.

Mark your calendars for the annual Agri - Golf Classic to be held on Friday, July 25, 2008 at Glasgow Hills, Hunter River, P.E.I. Space is limited so book early. Please visit <http://nsac.ca/athletics/events.asp> or call Kent Loughead at 902-893-6661 to reserve your space.

Alumni E-News

Distributed monthly via e-mail, the Alumni E-News is aimed at keeping alumni up-to-date with news from the university including important announcements, student and alumni achievements, athletic news and upcoming events. You will still receive your alumni magazine, the Agricola News, by mail, free-of-charge.

In this monthly, electronic newsletter you'll find brief news items and for most, a link to our alumni website for more detailed information. To ensure you receive your monthly Alumni E-News, please make sure the Alumni Office is aware of your e-mail address by simply sending us a brief e-mail to alumni@nsac.ca or by calling 902-893-7247. If you have news or an update you would like to submit for inclusion, we'd love to hear from you as well.

.....
Governance, from page 1 8

Environmental Sciences and Mr. Rick Butler, consultant to the Committee. Please forward any questions or concerns you may have about our governance change to Dr. Glenn Stratton at: gstratton@nsac.ca or by phone at 902-893-6609.

Class Shield Winners

Class Shield Awards were presented to those class years with the most graduates in attendance during Homecoming weekend. Winners of the Junior Class Shield award were members of the Class



Class of 1967 receives the Junior Class Shield Award from NSACAA President Jeff Morton.

of 1967. Intermediate Class Shield winners were members of the Class of 1957 and the Senior Class Shield award was presented to members of the Class of 1952.



Class of 1957 receives the Senior Class Shield Award from NSACAA President Jeff Morton.

Young Alumnus Achievement Award


The 2007 Young Alumnus Achievement Award was presented to Trevor Dillman, Class of 2000.



Trevor graduated with honours from NSAC with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. He then went on to earn a M.Sc.(Agr.) with a major in Agricultural Mechanization and a minor in Agricultural Business in 2002.

Trevor began his career in 1999 as a part-time farm assistant with Charlie Hill & Son. He then went on to accept a position as an Area Service Manager with New Holland Canada, Atlantic Canada and Central Ontario. Now, for the past two years, Trevor has been working with New Holland Canada as the Atlantic Canada Sales Manager. As a Nova Scotia Professional Agrologist and a Certified Nutrient Management Planner for Atlantic Canada, his skills make him an asset to any team.

Excelling in his career, Trevor received the New Holland Sales Circle of Excellence Award in both 2004 and 2006. Despite his important and demanding position, the Middle Musquodoboit native still finds the time to play an active role in the community and do what he enjoys most.



In Memoriam

The university, along with the NSAC Alumni Association, acknowledges the passing of the following alumni members and extends its sympathies to friends and family.

Mr. Robert G. Wilson	1956
Mr. Alan M. Boswell	1956
Mr. Blair C. Clark	1986
Mr. Charles H. Lawrence	1948
Dr. Chesley J. Randall	1961
Mr. Fred Harding	1947
Mr. Frank E. Boyer	1943
Dr. Raymond Kennedy	1946
Mr. Roald F. Kittilsen	1960
Mr. Murray A. Trefry	1939
Mr. Eric N. Lawrence	1954
Mr. John Lloyd Seaman	1971



NSAC Alumni Association Awards

NSAC Alumni have distinguished themselves through outstanding service to their alma mater, their communities, the province of Nova Scotia and beyond. Many have achieved great distinction and success in their professional endeavours, have made significant contributions to progress in their field of work and/or humanity

and have made extraordinary contributions either through their work, their volunteer efforts, or their financial support to the university. The Blue and Gold Awards program honours the recipients' achievements and demonstrates NSAC's pride in these accomplishments.

Young Alumnus Achievement Award

The Young Alumnus Achievement Award recognizes the outstanding achievements of NSAC alumni within 10 years of receiving a bachelor's degree 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 NSAC.

Alumni Volunteer of the Year Award

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

Distinguished Alumnus Award


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

Nominees will have provided a positive role model for NSAC and agriculture and made a significant contribution to the industry through teaching, research, industry, extension, production or to society in general.

Submission Guidelines

- 1) Recipients of Blue and Gold Awards must be NSAC alumni as defined by the university.
- 2) The reputation, achievements and contributions of the recipients must bring honour and prestige to NSAC.
- 3) Each nomination must be accompanied by a photograph (head shot). All photos will be returned.
- 4) Nominations must include the completed nomination form and cannot exceed five pages in total.
- 5) Submissions are to be made to the Alumni Office at PO Box 550, Truro, N.S., B2N 5E3, or electronically at alumni@nsac.ca
- 6) Deadline for submissions is May 15th, 4 p.m. No late submissions will be accepted.

The Nomination Process

- 1) A letter and nomination package from the Alumni Office will be sent to senior university and provincial department administrators including members of NSAC's Advisory Board, members of the NSAC Foundation, Alumni Association and various industry personnel, requesting nominations.
- 2) A public call for nominations will appear in the winter and summer editions of the Alumni News and will be posted along with a nomination form on the alumni website.
- 3) The Alumni Awards Committee will review the nominations and make a formal recommendation to the Alumni Association for approval.
- 4) Successful nominees will be informed in writing by NSAC's president.
- 5) Recipients will be honoured annually at the Blue and Gold Awards Luncheon during Homecoming Weekend. 

Alumni Awards

To see past winners of any of the Young Alumnus Achievement, Alumni Volunteer of the Year, or the Distinguished Alumnus awards, please visit: nsac.ca/alumni/awards



ATHLETICS

2007 Varsity & Club Fall Summary

Rugby



The 2007-08 year saw the inclusion of Rugby in the ACAA. The ACAA Championship occurred for the first time in the history of the Association. Both the men's and the women's league included 4 members – Mt.A, STU, NSAC and Kings.

Men's Squad

The NSAC men's team finished 4th with a 0-5 record. Hampered by the loss of players with injuries and a rookie squad, the men were building and are expected to have a much more experienced squad next year.

ACAA All-Conference awards:

- NSAC
1. Dan Gillis
 2. Morgan Elliott

Women's Squad

The women's squad had a great initial year in the ACAA, finishing in 2nd place. They played STU in the final in Fredericton and lost 7-0.

ACAA All-Conference awards:

- NSAC
- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Joan Cole | 3. Marissa Lynch |
| 2. Kelsey Harpman | 4. Meredith Leier |

Rookie of the Year
Joan Cole, NSAC

Coach of the Year
Laura Lee MacInnis, NSAC

Scholarship Banquet

Many NSAC athletes received bursaries during NSAC's annual awarding of scholarships and bursaries. Two Sport Leadership Awards were presented – Amanda MacDonald and Ben Roy, while eight others received a \$500 athletic bursaries. Thanks to private donors and the athletics Agri-Golf Classic for enabling these awards to be presented.

Equestrian Club Team

A team of 12 was selected in early fall for competition for the 2007-08 year. A number of practices were held and competitions will be held during the second semester.



Soccer



Women's Soccer

The NSAC women's team entered the year as defending champs and although they had an excellent rookie group, they did not repeat as champs. They completed the league in 4th place and lost to Kings in the semi-final.

ACAA All-Conference awards:

Leah MacNeill, Erin Durkee (first team)
Trina Bennett, Jaclyn Mosher (second team)

ACAA Rookie of the Year

Erin Durkee



Men's Soccer

The men's team had a great group of rookies and are re-building for a championship run over the next 2-3 years. Rookie Head Coach Kian Tracey developed a well skilled and disciplined squad. They played tough against all opposition but finished in 6th place and out of the play-offs.

ACAA All-Conference awards:

Scott Brown (first team)
Ben Roy (second team)

ACAA Soccer Championships

NSAC hosted the 2007-08 ACAA Men's and Women's Soccer Championships. Eight teams were hosted in the All-Conference Banquet and championship games. University of King's College won the men's division, while Mount Saint Vincent University won the women's crown.

Woodsmen

Back at full strength with two men's teams and two women's teams, the woodsmen had great results at both the UNB Competition and the SSFC Competition.

Results:

UNB

Men's A	2nd	Women's A	1st
Men's B	13th	Women's B	4th

SSFC

Men's A	3rd	Women's A	2nd
Men's B	20th	Women's B	4th

Next semester the teams will compete at MAC – Jan. 26 and NSAC on Feb. 9.

Volleyball

Men's Team

Without the required number of players to enter the ACAA, the men's volleyball team has taken a leave for a year. The hope is that with some recruitment, NSAC will be back in competition for the 2008-09 year.

Women's Team

Led by rookie Head Coach Paul Settle, is gaining momentum in the ACAA league. Looking for a break-through match, the NSAC women are getting stronger with every outing and are building for the 2008-09 year. They are presently in 7th place.

Basketball



The basketball squads are in tough in the tight ACAA League. The women's team was 4-4 and in 4th place at the Christmas Break, while the men were 0-8 and in 8th place. Both teams have strong rookies and they are expected to improve in the standings during the second semester.

Eastlink Broadcast

Nov. 29 saw NSAC vs. MSVU on the regional EastLink network. While the results favoured MSVU, the broadcast was great to showcase our teams, facility and the ACAA.

12th CCAA National Championship

In March 2008, the 12th CCAA National Championship will be hosted by NSAC. Women's Basketball is in town and will highlight the eight best college teams in the country. Tune in to EastLink for the bronze and gold medal games - March 16, 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.



Erin Durkee, a first year striker for NSAC Rams receives her Rookie of the Year Award from ACAA Chair Ron O'Flaherty at the ACAA Soccer All-Conference Awards Banquet. Erin was second in scoring even though she missed the last three league games with an injury.

Exciting Funding Announcements at NSAC

Gerald Keddy announced December 3rd an investment of \$950,000 towards the Atlantic BioVenture Centre Project.

The NSAC led project will develop and test a portable micro-factory designed to help small-scale Canadian producers and processors get more value from their crops. The project will extract highly valued nutraceutical and bioactive ingredients and selling them on the expanding global nutraceutical, bioactives and natural product market.

The Government of Canada has also invested nearly \$1.3 million in the Canadian organic industry to help accelerate its growth in Canada.

The funding, under the national Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Food (ACAAF) program, includes \$711,500 to help the industry's major research arm at the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada at NSAC, to better identify research needs and to more effectively communicate research results back to the sector.

NSAC Quick Facts

NSAC Quick Facts is a small document that provides all the pertinent, up-to-date information on the university at a glance. Quick Facts is updated on an annual basis and the newest version is now available at nsac.ca/marketing/quickfacts.

Quick Facts—Research

- NSAC is home to the \$9.8 million Atlantic Poultry Research Centre, opened May 2007.
- Dr. Rob Gordon, NSAC Dean of Research, is a 2007 recipient of the Premier's Award of Excellence.

AgriTECH Park, from page 15

strategically limited bio-resources, exploiting specialty niche markets and developing leading edge processing technologies.

Imagine growing plants, such as daffodils, specifically for their bioactive compounds which have been proven to play a role in health promotion and maintenance. New uses for agricultural crops, such as their potential as medicinal plants, opens up exciting opportunities for farmers who are otherwise challenged in a commodity-driven marketplace.

Wellness and health maintenance is now a \$200 billion market and does not show any sign of slowing down. The Atlantic BioVenture Centre is working with producers and processors in the agri and aqua sectors to identify opportunities for the development of high value, natural health products. These innovative products could take the form of natural animal feed supplements, nutraceuticals, functional ingredients and natural cosmetics.


Bio-industrial crops and novel bio-based processes are being developed to produce liquid fuels; plants are being modified genetically to make bio-polymers and fibres. The agricultural sector can play a key role in energy supply without impacting food security. NSAC's Atlantic BioVenture Centre and Engineering Department are investigating alternative sources of energy that minimize carbon dioxide emissions and improve sustainability.

AgriTECH Park is also home to the BioEnvironmental Engineering Centre, a facility surrounded by a land base dedicated to adaptive agricultural research. Much of the land is equipped with instrumentation to conduct water quality testing, composting management and on-site wastewater monitoring. The site contains constructed wetlands, atmospheric monitoring sites and demonstration alternative energy technologies.

Agricultural diversification to pursue new agri-energy, agri-health and agri-bioproducts can contribute to enhanced sustainability and growth of new agri-business. NSAC is well-positioned to lead the agricultural sector into the emerging and exciting bio-economy. 


Andrea Munroe, from page 5

Based on her experiences overseas, on her return to NSAC, Andrea became a key participant in the local committee for the World University Services of Canada (WUSC) refugee student program and represented NSAC at the 2006 WUSC Leadership conference in Ottawa. Regular meetings of the committee, information sessions in NSAC residences and fundraising activities such as the sale of WUSC calendars have led to an increase in WUSC committee membership from three to over 30 in just one year. Recognizing that further financial support was required, Ms. Munroe and the committee took the initiative of holding a student referendum on a fee levy. The vote was held in late March and was resoundingly approved. This was in large part because of the effort the committee made to ensure the student body was aware of the issues.

Ms. Munroe exemplifies the Canadian student who becomes interested in international development and who takes this to the next level of organization and action. 

Sarah Turner, from page 5

cializing in epidemiology, diagnostic pathology, toxicology, theriogenology and other specialty disciplines). These vets are from practice and industry backgrounds and want to assist the agricultural industries in building sustainable futures. AVSN is a ground breaking approach to the early detection of animal health events and the mechanisms for response and recovery of the industry in the event of an animal health incident.

"I am very excited to be a part of this cutting edge initiative and what the future holds for my career as a part of it!" 

The Life Changers

The Life Changers is a six-episode documentary series airing Sunday afternoons at 12:30 p.m. on ASN and is produced by the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU) in cooperation with participating universities.

One of the six episodes, "The New Green Acres," explores research in bio-environmental engineering at NSAC. Canada Research Chair Dr. Rob Gordon shares ways to make the family farm a more environmentally friendly enterprise, particularly in the area of effective eco-management of farm animal waste.

The Life Changers is comprised of half hour programs featuring path-breaking research and development (R&D) activities underway at Atlantic Canada's universities that are

Continued on page 32



2008 Events

President's List

February 6

NSAC Woodsmen Meet

- Rick Russell Memorial

February 9

Founders Day

February 14

NSAC University Day

March 3

AC Theatre Society Production

March 1-3

Convocation

May 2

NSAC Open House

July 24

NSAC Homecoming

July 24

NSAC Agri-Golf Classic

July 25

Scholarship Banquet

October 23

Atlantic Agricultural

Hall of Fame

October 23



Class of 1959

LONGLEY, William.....As of the end of May I retired as Director of Research and Development with The Great Plains Laboratory. As of March I had spent 40 years doing research mainly in the development of Medical Diagnostic tests. During that time I was the first to measure blood levels of a few proteins and steroids on a commercial basis. In 1970, I was lucky enough to determine blood levels of estrogens at pecogram levels. There were not many believers at the time, but the normal ranges established then still stand. I now work as a consultant on assay development and validation for clinical trials.

I became a Grandfather on April 3 when my eldest son, Jeff, and his wife, Amy, became the proud parents of a daughter, Megan. They live in a suburb of Denver where he practices small animal veterinary medicine. Although my first child, Mary, has six, so I have had lots of practice. I enjoy the NSAC Alumni electronic news and congratulate you all on an excellent presentation.

Class of 1967

GALLANT, Paul A..... is a Federal Fishery Officer and commercial blueberry grower.

Class of 2002

CRAWFORD, Denise.....is a Registered Veterinary Technician with Carman Veterinary Clinic. Denise enjoys spending her life with Kevin and has two beautiful boys, Alex (2002) and John (2006), one dog, one cat and one horse. Love my job teaching and managing the clinic here. Hope

all of you are enjoying life to the fullest!

Class of 2003

FRAIL, Janelle.....Hi all, John MacPhail and I are heading to Guatemala in the fall to work with indigenous peoples with gardening, fair trade initiatives and international development. I went back to school this past year and took Public Relations at NSCC. Since then I have been working at Nova Scotia Environment and Labour in Halifax. I'm also involved with the Nova Scotia Environmental Network connecting environmental non-governmental organizations in Nova Scotia.

Class of 2000

MURPHY, Cynthia.....I just received my copy of Alumni E-News—it's a great way for me to keep in touch with NSAC and former Aggies. I've done lots since graduating from NSAC for the second time in 2000. After working with NSAC International, I joined the NSCC Centre for International Activities where I worked in several positions, finishing as director. I left there in May 2007 and I am now working in Ontario where, after more than six years in post-secondary education and away from agriculture, I am combining my educational experience with my agricultural experience in my role of Director of the CON*NECT Canadian Agricultural Skills Service (CASS) Centre. The CON*NECT CASS Centre is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to administer the CASS program in Ontario.

The CASS program provides funding for eligible farmers and family members to engage in formal and informal learning that will enable them to meet their farm and personal goals. Currently, the program serves more than 450 participants in Ontario and another 800 have been accepted to the program with the expectation that most will complete learning activities. After years of international pro-

ject development and management, it's great to be involved with an agricultural project.

Class of 1976

VAN LUNEN, Ted.....I have moved from agriculture to forestry in a managerial role. Presently I am the Regional Director General for Natural Resources Canada and I am responsible for the Ontario region.

Class of 1998

TURNER, Sarah.....A year ago I switched gears leaving the pork industry to work for the provincial government. I now provide project management and coordination to the Alberta Veterinary Surveillance Network (AVSN). AVSN is a triad of programs (veterinary practice surveillance, investigative pathology and disease investigation) that work together performing animal health surveillance in Alberta for the cattle industry with proposed expansions into the poultry and swine sectors. Recently I moved back to the country and have taken up residence in a house on the farm where my partner, Johnny, works.

Class of 2005

RICARDO, Don..... Hi all Aggies! Just want to update my whereabouts and whatabouts, in case anybody wonders....I am currently in Melbourne, Australia, taking a Graduate Diploma in Accounting. You sure will be surprised of how in-demand accounting roles are now in this country. But anywho, aquaculture and animal husbandry fields (especially sheep, yeah the Aussie is known for their wool export) are also promising here. Take care all! Regards to all 'commandoes'.

Class of 2002

NEAL, Tara.....Hello Aggies...I can't remember writing an update, but have read lots! I'm in Newfoundland (Pasadena) working for the government here as an Environmental Planner. No kids myself, but will be getting

married to a great guy from home, Wes Morgan, in October and gaining two then! Hope everyone is doing good...Froggy! taraneal@gov.nl.ca

Class of 1989

HILTZ, Marlene..... Just want to congratulate Kriss Hiltz and Deidre Burns on the birth of their son, Riley William, on April 26, 2007. Kriss says, "I have a new little ram!!"

Class of 1983

FERGUS, Greg..... Hello Aggies. Living in Quispamsis, N.B. Working for Moosehead Breweries for the past 24 years. Would enjoy hearing from classmates and friends.

Class of 1990

FOSTER, Lynda (Lamb).....Hello Aggies of '89 & '90! Moved to Alta. in '92 and recently moved to Sask. & loving it. But, wow is it hard to find a good beach! Working as Payroll/Benefits Accountant at Nelson Lumber, Lloydminster Alta. Would love to hear from old friends - Tracey McArthur, Chris Jordan and anyone else. You too Edgar, stop changing your email!!

Class of 2001

MCCARRON, Jenn (Herbin).....Hi everyone, this is my first update ever! So here is a brief overview of the last six years! I finished vet school in 2005, spent the summer working in Ireland. Moved to Manitoba to work at a large animal practice for a year (and missed my first woodsmen competition in eight years!) Married Ryan in September 2006 and moved back to P.E.I. (We made it to woodsmen this year!). I am now working as a farm service vet at the AVC. I am specializing in dairy and working on my masters in epidemiology. We'll be here for a couple more years then after that...who knows!

KING, Alica (Baxter)..... Hello Everyone! Just thought I should

Continued on page 32

Look Who's Talking...

Tom Haliburton—Class of '50



Look Who's Talking is a regular feature of Agricola News. Each issue, an alumnus discusses his or her thoughts on various topics relevant to NSAC.

This issue, we asked Mr. Tom Haliburton—Class of '50 to take time to sit down and talk with us.

It has been 57 years since you left NSAC. What memories does this bring back of your college days?

When I attended NSAC, 1948 to 1950, we were at the "Debert Campus". The science building at Bible Hill had burned and the buildings at the wartime army camp were available. We had dances twice a year in Cumming Hall but, otherwise, I didn't know the Bible Hill campus until I was a \$0.50/hour summer student in '50 (though I saved enough to cover my expenses at Macdonald College that winter).

The buildings near Debert were cheaply built one-story with no foundation on the multiple H-hut style, with long corridors and wings, one room wide, attached at right angles. Our classes were in the sprawling hospital building, which also had the cafeteria and apartments for three faculty and their wives. Parker Cox was dean, Reverend Fraser taught English and Win Langille was athletic coach and taught chemistry. The two girl students also had rooms in this building. We boys lived in the old nurses residence. We had single rooms with a wash basin in each room. It was a double H-hut so four parallel corridors, with a lounge between.

The campus was on a treeless wind-swept plain so it was a challenge to go between buildings on cold winter days—which seemed to be normal then. There was little, if any insulation and no storm windows on these buildings; I found it quite comfortable though—coal was cheap. I guess we were tougher in those days. The partitions were thin drywall so there was a lot of resident damage—accidental and otherwise. We were mainly farm boys. There were no girls so we were slow to learn the social graces.

We used one of the several large gymnasiums for basketball and for animal judging classes. Cattle, sheep, pigs, horses and poultry were brought out from Bible Hill. I never became very competent at judging but I did learn to recognize the main breeds.

The faculty were mainly the extension staff of the N.S. DAM. Dr. Roland was Provincial Botanist and taught us biology; Endel Karmo was Provincial Apiarist and taught beekeeping; Dr. Collins was

Provincial Horticulturist; Mac Neary was Provincial Entomologist and so on. The livestock extensionists were Peter Hamilton, Stan Curtis, Bruce Trenholm, Fred Proudfoot - they each taught the course in their specialty. So we ended up taking 12 or 13 courses each term, classes 8:30 to 4:30 five days a week, with Saturday afternoon off. We had little time for serious mischief but I learned a lot of practical stuff, much of which has been useful. The faculty was not trained in teaching but all were communicators and all had a great interest and practical knowledge of their field, since they knew and worked closely with farmers.

I think this was a great system and am glad that I experienced it.

There was a bus service to Truro but on special occasions we rode on the back of Norm Logan's truck, with a covered body and three benches lengthwise. Comradely, if not comfortable. Most of us probably went to town once a week, to games, dances, movies, church (there were no taverns yet), but serious students stayed on campus. There were also amateur shows and dances at local one-room schools and community halls in the area between Truro and Great Village. There seemed to be a lot of different country dances done in the Colchester area, perhaps because many young people came to the Teachers College and to NSAC? Typically there was a wood stove in the middle of the room and when the dancing was vigorous, as with the Cape Breton Hop polka, the hot stove would bounce dangerously.

There was little if any insulation and no storm windows on these buildings; I found it quite comfortable though.

What do you see as the most significant and positive changes in NSAC since you were a student?

The facilities obviously - buildings, library, laboratories. The aquaculture department was an obvious addition. It is now degree granting, so more research is being done - hopefully not at the expense of undergraduate teaching, but necessary for graduate students. I like the international exposure; there were Latin-American and Caribbean students in my day too, and they fitted right in.

This issue of the Agricola News highlights various families that have attended NSAC over the years. A lot of NSAC alumni from the earlier classes feel a familial connection to the university. Do you and members of your class feel this way and why? Why do you think it is different for alumni of today?

My uncle, Amos Tattre, was in the first class at NSAC. Two of my brothers went through, as did my daughter, a couple of nephews and some cousins.

Continued on next page

Look Who's Talking, from the previous page

My class felt particularly familial because we were located at Debert and got to know one another, perhaps too well. Students today don't seem to know, or be as interested in, one another because there are more students with diverse backgrounds and interests. This is probably a good thing, but I really enjoyed my time there. Maybe because I was a teenager and didn't know any better.

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

The Department of Agriculture in Nova Scotia has moved on from technical relations with the farm community; so have, if less dramatically, the other Atlantic provinces. Perhaps there is a vacuum that the college could fill. Most agricultural colleges and universities have an active extension wing, with direct farmer involvement. Even in China!

Tom Haliburton

I grew up on the family farm at Avonport, with four brothers. It was a mixed farm, but apples were the major crop. After elementary school in Avonport, I graduated from Wolfville High School, then took a year at Acadia to get the high school French required to enter the AC. In 1950, I went on (with most of my class) to Macdonald College for the final two years for the B.Sc.(Agr.) where I took horticulture. After another year on the home farm, I got an assistantship in the Vegetable Crops Department at Cornell University, graduating with an M.Sc. degree and an American wife in 1956.

I was a contract Agricultural Officer with the British Colonial Service in Gold Coast for two years, which became Ghana while we were there. I worked in the Seed Potato Division of Agriculture Canada for over five years, then joined the Nova Scotia Department as vegetable extension specialist. After about 15 years, I transferred to the Plant Science department of NSAC, teaching vegetable crop production and storage (including potatoes) for another 15 years. I have been retired, living on the home farm and helping grow and market fruit and vegetables for the last 15 years. I also grow nut trees, some of which are nearly as old as I am.

We have five daughters and eight grandchildren. ☺

Wanted

Have you moved, changed your name, or made any other changes to your contact information? Help keep us up-to-date by contacting the Alumni Office by phone 902-893-7621, email: alumni@nsac.ca or website: nsac.ca/alumni/update.

In Touch, from page 30

drop a line as it has been a long time. Danny and I were married in May of 2002 and are living in the Valley with our three children, Makayla (March 2005) and Casey and Percy (October 2006). All is well here; we are currently working on a move to the Oxford area. Take care.

Class of 1998

WILSON, Cynthia..... Hello fellow Aggies. Just a note to say hello. I am still in Windsor and I have a beautiful baby girl. She is 5 months old. I am engaged to Ian Duey from Dartmouth. I work for NSAB and my family farm. Love to hear from anyone.

SAUNDERS, Lisa.....Hey Alumni, just a quick update. I am currently the Vice-Principal of Bridgeway Academy. The same Dartmouth area school that I had been teaching at since graduating with my B.Ed. from Acadia in 2002. I live with my husband, Josh, in our house in Eastern Passage with our two dogs, Calley (English Springer Spaniel) and Scarlett (Irish Setter). Josh is also a 1998 grad of the AC and is a teacher at Eastern Passage Education Center.

Red Country Farms, from page 6

This ensures the cattle do not negatively impact on the quality and quantity of the water in the stream.

- Red Country Farms is a forage based system with grain and hay grown in rotation for animal feed. Manure is the primary nutrient source for the crops grown on the farm. ☺

Class of 2007

HOYT, Jacqueline (Yuill).....I graduated with my M.Sc. from NSAC on Oct. 21, 2007 at the Dalhousie fall graduation. I was a student of Dr. Leslie MacLaren and my thesis title was, *Marine Micro-algae Effects on Reproduction and Lactation in Pregnant Dairy Cows*. When I arrived at the Convocation, I was one of the first people there. I was approached by a photographer from Maclean's magazine and he asked if he could take my picture. The photographer told me he wanted graduation photos for the upcoming annual university rankings edition. However, he didn't inform me that I would be on the cover! And it was quite a surprise when I saw the magazine! After graduation, I took a job with the Department of Agriculture in the Resource Stewardship Division under 4-H. I am currently the Central Region 4-H Specialist. I was married Dec. 30, 2006 to Jason Hoyt (Class of 2003). Jason is now employed at the Colchester Regional Hospital as a Medical Laboratory Technologist. We are living in Bible Hill. ☺

Life Changers, from page 29

having a positive, meaningful impact on lives and communities in the region and around the world. The Life Changers will bring these stories to life by featuring the institutions, their research teams (particularly students) and most importantly, those directly affected. "If feedback is good, work could soon begin on another suite of episodes – there are certainly more than enough stories worth telling," says Peter Halpin, executive director of the AAU.

To view the NSAC episode visit: atlanticuniversities.ca ☺

Meeting on Tuesday 2pm

Working with a new professor

- establish a system for receiving calls (FIF minimum for 4-H)
- discuss client-specific issues (regulations, U.S. vs Canadian)
- talk about international issues

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