



For the alumni and friends of Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Volume 35, Number 1, 2010

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The New Face of Agriculture



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Agricola News

For the alumni and friends of Nova Scotia Agricultural College

A Message from the Editor



Dear ,

Happy New Year to you and your family, I wish you all the best in 2010!

As we move forward and begin a new year, it appears we are also embracing a new agriculture. Since I began my position at NSAC last January, I have heard many discussions about the changes in agriculture.

It is my pleasure to provide you with this edition of *Agricola News*, which profiles alumni who are experiencing a twist on traditional agriculture and details research projects that may possibly be impacting these changes. In this edition, you'll also find many other articles that further discuss the 'new face of agriculture', as well as the sections we regularly feature in the *Agricola News*.

As you read about the changes of agriculture in this edition, you'll also notice the way in which *Agricola News* itself has changed. The publication has been updated to have a fresh new look and to be more reflective of a magazine. I hope you are as pleased with the changes as I am!

I look forward to another busy year in the Development & External Relations office. So far, we already have two confirmed reunions planned for the coming summer and I expect there will be more. We'll also soon be working on plans for some great alumni events to take place over the year – be watching out for those.

Among all of the work taking place in our office, I always enjoy hearing from you and your *alma mater*. I encourage you to keep in touch - to simply tell me what you've been doing, to plan a reunion/event, to make a donation, or even if you have any questions at all – I'd love to hear from you!

Enjoy this new edition of *Agricola News*!

Alisha (Hannam) Johnson

KEEP IN TOUCH! Follow us Online

You can now reconnect with former classmates, hear about events and find out what's going on at NSAC by following us online. Join us on the following social media sites:

Twitter: twitter.com/nsacu

Facebook: facebook.com/nsacu

YouTube: youtube.com/nsacalumni

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

To request your version of *Agricola News* electronically email us at alumni@nsac.ca

"In Touch!"

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

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While farming still includes milking cattle, growing crops and raising livestock, it now involves doing so with a concern for the environment and sensitivity to everything and everyone around us. Not to mention, unique forms of smaller agriculture ventures have become more popular.

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NSAC alumni have distinguished themselves through outstanding service to their *alma mater*, their communities, the province of Nova Scotia and beyond.

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A Message from NSAC's Co-Presidents

On behalf of NSAC we, as co-presidents, wish you a happy and prosperous New Year. As we look back, 2009 was a remarkable year for NSAC and we look forward to an exciting and eventful 2010.



In 2009, NSAC made several accomplishments - actions that make us very proud as co-presidents and we hope as alumni, you are equally proud of your institution.

Beginning the 2009-10 academic year in September, NSAC saw its highest enrollment increase in 12 years. Our university has the fastest growing full-time enrollment in Atlantic Canada. Our student population surpassed 900. This is remarkable considering the enrollment concerns many other institutions are facing.

Amidst this achievement, NSAC was named no. 1 in research intensity among Atlantic Canada's 16 universities for the third year in a row. This ranking came from Research Infosource Inc. and its Canada's Top 50 Research Universities List.

While NSAC is the smallest university on the list, with approximately 75 full-time faculty members, we receive \$135,900 per faculty member in research dollars. Nationally, NSAC ranks 16th with respect to intensity and fifth of those schools without medical programs.

As we have made significant progress in these areas, we've also moved forward on our governance conversion. In the last edition of *Agricola News*, we introduced you to our Transition Board of Governors. This group has been working diligently to carry out the necessary duties for the governance change. Most recently, two consultants were hired to assist with the project.

Mr. Edward Bottrell, a senior associate of CompassPoint Management Group Inc, joined us as project designer on a contract basis in October and November. He put together a detailed work plan that outlines all of the necessary steps (over 180 of them) to efficiently transition NSAC's government.

Ms. Tracy Crowell was seconded to NSAC as chief transformation director for 18 months. Ms. Crowell comes to us from Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations. She is responsible for implementing the project's design. This will involve, among other things, providing daily co-ordination and facilitating interaction with the large variety of government players needed to fulfill the plan's steps.

In November, NSAC was also very proud to watch Bernie participate in the Vancouver 2010 Torch Relay. This was not just a personal accomplishment, as we were honored to have him represent NSAC during such a historic moment.

All of these achievements, combined with many others, have resulted in a positive change for NSAC. But we're not the only ones changing. As this issue of *Agricola News* highlights, the entire face of agriculture is changing. In this edition, you'll read about many ways in which agriculture has developed.

We hope you enjoy this edition of *Agricola News* and that you embrace the changes we will see in 2010! We look forward to the year ahead and beyond!

Sincerely,

Dr. Leslie MacLaren
Co-President, Vice President Academic

Dr. Bernie MacDonald
Co-President, Vice President Administration

My Cow Show Submitted by Bernard Kuhn

On a recent visit to NSAC, I encountered a student who had the same unfortunate experience with a dairy cow that I had in 1939. I thought it remarkable, so I will tell you about it:

An important part of our animal husbandry course in 1938-39 was learning about proper conformation of dairy animals so we could go out into the world and select the best animals for our future dairies. At one point in our course, we were assigned to participate in a show of dairy cows in a judging ring, just like it would be at a county exhibition. Various cows from NSAC's herd were allocated, one per student, and we had to prepare our respective cows and present them to spectators and judges in a show ring on show day. My cow was a mature Guernsey, a good producer with a decent conformation and I had no complaint about my luck of the draw. We groomed and washed our cows daily for over a week and even shaved their necks with a fine straight line running down their shoulders. If a cow got dirty with manure or mud, we immediately cleaned them. Our cows were unimpressed with this tiresome grooming routine, but we students were VERY impressed and as show day approached, our anticipation and desire to succeed rose to a peak.

Show day came and I checked my cow very carefully to ensure that no speck of dirt or straw was to be seen on her and I brushed her for one last time, especially her under belly so her important veins and udder could be seen to advantage. While waiting my turn to parade my cow in the ring, I was as nervous as if I had

"What a surprise development and I could hardly believe what was happening to my carefully-prepared show".

to make a major speech, thinking over the right way to lead my cow and show her as we had been advised. Well, soon here I was, alone in a big ring with my carefully prepared cow in front of many spectators and she walked, deliberately enough, behind me on her halter. Our path was a circle so the judges could see both sides of the cow. When we got about half way around, my cow without warning dropped to her knees and laid down! What a surprise development and I could hardly believe what was happening to my carefully prepared show.

I knew I could not just leave her there and walk away or get angry and kick her up, so I pulled on her halter, nudged her from behind and front and finally I made her uncomfortable enough to get up reluctantly and we walked by the shortest path out of the ring in complete ignominy. We got no applause or laughter, just stony silence, but there must have been snickers suppressed...

I don't remember how many positive or negative points we got from the judges, I didn't care any more. I was mortified, like the aborigine whose boomerang wouldn't come back.

You can't blame the cow—she had dedicated her life to production of milk for her owners' benefit; she had eaten her fodder, drank her water, grazed her pasture, calved her calves and showed up two or three times per day for milking, year after year and when the time came to take her rest and chew her cud, they expected her to parade her maternal bovine body around a strange place in front of a lot of strangers—too much!

NSAC's student who told me of his similar experience is William Vosman, a young dairyman with much more

experience with cows than I had in my time. He made me feel better about my own performance, long ago. Some things at NSAC have not changed. Cows will be cows.

Bernard Kuhn (Class of '39) returned to campus to attend NSAC's Scholarship Banquet in October. A dinner discussion with William Vosman, a student who was the recipient of the P. Max Kuhn Scholarship, named after Bernard's father, led Bernard to reminisce about his time at NSAC.



Upcoming Events

President's List – February 3
 Founding Day – February 14
 Mid-term Break – February 22 - 26
 University Day – March 5
 Convocation – May 7
 Open House – July 22
 Class of '60 Reunion – July 22 - 23
 Agri-Golf Classic – July 23

Visit our website regularly for the latest news and events!

nsac.ca

Around & About...

Young Woman Making Global Decisions

Corinna Taylor – Class of '09

If you were told that one person from your community took part in decisions that could affect the entire world, what would you think? What would you think if that person was 23 years-old, a new mother and a master's student?

NSAC's Corinna Taylor was chosen as a delegate to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (COP15) from Dec. 7 – 18. This recent B.Sc grad and M.Sc. student was one of the only Atlantic Canadian representatives of the International Federation of Liberal Youth.

"Even though this is something I'm really passionate about, I figured filling out the application would simply be good practice."

"I found it really hard to believe!" says Corinna. But, then again, between juggling school work, volunteering for the Ecology Action Center, Clean Nova Scotia, being an active member with the Living Earth Council, caring for her almost one-year-old daughter and scrambling to raise \$5,000, she didn't have a lot of spare time to reflect on the once in a lifetime opportunity.

"The fact that she is a new mother who took on the challenge of starting her masters in September, let alone putting herself out there for this opportunity, really shows Corinna's strength of character," says Dr. Gordon Price, researcher at NSAC. "This is the type of person who can make change and push to make things better."

All issues surrounding climate change were discussed at the Copenhagen conference, which was described as "crucial". The goal was to establish a global agreement with all countries of the world. In support of this goal, the host country guaranteed that all food provided at the conference was a minimum of 65 per cent organic, including fair trade coffee and tea. In addition, virtual conferencing was provided to limit travel and foster global inclusiveness.

"I was feeling very overwhelmed when I found out," says Corinna. "When I applied to go, I thought 'yeah right'. Even though this is something I'm really passionate about, I figured filling out the application would simply be good practice."

"This has been an incredible experience for Corinna and NSAC," says Jim Goit, executive director, Development and External Relations, NSAC. "At NSAC we believe one person can make a difference in the world, Corinna perfectly represents our university and how we stand. She is a great voice for our community, our country and the world."

Amidst all of the excitement, Corinna admits the hardest part of the whole conference was leaving her daughter, Sophie, behind. "It wasn't easy, but she was in good hands."

NSAC Alumni Win Environmental Award

Five NSAC alumni families were finalists for a provincial award recognizing dedication and commitment to protecting the environment.

The Farm Environmental Stewardship Award promotes the actions of farmers who participate in the Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) program and demonstrate the outstanding commitment Nova Scotia farmers have made toward healthy soils, improved water quality, diverse landscapes and vibrant communities.

"... I am always impressed by farmers' efforts to protect the environment and by their willingness to adopt new practices that reduce environmental risk," said Erica Versteeg, EFP co-ordinator.

"Environmental Farm Planning has been a success within our province yet it remains an untold story. EFP staff felt it was time to more formally recognize the environmental stewardship we witness on farms every day."

The awards are part of the EFP program that was created in partnership with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the NS Environmental Farm Plan Team and the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture.

"Environmental issues are a huge priority for government, not just in terms of agriculture, but for all Nova Scotians," Agriculture Minister John MacDonell said. "I commend the farmers nominated for this award for taking the initiative to protect our water and soil resources, and to take

advantage of renewable energy sources like wind, solar and tidal energy."

The five finalists were John Duynisveld of Holdanca Farms, Dean and Catherine Manning (Falmouth), William (Bill) McNeil, Saulsbrook Stables (Windsor Forks), Brian Trueman and family,

Thunderbrook Farms (Truemanville) and Andrew VanOostrum, VanOostrum Farms (Graton, near Berwick).

And the winners were...

Andrew and Theresa Van Oostrum!

The winners were announced at the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture's annual general meeting in Truro, Nov. 24. Congratulations to all NSAC alumni!

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NSAC Alumnus Receives Two Great Honours

Melvin Barclay – Class of '61

G. Melvin Barclay (Class of '61) of Upper Kintore, NB, was recently awarded a Honorary Lifetime Membership in the New Brunswick Institute of Agrologists and was inducted into the New Brunswick Potato Museum, "Potato World" Hall of Recognition.

Melvin retired in 1996, after a total of 41.5 years of service with the provincial government: 10 years as a teacher, 21 years as the officer in charge of the Bon Accord Elite Seed Potato Farm and 10.5 years as district agriculturalist for Victoria County.

Melvin graduated from Perth High School in 1949, New Brunswick Teachers' College in 1951, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, high honours in 1961 and received his B.Sc. (Agr.) with honours from McGill University in 1964. He also graduated with high honours from the University of Maine with his Master of Science in Agronomy in 1972.

He taught school for 10 years before joining the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture. He had a very distinguished career in agriculture. Melvin was appointed officer in charge of the Bon Accord Elite Seed Potato Farm in 1971. During his 21 years at the seed farm, delegations and visitors were hosted from 51 countries.

Without a doubt, Melvin has been widely recognized as a "driving force" behind the development of the New Brunswick seed potato industry and helped lay the ground work for many

successful farm organizations. His work as district agriculturalist for Victoria County from 1986, until retirement in 1996, set new standards and unparalleled dedication and initiative in the development and dissemination of information and technical advice to farmers.

Among his many agricultural publications, he is best known for six editions of "Potato Varieties in Canada" which is still sought after and widely used nationally and internationally, Melvin

maintains his title as "the most knowledgeable potato specialist in New Brunswick". Indeed, he has served as a role model for numerous students and young agrologists and is held in high esteem by all who know him.

In retirement, Melvin continues to stay up to date professionally by subscribing to every major potato magazine and research journal and purchasing new agricultural textbooks for his already extensive library.

Fish for Hope

Peter Corey – Class of '01

A strong faith and a passion for fish has led 31-year-old NSAC master's student Peter Corey to Mozambique in an effort to pursue his dream of alleviating poverty through international aquaculture development.



"This is my passion," he enthuses, "it's not going to go away after one project."

Originally from Florenceville, NB, Peter is a commercial aquaculturist with Scotian Halibut Ltd., in Woods Harbor, NS. In 2008, with the generous support of his employer, he visited the Democratic Republic of Congo and Mozambique in southern Africa along with Global Partners, the mission arm of Wesleyan Church International. This father of three saw firsthand the opportunity to empower local citizens by providing the education and resources to begin farming fish.

"Fish farming is an affordable, sustainable way for those living in poverty across the world to live at a higher standard in their local communities," he explained.

And Fish for Hope was born. With a mandate to 'educate, equip and encourage', this not-for-profit organization's current project collaborates with Global Partners and the National Institute for the Development of Aquaculture (INAQUA, Federal Department of Fisheries, Mozambique) to establish a pond farm for training and demonstration of fish farming in the Gaza Province of Mozambique.

The construction of six tilapia ponds is currently underway in preparation for Mozambique's summer growing conditions and the farming of fish will be integrated with the production of fruits, vegetables and livestock. Peter, as Fish for Hope's presi-



dent, intends to return to Mozambique in the summer of 2010 when the first season's production is in full swing.

Of course, a project such as this requires funding from outside donors. With a total projected budget of only \$25,000, this is a real opportunity for people to contribute to a grassroots project whose intention is to help alleviate poverty for the long-term.

"One thing I am learning more and more is that this initiative will not succeed and will not move forward without the help of an extensive network," Peter adds. About 40 per cent of the funds have already been raised, leaving Fish for Hope still in need of over half of its projected budget.

Sweet Skin

Catherine Grant – Class of '99



It takes a lot of creativity to turn a batch of maple cream gone wrong into a value-added line of cosmetic products. That and a strong science background.

"I definitely received my science foundation at NSAC," says Catherine Grant (Class of

'99). "My NSAC background really came into play as I was conducting experiments for the various products in my skin care line."

At her family's new maple sugar operation in Kemptown, Maple Mist Farm, Catherine discovered an innovative way to reuse excess water that is typically wasted. Instead of dumping out all of the water that is left in the evaporation process after it is boiled-off the sap as it turns to syrup, Catherine is reusing the water as a main ingredient in her line of maple cosmetics.

"It actually started with a batch of maple cream that was just too grainy to sell. I took the 'defective' batch of cream home and experimented until I discovered it works great as a natural exfoliating agent for the skin!" And that is where her maple skin care line began.

Maple Mist's skin care line includes a unique blend of scrubs, lotions and creams rich in antioxidants, vitamins and moisturizing oils that help nourish and care for skin naturally. By utilizing the natural water and syrup from the sap of maple trees, Maple Mist Farm takes a holistic approach to skin care. All of their products use only natural components. Oils in Maple Mist's cosmetics originate from nature. Commercial products use petroleum based ingredients, such as mineral oil.

Production for Catherine's cosmetic line is done entirely at her house, by herself, on evenings and weekends. "I rely on my family and co-workers to test my different products," she adds with a laugh.



"I think my interest with the operation really grew because of my science and nutrition background, as well as my passion for natural things."

When asked what made her think of developing skin care products, Catherine says it was a personal quest. "I like to know what's going on with my skin and what I'm putting on it." She also wanted to see how she could be different and add her own personality to the family's maple operation.

"When dad bought the sugar camp as a hobby, I had no idea I would be this involved," she says.

Peter Grant (Class of '66), a retired dairy farmer, purchased Maple Mist Farm in 2007 as a retirement project and as an opportunity for his wife, two daughters and their husbands, to spend quality time together. While the family operation is still evolving, last season they tapped 7,500 trees, the Grant family sells syrup in bulk to nearby restaurants, church suppers and local stores. They also produce their own maple products, such as butter, cream, sugar, and of course, their latest twist on maple products, cosmetics, for retail on-site.

"I think my interest with the operation really grew because of my science and nutrition background, as well as my passion for natural things," says Catherine of the Grant agricultural venture.

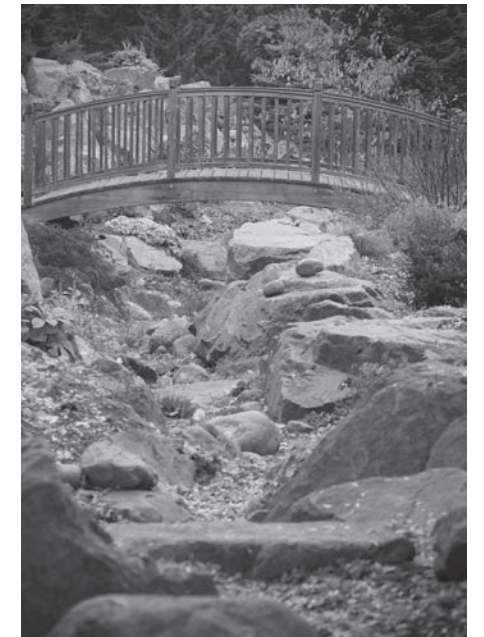
Catherine, who spends her days as a quality assurance/research and development specialist, with Farmers Dairy in Hammonds Plains, NS, went on to UPEI after graduating from NSAC. There she studied nutritional sciences and received another science degree. Catherine was fortunate enough to earn an NSERC scholarship and take her studies to Guelph where she completed her Master of Science in nutritional sciences, specializing in functional foods and nutraceuticals.

After graduating from Guelph she immediately took a position with Hudson Bay Company in Ontario as a senior hard good technologist working under the Zellers umbrella. Catherine sampled and tested food, pharmacy, as well as health and beauty products within Zellers private brands. After two years, her and husband, Danny MacLeod (Class of '97), realized it was time to head back to the Maritimes.

"Looking back, I can see how everything fell into place," says Catherine. She credits her basic science skills learned at NSAC, extensive research experience gained from Guelph and practical skills from Hudson Bay Company to the success of her career.

"I've always had an interest in agriculture and nutrition. I've incorporated both interests into my career and into my hobby/side job with the cosmetics. Not to mention, I get to create a pure product out of otherwise wasted materials."

By sending 80-100 tons of yard waste every year to the manure compost, NSAC has also been able to help the community.



LANDSCAPING

with a Bigger Purpose

Lower gardens are a beautiful thing to have and work in, but have you ever thought about the negative environmental impacts they may have?

NSAC has numerous gardens around campus, but each has been carefully planned. Many are either "natural" or self-sustaining. For example, the Rock Garden and Butterfly Meadow, among many other areas, are designed to minimize water consumption. By using naturally occurring and native-Nova Scotian plants, they are sustained by our normal rainfall.

Going a step further, the Rock Garden has a dry stream bed winding through it. Rainwater and general moisture in the atmosphere is trapped in the bed and produces a fertile growing environment. Sprinklers and fertilizer aren't needed because the design has allowed nature to do all the work.

Even the "human elements" in the gardens are designed to have minimal environmental impact. All of the wooden structures in and around the Rock Garden are made of white cedar. The wood was chosen because it has naturally occurring chemicals that inhibit decay. This means pressure treated lumber is not sitting around leaching toxins into the ground. Although avoiding pressure treated lumber may seem like a trivial thing, a tablespoon of pressure treated wood ash contains enough arsenic to kill an adult.

By designing natural gardens for campus, NSAC has also been

able to replace approximately 250 lbs of fertilizer on-campus each year with compost. The compost, all 20 tons of it, comes from our own on-campus manure compost facility. Currently, half finished compost is used as a soil amendment and mulch for shrubs and perennials around campus. Plans are also being put in place to have finished compost return as turf top dressing in order to further reduce the amount of chemical fertilizer spread.

By sending 80-100 tons of yard waste every year to the manure compost, NSAC has also been able to help the community. Approximately five cubic yards of compost from our facility goes directly to community garden initiatives each year. Since over 60 per cent of water pollution is caused by cars leaking oil, fertilizers from farms and gardens and failing septic tanks, our recycling efforts have a big impact on the environment.

Natural gardening is a growing trend around the world. In fact, NSAC hosted a two day course on the art of creating natural garden structures – specifically out of willow – in October. Deb Hart, an artist and an instructor at Writtle College in England, conducted the course. With environmental concerns constantly on the rise, natural gardening is sure to continue its rise in popularity.

If you've been using the natural garden technique, show us your work. Join our Facebook fan page at [facebook.com/nsacu](https://www.facebook.com/nsacu) and upload your photos.

ENVIRONMENTAL Art

at NSAC for the First Time



Environmental and site specific art helps improve our relationship with the natural world and for the first time 13 NSAC students had the chance to embrace this new discipline on the university's campus.

Dr. Jill Raggett and Steve Terry, co-managers of the Centre for the Arts and Design in the Environment (CADE) at NSAC's partner institution, Writtle College, presented a special topics course entitled "Landscape, Gardens and the Arts", a full-credit course in Environmental Studies from Oct. 21-25.

Students were encouraged to view their studies in a new light through the creation of a number of environmental and community artwork projects.

NSAC's Associate Professor in Environmental Horticulture, Carol Goodwin, feels

NSAC has had a long and productive relationship with Writtle College that allows students to expand their world through exchange opportunities.

"CADE's emphasis on design in the environment – any environment, be it farm fields, gardens, greenhouses, hospitals or parks, really gets the students thinking about how they can impact the experience of people who use or are exposed to the places they design. They see and experience their environment in new ways – that improves the lives of others. It's a thrill to think our students are going to carry this experience with them through their careers," says Carol.

Dr. Jill Raggett started her working life as a gardener at the Royal Horticultural Society's Garden at Wisley, and after completing a horticultural qualification she

became a lecturer who now spends more time 'growing' minds than plants. She values the opportunity her work allows for witnessing how people discover the transforming effect they can have on their environment.

Steve Terry's lifelong interest in the environment found him travelling the world working as a horticulturist, designer and teacher. He has worked in a number of public and private gardens including the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew. He believes design as a discipline can encompass the role of art as an approach to environmental issues and this synthesis of ideas can bring a more holistic approach to landscape design issues.

Deb Hart, an artist who is also an instructor at Writtle College, is travelling with the group to explore the use of willow in art and craft in Nova Scotia. She delivered a Master Gardener workshop, "Creating Natural Structures for the Garden", with NSAC's Carol Goodwin.

CADE was established in 2000 and encourages collaborative cross-disciplinary work that seeks to find creative solutions in order to produce better environments in which to live and work, both in rural and urban contexts. •



"They see and experience their environment in new ways – that improves the lives of others. It's a thrill to think our students are going to carry this experience with them through their careers."

The Face of Agriculture is Changing...



Green Eggs



While farming still includes milking cattle, growing crops and raising livestock, it now involves doing so with a concern for the environment and a sensitivity to everything and everyone around us.

"I think it's definitely for the best," says Glen Jennings (Class of '89). Glen has changed the white and brown eggs produced at his Masstown, NS, poultry farm, to green. And I don't mean the colour.

The electricity used to operate Glen's family farm, Bayview Poultry Farms Ltd., is generated with the help of three wind turbines. The Skystream 3.7 turbines, purchased and installed by Mamanna (formerly, Second Source Power Company) in Halifax, generate up to 2.4 kilowatts per hour. Soaring 50 feet tall, Glen says it doesn't take much wind at all to keep them going. "And we sure have plenty of wind here!" he laughs.

Glen's farm is located right next to the Cobequid Bay, on Shore Road. "The turbine blades will start spinning in a very light breeze of just eight miles per hour," he adds. The blades, made from carbon fiber, bend with the wind.

The power generated by the turbines is transferred to the home's power panel to be used as electricity. When the turbines are generating more power than needed, power goes back on the grid and is used by other customers. In effect, Glen's power meter would spin backwards and the power company would provide them with a credit.

Bayview's poultry housing, egg grading and cooling facilities consume 110,000 kilowatts of electricity annually. The idea to put

the wind Glen cursed for years, to good use, first came as a means to save on operating costs in the long-term. However, it didn't take long for Glen to realize there were more benefits than that.

"Because of the turbines we were able to produce a whole new product," says Glen of his "Eco-Friendly" branded eggs. Glen's farm has 12,000 laying hens producing 11,000 eggs a day. Smaller stores, such as Co-op Atlantic and Masstown Market, carry the branded eggs as a specialty product. A Sobeys location in Halifax has just begun carrying the product on a trial basis as well.

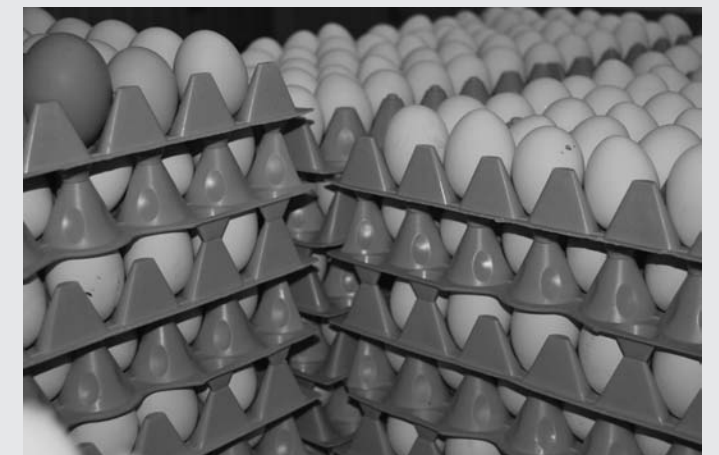
Glen has received a lot of interest from other farmers with the new product. Traditional farmers to young farmers, there are lots of heads turning as people drive by the Bayview property. "Other farmers are really interested in renewable energy," he says. "They agree how important it is."

While Bayview Farms Ltd. was the first farm in the area to erect wind turbines, other local farms soon followed suit. Including Glen's cousin next-door, who operates a dairy farm. "I think there are now 10 turbines in the local area."

Glen is considering taking his new form of farming a few steps further. "We're looking at investing with solar panels." Glen is studying whether or not the sun could be harnessed to heat the water for the egg grader. Additionally, Mamanna is in the process of developing wind turbines that produce five kilowatts of power per hour. Once the new product is complete, Glen may go for the upgrade. "You can trade in the turbines – just like a car," he says.

Admitting the turbines aren't completely what he expected, Glen is pleased with his investment and excited about his "green" venture and new twist on agriculture. •

"Other farmers are really interested in renewable energy," he says. "They agree how important it is."



A New Agriculture is Emerging

Submitted by Lloyd Mapplebeck

If you've read any farm news out of Atlantic Canada lately, it was likely bad news.

There is an ongoing barrage of stories about agriculture sliding from one crisis to another. It's constant gloom and doom. If you happen to be a hog or beef farmer, this is the unfortunate reality. Few of us can fully comprehend how difficult it has been for these farmers, and their stories deserve to be reported.

But it's not the whole story, not by a long shot.

While commodity farm numbers are shrinking and will continue to decline – not only in Atlantic Canada but also across the entire country – agriculture is not a dying industry. It's just a rapidly changing one.

A 'new agriculture' is rising and we are well past the point where farming should be defined simply as the growing of commodity crops and the raising of livestock and poultry.

In Ontario, for example, the number of farms under 70 acres is increasing. In Nova Scotia, 80 per cent of farms are small operations with less than \$100,000 in sales, while 90 per cent of farms have sales less than \$250,000.

Who are these small farmers?

Well, I'm one. My day job is a professor at Nova Scotia Agricultural College, but my wife and I also grow perennials and cut flowers. We sell from the farm and at the Truro Farmers' Market, which is one of over 30 farmers' markets in my province – more than twice the number of just a few years ago. At the Truro market, farmers sell salad greens, organic vegetables, farm-made preserves, pasture-raised pork, wildflower honey, edible landscaping plants, heir-



loom tomatoes, culinary herbs, maple syrup, trees, strawberries, and on and on.

Across the province, farmers have turned to lowbush blueberries, processing carrots, cranberries, day-neutral strawberries, high-density specialty apples, lavender, nutraceuticals, hops, and fruits and vegetables grown in minimum or zero-heat poly tunnels. Ornamental crop production alone is approaching \$90 million annually in Atlantic Canada. There are more than two dozen estate wineries, triple the number of a decade ago, with more coming every year. In the last few years in Atlantic Canada, the number of farmer's direct marketing

meat has gone from 20 to 100, and that number will likely hit several hundred in the next decade. All sorts of farms have restaurants, tea rooms, or offer agri-tourism activities.

None of this flood of agricultural enterprise is unique to my region, it's happening in every part of the country.

But most of it gets dismissed as hobby or lifestyle farming. It's not the real deal. Around here, unless you're operating a 165-hp tractor, have manure on your boots and move your production by the semi-load, you're not a real farmer. This is especially true if you combine your seasonal farm business with another career in order to generate a full income. Somehow that amounts to 'dabbling' in farming as opposed to being a bona fide farmer.

That's nonsense. What's the difference between that person and a farmer who drives a truck or works in the oil patch between harvest and spring planting? And what's wrong with using the words flowers, wine or agri-tourism in the same sen-

tence as the word farmer?

For many entrepreneurial farmers, these distinctions no longer matter.

I know a farmer who will gross tens of thousands of dollars on a good weekend at his corn maze. Do you think he cares whether others consider him a 'real' farmer or not? An acre of cut flowers will generate \$20,000 in sales – which is why you'll find dozens of small farms producing outdoor cut flowers around major cities such as Edmonton. One of our largest cattle producers diversified years ago in strawberry plant production and then into landscape perennials. The operation employs as many as 75 people, many full-time. Despite the tough times that Atlantic beef producers are experiencing, I suspect that farm is in good financial health.

Change is painful when forced upon you, but change is nothing new. In 1890, we grew 50,000 acres of potatoes in Nova Scotia. Today, it's 2,500 acres. But most of the land is still being farmed. Twenty years from now there will still be an agriculture industry, even if it looks much different from what we have today.

But the constant stream of doom-and-gloom news stories has its effect. This year – for the first time in my 25 years of teaching – I had a group of first-year students who were wondering if they had made a mistake in deciding to take agriculture because it seemed to them that the industry was a basket case heading for extinction.

That should worry all of us in the industry, whether we are educators, policy-makers or farmers. The definition of agriculture solely as the growing of commodity crops and the raising of livestock and poultry is no longer accurate and in many parts of the country that part of agriculture is no longer economically viable.

It's regrettable, but so is focusing on the bad news and not fully realizing and fostering the many opportunities before us.

First published in "Canadian Farm Manager", August 2009. •

Traditional agriculture has broadened. In recent years, unique forms of smaller agriculture ventures have become more popular. NSAC alumna, Monica Sani-Berry (Class of '04), has sprouted her own specialty agriculture business, Spice it Up!, with husband Kevin Berry (Class of '10).

"I've been interested in herbs my entire life," says Monica. "Plus, I always loved the Farmers' Market. I really believe the importance of buying local and being able to supply your own products to your own community."

Together the husband and wife team maintain two greenhouses, a production yard and will be opening a retail store at their Highway 311 home outside of Truro,

year we had 25 different herbs, including a variety of legumes, cucurbits and root vegetables," says Monica.

They also supply restaurants and community gardens with their products, as well as stage different parties and events.

"If we can't fulfill our own orders, we buy from other local small businesses, such as Farmers Market suppliers," adds Monica.

Spice it Up! began as a spin-off to a previous business of Monica's. "I was always growing culinary herbs and studying herbal medicine," she says. While Monica was studying plant science at NSAC in 2000, she was told no one else in the area was selling such products. "I took that as a suggestion and worked towards



public on how to grow their own products. I really enjoyed teaching small communities how to grow their own food."

Her reputation and business soon spun to what it is today with Kevin.

Spicing it Up



NS. In their backyard, Monica and Kevin grow and process herbs to make dried spices, herb mixes and herb planters for retail at the local Farmers Market, other small specialty stores and their own retail store.

Their products range from strawberries and broccoli to garlic and basil. "This

developing a customer base."

It didn't take long for that to grow. Still a student, Monica spent her weekends at the Farmers Market satisfying her customers. One thing led to another and next thing she knew she was sharing her skills with everyone around her.

"It became my mission to educate the

While Spice it Up! specializes in edible horticulture, both Monica and Kevin have their own interests that they each bring to the business to expand their cliental.

For example, Kevin provides landscaping services to regular clients. "He has a number of on-going projects," says Monica. Kevin's forte is Xeriscaping, a specialty that involves drought tolerant plants so there is less demand of time and resources.

Finalizing her professional credentials as a certified herbal practitioner, Monica branches the business out to involve herbal medicine. She grows and processes herbs for medicinal use in her personal greenhouse. She has a number of clients regularly seeking her consultation services.

While the business is new, the area of focus isn't. Edible horticulture has been around for thousands of years. The concept was pushed aside when fast food became the number one demand, but with the will to be healthier rising every day, Spice it Up! is a key building block that is sure to only grow in popularity. •



Research Meets Passion at NSAC

It doesn't take long to realize that he loves where he is at this point in his life. Dr. Richard Donald's easy manner and insatiable interest in his new post is immediately clear. Dr. Donald is Nova Scotia Agricultural College's new vice president of research, extension and outreach.

Joining NSAC's executive team in July, Richard comes to NSAC with a mission. He wants to open minds about agriculture, its centrality to the food and resources we consume and therefore our long-term national stability. "I can't think of anything more core to our future than this."

When asked what attracted him to his current position, his passion is quickly evident. "I saw that I would have the ability here to influence policy and outcomes," says Richard. "I can make a difference while working in something I am greatly passionate about."

Described by those who know him best as someone who can make a friend anywhere, Richard's passion for agriculture shows his engaging style. "Agriculture weaves into so many core areas in our world – politics, science, food security, health, economics, social justice. A lot of people just don't realize what would happen if we lost our capacity to grow our own food. It would be catastrophic."

Richard likens existing attitudes towards agriculture to public attitudes about recycling two decades ago. He states the challenge ahead using that example. "Twenty years from now, I want people to believe that buying beef from Brazil at the local grocery store is as unsavoury as throwing a pop bottle out of your car window today."

Richard came to NSAC from Jacques Whitford Limited where he was principal and business unit director, International. He led the team responsible for identifying international markets and developing partnerships around the world and knows first-hand the characteristics of a strongly connected, and therefore successful, organization. "We looked for partners who valued what we did, who brought complementary skills to the picture, and who saw the same potential in markets that we did. To build on the opportunities for NSAC research, we'll be using that same approach."

Richard was immediately attracted to the calibre of research being conducted at NSAC and driven back into the industry so

quickly. "It all comes from the minds of visionary, resourceful individuals who find stunning ways to have an impact in the industry."

Richard believes that the small acts of individuals can have a huge effect. He has seen it first-hand. After completing his masters degree, Richard joined CUSO and went to work in war-torn Nicaragua. Along with another Canadian, he was working with the Nicaraguan Ministry of Agriculture, being paid a local wage and living like a local. When his co-worker expressed frustration that their work on crop nutrition was producing results too slowly, their program co-ordinator said something that has stuck with Richard throughout his career.



"The response was this: 'If in your three years here, you teach one person one thing that will change their life, you've accomplished something real and lasting. You have to define success around making a difference. By times, the small outcomes are as important, or more so, than the big ones.'"

Advancing quality work within the life sciences industry and advocating the impact of the results is a meaty challenge that requires an integrated system of inputs and activity, ac-

ording to Richard. "Co-ordinating and championing education, research, extension and outreach is the magic formula for moving the life sciences forward," says Richard.

"Teaching is critical to develop and protect our brain trust in life sciences," he continues. "Conducting relevant applied research, and making sure that research reaches those who can exponentially extend its impact, is another part of the equation. Transmitting research findings back to the stakeholders and seeking constant feedback on its relevance and application so we can do better, that's the other piece."

His final words speak to his humility and gratitude for his current challenge. "I have been given a range of tremendous gifts. I have had access to a great education; an enriching career and the opportunity to work with some very gifted people. I have a passion for agriculture and its centrality to our future, a belief in education, and I recognize that growth and success depends on partnerships that work. Now I get to put all that together at NSAC. I feel pretty lucky."

Friends, Food AND FUN

NSAC's Community Garden

Three years ago NSAC's Campus Sustainability Initiative (CSI) wanted to start a community garden on-campus. Under the simple direction of never to ask for money from the university, the project began.

Despite the financial struggle, the Community Garden has grown and is quite successful. "We started with 20 plots," says Meghan Summers, one of the students who helped start the project. "This past growing season we expanded to 40 plots. We struggle sometimes with no real funds but we make it work and people are enjoying themselves."

Located behind Alumni Gardens, the purpose of the Community Garden is to teach NSAC faculty, staff and students about organic, sustainable agriculture practices. Both individual plots and a larger community plot are offered in the space. Gardeners do what they want with the food from their own plots and food from the community plot gets handed out in various ways, including to the local food bank.

"The first year we offered people individual plots but had the main goal of maintaining the community section. Interest dropped off through the year though and it became a big project for only a few people. The second year we switched to just individual plots. This past season we went back to individual and a community plot because interest increased so much," Meghan says. "I'm glad we have the community section back because that's really why we started this. It's nice to be able to use the food grown there for a good cause like the food bank."

Aside from doubling the involvement last season, the garden also added a few other features. "The first thing we did was implement a membership fee. It's only \$10 but helps us buy seeds, wheelbarrows and other equipment. In the actual garden we put up a bean teepee and built an herb circle based on the concept of permaculture."

"It's been really neat to see the growth," Meghan continues. "I was here the first year, gone the second and was back again for the third. We're still facing some of the same challenges we faced



the first year but we're learning and growing. I'm really impressed by the interest and involvement now."

One of the most interesting things about the garden is the high level of student involvement. "I'd say about 75 per cent of growers here are students. It's nice for them to have a place like this on-campus."

While the club continues to provide seeds to participants, many also bring their own. "People have liked the freedom to plant their own things and often trade amongst each other."

As the number of participants grew, so did the list variety of plants being put into the garden. That list now includes beans from the bean teepee, various herbs from the herb circle, kale, garlic, brussel sprouts, high bush blueberries, rhubarb, potatoes, carrots, turnips, beets, cabbages, bok choy, swiss chard and of course, tomatoes.

With the next growing season coming soon, the student leaders are hard at work looking at future endeavors for the garden.

"I don't think we'll be expanding anymore, at least not for a while. There isn't a lot of room left here and we really want to focus on the plots we have. We are thinking about implementing a deadline to have plants in the ground so that the soil doesn't go bad like we had a bit this year. If plants aren't in at that time in any of the plots then we'll plant a cover crop to keep the ground healthy."

"Outside of the garden we'd like to do more community outreach. We'd like to hold some workshops and community harvests. We all have so much fun here and want to share our knowledge and experience with the community."

Meghan is quick to say that the garden really has lived up to its name. "It's so positive to come here. I just love it. You never come without running into someone. There are always good conversations and things happening. Like this past year when we had a problem with aphids. One of the gardeners has lots of lady bugs in his garden at home so he collected a bunch and brought them here to try and help. Biological containment I guess," she says, smiling. "It really does feel like a community here and I'm so happy to be involved."

If you would like information on joining the Community Garden, you can contact the 2010 Community Garden Chairs, David Hobson at hobsond@nsac.ca and Kirk Jordan at jordank@nsac.ca.

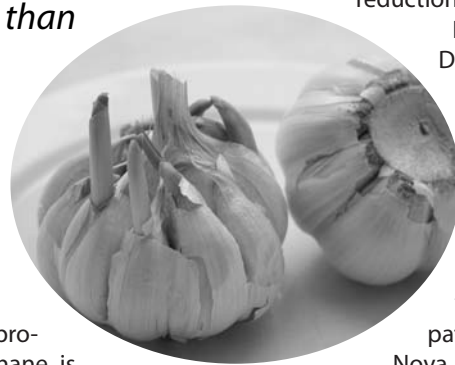
Going Carbon Mootral

While garlic may be a small item used in cooking for many of us, to others it holds a valuable asset in lowering greenhouse gases (GHGs).

"The latest IPCC report states that methane is 26 times a more potent GHG than carbon dioxide."

When the tissue of garlic is damaged, a compound called allicin is created. Allicin has antibacterial and anti-fungal properties and is garlic's defence against pest attacks. Neem Biotech Ltd., based in Cardiff, Wales, UK, also believes the compound will help lower GHGs.

"Ruminant animals – cows and sheep – produce massive amounts of methane. Methane is one of the most damaging greenhouse gases," says Dr. Nana Annan, senior food scientist at Atlantic BioVenture Centre (ABVC). "The latest IPCC report states that methane is 26 times a more potent GHG than carbon dioxide. Mature cows release some 500 litres of methane per day which, when multiplied by the num-



ber of cattle in Nova Scotia, contributes to about 18 per cent of annual generated GHG in Nova Scotia."

Neem Biotech Ltd. has been working for six years to develop garlic-derived allicin preparations. They have already completed successful trials in applying that research to ruminant methane reduction. The project is known as 'Carbon Mootral'.

NSAC steps into the project through ABVC and Dairy Research Centre. The centres will work together to validate the capacity of allicin to reduce methanogenic bacteria in the ruminant forestomach.

"It is the intent of this project to adopt the technology for Nova Scotia cattle in anticipation of providing an impact to the Nova Scotia environment," says Dr. Annan. "The allicin administration procedure is anticipated to significantly reduce GHG produced in Nova Scotia cattle by a target of up to 25 per cent.

This would immediately enhance our atmospheric conditions and move Nova Scotia forward as an important leader in the field of GHG reduction and associated research."

Periodic project checks will be printed in future editions of *Agricola News*. For more information visit neembiotech.com

NEW ALUMNI FACE IN DEVELOPMENT & EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Jenna Tingley (Class of '01) joined the Development and External Relations office in August, filling the position of executive assistant to the executive director. Jenna will be managing donations to NSAC, organizing the Agricultural Hall of Fame and working with the entire unit with respect to marketing, communication and development.

"I'm really looking forward to connecting with alumni," says Jenna, of her new role.

Growing up in Dartmouth, NS, Jenna chose to attend NSAC after high school for the hands on experience and the uniqueness of the programs. "I had no previous experience to agriculture," she says with a laugh, "I faced a big learning curve my first year!"

After completing her B.Sc. (Agr.), Jenna decided to promote her passion for NSAC

to others while working in Recruitment for four years. She then moved on and completed her Bachelor of Education at Mount Saint Vincent University, graduating in 2007.

Before joining the Development & External Relations team, Jenna filled a number of other positions on campus including with Registry and NSAC's Co-President, Vice President Administration, Dr. Bernie MacDonald.

Jenna can be reached at jtingley@nsac.ca or 902-893-6721.



ENROLLMENT CONTINUES TO GROW AT NOVA SCOTIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

Enrollments have increased in all key categories at Atlantic Canada's universities and Nova Scotia Agricultural College is no exception.

Enrollment at the Bible Hill university has been steadily increasing over the past five years. This year, enrollment is the highest it has been in over a decade. The institution has seen an increase in students in all academic levels - technology, degree and graduate. The 10.6 per cent increase in full-time students is the largest percentage increase amongst universities in the Atlantic provinces.

NSAC has also seen a significant increase in its international student population, up by over 50 per cent in the past year, helping to diversify the student population and internationalize campus.



Highlights from 2009-10 Scholarship Banquet

Three hundred and forty four students were honored during the 2009 Scholarship Banquet on Thursday, Oct. 29 with the presentation of nearly \$1 million in scholarships and bursaries to deserving students; 38 per cent of the entire student body.

"We are very proud of our students," said NSAC Co-President and Vice President Academic Dr. Leslie MacLaren. "They have made significant achievements in their studies and that is very promising for the future. I have no doubt that many leaders of tomorrow will come from the students being honoured this year."

And it is a diverse group of students. International students account for 55 winners on the list this year; 37 from China, eight from India, two each from U.S. and Sri Lanka and one each from Pakistan, Russia, Jamaica, Bulgaria, Korea and the UK. The remaining students are dispersed among the Canadian provinces.

"Having sponsors to provide scholarships for our students is crucial to our institutional goals and it is exciting and inspiring to have such strong support from our donor community," added MacLaren.

Bill Mathewson Memorial Bursary

Earlier this year, NSAC was pleased to add another award to scholarship offerings available to students. The \$1,000 bursary is in memory of Professor Emeritus, Bill Mathewson, who taught Animal Science for 20 years at NSAC. The award will be presented annually to a student in any year of any program to assist in furthering their education through study/travel to another country. The bursary has been made available through the generous contributions from students, NSAC colleagues, friends and associates at church and within the agricultural industry, in particular, the sheep breeders of Nova Scotia. Mrs. Greta Mathewson (on left) and her daughter, Karen Cameron (on right), are shown congratulating the first recipient of the bursary – Jessica Rock, Truro, NS, a third year B.Sc.(Agr.) Agricultural Business student.



Don Palfrey Memorial Scholarship

The 2009 recipient of the \$1,000 Don Palfrey Memorial Scholarship is Connie McLellan, Noel Shore, NS, a fourth year B.Tech. Environmental Horticulture student. Alisha Johnson, development officer, NSAC, is shown congratulating Connie. The award is presented annually in recognition of the many years of service and contributions to weed science in Nova Scotia by Don Palfrey. The scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate student who is carrying out a senior-year research project in the area of pest management.



Charles M. Collins Memorial Scholarship

Sarah Weatherby, Murray Siding, NS, a fourth year B.Tech. Environmental Horticulture student was selected to receive the \$1,000 Charles M. Collins Memorial

Scholarship for 2009. Prof. Carol Goodwin, Environmental Sciences Department and a member of NSAC's Scholarship Committee, is shown with Sarah. The \$1,000 scholarship is awarded annually to a student at NSAC who is enrolled in a program of study relating to horticulture. The scholarship is in memory of Charles McKittrick Collins, who taught horticulture at NSAC for 25 years and supervised the landscaping and maintenance of the campus grounds, and for whom the Collins Horticultural building was named in 1975.



Jennifer Hayes Starratt Scholarship

Carolyn van den Heuvel, Antigonish, NS, a fourth year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student, was presented with the \$5,500 Jennifer Hayes Starratt Scholarship at NSAC's Scholarship Banquet. Lynn Sibley, assistant registrar, NSAC, is shown congratulating Carolyn. Named for Jennifer Hayes Starratt, who graduated in '96 with a B.Sc.(Agr.) degree majoring in Environmental Biology, a \$5,500 scholarship is awarded annually to a female student entering the final year of the B.Sc.(Agr.) program. Selection will be based on academic performance, leadership, and involvement in campus activities.



Allan A. Saunders Memorial Graduate Scholarship

Jaclyn Mosher, Poplar Grove, NS (Class of '09), an M.Sc. student, is the 2009 recipient of the \$4,000 Allan A. Saunders (Class of '45) Memorial Graduate Scholarship. Mrs. Sylvia Saunders and son-in-law, Russell Sloan, are shown congratulating Jaclyn. The graduate scholarship is awarded annually to a graduate student who is conducting research related to the dairy industry. Selection criteria include academic performance, dairy farm background and/or demonstrated interest in the dairy industry, and financial need.



Two \$500 Class of '50 Bursaries Awarded

The Class of '50, in commemoration of their 50th anniversary of graduation from NSAC, established a bursary fund to assist NSAC students in financial need. Jack Johnson (Class of '50), and wife Trudy, are shown congratulating the 2009 recipients at NSAC's Scholarship Banquet – from far left: Kristy Haines, Glassville, NB, a third year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student; and Ashlee d'Entremont, Yarmouth, NS, a third year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student.



Truro Student Receives Karen Meek Memorial Scholarship

Will Shaw, Truro, NS, a fourth year B.Sc. (Agr.) Environmental Sciences student, was presented with the \$1,500 Karen Meek Memorial Scholarship. Mr. & Mrs. Eric Meek (Class of '54) are shown congratulating Will. In memory of Karen Meek, who studied Agricultural Business at NSAC 1980–82, the scholarship is awarded annually to a student in the B.Sc. (Agr.) Environmental Science program. Selection criteria also include academic performance, financial need, and contribution to campus life.



\$1,500 Gordon B. Kinsman Memorial Graduate Scholarship

Mrs. Virginia Kinsman and son Brian Kinsman are shown with the 2009 recipients of \$1,500 Gordon B. Kinsman (Class of '47) Memorial Graduate Scholarships. The presentations took place at NSAC's Scholarship Banquet. On left: Lin Wu, Fuzhou, Fujian, China, and second from right, Navratan Bahia, Bathinda, Punjab, India – both M.Sc.(Agr.) students. The scholarships are awarded to graduate students in Horticulture at NSAC.



Cliff & Grace Retson Memorial Bursary Awarded

Yuyi Chen, Chenglicun, Fujian Province, China, a 4th year B.Sc.(Agr.) Plant Science student, was selected as the 2009 recipient of the \$600 Cliff & Grace Retson Memorial Bursary. In memory of Cliff (Class of '34) & Grace Retson, this bursary is awarded to an international student studying at NSAC. Selection criteria include financial need, academic performance, and interest in and involvement in multi-cultural activities on campus. Mrs. Mavis Yorke, daughter of the late Cliff & Grace Retson, attended NSAC's Scholarship Banquet to make the presentation.



Dr. John Bubar Scholarship

Dr. John Bubar, NSAC Class '50, B.Sc.(Agr.) '52, M.Sc., Penn State, '54, PhD Macdonald College, (McGill)'57 was an outstanding professor at NSAC.

After completing his education, John returned to NSAC in '67 to become the first department head of the newly formed Plant Science Department. By the time he had relinquished the position more than a decade later, the department had grown to a professional group of a dozen accomplished scientists and teachers.

John Bubar loved to teach and share his love of plants and agriculture in general. Students recall him banging two garbage can lids together to gather those waiting in the corridors into the classroom. He was also affectionately known by many students as "Johnny Plant". In turn he knew every student's name and by the time he retired in '87, he had taught three generations of students at NSAC.

John was the first active researcher at NSAC. He carried out agronomic field trials for decades on and off-campus and was the main driving force behind the acquisition of NSDA research funds for scientists at NSAC. He will always be remembered for his love of Birdsfoot Trefoil, especially the variety "Leo" which he bred and developed as the first named cultivar of the species.



John is a friend of NSAC, of agriculture and a strong proponent of practical learning. He has left an indelible mark on NSAC and the students who have passed through our doors.

As a means of recognizing John's commitment to NSAC, John's children, Don and Carol, have set up an endowed fund, the Dr. John Bubar Scholarship. Consistent with John's New Brunswick roots, the new \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded annually to the top New Brunswick resident student in the second or third year of the B.Sc. (Agr.) program at NSAC and who is not a receipt of other significant scholarships.

Sara (Becky) Brewster of Miramichi, NB was the 2009 recipient of the award and we were fortunate enough to have Dr. Bubar and his son, Don, to the awards banquet in October to meet with Sara.

Supporting the scholarships and bursaries program at NSAC is not only an excellent way of recognizing an individual for a career in the industry but is a wonderful way to help our students ultimately make a difference in our world. Contact the Development & External Relations office if you are interested in setting up a scholarship.



NSAC Alumni Family Bursary

Jim Goit, executive director, Development & External Relations, NSAC, is shown with some of this year's recipients of the Alumni Family Bursary (Back row, from left) – Robyn McCallum, Tabusintac, NB, a first year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; Jessica Leck, Brookfield, NS, a first year B.Sc.(Agr.) Aquaculture student; Mr. Goit; Samantha Sinclair, Goshen, NS, a third year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student; Amanda McDonald, Milford Station, NS, a fourth year B.Sc.(Agr.) Environmental Sciences student. Front row: Mattea Tracey, a fourth year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; and Maxine MacLean, Hopewell, NS, a fourth year B.Sc.(Agr.) Environmental Sciences student.

Absent at the time of photo were: Megan Crouse, Valley, NS, a third year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student; Alexander Sinclair, Goshen, NS, a first year Diploma in Enterprise Management - Farming student; Emily Colwell, Quispamsis, NB, a third year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student; Caitlin Congdon, Great Village, NS, a second year B.Sc.(Agr.) Plant Science student; Tyler Fraser, Tatamagouche, NS, a third year B.Tech. Applied Science student; Ian Lake-Thompson, Mabou, NS, a second year Engineering student; Matthew Linton, Scotch Ridge, NB, a first year Diploma in Enterprise Management - Farming student; Janet Maxner, Windsor, NS, a third year Diploma in Enterprise Management - Dairy Farming student; Mark Schooten, Upper Onslow, NS, a fourth year B.Sc.(Agr.) Plant Science student; Jeanette van der Linden, Antigonish, NS, a first year Bachelor of Administration (honours) International Food Business student.

CALLING ALL CLASS OF '61 MEMBERS

In 2011, it will be 50 years since the Class of '61 graduated. How many classmates would be interested in having a reunion organized with activities? If you are interested please contact Jean LeLacheur Ward, class secretary, at rward@ns.sympatico.ca.

In your e-mail indicate your preference for reunion date, time and place, as well as what you would like to have on the agenda. It's up to the class to make this happen!



Sandstone Replaced on Cumming Hall Steps

Sandstone was incorporated back into the new front steps of Cumming Hall this September. When the steps were reconstructed in 2008, the sandstone was not used immediately as it was difficult to find and it was best to wait until the steps had a year to settle into place. The entrance to Cumming Hall looks great and now has the original appearance!

HAVE YOU RECEIVED YOUR NSAC E-NEWS THIS MONTH?

We have identified a problem that affects many Sympatico and Hotmail users. We send out our monthly e-News to over 3,000 alumni who have registered an e-mail address.

The problem arises when a few email providers (specifically Sympatico and Hotmail) think that we are spamming them. Currently we do not have a fix for this issue. If you have a Hotmail or Sympatico e-mail address and haven't received any of our monthly e-mails you can always find it online at nsac.ca/e-news

If you have another e-mail address that you would like to register with us let us know! E-mail alumni@nsac.ca and we'd be happy to update your address.

Alumni Family Bursary Campaign Update

First awarded in 2008-09, NSAC's Alumni Family Bursary was created to provide financial relief to family members of alumni. Every student with a family member who studied at NSAC is eligible for the bursary. Awards are based on strength of family relations, number of relations, financial need and involvement with the Alumni office.

This bursary has been a fundraising priority at NSAC since it was created. With many long lines of families attending NSAC, the bursary has the potential to support a lot of students. Plus at NSAC we like to believe that we are all one extended family and we want to be able to support as many of our family members as we can!

Last year, the bursary provided support to 13 students and their families. This year, 40 students were eligible for the bursary

and 16 were supported. We can predict that the demand for the bursary will only continue to grow.

When the bursary was first developed, money was transferred from the Second Centaury Endowment Fund to allow the Alumni Family Bursary to award \$10,000 to students for the first three years. Next year will be the last year to borrow that money, so we need to grow the fund now in order to be able to stand on our own and continue to support our families.

Our goal to sustain the Alumni Family Bursary fund: \$750,000

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, money raised as of December 2009: \$147,597

Recipients of the 2009-10 Alumni Family Bursary are shown on page 19.

The Dr. Bill Jenkins Memorial Scholarship Established

The Dr. Bill Jenkins Memorial Scholarship has been established to honour the memory of NSAC's seventh principal.

The new \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a second or third year undergraduate student in any of the business degree programs at NSAC. Selection criteria will include overall academic performance, leadership record and financial need. No application for the scholarship is necessary and the eligible candidates will be selected by NSAC's Scholarship Committee from candidates in the targeted programs.

The scholarship will first be awarded in 2010 and then annually thereafter from investment income from the established fund. Initial capital for the endowment has been provided by Dr. Jenkins' wife, Reba. Other donations are also most welcome.

It was the leadership of Dr. Jenkins that was responsible for a substantial portion of the growth in physical facilities, programs and enrollment which NSAC saw during the 1960's and early 70's. This new scholarship will be a lasting reminder of that effort.

A World of Fun and Education at NSAC's Open House 2009



A fun and educational agricultural showcase – that's what the over 800 visitors to NSAC discovered at Open House 2009. The annual event took place under over-cast skies on Thursday, July 23. The grey sky, wind and occasional drizzle could not

dampen anyone's spirits however, there was too much to see and do to notice.

Upon quick glance at the map of exhibits, it was clear that education and research at NSAC is applied in many core areas of our society – science, food security, health, economics, politics, and social justice.

It takes only one person to make a difference. By showcasing agriculture, NSAC inspired visitors to consider how they can make a difference in their own lives. For some, this might mean starting a backyard compost heap or taking new interest in where our food comes from. Others may become more considerate of life around them. A few may even consider a career in agriculture. In any case, we all look forward to next year's Open House at NSAC.



Blue & Gold Awards Nominate deserving alumni today!

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 can not exceed five pages in total.
- 5) Nomination forms are available online at nsac.ca/alumni or from the Alumni office at 902-893-6022.
- 6) Submissions are to be made to the Alumni office at PO Box 550, Truro, NS, B2N 5E3 or electronically at alumni@nsac.ca
- 7) Deadline for submissions is May 15, 4 p.m. No late submissions will be accepted.

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 the NSAC Advisory Board, members of NSAC's 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 *Agricola 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 for award recipients to the Alumni Association for approval.
- 4) Successful nominees will be informed in writing by the president of NSAC's Alumni Association.
- 5) Recipients will be honoured at the Blue and Gold Awards.

Alumni Events...

2009 Blue & Gold Awards Nov. 13, 2009

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 Alumni Achievement Award

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

Alumni Volunteer of the Year

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

Distinguished Alumni Award

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

And the winners are...

Oliver Browning (Class of '98) Young Alumni Achievement Award 2009



Born and raised in Truro, NS, Oliver Browning knew at an early age what his career would entail. Right after high school, Oliver attended NSAC just as both his parents, David and Rayona, had done. There, he followed in his father's footsteps and began his engineering education, graduating in 1998 with his Degree Diploma in Engineering. He then went on to complete his Bachelor of Engineering

(Civil) from the University of New Brunswick in 2001. In 2008, Oliver completed a Masters Certificate in Project Management at Saint Mary's University.

At the very beginning of his career, Oliver gained practical hands-on experience in engineering practice while working at his father's consulting firm, D.A. Browning & Associates Inc. He also worked as a structural engineer and project manager for RKO Steel Limited and subsequently for Eastern Canadian Structures Limited. Oliver has since settled in as an Engineering Associate at Horner Associates (ADI) Limited in Truro.

Oliver has excelled early in his engineering career by tackling some ambitious projects. These include his recent work as the structural engineer and construction contract manager for the state of the art \$4.5 million Clare Health Centre in Meteghan, NS and a 24,000 square-foot, \$2.2 million operations facility for the Public Works Department for the Town of Truro. He was also deeply involved this past year with the Truro Skate Park, providing engineering for the reinforced concrete used to build the heart-stopping vertical ramps used by the skateboarders.

Throughout Oliver's career, his engineering and project management work has included a plethora of buildings, civil works, municipal works, structural designs, and design-build projects all over the Atlantic provinces. As an internationally certified project management professional and a professional engineer, his skills, abilities and experience make him an asset to any design team.

Despite the demanding career path Oliver has taken, he still finds time to play an active role in his home community of Truro. He dedicates time to fundraising events for the Canadian Cancer Society, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and the United Way of Colchester County. He also has volunteered time with the Truro and Area Minor Hockey Association and the Central Colchester Soccer

Association in coaching capacities. Oliver is also the Colchester County representative for Engineers Nova Scotia where he serves as liaison between the society and the professional engineers in Colchester County, as well as NSAC's engineering students. Oliver also organizes activities and events for the local grade nine students during National Engineering Week and takes time to give talks to NSAC students about the engineering profession and potential career opportunities after graduation.

In 2008, Oliver was awarded the Nova Scotia Young Engineer of the Year by Engineers Nova Scotia for his significant engineering accomplishments. It is because of Oliver's outstanding success already in his career, the active role he plays in his community and his ongoing connection to NSAC's engineering students that he is also very deserving of NSAC's Young Alumni Achievement Award for 2009.

Robert Murray (Class of '52) Alumni Volunteer of the Year



He may be retired, but Robert (Bob) Murray, doesn't have to wonder what to do in his spare time. Bob has spent his working career and retirement dedicated to making a difference for those around him.

Bob spends his days as a member of the St. James Presbyterian Church where he is involved with

the Men's Club, Board of Managers and is a Church Elder. He also volunteers his time as a member with the Postal History Society of Nova Scotia, Postal History Society of Canada, Bible Fellowship Group, Colchester Historical Society and the Truro Philatelic Society where he is secretary, bulletin editor and past president.

Bob juggles all of this volunteer involvement while still sticking close to his former career. After retiring as a berry crop specialist, Bob established Murray Consulting Services. He continues to provide advice to growers on a limited part-time basis. Bob's also busy leaving his mark as author and co-author of a number of books including Nova Scotia Cranberry History & Development and Tangled Vine: Wine Growing in Nova Scotia.

A lifestyle in agriculture was inevitable for Bob, who was born and raised on his family's dairy farm in Scotsbourn, Pictou County. Graduating from NSAC in 1952, Bob went on to further his education at McGill. His career with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture & Marketing began immediately upon finishing at McGill in 1954. It lasted 40 years.

As a berry crops specialist, Bob was the primary contact for many berry crop producers in the province. He took a very practical approach to his work and helped many growers achieve their goals through a conservative, well thought out process.

Throughout his career, Bob also spent time as a lecturer at NSAC. He enjoyed passing on his berry crop knowledge to students, who later became successful producers or extension workers.

On top of receiving a long service award for his dedication to the Province of Nova Scotia, Bob has also received many other honours including the Recognition Award from the Nova Scotia Strawberry Growers Association, Distinguished Agrologist Award, Honourary Member: Grape Growers Association of Nova Scotia, NSIA Distinguished Life Membership Award and Honourary Member NSFA Senate Club. Jost Vineyards felt Bob's leadership to the Nova Scotia grape and wine sectors were so momentous they named their 1992 Seyval Blanc wine the "Robert Murray Select".

In addition to the activities that fill Bob's recent days, he has also left his mark with a number of other organizations. These have included Boy Scouts, Windsor & Truro Gyro Club, North American Strawberry Growers Association, Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame, as well as with the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists and Agricultural Institute of Canada.

Amid all of Bob's activities and achievements, enjoying cottage life outside of Windsor with his wife, Pat, children, John and Nancy, and their families is second to none.

Charlie Embree (Class of '61) Distinguished Alumni Award



It's not hard to agree that Charlie Embree has made a great impact on the agriculture industry, both locally and abroad. His mark, without a doubt, will be long lasting.

Growing up in Springhill, Charlie studied at NSAC, graduating in 1961 and went on to complete his degree at University of Guelph.

Working in a number of capacities throughout his career, Charlie served agriculture in Nova Scotia for over 40 years. He began as an extension specialist in the tree fruit sector before moving to administration as director of horticulture and biology services for the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and also as a research scientist with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

In addition, Charlie has been extensively involved in international agricultural efforts, relating to tree fruit. For this he has received a medal of recognition from the International Society of Horticultural Science for co-organizing the first symposium on organic apples and pears. His other international involvement includes filling the role of reference co-coordinator for the US Regional Research Committee, known as North Central Regional

Research, as well as a member of the CGC United States Germplasm Committee and the North East Plant Growth Regulator working group.

Throughout his career, Charlie has always maintained his ties to NSAC. Serving as an adjunct professor since 1988, he has given many lectures on propagation and apple production technologies. On top of this, Charlie has mentored many NSAC students and a number of grad students.

Charlie's work has positioned him as a recognized leader and educator, to several generations of fruit growers, to improve the tree fruit industry. While he sharpens the science of fruit growing as a professional, he is not afraid to get his hands dirty doing the actual work. Growers in Nova Scotia have benefitted from Charlie's expertise, as have growers in NB, PEI, Maine and other areas.

Charlie has been active in a number of professional and industry organizations including director and president of NSIA, director of Agricultural Institute of Canada, director of Canadian Society of Horticultural Science and director of NSFGA. He has also received a number of recognitions for his efforts. These awards have included Distinguished Life Member from the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists, NSFGA Honourary Life Member and NSFGA Golden Apple Award.

Most recently Charlie was appointed to the Nova Scotia Food Council, a committee to develop food issues which encompasses production, health, security, research, environment and international employees, as well as other issues.

Because of this great work, Charlie has truly distinguished himself in his area of expertise, bringing honour to NSAC and the Alumni Association.



GOOD TIMES HAD AT LOCAL ALUMNI DIVOT & DINE

Seven teams participated in the Alumni Association's Local Alumni Divot & Dine in June. The golf game was held at River-run Golf Club in North River. Stay tuned for a date for the next Divot & Dine!



Pictured far left is Arnold Hagen (Class of '85), president of NSAC's Alumni Association, Earl Pickard (Class of '97), Chris Thompson, Ron Smith and Dwane Mellish (Class of '75), vice president of NSAC's Alumni Association.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL A BIG HIT!

NSAC's Development & External Relations office was busy serving up ice cream for staff and alumni on Friday, Aug. 28 in the Rock Garden. Almost 100 tasty cones of chocolate, vanilla and strawberry were scooped within 30 minutes!



Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame 2009

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

The 2009 inductees include the late Lottie Austin Cook, Nova Scotia; John E. Robinson, New Brunswick; Albert Earl (Bud) Ings, Prince Edward Island and Rhonda Carol Thornley, Newfoundland and Labrador.

The induction ceremony was held Thursday, Oct. 29. The Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame operates as a result of the support given by agricultural organizations, public agencies, corporations and private individuals.

Lottie Austin Cook (1907 - 1991) Nova Scotia



Lottie attended NSAC and graduated in 1930.

For several years she worked as assistant agriculture representative to J.C.F. MacDonnell. Having no car, she walked from community to community organizing junior clubs and meeting the farmers in Inverness County. In 1934 Lottie was appointed agricultural representative for Inverness County and held the distinction of being the first woman in Canada to be appointed to such a position.

As agricultural representative, Lottie worked with some of the most knowledgeable people in agriculture. She also began working with people from the St. FX Extension Department, such as Moses Coady and Jimmy Tompkins and became passionate about the co-op movement. Lottie worked closely with farmers, bringing them together to form the Inverness County Federation of Agriculture. She also worked with other farm organizations, 4-H clubs, poultry pools and co-operatives, leading to the opening of stores and credit unions in Inverness County. Over the years, several young agricultural assistants were mentored under Lottie's watchful eye. Colin H. Chisholm, Jim Wright, Charlie Douglas and Jim MacNeil, as well as future Nova Scotia Minister of Agriculture, Angus Rankin, were all her assistants.

In 1943, Lottie married George Cook. George became the agricultural representative for Colchester. Lottie and George opened a chick hatchery in Truro, establishing breeder flocks in Greenfield and Bass River and they soon became one of the foremost producers of high quality chicks in the Maritime provinces.

George died in 1954, leaving the family and business respon-

sibilities to Lottie, who continued with Cook's Chick Hatchery until 1975. She was a leading and much respected force in the development of many new poultry farms in the Maritimes and a driving force behind many local and national organizations. Lottie was awarded the Certificate of Merit by the Canadian Hatchery Federation in 1983.

Lottie and George had two children, Jim and Edith Lou. Lottie passed away at her home in Truro in 1991.

Lottie was nominated by the Inverness Victoria Federation of Agriculture, in recognition of an eminent career as an agricultural extension professional and industry leader.

(Bud) Ings Prince Edward Island



After graduating from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1952, Bud, his wife, Connie, and their eldest daughter returned to PEI where he began his practice in Souris. He worked in a time when drugs were minimal, as was the pay. He was the only practicing veterinarian in King's county and as such had to be available 24-7 without time off or holidays. In his Volkswagen Bug, he trudged through the red island clay roads in all weather conditions to treat

animals of all shapes and sizes. The dedication he had to the profession and the work ethic required of him in that time is unparalleled today. He is PEI's very own James Herriot.

Bud and his family moved to Montague and established a practice in the basement of their home. In the late 1960s he established the Montague Veterinary Clinic.

Entering politics, Bud was elected as an MLA in 1970. He was appointed Minister of Agriculture in 1974 and Minister of Health in 1978. When the government fell in 1980, he returned to practice and established the Brudenell Animal Hospital, retiring in the early 1990s after mentoring countless young veterinarians and supplying superior vet service to the residents of King's county.

Bud served on the committee which, after a hard battle, brought the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC) to PEI. For his key role in this endeavour, he received the Honourable Eugene F. Whelan Green Hat Award, the highest honour bestowed by AVC.

In addition to practicing veterinary medicine, Bud has been, and continues to be, a pillar in his community. He served on town council in the 1960s, has been an active member of the Rotary Club in Montague since the 1980s, is an exceptional fiddle player with a life membership in the Queen's County Fiddlers and has been actively involved with the Hillcrest United Church. He is a gifted photographer and always has his camera with him.

A writer, Bud published his first book "Mud, Sweat and Tears"

which recounts his adventures as a country vet. All proceeds from the book sales have been donated to the PEI Humane Society. His philosophy is that he "made a living off of four legged critters his whole life and it is time to give something back". In appreciation of his generous donation, the Humane Society has renamed their "getting acquainted room" the "Dr. Bud Ings Room".

Bud and his wife, Connie, raised three daughters, Jeanne, Joanne and Jayne.

Bud was nominated by the PEI Federation of Agriculture for being a respected leader in the province and a founder of veterinary medicine as we know it in PEI.

John E. Robinson New Brunswick



John and his wife, Elizabeth, started farming in 1961 with the purchase of the home farm.

John's dedication to the farming community is extensive. He was a director on the NB Milk Marketing Board for 15 years, vice-chairman for six years, and chairman for five years. He is a past-president of the NB Federation of Agriculture, past-president of NB Holstein Branch, director of Holstein Canada, past-president of the Sussex Holstein Club, chairman of the Review

Board for Farm Credit Corporation, NB Agriculture Development Board and Canadian Farm Business Management provincial coordinating group as well as a member of the New Brunswick Farm Products Commission.

John's commitments extend to the rural community as well. He has been involved with Fundy Mutual Insurance as a director, involved in the Scout and Girl Guide Association, Figure Skating Association, Minor Hockey Association, basketball, the United Church, was a past board member of Kiwanis Nursing Home, the Princess Louise Park Committee and the Fundy Civic Centre Fundraising Committee and campaign chair.

John always felt that there are many benefits to being involved in agriculture including the growing of crops, the raising of livestock and the desire to leave the land in at least as good if not better condition than when you started. The greatest benefit of agricultural life has been having the opportunity to raise his children in a farming environment. He has also appreciated the many friends that he has made over the years with all his organizational involvement, many that have lasted long after his involvement with the particular organization has ended.

John has the philosophy that the things that have been accomplished in the New Brunswick Dairy Industry have been possible because dairy farmers worked together and adapted to change. To succeed, the dairy industry must continue to be aggressive and be the leader in agriculture as it has been in the past. With the leadership of men such as John E. Robinson, this certainly seems possible.

John and Elizabeth have four children - John Jr., Derek, Heather and Wendy - and nine grandchildren. Their farm is now incorporated as Hazelhill Farm Ltd. where John Jr. and his wife Nicki, along with Derek and his wife, Angela, continue to work together as a strong family unit.

John was nominated by the Dairy Farmers of New Brunswick for a lifelong commitment to the dairy industry of NB.

Rhonda Carol Thornley Newfoundland and Labrador



Rhonda and her husband Phillip operate Campbellton U-Pick which is one of the largest and most innovative strawberry and raspberry operations in the province. They started this farm operation in 1980 along with Rhonda's father-in-law, the late Peter Thornley. Rhonda and her family are leaders in the agriculture community in Newfoundland and Labrador and are recognized for their outstanding environmental stewardship. In January 2007, they received the

Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture Environment Award and were one of the first farms in the province to complete an environmental farm plan.

Rhonda has contributed significantly to developing the agriculture industry in Newfoundland and Labrador. She currently serves as the vice president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture where she has worked toward the development of a Stable Funding Committee. This initiative was undertaken to ensure long term financial support to achieve the Federation's mandate of "Farmers Helping Farmers". She strives to promote farm women's issues in the province through her dedicated work as president of the Central Farm Women's Association and as secretary for the Provincial Farm Women's Association.

She has also worked diligently to advance the horticultural industry in her role on the Newfoundland and Labrador Horticulture Council Board of Directors. She believes in supporting the needs of farmers and the importance of active participation in agricultural organizations to create a stronger and more vibrant agriculture industry.

Rhonda has contributed her skills and business knowledge to help other farmers and has served on numerous organizations throughout the years, including the Newfoundland Farm Products Board of Directors, Agricultural Products Marketing Board, Agriculture Awareness Committee, Greenhouse Gas Taking Charge Team and the Farm Debt Review Board.

Rhonda has also been a leader and volunteer in her community serving as a Guide and Pathfinder leader and secretary to the Guide Council. She served as a Sunday school teacher and treasurer for the Campbellton Fire Brigade, and has volunteered for many years as the coach for the local high school and junior high girls volleyball and basketball teams. Rhonda has contributed

her time and tremendous business and agricultural knowledge in regional business development efforts including serving on the Board of Directors of the Kittiwake Coast Tourism Association.

Rhonda and her husband, Phillip, have three beautiful children, Annette, Angela and Andrew.

Rhonda was nominated by the Newfoundland and Labrador Horticulture Council for her outstanding contributions to her community and the agricultural industry.



(L-R) Lottie Cook (represented by daughter Edith Hudgins), NS, Bud Ings (represented by daughter Jeanne Robertson), PEI, John Robinson, NB, and Carol Thornley, NL

NSAC BBQ

NSAC's staff and alumni BBQ, held right after Open House in the Alumni Gardens, had a great turn-out. Staff, alumni and their families took a break in the shade while enjoying a delicious chicken BBQ, salads and fresh rolls, followed by make-your-own strawberry shortcake. Toe-tapping entertainment was provided by Fiddles & Feet during the meal.



NSAC Alumni Association Board of Directors 2009-10

Nova Scotia Agricultural College has a long and illustrious history of providing a unique and valuable education and service in support of agriculture and the agri-food industry in the Atlantic provinces. One of the driving forces behind the institution's legacy and tradition has been the loyalty of its alumni and the strength of their support.

NSAC's Alumni Association is the voice of our alumni membership. We strive to build a strong NSAC community facilitating communication among alumni and building relationships between the university and its *alma mater*.

Working closely with the staff of the Development and External Relations office and the volunteers of NSAC's Foundation

on fundraising projects, the Alumni Association is an important part of what makes NSAC such a great place.

President: Arnold Hagen (Class of '85 & '88)
Vice President: Dwane Mellish (Class of '75)
Jean Lynds (Class of '90)
Laurie Hennigar (Class of '60)
John Hutchings (Class of '78)

To become involved with your Alumni Association, contact Alisha at ajohnson@nsac.ca or 902-893-6022 .



Class Reunions

Class of '54 Celebrate 55 Years

On Sept. 11, the Class of '54 gathered on campus 55 years after graduating from NSAC. Approximately 13 class members, plus spouses, joined the two-day event which included tours of the Farm Implement Museum in Truro, Sugar Moon Farm in Earltown and the Sutherland Steam Mill in Denmark, as well as a visit to class member Vic Sutherland's cottage in Brule.

To recognize their reunion, class members donated a metal arch as a new entrance to the Alumni Gardens. The new entrance replaced the former wooden structure that was destroyed by vandals. The entrance, which was custom built by a local blacksmith, is much more durable and will stand to represent the Class of '54 for many years!

The metal structure was not fully completed when the class met in September. However, many classmates returned to NSAC in November for an official unveiling of the entrance, which they dedicated in memory of Parker Cox, former registrar and dean of residence.



Staff from NSAC's ground crew and administration admire the arch of the new entrance to Alumni Gardens in September with members of the Class of '54. L-R: Darwin Carr and Jeff Morton from Grounds & Maintenance, Bob MacLean, Brian Toner, Steve Cook, Jack Eaton, Eric Meek, Stewart Hoare, Vernon Murray, Ron Colpitts, Calvin Tillery, Vic Sutherland, along with Co-President, Vice President Administration, Dr. Bernie MacDonald, and Jim Goit, executive director, Development & External Relations.

DR. BERNIE MACDONALD WELCOMED TO THE VANCOUVER 2010 OLYMPIC FAMILY!

NSAC Co-President and VP Administration, Dr. Bernie MacDonald was chosen as one of 12,000 Olympic Torchbearers in the Vancouver 2010 Torch Relay. Dr. MacDonald held history in his hands



Classmates returned to campus in November to see their class project completed and standing. The new entrance to Alumni Gardens will be enjoyed by many! L-R: Bob Parks, Steve Cook, Stewart Hoare, Jack Eaton, Ron Colpitts, Vernon Murray, Eric Meek, Bob MacLean and Page Baird.



The dedication plaque incorporated into the design of the arch acknowledges the late Parker Cox.

when he carried the Olympic Flame, helping to create a path of northern lights along the 45,000 kilometre journey of the Olympic Flame.

Dr. MacDonald carried the Olympic Flame for a distance of approximately 300 metres along Willow Street in Truro from Stonehouse Motel and Restaurant to the Colchester Hospital on Wednesday, Nov. 18th.

Class of '56

The Class of '56 reunion was held at Liscombe Lodge in Gysborough County June 19-21. There were 19 class members and their wives in attendance (out of a possible 23).



Jim Goit, executive director, Development & External Relations is shown with Class of '56 members Dick Huggard, Bill Seaman and Geo MacKenzie.

Class of '59 Celebrated 50 Years

Submitted by Dale Ells, class secretary

On July 22, 16 grads remembered their NSAC experiences 50 years ago as they celebrated during their reunion. Together with several wives and guests, the program started with a lunch in the Riverview Room of Jenkins Hall.

Although there have been other class gatherings in previous years, this was the largest. Two classmates who travelled the furthest distance to attend were Bill Longley from Overland Park, Kansas and Bill Herbert from Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Classmates recalled many observations and incidents that occurred as we were the first students to spend two years in Truman House, the new on-campus residence which opened in Sept. 1957. We also recalled many interesting times and events with classroom and lab scenes as well as College Royal, sports and musical groups. Later, when each classmate recalled memories, it became very evident that the two years at NSAC were special times remembered with fondness and with much appreciation for the direction in life which followed.

Our class gift was presented to NSAC Co-President, Vice President Academic, Dr. Leslie MacLaren. During the past five years, members have been donating money to institute the Class of '59 Teaching Development Fund. At reunion time, \$30,800 was in the fund and Class President, Campbell Gunn, made the presentation and asked that it now be activated to support projects that lead to teaching improvements. Our classmates valued highly the excellent teaching experienced in classes, labs and special projects during their NSAC years.

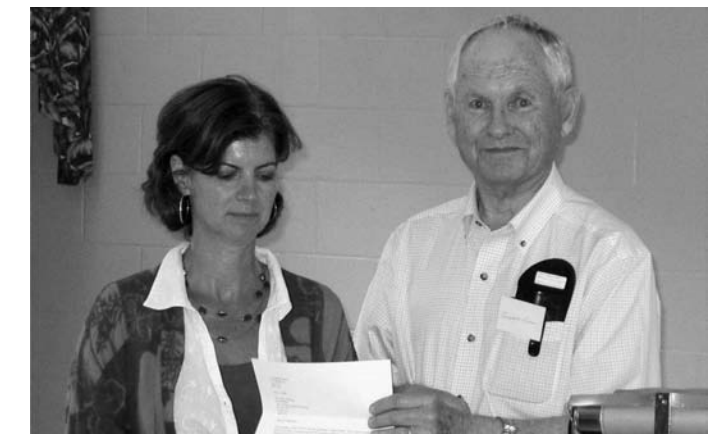
Using the new NSAC bus, the group toured the campus with Jim Goit, executive director of Development and External Relations, assisting as our guide. Stops at the Athletic Centre, the MacRae Library and the Atlantic Poultry Research Centre gave more details of these fine buildings and the way students use the specialized services in each. At the end of the afternoon tour,

most of the class participated in the barbeque associated with the Open House program in Alumni Gardens.



Class members at their reunion in July are shown with NSAC Co-President, Vice President Academic, Dr. Leslie MacLaren, and Vice President Research, Extension and Outreach, Dr. Richard Donald.

Seated L-R: Campbell Gunn, Dale Ells, Sherman Williams, John McAllister, Kilburn Currie, Don Ramey, Bill Herbert. Standing L-R: Dr. Donald, Bob Bennett, Donald Grant, Earnie Maynard, Wendell Grasse, Irvin McCormick, Jack Sibley, John Fisher, Robert Clark and Bill Longley and Dr. MacLaren.



Dr. Leslie MacLaren accepts the class gift from Campbell Gunn, Class of '59's president.

NSAC Athletics

As usual, the Athletic Department is busy organizing and administering programs for recreation, intramural, club and varsity participants. The involvement of volunteers, university staff, administration, students, sponsors and alumni is very much appreciated. Without that support, activities and programs would be reduced and students/student-athletes would lose out on a very valuable part of the university experience.

For this academic year, there are men's and women's varsity teams in soccer, basketball and woodsmen; women's teams in rugby and volleyball and club teams in golf, cross-country and equestrian.

Other Athletics activities include the EastLink Agri-Golf Classic (which is held in July), Homecoming 5K Run (October) and Festive Craft Market (November). From March 5-7, 2010, NSAC will be hosting the 2010 ACAA Men's and Women's Basketball Championship.

2009 Eastlink Agri-Golf Classic – July 24, Northumberland Links, Pugwash, NS

Although it was the first soggy day (it was somewhat ironic that the participant gift for the day was a golf umbrella!) in the history of the event, participants enjoyed the course and the connection with industry, alumni friends and sponsors. Category winners included:

Overall — Team Watts
Business — Shur-Gain
Sponsor — EastLink (2)
Farm — Cornwallis Farms
Alumni — Team MacMillan
Deputy Ministers Challenge — Team PEI

For detailed results visit - nsac.ca/athletics/golf

The 2010 Agri-Golf Classic will be held at the beautiful Ken-Wo Golf Club in New Minas, NS, on July 23, 2010.



Overall winning team in the 2009 Agri-Gold Classic was Team Watts. L-R: Arnold Hagen, Alex Rogers, Doug LeClair, Kyle Murray, Steve Watts.



Business team winner was Shurgain. L-R: Reid MacDiarmid, Dave Colpitts, Dale Tedford, Earl Smith, Dwight Grimm.



Cornwallis Farms was the winning team in the farm category during the 2009 Agri-Golf Classic. L-R: Brian Newcombe, Kerry Gardner, Robert Newcombe, David Newcombe, Craig Newcombe.

Homecoming 5 K – Langille Athletic Centre Oct. 17

The 5K was a huge success again this year with over 120 runners participating. The participants ranged in age 12 – 75 years. Several NSAC alumni ran as well. For 2010 we are expanding the award categories to include NSAC Alumni.

NSAC Student Category, Men's:

Gold - Thomas Teakles
Silver - Alex Burrows
Bronze - Mike Walker

Women's:

Gold-Kamille Cormier
Silver -Amanda Levy

Cross-Country

NSAC has formed a team for the first time in many years. With eight runners, the group travelled to STU, MtA, and Ste Anne to compete in the ACAA competitions. The fastest of the group was Thomas Teakles, who finished fourth at the ACAA championships. The ground work has been laid for a continuation of an NSAC cross-country team next year as well.

Women's Rugby

The women's team finished third in the ACAA and won the semi against Kings before losing a close final to MtA.

ACAA Championship
Saturday, Oct. 31 at MTA
NSAC 3, MTA 5

Congratulations to NSAC's Rams for such a great effort in the final and to the all-conference award winners:
All-Conference - Kelsey Harpman, Victoria Gilby, Patty Gilroy, Holly Morton
ACAA Rookie of the Year - Sara Nichols

Golf

NSAC participated in all three ACAA tournaments in the fall of 2009. The women's team finished second at the STU event, second at the U Ste Anne event, and third at the ACAA championships hosted by Holland College.

There was only one male golfer for NSAC and he finished, 16th, 15th and 12th respectively.



Assistant women's basketball coach, Sam Robichaud (Class of '05), brought along daughter Savannah, while helping Jessica Leck with shooting. Sam was NSAC's Athlete of the Year her graduating year and has been assisting the basketball program for three years. Sam married NSAC alumnus Kevin Robichaud (Class of '06).

Jessica Leck is the fourth in her immediate family to attend NSAC. Her brothers, Joe and Matt, graduated in '09, while her father, Bruce, was part of the class of '74. Jessica's uncle Alan attended NSAC too, graduating in '77. Both Bruce and Alan were NSAC varsity athletes during their tenure.



Second year point guard Luke Wiseman battles against MSVU's John Morris.

Woodsmen



Becky McDonald reaches above Holland College blockers for the tip.

The roster for the woodsmen is also at the maximum with 28 keen student-athletes. The first two meets of the year UNB and SSFC have occurred. The results are:

UNB
Women's A-4th, Women's B- 5th,
Men's A -5th, Men's B- 6th
SSFC
Women's A- 4th, Women's B- 11th,
Men's A -5th, Men's B-12th

Women's Volleyball

The Rams have played three matches to date and are presently at 1-2 with losses to MtA and MSVU and a win against Holland College.

2010 ACAA Women's and Men's



Rookie Julie Poirier against Ste Foy in pre-season play.

Basketball Championship March 5-7, 2010

NSAC will be hosting the championship at the Langille Athletic Centre. Quarter-finals are played on Friday, All-Conference awards banquet is Friday night, semi-finals on Saturday and then the finals on Sunday. Watch our website for the game schedule and updates as they are posted.

All team profiles, pictures and results are available at nsac.ca/athletics. In addition, for the ACAA sports, follow results at acaa.ca.



Scott Brown challenges the STU keeper.

DRIVE AWAY HUNGER... ...WITH 6,433 POUNDS (2,924 KGS) OF FOOD!

Thank you to everyone who contributed this year to this student-led initiative! Last year's total of 4,816 pounds of food was beat by 1,617 pounds. That means more local families will be helped by the local food bank.

Did you know that almost 40 per cent of the more than 700,000 people who use a Canadian food bank each month are children? That's over a quarter of a million kids right here at home who regularly have to go hungry.

Farm Credit Canada (FCC) launched its sixth annual Drive Away Hunger program to reduce hunger across Canada. Each year, FCC partners with customers, schools, businesses, community groups and rural residents nationwide to support Canadian food banks.

FCC Drive Away Hunger tour took place on Oct. 16 at NSAC.



Drive Away Hunger student organizer Mattea Tracey, Students' Union Executive, Colette Wyllie, Dan Muir and Donald Buchanan make a quick stop while collecting food across campus with Brian Crouse (Class of '75) from NSAC's Enrollment Management and Heidi Manicom, Farm Credit Canada, Truro branch.

Look Who's Talking

Monica Sani-Berry - Class of '04

Biography

Born to a traditional Italian family, Monica Sani-Berry (Class of '04), grew up in Halifax, NS, but spent a lot of time in Italy. When it came time to furthering her education, she took the traditional route, which was expected of her, but it didn't take long for her to realize where she really fit.

After graduating from Mount Saint Vincent University with her Public Relations Degree, Monica spent six years working in various public relations and marketing roles. "I soon realized I wasn't where I wanted to be," says Monica. "I needed a career change."

Monica decided to pursue her true passion and lifelong interest of studying herbs. She enrolled in the Technology (Plant Science) diploma program at NSAC in 2000. "I had the fundamentals so I felt the diploma program was just what I needed to get me where I wanted to be," adds Monica of her decision to choose a diploma over another degree.

Monica was in her element studying plant science at NSAC. "I felt at home right away," she says. It was during her first year that she put the skills she was learning into real practice and started her own business venture with a classmate. It didn't take long for her schedule to fill up.

Monica attended classes during the day, did work for her herb business in the evenings and spent her weekends selling her products at the local Farmers' Market. She also managed to squeeze in time to regularly share her skills and knowledge to others through speaking engagements and teaching for community gardens. "I ended up earning my diploma over four years," adds Monica, "so that I was able to spend time growing my business."

She credits the flexibility of NSAC and the professors to allow her to follow her dreams. "If I wasn't able to spread out my

diploma courses I wouldn't have been able to start and maintain my own business," says Monica. "Everyone at NSAC was so supportive of what I wanted to do."

Once she received her diploma, she stayed close by and her schedule didn't change much. She continued to manage her business in the evenings and weekends and worked as a recruiter at NSAC. "I wanted to help students realize the variety of applicable career options NSAC had to offer," says Monica on taking on the new role. "I had firsthand experience when it came to finding a career that you loved. NSAC has so much to offer that may not be traditional or mainstream and so many options when it came to employment opportunities."

Today, Monica is co-ordinator of Recruitment. Visiting high schools across the world and attending career fairs, she is the first contact many potential students make at NSAC. "I love meeting the students and helping them see NSAC is right for them," she says.

Monica continues to manage her business, Spice it Up!, with her husband, Kevin Berry (Class of '10), out of their home on Highway 311 on the outskirts of Truro, NS. To add to the value of their business, Monica recently became a practicing

herbalist after one year of intense training with Danette Steele, registered clinical herbalist. She is in the midst of furthering her education, studying for her Master of Herbal Medicine from Dominion College, British Columbia.

In her many roles, specifically as recruitment co-ordinator and business owner, Monica is on the forefront for trends and changes in agriculture. "I get a lot of value out of one job to improve the other and vice versa," she says. "I couldn't be happier with what I'm doing."

Look Who's Talking is a regular section in Agricola News. Each issue, an alumni discusses his or her thoughts on various topics relevant to NSAC. This issue, we asked Ms. Monica Sani-Berry (Class of '04) to share her opinions.

In your role as co-ordinator of Recruitment, you get to talk to a lot of students. Why are students attracted to NSAC?

The students that choose NSAC have a number of things in common. Most importantly they are all focused. The students that come study at NSAC fit perfectly with us as they know what they want.

Our students and potential students are interested in what happens when they graduate. They care where their education will take them and they want to know that many doors will be opened after they graduate. Students choose NSAC because they realize we are the vehicle to get them where they want them to be and to get them out there in the right career path.

Are we attracting different types of students than we did years ago?

Yes, we're seeing a significant rise in applications from local students. This is great news as we have been working very hard to position NSAC as the local university. It's great to have our own community catching-on and seeing that we have a lot to offer.

I think this new attraction can be accredited to that fact that we know who we are and what we do, we're very specific in what we offer. Not to mention, our reputation is really starting to grow and we are the most unique and smallest university in Nova Scotia.

Other universities are actually our biggest fans. When we're at career fairs or touring overseas with other universities they'll send

potential students away from them and directly our way. Even though we're their competition, if they know a student is better suited with NSAC, they'll tell them, just because of our reputation. For example, I've had many students interested in veterinary school come see me because University of Prince Edward Island suggested they do their first two year in our pre-vet program.

This change is something we should all be really proud of. I know it makes me proud when I can tell a potential student that I am an NSAC alumna.

Do potential students see agriculture differently than they used to?

Potential students see agriculture 100 per cent differently than they did in previous years. The most noticeable change is in the city schools, specifically with the entire Halifax Regional Municipality schools and schools in the Moncton area. There is a bigger focus on agriculture than what there used to be in high school teaching, I think that's part of the reason for the shift.

The students are making the connection that everything has an agricultural background. Engineering, chemistry, economics, it's all connected and they all have agricultural impacts. They are seeing the connection!

Students no longer see NSAC as just the farm school. They understand studying agriculture doesn't mean becoming a farmer. The recent emphasis on "buying local" has really opened students' eyes too. It's created a platform for students to embrace agriculture. High school students are actually coming to us, telling us their interests and then asking us how they can be involved in agriculture and what they could take at NSAC.

This issue of Agricola News highlights the new "face" of agriculture. What are your thoughts on the way agriculture is changing?

Agriculture has become an umbrella term for the way we live our lives and the products we use. There's not one thing that is no longer connected. Everything in agriculture has a direct link to technology, production and the health of our entire planet.

In Memory

The university, along with NSAC's Alumni Association, acknowledges the passing of the following alumni members and extends our sympathy to friends and family.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Dr. William Jenkins | 1938 |
| Mr. Donald Fulton | 1939 |
| Mr. David Archibald | 1941 |
| Mr. Winston Settle | 1947 |
| Mr. Earle MacNaughton | 1947 |
| Mr. Harold Stephenson | 1948 |
| Mr. Kenneth Daniels | 1949 |
| Mr. Melvin Sherwood | 1952 |
| Mr. Norman Wasson | 1960 |
| Mr. Hugh MacKay | 1962 |
| Mr. Raymond Foote | 1968 |

The way agriculture has changed leaves a huge place for farmers, but also created a huge shift towards specialty products. The change has made agriculture much broader than it used to be and allowed for tweaks to be made to traditional means of agriculture.

Nova Scotia: Canada's University Capital

NSAC is working with Nova Scotia's other 10 universities to market Nova Scotia as Canada's University Capital.

The campaign, entitled Canada's University Capital, was launched in Nova Scotia on Jan. 11 and will launch in Ottawa on Jan. 26 and Toronto on Jan. 27. The campaign is meant to initially target the parents of prospective students from Ontario.

The campaign includes a microsite at www.universitycapital.ca that features a fast-cut, modern video that features 11

different personalities from the 11 different universities. NSAC's VP of Research, Extension and Outreach, Dr. Richard Donald, is one of those 11 and figures prominently in the video, both at the beginning and end. For the video shoot, he was shot at the Nova Scotia/New Brunswick border on one of the coldest, windiest days in November. Besides the video, the microsite gives visitors a chance to hear from each of the 11 people featured and they can visit an individual university's website from these pages.



The campaign is being managed by Nova Scotia's provincial branding team, Come to Life, the same group that brought the Pomegranate campaign to life last year as a way to market the province to Canadian and US markets.

In Touch!

Class of '43

MacKay, Alan Dr... During the annual Celebrating Pictou County 4-H awards in November, Dr. MacKay was presented with a Friend of 4-H award. The retired veterinarian, was described as the 'glue that held the agricultural fabric of Pictou County together for more than 40 years'. MacKay spent most of his career operating his own veterinary practice in New Glasgow.

Class of '63

Cochran, Richard... Retired from Annapolis Valley Regional School Board, Cochran recently stepped down as Commanding Officer of 106 Windsor Air Cadet Squadron. He has two grandchildren.

Class of '69

Mills, Jim... Now works with a health supplement business, involving plan based ingredients. These are very helpful in reducing discomfort in joints and greatly improving the body's response to stress and discomfort while creating a feeling of energy with very high ORAC values in several of our products.

Class of '78

Nodwell, David... Worked for the province of Ontario for four years, managing agricultural emergency planning and response for Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Nodwell recently moved on to manage emergency planning and exercising for Ontario with Emergency Management Ontario. "A long way from Ornamental Horticulture I know, but stuff happens!"

O'Brien, Glenda... Along with husband, Pat (Class of '78) O'Brien relocated to South Carolina in early December. O'Brien is now leading one of Kraft Foods largest manufacturing plants in North America.

Class of '85

Scott, Connie... "Plant science degree greetings everyone!" After working in various positions since graduation, including a geology lab in Calgary, Scott moved home to Truro in 1991. Her and husband, Sheldon, started a small excavation business. Scott then went back to school and took several bookkeeping, computer and small business management courses. After a number of other positions, she has been happily working as the office manager of Fundy Veterinarians in Truro since 2001. Scott and her husband are into outdoor activities such as motorcycling, ATV'ing, kayaking and snowshoeing. Scott would love to hear from any fellow classmates and invites e-mails to scscott@tru.eastlink.ca

Class of '87

Fare, Paul... Currently involved in the service and repair of New Holland farm machinery throughout the southwest of Western

Australia. Fare and wife, Cindi, have four children, Kiersten, 16, Eilish, 15, Travis, 13 and Cionne, 10. Apart from a busy work schedule and home life, they spend a lot of time enjoying the outdoors, saltwater fishing, beach going and they are also actively involved in mountain biking.

The past year marked a good season in Western Australia, with steady rains providing a promising start. Machinery sales are still at fairly high levels. Fare's dealership sold 20 new CR harvesters for the '09 harvest and over 30 new air seeder bars and bins for 2010 seeding. Tractor sales are steady at about three units per week. Fare has seen a steady move to farmers going to SP spray rig and larger machines. The dealership in Western Australia is also seeing a lot of farmers moving up to 75' bars, while 40' headers are now the norm.

"It is unbelievable how big the machinery has got in the last 20 years and how high tech the machinery is today. It makes one wonder how big will it go!"

Howatt, Scott... As of September, Howatt took on a new role with the PEI Potato Board, as processing co-coordinator. Howatt had been chair of the Processing Committee of the Potato Board for the past several years. The committee negotiates the annual contract with Cavendish Farms and McCain Foods. In the new role, Howatt will provide direct support to the needs of the processing growers and their committee, with particular focus on contract issues.

Class of '99

Murphy, Sara... In September, Murphy returned to campus taking on the role of research and development co-ordinator in the Research office. In the new position, Murphy handles pre-award for all granting agencies (NSERC, CFI, SSHRC, NSDA Tech Dev, etc), provides administrative support for the Research Committee, does research promotion and Fridays @ 3 scheduling. Murphy and husband, Cory (Class of '99 & '01), have two small boys.

Class of '07

Walker, Janet... Working as student recruitment officer at NSAC, Walker organizes events for prospective students on campus, provides tours of campus to prospective students/parents/school groups and helps with other events where needed. In her position she also attends industry functions promoting NSAC and what the university has to offer. In her spare time, Walker competes in lumberjack competitions in the Maritimes/Canada/US/ and has travelled to Australia with Team Canada.

Class of '08

Vair, Matthew... Working for Farm Credit Canada in their Kentville office since graduating, Vair recently relocated to FCC's Summerside location in PE. As a relationship manager, Vair provides finance and management services to the agricultural industry. The majority of his clients are involved with primary production in dairy, potato and beef farm.

In Memory

William Angus Jenkins 1916-2009
B.Sc. (Agr.), (McGill), M.Sc. (Cornell), MPA
(Harvard), Dr. PA (Harvard).

NSAC was sad to hear of the passing of Dr. William Angus Jenkins, the university's seventh principal, on Nov. 2, 2009.

Dr. Jenkins was born on Oct. 17, 1916. He grew up in the community of Baddeck Forks where he received his early schooling.

He entered NSAC after high school and received his diploma in 1938. Jenkins then became manager of Beech Hill Farms in Princeport, NS for two years before continuing his studies at Macdonald College.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture, majoring in Poultry Husbandry in 1942, Jenkins entered the Canadian Army and served overseas as an officer in the First Canadian Parachute Battalion, North-West European Campaign, from 1943-1945. He earned the rank of Lieutenant. Following demobilization, his professional career was interspersed with graduate studies which earned him a Master of Science Degree with a Major in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University in 1947, a Master of Public Administration Degree from Harvard University in 1953, and a Doctorate in Public Administration from Harvard in 1961.

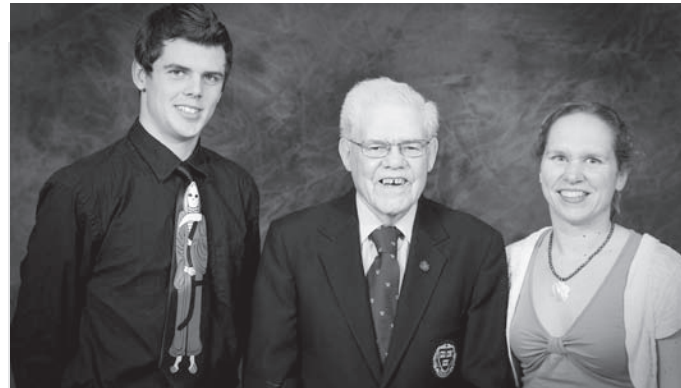
Most of Jenkins' professional career was associated with the public service of Nova Scotia. He first worked as a poultry fieldman and then as a farm management specialist with the Extension Services Branch of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture & Marketing. He became supervisor of Farm Management and associate director of the branch and for several years lectured in economics and farm management at NSAC.

In 1961, Jenkins was appointed director of Immigration and Land Settlement Services, as well as chairman of the Nova Scotia Land Settlement Board. When the Federal and Provincial Governments developed projects under the Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act, he was made director of the program for Nova Scotia.

Jenkins' title changed again in 1964 when he was appointed principal of NSAC, a position he held for eight years. Under his leadership NSAC went through a period of substantial growth in physical facilities, in programs and in enrollment.

Throughout his career Jenkins encouraged his colleagues to pursue a Maritime or Atlantic approach to programs for the development of agriculture and educational services. This interest in interprovincial co-operation led him into several regional committees and boards. In 1972, at the invitation of the Council of Maritime Premiers, he became chairman-designate of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission. From 1972 until his retirement in 1977 he was the executive vice-president of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council.

He had been a member of the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists and served for a term as president. He had also been active in the Canadian Association of Adult Education, the Canadian Ag-



Days before his passing, Dr. Jenkins was proudly in attendance at NSAC's Scholarship Banquet. He is shown above with recipients of the Florence (Pineo) Ward Memorial Bursaries, Donald Buchanan, Glace Bay, NS, a fourth year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; and Erika Smith, Amherst, NS, a second year Veterinary Technology student. These awards are presented to students who have completed at least one year of study in a technical, B.Tech. or B.Sc.(Agr.) program at NSAC and have sound academic background.

ricultural Economics Society, the Canadian Society of Rural Extension (past president), the Institute of Association Executives, and the Institute of Public Administration of Canada.

Additionally, Jenkins spent time as a member of the Advisory Council on Adult Occupational Training for the Canada Department of Manpower and served as chairman of the Canadian Council on Rural Development for the Canada Department of Regional Economic Expansion. His advice was sought in international concerns as well, as he enjoyed travelling and discussing ideas about change and development with a wide range of interest groups.

As a tribute to his leadership, NSAC named the central dining hall, Jenkins Hall, in honour of Jenkins in May 1981. In April 1998, the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists honoured Dr. Jenkins by naming him a Distinguished Life Member.

In his home community he had been an active member of First Baptist Church, the Masonic Order, the Order of the Eastern Star and the Golden K Club.

Jenkins is survived by his beloved companion of 66 years, Rebecca Jean (Reba) Retson, daughters, Catherine Faye (Chuck) Langtry, Ottawa; Heather Jo (Robert) MacDonald, Bedford; his grandchildren, Christopher (Corena), Ottawa; Marilayna Langtry, Ottawa and several nieces and nephews.

This biography was researched by Dale Ells and is part of a collection of biographies prepared and presented to NSAC by the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists. These binders of biographies are in the Agricola Collections of the MacRae Library, NSAC.

Support NSAC's Alumni Family Bursary *Donate today!*

Don't forget to follow-up on the letter you received from Colette Wyllie, NSAC's Students' Union President, in November. As Colette mentioned in her letter, you can really make a difference in the life of a student!

To make a gift, visit us online at nsac.ca/donate and click "start your support of NSAC now".

You can also make a gift by contacting us in the Development & External Relations office at:

PO Box 550
Truro, NS
B2N 5E3
T: 902-893-6721



Mike (Class of '98) and Treasa (Class of '98 & '01) Pauley have continued to support the Alumni Family Bursary.

"Although we don't have direct family members enrolled at NSAC right now, we really believe in the new bursary. We feel a part of NSAC's larger family and we are proud to make a contribution to 'the family'. We're simply doing our little part to help students and their families with their education costs. You never know - we may have children at NSAC someday too!"

