

ART DELAHEY 1952 College

Art was raised on a farm northeast of Moose Jaw at the start of the dirty '30's and still claims he never experienced rain until he was in public school. His family encouraged him in 4H grain and beef clubs and, while attending provincial 4H competitions, he was introduced to the University campus.

In 1947 he was part of a crew that successfully introduced 2,4-D to area farms as a necessary and much-welcomed wild mustard control.

He graduated with a general major because he planned to return to farming. During college, Art was the ASA Executive sports rep, also participating in several sports and as the equipment manager for the Huskie's hockey team. Following graduation he purchased a farm northeast of Moose Jaw and began registered grain production, plus a 4H grain club leader for a few years. He worked as Ross Thatcher's ranch manager for one summer, but left because of disagreement with Ross's views on beef production and politics.

For three years he was employed as a protein technician in Robin Hood's test lab, thereby contributing to a bed of free mercury in the Moose Jaw creek. Because of the difficulties created by two years of hail, one of rust and grain delivery quotas it became necessary to sell the farm and move on.

He was employed by Federated Co-op as Feed Rep, moved up in that department until being given the opportunity to manage Crop Supplies, a new department created to handle fertilizers and chemicals. During his 17 years with FCL he acted in several agriculture-related management positions, eventually ending in senior management responsible for the Ag Division.

As a commercial hobby Art established Riverside Gardens after obtaining all lily stock from Dr. Patterson's estate. This was noteworthy because a good portion of Dr. Patterson's hybridizing work was unknown and unavailable to the Horticulture Dept. With Ed Maginnes' help, they were able to select, register and introduce several Patterson varieties, many of which became favorites in North American gardens. Art is a founding member and 40-year treasurer of the Canadian Prairie Lily Society which fosters lily culture. He was part of the committees that staged three North American lily shows in Saskatoon.

Art was the 1974 SAGA president and 2014 Honorary Pres. He has served on curling and golf club boards, on inaugural committees for World Potash Conference (Saskatoon) and Saskatchewan Jazz Festival, and is currently completing his 9th year on his condominium board. Retired for over 25 years he enjoys golfing and woodworking, and remains in touch as the 4th generation of the Delahey family attends the College of Agriculture and Bioresources.