

The NWSA Alumni Association AGGIE



A Newsletter for Northwest School of Agriculture Alumni and friends of the University of Minnesota, Crookston

Volume 21, Number 2

Winter 2002

Clara and Eilert Fehr Family Scholarship: Making Dreams Reality

Sometimes life brings us to important places and decisions, and we don't realize it until we look back. That reflection helps us appreciate the people whose paths we have crossed and whose lives changed ours. Dr. Walter Fehr and I recently had the opportunity to talk about the Fehr family, Clara and Eilert Fehr, and the scholarship provided by their children.

Walter, a 1957 graduate of the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA), is a professor of agronomy at Iowa State University. He teaches plant breeding, conducts research in soybean breeding and genetics, and is the director of the Office of Biotechnology. I was fortunate to spend some time talking with him about his family—and especially his parents—just before the holidays.

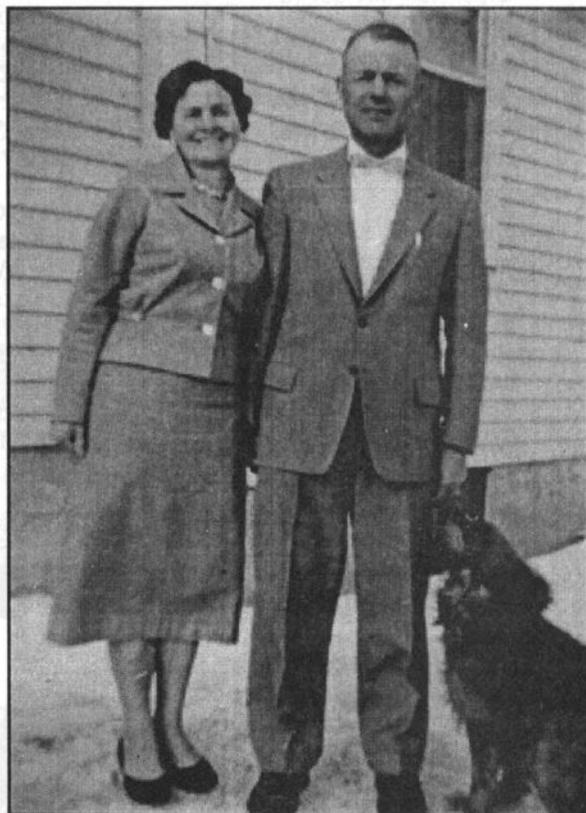
It is the story of his parents that Walter wanted to share with me; they are the reason for the scholarship. It is the wish of their seven children to honor their parents and to give someone at the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) help reaching their dream of a degree in education, which was the unfulfilled dream of Walter's mother.

Clara Luithle Fehr was born on August 19, 1911, on the farm of her parents near Richardton, North Dakota. She worked on the farm and for relatives to raise money for her family. In 1926, she moved with her family to a farm near Marvel, ND, where she completed the eighth grade in a country school. Instead of pursuing her dream to

become a school teacher, she continued to work to help support the family until her marriage to Eilert.

Eilert Fehr was born December 28, 1909, on his parent's farm near Manfred, North Dakota. In 1922 his family moved to Marvel, ND, and there he completed his eighth grade education in the same country school where Clara would complete her formal education a few years later. In 1926 he left the Marvel farm for one his parents bought near East Grand Forks. During that move, he met the young lady, Clara, whose family was moving on to the same Marvel farm that his family was leaving. This meeting was the beginning of a relationship that continued through their teenage years when they attended the same church in Grand Forks. The relationship eventually led to their marriage in Hebron, ND, on February 24, 1931. They farmed near East Grand Forks for more than 30 years.

Clara's desire to be a teacher was inspiration for the Clara and Eilert Fehr Family Endowed Scholarship, which is now awarded to a student pursuing a degree in education. It was the Fehr family's wish to use the scholarship to



One of the last photos taken of Clara and Eilert Fehr, they are pictured with their dog Nipper on their farm near East Grand Forks, Minn., in 1958. Eilert passed away July 9, 1963. Clara passed away on November 20, 2000.

show their tremendous appreciation for their parents. They wanted to give a student the chance to have the education that their parents were never able to enjoy. The creation of the scholarship will provide an education major, demonstrating high academic potential, strong leadership and community involvement, financial assistance toward their goal.

(continued on page 3)

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Peterson Gazebo Gets Dressed For The Holidays

The Peterson Gazebo again played a major role in celebrating the holidays at UMC. Members of the UMC Horticulture Club decorated the gazebo with lights, garlands of evergreen boughs, and sunflower seed heads (to attract winter birds). The UMC Natural Resources Club donated a tree, which stood in the center. Many visitors commented on how much they enjoyed the holiday spirit evident in the "dressed up" gazebo—especially at night with all the bright and cheery lights.



Clara and Eilert Fehr Family Scholarship ... continued from p. 1

Education has played a major role in the lives of Clara and Eilert's children. Five of the seven Fehr children are graduates of the NWSA. Peter ('50) is a medical doctor living in Robbinsdale, Minnesota; Walter ('57), a professor in Ames, Iowa, Eric ('61), an engineer located in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho; Carol ('63) (deceased) a home economics teacher; Robert ('67), a professor of agricultural engineering at the University of Kentucky in Lexington; Marjorie ('52), a registered nurse located in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota; and Jean ('53), a physical education teacher in Vista, California, graduated from the high school in East Grand Forks.

Clara and Eilert provided the desire and foundation for each of their children to go far beyond their own educational limits. The scholarship named in their

honor will continue to do just that: influence lives for generations to come. The stories that come from the lives of the scholarship recipients will be a testimony to the dream of Clara Fehr to become a teacher. It is hard to say how many teachers will emerge from her dream thanks to this scholarship.

Dr. Fehr told me that Del Roelofs asked him to write a short history of Clara and Eilert. Clara had written her autobiography, but relatively little was written about Dr. Fehr's father. Looking into his father's history became so interesting that it ended up becoming a hundred page Christmas gift to his children and relatives. That's just an example of how those little things can become big and how important our lives really are to the generations that come after us.

One final thought, each time I interview someone I am left with the feeling that

there are so many defining moments in one's life. The stories of the NWSA are filled with them. It is hard not to feel the influence of those lives even on my own as I talk with each person. I hope that every one who reads this story will realize how important they are to every life they come in contact with, and that every one has an impact on someone else. Dr. Fehr just helped me see that again.

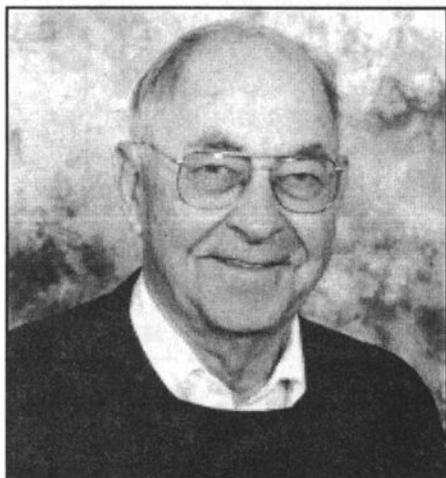
-Liz Tollefson

Editor's Note: We at the Aggie are always looking for stories about you, our NWSA alumni. If you would like to submit your story or have one of our writers interview you, please contact Ardis Thompson at 218-281-8437.

Peterson Gazebo Gets Dressed Up



From the President



Gerhard Ross

Greetings and wishes for a blessed New Year! Your Alumni Board is preparing for a new year and it is time again to think about our annual NWSA fund drive. Your gifts to the Heritage Fund support expenses for scholarships, the Aggie Newsletter, reunions, operating costs, and fund raising. The Heritage Fund has been an important part of keeping our NWSA heritage alive. We need your financial support.

Our other project is the Centennial Park Project. The next phase involves placing a hard surface in front of the gazebo. Before that can happen, the underground infrastructure and tree plantings have to be agreed on and one of our alumni, Dick Widseth, has agreed to provide us with drawings that will be necessary to proceed with underground things like electrical wiring, irrigation piping, etc. It is desirable to have the larger trees placed before construction begins, because this requires heavy truck traffic. Dick was responsible for the initial conceptual drawings, that you probably saw in Aggie Newsletters or flyers. If you saw the drawings at the last reunion, that was the work of a landscape architect. Dick feels the sunken garden should be restored to its original condition as much as possible.

The Centennial Park Project Committee met in December. A proposed faculty recognition wall in the sunken garden was criticized as being too low to read easily. A plan to put boulders in the

flower beds that exist around the mall, raised the possibility that they could be used to mount plaques that recognize faculty along with sayings that alumni seem to fondly remember. In this way, it could be incorporated into a leisurely stroll around the mall.

The idea of a sundial keeps surfacing and a picture of a different type than normal created some interest. The idea of a kiosk (sort of like a wedding reservation thing at shopping malls) is alive and proposals to sell space to donors to put in information about family are being discussed.

The gazebo was again decorated for the Christmas holidays and is a campus bright spot for bringing people together. We hope that as this project moves forward, you will share your ideas with us, and support us both financially and with enthusiasm. Our goal remains to have the project ready for our Centennial in 2005.

May God bless you in this year ahead!

Gerhard Ross

President, NWSA Alumni Assn.

Call For Ideas For NWSA Heritage Room

The NWSA Alumni Board of Directors met January 13 and much of the discussion centered around preserving our history as it is taking form in the Centennial Park Project and in the remodeled Heritage Center in the Kiehle Building. The Heritage Center will include both NWSA and UMC displays in separate areas.

The Kiehle Building renovation will be completed in the fall of this year. We will be moving the displays and records that are now located in our temporary quarters located in Robertson Hall. It would be nice if someone with experience or a flair for displaying our memorabilia would come forward and head up a committee to make decisions about how we will present ourselves to future visitors.

Our historical story was another subject. We do have some written accounts, but the Board members feel a great deal more is out there. One suggestion was to gather oral histories. Grandchildren can be great interviewers as they tape your answers.

Funding and history were combined in a suggestion (thanks to Roger Odegaard) that we gather history and perhaps unused funds from organizations that stemmed from the NWSA era, such as livestock and crop associations, other winter shows activities, county associations, etc. Dr. Bernie Youngquist wrote of the history that initiated the Sugar Beet Growers research effort. There may be other efforts that are related to association with NWSA activity.

We still need a list of sayings that you remember and associate with your favorite faculty members. We also need class leaders for class years that end in 2 or 7. This year's reunion will be held June 28-29. Come and discuss the future of our past!

Gerhard Ross

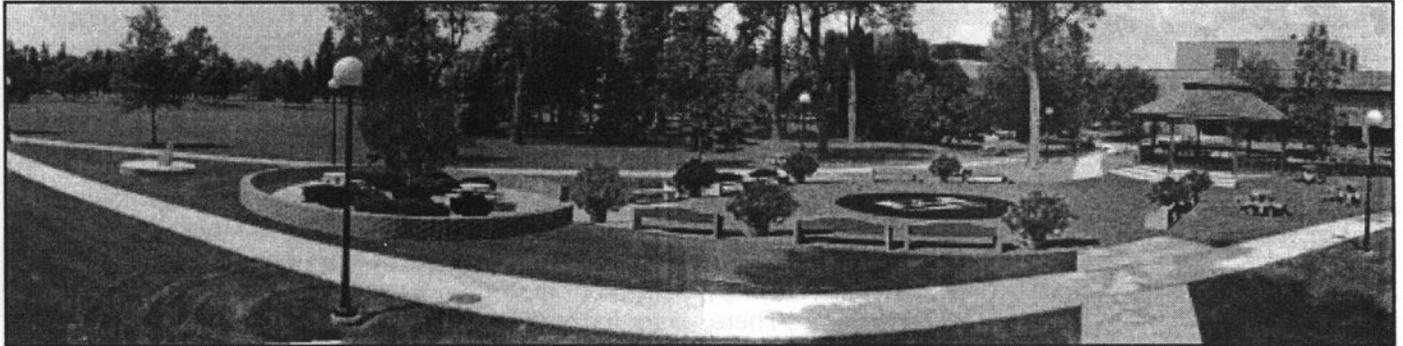
Join Us ...

**NWSA
Reunion**

June 28-29, 2002



Become a Sponsor of the Centennial Park Project



Proposed Centennial Park, photo renderings are courtesy of Dick Widseth, Widseth Smith Nolting.

As we celebrate the dedication of the Harris A. Peterson Gazebo, we wish to thank you for your support. The Gazebo is the initial piece of the Centennial Park Project. Plans are to develop the Centennial Park which will encompass a NWSA Memorial Garden to the north and east of the Gazebo and a Centennial Plaza area to the south. This project will provide a "Town Square" atmosphere to this beautiful area of our Campus.

Where: On the northeast corner of the Campus Mall adjacent to the Sunken Gardens. This site has easy access to parking, Bede Hall Ballroom and Sahlstrom Conference Center which can provide catering and access to restrooms for special events. This site will provide a living historical link between the Northwest School of Agriculture and UMC.

Why: This facility will accentuate a "Spirit of Community" providing a meeting place while taking advantage of the beautiful surroundings that make our campus a special place. The Gazebo and surrounding area can provide a place to host reunions, weddings, concerts, talent shows and many other special events.

Construction of the Gazebo was made possible thanks to a generous donation by NWSA Alum Harris A. Peterson ('42). Harris is the the owner and CEO of Minn-Dak Growers, Ltd., a world-wide supplier of mustard, buckwheat, and confection sunflower ingredients to the food industry. Harris says, "The NWSA was an important part of my life. My fellow classmates and I were like family, and I think we all had a tremendous advantage in realizing our dreams by attending the Northwest School of Agriculture."



Harris A. Peterson

We wish to thank the UMC Facilities Management personnel for their hard work and dedication that made this project a reality: Kent Freberg; Paul Schultz; Bernie Elseth; Jerry Rude; Greg Benoit; Michelle Holman; Neil Vraa; Jared Robinson; Ted Paul; and Denny Kuzel.

I would like to support the Centennial Park Project

Name _____ Class of _____

Address _____ Phone () _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

I/we would like to support the NWSA Centennial Park Project. My/our commitment will be made as follows:

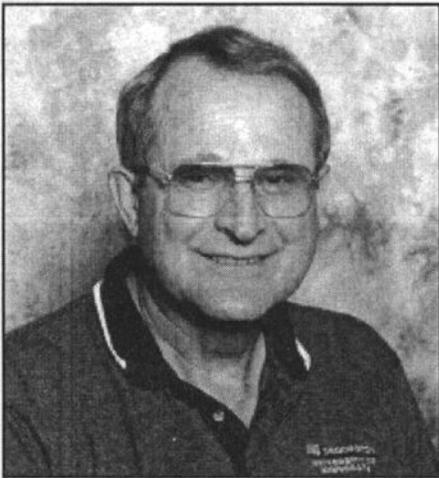
With the enclosed sum of \$ _____. Please make your check payable to Centennial Park Project

With a pledge of \$ _____ to be paid as follows: _____ contributions commencing on _____ and completed on _____ (date).

Please send your contribution to:

NWSA Alumni Association, 2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716-5001

From the Director of Development



Del Roelofs

Greetings from Arizona!

I usually write my article for the *Aggie* from my office in Crookston, but this past year has certainly been one of changes. My position in the Development Office has changed, and I am now at 50% time, so that is why I am in Arizona writing this column. Judy and I left Minnesota and arrived in Mesa, Arizona, on January 2. We will be here until the end of March.

I will be here preparing for the Arizona Social to be held February 19 and also making some calls on alumni snowbirds. There is information in this issue of the *Aggie* on the social. Take a look at it and think seriously about joining us. I hope you will get the chance to come down and see us here in Arizona! Judy and I will look forward to hosting this event and, hopefully, seeing you there.

It is still winter, but it is never too soon to mention our reunion coming up June 28 and 29, 2002. You might want to start making plans to attend. It is certainly a high point of the summer months.

We continue to work on plans for the Centennial Park and look forward to the beautiful addition it will be to our campus mall. Coming up in 2005 is the centennial celebration of educational service on the site that was the NWSA and is now UMC. This is a remarkable milestone. Gerhard Ross has included some details on the project in his article.

Take care and keep in touch!

Del Roelofs, Director

NWSA Reunion ... 2002

June 28-29
2002

Honored Classes:

**1927, 1932, 1937, 1942,
1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967**

Friday, June 28, 2002

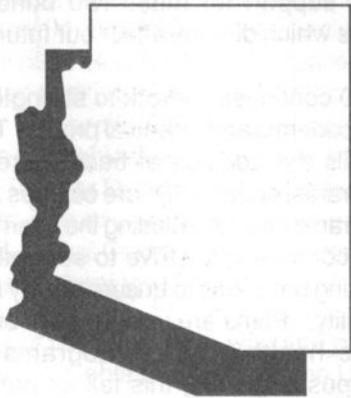
- 9:30 a.m. Golf Scramble, Minakwa Country Club
- 7:00 p.m. Social, Northland Inn Free hors d'oeuvres, cash bar

Saturday, June 29, 2002

- 9:00 a.m. Registration
- 10/11 a.m. Campus Tours
- 11:30 a.m. Pig Roast Luncheon
- 1:30 p.m. Class Meetings
- 3:30 p.m. Class Pictures
- 5:30 p.m. Banquet

**JOIN
THE
FUN!**

Arizona Social



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2002

Superstition Springs Center, Community Room
6555 East Southern Avenue • Mesa, AZ

Del and Judy Roelofs will again be hosting the Crookston/NWSA/UMC Alumni Association's Winter Social in Mesa, Arizona. Everyone in the area is encouraged to join us from 10:00 - 3:00 on Tuesday, February 19, 2002. Please call the Development Office at 218-281-8437 or 218-281-8438 for further information.

Name _____ Class _____

Spouse _____ Class _____

Arizona Address:

Midwest Address:

Phone (____) _____

Phone (____) _____

Dates: _____ to _____

Dates: _____ to _____

_____ I plan to attend the Social * in Mesa, AZ

_____ Number in my party planning to attend

*Lunch available at Luby's Restaurant

From the Chancellor



Donald Sargeant

The spring semester is in full swing. Students have enjoyed the warmer weather and are not only busy with classes but also with many student activities. Snow Daze, Ag-Arama, women's and men's basketball and men's hockey games, and numerous other campus club activities add to campus life.

Enrollment is pretty much the same as a year ago. The biggest change in enrollment is that more of the students

come from farther distances to attend UMC. This creates a need for more activities, which in turn adds more to student life on campus.

The 2002 legislative session could be as interesting as the 2001 session, which ended on the last day of the state's fiscal year. Key legislative issues in 2002 are a) addressing the reduction in state revenues, b) bonding for capital projects, and c) redistricting. UMC will feel the impact of all three. But the only issue that will require input from UMC is capital bonding.

The Board of Regents has forwarded two projects from the Crookston campus for capital funds. One is replacement of Bede Hall for \$7.7 M and the other is \$950,000 for construction of a research laboratory and office facility. Bede, as most of you know, was constructed in 1921 as a dining services building and now serves as the student services center. A new center will improve the quality of campus life while assisting in student recruitment and retention. The research capabilities of entomology, agronomy, plant pathology and soil and

water and climate will be greatly enhanced by constructing the research lab and office facility. So we appreciate your support for these two bonding items which directly affect our future.

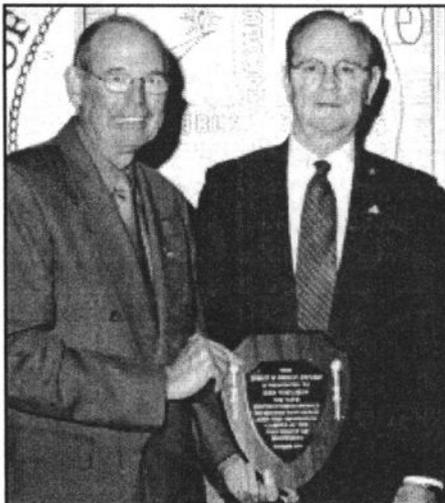
UMC continues to work to strengthen its academic and financial profile. This entails the addition of baccalaureate programs, delivery of more courses and programs off-site (including the Internet), and continuing to strive to strengthen existing programs to ensure quality and viability. Plans are underway to bring more health science programs on campus beginning this fall as part of this process.

Construction on Kiehle is progressing. It is targeted for completion on August 1. We look forward to seeing you at the NWSA alumni reunion on June 29. If you can't make the reunion, just stop by whenever it is convenient for you. We love giving campus tours—especially to our alumni.

Donald Sargeant

Les Nielsen '58 Receives Torch and Shield Award

The Torch and Shield Award recognizes individuals who have provided Leadership and aided in the development of the University of Minnesota, Crookston.



Dr. Sargeant presents the Torch & Shield Award to Les Nielsen.

Les Nielsen is the president and co-owner of Herc-U-Lift, a multimillion dollar company specializing in material handling equipment. The company, which began in 1968 in Maple Plain, Minnesota, now has five locations including St. Cloud, Grand Rapids, and Anoka, Minnesota, and Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The cornerstone of the business is selling top-quality products with unmatched customer service and attention to detail. These things are very important to Nielsen, whose forte is business and financial management.

Nielsen was born in Red Lake Falls and later moved to a farm near Euclid. He is a graduate of both the Northwest

School of Agriculture (NWSA) and the University of Minnesota, where he majored in business and accounting. Nielsen is a member of the University of Minnesota, Crookston Campaign Steering Committee.

He and his wife, June, have established scholarships for graduates of the Clearbrook-Govnick High School in memory of their son, Mitch. They have also designated gifts to support the NWSA Scholarship Fund, and they are also members of the Trustees Society. The Nielsons' other son, R. Brian, also graduated from the University of Minnesota.

Kiehle Renovation Project Well Underway

After several years of planning, the Kiehle Building renovation and expansion project is well underway. The project, funded by the Minnesota Legislature in its 2000 budget, includes renovation of about 22,000 square feet and an addition of about 17,000 square feet. The project will expand the functions of Kiehle Auditorium, the Music and Theater Departments, and the Library. The design also includes a new UMC Alumni Center and a new consolidated Technology Center.

Most of the expansion will take place between Kiehle Building and the UMC Library. The existing entry to Kiehle Building is to be demolished and a new entrance will be built with a design that is more fitting to the historical and functional significance of the building.

The primary elements included in the project are the renovation of Kiehle Auditorium and its stage; remodeling the



The new Heritage Room will feature the original fireplace.

Continued on page 10



Kiehle Auditorium will be fully renovated and the 1942 murals will be maintained.

Kiehle Renovation Project...continued

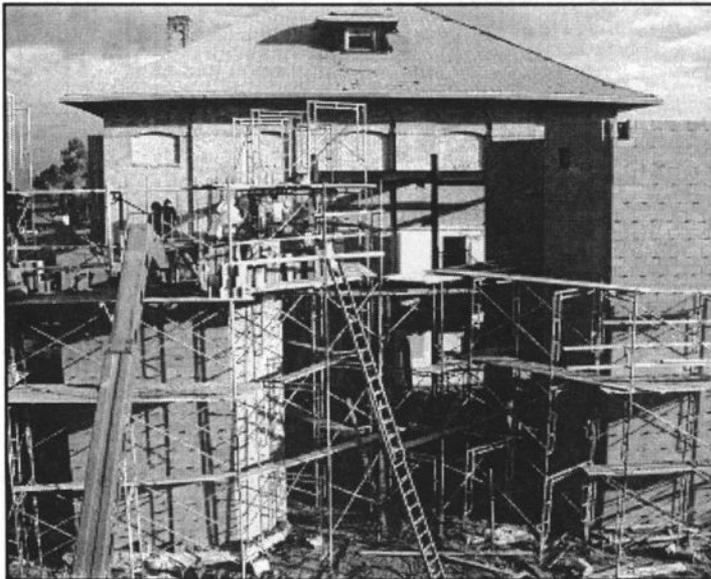
south entry to Kiehle, including restrooms, lobby, access to the auditorium with an elevator, and an entry court; relocation of the Alumni Center to the first floor of Kiehle; expansion of music and theater support spaces at the north side of Kiehle Building; relocation of UMC University Relations and Media Services; construction of a Technology Center to co-locate technology and support functions into one central campus location; development of a student technology center area on the second floor of the Library; and providing air-conditioning throughout the entire construction project space.

The new south entry to the Kiehle Building (pictured at upper right) will involve an outdoor plaza canopied with mature trees, a simple man-made canopy. The lobby is designed to welcome visitors with a dramatic 30-foot floor-to-ceiling

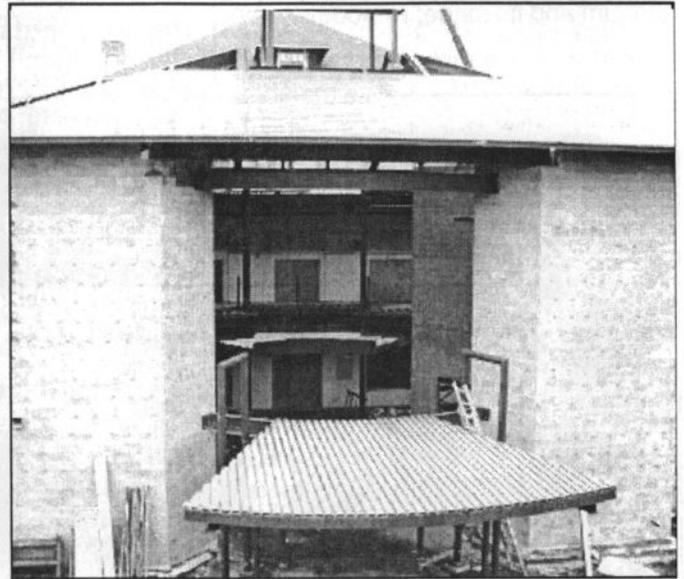


Canopied South Entrance Rendition

rotunda on the interior. Plans call for this new entry space to be used for receptions and other gatherings as well as for access to the auditorium.



Work began on the South Entrance in July



South Entrance Canopy is nearing completion

Located just off the rotunda on the first floor, the Alumni Center will function as a campus meeting center and a focal point for alumni, their families, and visitors. Antiques, tables, chairs, lamps and artifacts will create an inviting ambience. Wood display cases in the hallways will display items that relate

to the history of UMC and its predecessor, the Northwest School of Agriculture. An archive area will be located in the original library reading room, which also features a fireplace. The Alumni Center will allow maximum flexibility and opportunity for social functions.

The target completion date for the project is late summer of 2002. The good news to date is that according to the reports from the construction meetings, the project is on target.

To see more photos of the progress on the Kiehle project on the web visit: www.crk.umn.edu/special/Construction01/kiehle.htm.

Top Aggie Selection Process



The **TOP AGGIE** award was established in 1970 to honor Northwest School of Agriculture alumni, faculty, and staff who, in the eyes of the Northwest School of Agriculture Alumni Association, have had a significant impact on the lives of their fellow man through professional and service contributions in their occupations, community, church, education, and other service and non-profit organizations.

Each year the NWSA Alumni Association Board of Directors places a notice in the AGGIE Newsletter requesting alumni to submit names and information about NWSA Alumni they wish to nominate for consideration as a Top Aggie candidate.

Generally, the nominees for the award are from the nonored reunion classes for that year, but occasionally the Board will make an exception to this policy. Consequently, Top Aggie nomination information is also included with the class leader letters which are sent out easrly in each calendar year.

Each nominee is contacted and requested to provide information about themselves in the following areas:

- NWSA - activities, highlights, and impact on your life
- Education - personal, growth, participation and service
- Work/Occupation - history, service and contributions
- Service - community, church, nonprofit organizations, etc.
- Other Relevant Matters - service or commitments

Soon after the nomination deadline, each board member evaluates the information presented on behalf of the candidates and then makes the final selections.

NWSA Reunion • June 28-29, 2002

We encourage ALL NWSA Alumni to attend the annual NWSA Reunion on June 28-29, 2002 with the following classes to be honored. If you have questions or want more information, please contact your class leader.

Class of 1927	Alumni Office 218-281-8437	Class of 1952	Charles & Bonnie Vesledahl Holmquist 218-281-5427
Class of 1932	Alumni Office 218-281-8437	Class of 1957	Allan Dragseth 218-281-2550 Ray Dusek 218-281-1735
Class of 1937	Alumni Office 218-281-8437	Class of 1962	Don Strickler 218-281-5946
Class of 1942	Berneil Nelson 218-281-2838	Class of 1967	Alumni Office 218-281-8437
Class of 1947	Betty Floan 218-574-2741		

Top Aggie Honorees

- 1970** Herschel Lysaker, staff
- 1971** Harry Soderburg, staff; William Strickler '30
- 1972** Andy Anderson and William Barron, staff; Edwin Widseth '32
- 1973** Noel Hanson '35; Iver J. Johnson '23; Oscar Knutson '19
- 1974** Berneil Nelson '43; Olaf C. Soine, staff
- 1975** Myrtle Brown; Walter Fehr '57
- 1976** Ole Flaas '16; Tillie Gebhardt, staff
- 1977** Ralph Hamrick '27; Charles Whiting, staff
- 1978** Rodney Mosher '51; Ruth Ann Kruta, staff
- 1979** Ted Peet '29; Bruce Beresford, staff
- 1980** Donald and Harlene Hagen Overgaard '55; B. E. Youngquist, staff
- 1981** Selvin Erickson '31; Eugene C. Miller, staff
- 1982** Allan Dragseth '57; Charles and Bonnie Vesledahl Holmquist '52
- 1983** Lillie Christianson, staff; Albert Kopecky '23; Richard Swenson '53
- 1984** Claudia Hanson Deery '64; William Menzhuber, staff; Ken '44 and Rose Marie Kochmann '47 Price; Rodney '49 and Jean Anderson '50 Webster
- 1985** Burnett Bergeson '35; Pauline Finkenbinder Purath '45; Stanley Sahlstrom (Honorary)
- 1986** Alton Knutson '41; Kenneth '61 and Judy Rivard '64 Schuster
- 1987** Marshall Evans '37; Harris Peterson '42
- 1988** Ernest Newhouse '28; Delsie Filipi Lofton '38; Walter '38 and Charlene Walters '43 Stromstad
- 1989** Dorothy Larson Billberg '39; Art Brandli '59; Orvis P. Engelstad '44; William I. Gatheridge '39
- 1990** Peter E. Fehr '49; Marvin E. Jensen '45; Milton O. Warner '20
- 1991** Herbert W. Schroeder '31; Dennis D. Warnes '51; Wayne L. Pedersen '66
- 1992** Lucille Hedlund Kildal '37; Wallace W. Miller '24; Leonard Yutzenka '42
- 1993** Leonard Hapka '43; Clayton M. Isaacson '38; Charles R. Samuelson '43; John R. Thompson '38
- 1994** Dorothy Hanson Bender '39; Glen V. Holmquist '44, Robert W. Larson '29; Allan C. Magnusson '49; Grant E. Peterson '44
- 1995** Earl Lindberg '35; Donald Nelson '40; Gerhard Ross '45; Eunice Peterson Waterworth '50; Marilyn Balstad Melby '55
- 1996** Sanna Hanson Brovold '29; Joan Phillips Flaas '41; Clarence H. Sargent '41; Gerhard A. Ross '45; Paul M. Proulx '46
- 1997** Keith D. Bjerke '57; Morris R. Dahl '37; Elaine Johnston Maruska '37; Ernest W. Swift '62
- 1998** Ronald Filipy '58; Robert Heckman, Faculty '60-'68; Maynard Helgaas '53; Eva Mildren Mykleby Pearson '38
- 1999** John Drees '64; Forrest Mykleby '44; Hazel Stephenson Halvorson '29; Evelyn Bierbaum Peterson '29
- 2000** LeRoy M. Johnson '50; Dr. Andrew Nielsen '49; Roger Odeggard '60; Andrew Skaar '40
- 2001** Evangeline Anderson Myhre '46; Ray K. Johnson '46; Roger J. Kasprick '50; JoAnne Straus Carlson '61

Northwest School of Agriculture Scholarships Honor the Past and the Future!

The NWSA has had the opportunity to reach into the lives of students and build their education in much the same way as the NWSA did in their own lives. The student whose names you see listed have benefited from the generosity of those who valued their time at the Northwest School. Student appreciation is exemplified in the letter below from a recipient of a NWSA Scholarship.

"...I have always wanted to go to college and the help of your scholarship has made my dream come true. I want to thank you for making my college education more affordable, and I want to thank you for the best four years of my life."

UMC students, like NWSA students, appreciate the opportunity to attend school here. As we approach the 100th year of educating on this site in 2005, we have reason to celebrate all the students educated here and those who made it possible!

NWSA Scholarships

NWSA Heritage Fund Scholarships were established in 1989. This scholarship is awarded to direct descendants of Northwest School of Agriculture alumni. Recipients who demonstrate high academic progress may renew this scholarship. Freshman and Sophomore (4 semesters full time) receive \$450 per semester for a total of \$900/yr; Juniors and Seniors (4 semesters full time) receive \$300 per semester for a total of \$600/yr.

William Dale, Fertile	Plant Industries Management
Jacob Melbye, Crookston	Business Management
Kristi Pederson, Gary	Applied Studies
Jennifer Tucker, Crookston	Early Childhood Education

Elenora and Ben Filipi Memorial Scholarship was established in 1990. This endowment provides scholarships to direct descendants of Northwest School of Agriculture alumni or other deserving students. Recipients who demonstrate high academic progress may renew this scholarship.

Tamera Brule-Shaver, Mentor	Applied Studies
Jaime Goodyke, Crookston	Agricultural Systems Management
Brian Larson, Angus	Agricultural Systems Management
Beverly McNamee, Mahnomen	Plant Industries Management
Kylene Odegaard, Crookston	Plant Industries Management
Thomas Thormodson, Dalton	Information Networking Management

Continued on next page

NWSA Scholarships

Continued

Francis Klein-Fortie Scholarship was established in 1999 by her 1946 NWSA Classmates. This endowment was established for NWSA descendants with a 2.50 high school GPA or 2.5 post-secondary GPA.

Joell Diamond, Crookston Information Networking Management

Wallace and Hanna Miller Scholarship was established in 1991. The scholarship recognizes NWSA direct descendants and other deserving students who wish to further their education at UMC. Recipients who demonstrate high academic progress may renew this scholarship.

Kelly Bisek, Mahnomon	Agricultural Education
Todd Chandler, Crookston	Information Networking Management
Jacob Cournia, Crookston	Animal Industries Management
Kyle Grove, Crookston	Business Management
Greg Habeck, Ada	Information Technology Management
Amy Kuznia, Stephen	Undecided
Nicholas Pederson, Gary	Agricultural Systems Management
Michael Steinhauer, Thief River Falls	Natural Resources
Eric Useldinger, East Grand Forks	Business Management
George Widman, Crookston	Sport and Recreation Management

Edwin A. Pearson Scholarship was established in 1993, a NWSA alumni, in memory of his wife, Dorothy. The scholarship is awarded to a direct descendant of a NWSA alumni who is in the top one-half of his/her graduating class.

Sue Hanson, Hallock Dietetic Technician

Andrew and Elmer Wardeberg Memorial Scholarship is awarded to descendants of NWSA alumni and other deserving students who have maintained satisfactory academic standing.

Sevrin Anderson, Drayton, ND	Business Management
April Lake, Belen, NM	Undecided
William Leddige, Reynolds, ND	Agricultural Business
Lyle Page, Red Lake Falls	Agricultural Business
Kelly Tiedemann, Crookston	Information Technology Management
Laura Tiedemann, Crookston	Sport and Recreation Management
Megan Tollefson, Crookston	Scientific and Technical Communication

Class Notes

**Tribon, Frances
Hofacre '50
Buffalo, MO**

tribo@todays-tech.com

Herman and I are doing really well. Herman still works. I do as I please. Ha. Keeping 3 of our 4 great-grand-kids for a year was really good for us. Kept us on our toes. Gave us lots of exercise. We enjoyed it. Now we are enjoying just being the 2 of us. We miss the girls, but are glad they're home with their mom. The twins are 2 now and Cassie is 3. Pray for our country and its leaders.

**Skarsten, James E. '56
Lancaster, CA**

jskarsten@dcmdw.dcma.mil

Following my attendance at the Northwest School of Agriculture joined the Air Force. Remained in the Air Force 23 years, six months from 1956-1979, specializing in public affairs. I was stationed overseas: Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Germany. In the United States: Eglin AFB, Florida; Scott AFB, Illinois; Richards-Gebaur AFB, Missouri; and Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Have served in the Federal Service since retiring from the Air Force (1979-present). I'm now a Quality Assurance specialist with the Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) Boeing Canoga Park involved in the NASA Space Shuttle Program. Married Hye Yon Chong, a naïve of Korea in 1974. On January 4, 2001 we observed our 27th wedding anniversary.

**Harker, Ruth Baird '47
Fairfield, CA**
e-mail: Shastagirl6@aol.com



Below is a summary of memorials covering a period of 17 years in which 9 Baird children attended NWSA.

Memories of the Northwest School of Agriculture for the Baird family began as early as 1937, when the two eldest daughters of the Baird family enrolled in the Northwest School of Agriculture for their high school education. This family helped populate the campus of the Northwest School of Agriculture until the youngest of nine children graduated in 1954.

Our father, Benjamin Franklin Baird (known as Frank), and our mother, Inga, raised eight girls and 1 boy on their farm/ranch, which is located 4 miles southeast of the Northwest School of Agriculture. Dad was a great believer in educa-

tion and was always interested in our school work, which we completed, in the one room school house which all of us attended through the 8th grade. He was a stickler for education and was very determined that every one of us would attend high school at the NWSA. We were a hard working family and were taught the basics of life in general and what was expected of us in living life in the country. We girls worked as hard as any farm hand in getting chores and field-work done. The six-month academic school year was exactly what fit into our busy schedule.

Our farm was four miles from the campus of NWSA and we were needed at home to help with the morning and evening chores, consequently, we became commuters. We did have a 1934 Terraplane which was used for transportation most of the school year. My two older sisters started the same year. During the winter months, when the snow was heavy and it was very cold, they had to use the "one horse open sleigh" each day to get to school. During the day, the horse was kept in the barn on the campus while the girls attended classes. I, Ruth, was the 6th one to attend there, and I believe there was a Baird on the campus attending classes until 1954 when the youngest sister graduated.

After graduating 8th grade, I stayed home for a year before continuing my education. I remember as a freshman in the fall of 1944, how

Continued on page 17

Class Notes

shy and quiet I was. It was quite an adventure to be on my own after 14 years of sheltered life. I adapted quickly to campus life and going from building to building for different classes. I drove myself to school each day. It was one of my chores to take the milk and cream in to the Bridgeman Creamery in the mornings and pick up the empty cans in the afternoon on the way home. Many afternoons some of my friends would catch a ride with me into Crookston. I don't know how they got back to campus. Sometimes I would stay in the library to do my homework before going home. It was much better study environment than at home as we only had kerosene lamps, and a Coleman lantern for light. We also had very limited study space and much activity with so many people in the house.

My lunch hour was spent in the Aggie Inn with several other commuters. Lunches were served, but I was a "brown bagger" as we could not afford to buy every day. I kept my lunch in the Kiehle Building during the morning, as did several of my classmates. We always felt that we were left out because we did not live in the dormitories and were not able to eat in the dining hall. Many times friends would come and ask us to buy them a candy bar after lunch. I guess those who stayed on campus were not able to buy in the Aggie Inn during lunch hour. The Aggie Inn was a lively place and a good place to socialize later in the day, and sometimes in the evenings.

I remember one winter night when the weather was very bad, it was decided that I would stay at the school in the dormitory for a couple of months. This was a real treat for me. One evening some of us got together in one room, and one of the girls was hypnotizing. To me, it was very scary, and I was afraid, even just watching. The following year when the storms came, I stayed in the mini dorm, which was on the 2nd floor of the Home Ec building. There were about 12 of us girls there, 2 to a room. The rooms were partitioned off so there was some privacy. It was still "lights off" and "quiet" by 10 o'clock. I enjoyed being able to go to the evening socials while living on campus. I do remember Miss Bede being a very strict housemother to us.

During my senior year, in the Home Ec class, we were required to attend a week-long class of cooking, and serving a meal, Emily Post style. We learned all the etiquette manners and rules. We were able to invite a guest, plus one or two teachers who were also our guests. We had to set the table, cook and serve the meal and all eat together. I remember being so nervous, and having to hold back the giggles. But we got through it.

We also had off campus projects which we had to complete during the late spring and summer months in order to get enough credits for graduation. We belonged to 4-H Club and incorporated these projects with the high school, and showed our canning, baking, sewing results in the fall at a demonstration day, for parents to observe.

I fondly remember the physical education classes. Swimming was a required class, and our teacher, Mr. Blatchford made sure we all got into the water. I enjoyed swimming, but was not happy to have wet hair. We had to wear the tight rubber caps but our hair still got wet. Most of my classes, however, were business and stenographic, as I was planning to become a private secretary. I also took a piano class and practiced that after school in the Home Ec Building. Miss Bede always let me stay there as long as I needed to. I think I as teachers pet in the Home Ec department.

I did not attend the 4th, or advanced year as it was not required to receive a diploma. I was told that I was proficient enough to go on, so I enrolled in Dakota Business College in Fargo for a year. I had no problem finding employment during the time I was in Fargo. I always felt I had a very good high school education at NWSA and feel we had the best teachers ever. My memories of NWSA will be with me always.

In conclusion, I married a military man in 1951, and while raising 4 children, we did a lot of traveling. We spent a total of 11 ½ years in Europe which was a good education for all of us. I have worked in schools most of my married life, retiring from Fairfield High School here after 18 years of counseling high schoolers. I laid my husband to rest in 1996. I am now spending my time volunteering, visiting my children and grandchildren and our siblings.

In Memory Of . . .

NWSA Alumni who are no longer with us. Through out their lifetime, these individuals developed a rich heritage, traveled many pathways, and encountered numerous experiences. Their memory will remain as part of the Northwest School of Agriculture.



MILTON WARNER '20
Spencer IA
November 17, 2000

NORMAN W THIELING '33
Aurora MN
August 29, 2001

ALDEN VESLEDAHL '44
Erskine MN
October 24, 2001

ROGER BRIDEN '22
Erskine MN
December 29, 2001

JAMES WELLS '33
Goodridge MN
October 8, 2001

**MILADA PATRICIA KRUTA
JARSHAW '46**
Robbin, MN
January 16, 2002

VERNON BRYLVALSON '30
Callaway MN
December 6, 2001

CARL E JOHNSON
Newfolden MN
June 14, 2000

CLAYTON BRANDT '50
Roseau, MN
December 30, 2001

VERA WALTERS URNESS '30
Crookston MN
November 12, 2001

VERNON SCHOLIN '38
Thief River Falls MN
November 13, 2001

PERRY C BRANTNER '51
Felton MN
January 1, 2002

HERBERT NISBET '30
East Grand Forks, MN
December 23, 2001

HAROLD PEARSON '39
Hallock, MN
January 5, 2002

FRANK SCHMALTZ '54
Hillsboro ND
January 6, 2002

CARL ARVESEN '31
Warren MN
August 10, 2001

DONALD NELSON '40
Champaign, IL
January 14, 2002

JOHN R ANDERSON '55
Fisher MN
November 12, 2001

**DOROTHY JACOBSON
KRUSHUS '33**
Ada, MN
December 14, 2001

**EVERETT OMAR FULLER
'44**
Williams, MN
December 25, 2001

LARRY LOVE '63
Crookston MN
November 30, 2001

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Events NSWA Alumni need to know

Tuesday, February 19

NWSA Arizona Social
(see page 7 inside)

Wednesday, March 6

One Woman Play: "Congresswoman Coya Knutson"
8 p.m., Bede Ballroom
Sponsored by UMC Concerts & Lectures

Saturday, May 11

UMC Commencement Ceremonies
2 p.m., Lysaker Gym

Friday-Saturday, June 28-29

NWSA Reunion
Honored Classes: 1927, 1932, 1937, 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967



NWSA Alumni Association
University of Minnesota, Crookston
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Crookston, MN 56716-5001

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