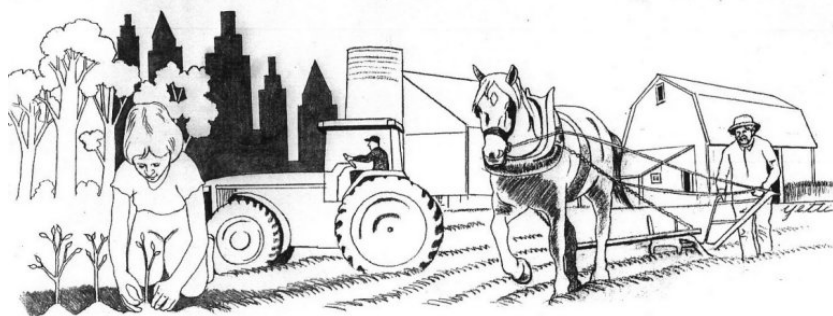


Aggie News



Volume 15 Issue 2

June 2012

Alumni Scholarship Awards

This year the Essex Aggie Alumni Association was proud to award four scholarships to four very deserving graduates.

The winner of the \$1,000 Richard M. Brown Scholarship was Maria Sood of Medford. Maria plans to attend the University of New Hampshire where she will major in Biology/Microbiology.

The winner of the \$1,000 V. Byron Bennett Scholarship was Amanda Beucler of Medford. Amanda plans to attend the University of Massachusetts - Lowell and will major in Environmental Science.

The winner of the \$1,000 Patrick G. Santin Scholarship was Nathan Rivas of Methuen. Nathan will attend Bryant University and will major in Environmental Science.

The winner of the \$1,000 Business Start-up Bursary was Kyle McCollin of Lynn. Kyle has already started a part time landscape and tree service company and will use the bursary to finance insurance and to purchase more equipment for his business.

All four award recipients were highly qualified and we wish them well in their future endeavors.

Scholarship Fund & Membership Challenge Grant

A generous supporter is issuing a challenge grant that 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 DUES PAYING members during that same period, they will double that grant to \$10,000 for the scholarship fund.

Our anonymous donor hopes that this grant will encourage more involvement and enthusiasm on the part of the alumni board in getting the word out and recruiting new members.

It is truly their pleasure to do what they can to build a healthy scholarship fund to provide a helping hand to the many worthy students who apply. This 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 next Spring!

It is now up to us on the alumni board to get the word out and it is now up to all Aggie grads to meet the challenge! The Membership & Donations Form is on page 8 of this newsletter.

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

News From The School

Groundbreaking for new school

After decades of planning the vision of merging the region's vocational high schools has finally become a reality.



The groundbreaking ceremony took place on May 9, 2012. Gathered in the parking lot behind Berry Hall was a large contingent of dignitaries and school officials. Students from North Shore Technical High School and Essex Agricultural & Technical High School also took part in the ceremony.

Bids on site work, steel & concrete have been approved. Construction fencing has been put up and the excavators, bulldozers and backhoes are gathering and work has begun.



The construction of the 1,440 student new school is expected to cost \$133.7 million and it will take two years to complete. Work will be completed in September of 2014.



The New
Essex North Shore Agricultural Technical School

The 337,000 square foot school will be built on nearly 42 acres and will include farm land, pastures, paddocks and playing fields.

One Last Look



Photo by Michael Bourgault '71
This is the new entrance to the new school now under construction. The Berry Hall parking lot and Berry Hall itself will soon be torn down.

Still looking for articles

We are still looking for volunteer former students or teachers to write articles about what went on in these buildings that are being torn down for the alumni archives. If anyone could fill us in with some of the history of these buildings we could certainly use it.

Please send info to: Charles Main, 643 Main Road, Phippsburg, ME 04562 E-Mail: cmain@comcast.net

Norman Wellington '58 - Not just a face in the crowd!

I was shopping at Walmart on a busy day a few years back and saw a man and couldn't get him out of my mind. As I walked to my car the face came back to me, yes he was someone that I knew. Driving home the face came back along with a name, Norman Wellington. Could it be him? This was almost 50 years after I had last seen him. When I got home I told my husband. Norman had been President of my class (1958) but much more important was that John and he had played football together. That made them almost brothers. We went to the computer and looked up our alumni page and there he was, living here in North Carolina in the next town to us. He had an e-mail address so we wrote him and told him, if he saw two old folks at Walmart smiling and waving at him it would be us. We included our phone number and sure enough he called us. John and I drove over to visit him one afternoon and enjoyed our walk down memory lane. It turned out that he lived about an hour away. He was still running things, very involved in his neighborhood.

I make quilts and teach quilting at the Folk School here in Brasstown, the school has two wonderful festivals a year. The first weekend in Oct. is Fall Feast. Over 14,000 people come to our little town and the first Sunday in Dec. is Fireside Sale. This is a time when I sell some of the quilts and other Fiber Arts that I make. Picture me very busy and I look up to see a face above the crowd Norm was a tall man. He had a smile and a wave, and at his side was his wife, Stephanie.

Stephanie called in June to tell us that they wouldn't be able to come to our 50th anniversary celebration, Norm had had heart surgery in the spring was just getting over that and had lost his voice. He died Sept. 29, 2011. I'll miss seeing him and will look for him in crowds.

Stephanie and I have talked and she wants to make quilts with his shirts. Now that is something I can help with.

Louise (Landford) Macdonald '58

Essex Aggie on Facebook

Essex Aggie is gaining an ever increasing presence on Facebook. With over 900 million users the popularity of this social networking service can't be denied.

Your editor freely admits that he has a hard time understanding the workings of the system, is having a difficult time navigating it and can't understand why so many people love it so much but it is out there for anyone who chooses to use and enjoy it. Some of the Facebook sites we have found are as follows:

Essex Aggie Alumni Association

Not much activity here as yet but if we can find a volunteer who understands how Facebook works to take over as moderator it could become more popular.

Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute

This site is quite popular and is hosted by Michael Bourgault '71. Mike keeps his users informed as to what is going on at the school and has a large collection of excellent photos of the school campus in the photo gallery. Mike is keeping us informed about the many changes taking place on the Aggie campus via his photos and we can't thank him enough for his efforts!

Essex Aggie Alumni Class of 1981

This site hosted by Raelene Lasher '81 is also quite popular and has proven to be a good method for the class of '81 grads to communicate.

Essex Aggie Guidance

This site hosted by school staff member Mrs. Skane has a lot of followers. Leaning more towards current students & recent grads, this is another good one for everyone to follow.

There are several other Essex Aggie related Facebook pages out there for those who may be interested to follow. The best way to access these sites is to sign up for Facebook and log in. After logging in you will see a search box where you can enter a search term of your choice to find a particular page or obtain a list of links that will take you directly to the page selected. Happy Facebooking!

Deceased Classmates

Mildred (Humphreys) Aylward Class of 1936

Mildred Aylward, beloved wife of the late Donald A. Aylward, died October 12, 2011 at Hunt Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Danvers, MA. Born in Andover, MA, the daughter of Lewis and Beth (Phillips) Humphreys, she was raised in North Andover, MA. Mildred worked for many years in the Middleton, MA Assessor's Office.

Eileen (Menard) Caesar Class of 1939

Eileen Caesar of Lawrence, a retired assembler, died Friday at Mary Immaculate Restorative Nursing Center in Lawrence. She was 92. Born in Lawrence, she was raised on Tower Hill and later raised her family in Dracut, before moving to Salem, N.H. Eileen attended St. Augustine's Grammar School before graduating from Lawrence High School in 1938. She attended Essex Aggie from 1938 to 1939. She worked as a mender for Pacific Mills in Lawrence from 1939 to 1951 and then as an assembler for ITT during the 1970s. She was a member of the Lawrence Ladies Elks Lodge and was the group's past president and official piano player. She was a member of the Salem Booster Club from 1970 to 1973. She enjoyed traveling, playing piano and spending time with her family.

Thomas Bentley Class of 1957

Thomas F. Bentley of Cape Neddick, ME, age 73, passed away at home on Feb. 15, 2012 following a long illness. A devoted husband, father and grandfather he is survived by his wife, Emmalyn, a son, Charles, two daughters, Sheryl Chatterton and Laura Eschmann.

Barbara (Sanborn) Churchill Class of 1961

Barbara Churchill, 67, of Alfred, Maine and Englewood, Fla. formerly of Middleton, wife of Dale E. Churchill, died Feb. 10, 2011 at home surrounded by her family. Born in Salem, she was the daughter of Edith (Hansen) Sanborn and the late Richard W. Sanborn. She was raised and educated in Middleton. She continued her education, earning her associate degree from North Shore Community College. Mrs. Churchill had been employed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Social Ser-

vices for many years prior to her retirement in 2002. A resident of Alfred, Maine for the past five years, she previously resided in Middleton and Danvers. Active in the community, Barbara was a Girl Scout and Brownie Leader and avid baker and seamstress; who enjoyed bike riding, kayaking, and had a deep devotion to her husband and family.

Steven Phaneuf Class of 1978

Steven N. Phaneuf, 54, of Haverhill, formerly of Merrimac, succumbed to his illness on May 10, 2012, at the Massachusetts 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 in 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.

Margaret (Young) Martin - Class of 1981

Margaret Martin - 48, of Merrimack, NH, died February 22, 2012 at Lahey Clinic surrounded by her family. Born in Gloucester, Ma, September 1963, the daughter of Sonia (Johnson) Young and the late Robert Young. Margaret's passion for life was driven by her commitment to her two beloved daughters, Emily and Alison. Her devotion and love was ever present while her girls were children, and continued as she guided and supported them into young adulthood. As her daughters grew into young women, they were her dearest friends and confidantes. Her smile shone brightest when her daughters were present. Forever proud of their accomplishments and gratified by sharing their journey with them. They were truly the love of her life. Margaret cherished her parents, brothers and sisters, always wanting to share in their joys and support them in their hardships. Margaret was always trying to gather as many of them as she possibly could - at one time - in one place - for the family to be together.

Deceased Classmates (School Staff)

Leon F. Barlow



Leon F. Barlow, 89 years old, died April 13th at home surrounded by his family. He was a life long member of the First Church Congregational, Methuen, MA. Leon worked for Essex County agricultural School for over thirty years and re-

tired as a dairy herdsman. He took great pride in sharing his love and knowledge for animals, farming, fishing and everything else that involved being outdoors. Nothing made Leon happier than being with his family and sharing his favorite stories. His grandchildren were Leon's most prized rewards in life and he celebrated their lives everyday and was most thankful for them.

Leon was a well known dairy herdsman who showed cattle and dairy animals at most fairs throughout New England. He was especially proud of winning "Best of Breed" at Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Mass. He was a strong advocate that all children should have a pet because "animals love unconditionally".

He was so grateful for the opportunity to share his knowledge of agriculture and farming with the many students that passed through his life while being employed by Essex Aggie. He was so proud when students would return to see him or to visit him at his residence.

Leon was a fine woodcarver and carpenter. He enjoyed hunting and fishing and simply walking in the woods and was a life-time member of the Canobie Rod & Gun Club of Salem, New Hampshire. He spent many hours watching red tail hawks circling and soaring over fields where he would marvel at how gracefully they rode the upper air currents.

Glen Cook receives Ogonowski Award

Peter Gibney nominated for President of Essex County Farm Bureau

A former instructor at the Aggie, Glen Cook, received the Ogonowski Award for outstanding farmer of the year from Farm Bureau. John Ogonowski was the pilot of flight 11 of American Airlines that crashed into the World Trade Towers on September 11.

Peter Gibney '61 was honored to nominate Glenn for this honor at the Essex County Farm Bureaus annual meeting at which Peter was nominated the President of Essex County Farm Bureau. This nomination carried over to the Farm Bureau State Meeting in Fitchburg and Glen was the recipient of the award over all the nominees from the other Counties.

Reunion News

The class of 1981 has mastered the art of "staying in touch" after graduation and once again they got together for their annual reunion last April.



Check out their Facebook page to see what they do and how they do it. Lots of photos there too!

[Essex Aggie Alumni Class of 1981](https://www.facebook.com/groups/135551716497568/)

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/135551716497568/>

History Corner

The Missed Chapter

Here we were climbing the stairs on the outside of the sweetest little cape (Larkin Cottage), the shrubs around it were perfect. It was to be our first Health class and 25 girls from many different towns in the county, most strangers to each other, had made their way across campus. The school nurse taught our class. She always wore a navy blue uniform with white cuffs. In good weather the cuffs were on short sleeves and in the winter the white cuffs were at the end of long sleeves. As we entered the classroom each of us were given a 4" circle of fabric, a needle and some thread. After we each had found a seat our nurse told us how to turn in the edge of the fabric and gather the circle into a Yo-Yo. We could make as many as we wanted as long as we sat quietly while she talked. Now this was a wonderful idea as none of us were on anything and I still sit best when I'm doing something with my hands. Quilting and knitting are much better for me then eating.

Back to the classroom, I remember seeing on the desk at the front of the room, new books. We all know that look, shining covers, no smudges on the pages. They looked so neat. It almost took my breath away. Before this every schoolbook I had had was old and used by not just my older sisters but by my father and his sisters and brother. She talked and I worked on the Yo-Yos, thinking all the while of the new books and after what seemed like forever she passed out the books. We could open them and follow along the first chapter on how important it was to keep clean. While some of the girls got bored with that and flipped ahead to the chapter on reproduction and found that the chapter had been fixed. Yes, it was not to be discussed. The pages had not been cut from the book, but glued together. It was an outrage and some of the girls said so and got sent to the head office.

The new books had been ruined for me and class was not the same. The Yo-Yos I continued to make and put in the basket as we left the room. I never saw the quilt made of Yo-Yos. No action was ever taken about the books being ruined. In 1958, of the

fifty girls that started with me in our freshmen class, 8 graduated. I can't help feel that the missed chapter could have made a big difference in our lives.

Louise (Landford) Macdonald '58

The President's Corner

As we go to press with this issue of the newsletter, groundbreaking ceremonies for the new campus have taken place and the physical transformation of the grounds has moved into high gear.

Change is always difficult. In my case, the loss of the rural appearance of the school grounds as well as the buildings where so much of my education took place will be difficult to accept. On the other hand, change is exciting and challenging. The new buildings and campus will become the stage upon which thousands of new students will build their own memories and educational experiences.

The role of the Alumni Association will likely evolve with time, but for now, we are focused on preserving the history of the old campus and providing financial support for the dreams and aspirations of the current student body.

As I have in each of the previous columns, I invite you to get involved with our mission. We are never short of tasks to support that mission and always in need of dedicated alumni to make the load lighter for us all.

Not sure of what you would like to do? Have some questions about an idea that you have? Give us a call. My home number is 207-388-2640 and I would love to talk with you.

Thank you for caring.
George

George P. Jones, III
Class of 1958
President, Essex Aggie Alumni Association

Essex Aggie Alumni Association Membership Registration Form 2012

Membership dues for 2012 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 2012

I am enclosing my check for \$20.00 for 2012 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)

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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"Getting old friends and classmates together"

www.essexaggie.org