

# Aggie News

Volume 5 Issue 1

January 2002



## From The Editor:

Greetings classmates,

This issue of our newsletter contains a report from our treasurer, George Jones concerning last summer's **Support Challenge** results. (see page 1)

Our feature article includes a comparison chart showing the current **Total Alumni Registrations** on a per class basis. (see page 2)

We continue to have success with the "people finding" project with a total of 486 former Aggie students now listed in our database.

The project will continue and we welcome any and all contributions of the locations of former classmates.

Other features in this issue:

**Essex Aggie & Peabody Voc. School merger news.** (see page 3)

**News from the classes.** (see page 4)

**A letter from Pete Tierney.** (see page 5)

Charlie Main Class of '56

## 2001 Support Challenge Results:

The results are in and the news is wonderful!

As you know, one of our alum contacted your officers and offered to donate one dollar for every two dollars received in donations to your Alumni treasury. That was a limited time offer and the matching donation was limited to the first \$1000 in donations received.

Well, you rose to the challenge! Forty-five of you took the time to sit down and write the Association a check. Thirty-nine of those forty-five chose to not only join but also actually make an additional contribution toward our one thousand dollar goal. The final tally was \$1,029.00. The treasury is now \$1529.00 better off than it was earlier this year. Additionally, we have welcomed more members and that has gone a long way toward insuring the financial viability of the organization.

While we cannot tell you who our benefactor is (our donor wishes to remain anonymous) we can certainly join together in saying a very big **THANK YOU** to that person and everyone else who contributed.

George Jones Class of '58

Your alumni association officers would sincerely like to thank all those who have made contributions to their alumni. To those who sent us news and notes; to those who helped us to locate missing classmates; to those who have loaned us their yearbooks for establishing class rosters; to those who have paid dues; to those who have made donations to the treasury; your contributions are much appreciated by all.

Alice, Charlie, George, & Lillian

# Your Alumni Association

## Classmates Found

The chart on the right represents a picture comparison of how each class is doing in the quest for finding missing classmates. The chart bars represent the number of classmates registered with the alumni association, deceased members included. The current leader is the class of '56 (42) with the class of '57 (39) close behind. The class of '58 ranks third with (33) classmates found.

## A New Challenge

Can the class of '56 be toppled from the mountain? That will be up to you. If you get out there and dig up some information on some of your classmates and get them to register with the alumni, we could have a new champion.

## The Class of '74

Why is the class of '74 doing so well on the chart in comparison to the other classes of the 1970s? Because last summer there was some talk of the possibility of everyone getting together for a reunion and guys like Michael Gaudette, Mike Sanderson and others started sending in some info on where some of their classmates are located. We haven't heard from them lately but it looks like the class of '74 is well on it's way to getting that class back together again.

## What's Up With The Class of '76?

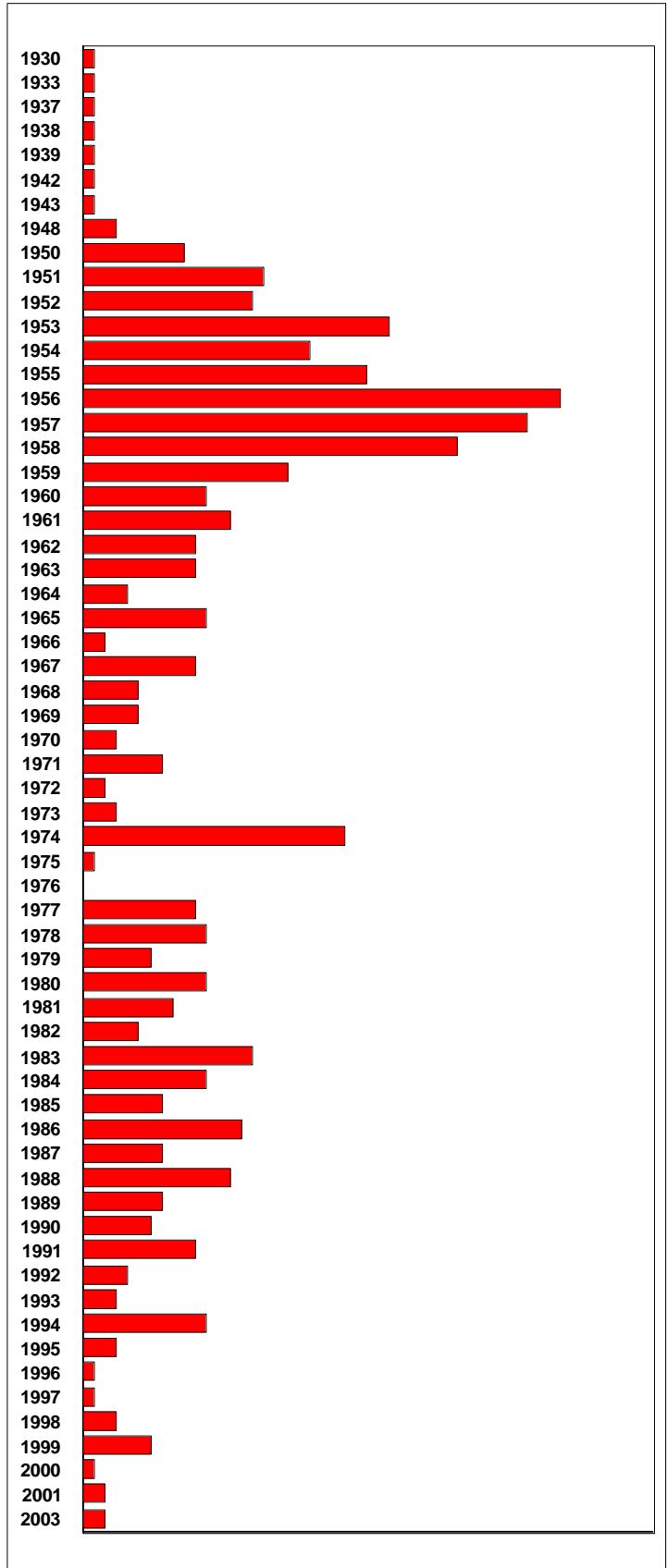
So far the class of 1976 has the distinction of being the only class from 1950 to 2003 without a single member to register with the alumni association. It's not because we haven't tried because we managed to locate several of them on various Internet alumni directories. We sent them all an invitation to join us but none have responded. There's something strange going on with that class!

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**The future of your alumni association is up to you!**

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Essex Aggie Alumni Association Total Registrations  
(Classmates Found)



## Send us your info

All classmates are encouraged to send contributions to the newsletter and web site so that it can be shared by all. We need information on missing classmates, notification of any deceased classmates, photographs from your school years, yearbooks for class roster information and anything else that you think might be of interest to others.

Send all contributions to:

Charles Main, 643 Main Road, Phippsburg, ME  
04562 e-mail: [cmain@gwi.net](mailto:cmain@gwi.net)

## Important Notice for Internet Users Help us to keep our records up-to-date

There are several alumni that have changed their e-mail address and others where we have no address listed. Without those e-mail addresses we are unable to send them their Aggie Gram e-mail news & announcements.

We have some classmates that are not listed because we don't know what year they graduated.

We have some classmates that left school before graduation. We need to know the year they would have graduated had they stayed on.

We urge everyone to go to the web site and check their class roster listings. If you are not listed, let us know. If your e-mail address is wrong or missing, let us know. It only takes a few minutes to check your listing and it will be a big help in getting our records correct.

[www.essexaggie.org](http://www.essexaggie.org)

## Not Connected To The Internet?

The Internet provides access to millions of sources of information. News, entertainment, technology and more are available at any time. Shop on line. Send e-mail to friends and family all around the world. Make new friends and **reconnect with old classmates**. Now that the **Essex Aggie Alumni Association** is on line you can easily check to see who we have found and with the one click you can contact them. With the low cost of computers today, it's time for everyone to get connected.

## News Article From The Eagle-Tribune

### Essex Aggie may swallow 2 other technical schools By Rebecca Griffin *Eagle-Tribune Writer*

DANVERS -- In the next five years or so, there is a good chance Essex Agricultural and Technical High School will merge with Peabody Vocational School in Peabody and North Shore Vocational School in Middleton. When leaders of Peabody and North Shore vocational schools decided that both buildings needed major construction and upgrading, they decided building one school at the Essex Agricultural and Technical High School campus would make more economical sense than upgrading several buildings, said Gustave D. Olson, superintendent and director of the school known as Essex Aggie. Currently, about 125 students from the Merrimack Valley attend the school. If the merger is approved by the state Legislature then the state could end up investing \$50 million or \$60 million in the new building, Mr. Olson said. "If you're going to invest in doing one, why not put them all together, and you only have to build one high school?" he said. Mr. Olson said a name for the new school has not been chosen, but he has proposed the name Hathorne Polytechnical High School. If the merger is approved, 1,500 students will attend classes at the school, which will offer the same vocational and agricultural courses currently offered at the individual schools. The school would serve upwards of 77 communities, including those in the Merrimack Valley. However, because students from the Merrimack Valley already have Greater Lawrence Technical School in Andover and Whittier Regional Vocational High in Haverhill, students from this area will only be admitted to the new school if their focus is in agriculture courses not offered at area vocational schools, Mr. Olson said.

Essex Agricultural and Technical School in Danvers accepts students from 77 communities within a 20-mile radius of the school and trains them in fields such as veterinary medicine and agriculture. "We currently have students only from 44 communities," Mr. Olson said. The school was under the management of the Essex County government until that governing body was dismantled last year.

Now the school is an independent state agency. Whether it will remain an independent state agency is still yet to be decided.

## News From the Classes

### Ellen (Wills) Sheppard, Class of '38



Ellen at the ripe young age of 84. She lives in Ipswich, MA and is doing fine.

**Robert Anthony**, Class of '51 died last August in Phoenix, Arizona after a brief illness. He lived in Danversport, Mass. For over 50 years before he retired and moved to Arizona.

### Ray Bourguignon, Class of '52



Ray as Santa at the Staten Island Mall. This was his fifth year at playing Santa in New York. Ray lives in Los Angeles, CA

### Don Reynolds, Class of '58



Don Reynolds of the Millis Lions Club works on the Veterans Monument at the Veterans Memorial Building in Millis, MA.

**Donald Wright**, 'Class of 58 Died last July at age 61. Don was the owner of Wright Distributors until his retirement, having previously worked at Swift & Co. In Lynn.

**Lorene (Lambert) Anderson-Corkum**, Class of '61 died last September at age 58. Lorene worked at Lucent Technologies for 29 years as a process checker until illness forced her to retire in 1998.

**Patricia (Gove) Greelish**, '65, **Steven Calef**, '64, **Nancy (Robishaw) Desmond**, '65 and **Linda Sheppard**, '65



Getting back together. Summer of 2001.

### Bob Kerr, Class of '84



Bob Kerr, is a rock/alternative singer/songwriter and also runs an Internet web design service.

He lives in Middleton, Mass.

### Rose Smeltzer, Class of '86



Rose with her dog Tonka. Rose left the Aggie in her junior year but here she is today.

**Chris Young**, Class of '86 died last November as a result of an accident in his home.

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We would like to expand this section to include more news about past alumni. Let us know where you are living, about your family, work, hobbies, etc. and we will publish it here.

Send your info & photos to the Aggie News editor  
643 Main Road, Phippsburg, ME 04562  
e-mail: [cmain@gwi.net](mailto:cmain@gwi.net)

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## News From the School

### MAJOR SMITH HALL RENOVATIONS TO BEGIN

Superintendent / Director Gustave Olson recently announced that the first major building renovation on campus in 25 years will begin this November with a major renovation of the campus administration building, Smith Hall. The school trustees have approved a \$1.5 million renovation plan that will involve replacing the slate roof of the 85 year old building, along with installation of an elevator to make it handicapped accessible. Also slated for improvement are upgrades to the electric and plumbing systems and new restrooms. Smith Hall houses administrative offices, classrooms, the school nurse's rooms and storage. The project is largely being funded by state funding.

(Above article obtained from the school web site at: [www.agtech.org](http://www.agtech.org))

## A Blast From The Past

From The Journal of Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute  
Jan / Feb 1970

### Training for Staff Members



FOURTEEN STAFF MEMBERS recently completed a training program conducted by Frank P. Costa, Head of the Automotive Department, to qualify for a hoisting license. They successfully passed the examination given at the school by an official of the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety. In addition to class lectures, the staff members learned to operate gasoline and diesel front-end loaders and backhoe. Completing the course were: Clifton L. Rice, Eldridge Rockwell, Lawrence Lobao, William Frietag, James Arathuzik, James Cameron, Lloyd Potter, P. L. Curtis, Richard Smith, David Townley, Richard Churchill, Philip Pote, Richard Geesey, Donald Glazier, and Edward Carr. Shown above, are, instructor Frank P. Costa, Philip Pote, Lawrence Lobao, and James Cameron.

The Farm Stand in 1981



The Farm Stand today



## Do You Remember?

01. Candy Cigarettes
02. Wax coke-shaped bottles with colored sugar water inside
03. Soda pop machines that dispensed glass bottles
04. Coffee shops with tableside juke boxes
05. Blackjack, Clove & Teaberry chewing gum
06. Home milk delivery in glass bottles w/ cardboard stoppers
07. Party lines
08. Newsreels before the movie
09. P.F. Flyers
10. Butch wax
11. Telephone numbers with a word prefix like (Drexel-5505)
12. Peashooters
13. Howdy Doody
14. 45 RPM records
15. Green Stamps
16. Hi-fi's
17. Metal ice cube trays with levers
18. Mimeograph paper
19. Blue flash bulbs
20. Beanie & Cecil
21. Roller skate keys
22. Cork pop guns
23. Drive ins
24. Studebakers
25. Wash tub wringers
26. The Fuller Brush man
27. Reel-to-reel tape recorders
28. Tinkertoys
29. The Erector Set
30. The Fort Apache play set
31. Lincoln Logs
32. 15 cent McDonalds hamburgers
33. 5 cent packs of baseball cards with that pink slab of gum
34. Penny candy
35. 35 cent-a-gallon gasoline

## Getting Older Prayer

01. I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.
02. My wild oats have turned into prunes and All Bran.
03. I finally got my head together; now my body is falling apart.
04. Funny, I don't remember being absent minded.
05. All reports are in; Life is now officially unfair.
06. If all is not lost, where is it?
07. It is easier to get older than it is to get older.
08. Some days you're the dog; some days you're the hydrant.
09. I wish the buck stopped here; I sure could use a few.
10. Kids in the back seat cause accidents.
11. Accidents in the back seat cause kids.
12. It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.
13. Only time the world beats a path to your door  
is when you're in the bathroom.
14. If God wanted me to touch my toes,  
he would have put them on my knees.
15. When I'm finally holding all the cards,  
why does everyone decide to play chess?
16. It's not hard to meet expenses...they're everywhere.
17. The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.
18. These days, I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter.  
I go somewhere to get something,  
and then wonder what I'm here after.

## **A Letter From Pete Tierney '75 to his dad:**

(Pete wrote this letter to his father, Fred last year and read it aloud at a family dinner during the holidays.)

### **“One brave deed makes no hero”**

We all have a definition of a hero, whether it is based on courageous acts or simply the wisdom and fortitude to do what is right. It is my belief heroes possess and display the highest level of charity. Without charity people would not do heroic deeds. “And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.” Charity is a way of life for the hero I speak of today. Most true heroes do not think of themselves as such. It is an extreme honor to know a hero.

My heroes have changed over the years, because my perception of what a hero is has changed. These heroes have included my dad “the man who could lift one hundred pounds with one hand his toolbox” to Thor the Nordic God, from the comics, to Raoul Wallenberg, the man who single handedly saved thousands of Jews from the Nazis.

The definition of a hero is just as complicated as knowing why heroes do what they do. When we understand the definition of a hero we can comprehend the why. My definition of a hero is a person who has many traits and a foundation from which those traits arise. The foundation can be one of religious beliefs, family upbringing, and survival instincts, just to mention a few. The traits I speak of are virtues, and they have everything to do with the character of the individual. These include but are not limited to charity, compassion, courage, kindness, and perseverance.

The hero I speak of over the years has set an agenda for helping others in need regardless of oneself. With six children at home this person took in a dying mother-in-law to nurse. This level of compassion is unheard of today; besides, most people don't think of such an act as heroic. This hero never complains about anything and sees the so-called burden of helping others as being given the opportunity to ease their burdens. The hero I speak of broke the chain of prejudice that goes from one generation to another by not displaying prejudice. Prejudice and fear go hand and hand; we use hatred to hide our fear. The hero I speak of would not allow violence towards women long before such behavior was out in the open where society felt a need to intervene. The hero I speak of always displayed random acts of kindness long before it was fashionable, or after it went out of fashion.

Many people may say that this does not constitute heroism but merely a nice person. I cry No! In Frank Capra's movie, “It's a Wonderful Life,” George Bailey was given the opportunity to see what life would be like without his presence and what impact his life had on an entire town. With the exception of saving his brother from drowning, when they were boys, there were no “brave” acts in George Bailey's life. The hero I speak of always put others first, by doing so, I place this person first as my choice of heroes.

I have been blessed to fully appreciate what a hero is and to know one. I would like to say thank you Dad for being a true hero.

## Essex Aggie Alumni Association Membership Registration Form 2002

Membership dues for 2002 will be \$20.00

Please fill out the form below

We need your support



Member Name and Address: (Please Print)

Class Year:	
First Name:	
Maiden Name:	
Last Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Telephone:	
E-Mail Address:	

**Please register my membership for 2002**

I am enclosing my check for \$20.00 for 2002 Membership:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

In addition, I would like to donate:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed for membership & donations:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Check should be made out to: Essex Aggie Alumni**

**Mail this form to: Essex Aggie Alumni Association, George P. Jones III Treasurer, P.O. Box 49, North Salem, NH 03073**

## Your Alumni Association Officers:

**Always available for questions, comments & suggestions.**

**President: Alice (Coleman) Henning** - class of '56

3075 Woodsmill Drive, Melbourne, FL 32934 Phone: 407-255-9843

e-mail: [alicefromwonderland@cfl.rr.com](mailto:alicefromwonderland@cfl.rr.com)

**Secretary: Charles Main** - class of '56

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**Treasurer: George Jones** - class of '58

P.O. Box 49, North Salem, NH 03073 Phone: 603-898-5687 e-mail: [jonesgp@attglobal.net](mailto:jonesgp@attglobal.net)

**Vice President: Lillian (Demers) Seaborne** - class of '56

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