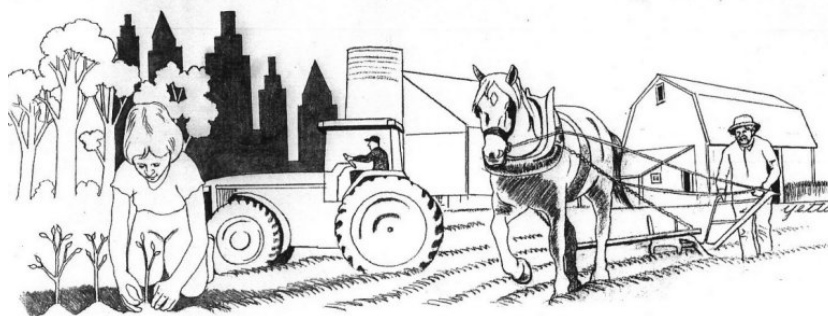


Aggie News



Volume 16 Issue 1

January 2013

Scholarship Fund & Membership Challenge Grant

We have until May 1, 2013 to reach our goal of up to \$5,000 in scholarship fund donations. A challenge grant will match all scholarship fund donations made between now and May 1, 2013, up to \$5,000.

In addition, if the association signs up 50 new members who have never been members before during that same period, the grant will be doubled to \$10,000 for the scholarship fund.

Our anonymous donor hopes that this grant will build a healthy scholarship fund to provide a helping hand to the many worthy students who apply. Last year we received 63 applications from students for the four scholarships we had to offer so it is clear the need is there. Our donor looks forward to making the maximum donation!

It is now up to all Aggie grads to meet the challenge! The Membership & Donations Form is on page 8 of this newsletter.

Important Notices

Helping Us Save Money

The alumni association tries very hard to see that every dollar that we spend is spent wisely. There are a couple of things that our newsletter readers and our alumni association members can do to help us.

Newsletters

Keeping our mailing address list up to date is very important. If someone moves and fails to notify us of an address change it means that money spent for printing & postage is wasted. Please try to remember to let us know if you change your address.

Membership & Donation Forms

When filling out a membership & donation form, please be sure to fill in the e-mail address line if you have one. If we have an e-mail address it saves the cost of mailing out donation receipts.

Old Campus Photos

We still need old campus photos for the alumni archives. With all the current demolition going on for the new school it becomes even more important that we have old photos in our collection to show how things were in the past. Please take a few moments to look through your old photo albums to see if you might have an old photo to add to our collection.

Charles Main, Editor cmain@comcast.net

Newsletter graphic by Yetti Frenkel '78 <http://yetti.com/>

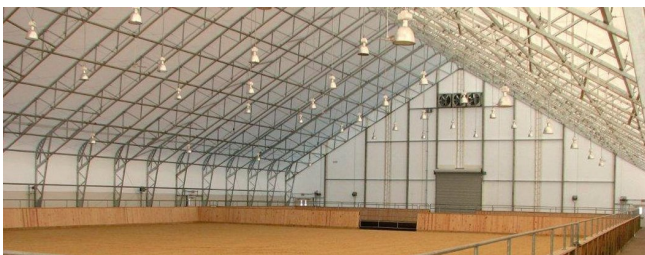
News From The School

New Agricultural Training Center

One of the first new facilities to be constructed on the campus for the new school was the Agricultural Training Center that opened last April. Located on a portion of the former horse pasture, the new structure can best be described as “huge”.



The Training Center will be able to support many learning activities from horseback riding and large animal training to landscape and hardscape projects. With inside air temperature about 20 degrees above outside air temperature during the winter, the facility will provide the ability for teachers and students to work year round in an outdoor environment.



The new Training Center features a synthetic riding surface on two-thirds of the structure. About one-third of the area is a dirt-based multipurpose surface. The walls of the inside training area are 4 feet high with a railing that sits another 2 feet above that.

Construction of the New School

Since the groundbreaking on May 9, 2012 things have been moving along nicely and are on schedule.

Layout and site stripping were completed last June.



Excavation work.



Concrete and steel work is underway.



News From The Classes

Time Capsule Mystery Still Not Solved

33 years ago the senior class of 1980 in conjunction with the FFA buried a time capsule on the Aggie campus. In 2010 it was time for the class of '80 to hold a class reunion and they had thoughts of digging up the time capsule at that time. David Fraser '80 took on the job of attempting to retrieve the capsule.

The school admin was willing to dig the capsule up but of course, they would need to know the exact location before the operation began. Unfortunately, the few people who might remember the exact spot have been difficult to contact. David thinks he would know the general area within a 20' radius. Another witness, Janice (Lee) Parks '80 was located but she too wasn't 100 percent sure of the exact location.

Another possibility would be to locate someone from the maintenance crew who worked at the Aggie in 1980 because they were involved with the burial of the capsule but nothing has come of that possibility either.

David doesn't have his 1980 class yearbook but he does remember that there is a photo in the yearbook that was taken at the location the day the capsule was buried. It shows a small group of FFA officers standing in the area the capsule was to be buried.

There has been some thought about the possibility of having an alumnus who owns a metal detector volunteering to give it a try because there were some metal objects in the PVC capsule.

If anyone out there thinks they might be able to help solve this time capsule mystery they should contact David Fraser at: vincentstudios@comcast.net.

The lesson to be learned here is that if any group decides to bury a time capsule they should make sure the location is well documented because someday, far in the future, someone might want to dig the darn thing up!

Blast From The Past (1972)

Grady Amos, Instructor Richard Brown & Robert Condon '74 in Animal Science class.



Class of '81 Camping Weekend

The class of '81 continues with their ability to keep in touch. This is a photo of their camping weekend last July.



Gloria (VanDine) Cann Class of '39

We recently heard from Debi Kiley Cann who's mother is Gloria (VanDine) Cann '39. Gloria is now 92 and living in North Conway, NH. This photo was taken last summer in Portsmouth, NH.



Deceased Classmates

Kent Nichols, Class of 1948

Kent was born Aug. 18, 1930, in Lynn, Mass., one of five children of Raymond and Frances Nichols. Kent passed away June 24, 2012, in North Bend, after a brief illness. He lived most of his young life in Swampscott, Mass. He was a graduate of Essex Aggie, and a U.S. Navy veteran (1948 to 1953). Kent was a smart, intuitive man who spent his working life with United Airlines in California and Oregon. He moved to the Coos Bay/North Bend area in 2000.

Priscilla (Batchelder) Tynning, Class of 1962

Priscilla A. "Minnie" (Batchelder) Tynning, 78 of South Lawrence died on Wednesday September 12, 2012 at Lawrence General Hospital. Mrs. Tynning was born, raised in and a longtime resident of Andover before moving to South Lawrence in 1995. Before her retirement she worked as a Baker for over 29 years for The Andover School System. She was a lifetime member of West Parish Church in Andover and very active with the Girl Scouts. She was an avid reader and a #1 fan of The Boston Red Sox. The joy of her life was her family.

Paul Sweeney, Class of 1962

Paul J. Sweeney, age 68, a lifelong resident of Beverly, Massachusetts, passed away on Tuesday, June 26, 2012, after a courageous battle with cardiac disease. Paul was born March 26, 1944, in Beverly, MA. He was the husband of Donna Marie (Marcucci) Sweeney. Paul attended Essex Aggie where he majored in horticulture. Later, after opening his own wholesale flower business, he also served on Essex Agricultural School's Scholarship Board. Paul was a member of the Boston Flower Exchange for many years. He owned & operated Sweeney's Greenhouses for most of his adult life and was well known throughout the community. He loved giving advice to his patrons when it came to gardening and plants.

Florence (Hemingway) Davis, Class of 1963

Florence Davis, 67, of Port St. Lucie, FL, died September 22, 2012 at St. Lucie Medical Center in Port

St. Lucie, FL. Born in Amesbury, MA, Florence was a resident of Port St. Lucie, FL since 2009. Prior to retirement, Mrs. Davis was an Office Manager for Towle Silversmith in Newburyport, MA for 9 years. Florence was a member of Faith Congregational Church in Port St. Lucie, FL. She was an avid cook, loved her family, and was an outdoor enthusiast. She was also a civic and religious leader throughout her life.

Nancy Alves, Class of 1975

Nancy J. Alves, 54, of Medford died on Saturday, September 29 at the Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston. Born in Lowell on December 26, 1957 she was the daughter of Natalie (Thompson) Alves of Stoneham and the late Theodore P. Alves. Nancy had been a Medford resident for the past 20 years. She was a graduate of Essex Aggie and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Nancy had been a Home Health Aid for Medford VNA.

Paul Marshall Class of 1978

Paul Francis Marshall, 52, formerly of Peabody, died unexpectedly on Sunday, August 5, 2012. Paul was a proud graduate of Essex Aggie, Class of 1978, and owned his own landscaping business for many years. Paul loved the outdoors, from sailing and fishing the lakes of NH to snowmobiling in Maine. He was happiest riding his Harley and spending time with close friends.

Stephen Phaneuf Class of 1978

Steven N. Phaneuf, 53, of Haverhill, formerly of Merrimac, succumbed to his illness on May 10, 2012, at the Mass. General Hospital in Boston, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Born in Saugus, MA on September 18, 1958, he was the son of Mrs. Shirley J. (MacLaughlin) Phaneuf and the late Norman X. Phaneuf. Steven was a graduate of the Essex Aggie, Class of 1978, where he was committed to the pursuit of follow his dreams in horticulture. He was employed by the Ford Bacon and Davis Gas Company in Connecticut. Steven found comfort and enjoyment in nature especially; eagles, horses, fishing, and often times could be found taking long walks through the outdoors, or going to the beach. He enjoyed watching old movies, and was very involved in local AA chapter meetings, and was always there to help anyone whenever possible.

End Has Come For Dairy Barn

The new cow barn was proudly added to the Aggie campus in 1930. It was an addition that was tied in with the old barn which was still used for hay, grain & general storage. It featured a labor saving design and all the latest improvements in equipment. All the work done on this barn was under the direct supervision of Instructor Fred Hardy. Groups of students assisted with the construction and received practical training in farm mechanics.



New Cow Barn (1930)

For many years the dairy barns were a large part of the Aggie and provided an excellent means of demonstrating the Aggie's theme of "Learn by doing".



Modern Cow Barn (2012)

For many years the dairy plant provided students with much more than learning about the proper management of a dairy farm or milk laboratory. It taught students about managing their lives, about working with large animals, about getting along with co-workers, about following instructions, about making decisions, about taking on responsibilities, about the importance of cleanliness in the workplace, about the importance of developing good work habits,

and much much more.



Reflecting the loss of dairy farms, the end of an era came when the cows were sold in 1992. After that, the unused facility was used mostly for storage.

There would be no more sounds of cows munching on grain and hay. There would be no more sounds of milk machines pumping and fresh milk being poured into containers. There would be no more sounds of cows mooing and neck stanchions pulling on their chains. There would be no more of those wonderful smells of cows, fresh bedding, grain, hay, silage, warm fresh milk and yes, even cow manure!

Any Aggie student who studied dairy farming and especially those who had the privilege of working in the dairy plant for extended periods of time have a ton of experience and memories to retain for the rest of their lives.

After 100 years the end has come.



History Corner

Poultry Department In Review

(From Essex Farmer & Home Maker) - (date unk.)

If one who had been close to the poultry division twenty years ago were to return now after an absence of seventeen or eighteen years, he would probably think one of two things; either his memory was leaving him or that his compass had backfired. For in those days the present main poultry building was located on the site of the present fruit cellar, and the area about the present greenhouse was studded with small buildings which housed the birds of the Essex County Egg-Laying Contest. The contest was discontinued after several years because of the lack of entries from within the county, and in 1923-24 the main poultry building was moved to its present location, and the "Essex" and "Amherst" houses were erected soon after. Before 1930 the "Permanent" and "Shenandoah" brooder houses were constructed, and the only notable additions in recent years have been two 12x16 modern "barracks" houses for brooding chicks and housing breeders. The recommendations in 1922 on the relocation of the plant carried some interesting comments regarding the difficulty of walking on the side hill among the contest pens in slippery weather; the outmoded small incubators; the dirt floors in the buildings; the rat problem and poor range conditions, among many others. Twenty years ago the teaching problem was complicated by the presence of Federal Board men as a result of the world war, and a lance at the class rolls through the years shows some ups and downs in the poultry enrollment, with the current group being about double that of a few years back. Two instructors have been in the poultry department continuously in the twenty years, and they follow in their order of service; Messers Carver, Hannaford, Doolittle (deceased), Moore, Edwards (deceased), Bennett and Miltimore. In the early days, students did the work around the contest plants and the school flock; later, a week of practice work for the students was adopted, whereby each student lives at the school for a week and does the various jobs associated with routine plant work. Over a period of years it has been the policy to try to operate the plant on as nearly a commercial basis as possible, but still to give the students an opportunity of learning by doing.

J. Stanley Bennett

Poultry Department Photos

With the Poultry Department featured in this issue's History Corner article we are once again reminded that we have very few photos of the now extinct Poultry Complex for the alumni photo archives.

We have done pretty well with building a collection of campus photos but the lack of Poultry Department photos creates a large gap in the collection. Most notable is the fact that we have no photos at all of the main buildings. The main building had facilities for the poultry office and killing & dressing room on the main floor. Egg processing and storage plus a large freezer were in the basement. The top floor contained a dormitory room where students who worked on the poultry farm stayed. A large three story building right next door was used as housing and grain storage for the laying flocks.

The lost is found!

We were pleasantly surprised when viewing a group of photos that were recently sent to us by Howard Elms '53 of Huntington, Utah. Howard has been sending in photos of his days at the Aggie and this newest addition contained a gem. In the collection was a photo of two students in a candid photo on the edge of the campus in 1949.



In the background, there it was, the two main buildings of the poultry plant!



Essex Aggie Alumni Association Membership Registration Form 2013

Membership dues for 2013 will be \$20.00

(Term of membership is Jan 1 to Dec 31)

Please fill out the form below

We need your support



Member Name and Address: (Please Print)

Class of _____ High School Division (____) College Division (____) School Staff (____)

First Name _____ Maiden Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Work Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____

E-Mail _____

Please register my membership and/or donation for 2013

I am enclosing my check for \$20.00 for 2013 Membership: \$ _____

I would like to donate to the General Fund: \$ _____

I would like to donate to the General Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

I would like to donate to the Richard M. Brown Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

I would like to donate to the V. Byron Bennett Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

I would like to donate to the Business Start-up Bursary: \$ _____

Total amount enclosed for membership & donations: \$ _____

(Essex Aggie Alumni Association is a 501(c)3 organization and donations are tax deductible)

Your membership is important and we hope you will send your dues today!

Check should be made out to: Essex Aggie Alumni

Mail this form to:

Essex Aggie Alumni Association

c/o Charles Main

643 Main Road

Phippsburg, ME 04562

The Aggie News

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