



Volume 270

December 2018

President's Pen

Hello fellow Ag Grads, I trust this newsletter will find you reflecting upon all that has come your way this past year as you prepare for the holiday season. And what a year! Whether your sector in agriculture has been impacted by drought, fire, or flooding; trade disputes big or small; crop input company mergers and buyouts; or technological advancements – change is all around us and is pretty much the only constant. Change drives innovation and advancement. Finding new markets, processes or angles to take on change is basic human nature, but in the world of ag – it's how we survive and thrive.

The executive of your Graduate Association has dealt with and adjusted to change. In September our valuable partner in the Alumni Relations Office, Tanya Napper, moved onward in her career at the University, leaving Hamish Tulloch to manage our requests. Hamish's primary focus has been AgBio College fundraising but he has risen to the *SAGA* challenge and become a valuable partner. We appreciate his patience and guidance in such areas as member information management and the Undergraduate Scholarship Award.

Ah yes – the Undergraduate Award! I am proud to report we are on track and, most importantly, on budget to award three, one thousand dollar Awards for the 2019-2020 academic year. As we have come to expect, several grads do-

nated so to them we say thank you! If you recall, our objective is to ensure undergrads with the combination of strong academics and community involvement have an opportunity for financial recognition. Through your continued support *SAGA* will make this happen – very positive change. Secondly we welcomed **Eric Johnson '82 C** into the Vice President role in May. Many of you know Eric through his extensive work in the world of weed research and teaching at the University of Saskatchewan. Eric brings leadership and vision to the role, not to mention many connections to the undergrad community, and we are excited to have him transition into the President role this January. Another positive change for *SAGA*.

To this end I want to say thank-you to those in our Association who have made it what it is - the envy of all other alumni groups on campus. Whether you have stepped up as a Reunion Chairperson for your graduate year; you make a point of attending our Cheers with Peers events; you have donated to the Undergraduate Award; or finally, put up with my questionable interpretation of Robert's Rules of Order (executive members) – thank you. I urge all to remain connected to the Saskatchewan Agricultural Graduates Association. See you at our 84th Reunion Banquet

Regards,
Mayson Maerz '83 C

SAGA 2019 Honorary Life Nominees

Jim Halford '63 C returned to the family farm. In 1979, he began practicing zero tillage farming and advocated the soil conservation benefits for both farmers and the environment. In the 1980s, Jim and his company (Vale Farms) invented, developed, manufactured and sold the Conserva Pak™ seeder from his farm near Indian Head, SK. Sales began in western Canada in 1989 and, in 1993, expanded to Australia and the United States. In 2007, the Conserva Pak™ technology was purchased and is now marketed by John Deere. Jim coordinated the development of the Sask. Soil Conservation Asso-

ciation and was later inducted into Canada's Conservation Hall of Fame.

Blair Cummins '77 S has been practicing zero till since Jim invented things for it, as part of his farming enterprise. He has raised swine, cow/calf, and every kind of crop for 40 years, all while heavily involved in his community and Saskatchewan at large. From fastball in his younger days to still curling and playing a good game of hockey, which he also refs, Blair has been *SAGA* President twice, every other position on the Exec. and coordinator for the Cheers with Peers tour.

2019 Reunion Chairs

1949	College	Alexander Webster	jim.webster@expconsult.com	306-668-3941
1949	School	Alexander Webster	jim.webster@expconsult.com	306-668-3941
1954	College	Bob McKercher	rbnmckercher@sasktel.net	306-373-4080
1954	School	Dave Thompson		306-675-6125
1959	College	Al Short		306-342-7422
		Vic Surjik	vicev@sasktel.net	306-782-2398
1959	School	Barry Raymond	braymond@sasktel.net	306-588-2544
1964	College	Les Henry	jleshenry@shaw.ca	306-373-5828
		Carmen Berg	ctberg@sasktel.net	306-373-3156
1964	School	Fred Bowditch		306-257-5326
1969	College	Allan Hingston	allan.hingston@sasktel.net	306-550-6254
1969	School	Grattan O'Grady	grattanogrady@gmail.com	306-241-0196
1979	College	Jim Vancha	jkvancha@littleloon.ca	306-951-7008
		Deanne Belisle	belisledeanne@gmail.com	306-221-8321
1979	School	Virginia Peters	bvpeters@sasktel.net	306-948-7844
1989	College	Al VanCaeseele	allan.vancaeseele@brettyoung.ca	306-660-7763
1989	School	Jason Skinner	jason@northwestterminal.com	306-228-3735
1999	College	Rob Stone	rob.stone@plantpioneer.com	
1999	School	Clarke Moebis	cmoebis@sasktel.net	306-859-7696
2009	College	Stephanie Dreger	stephanie.dreger@fcc.ca	306-620-7134
2014	College & Diploma	Nikki Burton	nikki.burton@basf.com	
		Mathew Vercaigne	mathew.vercaigne@bayer.com	

FAQs contact:

SAGA President Mayson Maerz	mayson.maerz@bayer.com	306-221-7902
SAGA Vice President Eric Johnson	en.johnson@usask.ca	306-480-9676

84TH SAGA REUNION BANQUET

JANUARY 12, 2019

Festivities will be held at: TCU Place – Centennial Halls {Downstairs}

Cocktails at 4:30 pm

Banquet at 5:30

Program at 6:30

Welcome: Mayson Maerz '83 C – 2018 President

Recognition of Years – 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999, 2009, 2014

Honorary Life Member Awards Presentation

Class Photos immediately following the Program. Times will be announced.

Annual General Meeting @ 8:30

The **Mixer** will officially start @ 9pm

Purchase your Banquet tickets at: <http://saskaggrads.com/index.php?page=saga-reunion>

	Early Bird Price 'til midnight Dec. 24, 2018	Regular Price Dec. 25, 2018 – Jan. 9, 2019	<u>Ticket at the door</u>
Banquet & Mixer	\$75.00	\$85.00	N/A
Mixer Only	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$20.00

Ticket purchase deadline is Wed. Jan. 9th, 2019.

SAGA now uses **ONLY** online registration. Reunion Chairs **DO NOT** sell tickets.

BANQUET TICKETS ARE NOT SOLD AT THE DOOR -- You will be turned away!!

For Assistance, contact: **Dennis Ewanus** ewanusdj@sasktel.net 281-7036[c] or 668-2259[h]

Vern Racz vern.racz@usask.ca 229-5633[c] or 373-6788[h]

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

If you have questions concerning the Reunion weekend, be sure to contact us early.

Mayson Maerz - President
Eric Johnson – Vice President
Raelene Petracek - Secretary
Ewald Lammerding - The SAGA Editor & Banquet

mayson.maerz@bayer.com
en.johnson@usask.ca
busyrae@sasktel.net
thesaga@sasktel.net

Honorary Life Members attending the 2018 Banquet Reunion



Back: **Jim Bessel '88 S** (2017), **Murray Westby '53 S** (1995), **Les Henry '64 C** (2008), **Bob Dodds '53 S** (2002), **Gordon Moore '68 S** (2010), **Bill Cooper '51 S** (1992).

Middle: **Bill Copeland '60 C** (2012), **Bob McKercher '54 C** (1988), **Barb Stefanyshyn-Coté '87 C** (2017), **Irene Ahner '65 C** (2011), **Leroy Larsen '53 S** (2004), **Glenn Haas '60 C** (2002), AgBio Dean **Mary Buhr** (2017).

Seated: **E.K. Ted Turner '48 S** (1988), **Grattan O'Grady '69 S** (2016), **Lorence Peterson '65 C** (2018), **Art Delahey '52 C** (2018), **Bryan Harvey '60 C** (2015).

The wife comes running into the house. "I just won the lottery," she exclaims. "Pack your bags!" That's great, honey," hubby says, as he clambers to his feet. "But where are we going?" "I don't care," she replies, "Just get the hell out!"

SAGA Scholarship is in Business

Generous AgBio Grads have already been donating to the new *SAGA* Scholarship Award. We now have enough to confer three \$1000 scholarships beginning in the fall of 2019.

We are hoping you will help fund the Scholarship, either individually, as a couple, with your class, or through your business. All donations are made via the College of AgBio, who can issue you a tax receipt.

Please go to our webpage - www.saskaggrads.com - to discover the parameters of the Award, and how you can donate. Thank you very much!!

SAGA Hockey Night in Waldheim

Everything is booked at the Waldheim Rec Center for the January 12th, 2019 *SAGA* Tournament. There has been a changing of the guard. Billy Brown had to withdraw (after ONLY 1 year!!) from running the show, because of work location, but he was able pass the mantle on to able hands.

Chay Anderson '14 C is the new Big Kahuna, Wheeler Dealer, Prime Mover, et al, of our hockey universe now, and things are gonna pop this time. So if you have any questions, want to play on a team, or enter a team, send him an email right away at chayanderson@hotmail.com or phone **240-7087**.

Dean Speak

Welcome Agros! Whether your graduation was years ago, or only a few weeks past, this Agro family will always be here for you – and probably have a few chores for you to do!

The most recent graduation ceremony is worth mentioning. Not only did a large number of Agros cross the stage, but the Honourary degree recipient was one of ours: Brad Wildeman, rancher, ethanol pioneer, provincial and national industry leader whose advice has informed many policy and trade decisions, and influenced the direction of agriculture. And, it was the very last ceremony to be held in TCU, with future convocations to be held in the new Merlis Belsher Place. The end of an era – and Agros were there to see it out in style!

Fall of 2018 also marks some really significant retirements from the College: Bill Brown, Hank Classen, Bruce Coulman, Bernard Laarveld, John McKinnon, and Graham Scoles are all retiring as of December 31, 2018. Every single one of them has contributed enormously to teaching, research and leadership that has impacted the College, the lives of all our Agro graduates, our province, our country and our world. Arguably of equal impact is the example and wisdom they have provided to the other professors they have touched. Their legacy is alive now, and will continue to be felt for generations, as those they have taught through thought, word and deed walk their own paths through this world. These professors will be missed – but of course we know where they live and will continue to call on their expertise whenever we need them!

The College and University are finalising our formal plans that will guide us through to 2025. AgBio's plan is a well-thought-out strategy to use and augment our limited resources to ensure that we continue to meet the growing needs (no pun intended!) of our world for food and renewable bioproducts produced with improved environmental sensitivity. Many of our plans are already underway, from enhanced consultation and learning new ways of thinking and acting in concert with our Indigenous peoples, to the newly-opened Livestock and

Forage Centre of Excellence (see the separate LFCE article), to negotiating several new Research chairs in several areas (watch for emerging details!), to plant & crop research space, to undergrad, diploma and grad program reviews and renewals, to exploring a wide variety of collaborative efforts with quite an eclectic mix of our sister Colleges on campus.

Yes, money is tight. Political financial resources are limited, and yet we Agros know and understand that the province needs our ingenuity and get-'er-done energy. While your Dean and College will always advocate for the College to receive that share of common resources that the agbioresource sector needs and deserves, we need never whine.

Together, our agriculture community is an amazingly strong force who can make our own future. Look what happened when *SAGA* and the ASA worked together last winter to rebuild the bed and urge donations during the bedpush to Regina – a record-breaking \$43,000 for Telemiracle! And at this very moment the first Agro bed-painters and this year's ASA are mounting the retired bed onto a place of honour in the Agro lounge. The Rayner Dairy, renewed Phytotron, Policy Chair, Agri-Food Innovation Chair, the LFCE, all demonstrate that we are, together, unstoppable.

This College and our Agro family together will both shape and resource the crucial next steps - be they courses, jobs, research, facilities, community action, parties, whatever is needed - to make the world a better place and ourselves a more profitable industry, by building today what tomorrow's children need us to be. AGROS ROCK THIS WORLD!

AgBio Dean Mary Buhr

At the very last minute, we received an email from **Thomas W. Drever**. He wondered why *SAGA* had not included his year of graduation, **1939 C**, in our invitation to Grads.

Mr. Drever, our sincerest apologies for this neglect. Sir, you are hereby invited to the 84th *SAGA* Reunion Banquet.

Schools Get Together for Another Summer

For years, the 1959 and '60 School grads have been combining their summer reunions. In 2004, '07, '10 and '12, they met at Manitou Beach. In 2014 it was in Moose Jaw, and 2016 it was way up in Westlock, AB. This year members of the 1958 School joined them in Cypress Hills Park. Some of these guys have been to each one, and still have stories to tell!



Sorta the Back Row: **Garry Reed '59; Brian Flavel '59; Bill Mountford '60; Norman Fiddler '59; Howard Wedrick '60; Barry Raymond '59; Bob Pridmore '59; John Pederson '60; John Parker '58; Ron Morningstar '60; Duane Bristow '58; Bill Hurd '59.**

Front: **Ron Mason '59; Francis Weber '59; Mervin Sigstad '59; Mike Smith '59; Bruce Dixon '59.**

The 1959 School summer photo can be found on the *SAGA* webpage

1963 College BBQ



Back: Stan & Donna Barber, Lyle & Francis McNichol, Barry & Gladys Raymond, John & Bertha Hemstad, Bill & Mary Hurd, Wilson & Agnes Blair

M & F: Dave & Elaine Rutledge, Doug Collins, Ron McKinnon, Frank Dunlop & Inge, George Wilson & G.gd Kiera, Jeanette Stushnoff, Gary & Joelle Storey, Cecil Stushnoff, Betty McKinnon

The Class of 63C celebrated their 55th Reunion in Saskatoon, July 19 to 21, 2018. An afternoon round of golf on the 19th served as the kick-off for a great get-together, followed by a hearty and delicious steak BBQ at George Wilson's place. In addition to recalling plenty of stories on a perfect evening, some embellished a little, the evening highlight was an opportunity to devour a Saskatchewan gourmet specialty, six tasty Saskatoon Berry pies prepared and served by master chef and host George Wilson and his family assistants. On the 20th, classmates enjoyed an excellent tour of the Canadian Light Source. After a leisurely patio lunch at Louis', Gary Storey led us on an excellent tour of the Art Display in the AG building. A group dinner at The Cave wrapped up our day. On the 21st, a great reunion was concluded by a farewell breakfast at the Parktown.

Sincerely, Cecil Stushnoff & George Wilson

'66 School Bash at Waskesiu

On June 8, 9 & 10th, 2018, 22 1966 Diploma classmates and their spouses got together for a weekend party at the beautiful resort town of Waskesiu. Hosted by Neil and Lorraine Moyse, they opened with a pizza and beer 'Welcome' reception. First thing Sat. morning, Chuck Jacque took 16 golfing on the old Lobstick course, while Lorne McConaghy gave another group a walking tour of the old town site. In the afternoon, pontoon boat drivers Don Avis and Lorne took two groups on tours around the lake, with Bruce Graae providing knowledgeable commentary of the sights. Lorraine and her crew put on a scrumptious steak dinner followed by an evening of wild stories and catch-up visiting. Glen and Karen Surridge provided live music for all to dance to, to close out the evening. A Sunday brunch concluded the fun-filled party. All the indoor events took place in the Armstrong/Hillcrest facility. Plans are afoot for a bigger and better bash somewhere in southern Saskatchewan on the June 2 weekend of 2020.

Lorne McConaghy, Acting Coordinator



Back: **Glen Surridge, Daryl Wallin, Len Campbell, Don Avis** (barely visible, just the white shirt, hiding behind Don, is **Chuck Jacque**) **Gerald Muldoon, John Heggie, Hugh McDonough, Neil Moyse, Lorne Epp, John Duncan, Ralph Howes, Fred Homann.**

Front: **Lorne McConaghy, Larry Thompson, Fred Wilson, Bruce Graae, Dwight Brown, Don Rayner, Bob Cumming, Gerry Schmidt.** Late to the party: **Henry Funk.**

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Grads Recognized for All Kinds of Great Work

2018 USask Alumni Achievement Awards

David Christensen '58 C, is internationally recognized for his research in dairy nutrition and feed development. His research has involved cattle mineral nutrition, forage and other feed evaluation. David has strongly supported international development, working in Uganda in the early 1970s to develop a graduate program, teach undergraduates, establish an analytical nutrition laboratory and advise on government dairy policy. He received the Order of Canada in 2002, and was inducted into the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2011. As professor emeritus, he continues to teach, supervise and consult for several companies and organizations. He and his wife recently established the Christensen Family Award Fund for Animal Science.

Gary Carlson '61 C & '64 MSc. has been a community volunteer for more than 50 years, while living a life of thoughtful contribution, supporting and giving back to the agricultural community in Saskatchewan. Among his many accomplishments, Gary was the lead

Hey! SAGA's Planning for Some Fun!

Once again, *SAGA* is working in conjunction with the Western Development Museum to bring our Reunion Banquet attendees some blasts from the past. The WDM has scrounged some pictures of old machinery from way back, but unfortunately cannot loan us the real thing because of their rules. So we are putting this out to our Grads, if you are attending in Jan. 2019, it would be great if someone had an ancient agricultural artifact that you could tote along; we'll display it, and let your fellow grads and their better halves try to figure out what it is and for. {If you are going to, please email, text or call 260-3445, and we can be sure to have a place to set up.}

This year we are highlighting 1949, with some items from '59 and '69. And we dug up a few things from 1924, from the journals of what came before *The Western Producer*.

organizer in the formation of the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame, Saskatchewan Farm Vacations Association and Nuffield Canada. Gary's love for the U of S shines through his ongoing dedication and involvement. He was a member of both the Senate and Board of Governors. He and his wife have also established the annual Carlson College of Agriculture Scholarship.

Maurice Delage '69 C is a recipient of the 2018 Saskatchewan Order of Merit.

Adrienne Ivey '03 C was the recipient of the 2017 Farm and Food Care Champion Award, as presented by Farm and Food Care Saskatchewan.

Mark Zenuk '90 C has been appointed to the board of directors of Bunge Limited

Neil Wasmuth '96 S, his wife Misty and family are featured in a Sept. 26 *Grain News* article.

Vern Racz '68 C received a Prime of Life Achievement Award from the U of S Retirees Association



**Jim Lawrence '78 S, Darren Camm '96 C,
Katelyn Duncan '14 C,
Bob Norman '70 C, Mayson Maerz '83 C.**



**Mayson Maerz '83 C, Michelle Ross '18 C,
Robyn Kary '18 C, Chris Puchala '18 C.**

Grads in High Office

Warren Kaeding '85 C, is the Minister of Government Relations, First Nations, Metis and Northern Affairs in our provincial government.

Brad Bly '89 C is the Commercialization Manager for the College of AgBio

Laura Reiter '93 C, was appointed to serve as the board chair for the Saskatchewan Wheat Commission.

Scott Moe '97 C is the Premier of Saskatchewan.

Cameron Swan '89 C was appointed as the new deputy minister to the premier.

Someone Who did Alright this Year

Bart Lardner '91 C received the Dean's Award for Excellence in Outreach and Engagement. Bart also accepted the Distinguished Alumni Award from Grande Prairie College, and the Extension Award from the American Society of Animal Science Western Section.

Good for Business

John Coté '86 C and **Barbara Stefanyshyn-Coté '87 C**, owner/operators of Black Fox Farm and Distillery, were crowned SABEX Entrepreneur of the Year by the Greater Saskatoon Chamber They and Black Fox were also highlighted in a feature article in the Aug. 18th *Globe and Mail*.

Great Feature Story in the Fall 2018 Green & White, and/or AgKnowledge

Called *Agents of Change*, the article speaks with four women, **Debra Hauer '79 C**, **Susan Blair '88 C**, **Fran Walley '93 PhD**, **Katelyn Duncan '14 C**, (and **Mary Jane Duncan-Eger '13 C**) and their work and involvement in so many different aspects of the Canadian agricultural landscape.

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ASA Update

ASA has been in full-swing since the start of the year! We kicked off the new school year with our Inaugural Agro's Golf Tournament in August at the Dakota Dunes Golf Course. For the first year we exceeded our expectations with a great turnout and a lot of fun had by all! We look forward to having even more alumni out to next year's golf tournament to make it an even bigger success!

October has come to an end which means the Drag car is retired once again! Raela Colliness did an amazing job and planned an almost sold out event at Prairieland Park with entertainment from Brody Seibert and DJ

Anchor. The following Saturday was the Drag Pub-crawl starting off at 11 am, three buses were booked and 180 students and alumni participated in a full day of activities dressed up in Halloween costumes! The money is being tallied and we are coming up with a total that will be donated to a charity of our choice in the upcoming year!

Look out for us on social media and keep up with what the ASA is up to!

Madison Englot '19 C
- ASA Public Relations

AgBio Clubs Update

Another school year has begun and with that, our clubs have started up full steam. The U of S Rodeo Team kicked off the school year with their 7th annual rodeo and cabaret at the OK Corral in Martensville. They had a great turnout despite the cold weather.

The U of S Judging Team has started practicing for their upcoming competitions this year. A team of 8 attended Agribition in November for the Canadian National 4-H Judging Competition. They plan on travelling in the spring to plenty of Universities and Colleges for competitions and are looking forward to hosting their own in February!

The U of S Beef Team is planning a large trip to go and visit the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado in January! Between trip planning and fundraising, they host regular meetings to have industry leaders give presentations on the industry. The Beef Team also plans on touring the new Livestock and Forage Center of Excellence in Clavet, a couple feedlots in Alberta, as well as take part in an A.I. course.

The U of S Dairy Team is partnering with the Lakeland College Dairy Team to do conjoined farm tours this year. The team is also planning on taking part in

an Artificial Insemination course and have started fundraising for a trip to the World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin in the Fall of 2019.

Gearing up for their annual competition is the U of S Rangeland Team. After placing 1st out of 25 teams from across North America in the Undergraduate Rangeland Management exam last year, they look to defend their title in Minneapolis, Minnesota this upcoming year. They have regular meetings where they learn the ins and outs of rangeland management leading up to the competition.

The U of S Canadian Agri-Marketing Association (CAMA) Student Chapter will be travelling to Kansas City, Kansas once again to compete in the National Agri-Marketing Associations Conference next semester. They have multiple meetings every month to create a marketing plan to present at the conference. Commitment and hard work earned them a Top 6 placing last year and they are looking to do even better at the conference in 2019!

The U of S AgBizz club recently competed at the Cor Van Raay Case Study Competition in Lethbridge. Out

continued on page 11

continued from page 10

of eleven teams who competed, they placed 2nd overall! Throughout the rest of the year they bring in industry leaders to speak on topics related to agriculture.

The Animal (Bio)Science Club (ABS) is a club in the college that has the goal to introduce students, mainly Animal and Animal Bio-Science students, to employment opportunities within the agriculture industry. The ABS club hosted a pumpkin carving event for Halloween to encourage student engagement and socializing within the college.

The U of S Horticulture Club is made up of members that are interested in learning all the aspects of horticulture through hands on learning activities and seminars. The club had a pumpkin sale during October to raise money for future club activities.

The U of S Food and Bioscience Club (FABS) brings together students in Food and Bioproduct Science and Food Science to provide members with opportunities to help develop professional skills and increase interest in the field of food science. They host speakers and tour places like distilleries and food production plants to extend their knowledge in the food science field.

The Environmental and Bioresources Students Association (EBSA) aims to provide a social, volunteer, academic, and networking opportunity for its members with an interest for the environment. They have members from all disciplines and are involved in many activities with likeminded students to learn more about a sustainable environment.

James Pruiam '21 C
ASA Clubs Liaison

Development Office Highlights - What Makes a Donor?

This July marked my seventh year as the college's development officer. Working with our donors has proven to be busy (thankfully) and exceptionally rewarding work. The college receives support from hundreds of donors each year and these gifts come in many forms – most commonly as regular currency but also as donated equipment, bequests, stocks, life insurance payouts, and even land.

The areas of support from these gifts are at least as varied. Over the past year alone we received donations for student awards, student travel, student events, research, facility improvements, teaching equipment, agricultural summer camps and the list goes on. With all these kinds of donations it's difficult to summarize our supporters in a few words but I've observed some common characteristics among them.

I sense the generosity of our donors is driven by a profound connection to the college. Commonly this connection comes from experiences as students (not just time in the classroom but the social experiences too). Some donors were never students at all but are still connected to, and thankful for, what this college has done

and continues to do. Other times a connection is built through the role they played educating others, as is the case with Phil Thacker, who taught in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science for 31 years.

Phil retired in 2017 but his retirement was sadly cut short by pancreatic cancer and he passed away earlier this year. Having never married, he found family in other communities – the college was one of these. Even while fighting the advanced stages of his illness, his college family was deeply important to him. During the final weeks of his life he established The P.A. Thacker Undergraduate Scholarship in Swine Production.

I specifically mention Phil Thacker's contribution because it summarizes the generosity and selflessness I see in so many of the people I work with. I think it also demonstrates the power of our Agro community. A community that compels those most affected to give back, forming a sort of positive feedback loop where each of the gifts we receive makes our community stronger and the work done here even better.

Hamish Tulloch '91 C

Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence opens Clavet Facilities



It had all the makings of a great party! On Oct. 9, 2018, close to 300 people celebrated the opening of the University of Saskatchewan's newest research facility, the Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence, located south of Clavet. The world-class facility brings together under one roof all aspects of raising livestock in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner.

"The University of Saskatchewan should be proud of this centre. This is a major thing in the world of international agriculture. It is something that we can toot our horn about," says Kris Ringwall, who began working as the LFCE's director on Nov. 1. Ringwall, who had been the director of the North Dakota State University's Dickinson Research Extension Centre since 1992, reports to the deans of both the College of Agriculture and Bioresources and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

A \$38-million complex of field and science laboratories, the centre operates three distinct research and teaching units. While each focuses on certain aspects of livestock production, they are fully integrated to encourage collaboration between scientists and students from a range of disciplines. Plant, soil and animal scientists from the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, veterinarians with expertise in infectious diseases as well as animal behaviour from the Western College of Vet-

erinary Medicine and environmental engineers from the College of Engineering are all working on research projects with considerable overlap, breaking down silos to work together.

"This research is so complex, we can no longer research one aspect in isolation. By combining the research, you can be more effective and you are using your dollars more wisely. Ultimately, you are also getting more insight into the answers that you want," says Ringwall. The mandate of the research centre includes providing livestock producers and consumers with solid, research-based information on emerging issues related to beef cattle health, reproduction, nutrition, genetics, and public safety, as well as plant breeding for forage crops, grazing management and the environment.

The Beef Cattle Research and Teaching Unit (BCRTU) and the Forage and Cow-Calf Research and Teaching Unit (FCCRTU) are located across the road from each other. Two laboratories and sample preparation areas, equipped with a centrifuge, near-infrared spectroscopy (NIR) machine, industrial drying ovens and sample grinders, are located at the BCRTU and will be used by researchers at both units.

continued on page 13

continued from page 12

The beef cattle unit is a 1,500-head feedlot and houses a state-of-the-art metabolism barn with 24 stalls. Researchers will collect data on individual animals as each stall has its own manger and water bowl. Animal comfort and care were top-of-mind when the facility was designed. Each stall has a waterbed mat and the animals will access an outdoor exercise pen daily.

The forage and cow-calf unit will house a herd of 300 breeding females. In addition to outdoor cattle pens, the unit has a calving barn and a cattle handling area where animals will be weighed regularly and treated as needed.

The third unit is the Goodale Research Farm near Floral, beside the PSC. It will remain at its present location, southeast of Saskatoon, and will be upgraded starting in May, 2019. In addition to 165 breeding females, Goodale houses horses, bison and deer for research.

At the centre's grand opening, we most definitely tooted our horn as we honoured our past and celebrated our future. To the surprise of those involved,

we unveiled two honorific road signs: John McKinnon Way and Termuende Trail. McKinnon, who will soon be retiring as a U of S faculty member, was the visionary behind the re-location and expansion of the university's feedlot. The Termuende family land near Lanigan

has been the home a 300-cow herd, which is being incorporated into this new centre.

In keeping with the theme of connecting the past and the future, U of S students – Michelle Streeter, president of the Ag-Bio Stockman's Club; Autumn Lawson, president of the Ag-Bio Beef Team; and Grayson Ross, president of the WCVM Production Animal Club – participated in the burning of a new commemorative cattle brand into heritage wood from the former research facilities. It was a great day and a fantastic beginning for the Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence.

Funding for the centre was provided by the University of Saskatchewan, the federal and provincial governments, several organizations, corporations and individuals. To learn more about the LFCE, go to our website: <https://lfce.usask.ca>.

By Lana Haight

– Outreach and Engagement Specialist

Did you know ... ?

In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

Winston Churchill was born in a ladies room during a dance.

No word in the English language rhymes with month, silver, purple or orange.

Our eyes are the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing

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Friday Evening Social

The College of AgBio hosts the social the Friday evening of *SAGA's* Reunion Weekend for visiting graduates. This event is open to all alumni and offers refreshments (munchies supplied by **Three Farmers**), displays, giveaways and tours. It has grown in popularity and offers alumni and their guests an opportunity to meet informally while enjoying tours and displays that prompt both nostalgia and interest. There is no RSVP required. The event runs from 3 – 7 pm.

In previous years, there have been four tours offered throughout the evening:

- Controlled Environment Facility - Phytotron
- Meat Pilot Plant
- Art Tour (in Agriculture Building)
- Ag Buildings of Yesterday Tour (Kirk Hall, John Mitchell and Archaeology)

We are still firming up the details. Information will be shared with Reunion Chairs to pass along, and on our website at agbio.usask.ca. or contact hamish.tulloch@usask.ca with questions.

Saturday Tours – Jan. 12, 2019

Any Grads and spouses that wish to, have a choice for Saturday morning U of S Campus tour. Certain class groups will arrange to visit the Rayner Dairy Barn, or walk through the Canadian Light Source Synchrotron.

These tours are through the College of AgBio, so if you'd like to go, contact **Hamish Tulloch**, hamish.tulloch@usask.ca. He will answer your questions.



Class of '77 at the 2018 Come and Go Social.

SAGA itself is trying to organize a tour to the new **Live-stock and Forage Centre of Excellence**. This facility is jointly operated by the College of AgBio and the WCVI and just opened. It is about a half hour drive, and we can arrange a bus if we have enough interest. **Approximate time would be on Jan. 12, 2019 from approximately 9:30 am – 2:30 pm.** All the Reunion Chairs have been told, but if this is not your year, you are still more than welcome to join us. Please contact Ewald at: thesaga@sasktel.net or call 306-260-3445.

*****At The Mixer*****

Almost forgot to mention; your taste buds will once again enjoy the wonderful flavours from the wares of **Living Sky Winery, Nine Mile Legacy and Black Fox Distilleries** at the Reunion Banquet, during the Mixer. We don't know yet if they will bring someone else, but these three companies have become a big hit!

*Merry Christmas and
best wishes for 2019
from everyone at SAGA.*

Empty Saddles

William Gavin Hamilton '45 S, June 20, 2018

Donald Edward Forsberg '49 C, Mar. 27, 2018

Donald Brander Eley '51 S, Oct. 11, 2018

Raymond Lloyd Knowles '52 S, Sept. 22, 2018

Dennis Robert Ehman '58 C Aug. 6, 2018

Arni Sigurfinnur Goodman '64 C, June 25, 2018

William 'Grant' Crossman '74 C, Nov. 10, 2018

Karie Lynn Nicholas '99 C, July 30, 2018

Edward 'Ted' Kerr Turner '48 S, Nov. 1, 2018

Michael John Preece '51 S, July 12, 2018

Walter Wilson Doyle '51 C, July 6, 2018

Omar George Bilokury '55 C, May 17, 2018

Theodore 'Ted' Clarence Zoller '63 S, Apr. 1, 2018

Levern Keith Horvey '73 C, May 1, 2018

Stephen Barry Meister '81 C, Aug. 11, 2018

Murray P Poole '03 C, June 27, 2018

Please go to Empty Saddles on our Webpage to read the full Obituaries

www.saskaggrads.com

under Member

Cheers with Peers 2018 Tour

Once again **Blair Cummins '77 S** got about arranging free suds and such at the three big Ag fests. We have been increasing awareness of our presence at these sites and the result has been an influx of cold beverage seekers. And, be sure, our Prez, **Mayson Maerz '83 C**, tore himself away from work to be on hand to help dole out the product. At the Farm Progress Show (**Pg. 8**), things had been changed over the winter, and the organization no longer allowed sponsors to hand out tokens, or some such. So Blair took it upon himself to be the sponsor on behalf of *SAGA*. He did an excellent job taking care of the twenty five grads that stopped in to chat.



John Hauer '84 C, Gord Roger '84 C and Terry Gracyzk '83 C @ Agribition.

Ag in Motion was sponsored by Brett Young Seeds, DeKalb, and Acceleron BioAg. Over 30 grads came in out of the heat to cool down, and then stayed till the place closed down. Many a problem was solved that lovely summer day, [if only someone useful had been listening to us].

Our last stop was Agribition, which was a lot of fun, being as the only way to the Watering Hole was walking past, thru and/or around beef show cattle of every ilk. Lots of refuse to try to sidestep, not always successfully, so everyone got home with the smell of beverages masked by the odors of the barn. Brett Young Seeds was the sole supplier of the freebies this time, with **Al VanCaesele '89 C** providing ample distribution.



April Nichol '02 C, Al Van Caesele, '89C, [seated] Allan McDougald '65 C

Crop Production Week 2019

**Friday January 11 to
Friday, January 18, 2019**

Saskatchewan Ag Grads College of Agriculture & Bioresources Social	January 11
Saskatchewan Ag Grads Reunion Banquet & Program - TCU Place	January 12
Saskatchewan Ag Grads Hockey Tournament – Waldheim Rec Centre	January 12
Canaryseed Development Commission of Saskatchewan – Saskatoon Inn	January 14
Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission – Saskatoon Inn	January 14
CropSphere – TCU Place	January 15 & 16
Saskatchewan Barley Development Commission AGM – TCU Place	January 14
Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission AGM – TCU Place	January 14
Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission AGM – TCU Place	January 14
Saskatchewan Pulse Growers AGM – TCU Place	January 14
Saskatchewan Oat Development Commission AGM – TCU Place	January 15
Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission AGM – TCU Place	January 15
Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association – Saskatoon Inn	January 16 & 17
Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission – Radisson Hotel	January 17
Saskatchewan Alfalfa Seed Producers Development Comm – Radisson Hotel	January 17 & 18
Saskatchewan Mustard Development Commission – Prairieland Park	January 17
Agri-Arm Applied Research – Prairieland Park	January 17
Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association – Turvey Centre, Regina	February 5

Details available at www.cropweek.com

To become a member of *SAGA*, simply go to our Webpage. \$100 for Life Membership.
The *SAGA* reaches over 2200 fellow grads, all the AgBio Faculty, and each AgBio student.
Be sure to send me tales of what's happening in your neck of the woods.

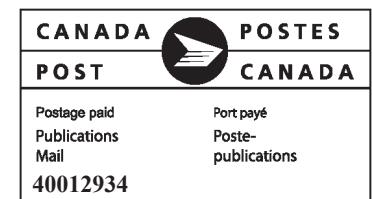
Next issue deadline is May 15th, 2019

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The *SAGA* is a publication of:

Saskatchewan Agricultural
Graduates' Association Inc.

**Return undeliverable
Canadian addresses to:**



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51 Campus Drive, U of S
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