

## Donald (Don) James Tait School of Agriculture, 1955



**Bill Copeland 60C reads a citation honoring Don Tait 55S.**

Don lives and farms at Elrose, Saskatchewan. After graduating from the School of Agriculture, he returned to the farm and began a successful career as a producer, promoter and supporter of the emerging pulse crop industry.

Don realized that diversity in crop production was essential if Saskatchewan agriculture was to be a viable industry. He also recognized the need to have strong grower organizations that would provide agronomic, economic and policy information to producers who were interested in growing pulse crops. With this in mind, Don spent a great deal of time and his own money to organize the Saskatchewan Pulse Growers Association and the Pulse Crop Development Board. The success of these organizations led to the formation of the Western Canada Pulse Growers Association. These organizations played an important role in the development of the pulse crop industry in the Prairie provinces.

Don also became involved with other organizations such as the Canada - Saskatchewan Agri-Food Innovation Fund and the Saskatchewan Food Council. This allowed Don to promote the use of pulse crops in the food market thus increasing the value-added opportunity for the crop.

As a grower, Don constantly promoted the need to develop better varieties more suitable to the prairie environment. He became involved as an advisor to the Crop Development Centre at the University of Saskatchewan and a member

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## Kenneth John Kirkland 71C

Ken Kirkland was born on November 22, 1939, and raised on a farm near Star City, SK. He obtained his BSA at the University of Saskatchewan in 1971 and his Master's degree in continuing education in 1972.



**Ken Sapsford 79C (right) accepts the award on Ken's behalf from Eric Johnson 82C.**

Upon graduation, Ken joined the University of Saskatchewan as an Associate Professor of Crop Science. In 1978 he moved to the AAFC Research Farm at Scott and served as Weed Scientist and Superintendent. In 1996 he became research manager of both the Scott and Melfort research farms until his retirement in 2000.

Ken's impressive research record was directly aimed at addressing production issues for Prairie farmers. His weed control research accomplishments included: the effect of water quality and lower carrier volumes on herbicide efficacy; late fall surface application of herbicides without soil incorporation; pre-harvest control of perennial weeds with glyphosate; and optimising herbicide application by evaluating factors that impact the efficacy of specific wild oat herbicides. In addition to weed science, Ken was

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*Tait, continued from page 1*

of the Standards Committee of the Canadian Grain Commission.

Don's efforts have been recognized by others. He received an Honorary Life Membership from the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists, was inducted into the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame, received a Distinguished Agriculture Graduate award from the University of Saskatchewan and was recognized as the Pulse Promoter of the Year by Cyanamid.

Don has been active in his community having served on the library board, hospital board and the home care board.

*Kirkland, continued from page 1*

also responsible for some innovative agronomic studies. He led a study on dormant fall and early seeding of herbicide tolerant canola. Early seeding of canola was widely adopted by producers. Ken was one of the first public scientists to evaluate Roundup Ready canola. He believed in research collaboration and provided leadership to ensure studies were conducted over multiple sites. These multi-site studies improved producer confidence in the technology that Ken developed.

Ken received many awards in his career including the SIA Distinguished Agrologist Award, the Canadian Weed Science Society Excellence in Weed Science, and was inducted into the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2002.

Upon retirement, Ken and his wife Mona moved to Vegreville, AB. Ken continues to be involved in agriculture through consulting work and as a "hired hand" at harvest and seeding for a local farmer.

## New SAGA executive

### HONORARY PRESIDENT

**Allan McDougald 65C**  
agmcdougald@sasktel.net

### PAST PRESIDENT

**Jim Bessel 88S**  
besselj@canola-council.org

### PRESIDENT

**Carl Lynn 74C**

lynnc@agr.gc.ca

### VICE PRESIDENT

**Jeff Schoenau 84C**  
jeff.schoenau@usask.ca

### SECRETARY

**Teri Ife 97S**  
tsife@sasktel.net

### TREASURER

**Hugh Beckie 86C**  
BeckieH@AGR.GC.CA

### MEMBERSHIP

**Vernon J. Racz 68C**

vern.racz@usask.ca

### MEMBERSHIP

**Tiffany Gutzke**  
gutzket@canolacouncil.org

### BANQUET

**Shelagh Steckler 03C**

sjt084@mail.usask.ca

### BANQUET

**Errin Siklana**  
errintollefson@hotmail.com

### MIXER

**Derek Wilfing 02C**  
Derek.wilfing@arystalifescience.com

### MIXER

**Louis Bossaer 95C**  
Louisb@polywest.ca

### WEBSITE

**Lisa Horn 94C**  
l.horn@fcl.ca

### HALL OF FAME

**Bob Mc Kercher 54C**  
rbnmckercher@sasktel.net

### ALUMNI

**Bryan Harvey 60C**  
Bryan.harvey@usask.ca

### NEWSLETTER

**Bernie Sonntag 62C**

thesaga@shaw.ca

### NEWSLETTER

**Ewald Lammerding 88S**  
eflammerding@sasktel.net  
**COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT**

### OFFICER

**Mark Wartman**  
mark.wartman@usask.ca

### ASA Representative

**Kara Fowler**  
pro@uofsagros.com  
knf958@mail.usask.ca

### CURLING

**Ewald Lammerding 88S**  
eflammerding@sasktel.net

### CURLING

**Blair Cummings 77S**  
bmr@sasktel.net

### HOCKEY

**Gerrit Baan**  
gbaan@fna.ca  
HOCKEY

### CROP PRODUCTION WEEK

**Les Henry 64C**  
jlshenry@shaw.ca

### REGISTRAR

**Richard Bellamy 66S**

NW MAL

SW MAL

**Irene Ahner 65C**  
306-662-3463 (phone & fax)

SE MAL

**Juanita Polegi 83C**  
Aj.polegi@sasktel.net

NE MAL

## Chairs FOR 2010 SAGA Reunion

**Jeff Schoenau 84C** is in charge of coordinating the reunion year “get togethers” at the *SAGA* Reunion Weekend. Jeff is recruiting reunion chairs. Chairs will serve as the contact and look after organizing activities for each reunion year. Note the empty spaces so be prepared, you may receive a phone call! Volunteers should contact Jeff at [jeff.schoenau@usask.ca](mailto:jeff.schoenau@usask.ca).

YEAR	COLLEGE	DIPLOMA
1940	Volunteer?	Volunteer?
1950	Fred Fulton (Saskatoon) 373-1440 <a href="mailto:fn.fulton@sasktel.net">fn.fulton@sasktel.net</a>	Volunteer?
1960	Glen Hass (Saskatoon) 374-0207 <a href="mailto:eghass@sasktel.net">eghass@sasktel.net</a>	Volunteer?
1970	Dennis Ewanus (Saskatoon) 668-2259 <a href="mailto:ewanusdj@sasktel.net">ewanusdj@sasktel.net</a>	Volunteer?
1980	Rod Delahey (Saskatoon) 373-6233 <a href="mailto:rod@marketingden.com">rod@marketingden.com</a>	Gerry Stuber (Saskatoon) 955-5100 <a href="mailto:gerald.stuber@usask.ca">gerald.stuber@usask.ca</a>
1990	Tanice Babecy (Melfort) 752-2256 <a href="mailto:tanice.babecy@sama.sk.ca">tanice.babecy@sama.sk.ca</a>	Volunteer?
2000	Chris Baan (Swift Current) 778-0723 <a href="mailto:cdb661@mail.usask.ca">cdb661@mail.usask.ca</a>	Volunteer?
2005	Chelsea Bulani (Saskatoon)	

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## President's Pen - May 2009

*SAGA* started the New Year with the Annual *SAGA* Mixer January 10 and the annual *SAGA* Banquet January 11. Echoing Past President Jim Bessel, the events were a resounding success - over 500 attendees at the mixer and close to 400 at the banquet.

For the second year in a row, students from the College of Agriculture were dealers at the Mixer casino tables, and again were excellent volunteers for the evening, making all attendees appreciate the casino games. Thank you to these young ASA members!

The banquet was a classy event and created warm feelings among all in attendance! TCU Place, for the second year in a row, served a great meal and with great company resulted in a superb evening for all. We honored reunion groups back to 1949. The 1949 Grad reunions had excellent turn outs: 14 graduates from the College and 24 from the School. The new Dean of Agriculture, Dr. Mary Buhr, gave the only official talk of the evening and was well received by the group. Dean Buhr states she is looking forward to working with all of the fantastic groups and supporters of the College of Agriculture and will be adding some new elements to the College.

The executive of this past year worked diligently to make the 2009 Mixer and Banquet an excellent experience. Thanks to each of you! A special thank you to those who have retired from the executive (Glen Hass, Ken Sapsford, Chelsea Bulani, David Hryhor, Virginia Peters, Mark Kuchuran, Eric and Patricia Johnson, and Larry White). A big welcome to those who have stepped forward for the new executive (Allan McDougald, Jeff Schoenau, Tiffany Gutzke and Errin Siklena). One change we appreciate is the launch of a website. Lisa Horn, formerly the Banquet lead, stayed on the executive to take over website construction needs for the next year. Again, thank you to all for past work and for the current year, thank you to each for your efforts in preparation for January 9 and 10 of 2010.

The executive of *SAGA* look forward to your support and involvement in 2009 and hope to see you at the 2010 January 9th and 10th Mixer and Banquet. Jeff Schoenau is the new Vice President and in charge of reunion chairs. Please call Jeff if your year does not yet have a chair.

**Carl Lynn**  
**SAGA President**

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## 1979 Grads in Puerto Vallarta



Here is a picture of the 1979 Grads on their 30 year Grad trip to Puerto Vallarta. Left to right, Deanne Belisle 79C, Eric Gustafson 79C, Kathy Vancha 05S, Jim Vancha 79C, Jill Turner 80C, Murray Walker 80C, Karen Schultz HEc, Gary Schultz 79C, Carol Lundquist 79 BEd, Dave Lundquist 79C, Carol Meister 83C, Bob Meister 79C, Sharon Bonertz 80C, Ted Bonertz 79C.

## Call for Nominations

Do you know any Ag Grads who deserve to be recognized as an Honorary Life Member in SAGA?

Please send Nominations to:

Jim Bessel  
94 Duncan Cres  
Saskatoon SK S7H 4K4

[jbessel@shaw.ca](mailto:jbessel@shaw.ca)

# 2010 SAGA Reunion Weekend

January 9 & 10, 2010  
Celebrate the 75th Anniversary of SAGA  
All Events at TCU Place, Saskatoon

January 9  
7 p.m. Annual Meeting  
8 p.m. Mixer/Casino Night  
Membership to SAGA is required for entry to the Mixer for all graduates.

January 10 75th SAGA Reunion Banquet  
4:30 p.m. Cocktails  
5:30 p.m. Banquet  
Program and group pictures

Curling and Hockey Tournaments

Reunion Years Degree & Diploma  
1940, 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2005

Rooms available at TCU for Reunion Year dinner/receptions.  
Reunion Chairs contact Jeff Schoenau:  
[jeff.schoenau@usask.ca](mailto:jeff.schoenau@usask.ca)

## 2009 SIA Distinguished Agrologist Award

**Laurie Tollefson PAg, 75C** has been a member of the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists for over 30 years. He has been a proponent for irrigation research and extension, and for irrigation development in western Canada within AAFC.

He has successfully kept irrigation and agricultural water management issues on the federal agenda by maintaining the profile of the PFRA technical centres within AAFC, and by securing resources for a continued federal presence in irrigation. He was the driving force behind the Constraints to Irrigation in Canada study, and has worked toward incorporating it into the AAFC water policies. Mr. Tollefson has successfully lobbied to retain AAFC's research and extension role throughout the recent re-organization of both PFRA and

AAFC.

Mr. Tollefson has capably represented Canada and Canadian agriculture during numerous international assignments in technical, advisory, extension and training, and project management roles. He has played a significant role in agricultural water management in emerging economies by overseeing the development and delivery of a comprehensive and flexible irrigation training package that has been delivered numerous times at the request of China and Ethiopia.

Mr. Tollefson has cultivated a wide range of personal and professional contacts with the international irrigation and drainage community and their related institutions and organizations. He has encouraged and guided others to become involved in AAFC's international role.

## '74 Grads reunite in Bradwell

The '74 College Class held a Summer Get-Together at the Voice Farm at Bradwell on Aug. 9 & 10/08. The festivities started at 2 PM on Saturday afternoon and followed with a brunch on Sunday at 11 AM. A great time was had by all and they wondered why they had never done something in the summer before.



**Jim Armstrong (Janice), Lyle Ballard (Marion), Bob Braun (Joan), Jim Caughlin (Glenda), Herb Carlson (Sarah), Barney Creech (Lynn), Bill Delday (Marcie), Gerry Gross (Gail), Barry Hodge, Doug Johnson (Eileen), Bill King (Jean), Brian Kobelsky, Orest Krushelniski 73C (Verna), Carl Lynn, Cecilia Mulhern, Bill Nussbaumer (Brenda), Janet Payne, Mike Pylypchuk (Lucille), Jim Pollock (Carolynn), George Pugh (Merla), Howard Rankin, Bill Romanowski (Lynn), Richard Shout (Sharon), Earl Smith & Sharon Smith, Garth Smith (Gail), Lyle Stavness (Vicky), Les Voice (Bonny), Ralph Wasyluniuk (Peg), Dr. Roy Crawford 55C**

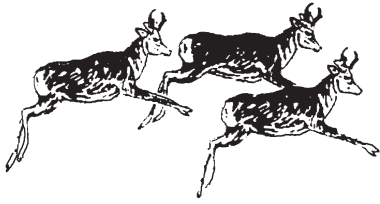
## 2009 SIA Outstanding Young Agrologist Award

**Trevor Lennox 96C** graduated from the University of Alberta with a Master of Agriculture in Range Land Specialization in 2002. He works with the Ministry of Agriculture as a Forage Development Specialist and obtained his PAg status in 1997.

He provides advice to agricultural producers on a one-to-one basis covering a wide range of subjects including seed varieties, planting methods, fertilization, pesticides, harvesting and storage. He is also a regular participant and speaker at extension meetings, providing information on agronomy, soils and plants. He has been actively involved with producing extension presentations on downy brome control. He has organized farm tours and conferences including the biannual Foraging into the Future conference and numerous tours at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Semi-Arid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre in Swift Current and the annual Native Prairie Appreciation Week activities.

He has actively participated on many committees and councils including the Saskatchewan Advisory Council on Forages, Society of Range Management, the Saskatchewan Forage Council and the Swift Current Creek Watershed Technical Advisory Committee. He has been the President of the SW branch of the SIA and an active participant in the SIA Website/Database committee.

## Thundering Herd



**Murray Fulton 77C** recently transferred to a new position on the U of S faculty at the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy. This is a provincial centre for advanced education, research and outreach activities at both the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan. As one of Canada's newest graduate schools in public policy and administration, they are committed to providing dynamic education experiences and creating a strong research presence. See their website for more information - [www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca](http://www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca)

**Pat Flaten 82S, 86C** recently joined the staff of the Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission as Research Director. She was formerly the Head of Agriculture Programs at SIAST and founding manager of the Conservation Learning Centre near Prince Albert. She also recently completed a term as the President of SIA.

**Richard Downey 82C** is a new SAGA life member courtesy of his father **Keith 50C**. Richard completed an MSc in Ag Econ in '85. He joined Agrium in '86 and is now the Senior Director of Investor Relations. Prior to joining Agrium, he held positions in AAFC in Winnipeg and Ottawa, worked for OECD in Paris for two years and for the CWB. Richard now lives in Calgary with his wife Mei Lee and their children, Lianne, 9 and Bryce, 6.

**Steve (81C) and Diana (82C) Meister** relocated to Singapore in January of this year. Steve and Diana have been in North Carolina for the past two years, where Steve looked after advertising for Bayer CropScience in the USA. Steve will be working at the Bayer CropScience Regional office in Singapore, where he will be Regional Communication and Advertising Manager for Bayer CropScience. Steve will work on advertising and corporate issues with the 14 country organizations in Region Asia-Pacific. That includes all countries in the triangle bounded by Pakistan, Japan and New Zealand. Diana and Steve thought that North Carolina was a bit too cold, so they found something warmer.

**Jenay Werle '03C** is employed by Enterprise Saskatchewan as the Acting Regional Enterprise Manager in Yorkton. She's been kept busy these last several months overseeing the establishment of the Saskatchewan East Enterprise Region. Jenay is also involved in the family farm at Langenburg with husband Zach Hainstock, raising grass and cows.

Blairs Ag Cattle Co., owned by **Kevin and Noreen (Hay 87C) Blair** and Darren and Deb Blair at Lanigan, is offering scholarship money for junior beef producers. The Blairs decided it was time to give something back after years of success in the agriculture business. The method chosen was a scholarship program to juniors who buy heifers from their Red Angus herd and then rewards them with funds every time the young person wins at a show.

**Thom Weir 76C** was a finalist for the Fred Heal Tourism Ambassador Award at the 20th Annual Saskatchewan Tourism Awards of

Excellence event in Regina. The citation for the award reads:

Through hard work, dedication and a passion for agriculture, Thom Weir has organized Viterra's Crops of the Parkland Walking Tour. For the past 4 years, he has put countless hours into making it a fantastic attraction for visitors from around the world. He faithfully plans and tends to all of the crops, and is solely responsible for marketing and promotion of the tour. Visitors leave with an understanding of Saskatchewan crops, the importance of agriculture to the province and a few of Thom's recipes. He provides a fantastic service to the city of Yorkton and the Province of Saskatchewan through his commitment to this one-of-a-kind attraction.

Thom accepted an award at that same event on behalf of Viterra, which was the recipient of the Corporate Partner of the Year Award for its partnership in Viterra's Crops of the Parkland Walking Tour.

## Hitching Post

**Chantal Stumborg 03C** and Nathan Jacobs (Computer Science) were married recently and now reside in Regina. Chantal is an Organic Crops Specialist, Crop Development Branch, Sask Ag.

**Julie Markert 02C** married John Watson of Maple Creek on Sept. 13/08 in a lovely ceremony on her parents' farm. They are living on their own farm in the Maple Creek district. Julie works at Grasslands Animal Health Services in Maple Creek.

# 2009 Curling Report

The 2009 SAGA bonspiel was held at the Granite curling rink. There were eight teams in the Hutcheon event and eight teams in the open event. Both the Hutcheon and Open events were divided into two pools. Each team played two games on Saturday and one on Sunday.

Prizes were donated by Biggar & District Credit Union, Rack Petroleum (Dennis Bulani, Biggar), Biggar Transport, Royal Bank (Biggar), Feudal Co-op (Perdue), Cam-Don Motors (Scott Weir, Perdue), Moody's Farm Equipment, Monsanto (Mayson Maertz), Broncos Western Wear, Western Sales (Biggar), Farm & Garden (Saskatoon), Prairie Malt (Biggar), Biggar Agencies/SGI (Biggar), True Value (Biggar), Viterra (Biggar), Perdue Oasis & Golf Course (Perdue), BASF (Mark Kuchuran), U of S (Mark Wartman), Custom Promotion & Awards (Saskatoon), Western Producer, Shamrock Seeds, BCS Material Handling (Clavet) and Bill Peters (Perdue).

The B Event Hutcheon was won by Phil England 67C, John Hemstad 63C, Doug England 63C and Peter Kirychuk 62C. (no photo available).



**Bryan Nybo 86C, Tyler Friesen 96C, Kim Busch 83C and Chris Baan 00C won the A Event open.**



**Winners of the A Event Hutcheon were Bernie Sonntag 62C, Elwood Fleming 62C, Don Torrie 73S and Wayne Jensen 62S**



**Dave Edgar 79S, Sheryn Flynn, Terence Flynn 79S and Laurie Edgar won the B Event Open.**

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● **SAGA is 75 Years Old** ●

● Some SAGA history: ●

● May 10, 1935 was the birthday of SAGA ●

● and the newsletter. ●

● May 13, 1935 was the date of the first SAGA ●

● Executive meeting. Membership fees were set at \$1 for ●

● Degree ●

● and \$.50 for Diploma grads. ●

● SAGA's first Honorary President was the ●

● Dean of the day, A.M Shaw. ●

● The President was John Mitchell; Vice President was ●

● Sol Sinclair and Vic E. Graham was ●

● the Secretary Treasurer. ●

● **During our Reunion weekend in January 2010,** ●

● **we will do our best to honour these 75 years** ●

● **of service and achievement.** ●

● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

## Pooped Deck



**Doug Watson 48C** missed the '48 reunion last June due to a conflict with other things he had to attend to. He is a strong supporter of reunions, however he draws the line on January reunions in Saskatoon. Seems that the old bones have gotten used to warmer climes. This past year he travelled through the Panama, then later visited Egypt.

**Don Acton 57C** and **Gene Seitz 57C** were reminiscing about their college days with **Allan Robin 58C**. (Allan's obituary is in this issue.) They claim Allan as a member of their class because he started with their class. He was the only one in the class who had a car at university - a flashy new Meteor rag-top at that. They still remember a bunch of the guys piling into it after their 10:30 poultry class for the long trek to the Chem building. How times have changed in the 50 plus years! In those days you could park almost anywhere you wanted on campus for free and drive directly to almost anywhere on the campus. Allan told them about farming in the Carrot River area where his family had 36 sections of land. They grew a lot of alfalfa and used big mechanical driers to ready the harvest for markets in BC and elsewhere. He walked with a slight limp because he

had polio shortly after beginning his freshman year in 1952 and had to stay out before joining the rest of his mates in 1953.

**Gene Seitz 57C** will be sending a cheque for membership to SAGA. He regrets allowing his membership to lapse. His specialty was Dairy Science; he is now working in Flavor R&D for an Italian-type cheese company called Sartori Foods Corp. His parental home was Zehner, SK. All of the family's land and dairy farm operations were sold in 1998 when his youngest brother Carl and family moved to Kelowna BC.

**Keith Downey 50C** continues to go into the office at the AAFC Research Centre in Saskatoon most afternoons. He claims that there is never a dull moment with canola. Most travel for Keith and Edna is to Calgary where their five children and 13 grandchildren reside. He visited China in 2007 for the International Rapeseed Congress and had the opportunity to travel the old Silk Road in Gansu province. He regrets that the familiar names in SAGA keep getting fewer with each issue. The Class of '50 is looking forward to their 60-year reunion in 2010.

**Lorne Crosson 62S, 66C** couldn't remember if he was a Life Member of SAGA so he sent some moldy money to make sure. He lives in Cochrane, AB and whiles away his spare time at golf, curling, skiing and travelling. Agros he has encountered at the same venues include **Glen McLaughlin 65C** and **Ray Ryland 71C**

**Wayne Ingell 51C** now lives in Burlington, ON . He has been retired since 1989 after a 37-year career with Chipman Chemicals, now known as Syngenta. He grew up on a mixed farm near Macrorie. He wants to advise

classmates and SAGA friends of the sudden passing of his wife, Doris, on June 5th, 2008. Doris was born and raised on a farm near Weyburn and, though they moved away from the province in the late fifties, she retained ownership and an interest in the farm, along with a love of western agriculture, until the land was sold in 2006 . The house where Doris was born and raised was donated and moved to the Weyburn Pioneer and Heritage Museum just south of the city and is visited by family members on annual trips to Saskatchewan. Wayne keeps quite busy with curling, gardening, golf , service club activities, theater and family get-togethers.

**Hank Nickel 54C** is singing the praises of Saskatchewan's health care system and the people who work in it. He spent more than two months in hospital recovering from a severe medical condition. "My nine weeks in various hospitals turned out to be quite an adventure. I would like to commend and thank the medical professionals for the care received during my stay", he wrote. The institutions involved were the Battlefords Union Hospital, Battlefords District Care and Royal University Hospital. "The results can be described as totally successful. We should never take the health care system for granted. We are fortunate, indeed."

**Bernie 62C** and Mary Sonntag had the pleasure of visiting classmate **Bill 62C** and **Marie McLaughlin** at their home in Brisbane, AU in April. Bill is retired from the Department of Primary Industries and both Bill and Marie are very active in community service work. It was very evident that, through Marie's training, Bill is now a better cook than when he, Bernie and

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## Panama Pirates



Merle Byrnes 59C, Tom Burwell 64C, Gary Storey 63C, Art Delahey 52C and Doug Sword 65C on the Coral Princess during a 14-day cruise through the Panama, and in front of one of their favorite bars. They had the pleasure of being delayed for nearly 2 hours in the last lock because a lock employee flooded the area and shorted out the power. No power - no computers- and no way to drain the lock and open the gate; thus opportunity to take on more wine.

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**Frank Dunlop 63C** shared a basement suite during student days. Bernie and Mary also visited their daughter, Cory, who is on a postdoc assignment in plant energy biology at the U of Western Australia in Perth. Vineyards, golf courses, botanical gardens, caves and ocean beaches were among the attractions.

## Home Grown

Brooke Dorothy Labbie couldn't wait to meet her parents, **Kelly 89C** and **Virginia (Brown) 00C**, arriving October 1, 2008. Proud grandpa, **Tom Brown 70C**, and grandma Jan have been burning up the highway between Turtleford and Regina to keep tabs on their first grandchild.

## New Dean's Message

Coming to the University of Saskatchewan as the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Bioresources is an honour and an enormous responsibility. The Dean has the responsibility to serve the College: its students, alumni, staff, faculty, partners and colleagues.

But the Dean must also serve the University, to ensure AgBio takes its rightful place within the institution and helps it meet its goals, aspirations and responsibilities

And the Dean must serve the greater ideal of agriculture, the steward of this wonderful planet that can provide current and future generations with a good and sustainable life.

These responsibilities provide us with wonderful opportunities, for right now the time is ripe to remake everyone's concept of the relevance of agriculture, to demonstrate the commitment we've always had to environmental sustainability, to learn and teach readiness for whatever climate change may bring, to engage with more of our province's people and exchange knowledge to create new products, practices and policies that better serve us all.

We should interact with, and indeed lead, the country and the

whole world in innovative, truly sustainable agriculture. It won't be easy and we won't always succeed, but a Dean has the opportunity to make opportunities, and while the day-to-day business of running the College is huge and the detailed demands are never-ending, I promise to make time for the big picture and seek opportunities for the College and our many communities.

I've worked in agriculture for over 25 years, at Ag Canada and the universities of Manitoba and Guelph. I've taught at all levels, done molecular research and practical training with producers and industry, and I've served as Guelph's Interim Dean of Agriculture.

While those experiences will help me, I am new to the College and to the province, and I will need your help, advice, guidance and, inevitably, your forgiveness for many mistakes.

I promise to work hard, consult widely, and listen carefully not only as I learn the ropes, but always. Saskatchewan is an exciting place to be, and I look forward to meeting, playing and working with you.

**Dr. Mary Buhr**

## Red Williams' Comment

Who speaks for western agriculture? And the reply comes back, "a whole host of organizations, well intentioned, and usually very accomplished in support of the specific interests of their own membership". Well then, who produces the broad policies that are expected to keep Canada on the leading edge? That is clear; the professionally trained bureaucrats in the Sir John Carling Building, Ottawa, even though their mandate is to avoid problems and maintain the status quo and not to advance and debate new approaches. Then of course there is the Canadian Federation of Agriculture that lost its national position in the divisive battles around the loss of the Crow Rate, followed by its inability to take a broad stand on the supply managed sectors.

At the federal level, Eugene Whelan, then Mazenkowski and finally Goodale tried to establish broadly based conversa-

tions on agricultural policy that were successful in airing the issues but failed in developing action approaches. That leads us to the suggestion of an Agricultural Congress where all agricultural organizations and institutions would meet to present concerns for debate. Issues deemed appropriate for action would be researched by a professional staff and either advanced as a recommendation or returned for further examination. As a suggestion it would take a two thirds vote to dismiss a suggestion brought forward for consideration.

Agriculture needs a common, strong and action focussed voice if we are to take our rightful position in serving the global markets. An Agricultural Congress would advance us toward that goal. Your opinion, negative or positive would be appreciated.

## What's Behind the Gift?

I learned that a bachelor farmer (we'll call him "John") was leaving one third of his estate to the College to support guest lecturers. The College's portion of the estate will be about \$300,000. He farmed throughout his lifetime and moved into the closest city for his retirement. Why did John choose to make this bequest? Perhaps he attended a guest lecture and felt that other farmers might benefit as he did. Perhaps he recognized how much he benefited from the College's research. We will never know why "John" made this significant bequest.

There are many reasons why people, especially Alumni, make significant donations. Much of the research done at the College seeks to develop healthier, hardier, more productive plants and animals. It enables us to develop our renewable energy resources and clearly enables us to be better stewards of our environment.

There are many people in need around our world. They need better food, they need more sustainable farming practices. They need knowledgeable people like Bazil Fritz 73C, featured in an earlier SAGA newslet-

ter, who travel to places with significant need and spend years helping the people develop better practices. I met Wally Redekop 63C at an Alumni Dinner in Ottawa. Wally spent most of his career working with CIDA enabling projects like the one Bazil worked on in Inner Mongolia.

Our students, particularly those who have international experience are capable of and interested in sharing their knowledge with those who are in need. When Alumni and other supporters donate to the College of Agriculture and Bioresources their donations can be used to enable students to gain international experience. Donations also provide support for research, special projects and even some necessary capital expenses.

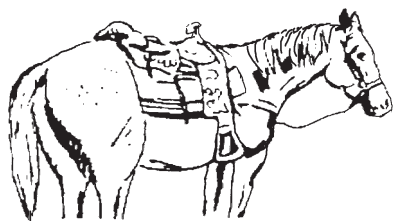
I have heard from a number of our supporters who simply say things like, "I have received so much over the years that I just want to give back and I think donating to the College is a good investment in the future." For some, it is simply a way of saying thanks. Alumnus Calvin Sonntag (MSc89), President of Novozymes Biologicals BioAg Group formerly Philom Bios,

played a key role in shepherding a request for \$100,000 through his company's head office in Denmark. As a direct result of Calvin's influence and his understanding of the College, Novozymes has committed \$100,000 to the new Soil Science Field Research Facility.

Donations and bequests to the College of Agriculture and Bioresources by Alumni and Friends or their companies make a huge positive impact. The support of each one matters and is much appreciated. Thanks to all who made donations and supported the College in 2008. Despite the challenges of a faltering economy, we are looking forward with hope for even greater success in 2009. If you are interested in making a donation or a bequest to the College or you know someone, like our friend "John", in your community please contact me at the College of Agriculture and Bioresources.

**Mark Wartman,**  
**Development Officer,**  
**Email: [mark.wartman@usask.ca](mailto:mark.wartman@usask.ca),**  
**Phone: (306)966-8893**

## Empty Saddles



**Fitzgerald, Michael Joseph 50C** passed away peacefully in Ottawa on Nov. 8, 2008 at the age of 89. Mike was born in Rosetown. He served his country overseas in WWII after volunteering with the Rosetown 67th Artillery Battery in 1941. He became a commissioned officer and completed his tour with distinction in 1945.

After completing his BSA he began a long career with the Federal Government. He served with the FAO in Rome before returning to Canada to take on the job of Chief Administrator of the Gardiner Dam project. He retired in 1974 to begin a new career as an agricultural consultant in Lesotho and Tanzania. He completed his life journey in Ottawa.

**Allan Jean Robin 58C** passed away peacefully on December 25th, 2008 with his family at his side. Allan was born in Nipawin, SK. on June 9, 1935. He is survived by his loving wife, Maureen, his sons Lewis (Rosanne) and Dennis, grandchildren Kaila and Sean, and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Allan took most of his schooling in Saskatoon including his BSA degree in 1958. He and Maureen were married in Saskatoon on April 11th, 1959 and farmed in the Codette/Alysham area.

Allan retired from farming in 1993, and he and Maureen settled in Saskatoon. Allan really enjoyed

traveling with Maureen from British Columbia to Ontario on the antique circuit. He also enjoyed playing with their puppies, visiting with family and friends and doing crossword puzzles.

**Russell Alexander Moen 52S**, born on December 5, 1926, passed away January 6, 2009 at age 82.

Russ was born at the family farm in the Colonsay district. He remained on his farm for 81 of his 82 years, until moving to Circle Drive Alliance Special Care Home in July 2008.

He attended Nicklet, Viscount and Colonsay Schools and graduated from the School of Agriculture in 1952. He began farming his own land in 1950 and maintained a lifelong love of agriculture.

Aside from farming and family, his passions were fishing, photography, music and people, including his many, many friends of every age. One of his greatest enjoyments was entertaining at his cabin at Lower Fishing Lake. He bought his first camera at the age of 10 and his interest in photography grew.

He was seldom without his camera and he was photographer for hundreds of special occasions including weddings, graduations and anniversaries. He taught himself to play the piano and organ, and was organist at St. John's Lutheran Church for many years.

He was active in the community: leader of the 4-H Grain Club in Colonsay, Wheat Pool Committees, Nicklet School Board, Colonsay Credit Union Board, Colonsay History Book Committee and was a life member of the Colonsay Lions Club.

**Craig, Barry Andrew 75S** passed away peacefully on December 29, 2008 after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He was 54 years old. Craig was born on April 11, 1954 in Regina and raised on their Duncairn

farm north of Regina. His love for the cattle industry began at an early age. The third word he learned to speak after "mama" and "dada" was "cow". He was involved in 4-H throughout his youth and started taking purebred Shorthorns to shows in his early teens, a practice he continued throughout his life. Craig started school at Sterling School - a one-room school a half-mile from his home. He graduated from Luther College in Regina in 1972 and from the School of Agriculture in 1975.

Craig was a competitive curler in high school and a recreational curler and avid fan all his life. Craig started his Paragon herd and moved to Qu'Appelle in 1976. Some of his proudest moments came when one of his heifers was Grand Champion Female at Agribition, and also when the Champion Female at the Denver Stock Show had a Paragon cow for a momma.

Ever an optimist, Craig attended Agribition and several cattle sales just weeks before his death and was still making plans for his herd up to the day of his passing. Craig was involved in various livestock and community organizations, including Saskatchewan and Canadian Shorthorn Associations, the Saskatchewan Livestock Center, Canadian Western Agribition, Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association and the Qu'Appelle & District Lions Club.

**Edwin Albert (Ted) Hurd 50C** passed away peacefully at the Foothills Medical Centre, Calgary, on January 20, 2009 at the age of 88 years. Ted was born June 13, 1920 in Moose Jaw. After completing his service in the RCAF as a Flight Lieutenant serving in Ferry Command in WW II, Ted graduated with a BSA and

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MSc at the U of S and went on to obtain a Ph.D. in Agronomy at the University of Manitoba. He lived and worked as an Agricultural Research Scientist in Regina, Swift Current, Kenya, Zambia, Sudan, and eventually retired to Kelowna and Calgary. Ted was very active in the United Church of Canada at local and national levels, the Agricultural Institute of Canada and Rotary International. He dedicated 17 years of his life to Africa, assisting government and residents to improve their local crops and spent much of his personal time raising funds to build and equip schools. He fostered no less than 17 Kenyan students to gain access to higher education.

**James Frederick Mants 49C** passed away peacefully on Dec. 24, 2008 at the Assiniboine Center in Brandon at age 88.

Jim was born in Battleford and grew up on a nearby farm. His interests outside of farm activities included a small fur-trading business and playing the banjo in a small band. He joined the RCAF in 1941 and was a flying instructor until 1944 when he was posted overseas, where he flew Mosquitos until his return home in 1945. After graduation he joined UGG as a field rep and worked out of Regina before being posted to head office in Winnipeg.

He became General Manager of Country Operations in 1963. From 1972-81 he worked on a variety of special projects for the federal government related to feed grains policy and transportation before returning to UGG for another seven years.

He was awarded the Order of the Buffalo Scout by Premier Roblin for his contribution to the establishment of the Ag Economics Research Council of Canada.

He maintained his interest in flying through the Winnipeg Flying Club and was given the A.D. McClean Award for his contributions. He retired in 1988 and spent many happy times gardening, household building projects and watching over family investments.

**Roy Norman McIver 42C** passed away on Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at the Veteran's Village in Sherbrooke Community Center. Roy was born in Francis on July 23, 1918 and raised on the family farm. Growing up in the thirties brought many challenges, but his parents were great believers in hard work and education and with the help of family members he was able to receive his degree. In 1942 he joined the armed forces serving in Holland and Germany. He was discharged in 1946 and a year later he took a position with the Experimental Farm in Indian Head.

In 1973 he became Superintendent of the Experimental Farm until his retirement in 1978. Roy and Betty were married in 1950 and remained in Indian Head until 2007.

Roy was always community minded and served as a member of the School Board, Town Council, the Nursing Home Board, and the Royal Canadian Legion. He also worked with youth groups and was active in the United Church. He loved to spend time with his family at their cottage at Katepwa Lake. He was an avid gardener and took great pride in his yard. In retirement, Betty and Roy played bridge at every opportunity and managed to travel every winter for many years. He loved curling and watching football, baseball and hockey.

In 2007 Betty and Roy moved to Caleb Manor in Saskatoon to be closer to their children. Roy's health began to deteriorate and he spent the last year in the excellent care of the staff at the Veteran's Village in Sherbrooke

Community Center.

**Lloyd George Proctor 41S** passed away December 23, 2008 at the age of 86 years. Upon graduation, Lloyd returned to the family farm near Mervin. He incorporated many of the farm management practices he had learned at the School into his own farm. He said that he always tried to take care of the land and in turn, the land took care of his family.

Lloyd enjoyed attending Farm & Home Week each January where he had the opportunity to take in some lectures, meet with fellow grads and curl in the Ag Grad Bonspiel. Lloyd was the General Leader of the Mervin 4-H Baby Beef Club when it was first organized in 1945.

He was a member and Director of the Turtleford Agricultural Society, serving as its Secretary-Treasurer for several years. The Ag Society presented him with a Life Membership in recognition of his countless volunteer hours.

In 1991, SAGA presented Lloyd with an Honorary Life Membership. Lloyd was a faithful member of his church, an avid curler, golfer and bowler. His farm was perched on a hill overlooking the Turtle River. For many years, he had a regular column in the local paper entitled "Above the Turtle". In it, he observed the seasonal changes in the flora and fauna along the river, commenting on activities in the community and often sharing memories.

**Wesley Philip Kehler 70C** was born on Feb.8, 1948 and passed away on Nov.23, 2008 after a short battle with cancer. Wes was born in Swift Current and raised and educated in Wymark. After his BSA graduation he worked as an Ag Rep in Maple Creek, Assiniboia and Gravelbourg.

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He transferred to the Lands Branch in Swift Current where he worked until retirement in 2003. After retirement he farmed full time with his brother Ed. He often read western novels in the grain truck between loads. A good strong coffee was a particular joy.

**Kenneth Errol Bowren 47C** The peaceful passing of Ken occurred in St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon on January 29, 1922 at the age of 87. The funeral service was held from the Melfort United Church on Friday, March 13th. Ken was born in Kerrobert, SK and received his early education in a rural one room school. After the passing of his father and four of his brothers and sisters, the family moved to Aylsham. Ken was 7.

Here, Ken and his brother, Chester, cleared, broke and farmed the land as well as continued going to school. Ken attended the U of S and attained his BSA in 1947 after which he joined the staff at the Melfort Research Station. Here is where he fell in love with and married Vera Brown and raised a family of three.

His role as an agronomist led him to become one of Saskatchewan's best known agrologists. He made a lasting contribution to agricultural production in northeastern Saskatchewan with personal connections to farmers and his research in the areas of soil productivity, tillage equipment innovations, crop rotations, seed utilization and production, weed control and land management; all integral contributions in localized farm development.

He published 20 research papers and numerous publications and press releases. His competence in this field led him to Australia, Pakistan and Brazil.

Ken worked closely with the Melfort Agricultural Society and later as chair

of the Saskatchewan Agricultural Society.

He was a life member of SAGA and was made an Honorary Life Member in 2005. His success in his profession is complemented by his success in his play-time and home life. Between his own farm, a trailer at the lake and caring for his family, he was very busy enjoying many successes.

Ken and Vera had a passion for travel and always wanted to see what was over the next hill. The destinations were often family related.

He was renowned for his community involvement. As a member of the Melfort Ag Society, he never missed a Melfort fair. He was a lifetime member of the Elks, the Melfort Curling Club and an honorary life member of the Saskatchewan Curling Association. Not only did he bring home many a bonspiel trophy but he also played a key role in the building of the new Melfort curling rink!

**Clarence Earl Gutheil 56C** passed away suddenly and peacefully on April 2, 2009 at the age of 74 years at the Grace Hospital, Winnipeg, MB with loved ones by his side.

He was born on March 19, 1935 at Lang where his parents farmed after emigrating from the USA. Left to mourn him are his children, Michael (Maryam), Tracy (Trevor) and Timothy (Lisa).

He will also be missed by his seven grandchildren. He will be lovingly remembered by his companion Anne Boyce. He is survived by brothers, **Glenn 54C** (Audrey) and George; sisters-in-law Gwen and Jean, and many nieces and nephews.

He was known to all of his friends from the Legion, curling and snooker as "Foozy". He was a frequent participant at SAGA reunions.

**Brian Baldwin 87C and MSc (Horticulture, 1994)**. Brian was born on July 1, 1964 in Prince Albert. He spent part of his childhood in Blaine Lake, where he tended his birdhouses and planted his very first garden. It was here that his love of birds and nature was born. Brian was an observer from an early age, and was constantly searching for new plants and shifting them to new locations. He attended primary and high school in Swift Current.

Brian found his passion in horticulture. He was fascinated by trees in particular, and knew the history of every notable tree in Saskatoon. He was never happier than when sharing his knowledge and enthusiasm with others, either in front of a classroom, or on one of his popular tours of the campus grounds.

If horticulture was Brian's passion, teaching was his gift. He had a rare talent for communication, conveying often complex ideas with clarity, precision and humor (and occasionally in verse). He enjoyed a great rapport with his students.

Brian loved music, travel, art, architecture and good food. To the public, Brian was best known as an accomplished communicator with an opinion on every subject. His gardening articles were widely read, while his songs and poetry were enjoyed by a smaller, but no less appreciative audience.

**Paul Ellingson 70C** died on or about March 15, 2009. Carnduff RCMP reported the death as a farm accident. The apparent accident occurred at his farm near Carievale while loading rye from a grain bin. Paul had farmed with his brother Michael for more than 30 years. He had been an organic producer for the past six years. (*From the Western Producer, March 26/09*)

## Remembering a Special Person - Elizabeth (Dickey) Evans

*Excerpt from Eulogy by Fred Fulton, November 15, 2008*

It was an honor to be asked to present Words of Remembrance of my sister-in-law and special friend Elizabeth Evans. It was 54 years ago when I really got to know Elizabeth although we had met occasionally over the previous four or five years.

Elizabeth was at that time the Secretary in the School of Agriculture, a position she held from 1947 to 1957. I came on staff at the School of Agriculture in the fall of 1954, new to the goings-on of a University program and new to teaching in that kind of environment. Elizabeth's office, the School of Agriculture's main office, was directly across the hall from mine. From that vantage point I witnessed a true professional at work. The door was always open and students were encouraged to bring any of their problems or concerns to the attention of the School staff and here was the first point of contact. One must also remember that many of these young men, just out of high school, were away from home for the first time, learning to cope with city life, residence life and homesickness.

Elizabeth treated everyone as a special person and was fondly remembered by a great many of them years later. As well as being this confidant to the student she was a wonderful, efficient secretary. Every piece of paper was filed in the appropriate file and she knew exactly where it was. Remember, there were no computers at that time so every letter, report and list had to be typed on a manual typewriter. Elizabeth could type them very quickly with seldom a mistake.

Elizabeth Dickey was born August 7, 1927, near the town of Langbank. She attended Woodside Country School and completed her high school by correspondence. She attended Business College to learn her secretarial skills. Her first job was with the School of Agriculture. In April 1957 she gave up that job for a full time, lifelong job of wife, mother and devoted homemaker when she married **Ross Evans 46S** and **50C**. She carried with her and employed many of the skills she had perfected as a secretary while raising their two children **Robert (Bob) 79C** and Christina. Bob's son is now a student in the College taking Environmental Sciences.

Bob indicated that about 30 Ag Grads attended the funeral.

## 2009 University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association Alumni Awards

### Re: Call for Nominations

Dear University of Saskatchewan Alumni and Friends,  
Do you know a University of Saskatchewan alumnus who has made or continues to make outstanding contributions to their profession, their community or to the University of Saskatchewan? Would you like to see that person honoured?

On behalf of the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association, I am writing to invite you to nominate a deserving alumnus for one of the Alumni Association's 2009 Alumni Awards. Nominations can be made in one of six categories.

More information about the awards, a list of past winners and an on-line nomination form are available at [www.usask.ca/alumni/awards](http://www.usask.ca/alumni/awards). The deadline to submit nominations is June 15th, 2009.

The nomination form and supporting letters should be submitted to:  
University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association, Alumni Successes Committee  
at 501 - 121 Research Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 1K2.

The Alumni Awards celebrate the accomplishments of University alumni and recognize their contributions to the Aboriginal initiatives, arts, culture, business, sports, science and humanitarian causes.

I encourage you to help us recognize our distinguished alumni by nominating a deserving alumnus for a 2009 University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association Alumni Award.

The award recipients will be honoured at the Alumni Association's annual Honouring Our Alumni Gala Dinner on February 4th, 2010 at TCU Place in Saskatoon.

Be sure to watch for event details in the *Green & White* Alumni magazine in October.

**Mr. Michael Clark, BComm'95, LLB'96**  
**President, University of Saskatchewan**  
**Alumni Association**

**Name of Corporation - SASKATCHEWAN AGRICULTURAL  
GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION INC.**

Operating Statement for the **Fiscal Year Ended** October 31, 2008

		<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>
<b>Revenue</b>			
1.	Membership Fees	\$2490.00	\$1395.00
3.	Donations	\$1510.00	4225.00
4.	Fundraising		
	Social Functions	28230.10	19052.22
5.	Other receipts	0	2559.75
6.	Interest	(10986.96)	5396.02
7.	Total Revenue for the Year	<u>\$ 21243.14</u>	<u>\$32627.99</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
14.	Office Supplies & Postage	77.36	0
15.	Bank charges	0	64.74
16.	Communication to members	9423.03	8479.89
17.	Social Functions	22752.10	14733.05
18.	Misc.	1599.58	1011.70
19.	Total Expenses for the Year	\$33852.07	\$24289.38
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit) for the Year</b>		\$(12608.93)	\$ 8338.61
<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities at</b> <u>October 31, 2008</u>			
		<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>
		(Current Year)	(Prior Year)
<b>Assets</b>			
1.	Cash		
	- cash in bank	5975.10	
	Total Cash	\$5975.10	\$7591.37
4.	Other Current Assets (specify)		
	<u>Investments (Mutual Fund)</u>	29512.00	40504.66
7.	<b>Total Assets</b> <u>Cash &amp; Investments</u>	\$35487.10	\$48096.03
<b>Liabilities</b>			
	<u>None</u>	_____	_____
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>			
12.	Balance forward	\$ 48096.03	
	Current Year Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (12608.93)	
	Balance end of Year	\$35487.10	
13.	<b>Total Liabilities and Surplus</b>	<u>\$35487.10</u>	<u>\$48096.03</u>

Approved on behalf of the Board of Directors:

**Audited by:** Lorence I. Peterson PAg

**SAGA  
membership  
fees:**

**Life - \$100  
Annual - \$10**

**Send It All To:  
Bernie Sonntag 62C  
318 Collins Cres.  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 4K7  
Phone/fax: (306) 653-7215  
Email: thesaga@shaw.ca**

**or  
Ewald Lammerding 88S  
Email:  
eflammerding@sasktel.net**

**Deadline  
for the next  
issue:  
Aug 31/09**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS ( new? ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

GRAD YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL ( ) COLLEGE ( )

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER (self or other) \_\_\_\_\_

MY OWN DOINGS (and others') \_\_\_\_\_

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The SAGA is a publication of:  
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