



Aggie News

From The Editor

Dear fellow Aggies, this issue of the Aggie News highlights the old and the new regarding our beloved Aggie. We spotlight two fine alumni / instructors Harold Kelly '42 and Edward White '68. We delve deeply into the history of the horse barn and let you know what is going on with it today. We have a story about how popular Essex Tech is, when I applied to the Aggie (1971) I was one of three hundred students, in which they accepted one hundred. Last year just over one thousand students applied for three hundred and fifty slots.

William Lupini, Ed.D. the Superintendent – Director, gives a wonderful overview of how and why Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School District is set up. We also have a great study from current students using their knowledge of water technology and wetland ecology.

Finally, Ms. Sandy Nichols Ward gives us a bit of history of the Hathorne Post Office. In this article not only the history of the post office is covered, but she touches on the history of the Essex Railroad which brought many students to the Aggie every day until the end of 1926.

Please enjoy this stories and don't forget to look at the last page, yes, it is the dues page.

Sincerely,

Pete Tierney, Class of '75 email peter_tierney57@msn.com phone 857-888-9924
Home address, 120 W. Grey Stone Street, San Tan Valley, AZ 85143

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

School notes form 1930

The Horse Barn Completed, March 1930

More than seventy-five students have had a hand in the construction of the new barn, which was opened to the visitors on Farmers' Day. Many will carry away suggestions and instruction in building which can be applied on home construction projects.

The building was started about a year ago, and has been in the process of construction during the year, thus enabling these students to get some practical experience in building. This experience was quite varied, as there were four trades represented. Namely masonry, carpentry, painting and blacksmithing.

The barn is 36 by 80 feet, with a shed 16 feet wide the entire length of the north side. Sixty-four feet of this shed is open, to be used to house wagons and carts; sixteen feet closed, to be used as a manure pit.

The first floor of concrete is divided in the center. The front half, 36 by 40 feet, is to store farm machinery. There are no posts in the center, as the second floor is carried by three 20-inch steel girders 36 feet long. The rear half, for horses, has a harness room provided with a sink and stove, a grain room, eight stalls and one box stall. The inside is sheathed throughout in North Carolina pine and finished in the wood.



A track-system carrier takes care of the manure, making it easy to keep clean. One unique feature is the watering trough made of concrete with recessed panel in front with the figures "1929" in the center.

The second floor, 36 by 80 feet, is entirely clear up to the roof, which is the balloon type, thus doing away with posts and cross beams, giving the maximum amount of hay storage. There is a hay track the entire length providing for unloading at either end. The barn is equipped with the latest type of ventilating system throughout.

The entire barn is shingled with Bird Green Asphalt shingles. Trimmings are painted a light tan. We used approximately 1,000 bags of cement 38,000 feet lumber, 100 squares shingles, and nearly one ton of nails in the construction of this building.

The new barn is a very creditable addition to the farm buildings at the school.
—Fred R. Hardy.

The Old Horse Barn and Its Builder, April 1930

Director Smith after formally opening- the new horse barn on Farmers' Day, March 12th, turned the old one over to the Mechanic's Division to be torn down. It is not without regret on his part that the old landmark passes. He realized, however, that not only was it wrongly situated for the work of the school, but it was so badly rotted as to be beyond repair.

The barn was built in 1836 by Sylvanus B. Swan, of native white pine from his own woodlot in Middleton. It was of old-fashioned construction, measuring 40 feet by 50 feet. The ridge was 30 feet from the ground. The frame was pinned together with oak pins. The planks were pinned to the joists with square pins. The great beams measured 9 inches by 11 inches by 40 feet. The barn had a hay storage capacity of 35 tons. The cellar had a height of 7 feet. The farm, of which this barn was a part, took in much of the village of Hathorne. There were other lots in Middleton and North Andover.



Mr. Swan was born in Bristol, New Hampshire, June 5, 1806. On Nov 2, 1836, he married Mary Ann (Putnam) Tyler, daughter of Squire Eleazer Putnam, who owned the farm which later became the property of Mr. Swan. Three children were born of this union, Louisa, Mary, and Elizabeth. These all passed away before they reached womanhood. Mrs. Swan died in 1844. Two years after the death of his wife, Mr. Swan married Miss Lydia Adams of Londonderry, New Hampshire. There were no children born of this union.

Mr. Swan was an old-time farmer. His cattle were Durham, while Deven oxen were his pride. His cash crops were butter, oats, cord wood, and some hay. By hard work and careful management he amassed in 45 years a fortune of \$14,600.00

He was very religious; in money matters honest but close. He was very generous as to missions. He was tall and bony, in speech abrupt. In his appearance very neat.

This man after a life of usefulness passed away Jan. 25th, 1881, at the age of 75 years. His wife died Aug. 3rd, 1883.

From 1883 the barn has been owned by the following people: 1883 J. Webb Barton. 1884 Gardner Barton, 1905 Helen J. Butler, 1906 Rose Webb, 1906 Salem Savings Bank, 1911 Trustees of the House of the Angel Guardian, and on Aug. 20th, 1913, it passed to the County of Essex. Worn out through a lifetime of service, the old barn has been kept going through 17 years of patching and repair. It now has gone.

Why take note of its passing? There was nothing striking about it. It was simply and plainly made.

There was no timber of unusual size or quality about it. From a mechanical standpoint the new barn is by far the better of the two. Why not let it be forgotten? Because it was symbolical of an all-sufficient farmer, the man who raised his own food, the material for his clothes, buying merely tea, coffee, and sugar.

The building of the new barn represents an age of specialization. Each item of raw material represents different workers and territories. Not so with the old barn. The farmer cut his timber and hauled it. He gathered the stones and built his wall. He, with his neighbors, had a framing bee; if not a framing bee, a carpenter was hired to help the farmer and his men build the barn complete. To us the barn represents a wonderful era in American history. It was representative of a strong, line people, of noble, kindly virtues. Time and inevitable change decreed its passing. We shall miss it. The barn has served its day and generation well. We can do no better.

Henry P. Thurlow, Instructor in History

(Editor's note: The "New" horse barn was refurbished as part of the new Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical High School.)

School notes form November, 2016

Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical High School is very proud to be selected to receive the Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation's 2017 Horse Farm of Distinction Award. Each farm or stable that is nominated for the award is evaluated in the areas of Horse Health Management, Farm Management, and compliance with Regulatory Requirements. Only farms and stables that score above the 85 percentile are eligible to receive the award.

See award letter on the next page.





MASSACHUSETTS FARM BUREAU FEDERATION, INC.

"The Voice of Agriculture"

249 Lakeside Ave, Marlborough, MA 01752-4503 • Phone: 508.481.4766 Toll Free: 1.866.548.MFBF • Fax: 508.481.4768 www.MFBF.net

November 2, 2016

Cliff Taylor
Essex Technical High School
562 Maple Street
Hathorne, MA 01937

Dear Cliff,

On behalf of the nearly 6,000 family members that comprise the membership of the Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation, I am pleased to congratulate you on being selected to receive the *Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation's 2017 Horse Farm of Distinction Award* for the coming year. This prestigious honor is the result of statewide judging to determine horse farms and stables that are the epitomes of perfection!

Each farm or stable nominated for the award designation is evaluated in the areas of Horse Health Management, Farm Management, and Compliance with Regulatory Requirements. Only farms and stables scoring at or above the eighty-fifth percentile are eligible to receive the award.

Along with the award packages sent out in December, all of the Horse Farm of Distinction winners will be listed in our Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting program guide. The meeting will be held Thursday, December 1st at the Boston Marriott Peabody Hotel in Peabody, Massachusetts. Enclosed please find directions to the hotel and a meal reservation for your convenience.

All meal reservations must be received by November 18th. We recommend that you make your reservations early in order to pay the discounted price for the meal; after this time each lunch and dinner will be an additional \$5.00 charge.

Again, our congratulations for achieving this high level of accomplishment! Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation is proud to honor your operation as one of the elite, as a "2017 Horse Farm of Distinction!"

Sincerely,

Edward Davidian, President
Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation

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Enclosures

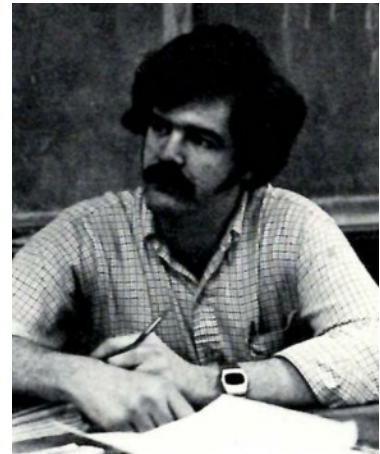
Faculty/Alumni in the Spotlight

Edward A. White '68

Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute and the FFA were not only a part of my father's life, but a big part of my family's lives. Before my father retired in 2007, I can only remember one time, for one year, in the early 80s, that he was not teaching at the Aggie. Other than that, the students, teachers and even the school itself (like the ugly green Extension Hall building), made up our universe.

Let's back way up. Back to afros and bell-bottoms and a time when my dad had hair...

Edward A. White from Reading, MA, was a student at Essex Aggie and was a graduate of the Class of 1968. He was a trouble-maker when he was young, but the Aggie shaped him into the man/father/teacher he became. After high school, he went to college at Stockbridge School of Agriculture then U. Mass Amherst (with a break to spend a semester at college in Arizona). Eventually the Aggie called to him and he went on to become a very dedicated and well-loved teacher there for many years. I can't even guess how many of his former students also became teachers there; how many teachers & students he is still in touch with today; how many became family friends over the years.



Ed White

In his early years as a teacher there, things were much different than they were by the time my dad retired. He started out in a building called the Poultry Head House and the basement was where they kept the incubators and freezers. Kids were taught to collect eggs & slaughter chickens; sell the chicken eggs at the Farm Stand; care for the cattle including their favorite part - muck the stalls. In fact I learned to milk my first cow there. Through the meats program students were taught to properly & safely butcher cattle for sale. I am sure that you all know times have changed and these programs have become pretty nonexistent. He later moved to Extension Hall (that ugly green building with the peacocks screaming outside), and had his own office covered in pictures of his family and students and plaques he got mostly for his role as FFA Advisor. Near the end of his tenure, he moved across the street to a shared office and started teaching drastically different programs. He went from small animals, cows & chickens, to teaching classes like hydroponics and biotechnology.

I always remember my dad as the Department Head of Animal Science, which meant he didn't get full summers off. For me, that was awesome because I got to go to school with him during the summers. Dad would be in his office in Extension Hall and while he did department head type stuff, I got to go downstairs and play with the birds and small animals. I still remember when 'Aggie', the VERY large, Albino Burmese Python, somehow got loose. Dad would come home telling us there had been another 'Aggie' citing, but that no one could catch her. If memory serves, this went on for several years. I am sure we all know that 'Aggie' never went hungry given the number of mice that kept somehow getting loose.

I have to admit though, the best part of going to work with dad meant that we go to go to Putnam Pantry on the way home! Shh...Don't tell mom!



Perks of being the daughter of the Animal Science Dept. Head was that when the school got new parrots donated, they usually ended up at home with us for a couple of years so they could be trained in a low-stress environment and learn to talk without swearing. How many of you remember Babe the Sulfur-crested Cockatoo that had my dad wrapped around his...beak? I remember catching dad sharing his morning cup of coffee with Babe when he thought no one was looking. Then there was Bo the Blue & Gold

Macaw. My little sister, was Bo's best friend while he was home. I bonded with Dusty, the African Gray. I admit that I could be a little annoying and one of my habits was to yell in a whiny voice "Whaaaat?" when mom or dad called to me. Let me tell you, dad was *thrilled* when Dusty learned that one. Or how about how many times we changed the batteries in the smoke detector because it kept beeping low battery? Umm...yeah; not the smoke detector. We all have fond memories of those birds.

How many of you remember when the teachers were allowed to smoke on campus? When the laws changed banning smoking, my dad, along with Helen Hegarty (I know you remember her) and several other teachers, went into Boston together to see 'The Mad Russian.' The teachers all quit together and my dad never touched a cigarette again.

I remember my dad telling me stories about catching girls in the back of his classes piercing each other's ears with needles. He would come home just shaking his head. Another one of his student successes, mentioned that "whenever we would go on a field trip - especially to the Big E - when you asked him how much longer - or how far - his answer was always 6." She just recently realized, now that she is driving kids there, that the exit was Exit 6. The funny thing is that was the answer he always gave me. At least she figured out the logic behind it.

Something else I learned about my dad was that not only did he like horses, but he knew how to ride. I learned this when Buckwheat, a large quarter horse, came to the Aggie and became my *dad's* horse. If dad came home from work in a bad mood, all we had to do was ask him if he rode Buckwheat that day...and just like that, the bad mood would melt away. He loved that horse! The interesting thing is that while I distinctly remember dad & the horse, all of his former students I contacted for input - spanning a two decade time frame - didn't remember the horse or know about my dad's love for this horse. Actually, as a result of writing this article, I discovered that my dad had always loved horses and used to ride often as a kid.

My father spent many years as the FFA Faculty Advisor. Many of those students through the years, specifically the officers, were a big part of my life as they often had meetings at our house. I watched many of those students grow and prosper over the years. In fact, one of those students is now the Associate Principal of the Animal & Plant Sciences Academy.

My sisters & I always looked forward to the National FFA convention in Kansas City, MO. Not because we got to go, but because dad always came home with presents for us. As a result of raising three girls of his own, my dad learned some things schools don't teach. Things such as bring feminine products to the National Convention because someone will inevitably forget them...and need them at 3am. I used to find this funny. What would TSA think if they ever went through his luggage? Now it reminds me how much he looked out for his students.

While most of my father's students respected him and were relatively well behaved (for high school students), every class had that one student... I do remember one year while the students were going through security at the airport, and a student jokingly said "What are you looking for? Bombs?" Needless to say that student didn't make the flight and my father just barely made it.

So how many of you remember the FFA pizza parties at Prince Pizzeria or the roller skating parties at the Roller Palace in Beverly? Those were good times! My dad would bring me and my sisters and usually Gene Demsey would bring his three boys, who were about the same ages as we were. The 6 of us would usually sit and stare at each other not saying a word. But my sisters & I must have been better looking, because eventually students would ask us to skate or dance. We would have a blast! Even the year at the Roller Palace when a student fell in front of me and I fell over him and landed on my knee. That one ultimately ended in knee surgery but I still had a good night. These are things that stick with you and make you smile. Except for once. It was during a pizza party in 1991. Everyone had pretty much stopped dancing and were talking quietly amongst themselves. To this day, I remember verbatim what my dad told me when I asked what happened. We found out that the US had just bombed Baghdad; and even without social media, word spread fast. We all learned that night how many of the students had family serving in the Armed Forces. I still remember how quiet it got that night and how much support the students showed to each other.

My good times ended when I started expressing an interest in some of dad's male students. "You will NOT date my students!" was usually followed by "You will NOT date my daughters!" Needless to say, dad stopped taking me to the FFA functions..

I am sure most of you know my dad was and still is, Superintendent of Poultry at the Topsfield Fair. What many people don't know is that we never owned poultry. Many of you actively seek him out there every year just to say "Hi". During the fair, my father was doing the work of three people. He taught during the day, and after school & on the weekends, he split his time between the FFA cider stand and the poultry building. Fortunately for my dad, he had a lot of very responsible students who needed little supervision in the cider stand.

Over the years, my dad was always there to offer guidance, a shoulder to cry on and an ear to listen with, to his troubled students. I am sad to say, there were many of them over the years. Bless my mom for understanding how much he was helping these students. She is probably the only woman I know, who didn't have to question why her husband came home with make-up smudges on his shirts (girls crying on his shoulder) or the calls at home at night from students needing help (such as "My mother is drunk again"). For all intents and purposes, my dad had a lot of 'children' that he always took the time to help.

Those of you who know my dad, knew that he wouldn't sit still for long after he retired. He now has a job he loves, doing what he loves, as a Ranger at Crane Beach. He gets to be outside and talk to people all day (and we all know that my dad LOVES to talk). I almost think this job was created just for my dad. He is still very active in the Topsfield Fair (another job where he gets to hob-nob all day) and he and my mom travel when they can. Travel was always something my dad couldn't wait to do when he retired. I am sad to say, for the first time ever, my father doesn't have a faithful four-legged companion by his side. Without anyone at home to help, my parents have more freedom now, but as you all know, my dad's dogs were always part of his identity. Students I have bumped into over the years, have always asked about his dogs in the same breath they asked about him.



To this day, at 40 years old and almost 10 years since he retired, I have no identity of my own and am still recognized as “Mr. White's daughter.” No matter where I went or what I did my whole life, someone would approach me - “You're Mr. White's daughter, aren't you?!?” - tell me how lucky I was to be Mr. White's daughter and to tell him that so-and-so said “Hi”. When I did, he remembered every one of those students. (On a personal note, being recognized was not a good thing as a teenager. Students would inevitably spot me when I was out and then tell my dad where I was and who I was with. Trust me I got away with nothing!) But he was, and still remains, Mr. White and he touched more lives than he probably realizes.

Respectfully Submitted, Jenn White

Photo below if from the 1973-74 school year, Ed White was out of high school for 5 years.

FACULTY



Standing: J. Wheeler, F. Dean, F. Costa, S. Shipulski, E. White, E. Lang. Sitting: A. Muldoon, R. Brown, N. Clark, H. Kelly.

New Essex Tech High School is hugely popular

The beautiful new Essex Technical High School (ETHS) in Danvers is so popular that there were just over 1,000 applicants for 350 freshman slots this year.

The two-year-old school, Massachusetts's newest public regional technical and agricultural high school, serves students in 17 North Shore communities and accepts students statewide for their eight agricultural programs.

"When you have three times as many students apply as you can accept, that is a sure sign that the school is doing a good job," said State Representative Theodore Speliotis of Danvers who played an active role in creating the new school district that merged Essex Agricultural Technical High School and the North Shore Vocational Regional School with the Peabody School District's trade program.

"We just graduated our second class," said William H. Lupini, superintendent-director Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District. "The vision and concept of the one school was great. We have worked on merging three very different school cultures into one community. It has been a very positive experience."

Application process

The application process for students interested in Essex Tech is almost as challenging and competitive as the college application process.

There is an online application for students and parents, students are required to have their guidance counselor complete a recommendation and to provide complete academic and discipline/conduct records. Prospective students must also go through an interview process, according to Sandra Goldstein, guidance and admissions coordinator. All applications are due in the month of February, prior to the school year. Pictured here is Carissa Karakaedos, Community Relations/Partnerships Coordinator.



"Anytime you have 1000 applicants for 350 openings, something good has to be going on," added Lupini.

By the numbers

For the 2015-16 school year, there were 357 freshmen, 352 sophomores, 271 juniors and 239 seniors. Peabody sent the most young people (222) to the new school, followed by Salem with 170 and Beverly with 110. Lupini reports that a total of 327 students were enrolled from 39 non-District

communities. The non-member communities with the largest enrollments were: Lynn, 48; Haverhill, 37; Methuen 39; Lawrence, 24; and Saugus sent 24.

Unlike past generations, students graduating from Essex Tech today are very likely to continue their education beyond high school. In 2015, the school had a 98.7 percent graduation rate. Even better, 47 percent of seniors went on to a four-year college, 26 percent went on to a two-year college and another one percent entered a specific post-graduate technical program. An additional three percent of students entered the military.

The total experience

Looking beyond the numbers, Essex Tech offers students a wide variety of sports programs ranging from football and cheerleading to indoor track and wrestling. In fact, the Girls' Cross-Country team won the Vocational Division State Championship last year.

Among the many typical clubs and career activities offered at Essex Tech are drama, Student Council, National Honor Society, a school newspaper and yearbook.

The academic programs are focused into four academies: Technology and Services; Animal and Plant Science; Life and Natural Sciences and Construction Technology.

Freshmen participate in a Career Discovery program that exposes them to the 24 programs ETHS offers. ETHS also offers students a lovely campus that respects its agricultural heritage.

"I drive down Route 62 and I see the fantastic new state-of-the-arts buildings and a few feet away are horses grazing in the fields," said Speliotis. "It is a special place."

As ETHS enters its third academic year, Lupini continues to help develop "a sense of district" along with future goals, objectives and activities for the young school that has quickly become so popular.



Posted Aug 13, 2016 at 2:30 PM, By Linda Greenstein lgreenstein@wickedlocal.com



ESSEX TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School District

I am very pleased to welcome you to the Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical District website. <http://www.essextech.net> The creation of this school district, which opened in September 2014, represents the visionary work of leaders from our seventeen (17) member districts, along with the Department of Agriculture, in merging the North Shore Vocational School, Essex Agricultural High School, and programs from Peabody High School.

While there are a number of outstanding technical high schools in Massachusetts, Essex North Shore is truly unique in offering agricultural programs like veterinary technology, equine sciences, and landscaping and turf management as part of career offerings. In addition, these programs presently enroll students from our member communities, as well as from 38 other cities and towns throughout the Commonwealth. In total, our students have access to 24 career technical programs in four (4) academies: Animal and Plant Science, Technology and Services, Life and Natural Science, and Construction Technology.

Our mission is to provide students with both an academic and technical education that expands their opportunities after high school. Specifically, our programs provide students with the opportunity to attend college and/or enter the job market after graduation. We do so by providing quality instruction, by meeting the individual needs of our students, by providing outstanding learning environments and resources, and by hiring outstanding educators. Moreover, our partnership programs with colleges and employers, our internship and cooperative education programs, and our early college options ensure that students have an opportunity to explore their future options while still in high school.

In addition, the staff at Essex Technical High School has created a school culture based on respect for all learners. We are all committed to honoring the individual differences among our students, to offering a wide array of student activities and athletics, and to providing appropriate supports for our students through guidance and special education services.

Finally, we are committed to serving the residents of our member communities. Specifically, we are striving to provide an outstanding adult education program to assist individuals looking for additional career training and/or in making a career change. We consider the K-12 school districts in our member communities to be our partners in providing hands-on learning experiences for all students. We look for opportunities to provide service in our member communities, including working with city and town officials, as well as non-profits, on specific projects. We consider ourselves to be an important contributor to the educational and civic lives of our North Shore communities.

I hope that you will find our website (<http://www.essextech.net>) to be helpful as you attempt to learn more about Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical District and Essex Technical High School.

Sincerely,
William H. Lupini, Ed.D.
Superintendent-Director

A Message from our Alumni President:

The Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical Foundation will be holding its annual Golf Tournament on July 31st, at the Ferncroft CC in Danvers MA. This is very important to our alumni association because one of the many goals of the future for the Foundation is to raise awareness and rebuild the Larkin Cottage. It is also important to the current and future students of the new district to be part of the future history of this school and to be educated by all of us on where we came from and how vital it is to preserve for future generations the past history of our Alumni and the work they did to make this school what it is today. We hope we will see many of you and local business owners and leaders at the Golf Tournament on July 31st so you can meet fellow alumni and other people who have the best interest of the Aggie in mind.

All of us at the Essex Aggie Alumni Association and the Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical Foundation wish Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Pete Tierney, President, Essex Aggie Alumni Association
Dean Proteous, President, Essex North Shore Agricultural Technical Foundation

Cast a cold Eye
On Life, on Death,
Horseman, pass by!

W.B. Yeats

As I reflect on alumni who passed away in the past few months. I recall the words of Mr. Yeats and think why I am like the horseman who pass by? You may or may not know that there are four memorial boulders of WWI veterans on campus. You can see them on our Facebook page. Many of us, including myself walked by, not just for a few days but for years never taking the time to reflect on those lost souls. Our fellow alumni who passed away have made in impact on our lives, even if we don't fully understand that impact. I would say for the better and I am grateful for that.

Fellow alumni and staff who passed away the second half of 2016

Kaylee Marie Baker, '13

Robert St. Clair, '60

Eleanor P. (Tobyne) Cantwell, Coordinator of Federal Programs for Essex Aggie

Tom DeJoy, '75

Allen Downey, '64

George R. Hawley Sr., Post Grad

William B. "Bill" Holland, '49

Christine Melville, '97

Mr. John Francis Ruggeri, a member of the plumbing Departments and Maintenance Division.

Doris "Nana" M. (Spurr) Brunelle,

Annette Y. Theriault, Post Grad, Nursing

James Wood, '57

Campus Water Quality at Essex Tech

Considering the importance of wetlands, it is vital that we analyze and sustain their condition on our own campus by using our knowledge of water technology and wetland ecology.

The map labeled "Water on Campus" represents the major water sources and wetlands on campus in relation to buffer zones and campus boundaries.

Detention Pond - Areas where water is retained after run-off from precipitation and is slowly absorbed into our wetland soil

Stream Flow - The path of water flowing from the highest point (Jail Pond) through the connected system both above and underground

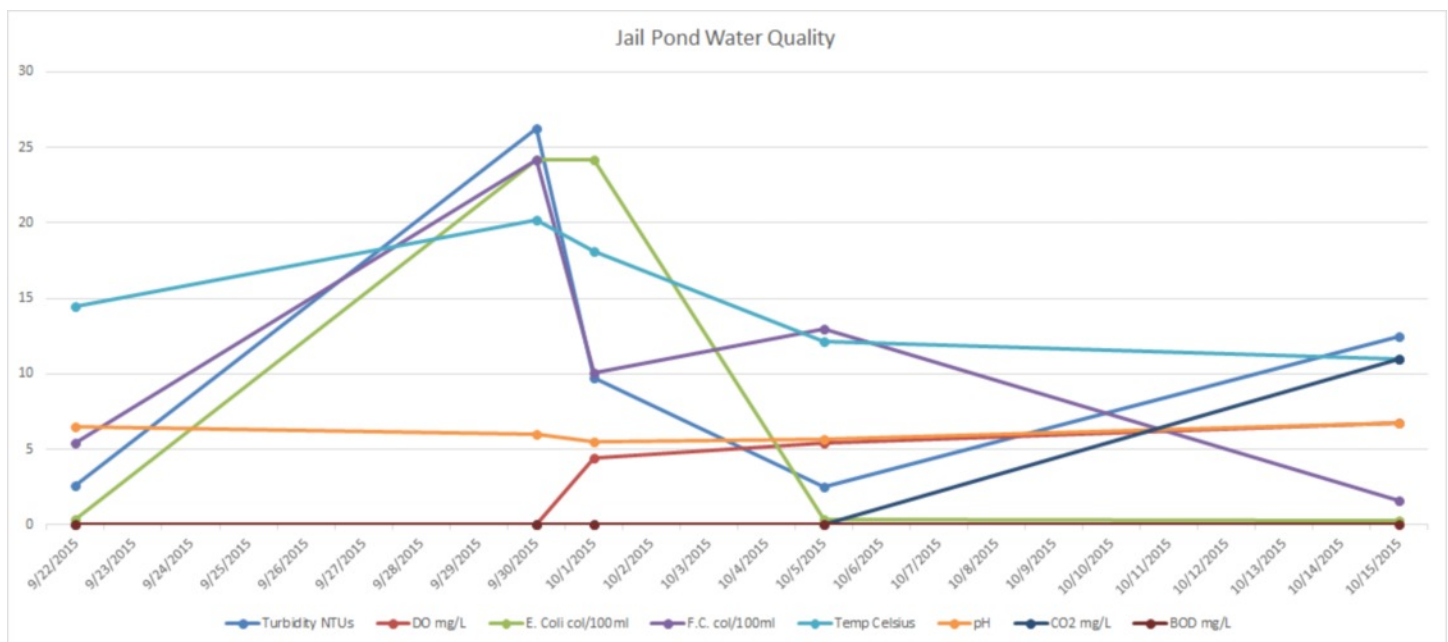
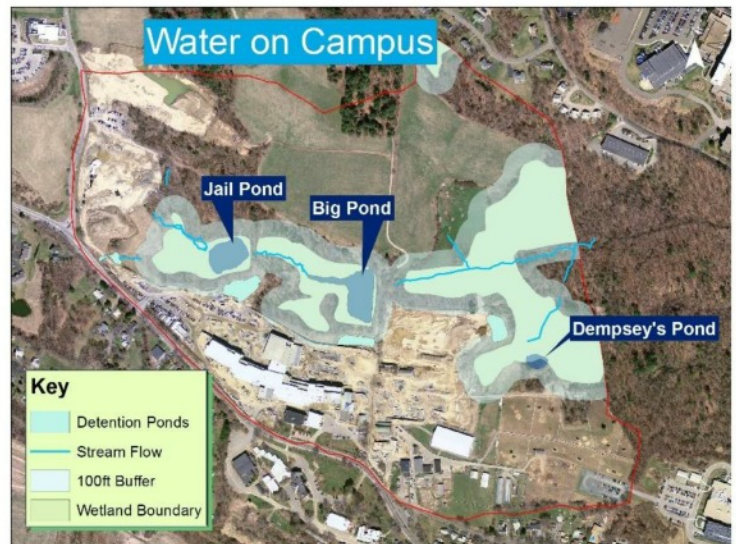
100 ft. Buffer - Border or limit of legal activity, protecting the inner area of crucial wetland area

Wetland Boundary - legal limit of wetland area

Campus Boundary - the perimeter of our campus limits are shown with a red line

Just like any hilly terrain slopes create large amounts of run-off all over campus. Therefore, a pond's water quality can be negatively affected by foreign substances transported by moving water.

Through connecting streams water on campus flows similar to how we read, left to right. Starting at Jail Pond and then continuing to Big Pond and then to the pour point in the Ferncroft. It is a mini watershed, so anything flowing in to the wetland flushes through picking up and breaking down run-off as it goes.



Water Chemistry

The graph above explains the water chemistry at site "Jail Pond," on campus from September 22nd, to October 15th. It explains the following water quality tests,

- **Dissolved Oxygen:** The amount of accessible oxygen dissolved into water
- **Turbidity:** The amount of light that can pass through water and suspended solids
- **Fecal Coliforms:** The anaerobic bacteria found in digestive systems and waste products of mammals that is transported into water. Used to measure for Drinking water.
- **E. Coli:** The anaerobic bacteria found in the lower digestive systems and waste products of mammals that is transported into water. Used to measure for drinking water and safe swimming water.
- **Temperature:** Measured in degrees Celsius
- **Biochemical Oxygen Demand:** The amount of dissolved oxygen required by aerobic organisms to break down organic material.
- **pH:** The measure of how basic (14) or acidic (0) water is on a scale 0-14
- **Carbon Dioxide:** A colorless and odorless gas that is essential to life.

The results of these tests are compiled together and used to create an overall water quality grade that can essentially be used to determine if water is safely accessible.

What Does it Mean?

Demonstrating the time lapse September 22nd through October 15th, the changes in water chemistry are conveyed through a line graph. The results of the water tested indicate how water quality can be affected by surrounding environmental changes, such as a rainstorm or impacts to the land. The levels at the start of the graph are at normal conditions and regular levels. On September 30th, more measurements were taken after a rainstorm and the levels of E. Coli, Fecal Coliforms, and turbidity spiked. This is evidence for erosion, carrying soils, animal waste, and debris into the water indicated by the water chemistry results. Due to the mixing of water and foreign substances, turbidity increased and allowed less light to pass through water, giving it an unpleasant appearance that took several days to return to normal. Increases in nutrients can result in algal blooms that can disturb water ecology.

Health Hazards and Resolution

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) sets a limit for fecal coliforms and E.Coli in water. This limit conforms to the Clean Water Act, that states all ponds, lakes, streams, and rivers are safe to swim in. That limit is 126 bacterial colonies per 100 mL of water. Fecal coliform bacteria are always high in aquatic ecosystems, therefore, the EPA uses E.Coli for measuring if water is swimmable. When we measured E.Coli levels after a major rain event in September, we recorded levels 20 times the safe swimming limit. The graph above shows these increases but the coliform bacteria counts were so high, the actual numbers were divided by 100 so they could be represented on the graph. Our data also shows the bacteria returned to normal levels several days after rain. The most likely cause of the increased levels is run off containing wild and domestic animal wastes. Controlling waste from farm animals is a key agricultural practice. Water testing should be done in both dry and wet weather; usually lakes and ponds are measured several days after rain, when levels have returned to normal. Testing is done to:

- Prevent people coming into contact with water when E.Coli levels are high
- Recognizing that water ends up in our drinking supply; treatment for this is very expensive.

Checking that the environment can break down toxins before it gets to treatment plants



The Hathorne Post Office

By Sandy Nichols Ward, December 1, 2007

“Where’s Hathorne?” people would ask me when I gave them my address. If you looked on a road map in those days, you wouldn’t find a place labeled Hathorne. It wasn’t a city or town or county. I’d explain that we lived in the town of Danvers, but our mail came through the Hathorne Post Office. It was a bit confusing. My address for the first fourteen years of my life was 120 Nichols Street, Hathorne, Massachusetts.



“Why is it spelled without the W?” was another common question. I learned to say that Hathorne was the correct spelling not only of our address but also of the famous author’s family name. Nathaniel had added the W later, preferring Hawthorne, but our section of Danvers was called Hathorne, without W. (The pronunciation is the same, either spelling.)

I have many memories of the Hathorne Post Office. I had often accompanied my parents as they came to mail packages, pick up mail, or buy stamps. Recently I traveled along Route 62 and was pleased to recognize the building and note that it is still in use as a Post Office. I stopped briefly and looked inside for the first time in decades. The old mailboxes have been preserved! There have obviously been renovations over the years, and the entrance was new to me, so I was quite surprised and delighted by the familiar look and feel of the place.

Walking to the Hathorne Post Office was a family tradition. My grandfather, William S. Nichols, walked for exercise as well as mail. In his retirement years he had moved back to Danvers and lived at 123 Preston Street (or 124 Nichols Street after the renaming and renumbering of that segment of roadway). His older sisters May and Margaret still lived in the original family home, called “Pine Knoll,” at the corner of Route 1 and Preston Street. Granddaddy liked to walk to the Post Office and return by way of Pine Knoll to deliver mail and visit. My mother, sister, and I also had a weekly routine of visiting the great aunts at Pine Knoll, including sometimes the delivery of their mail.

Walking to the Post Office made sense. It was easier and more logical to walk than to drive, especially after the 1950 reconstruction of Route 1. It seemed so silly to drive around three loops of cloverleaf roads just to turn west onto Maple Street from Route 1 South. We also had to go out of our way to drive from Route 1 North (the only direction allowed from the top end of Nichols

Street) to Route 1 South. I suppose my parents could have driven out the south end of Nichols Street for a simple right turn onto Maple, but that also seemed like an unnecessarily long way around. Why not just walk?

All of my father's business mail as well as our personal mail came through the Hathorne Post Office. In the early 1950's my father relocated his factory from a family garage to 500 Maple Street, adjacent to the post office. He had purchased an old roadside fruit stand on Route 1 for about \$250 and moved it to the new site, where he had a basement built for it. There he and his employees at Nichols and Clark, Inc., manufactured "UNEX" hearing aids there for a number of years before constructing a bigger factory on Route 1. I see that the building is still there and being well maintained. So much else has changed along Route 62. The Green Barrel is gone, my old school is gone, and many new buildings have been built. It was a pleasure to see my father's former building and the Hathorne Post Office side by side, just as they had been in the 1950's.

From Danvers Town Archivist Richard Trask:

"On September 10, 1878 a post office was established in this part of town under the name of Asylum Station, being the name of the railroad depot servicing this area. The station had formerly been called Swan's Crossing Station, though the name changed with the erection

of the Danvers Mental Asylum. The post office was located within the station until the 1890s when postmistress Mrs. Ellen Hines relocated it to the Street Railway Station. In 1899 the name Asylum Station was changed to Hathorne and the post office name was also changed."



Asylum Station was on the Essex Railroad, also known as the Lawrence Branch.

Hathorne Post Office, 1919

The desirability of having a local Post Office near Swan's Crossing Station was apparent by the time the Insane Hospital was completed; and application being made to the Post Office Department, on Sept. 10, 1878 a Post Office was established under the name of Asylum Station, the railroad name having then been changed.

Samuel S. Pratt was appointed Postmaster. Mr. Pratt was a Civil War Veteran, Sergeant of Company H, First Mass, Infantry, and afterwards Commander of Ward Post 90, G. A. E. He was a popular man, and would have made a good postmaster, but it seems as though it was not compatible in connection with his duties as manager of the Hospital farm, for nothing was done

until Oct. 2, 1878, when George W, Dudley, who was engineer at the Hospital, was appointed. He at once established the office in the waiting room at the Railroad Station, and placed Mr. J. W. Pierce as clerk to attend to the business. On Jan. 29, 1880, Mr. Pierce was appointed Postmaster. He was the son-in-law of S. S. Pratt, and a new depot having been built, the Post Office was placed there, Mr. Pierce held the office until Mr. Pratt resigned his position as Farm Manager of the Hospital and removed with his family to Revere.

On March 9, 1891, Andrew Nichols, Jr., succeeded Mr. Pierce as Postmaster. He was the son of our well known townsman Andrew Nichols, who is a member of the Historical Society, and he continued the Post Office in the depot very successfully, until April, 1893, when ill health obliged him to try a change of climate and his brother J. W. Nichols discharged the duties for him, until a change of Administration brought the appointment of Mrs. Ellen Hines on June 20, 1895. Mrs. Hines removed the office to the Street Railway Station where she conducted a store and the business was attended to by her daughter, Mary E. Hines, until Oct. 26, 1899, when, the name was changed to Hathorne and J. W. Nichols was appointed Postmaster,

The Railroad Station name was also changed to Hathorne. The name undoubtedly was suggested by Hathorne Hill on which the Insane Hospital was located. It derived its name from the first owner, Wm. Hathorne, who in 1636 received from the Crown a grant of 200 acres of land which included the hill and land towards Middleton.



Mr. Nichols erected a building across Maple Street, and removed the office there, in connection with his store. On Jan. 13, 1910, the building and contents were almost entirely destroyed by fire. The Post Office at Danvers was able to supply his immediate wants, however, and a new building soon rose on the spot and business was resumed in it in March, 1910. During the interval the Post Office was kept in Mrs. Hines' store. The business increased much in volume under Mr. Nichols' administration, until his resignation and the appointment of Mr. C. F. Skillings, on Jan. 16, 1913. Mr. Skillings continued the office at the same place, and in October, 1916, it was raised to the third class. It is still in Mr. Nichols' building, with Mr. Skillings as Postmaster, and is progressing, as the location of the Essex County Agricultural School near there has of course enhanced the receipts of the office.

(Editor's note; Sandy Nichols Ward grew up in Danvers, attending Danvers Public Schools grades 1-10. and now lives in western Massachusetts and enjoys writing. We thank her for her contribution. I believe one of her great-aunts was a teacher at the Aggie for a while in its early days.)

Faculty/Alumni in the Spotlight

Harold M. Kelly '42

From the editor, (Harold Kelly, always known as "Bud", was an Aggie student, teacher, department chair and fan for all of his adult life. This article highlights Bud's recorded memories of a great life, as well as an article he wrote for the Aggie News in 2005, and memories from his children.)



From Bud Kelly's memories (1993):

The Depression

Bud's entry into agriculture began early in his life. As a teenager he worked through the depression running a fruit and egg business to help support his family. He loved the work and also the families he sold his goods to.

Post High at the Aggie

In 1939 Bud started Post High School at Essex Aggie, in a division of 23 boys and 1 girl. He remembered it being kind of rough on the one girl, but she, Beverly L. Sawyer, eventually became a Bank President. In those days it was 26 weeks in school and 26 weeks on the project. Bud's first project was at Thomson's White Leghorn Poultry Farm, in Andover. Like all farm jobs, it was 13 out of 14 days' work for \$15 cash and room and board for the month. There wasn't much money, but they were a good family to learn from. They were committed to "modern methods" of farming, including running water and automatic feeders.

(Editor's note; some students came to the Aggie after high school for a few years. Mr. Kelly's education may have been funded by the Federal Board for Vocational Training in Agriculture.)

In Bud's Junior summer, Mr. Clarence Wood asked him to work in the school fruit department. For 54 hours weekly, Ed Lynch, his co-worker, and he were paid \$50 a month and a free lunch. Ed later became a Vice-President of Pratt Whitney Aircraft Co.

Bud loved his Senior year. Always involved in competitive sports, he was elected Captain of the football team and Assistant Coach for basketball. As treasurer of the Future Farmers of America, he attended many state meetings and was selected for the Bay State Farmer Award. In February, Mr. Wood asked him to consider the graduate foreman job in the Fruit Department. This was still 54 hours weekly, no free lunch, but \$80 a month cash! During the summer, Mr. Wood became ill and Bud was responsible for running the fruit department. In August of 1942 his long-awaited call for active duty came through. Bud oriented Mr. Couhig in harvesting the many apple, pear and plum varieties and turned his job over to him, until he returned for it seven years later.

WWII

With no boot camp, Bud's first assignment was N.A.S. Argentina, Newfoundland. Because of some small boat experience his transfer was to Lockwood Basin in East Boston to help prepare

about 40 small sweeps for duty in North Africa. Most of these small personally owned boats were expendable and never returned from the North African Invasion.

Skilled in math, he worked as a “pencil pusher” to prepare flight schedules for the new cadets and later he was assigned to Patuxent River, Maryland’s Naval Airport, where they tested captured German and Japanese planes, inside out. His first Carrier assignment was to the new Lexington, and his later, permanent assignment was to the USS Mona Island. He was serving on the USS Mona Island when it was caught in the middle of the bay in Okinawa during the great typhoon. The ship got caught on the coral and couldn’t move. Still its crew rescued the crew from a destroyed, smaller ship, in winds of 160 knots.

Work

In 1946, having returned from the war, Bud worked at Brooksby Farm in Peabody. The owner, Mr. Pierce, arranged for Joe Wood, Aggie Fruit Instructor, to visit Bud regularly for more than three years to complete his agricultural education under the G. I. Bill. In 1949, Jim Gallant, the Educational Manager at the Aggie, assisted Bud in submitting a life history folder to the Mass Department of Education to qualify as an agricultural instructor. In 1949 Bud was hired as the Assistant Fruit Instructor at the Aggie, along with new hires Tom McHugh, Ralph Goodno and Dick Fitzpatrick.



Over the years changes were made, many by Director James F. Gallant. New buildings were added, including the Science Building, gymnasium, Berry Hall and a brand new cafeteria. Eventually the old cafeteria was remodeled and courses were established in Cosmetology, Nursing, Medical Technology, as well as Culinary Arts and Baking. Bud oversaw the building of new greenhouses and the farm stand. Later, under John Manning, a 2 year course in Merchandising was added. A few more years, and many courses were set up for a 2 year degree program. Initially, this did not affect the 300 students in the High School. When Bud retired in 1979, as the first Head of the Plant Science Department, everything seemed to be in good shape. But from 1980 on, many agricultural elements were eliminated or abandoned, including the garden, the orchard and the cows.

Bud wondered what would happen to the 300 High School students who needed this type of alternative education. For 75 years the program did more than train farmers. It taught several thousand young people to become responsible citizens. Even when unemployment was running high, Bud was sure that a survey would show Essex Aggie graduates were working and not waiting for a handout. They were not trained that way.

Mostly, Bud was very proud of the mission of the school. Each year it selected 75 students, not always the best academic students, but those who were really interested in the school. And he loved the work aspect, when the students were put to work on cooperating farms, greenhouses and at other businesses, and visited by an instructor every two weeks, to make sure that the farms’ or

employers' interests were respected and also to make sure that the student was learning on the job. Each student sent in weekly reports which were corrected by the English Department. Bud was also proud that students successfully entered the world of work, service or college. He loved that many of the students stayed in agriculture and many pursued other interests with the skills they gained at the Aggie. Former students became a bank president, lawyers, military officers, school principals, Deans of Colleges, a Vice President of Pratt Whitney Aircraft, greenhouse owners, landscape designers, arborists, Vo-Ag teachers, High School science teachers and farmers.

The Motto... "Essex Aggie first, last and always".

Family Memories from Bud's daughters, Rosemary and Kathy

On his 25th Wedding Anniversary Dad wrote a love letter to Mom "Barbie", first thanking God, and then thanking her for the wonderful times they shared, her home cooking, and mostly for doing most of the work of raising their wonderful children in a family of shared respect and understanding. Clearly he was referring to the abundance of time he spent at the Aggie and on the road in the summer as a supervising teacher!



Mr. & Mrs. Kelly

Memories from Danny Kelly, son of Bud Kelly

There are so many memories to share, but these seem important. Dad saved the Endicott pear tree. We remember the morning he was called to examine the butchered remains left by vandals and his subsequent years of grafting and caring for this now beautiful tree. Dad treated everyone the same, with respect. His enthusiasm for life was infectious. He loved sports. One of my favorite memories was sitting outside, 1967, the two of us listening to the transistor radio broadcasting the Red Sox. His comments about the game brought it to life. Dad's faith was profound, he was ready to meet his maker. The last time my son and I saw him was in the hospital. He said this. I'm ready to leave this world. I've had a good life. Great wife and family, career. What more could a person ask for. He was at total peace.

Pictured below is the new farm stand.



The following is from an Aggie News (2005)

Feature Article: Letter from Harold M. Kelly

August 17, 2004
Charles Main
Essex Aggie Alumni Association 643
Main Road
Phippsburg, Maine 04562

Dear Mr. Main.

Harold M. Kelly
9 Summer Street, Apt 317 Danvers, Mass 01923

My name is Harold “Bud” Kelly, class of 1939 (entrance). The names that I mention below are in my personal opinion, some of the finest people I ever met. First, I knew every Director. Mr. Smith, Mr. Mostrom, Mr. Gallant, and finally Ray Potter. The outstanding gentlemen that I knew as teachers, were as follows: Mr. Gallant, Mr. Brown, Major Thurlow, Mr. Clark, Mr. Eastwood, Joe Wood, Fred Chase, Mr. Lee, Mr. Costa, Mr. Stearns, Mr. Couhig, Mr. Ranta, Mr. Wright, Mr. Metcalf, and Mr. Oclair.

This is the list of teachers that I considered dedicated to Essex Aggie. There were some other fine teachers of short duration, who left to pursue their dreams. I’m glad Mr. Galant was recognized for the new high school, new science building and the associate school across the street. Four agricultural classrooms were set up at no cost to the taxpayer, during Mr. Galant’s term.



Two men, who have never been recognized for outstanding duty, were Richard Brown, who established most of the scholarship funds, and Phil Couhig, our athletic director, who coached all sports after hours on his own time.

Also, deserving of recognition is Lucille Haynes, Secretary-Treasurer of the Alumni Association in the early 1950’s, who raised enough money at an auction for the Alumni to sponsor the field house. Lucile’s husband, Forrest Haynes, was a herdsman at the school at the time and I recently discovered that he is still with us.

I also thought you might enjoy a little information about our orchards at Essex Aggie. I was involved from 1939 to 1979.

The **Railroad Orchard** in back of Wood Hall (more about Mr. Wood in an upcoming newsletter) had about 40 pear trees, including Bartlett, Bosc, and Seckel. It also had mixed varieties of apple trees: 6-7 different delicious varieties, as well as Gravestine and Hume.

The **Hill Orchard** had the following varieties of apple trees: Macintosh, Cortland, Baldwin, Grave stein, Red Gravestine, Astracan (Russian origins), Milton, Early Macintosh, Ben Davis, Northern Spy, Tompkins King, Yellow transparent, Golden delicious and Macoun.

(Editor’s note; From 1937; On the hill across the highway in front of the Agricultural Building (Smith Hall) the main school orchards may be seen. Since the original planting in 1915, other planting have been made in 1919, 1925 and 1928. Varieties of apples in the permanent plantings are confined almost entirely to the New England Seven. The pear and plum orchard is above and to the right of the apple orchards.)

The orchard up on the hill also had about 45 peach trees.

Three years before retirement we planted some cross varieties. I only remember two of them: Spy Gold and Spy Jon. In addition there were 8 rows in the vineyard, comprised of Concord, Fredonia, Niagra, and Brighton varieties.

We also had many strawberry, blueberry and rhubarb varieties.

When the **gymnasium** was complete, about 25 to 30 experimental trees were put on the banking next to the gym. To my knowledge those still remain intact.

FYI the Road Stand which originated on Route 1 was moved to its current location on campus in 1942. Several students helped me accomplish this. Later the FFA funded and built the present road stand (after World War II.)

In closing this short message, there is one other gentleman who should be mentioned, Mr. Ralph Minichello. Ralph thought that 54 hours was a short week of work and he was always early to work!

Sincerely,
Harold "Bud" Kelly
Retired Chairman Plant Science Department

The following is an email from Joanie Cooper;

Hi Peter,

Joseph Postman included me in his reply about the Endicott Pear Tree. A few years ago we were contacted by a descendant and asked to graft several Endicott Pear trees. I believe there are several branches of the family that have planted the Endicott trees in their yard. Of course this is just assumption, I don't have contact with them.

We received our grafts to make the trees, from Joseph Postman at the National Clonal Germplasm Repository in Corvallis, OR. His tree came from the original Endicott Pear Tree. When you graft a tree, you take a scion (a cutting) from the mother tree and graft it onto a rootstock. The rootstock determines the ultimate size of the tree, but the scion is the copy (or clone) of the mother tree. Most people do not want a standard size tree, because they are planting it in a yard and space is often limited. So they choose a rootstock that will give them a tree compatible with their limitations. It is a duplicate of the mother tree, it is just wearing different shoes.

Once you have a little tree growing you can plant it in your yard. It is necessary to plant the tree with soil level the same as it was in its' growing pot. If you plant the "graft union" below the soil level, usually the grafted portion will root and the result will be a standard size tree.

Joanie Cooper
Home Orchard Society

(Editor's note; Mr. Kelly saved the Endicott Pear Tree in the 1960's after it was vandalized. Without Mr. Kelly the tree would never have been cloned. Harold M. Kelly passed away in 2005, his daughter Rosemary supplied most of this article.)

Essex Aggie Alumni Association Membership Registration Form 2017

Membership dues for 2017 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 _____

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E-Mail _____

Please register my membership for 2017

I am enclosing my check for \$20.00 for 2017 Membership: \$ _____

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

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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 Ellery Metcalf Scholarship fund: \$ _____

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

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