



Volume 266

December 2016

## President's Pen

As I sat down to write this, I took a moment to look at our website and review some former President Pen letters for this time of year. In doing that I noticed how much the weather dominated the conversation.

Well, not much changes over the years. At the time of writing this, it's late November and many are just finishing up harvest and some still have crop out. A thankful reprieve from rain has allowed many the chance to finish what has been an extremely long harvest. Some may get another chance at harvest if the ground freezes hard enough without snow, while others are probably looking at a spring harvest. You hear many people in the industry say, "If only we could have a normal year!"

It made me realize that a normal year in agriculture is nothing but an average of a whole bunch of extremes. It's either too wet, too dry, too many insects, too much disease, a late spring frost, and let's not forget an early fall rain/snow that never seemed to end. As frustrating as it is, I think that these constant challenges keep many of us in this industry interested and learning. No two years are ever alike. We have to continually learn from past experiences, adapt and move forward. Even still, you never know what curve ball awaits around the start of the next month.

Many other industries can budget, plan and reliably predict end results. When it comes to agriculture, we budget, plan, research, implement and then ... look to the sky and simply hope. Some call it fun. Some call it insanity. Whatever you want to call it, it's what gives many of us in this industry our sense of humour and more importantly, ignites a passion in us to embrace the elements and maneuver them in order to feed the world in the most productive way we can. What is more rewarding than that!

At SAGA, we share a passion for our industry while always looking at new ways of keeping people connected

who all started their careers within our great university. Research and technology has allowed us to reach out in ways we never thought possible. Some grads wonder if technology has taken over too much and presented challenges for younger generations to connect face to face.

But, in talking to **Royce Lodoen '12C**, this isn't always the case. Technology is helping keep grads connected and he says a small group in his class gets together each year. He is expecting a good turnout for their five-year reunion this year. We are excited to hear this!

Congratulations on all of you who continue to connect and are developing a lifetime of friendships and mentors. Special thanks also to the other Grads who, like Royce, took on the reunion chair roles this year. Every group needs a leader to rally the troops and SAGA thanks you all for doing this.

We hope to see many others connect face-to-face during reunion weekend in January. Planning is coming together nicely and we are already getting registrations on our website. Hockey teams have come in fast this year and we are hoping to be able to share ideas of new events we are working on very soon with everyone. Please watch our SAGA website, Facebook and Twitter accounts for updates on the variety of tours being organized by SAGA and the College of AgBio.

So, for those of you making your way to Saskatoon in January to reconnect in person, we look forward to seeing you! As we prepare to end this year, we want to say congratulations to those who are finished harvest. For those who have some still to go – we send our best wishes. It's been a tough fall, but we hope for all of you the end result is still worth the journey.

**Louis Bossaer '95 C**  
**SAGA President**

## 2017 Reunion Chairs

1952 College	<b>No Reunion Chairs for either class</b>		
1952 School	Please contact louis.bossaer@kochind.com		
1957 College	<b>Don Acton</b>	rosewood201@sasktel.net	306-374-2549
1957 School	<b>Jack Drew</b>		306-584-7147
1962 College	<b>Elwood Fleming</b>	ehfleming@shaw.ca	306-374-1415
	OR		
	<b>Bernie Sonntag</b>	bsonntag@shaw.ca	306-653-7215
1962 School	<b>Art Belanger</b>	belanger.anr@sasktel.net	
1967 College	<b>Roy Button</b>	button01@sasktel.net	306-929-2528
1967 School	<b>Wayne Gamble</b>	wgamble@sasktel.net	306-536-8756
	OR		
	<b>Harold Fast</b>	hfast@fastgenetics.com	306-883-7857
1977 College	<b>Murray Jones</b>	murray.adele@hotmail.com	306-463-8470
1977 School	<b>Blair Cummins</b>	bmv@sasktel.net	306-221-8758
1987 College	<b>Kevin Dow</b>	kdow@sasktel.net	306-713-8614
1987 School	<b>Grant Berger</b>	grant.berger@cpsagu.ca	306-796-7828
1997 College	<b>Ed Schafer</b>	schafer21@sasktel.net	306-236-8167
	OR		
	<b>Phil Graham</b>	philjgrahamcdn@gmail.com	
1997 School	<b>No Reunion Chair.</b>	Please contact louis.bossaer@kochind.com	
2007 College	<b>No Reunion Chair.</b>	Please contact louis.bossaer@kochind.com	
2012 College	<b>Royce Lodoen</b>	royce_089@hotmail.com	306-662-9093

For questions, contact: **Louis Bossaer** (SAGA VP) - [louis.bossaer@kochind.com](mailto:louis.bossaer@kochind.com)  
OR **Ewald Lammerding** - [thesaga@sasktel.net](mailto:thesaga@sasktel.net)

# 82nd SAGA Reunion Banquet

## January 7th, 2017

Festivities will be held at TCU Place – The Grand Gallery  
Cocktails at 4:30 p.m.  
Banquet & Program begin at 5:30 p.m.

**Welcome: Louis Bossaer '95 C**

Recognition of Reunion Years – 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1977, 1987, 1997, 2007, 2012

Honourary Life Member Awards Presentation

Annual General Meeting at 8:30 p.m.

The Mixer will officially start at 9 p.m.

Purchase your tickets early for the best deal. Prices as follows:

	<u>Early Bird Price</u> until Dec. 20th/16	<u>Regular Price</u> Dec. 23/16 - Jan 4/17	<u>Ticket at the door</u>
Banquet & Mixer	\$75.00	\$85.00	N/A
Mixer	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$20.00

Banquet Ticket purchase deadline is **January 4th, 2017.**

SAGA will be using online registration, so reunion chairs ARE NOT selling tickets.

You may purchase tickets:

**Online at: <http://saskaggrads.com/index.php?page=saga-reunion>**

Ready to use from November 1, 2016 to January 4, 2017.

**FAQs: contact Tanya Napper, 306-966-4063 or email at [tanya.napper@usask.ca](mailto:tanya.napper@usask.ca)**

**Remember, Grads from every year are always expected!**

If you have problems concerning the reunion weekend, be sure to contact us early.

Louis Bossaer, President  
Raelene Patracek, Secretary  
Ewald Lammerding, Editor  
Darcy Jones, Banquet/Mixer

[louis.bossaer@kochind.com](mailto:louis.bossaer@kochind.com)  
[busyrae@sasktel.net](mailto:busyrae@sasktel.net)  
[eflammerding@sasktel.net](mailto:eflammerding@sasktel.net)  
[darcyjones@sasktel.net](mailto:darcyjones@sasktel.net)

## Hoping for Fun Times at the Mixer

Plans are afoot to make the night of Saturday, January 7th, even more of a really good time. The hope is that several local homegrown[ing] distilleries and wineries will be in attendance at the Mixer to provide taste-testing of their wares during the course of the evening.

Our President and several companies are in discussion with Teachers Credit Union Place to get all the 'T's crossed and the 'T's dotted so that we may be able to offer a night of great taste. Not all the details have been hammered out, but work is being conducted. Keep a close eye on our Webpage, Facebook and Twitter for updates.

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John 86C & Barb 87C

## SAGA Hockey Day in Waldheim - 2017

The tournament will be a one-day event held in Waldheim on Jan. 7th starting at 8 a.m. There will be food and beverages of all choices available. Refs will be supplied. The tournament costs will be \$300 per team.

We currently have 5 teams, including a college team, and are looking for at least one more. Any individuals are welcome to contact us, and you will be placed on a team. Most are looking for extras.

We will once again have the award in memory of **Aaron Bouchard '02 C**, a long-time contributor to the success of the tournament and a friend to many.

More information on rules and such can be found on the SAGA website (bottom right of home page, click on Read More. Scroll to bottom of that page and see Hockey... ) and our Facebook page.

If you have questions or want to enter a team or individually, contact:

**Curtis**  
**306-921-6639**  
**dgoijer@bourgault.com**

OR

**Luke**  
**306-867-4110**  
**ringdal855@gmail.com**



Brand-new SAGA members Lyndsay L'Hereux '12 C, David Arnst '78 S and Brandon Arnst '11 C at the Farm Progress Show.

## Dean Speak

It is late November as I write this and the light snow-fall overnight suggests that we are sliding slowly into winter. The harvest season was a long and frustrating one for many producers due to snow and damp weather through much of October. However, the many unseasonably warm days we have enjoyed the past month have enabled near completion of harvest over much of the prairies. Crop quality has suffered to be sure.

The College of Agriculture and Bioresources continues to be an exciting place to live and work. Undergraduate enrolment is up about 9 percent again this year, to 1250 students, so we continue to deal with too-small classrooms and large class sizes. However, like too much grain for the available bin space, this is a “good” problem, considering our enrolment only ten years ago was under 700 students and declining. Credit new degree and diploma programs, marketing and recruitment, and very strong demand from employers for our graduates for the turnaround. Graduate enrolment remains stable at approximately 260 students, with the majority from other countries. The past year has seen the hiring of a significant number of new faculty members to replace retiring members or to take advantage of new funding opportunities. This will lead to growth in graduate student numbers and in research activity and funding in the years ahead.

The College remains very research intensive, the leader on campus to be sure. The scope of our research continues to become more diverse, particularly as we pursue

new opportunities related to the environment, climate change, genomics, new crops, food security and other areas. There is much progress to report on the Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence (LFCE), a partnership between the College and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. Construction has begun on Phase 1, the Beef Cattle Research and Teaching Unit (BCRTU), located a few miles south of Clavet. Activity will continue into the winter until the ground becomes fully frozen. Phase 2, to be constructed across the road from the BCRTU, is in the final design stage and construction will begin in the spring. Completion of Phase 2 will allow the relocation of the Western Beef Development Centre cow-calf herd from Lanigan to the LFCE. The start date for Phase 3 depends on fundraising, currently in full force.

The year ahead in the College will be as interesting as the last, as we adapt to a new University vision and mission statement, a new budget model and financial management system, tight budgets, and greater University-wide emphasis on Indigenization, community engagement and internationalization. We’ll also be engaged in developing a new, five-year integrated plan for the College and for the University. On behalf of the College, my best wishes to you for the holiday season and the year ahead.

**Acting Dean Bob Tyler ’76 C**

**(Dean Buhr is on administrative leave till Feb. 28, 2017)**

## College of AgBio Reunion Activities

On Friday January 6, AgBio will host tours within the Agriculture building. Go for a walk through the Phytotron, which is the growth lab for many new plants developed by the College. Then there is the guided tour of the large art display within the College. And you don’t want to miss the Food Lab walkthrough. They offer yummy stuff for those who may be hungry by then. The Ag Student Lounge will be open and serving snacks and beverages. No registration is required. Tours start in the College Atrium, anywhere from 4 - 7 p.m.

On Saturday, Jan. 7th, the College of AgBio can coordinate tours of the Rayner Dairy Teaching and Research Centre, or a general tour of the U of S Campus. Last year a group had gone to the Canadian Light Source Synchrotron, but unfortunately, due to new security rules, they no longer offer Saturday tours.

Both of these tour options will require registration through the College of AgBio.

Please contact **Tanya Napper, Development Coordinator, at 306-966-4063 or email at [agbio.usask.ca](mailto:agbio.usask.ca)**



## 2017 Honorary Life Members

This year, the decision was made to let our readers know who we would be honouring at the 2017 Banquet. Our committee has chosen a stellar cast to be inducted.

On the Diploma/School side: **Jim Bessel '88 S.** Anyone who has anything to do with canola knows Jim. He will be introduced by **Dave Van Thuyne, '94 C.**

For the College, **Barbara Stefanyshyn-Cote '87 C,** who has accomplished much for agriculture in Sask.

Barb will be presented by **Vern Racz, '68 C.**

And, an extra presentation this year. An Honorary HLM to Mary Buhr, Dean of the College of Agriculture and BioResources.

Mary has overseen and guided with an able hand the expansion of the College and the tremendous growth in student numbers of the institute. Mary's introduction will be handled by **Bryan Harvey, '60 C.**

## 1961 College has Yet Another Party

The College class of 1961 held another of its increasingly frequent summer reunions in Saskatoon July 27-29, 2016. The reunion was attended by 17 classmates, widows of two deceased members and 16 spouses.

Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia were represented. Festivities included an outdoor dinner at a local residence, tours of the Loraas recycle center and Wanuskewin Heritage Park, and a banquet at Agar's Corner.

Professor Emeritus "Red" Williams joined the group for one dinner and shared stories about some of the more energetic members of the 1961 class. Wayne Clews demonstrated his jazz music talent with several melodies on his saxophone. Gary Carlson led a short memorial for deceased classmates Morris Sebulski, Dennis Wobeser and Jack Shields.

More 1961C pictures on the SAGA website.



Pictured in the back, left to right, are Dennis Allen, Jack Drew, Ron Johnson, Bob Bullock, Gary Rice, Gary Carlson, Dan Wilkins and Bob Gilman.

In the front row are Wayne Clews, Syd Pickerell, Ray Wheeler, Dan Beveridge, Lynn Thompson, Bob Baker, John Hoffart, Howard Mattila and John Chuey.

# Honorary Life Members

Honorary Life members pictured at the 2016 Reunion Banquet.

Back L – R: Bill Copeland '60 C (2012), Keith Downey '50 C (2000), Richard Bellamy '66 S (2000), Marcel Dubois '61 S & '65 C (2014)

Middle: Bob Blakely '51 S (1997), Bill Cooper '51 S (1992), Fred Fulton '50 C (199), Irene Ahner '65 C (2011), Glen Haas '60 C (2002), Bob McKercher '54 C (1988), Dave Thompson '48 C (1996)

Front: Bryan Harvey '60 C (2015), Elaine Moats '77 C (2016), Grattan O'Grady '69 S (2016), Bob Dodds '53 S (2002)



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## Hall of Fame

Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame announced the first three 2017 inductees at Agribition.

**George Cooper '44 S** lived at West Bend in the Foam Lake district. George was an innovator who was quick to adopt new farming technology. He served on numerous livestock boards and was also President of the Regina Bull Sale. George Cooper passed away this summer.

Tim Oleksyn is a rancher and farmer from north

of Prince Albert. He is involved with the WBDC, BCRC and the new Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence. Art Mainil farmed at Lampman in south-east Saskatchewan. He was one of the founders of the PWGA and a driving force behind the WIT.

Three more AHoF inductees will be announced in January at CropSphere in Saskatoon. The induction ceremony will take place on April 22nd at the Saskatoon WDM

## Where Have the Agros Gone?

Have you ever wondered where one of your fellow Agros has ended up? Agriculture is a very diverse field with the potential to take our graduates all over the world. That said, there is a pretty good chance that your long lost classmate is still right here in the province.

The College of Agriculture and Bioresources has just about 10,000 living alumni on record. Of these more than 67 percent reside in Saskatchewan. It's perhaps not surprising that Saskatoon is home to a relatively large number of these, around 14 percent, while just 4 percent of alumni live in Regina. However, I was surprised to discover that half our alumni are quite widely distributed around the rest of the province – none of the other major centres house more than 1.7 percent of our graduates.

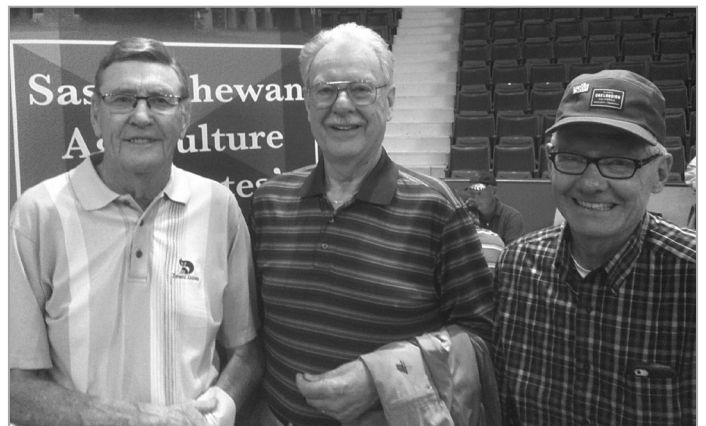
Alberta is the next most popular home for Agros with almost 10 percent of our graduates taking root in that province, followed by British Columbia at 3.5 percent and then Manitoba at about 2.5 percent. The remaining provinces and territories account for just a handful of graduates (collectively less than 1 percent of the total). A few alumni have moved further afield - The United States has attracted just 90 of our graduates (note this is only twice as many as those living in Kindersley) and other international locations account for another 71 alumni.

Considering the college has traditionally attracted students from rural areas of the province, it isn't entirely unexpected that smaller communities in Saskatchewan would be the Agros favored nesting location. Unfortunately, our information isn't detailed enough to say to

what extent this choice is driven by a desire to return home or by the employment opportunities in smaller communities.

It's also important to note that we have lost track of a considerable number of our graduates – around 13 percent. If you think you're one of these, please contact the development office ([agbio.alumni@usask.ca](mailto:agbio.alumni@usask.ca)) to update your information. We are also interested in learning where you've chosen to establish roots and what brought you there.

**Hamish Tulloch '91 C**  
Development Officer



**Martin Hopkins '52 S, David Blau '56 S and Allan McDougald '65 C at the Farm Progress Show.**



## ASA Report

The ASA has started this year off with a bang! We had a very busy start to the school year due to some minor formalities (possibly due to our little buddy big buddy being way too much fun), however, it brought our ASA executive together more than ever and we have figured out how to be proactive to keep our events even more safe and fun! At the end of September, we got to show the engineers what a college group should look like by whooping their butts at a water-balloon fight! We even got a group photo with everyone in it, including the neers which only proves how far we've come – even though we buried their entire lounge in feathers shortly after that... Ag Bag Drag (Goose!) was another success. Not a complaint to be heard (surprisingly, not even the Prairieland staff). Some of the 2017 graduates celebrated their last year by going to Mexico during the November break. Not much to be said from that because what happened in Mexico, stays in Mexico.

Movember fundraising has been going on throughout November. There is a moustache growing contest where some Agro men attempt to grow luscious facial hair and we hope to raise over \$1000. Those in the competition who fail to grow one will be glitter-bearded at the winter formal. With the holiday break anxiously approaching, we will wrap up the semester with a big toy drive to children in need.

As for the clubs of Ag, the Animal (Bio)science club has been doing well for their first official year as a ratified club. They have had two meetings and brought in various industry leaders to discuss future job opportunities! The beef team is currently fundraising for their big trip this year to go down to the International Livestock Forum and then to the Denver Stock Show in January. They are also doing some fundraising to cover transportation costs to tour Poundmaker and the Western Beef Development Center Winter Field Day as well they are also bringing in speakers to talk about the beef industry and going on local tours such as to Prairie Meats. The Environmental and Bioresources Students Association (EBSA) provides social, volunteer, academic, and athletic activities for its members as well it connects students of Renewable Resource Management, Environmental Science, Applied Plant Ecology, and Soil Science to the activities of the college, networking opportunities, and job opportunities. EBSA has a campus rec team each term as well as bowling nights, documentary nights, seminars, social nights, and tobogganing. They will be doing a riverbank clean up and multiple fundraising events for charity. This term so far we have only done social nights, bowling night, and documentary night next week. Term 2 they

are focusing on fundraising for Telemiracle. CAMA is having a great year coming off of a second place finish out of 30 university teams from across the US and Canada in our marketing pitch competition in April. We have around 35 members this year and have recently split into groups to begin working on each segment of the marketing plan that we will take to the NAMA competition in Dallas this year.

We recently made just under \$1,000 in a raffle for Ag Bag Drag and a party bus. We also have a draw for a night's stay in The James Hotel and supper at Cut Steakhouse that will wrap up in January. In the coming term we will host a steak night, a pub crawl, and a beer night to continue to raise funds for our trip in April. We have raised over \$10,000 so far this year - mainly from our awesome corporate sponsors. Please contact Bayley Blackwell, or any other CAMA member to learn more about our sponsorship packages available.

**Brette Langman '17 C Pro ASA SAGA Liaison**



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## Building one step at a time: (And It's not Rome)

The SAGA website continues to be improved and added to. The committee of **Dennis Ewanus '70 C**, **Keith Head '67 C** and I keep working at this. We have added a new section under the Members heading titled Empty Saddles which relates and lists those that have left to greener fields. To view this, look up the SAGA website at [saskaggrads.com](http://saskaggrads.com), click on the Members tab, then click on Empty Saddles. This new section is a process in progress, and Keith is always looking for information. If you can provide what may be missing, please contact us through the website directly, or through the executive list given on the website.

We have taken a leap of faith and now our Reunion Registration for the January 7, 2017 Banquet is being done through the website. You can now register yourself and others on the website and also pay by plastic. Simply go on the website at [saskaggrads.com](http://saskaggrads.com) and register. This is new to us too, and Dennis has been tearing his hair out

to get this registration system perfected. So bear with us, contact us if you have a problem and we will try to correct it quickly; because Dennis hasn't that much hair that he can afford to waste it.

Our membership list is up to date. However, Ag Grads do tend to move, and don't tell anyone of their new contact info. If the information to contact you is not correct, please send your corrected names, numbers and addresses to myself at [vern.racz@usask.ca](mailto:vern.racz@usask.ca) and we will fix things up a bit. Relax; I will not pass this onto bill collectors, or ex-spouses.

The website is changing, adding new aspects and hopefully keeping us connected as Ag Grads.

**Vern Racz '68 C**  
**Chair Membership/Website**

### Congratulations

In October, **Gary Carlson '61 C** and Jessie celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary with a 5 day cruise from Port Angeles, California.

### College Researchers Honoured

Two AgBio researchers received awards from the Agricultural Institute of Canada [AIC].

**Phil Thacker**, a long-time professor, now **Professor Emeritus** at Animal and Poultry Sc. was honoured for his outstanding contribution in China the past 20 years where he helped develop the Ministry of Agriculture Feed Industry Centre in Beijing.

**Jeff Schoenau '84 C**, has been named a Fellow of the AIC, Jeff developed the Plant Root Simulator in 1992, which measures soil fertility rates and tracks nutrient intake, and has been used around the world. He had previously been awarded an INSERC Synergy Award for Innovation. The AIC noted his distinguished career promoting sustainable agronomy and nutrient management.

### Local Lexiphile

The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

A thief fell into wet cement and broke his leg. He became a hardened criminal.

Thieves who sneak through cornfields will be charged with stalking.

The math professor went crazy with the blackboard. He did a number on it.

Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana.

### Did You Know

Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.

The average person's left hand does 56 percent of the typing.

# Preliminary Financial Report

SAGA had a balance of \$3876 in the chequing Account and \$45,470 in the Mutual Fund.

The Reunion weekend and related activities gave us a profit of \$6932.

The Newsletter net cost for 2016 totaled \$3053.

Expenses relating to the Website for programming and development, was \$3409.

This is a preliminary report. The final audited report will be presented at the AGM at the Reunion.

**Dennis Ewanus, '70 C**  
SAGA Treasurer

## 4-H Participation Back in the Day

The Zehner district, where I grew up in the 40s and early 50s, had an active 4-H club. My late brother Richard, sister Charlotte and I used to meet with other youngsters regularly during the growing season in the engine room of the Pool elevator.

Mr. Kattleson, the elevator operator, was our team leader and Tommy Hammershon was a supporter and promotor of our efforts. Richard and I both were recognized for our well-cared-for one-acre plots of selected new wheat strains.

Several team members, namely Richard Seitz, Raymond Sauer, Wayne Hammond and I were given the opportunity to participate in a four-day, 4-H-sponsored program at the Regina Agriculture Fair and Exhibition. There were over 100 team representatives, from all over the province, at the Fair and Mr. Hammershon presented us to the public by leading us in parade. Tommy was a well-respected local farming advocate.

My dad, Frank Seitz used to invite neighbor families to our house to hear Tommy's Farm Forum radio broadcasts. We were involved in several field day contests at the Fair and I remember that my brother Richard was given the prize as champion for weed identification.

**Eugene W. Seitz '57 C, Ph.D**

## NEW!

### Professional Development Programs in Land Management

The College of Agriculture and Bioresources now offers five new 6-week online classes. Set your own schedule and study from the comfort of your home or business. These classes qualify for professional development credits for SIA, CCSC, CCA, etc.

To learn more, contact your professional association.

- **Soil Sampling Design and Implementation**  
(Jan. 4 to Feb. 15, 2017)
- **Geographical Information System (GIS)**  
(Feb. 27 to Apr. 3, 2017)
- **Introduction to Field Description of Soils**  
(Jan. 4 to Feb. 15, 2017)
- **Introduction to the Duty to Consult**  
(Feb. 27 to Apr. 3, 2017)
- **Introduction to Land Management Frameworks**  
(Available Fall 2017)

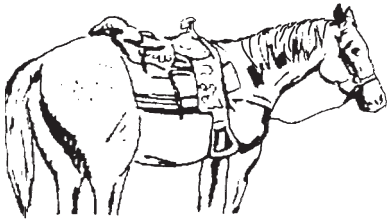
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To take these classes for university credit,  
email Jill Turner at [jill.turner@usask.ca](mailto:jill.turner@usask.ca).



## Empty Saddles



<b>Gerald Dowell Kernen '39 S</b>	June 10, 2016	<b>William Edmund Lambert '55 C</b>	Nov. 18, 201
<b>George Cooper '44 S</b>	Aug. 2, 2016	<b>Delbert George Blewett '56 C</b>	Oct. 6, 2014
<b>Forest 'Dusty' Pritchard Howell '47 C</b>	Sept. 28, 2016	<b>Stanley George Stroeder '59 S</b>	Sept. 4, 2016
<b>Graham Alexander Ross '48 S</b>	June 26, 2016	<b>Lloyd Everet Near '62 S</b>	Apr. 27, 2015
<b>Frederick Walter Switzer '48 S</b>	Dec. 21, 2015	<b>Garry Leroy Holt '64 S</b>	July 29, 2016
<b>Eldon Russel Norum '48 C</b> (1982 SAGA President & 1987 SAGA HLM)	Aug. 27, 2016	<b>George Hilton Gerber '64 C '69 PhD</b>	Jan. 13, 2016
<b>George Gibbons '49 S</b>	July 26, 2016	<b>James Robert McClughan '65 S</b>	Jan. 8, 2016
<b>Stanley Winford Olson '49 S</b>	Jan. 15, 2016	<b>Ralph Victor Stredwick '66 C</b>	June 19, 2016
<b>Robert Whitfield Craswell '49 C</b>	June 27, 2016	<b>Richard Blake Lyons '68 C</b>	Sept 15, 2015
<b>Lorne Thomas Hextall '51 C</b>	June 24, 2016	<b>Edward Matthew Czarnecki '69 C</b>	Mar. 13, 2016
<b>Peter William Peterson '52 C</b>	Feb. 14, 2013	<b>Lorne Martin Rygh '70 C</b>	Nov. 7, 2016
<b>Charles Manley Peifer '53 C</b>	Jan. 11, 2016	<b>Kenneth Charles Powell '72 S</b>	Aug. 15, 2016
<b>Robert Joseph Soper '53 C</b> & '55 MSc	July 21, 2016	<b>John Sejevick '72 S</b>	Nov. 21, 2016
<b>John Wilson Russell '54 S</b>	June 6, 2016	<b>William Frederick Krell '73 S</b>	June 1, 2016
<b>Donald William Wallace '54 S</b>	Sept. 17, 2016	<b>Arlene Beverly (Bev) M Pratt '81 S</b>	Feb. 16, 2016
<b>Peter Richard Brown '55 S</b>	mid- Aug. 2016	<b>Martin (Marty) Alan Hillis '88 S</b>	Dec. 12, 2015
<b>Bruce August Elder '55 S</b>	Aug. 8, 2016	<b>Patrick R. O'Laney '13 CIPRM</b> (Certificate)	Oct. 4, 2014
		<b>Robert 'Keith' Dryden</b>	Oct. 11, 2016 (Long-time every job and editor at the <i>Western Producer</i> )

Please go to the SAGA Website: [www.saskaggrads.com](http://www.saskaggrads.com)  
You will find Empty Saddles obituaries under the Members tab

## SAGA's Action-Packed 2016



**Ryder Lee '99 C and Blair Cummins  
in the Swamp @ Agribition.**

In 2016 we decided to try this process out at Ag in Motion, out by Langham. Jeff helped us out here as well. We did not have a very good turn out here but I think we had some logistical difficulties which can be easily fixed. I think this event holds great potential.

One of the objectives of these events has been to attract recent Grads to SAGA. I do not know how many new memberships we have sold because of these events, but all told, over 20. This is something your Executive will analyze. It should be noted that these events do not cost SAGA any money to organize. If nothing else they do provide a place for Grads, Students, and Faculty alike to have a place to meet at events they are attending anyway.

I have attended each of these events and there are a few observations I would like to close with.

1. The feedback we get from people who attend, is extremely positive.
2. There are a few regular attendees but for the most part it is a different bunch of people at every event.
3. Our Sponsors are great to work with and are extremely supportive.
4. We need to reach more recent grads.
5. We need more SAGA members at these events.
6. I think these are great events and I am having a blast! Come and join us.

**Blair Cummins '77 S, Member-at-Large**

As you all know, your Executive has, for the last three years, been organizing SAGA Events at some of the large farm shows throughout the province. My bosses have decided I should give you an update on each of the Shows individually.

We tried the Crop Production Show in Saskatoon once. We had about 20 people show up, but the problem there is that the only place to have it is in the lounge upstairs. Anyone that's been there know this is not a large room and is too difficult to keep a spot where we could meet.

We have done the *Farm Progress Show* in Regina three times. We get between 15 and 20 people there. It is a great venue, especially because of the support and sponsorship of **Pat Beaujout '81 C** and Seed Hawk. They invite us to join them in their VIP lounge at the Beer gardens they sponsor. We hope that this event will still grow. Perhaps we need to promote this event some more.

Agribition is the event that has the best response. We have been getting about 50 people out every year. The Swamp is a good venue because of the space and the party atmosphere that has always been there. **Lloyd Striefel '83 C** and Moody's Farm Equipment [Saskatoon] were the sponsors the first two years, but because of some changes there, **Jeff Sopatyk '81 S** of Sopatyk Seed Farms helped us out this year.

The College has also stepped up and is helping us Sponsor this event. Dean Buhr, as well as Tanya and Hamish from the Development Office, have been very supportive of this initiative.



**Marty Seymour '98 C and Claude Sander '98 C  
attending Ag In Motion.**

## Agriculture and Resource Economics - College of AgBio - The Early Years

While the College of Agriculture was established in 1908 it was not until 1925 that a Department of Farm Management would be established with the appointment of Dr. William Allen as first professor. A second position was created with Mr. Ernest C. Hope appointed in 1930. In 1930 the Department began a program of post-graduate studies and the first Master's degree was granted to J.B. Rutherford in 1931.

During the 1930s, the research program focused on the farm problems of drought and depression with emphasis on farm indebtedness, land utilization, financial progress of Saskatchewan farmers and studies of net farm revenue for the principal soil classes of Saskatchewan. The Department would occupy space in the Field Husbandry building until it moved to Kirk Hall in 1970.

In 1938, Dr. Allen resigned to take the position of Agricultural Commissioner in London only to go down with a ship in 1941. Dr. Hope was appointed as Head and Hadley Van Vliet was appointed as instructor after having completed his course work in Wisconsin for his Ph.D. When Dr. Hope resigned in 1943 to become economic advisor to Mr. John Bracken new leader of the newly named Progressive Conservative party Hadley Van Vliet was named Head, a position he would hold until his untimely death in 1968 at the age of 54. He had carried out monumental work on appraising the feasibility of the long proposed South Saskatchewan River Dam and irrigation project. In 1955 Dr. P.J. Thair was appointed associate professor coming from North Dakota where he served with the USA Dept of Agriculture at Fargo.

Research during the 1951-1961 decade focused on farm business studies, land classification, enterprise analysis, grain storage, livestock marketing, agrarian history and economic studies related to the development of the South Saskatchewan River Dam project.

The years 1961 to 1971 marked a decade of growth with the department expanding from a two-man to

a nine-man department newly named Agricultural Economics to better reflect the expanded areas of research. Dr. R.C. Nicholson in 1961, Dr. A.G. Wilson, and J.A. Brown in 1967 became some of the new faculty. George Lee joined the department in 1968, and with Hadley Van Vliet's untimely death P.J. Thair was appointed Head. In 1969 Mr. W. Turner filled a new eight-month teaching position for the School of Agriculture, and two new positions were filled by Dr. S.N. Kulthreshtra in econometrics and macro studies and Dr. G.G. Storey in grain marketing and resource economics.

The Department lost a position in 1973 after Dr. Wilson resigned to accept a position with the Canada Grains Council. In 1974 the marketing position that was lost was regained and was filled by Dr. Grant Devine. In 1974 Professor Brown was appointed Dean of the College of Agriculture, his position being filled by in 1976 by Dr. Hartley Furtan.

Space does not afford a full account of the growth and changes from this point to the present. Suffice it to say the department underwent numerous changes particularly in faculty composition and in its research program. In 2007 the Dept was renamed: Bioresource Policy, Business & Economics and most recently in February 2016 renamed as: the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics.

The Department as of September 2016 has 213 students in the Bachelor of Science in the Agricultural Business degree program and 4 in Honours of this program. There are five in the B.S.A Agricultural Economics degree program and 4 in the Honours of this program. There are 49 in the Ag Business Diploma Program. There are 29 in the M.Sc. and 10 in the Ph.D. program. The Department has 14 faculty members.

Prepared by Gary Storey, '63 C  
Professor Emeritus

Full story on the SAGA website.

**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from SAGA**  
**Thanks to all who contributed articles and pictures.**





## Story Of The Ag Building

The long-awaited 'new' Agriculture Building was officially opened in October 1991 - 25 years ago. Two loyal Agro supporters with keen recall, **Bob McKercher '54 C** and **Ted Turner '48 S**, spent the winter researching and writing a book highlighting the building from conception to completion. Both were very involved in different ways.

Topics such as fundraising through the Sodbusters and Partners in Growth campaigns, the Sod Turning, construction progress, the Phytotron, official opening, sixth floor addition, features of the Atrium, and an overview by the architect are covered along with 80 photographs, making an interesting read indeed.

The book is presently at the graphic designer's and will be available for purchase in spring through SAGA. Any

Agros, Alumni or people involved in any aspect of the building will find many features of interest. The Agro spirit of generosity and support in fundraising certainly was a huge accomplishment in making the Ag Building a reality and today it remains an enviable campus landmark. (Pre-publication advertising cards should be available at the Reunion.)

*P.S. The authors have been unable to track down a photograph of the actual October 1991 Ribbon Cutting ceremony performed by Mrs. May Beamish and Dean John Stewart to open the new Ag Building. U of S Archives does not have a picture. So it would be very much appreciated if any person in possession of a photograph of the ceremony would please get in touch with either Bob McKercher or Ted Turner, or contact The SAGA via our email. (Ed.)*

## Former 4-H Members Invited to Get in Touch

Are you a 4-H alumni interested in keeping up to date with 4-H news and events?

4-H Saskatchewan will celebrate **100 years in 2017!**

Do you want to attend the celebrations?

We are seeking willing volunteers to help plan our 100th anniversary celebrations!

If you are interested in staying in touch with 4-H Saskatchewan or learning more about the Centennial celebrations, contact us at **306-933-7727** or by email at **info@4-h.sk.ca**.



CANADA  
4-H Saskatchewan

## Keep Contributing!

Remember, you can become a member of SAGA. Membership fees are \$10 for an annual membership and \$100 for a Lifetime membership.

Deadline for the next issue is May 15, 2017.

Please send your contributions to Ewald Lammerding at [eflammerding@sasktel.net](mailto:eflammerding@sasktel.net).

Wait!

Don't go!

Read about Crop  
Production Week  
on Page 16!

# Crop Production Week

**Friday January 6 to  
Thursday, January 12, 2017**

*Saskatchewan ag Grads & College of Agriculture Social  
Ag College Atrium - January 6*

*SAGA Reunion Banquet & Program  
TCU Place - January 7*

*SAGA Hockey Tournament  
Waldheim Rec Centre - January 7*

Canaryseed Development Commission of Saskatchewan – Saskatoon Inn	January 9
Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association - Western Development Museum	January 9
Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission – Saskatoon Inn	January 9
CropSphere – TCU Place	January 9-11
Saskatchewan Barley Development Commission AGM – TCU Place	January 9
Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission AGM – TCU Place	January 9
Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission AGM - TCU Place	January 9
Saskatchewan Pulse Growers AGM – TCU Place	January 9
Saskatchewan Oat Development Commission AGM – TCU Place	January 10
Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission AGM – TCU Place	January 11
Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association – Saskatoon Inn	January 11-12
Saskatchewan Mustard Development Commission – Prairieland Park	January 12
Agri-Arm Applied Research - Prairieland Park	January 12

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Editor: **Ewald Lammerding '88 S**

