



Aggie



Alumni Publication of the Northwest School of Agriculture

June 2006 Volume 24 Number 3



Classes



Congratulations TO OUR NEWEST TOP AGGIES!

Join us in congratulating these outstanding graduates of the Northwest School of Agriculture!

CLASS OF 1931



Daniel Letnes

CLASS OF 1936



Betty McVeety Nisbet

CLASS OF 1950



Mary Randall Norgart

CLASS OF 1961



David Tucker

REUNION SCHEDULE

Friday, June 23

- 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Registration, Student Center
- 5:30 p.m. Fish Fry, Peterson Gazebo
- 7:00 p.m. Class of 1956 reminisces, Bede Ballroom, Student Center
- 8:00 - 10:30 p.m. Social and Dance with "Jazz on Tap," Bede Ballroom, Student Center

Saturday, June 24

- 9:00 a.m. Registration (muffins, rolls, coffee), Student Center
- 10:00 a.m. Book signing and discussion with John Christgau, son of NWSA Coach Rufus Christgau
- 11:00 Dedication of Youngquist Prairie Garden
- 11 & 11:30 a.m. Bus Tour
- 11:30 a.m. Luncheon, Peterson Gazebo
- 1:00 p.m. Annual Business Meeting followed by program "Memories are Made of This," Kiehle Auditorium featuring the Minnkota Four quartet
- 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Class photographs followed by class meetings (TBA)
- 5:00 p.m. Top Aggie Photographs, Northern Lights Lounge, Student Center
- 5:30 p.m. Buffet Dinner, Brown Dining Room
- 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Top Aggie Awards Program, Brown Dining Room



Corby Kemmer

From the Director

Dear NWSA Alumni,

It is my great pleasure to invite you back home for the Northwest School Reunion on June 23 and 24. These two days will offer that familiarity and intimacy of what was and still is, home. This is a time to relax, reminisce and listen for those familiar voices and time-endured faces back to reunite and to celebrate the spirit of home, school, and community. Alumni are justifiably proud of the beauty of their campus and regularly comment on how recent construction projects and new plantings have further enhanced that beauty. Come back to see your beautiful cam-

pus in person.

As the celebration of the Centennial year comes to a close we look back at the numerous advancements made on this campus and look with excitement to the next one hundred years. It is a fact that this university's most valuable landmarks are its people!

A couple dates to keep in mind are Homecoming 2006, held on September 29 and 30, and Torch and Shield, held on October 25. I hope you'll consider returning home and celebrating in the many exciting events or stopping by to have a conversation.

Today, the importance of private gifts to public



Corby Kemmer, director of development and alumni relations, and his staff stand in front of the photographs of the superintendents of the NWSA and Experiment Station. Staff members include (back row, l to r): Corby Kemmer, Bill Tyrrell, director of athletic fund raising and (front row): Rose Ulseth, administrative support, Liz Tollefson, assistant director of development, and Sue Dwyer, administrative support.

universities is vital; consider leaving a lasting legacy you can be most proud of. Please don't hesitate to contact me at:

218-281-8434 or e-mail me at: ckemmer@umn.edu
See you at the reunion,
Corby Kemmer

Mark well the power of place. Our place is here, Our time is now.

Please Support the Herschel Lysaker Endowment Fund

Name _____ Class of _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I/we would like to support the Herschel Lysaker Endowment Fund. My/our commitment will be made as follows:

With the enclosed sum of \$ _____. Please make your check payable to **Herschel Lysaker Endowment**.

Please bill my credit card. Visa MasterCard Discover American Express Amount _____

Account number _____ Expires _____

V-Code _____ (3-digit verification code at the end of the signature panel on the back of the credit card.)

Signature _____

Please send your contribution to: Office of Development, 2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716-5001

From the Alumni President

Gerhard Ross

Dear NWSA Alumni:

In my last President's letter, I hopefully brought you up to date about what is going on with the Centennial Park project. Some of you may be interested in where we are now.

A little history might be helpful to understand where we are today. The Centennial Park Project started in 2001. Meetings were held, a committee was established. A grand plan was formed with input from representatives of NWSA, UMC alumni, and UMC staff. A gazebo was built, thanks to a generous donation

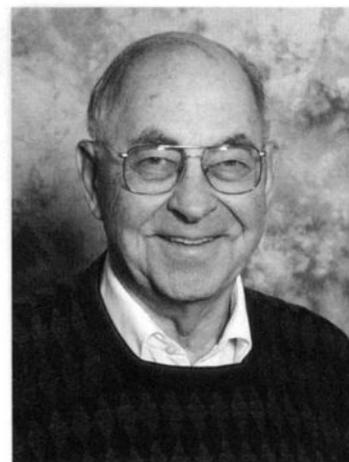
from Harris Peterson. Renovations to the sunken garden were completed, which included drains, sidewalks, and renovated benches. There were new plantings, as well as removal of some trees.

In between all of this, was a change in administration. Departments were reorganized; new people took over various responsibilities. Code requirements had to be met, and somehow, it didn't all get done.

Dr. Charles Casey, the present Chancellor, has assigned this responsibility to Corby Kemmer, our

current development officer. Corby has assured me that he will make every effort to get the memorial wall built in time for this summer's reunion. Whether or not that happens depends on some things falling into place. So, I hope you can understand that a Memorial Wall will be built, but not necessarily in our time frame. Dr. Del Roeloefs, who had duties regarding the Wall before Corby, has retired, and is no longer active. I would like to thank Del for his efforts and contributions to the project.

Other than that, things



look good for another NWSA reunion. I hope to see you on the campus in June!

Sincerely,
Gerhard Ross,
President, NWSA Alumni
Board of Directors

UMC Receives Full Accreditation

The evaluation of the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (HLC) culminated in a recommendation for continued and full accreditation for the maximum time of ten years. The HLC evaluation team described many aspects of UMC as "exemplary" and stated the case for accreditation was "comprehensive, and presented passionately and persuasively."

The Aggie

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On the Front Cover: Artwork from the 1925 Aggie

On the Back Cover: 1938 Alumna, Sylvia Fort

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The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.

Aggie Pin Identified

In the last issue of the *Aggie*, we asked for your insight on the origins of this pin. Thank you to everyone who provided information. Here are some of the responses:

I believe that the Pin you are trying to identify is a Pin that was awarded to students who 'scored' well in non-athletic competitive events. Examples might be Crops Judging, Livestock Judging, Debate, Music, etc.

I think there was a movement among some of the faculty members to recognize scholastic achievements, somewhat on par with athletic accomplishment. Is that debate still going on, or what?

The Pin was awarded during the regular annual 'Awards Day' ceremony. I received a Pin from Dr. Soine, for participating in the Crops Judging Team.

However, one of the Finkenbinder boys (Dale?) says he has one, and he asked me if I knew what it was. I think I do!

Manvel Green '48, Advanced '49

In my "collection of the Rouser 1945-49, only in the March 1949 issue was a reference made to a gold "A" medal award." The issue says:

Awards for Livestock Judging, Crops Judging, Debate, Music, and Scholarship were presented at the second awards assembly on March 11. Those receiving gold medal "A" awards for sub-collegiate competition in Crops Judging were: W. Waterworth, D. Johnson, and R. Glass.

Beth Lapp '48

My roommate Axel Rynning was a member of the crops judging team and he thinks that is a pin that the crops team had.

Alfred Olson '36,
Advanced '37



We had another idea submitted that the pin might represent the pin for the citizenship award. I apologize for not being able to find the name of the person that called with that information. Thank you to everyone for your input, if you have any other ideas on what the pin might be for, please let us know. Thank you.

- Liz Tollefson

Announcing a New Web Page for Alumni!

The University of Minnesota, Crookston Office of Development & Alumni Relations has a brand new Web page for alumni, donors, and friends!

Visit the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) page and see the profile of NWSA alumni association president, Gerhard Ross '45!

www.UMCrookston.edu/alumni

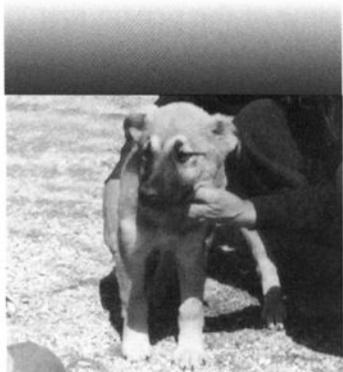
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ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS UMC Alumni Association Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) Alumni Association	Welcome Northwest School of Agriculture Alumni The Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) Alumni Association, represents graduates of the agricultural high school from 1905 through 1968. There are 5,433 NWSA alumni. NWSA reunions are held every summer on the last weekend of June. In 2005, the reunion kicks off the centennial celebration of the campus. The official alumni publication for the NWSA is the Aggie.
CONTACT INFORMATION Office of Development & Alumni Relations	THE AGGIE TOP AGGIES SUBMIT ALUMNI NEWS

Alumni Spotlight

Karen Good '68

There is no better way to describe what Karen Good '68 does than the title of the Bob Dylan song "Love minus Zero." Karen was born and raised on a dairy farm, the third of twelve children. She knows what it is to hand milk cows because when she was growing up, her mother and sisters were responsible for hand milking their fifteen cows every day.

Karen's older sisters, Yvonne and Patty '67,



Karen has helped over 300 dogs and cats. Learn more at her website: redlakerosie.piczo.com

attended the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) and when Karen was a junior, they sent her there. Karen attributes her work and success to some of the guidance she received from Myrtle (Ma) Brown and Mrs. Braaten at the NWSA. "Every Sunday, Ma Brown would get behind the wheel of the car to drive us to church and Mrs. Braaten would ride shotgun," Karen explains, "I remember the ride in the backseat. Those two women really looked after me and cared for my physical, spiritual, and social needs."

Working for Ma Brown in the kitchen, and having Mrs. Braaten as a dorm mother, provided each of these women with ample opportunities to watch Karen grow. She also remembers taking chemistry from Principal Reiersgord and English from Mr. Heckman. Becoming a teacher was something Karen wanted to do early on, she even taught her younger siblings to read using her own curriculum.

When she graduated from the Northwest School in 1968, she went to work for a year in a clinic on the reservation after some encourage-

ment by the doctors on staff; she decided to attend Macalester College, a private undergraduate liberal arts college located in St. Paul, Minnesota. Karen, who is a mixture of Chippewa, Norwegian and Swedish, was the recipient of one of the first diversity scholarships offered at the school. As a young woman, Karen found life in college challenging, and after a year, she left Macalester and returned to work. However, after years of work and a search for what she wanted to do with her life, Karen went to Moorhead State College in Moorhead, Minnesota and graduated in 1984 with a teacher's degree in science at the secondary level.

From 1976 - 1985 Karen served as co-founder and administrator at the Circle of Life School at White Earth, Minnesota. From 1986 - 1988 she was a Teacher on Special Assignment for the Minneapolis School District developing science curriculum which was gender fair and racially nonbiased. From 1988 - 1995 she taught middle school students at the Red Lake School. Then, in 1995, she was



Karen Good was a member of the 1968 graduating class. Today, she is the lead teacher at the Alternative Learning Center in Red Lake.

hired as a teacher in the Alternative Learning Center (ALC) where she still works today. She wrote the grant that began the funding of the ALC and serves as its lead teacher. This learning center is where she wants to work until she retires. At one time, she pursued a master's degree in school administration, but realized that her passion was for students and she wanted to remain close to them. Her life keeps her on the road, traveling between the four communities on the Reservation: Little Rock, Red Lake, Ponemah, and Redby.

Karen described herself as an incorrigible young teenager. Incorrigible no longer describes the strik-

Love Minus Zero

ing brunette with sparkling brown eyes. The word that comes to mind is compassionate. She loves her students, but extends her love in another avenue these days as well.

In 2004, on the day of the school shooting in the Red Lake School, Karen was driving home from work when she saw a stray dog at a dumpster. She drove by, and then decided that she had driven by this kind of scene too many times. She returned to the dumpster and picked up the dog. This simple act began what would become Red Lake Rosie's Rescue for animals.

While Karen says that the attention focused on the Red Lake School drew attention to her

mission to rescue animals, she has met and worked with hundreds of people to make her animal rescue a reality. She has placed dogs in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and other states as well. Since the day she picked up the dogs at the dumpster Karen has helped over 300 dogs and cats. One of her students helped her create a Web site where you can learn more about her work. Visit www.redlakerosie.piczo.com, see the animals, and read their stories. Karen has countless stories of the animals, just like Rosie, that she has helped and placed in homes.

Karen and her friend, Kevin Wolden, along with five or six volunteers, have cared for these ani-



Karen and her friend, Kevin Wolden, stand beside the rescue van recently donated to their work.

mals, nursing them back to health, and saved them from neglect. "I knew that I wanted to make a difference. I also felt there were three groups that needed help, the children, the elders, and the animals," Karen explains. "These three groups are vulnerable. I feel I am having an impact by teaching the children, and caring for the animals."

Karen's elderly father lives near by, and she checks on him daily. Her life is filled with responsibilities for vulnerable populations and her compassion carries her forward. Her work fills her life with significance and serves as a means for her to share her faith and commitment to making a

difference in the world. Karen and Kevin play guitar and sing songs together like *Love Minus Zero*, *Blowin' in the Wind*, and original songs Kevin has written. Together their guitars and voices unite, creating a powerful, moving testimony to who they are on the inside.

"My students see me doctoring dogs and cats, and if they are interested, they help me in the shelter," Karen says, "I am hoping this will open their hearts and lives to sharing compassion with everyone around them." It is a powerful message. When you subtract zero from love... all you have left is the love.



Karen Good started Red Lake Rosie's Rescue to help provide shelter and find homes for animals.

Alumni Spotlight

Barbara Hylland '56

"The Northwest School Family, including students and faculty, will long remember the annual Thanksgiving Day celebration held at the School on November 29, 1928. Promptly at 1:00 p.m., the doors of the dining hall were thrown open for the inspection of the tables, which had been appropriately decorated by the students. The committee, consisting of Mr. R. S. Dunham and Miss Laura Gerber,

She also remembers how the boys would congregate outside the dining hall after supper. The girls would come out, and if the boys had the courage, they might ask to walk you "home."

in awarding prizes to the winners, were unanimous in their verdict that never before had this feature of the dinner been so well done." The preceding description is from the *Northwest Monthly* and first prize for table decorating was captured by a group of students that included Aslaug Satre '30 of Grygla, MN. Aslaug was the mother of 1956 graduate, Barbara Hylland Lunsetter.

Although her mother passed away when Barbara was only a baby, she followed her uncle Grant Satre '54 to the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA). "I kind of always planned to attend the Northwest School," Barbara says. She lived in McCall hall with Miss Retta Bede and Mrs. Harriet Earle as housemothers. Her roommates were Judy Jokela, Alicia Nelson, and in her senior year, Sylvia Jensen.

Barbara remembers having to be in the

dorm at ten minutes to seven, because study time began at seven and you had to be ready to begin the study time. "I usually studied too," she said.

Some of her favorite classes included sewing and tailoring from Evelyn Peterson, algebra from Principal Reiersgord, and English literature from Margaret Larson. "One of the interesting projects I had in the summer was the book-reading project. We would select four non-fiction, and four fiction books at a time, to be mailed out to us. We would mail them back along with a short book report and then get

another group. I read at least 40 books that summer. "I remember the non-fiction the most. I read about Nobel Prize winner, Madame Curie; wildlife photographer, Martin Johnson; and inventor of peanut products, George Washington Carver.

One of her fondest memories of her junior year is the junior class play, "Don't Take My Penny." She also enjoyed being a member of the triple trio and taking trips to Fargo where they sang for the V.A. Hospital. Barbara played baritone in the band and even though they were



From the 1956 junior class play, *Don't Take My Penny*, are (l to r) Arlene Christianson, Barbara Hylland, and James Skarsten.

Some of her favorite classes included sewing and tailoring.



Aslaug Satre, mother of Barbara Hylland Lunsetter, was a 1930 graduate of the Northwest School.

not all skilled players, it was fun for those who participated. She also remembers how the boys would congregate outside the dining hall after supper. The girls would come out, and if the boys had the courage, they might ask to walk you "home" to the girls' dorm.

Barbara also recalls the winter shows, "That was one of my favorite times. Each February, we had school only half days during the Shows, and "Andy" Anderson ran the bus back and forth between school and the downtown Winter Shows arena. We went through a virtual warren of interconnected areas, never knowing who or what we might see as we came

around a corner! Students participated in showing animals and other activities, and vendors gave out lots of handouts. People came from the entire region to see and exhibit livestock and other agricultural products."

After she graduated salutatorian of her class, Barbara moved with Arlene Christianson, Clarice Olson, and Ruthie Iverson to Thief River Falls, MN to work for the summer. In the fall, Barbara would attend North Dakota State University. She graduated in 1959 with degrees in math and chemistry. She was the lone girl in the major, most of her time at NDSU. "I suppose I could have taken an easier path, but I loved the challenge of being a chemistry major," she recalls.

She was also married in 1959 to Wayne Lunsetter, a young man she had known from back home. Wayne, also a chemistry major at NDSU, would graduate a year later and enter graduate school. Barbara would teach for a year and become the mother of two children during the time Wayne was finishing his degree. He was also in the ROTC

and went on active duty following his graduation. Wayne was a helicopter pilot and artillery officer. He spent 1963 and 1968-69 in Vietnam. While he was in Vietnam for the second time, Barbara moved to Crookston so her family could be near her sister-in-law and closer to Grygla and Gatzke relatives. She formed a social "support" group for the four military spouses she was able to locate in the Crookston area.

During her husband's military career, they lived in Oklahoma, Texas, Alabama, Wisconsin, Virginia, and four years in Germany. When he retired, they went back to the Gatzke, MN to farm. "People are nice everywhere," Barbara says, "No matter where I have lived, I have found wonderful people." She enjoyed the military community. "We relied on each, and in many ways, they were like family," Barbara says.

The Lunsetters have two daughters and a son and have ten grandchildren ranging in age from 21 to 1 year old. Barbara has never gotten away from her love of studying. She has gone to college in every decade since the 1950s. She has taken



Barbara Hylland received the Caleb Dorr Scholarship, was a member of the girls glee club, triple trio, band, and choir. She was also a member of the National Honor Society.

classes in computers, math, and education. She is considering what challenge to tackle next; she is even thinking about taking online classes from the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC)—an excellent choice! UMC offers many online courses, if you are interested visit, <http://cal.umcrookston.edu/distanced> to learn more.

Why not come back to campus this summer for the NWSA reunion? Your friends and classmates will be here, and Barbara hopes you will join the class of 1956 and make it the biggest reunion celebration ever.

Alumni Spotlight

Class of 1936

In the spring of 1936, four young graduates of the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) went out to face the world. Life at the Northwest School opened their young lives to a world of possibility, and while each of them set out on a different path, they look back at their school days with great fondness.

Miss Dorothy Smith taught English at the Northwest School in 1936, and she was a favorite of **Ruth Lerud**. "Miss Smith read Shakespeare to us, and as a thirteen year old freshman at the Northwest School, I discovered Shakespeare and a whole world of literature." Miss Smith helped to create a love for good literature in Ruth's life and opened up the wonderful aspects of theatre, which she still enjoys.

Another instructor Ruth enjoyed was Jock Mlinar. "I had struggled with math before I had him as my teacher; he made it so colorful and interesting that I understood it and really learned to like math especially appreciating geometry." Miss Nelson

gave piano lessons to Ruth and helped her prepare to accompany the orchestra at graduation.

A native of Twin Valley, Ruth would take the train to Crookston if her father could not take her. The Northwest School was the perfect choice for the Lerud family because it gave them a chance to participate in extra curricular activities that would not have been an option to them on the farm. Ruth was one of a family of eight children, all NWSA graduates.

Ruth remembered that she wanted to go to the NWSA like her older siblings. That meant that she had to "read for the minister" in Crookston so she could be confirmed at her church in Twin Valley when it was time.

The girls on her basketball team, Ruth recalls, won the class basketball tournament every year. Girls at that time were not allowed to travel to play basketball so games were between classes. Coached by Miss Kingston, Ruth remembers enjoying basketball played, using the rules that boys had, much better than those the girls were supposed to use. "It was much more running when we used boys'



Ruth Lerud

rules," Ruth remarked.

The faculty had a great deal of influence on Ruth's life. Grace Warne, an English teacher, contributed significantly to Ruth's growth. "On Sunday night," Ruth remembers fondly, "Miss Warne invited some of the girls to come to her apartment to listen to the

radio broadcast of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. I loved to join Miss Warne and the other girls to listen."

After she graduated, Ruth went on to the University of Minnesota where she majored in home economics. She spent a third of her career working in campus ministry and worked in New York, California, and a number of other places during that time. Ruth eventually decided to return to school and received her master's degree in what was then called "related art" at the University of Tennessee. She then taught at the college level until she retired. After retiring, Ruth worked for 19 years at the University of



Senior girls' basketball team was a successful one and Ruth Lerud loved playing by the rules for boys where much more running was involved.

Ruth Lerud, Betty McVeety Nisbet

Minnesota in the epidemiology department. Principally, Ruth spent her time interviewing people participating in research projects.

Betty McVeety Nisbet cherishes the friendships she made with all the girls in Robertson Hall when she was a student at the NWSA. She also recognizes the help of wonderful faculty members like Miss Kingston and Miss Bede, who Betty says, "was always there for us." Her favorite class was shorthand and typing from Faye Hughbanks, and the skills she gained in typing, she still uses today.

Betty roomed with her sister, Ivy, and recalls getting into trouble only once when she did not pass the room inspection. "When I was a freshman, I learned all about room checks," Betty smiles, "I had waited until the last night to finish my Related Arts class assignment which was to collect pictures and make a scrapbook of different styles of houses and of furniture. My roommate, at the time, was also finishing a scrapbook so our room was a total mess...even the beds were unmade."

To help pay for her



Betty McVeety

tuition, room and board, Betty worked as a janitor on the third floor in Robertson hall when she was a junior, when she was a senior, she worked as a waitress in the dining hall, and during her advanced year, she worked in the library. The most memorable of those jobs was working as a waitress. To add to those memories, Betty worked one year as serving room manager while she waited for her sister Ivy to graduate so they could start teachers' training together.

"Miss Lippett in the dining hall was always thinking about ways to save money," Betty explained, "Once she convinced the person who brought meat to the school to save the ox tails for her to

make stew. She had \$1.99 worth of ox tails, which made stew for over 300 hungry students. The only problem was no one wanted to eat ox tail stew so everyone filled up on bread instead."

Students had to use manners and behave in the dining room. They were each assigned a table in the dining hall where they were to sit. These assignments changed periodically. "I dreaded serving the faculty table; it seemed like it needed to be perfection plus," says Betty, "but they were so kind to us." She recalled one time at the junior-senior banquet when a pitcher of ice water was accidentally spilled down the back of Miss Hughbanks. "The boy who spilled it was so embarrassed, but Miss

Hughbanks handled it so kindly. She simply excused herself, went and changed her dress, and returned to finish the meal. Miss Hughbanks was so kind; they all were."

When Betty was a senior, the campus celebrated its fortieth anniversary. LeRoy Peterson trained a cow to pull an ox cart in a parade that went around the campus mall. Mrs. Christgau, who was a senior class advisor with her husband, wrote a skit for senior day and developed parodies for songs, like The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze.

After graduation, Betty went to teachers' training in East Grand Forks, Minnesota. It was a year-long concentrated course, but, as Betty said,



Chester Ingebretson and Betty McVeety helped get the yearbook ready for publication as members of the Aggie Board.

Alumni Spotlight

Class of 1936

"I was used to concentrated study at the NWSA since we completed in six months what everyone else covered in nine." The next three years, Betty spent teaching in country schools.

She decided to take a short business course and worked for only a few months when she got married and became a farmer's wife. She devoted her life to helping on the farm and raising a family. She and her husband, Herbert, were the parents of four children, Roy, Doris, William, and Lori.

Music instructor, Dorothy Smith described **Chester Ingebretson** in his yearbook as having "a pleasant personality and a golden voice..." That pleasant personality is still evident today along with a love of music that has brought him joy throughout his life.

Chester played saxophone in the orchestra, acted in school plays, and was a member of the boys' glee club. He even recalls being a part of a 4-H band. Music was an integral part of the Northwest School since it was added in 1911 with



Chester Ingebretson

the formation of the first musical organizations.

Dr. Dunham was not only one of Chester's favorite instructors, but as Chester says, "he could challenge anyone, anywhere playing the piano." He loved to hear him play. Katherine Hennig gave voice lessons to Chester to train that "golden voice." She helped prepare him for the solo he would sing at the senior prom on March 3. Chester won the Caleb Dorr Scholarship for progress in the study of voice. The \$7.00 scholarship was used for fees during the 1935-36 school year.

Chester, along with Betty and Ruth, were members of the Aggie board. Advisors were Rufus Christgau and his wife. Christgau was a coach, Chester recalled, but he also remembers

him as a good teacher, "hard, but to the point," he says. Chester was not one to back away from a challenge and he found his classes interesting. Jock Mlinar complimented him on his success in algebra as evidenced by the encouraging words in his yearbook.

While in school, Chester worked in the milk room. It was his responsibility to get the milk into the milk cans and deliver it to the dining hall. Perhaps those deliveries to the dining hall had an even more profound affect on Chester's life. A young lady who was a member of the dining hall staff and supervising workers under the direction of Miss Lippett would become Chester's wife. Her name was Ilith, and Chester recalls proposing



Evelyn LaRiviere

to her under the palm trees in the greenhouse on the campus.

Ilith and Chester were married in 1939 and lived on the Ingebretson Farm. Three years later, they moved to Fargo-Moorhead where they raised five children. Chester worked for the Caterpillar dealership, where he served in several different capacities, for 40 years.



Senior Day 1936.

Chester Ingebretson, Evelyn LaRiviere Wendling



Andy Anderson was the bus driver and well known by all the Northwest School of Agriculture students.

Chester played opposite **Evelyn LaRiviere Wendling** in the senior class play "Seventeen." The yearbook called it a "play of youth and love and summertime." Evelyn enjoyed acting in the play and probably found it even more enjoyable because she lived only five miles south of Crookston and her dad would drive her to town to school. Living so close meant Evelyn did not experience the same dorm life other students did. Sometimes she would be dropped off at the drugstore and ride the bus to the school. She remembers her dad stopping and "picking up students walking along the way" when he took her to campus.

Evelyn had missed quite a bit of school when she was younger due to illness, but since her sister,

Lucille was attending the NWSA, her parents decided it might be good to send her there as well. The young Evelyn loved home economics from Miss

Bede and Miss Kingston. When travel due to the weather became an obstacle for her father, Evelyn would stay with her friend, Ruth Lerud, for the night.

She loved Friday night dances, which meant her dad made the trip to town so she could attend. Evelyn also enjoyed declamation and singing in the mixed chorus, and girls' glee club under the direction of Miss Hennig and Miss Smith. In 1935, Evelyn took part in a Northwest School scene in the Red River Valley Historical Pageant at the Winter Shows.

When Evelyn graduated, she lived in Medford, OR for six months with an aunt who owned a ladies ready-to-wear store where she worked with her and in the store.

When she became too homesick, she returned home to help on the farm. In 1941, she married Oran Wendling, and they raised six children together. Since Oran worked for Red Owl grocery stores, Evelyn lived in Grand Forks, Denver, and Minneapolis, where she still resides today. A nephew of Evelyn's, Chuck Lariviere, still lives on the family farm, southwest of Crookston. He and his wife, Paula, are both graduates of the University of Minnesota, Crookston.

In the spring of 1936, four young graduates of the Northwest School ventured out into the world. Their education prepared them for their future lives even though each of them chose a very different path. Ruth,

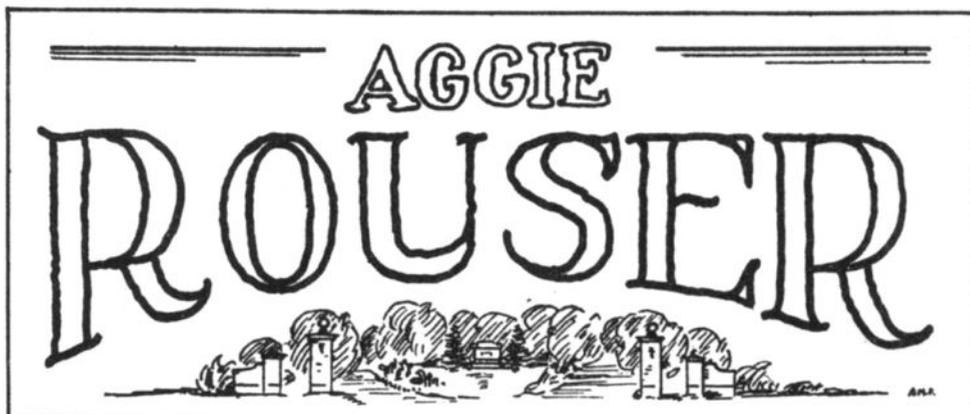
The class of 1936 will be one of the honored classes at this summer's reunion. Celebrate with them at the NWSA reunion.

Betty, Chester, and Evelyn are shining examples of alumni who have made the Northwest School such a proud institution.

The class of 1936 will be one of the honored classes at this summer's reunion, perhaps you graduated in 1936, but whatever year you attended the NWSA, you should come back, renew acquaintances, share memories, and celebrate the history of the Northwest School.



Campus picnic in 1936.



An interview with Arlene Christianson Pickard '56

CROOKSTON, MN (APRIL 12, 2006) -

1. If someone were to ask you what is the first thing that comes to mind when you think of your years at the Northwest School of Agriculture, what would you answer?

The campus and friendships that took root there. The stately University of Minnesota Crookston/Northwest School of Agriculture campus is the standard by which I've viewed other campuses where I've been a student and/or employee.

The friendships are among the longest-lasting, outside of my immediate family. Marilyn Hovet Dehning and I have lived in the same large community twice - once in the Chicago area and, for the past 20 some years, in the Portland, OR/Vancouver, WA region. I feel really fortunate about this; Marilyn and I were roommates sophomore year. During one of our lunches, Marilyn said we probably had the most outstanding English/grammar and music programs at NWSA. I agree.

Often, on another level, I think NWSA campus and dorm life created habits that are a part of how I live. I've probably made the bed every day of my life, a throwback to dormitory

life beginning at age 13. I like Sunday evening vespers - harking back to Kiehle Hall services for those of us on campus for the weekend. Hearing the Newman Club girls leave for early morning mass during Lent introduced me to that observance.

Looking back, I know that living within the controlled campus environment with firm guidelines for study hours, dining hall service and lights out nurtured real scholarship yet allowed us to participate in activities at a level that would have been impossible had we lived miles away from the local high school.

After our 1956 graduation, Grygla's Alicia Nelson Orstad and her parents invited me along when they went to check North Dakota State University in Fargo. (I believe Alicia's parents and Kathryn Clementson Mertz's parents were NWSA students at about the same time as my aunt Sanna Hanson Brovold.) Prior to that Fargo trip, I'd planned to attend a year of training in Thief River Falls and then teach in one-room schools, as had my mother. During the trip to Fargo, NDSU's registrar explained that a year of teachers' training didn't readily translate into a year's worth of college credits, and I changed my mind. Alicia, Barbara Hylland Lunsetter and I enrolled at NDSU (then North Dakota Agricultural College) in the fall of 1956. This road trip with a friend and

her parents shaped my life.

After NWSA graduation in 1956, I have not been a northern Minnesota resident again; I lived in Minneapolis less than three years in the early 1960s. I mention this because the friends whose names are sprinkled through this material have remained friends though, with the exception of Marilyn and Kathryn (we lived in Minneapolis and Chicago at the same time), we have not again lived in the same community.

When my dad died in 2002, Barbara, Clarice Olson Stolaas, Ruth Iverson

Mosbeck and Mary Lou Arveson Wolden were at the funeral with their husbands. Even now I feel a lump in my throat when I think about the comfort of their presence. During the years that we researched senior living facilities for mom and dad in Thief River Falls and after they moved there, Barbara and I would meet for lunch or coffee, a wonderful support. Mom loves poetry and, as her eye-



Arlene Christianson was a member of the Aggie board and editor of the Rouser.

sight failed, Barbara found recorded poems for her. As my mother's vision grew ever more limited, she began referring to Barbara as "that little round-faced person."

2. Where did you grow up and how did you end up attending the Northwest School of Agriculture?

My Christianson grandparents homesteaded just north of the Red Lake River and east of the Red Lake Ojibwa Nation in southeast Pennington County. My sisters and I grew up there. Goodridge, about 20 miles away, was our post office and the nearest high school site. The roads were often a challenge; only the last chunk of highway near Goodridge was paved or "tarred." My aunt Sanna and my uncle Harry's wife, Nora Howard Hanson, had attended NWSA so I grew up with what we would now call a positive image of the school.

Five of us - Ruth, Mary Lou, Marlys Fjeld Westerlund, Ben Bendickson and me - came from the same area; our parents took turns collecting us on Friday and returning us on Sunday - a part of the equation. Later Buelha Stolaas Vad, two years younger than her cousin Ruth, joined our gang of riders. (Buelah's brother Orlan would meet and marry my junior/senior year roommate, Clarice, through this car pooling arrangement.)

3. Did you ever get into trouble? Were you ever campused?

Not that I recall.

4. If you had to choose a favorite teacher(s), which teacher(s) would come to mind?

Alice Ittner and Margaret Larsen were important teachers for me - not only because they built language and literature but also because they connected me to The Rouser, the weekly

student publication I edited the last half of my senior year. This gave form to my life. I've researched and developed communications and marketing programs, created news and feature stories, planned and edited publications and written everything from recipes and food preparation instructions to obituaries and grant applications in the years since I left NWSA.

Our music instructors - and the many ways we were encouraged to practice and perform - were important. I would think Patricia Harman's music appreciation class was key. The girls' glee club, choir, triple trio and band where we practiced and performed probably hard-wired me for the future. As I've moved from one state to another, music has provided a way to meet new friends. I'm no great vocalist, but I enjoy sight-reading music. I've sung with Sweet Adeline's (women's a cappella harmony) groups in Phoenix and Portland, a church choir and a folk group in Chicago and am currently a member of Portland's Scandia Chorus where we sing in Norwegian and Swedish.

I was an immensely shy, geeky-looking farm kid and I'm not certain I would have found NWSA's music opportunities on my own. However, Ruthie and I were acquainted and from families that encouraged music (the Iverson siblings all had musical abilities) and so where there was music, we went. I think Kathryn, another music enthusiast, probably encouraged participation, and so we followed in a group, as teenage girls do.

In a more general way, I recall E. N. Reiersgord as a sort of guiding presence, as was Herschel Lysaker. Thinking back, I recall the Lysaker home project visits. I don't recall that he looked at the records I kept of

cooking, canning and baking - or of the dozens of pages describing garments created. (Because I sewed for my sisters, the twins, and I made two of everything.) I realize now he was checking the home atmosphere. I



The girls triple trio consisted of Muriel Setterholm, Ruth Iverson, Marilyn Hovet, Tony Larson, Barbara Hylland, Sylvia Jensen, Mavis Munter, Arlene Christianson, and (not pictured) Marlys Fjeld.

recall he parked at the end of the farmyard and talked to dad just at sunset. These days I wonder how many visits he made and how many miles he drove in that single day. In our yard he was 70 miles from Crookston and would have been lucky to be home by 10. Perhaps he thought working farm hours was just part of the job.

Retta Bede, teacher of foods and home management as well as dean of girls, exuded an energetic "we can do it" attitude. Our classes, combined with summer projects, equipped us to make time and cost analysis of sewing, cooking, baking and canning. We learned to organize and prioritize. Later I would realize that the background she and others like Evelyn Peterson provided was advanced enough so that I probably was over

prepared for the freshman home economics classes required at North Dakota State. At NDSU, for instance, when I made the required samples of seams, it was a repeat of what I'd done at NWSA and in 4-H.

In the 1970s, I headed the Consumer Service Department (including the test kitchen) for Armour Food Company (I was Marie Gifford - the name Armour crafted for its composite home economists) and Armour Dial Inc in Chicago, IL and then Phoenix, AZ. I held several offices in what was then the professional organization of some 3,000 home economists in business positions; I chaired that national group in 1978-79. Through these experiences I came to know thousands of home economists.

5. You told me the experience being the editor of the Rouser had an effect on your entire life. Will you tell me why you feel that way?

Early on mom took me to the Thief River Falls Library; the librarian had been mom's classmate.

I was one of those kids who read anything - cereal boxes (before nutritional and ingredient labeling), magazine fiction, newspapers and books - any time, including late at night via a flashlight under the blanket.

Something sparked when I began writing news and then was named The Rouser's editor. Perhaps it was the first totally perfect thing that happened to me, beyond getting a bicycle for my birthday when I was 10 or so.

Later I earned a communications minor at NDSU where I worked part time in the university relations office and was The Spectrum's feature editor. My supervisors helped me find graduate school funding via a student assist-

antship at the University of Iowa. I earned a Master of Arts degree in Journalism and Mass Communications there in 1962. The jobs that followed have involved communications, sometimes combined with food and nutrition knowledge.

6. What was it like to be a part of the Rouser board? What did it involve? Did it keep you busy?

I do not recall Rouser board duties separate from producing the paper. I know we worked on The Rouser a great deal. I remember having a key to the Hill Building when we worked late.

7. Your scrapbooks have made a real difference in the last few reunions. I can't tell you how much we have appreciated having them as a resource. If you were to create a scrapbook of your life following your graduation, what things would be in it? What did you do after you left the Northwest School?

After I left Iowa, I worked for Archer Daniels Midland in Minneapolis (where I was in the same 8th and Marquette Avenue office building as Fred Ophus with Investors Diversified Services). I went from there to Armour and Company in Chicago where I began in public relations and moved on to consumer service. In 1971 I was part of a corporate move to Phoenix. While in Phoenix I met Stanley Pickard, to whom I have been married for nearly 30 years, and we've spent most of that time in the Portland area. Our Camas, WA, home is just across the Columbia River from the Portland Airport.

I've worked for newspapers, for a San Francisco public relations firm, for a senior nutrition program and on communications projects for a variety of clients. I spent the nine years prior to retirement in 2004 as director of

communications for the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon and editor of The Oregon Episcopal Church News.

8. You told me you were very shy, how did coming to school at the Northwest School change you?

Yes, I really was shy. At one of the reunions, I realized that Dell Christianson and Donald Diedrich were the first young men with whom I ever felt comfortable enough to try to have a conversation. Of course because we were often seated together in alphabetical order, I had four years to grow at ease with them.

Incidentally, one of the things I did right in my life was to nominate my aunt Sanna (with the help of her daughter Carol Brovold Torgerson) for the Outstanding Aggie award in 1996. Sanna's children, grandchildren, close friends, some nieces (including me) and various spouses were together at NWSA the night of the presentation. It was one of the best nights of my life.

9. If someone was thinking about coming back to the reunion this summer, but they didn't know if they would, what would you say to encourage them to come back to the 2006 reunion at the Northwest School?

Some magic takes over at reunions and we appear to each other as slim, trim, tall and fast-moving with full heads of hair and without dentures, wrinkles, hearing aids or support hose.

In reality, we are, of course, shorter and wider than in 1956, but just for a weekend we remember other times as only classmates can.

Because all reunion trips since 1971 have required flying from the far west, I plan ahead to attend and look forward with great anticipation, as I do again now.

Fred Ophus '56

Alumni Spotlight

A small farm in Woodside Township, near Erskine, Minnesota, was home to Fred Ophus when he was growing up. "We had a radius of about 3½ miles of familiarity; everyone was of Norwegian descent and Lutheran." "Like most of us at that time, I attended a nearby one-room schoolhouse," Fred says. "The A.C. was a much larger setting and opened the world to us." Fred attended the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) because the school bus did not come to their farm to pick them up. Fred says,

Fred's older siblings, Roger and Marjorie, also attended the NWSA.

Fred appreciated what his parents and teachers gave to him, "They instilled in us the idea that we could accomplish whatever we set out to do. I gained a lot of confidence through both the socialization and the academics." Fred has memories that stand out for him; one of those is his freshmen class advisor, Miss Harmon. "We were disappointed when she left," Fred explains, "She took an interest in each and every one of us." Miss Harmon also directed the freshmen in the



Fred Ophus was class president in 1956.

because as freshmen we did take a lot of hazing from those upper classmen!"

Another influential faculty member was Herschel Lysaker. "Hersch knew everyone," Fred remembers, "He was a very influential part of our lives at school." "I played varsity football for three years under Hersch, and can only remember being yelled at once – missed a tackle in a game against Grand Rapids – and barely escaped the potential embarrassment of being pulled out of the game. I can still see myself lying flat on my face and being nowhere near the runner as he passed by." In 1953, Truman was serving in the White House, Eisenhower and Stevenson were battling it out for the presidency, and the freshmen class

was having its own presidential campaign. "Some of the guys decided that I should run for the job, but it ended in defeat to Dick Miller - who I claim went into office on the female vote," Fred says. Fred would have his chance to serve as president when he and his classmates were seniors.

If you are wondering if Fred ever got into trouble in school, he might hesitate, but he will tell you about the night he and three of his friends decided to sneak out of Selvig and head to a movie in Crookston. "We got out easy enough, but we never really thought about how we were going to get back in," Fred says. The best approach the boys could think of was to hit the door running, and get up the stairs without being seen. Fred bolted through the door and up the stairs but his partners in crime didn't follow. He ran to his room, grabbed his toothbrush, and headed for the bathroom. Mr. Larson came up the stairs, and observed him brushing his teeth, but never said a word.

Fred figured he had escaped, but next day he was summoned to Principal Reiersgard's office. He sat down and
Continued on page 17...



Class officers and advisors were back row (l to r) Arnold Balstad, Mr and Mrs Kruta, Bernie Friesen Front Row: Sylvia Jensen, Fred Ophus, and Arlene Christianson.

"Trudging a mile through the woods, over a snow drifted field, climbing a barbed wire fence, and standing in 20 below temperatures just wasn't very appealing."

annual class song contest, which they won—beating out the older classes was an unusual feat for the freshmen and Fred still recalls it proudly. "Maybe this memory stands out,

Faculty Spotlight

Miss Harman

When Fred Ophus and Theone (Larson) Kausler remembered highlights from their years at the Northwest School, one teacher came to both of their minds—Miss Harman. Patricia Harman had recently graduated from the University of Minnesota

when she came to the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA). She remembers interviewing with T. M. McCall. He liked two of the music candidates he interviewed; one of the two would be hired for piano, the other for voice. Since Patricia had studied voice with Ray Scheussler, she was offered the position as the voice instructor.

What does she remember about her two years as an instructor at the school? She remembers that they accomplished in six months what other school's did in nine months. She also remembers how close knit the faculty was and how much they cared for one another.

She was the freshman class advisor in 1953 as well as advisor for the Pepsters. She taught general music class, directed the choral groups, started the triple trio, and taught voice lessons. She lived in Selvig hall with fellow instructors Darlene Johnson, an English instructor, and Shirley Peterson who taught piano. Of course, she recalls Faye Hughbanks, who taught bookkeeping and typing and Retta



Freshman Class Officers and Advisors - Front Row: Marilyn Hovet, Richard Miller, Kathryn Clementson, Back Row: Miss Harman, Fred Ophus, Arnold Balstad, Leo Lund, Mr. Hullinger.

Bede, the dean of girls and teacher of household science, home management, and cooking classes.

“One year at the Winter Shows, Shirley Peterson and I put on a little play,” Patricia said. “We had a lot of fun living and working together at the Northwest School.” Originally, Patricia learned about the Northwest School from a fellow member of a music honor society, Katherine Hennig, a former music instructor at the NWSA.

When Patricia left the NWSA, she went to South Dakota State College, Brookings, SD, where she taught music history, voice, and directed the “Pasquettes,” an all-girl vocal and instrumental ensemble which traveled South Dakota representing the state. She also

worked on an education degree while finishing her master's degree in music at the University of Minnesota.

Through the years, Patricia has done a lot of volunteering with music groups, and has served as president of the Minnesota Music Teachers Association (MMTA), Minneapolis-based Thursday Musical (now 113 years old), and she was chairman of the board of the Civic Orchestra of Minneapolis. Patricia ran the school music auditions of the Young Peoples Concert Association of the Minnesota Orchestra for 8 years. Right now, she is working on improving and standardizing judging and on increasing instrumental and voice participation in MMTA.



Patricia Harman was the advisor for the freshman class in 1953.

"We had a lot of fun living and working together at the Northwest School."

Patricia performed for 10 years with the "Early Music Consort," which gave school programs all around the state under the auspices of Young Audiences, Inc, where she says, "I got to be a virtuoso on the krumhorn! That was fun!"

Most of her career was teaching private piano

and voice, with stints as a church music director as well. She is now retired from active teaching but still does some coaching.

Patricia married Dallas Nortwen and they have two children, a daughter, Laura, an oboist and a son, Dan, who teaches high school English and Social Studies. Patricia

resides in Minneapolis and she is hoping to attend the Northwest School reunion this summer! Come back and see your friends and classmates on the campus of the University of Minnesota, Crookston. We look forward to having you come back!

Through the years, Patricia has done a lot of volunteering with music groups.

Alumni Spotlight: Fred Ophus continued...

Reiersgord asked, "What movie did you see last night?" "The Quiet Man," Fred responded. Reiersgord continued, "Who was in it; John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara?" "Yes," Fred replied. "Was it a good movie?" he asked. Fred said, "Yes, it was." "Well," Reiersgord concluded, "you will be spending the next two weeks on campus." In a few weeks, the class of 1956 will celebrate their fiftieth class reunion, and Fred continues to wonder, who was it that squealed on him?

Fred remembers living in the dormitory and getting to know everyone very, very well. His roommates were Jerry Roberts from Mallory, MN, and Claude Mosher from Beltrami, MN. Following graduation, Fred went on to the University of North Dakota, and three years later, he graduated. He entered the National Guard for six months and was discharged from active duty in late 1959. Moving to Minneapolis he found a job working in the home office of the IDS Life Insurance Company. He then moved to Olympia, WA, and worked for Sunset Life, and then on to Los Angeles where he would eventually start his own business. That business, Shop Management, which opened in 1973, offers back-office support for insurance companies. They have developed software specifically for insurance products. Currently, Shop Management has ten employees.

Fred and his wife, Donna, have two children - a son, David, who works with Fred, and a daughter, Shanna, who is an artist and works as an art director for a media company. They also have one grandson, Isaac.

Plan to come back to the reunion on June 23 and 24! Contact the alumni office at 218-281-8439. The reunion will give you a chance to visit with Fred...and, if you dare, you can finally reveal to him the truth about who told about sneaking out to that movie. Reunions are a good time to "come clean!"



Working on the Aggie sports for the yearbook are Bernie Friesen, Fred Ophus, Claude Mosher, Advisor Miss Graff.

Alumni Spotlight

Theone Larson Klausler '56

Manley Larson graduated with the advanced class of 1929. A second generation of the Larson children would graduate from the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) during the fifties. Manley's children, Adele '54, Theone '56, Dalmon '57, and Burnett '59, would follow in their father's footsteps at the NWSA, and this year his daughter, Theone will be back for her fifty-year class reunion. "It will be fun to come back, and I really hope all of my class returns, especially those who live in the area, it would be so much fun to see them," she says.

Theone, like the rest of her family, appreciates the arts. "At the Northwest School, we had such great teachers, and the wonderful thing was it was all just a part of the tuition," she explains. "I had lessons in piano, voice, and French horn." Like her classmate, Fred Ophus, Theone recalled the lessons with Miss Harman and how much fun the class song contests were. "We all worked together, and it was almost like a one-act

play," she reminisces. Also a member of the triple trio, Theone explains that her grandmother lived with them and she played the piano. Music was an integral part of their lives both in school and at home.

Principal Reiersgord, Theone recalls, was someone you could talk to and was a real encourager. She also loved the friendship and close relationships formed through life in the dormitory. "We were young, but we grew and matured as part of living on the campus," she says. Theone was very involved in campus activities. She was on the Aggie board, the "A" club, girls' glee club, choir, cheerleading, band, National Honor Society, and the



Theone's father, Manley Larson, attended the Northwest School and graduated in 1928.

triple trio. She also was a recipient of the Caleb Dorr Scholarship.

One of the most unusual classes, Theone took was a mechanical drawing class. "There were no art classes in drawing and painting, so I took the

mechanical drawing class to learn about things like perspective and to help me draw," Theone says, "At the NWSA, they tried to offer us a wide variety of learning opportunities."

Summer projects were an important part of the NWSA experience, and Theone recalls making her own cheerleading outfit. This outfit was no simple design, but rather, a dress with a skirt featuring box pleats and tailoring. She remembers Evelyn Peterson teaching related art and working on a project on decorating homes.

Her roommates included Marlys Molskness, Muriel Setterholm, and the last two years, she roomed with Marilyn



Theone Larson was a Pepster for three years during high school.

Theone recalls making her own cheerleading outfit.



Theone Larson enjoyed attending the Northwest School, she even took a mechanical drawing class to encourage her interest in art. Regular art classes were not offered.

Hovet. During Senior Day in 1956, Richard Miller, Fred Ophus, Theone, and Marilyn Hovet gave the senior class prophecy in four parts. The annual reception for the graduating class of the Northwest School, given by Superintendent and Mrs.

T. M. McCall, was held in the Aggie Inn one Sunday evening. A musical program was presented by members of the senior class including piano selections by Sylvia Jensen, and Arlene Christianson with a vocal solo by Theone. A new award was given in 1956 called the honorary music "A;" it was presented to graduating seniors with sixty or more points in music. Theone, Arlene, Sylvia, Marilyn, Kathryn Clementson, Marlys Fjeld, Barbara Hylland, Ruth Iverson all received the special award.

After graduation from NWSA, Theone studied music for one year at Northwestern College. Theone left Northwestern to pursue a diploma in nursing; she graduated from The

Swedish Hospital School of Nursing in 1960. Following her graduation, Theone attended the University of Minnesota for a year. Her marriage to Michael Klausler and raising a family of four children became her primary focus of her life for quite a while. However, she did work in nursing related professions part time.

She went back to the University of Minnesota and graduated with a B.S. in art and design in 1980. Theone retired from nursing in 1994, and since that time, she has been more involved in Bible Study Fellowship and her artwork. Grandchildren have occupied much of her attention in the past three years.

This summer, Theone has three reunions to

We were young,
but we grew and
matured as part of
living on the
campus."

- Theone Larson
Klausler

attend: her grade school is having a reunion, her husband has his fifty-year class reunion, and of course, her reunion with her classmates from the NWSA. She hopes to see many of her classmates this summer. Why don't you join her at the reunion on June 23 and 24? It is a great chance to catch up and to remember your school days together.

Be a part of the AGGIE! Submit your news for Class Notes!

**Don't forget
a photo!**

Name (please include your maiden name) _____

Year of Graduation/Attendance _____ Phone _____ Email _____

May we publish your email address? Yes _____ No _____

Address (Street, City, State, Zip) _____

News you wish to share (please attached a sheet of paper if necessary) _____

Send to: Rose Ulseth, 2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716 or Email: rulseth@umn.edu

Class Prophecy

Class of 1956

Dan Adams is Vice President of 1st national Bank in Oakes.

Richard Anderson is playing his clarinet in the Marine Band.

Walter Anderson is raising prize Hampshires.

James Andre is writing a simpler and thinner Social book with more pictures.

Gerald Audette still can't find his right seat in the front row in journalism.

Rosemary Auer recently recorded her version of "Laughing Polka."

Eugene Austin is in competition with Charles Atlas.

Arnold Balstad still can't find it in his heart to sell his Herefords.

Jerry Beck is a special manager at Herb's Barn at Arthur, North Dakota.

Leo Bettels is mayor of Mahanomen.

Alvin Bertch is a special assistant to Henry Ford Jr. and top sales manager.

Roland Brule is picking up Northwest School hitch-hikers.

Sadie Carlson has found her full time job, waltzing.

Arlene Christianson went big game hunting with her violin; a noisy weapon.

Dell Christianson is raising chinchillas.

Mildred Clauson is a house wife near Wannaska, Minnesota.

Kathryn Clementson has finished college and is teaching Home Economics in Erskine.

Robert Coulthart is welding instructor at The Northwest School.

Lillian Dahle has opened a new dance hall in Highlanding.

Joe DeCesare is special advisor to the President on chemical engineering.

Donald Diedrich is raising Brown Swiss cattle for exhibition at the Winter Shows.

Harold Derosier is the Manager of T.V. program "Can You Top This?"

Lawrence Donahue is farming near Crookston.

Leon Driscoll spends all his valuable time going to Grand Forks to see Marilyn.

Raymond Dunham is assistant forest ranger in Northern Minnesota.

Gregory Dusek is North Dakota's outstanding potato farmer.

David Eblen is running for governor of North Dakota on the Farmers Union ticket.

Larry Eftefield has invented hair oil that can't be swiped.

Don Enright is head of Diamond Star gambling casino in Las Vegas.

Jay Estling has been promoted to President of the A.H.I.

Marlys Fjeld is following John's band around the country.

James Flicek is manager of Grey Hound Bus line.

Larry Freeland's picture is replacing that of Toni Curtis in millions of girl's homes.

Bernie Friesen is Prime Minister of Canada.

David Goosen has flown to South America for the winter.

Gerald Green is married and living on a farm near Gary.

George Crenier has replaced one of the three stooges in Hollywood.

Warren Grothmann is head of the "Eblen for Governor" campaign.

James Gunderson is North Dakota's wealthiest wheat farmer.

Gerald Gunnufson is living it up in Fertile, Minnesota.

Eldon Hanson is refereeing basketball games and he is now recovering from the last Crookston vs Aggies game.

Lloyd Heggston is sales manager for Lucky Strike in Minnesota.

Gerald Hoekstra and David Pechancheck are test drivers for Ford's newest racing car.

Marilyn Hovet has just finished her summer series of acting "Lady Macbeth" in Washington, D.C.

Cathryn Hoveland is secretary in the Civil Service and has been transferred to Paris on an assignment.

Barbara Hylland is teaching Norwegian at the Northwest School; so far her only pupil is Mr. J.A. Miller.

Janice Iverson is manager of a radio program called "Blab."

Ruth Iverson is head nurse at Swedish Hospital in Minneapolis.

Joe Jasczak is still trying to teach people to say his name.



Class of 1956

Sylvia Jensen is a piano teacher at the Northwest School, her most advanced pupil is Sharon Anne Earle.

Allene Johnson is running a diner in East Grand Forks.

Dennis Johnson has changed his name to Smith because there are so many Johnsons in the world.

Lindley Johnson is still paying fines in Warren.

Dean Kelm is smiling for tooth paste ads.

Pat Kirk is a winner of the national "Prettiest First Grade Teacher" award.

Jean Kowaliuk is building an aquarium for the Crookston Museum.

Russell Ladwig is trying to improve the left hook in the Smoke Gallery.

Fred Larson has just been promoted to P.F.C. in the National Guard.

Theone Larson is the Second Congresswomen from Minnesota.

Roger Loven is president of the Tip-Toppers Club.

Charles Mergenthal is married and is often seen at Northwest School music concerts.

Janice Michaelson is Miss America of 1966.

Richard Miller is president of General Motors Corporation.

Roger Moe is married and has family problems.

Marlys Molskness is chief telephone operator in Crookston.

Willaim Moser is running a restaurant in Fosston.

Claude Mosher has designed a new T shirt to be worn by wrestlers at the Northwest School.

Wesley Motschenbacher is selling livestock in Solberg's pavilion.

Alicia Nelson is chief fashion designer for Paramount Studios.

Arnold Nelson is an understudy for Mario Lanza.

Clarice Olson is a stenographer for the Orlon department in the DuPont Chemical Plant.

Curtis Olson has perfected a Studebaker that looks like a car.

Fred Ophus has a drive-in restaurant in Erskine.

Verland Orvis is still driving to Gilby.

John Peters has taken Wen Shew's place at the Maple Lake Pavilion.

Curtis Peterson replaces Mr. Whiting as social teacher.

Gerald Plante is a professional butcher.

William T. Rasmusson has written an article for Life Magazine about his middle initial T.

Gerald Roberts is a pitcher for the Mallory "Mudheads" kittenball team.

Malcolm Salisbury is a referee at Madison Square Garden.

Frank Sczepanski is manager of the Arthur Murry dance studios and has created a new step called the "Frankie Flop."

Muriel Stterholm is a foreign correspondent for Associated Press.

Ronald Sluka is a member of an outstanding unbeaten wrestling tag team.

Larry Solberg is an auctioneer at Winger Sales Pavilion.

Allan St. Germain is married and father of 10 kids. (five sets of twins)

Paul Suda has invented a new insecticide to prevent potato bugs.

Thomas Thompson is trying to find twin sisters for his brothers.

Leon Thoreson is running for state senator.

Harley Thureen has taken over the Dick Tracy comic strip; he gets his ideas for characters from former classmates.

Julian Trangsrud has written a wonderful book, I confess, in this book he reveals that he wore a wig during his high school year at the A.C.

Glenn Weber is farming near Fertile.

John Welberg is an amateur photographer and won the \$15 prize in picture magazine.

David Wheeler is president of the "Whiz" hot rodders' club.

Charles and Robert Zammert are farming near Euclid.

Kennith Ziegler is building a new road out to the Northwest School.

Class Prophecy



Alumni Spotlight

Martinus Stenseth

The Northwest School of Agriculture (NSWA) taught students lessons in many things. From orchestra to home management, poultry to debate, the NSWA made an educational difference in the lives of over 5,000 alumni. Our centennial celebration has given us reason to celebrate excellence. Alumni of the school have contributed to this region, country, and world in countless ways. The class of 1916 lays claim to a World War I Ace, his name was Martinus Stenseth. Nicknamed "Mart," Stenseth was from Heiberg, Minnesota (near Twin Valley) and was an active student at the Northwest School.

He not only enjoyed chorus, boys' glee club, and the mixed quartet, the 26 year old Stenseth was also an athletic instructor, coached basketball, and served as a drill master. He was not a "straight A" student either, Stenseth received Cs in physics, stock judg-

ing, and animal breeding, but his aces would come later in life and on much more serious tests. The June following his graduation from the NSWA, Stenseth enlisted in the Minnesota National Guard.

The summer he enlisted, WWI was already raging and in December, Stenseth would be accepted into the United States



Martinus Stenseth in his uniform.

Air Service. Following his training in October 1917, he was sent to France and stationed in Paris. In a conflict that would become known as The Great War, the NSWA lost seven young men.

Martinus Stenseth would be assigned to the 28th Pursuit Squadron in 1918. The yearbook included a note Stenseth wrote from France on October 6:

During the past two days, very few enemy aviators have been out on our sector. So many have been shot down the past week that I reckon they are a little shy. The other evening I had the good fortune to share in bringing one down. I am waiting confirmation of three others.

During that fall from September 26 to November 6, Stenseth would have six aerial victories and become one of Minnesota's four top aces of the war. The term "ace" was used when a pilot had achieved five aerial victories. In WWI, there were 108 American aces (<http://aeroweb.lucia.it/rap/RAFAQ/aces.html>).

In 1919, the *Northwest Monthly* kept everyone informed about our soldiers. This information appeared about, then lieutenant, Martinus Stenseth's record:

Lieutenant Martinus Stenseth has been officially named an Ace, having downed six Hun planes. This is a wonderful record. Minnesota has furnished two Aces, one of them being Martinus. We are all anxious to hear Lieutenant Stenseth give the details of these battles.

Stenseth piloted a Spad XIII, a powerful plane that was fast, but difficult to fly. ([\[drome.com\]\(http://drome.com\)\) He would later receive the Silver Cross and the Distinguished Service Cross, which was awarded to military personnel for extraordinary heroism.](http://www.theaero-</p>
</div>
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His Distinguished Service Cross citation read as follows:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Martinus Stenseth, First Lieutenant (Air Service), U.S. Army Air Service, for extraordinary heroism in action over the Argonne Forest, France, October 22, 1918. Lieutenant Stenseth went to the rescue of a French plane attacked by six enemy Fokker planes with twelve additional enemy planes hovering in reserve. Attacking the enemy with vigor, single handed, he drove down and destroyed one enemy plane and put to flight the remainder. His gallant act in the face of overwhelming odds proved an inspiration to the men of his squadron.

When the war was over, Stenseth was involved in the alumni association's decision to ask \$5.00 from every alumnus for the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial in 1920. That memorial still stands on the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) campus as it did in 1921 when it was dedicated.

Acing History - World War One Distinguished Service



Stenseth was not finished with his service to country following WWI, however. On January 25, 1920, he was assigned to the 147th Aero Squadron. He would serve in WWII as well. He was hailed as a hero and the NWSA heralded his achievements.

From the May 1943 *Northwest Monthly*:

Notice of the elevation in rank of Colonel Martinus Stenseth to Brigadier General was carried in the daily papers on May 18. Brigadier General Stenseth, a member of the class of 1916 and instructor in physical education and military training at the Northwest School, has made

a brilliant record in the United States Army Air Corps. While at Crookston, he was a member of the Minnesota National Guard and went with the company for training on the Mexican border in 1916. Just prior to the First World War, General Stenseth was sent to Fort Snelling Officers Training School and later to an air aviation ground school at Columbus, Ohio. During World War I, he was Minnesota's

highest ace with a record of six German planes, receiving the Silver Star and Distinguished Service Cross. He continued on with the United States air force in service in the United States and Philippine Islands. General Stenseth was, up until the time of his promotion, commanding officer of the Las Vegas Air Field in Texas. The Northwest School alumni, faculty, and friends of General Stenseth join in their congratulations to him for this signal honor.

That issue of the *Northwest Monthly* also recognized Stenseth's continuous service in an article paying tribute to all alumni serving during the Second World War.

At least two alumni, veter-

ans of World War I, are in active service. Brigadier General Martinus Stenseth has been in continuous service since 1916.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has a Web page dedicated to the 1995 induction of Martinus Stenseth into the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame:

Stenseth made the Air Corps his career and served overseas in Norway, Latvia and the Philippines as well as at several fields in the United States including Kelly, Langley, Selfidge, and the Washington D.C. air base. In the process, he rose to the rank of brigadier general. During World War II he was base commander of Las Vegas Field (now Nellis Air Force Base) from 1941-1943 and then commanded U.S. forces in Iceland. He retired in 1950.

While commanding the Las Vegas Field, Stenseth was responsible for the



Stenseth piloted a Spad XIII, a powerful plane that was fast, but difficult to fly. (Photo from: www.theaerodrome.com/aircraft/france/spad_xiii.html)

first aerial gunnery school established in the United States. He oversaw the school's creation and development of new methods for teaching aerial gunnery skills.

(www.nv.blm.gov/)

Martinus Stenseth died in 1979 and funeral services were held in Zion Lutheran Church in Twin Valley. He was 89 years old. If he were alive today, he would be a member of one of the honored classes at this year's reunion. However, since he is not here, his story will serve as a tribute to the class of 1916 and to all alumni who are no longer with us. Their memories live forever in our hearts.



MARTINUS STENSETH
Heiberg, Minn.

"Mart"

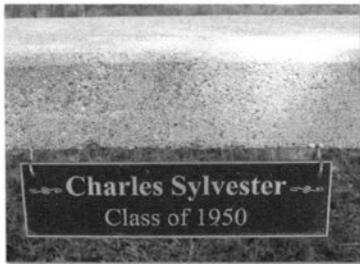
Chorus
Boys' Glee Club
Mixed Quartet
Athletic Instructor
Drill Master
Basket Ball Coach
1916 Debating Team
Y. M. C. A.

An ounce of performance is worth a pound of preachment.

Scholarship Spotlight

On May 6, Tara Sylvester graduated from the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC). She reached that milestone with the help of the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) Heritage Fund Scholarship. Tara is the granddaughter of NWSA alumnus Charles Sylvester '50.

In 1948, Charles qualified for Intermediate Swimmers recognition by



Charles Sylvester '50 donated one of the benches in the Memorial Gardens. The bench was a part of the original sunken garden area of the mall.

the Red Cross. E. F. Bennett, swimming instructor at the time, indicated that great progress had been made in swimming during the 1947-48 school year with twenty-three students qualifying as intermediates.

Tara is headed to France in late May as part of study abroad. She will be gone for four weeks

immersing herself in the language and the culture of the country.

During her time there, she will have an opportunity to choose an area in which she can focus. Hers will be either viticulture (grape breeding) or the culinary arts. A business management major, Tara is using study abroad to gain an understanding of another culture and complete her college career with a unique learning experience.

Born and raised in Crookston, Tara attended UMC because it was convenient. Her experience has been very positive, and when she looks back, she is happy she chose to attend school on the same campus her grandfather did. She was an orientation leader as a sophomore, a cheer team member as a freshman and sophomore, and played tennis as a senior along with participation on the Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC).

As a student, Tara understands the value of scholarship support and knows that the financial



Charles Sylvester from his class photo in the 1947 Aggie.

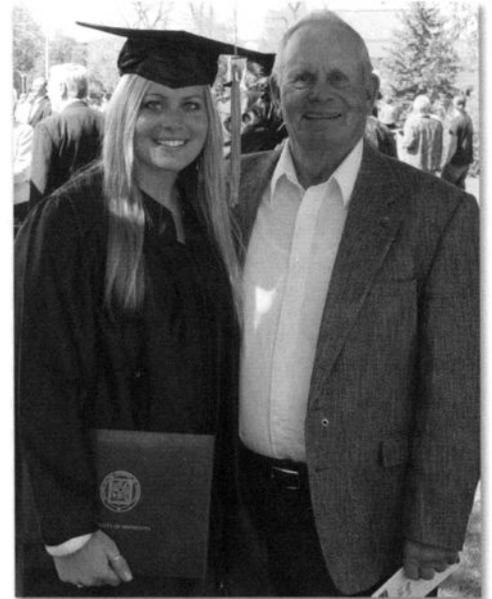
help makes a difference. She is happy to have the scholarship that the NWSA provided. "Scholarships are encouraging to students, and I know that no matter what your needs are, scholarships make a difference," Tara says, "For NWSA descendents, scholarships are a reminder of our heritage."

Another interesting thing about Tara is that she had a job waiting for her already when she graduated. She will begin working as a mortgage lender at Crookston National Bank when she returns from France. Job placement of students at UMC has a 94% rate.

This successful placement rate is a credit to the hands-on learning students receive; it prepares students for the work place. It actually resembles the hands-on learning style that NWSA students were exposed to when they were in school here.

Your support of

Tara Sylvester



Charles Sylvester '50 with his granddaughter, Tara, in her cap and gown following her graduation from UMC on May 6.

the NWSA Heritage Fund helps encourage students; your gifts change lives. If you would like more information on giving to the NWSA Heritage Fund, please contact Corby Kemmer at 218-281-8434 or 800-862-6466 extension 8434.



Tara Sylvester is sitting on the bench donated by her grandfather in the Memorial Gardens at UMC.

The Secret is in the “Fine Print”

Success means having the courage, the determination, and the will to become the person you believe you were meant to be.

- George Sheehan

In Grand Forks, ND, the flood of 1997, marks time, things happened either before the flood or after it. For Don and JoAnn Kuntz, owners of Fine Print of Grand Forks, Inc, the flood changed everything. It also made Don and JoAnn determined not to let the flood change them. Quality is a trademark in all they do, and they have come back bigger and better than ever.

Over the last few years, alumni and friends of the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) and the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) have encouraged our office with their positive comments on the quality of the Aggie and the Torch. These two alumni publications have the look and feel they do, because of the work of Fine Print. Don and JoAnn strive to keep their printing business on the cutting edge. The flood could have ended everything, but instead, it made them even better.

Prior to the flood, Fine Print was located down-

town, and the night that the dike could no longer hold back the floodwater, Don and his son, Kevin, hurried to their business to retrieve the hard drive from the computer that held their financial records. Eventually, the basement would be filled with water and 5½ feet of water would inundate the main floor. It would be six months before Fine Print would reopen in their current Gateway Drive location. It is hard to count all the people who believed in, and helped, Don and JoAnn re-build their business. It is nothing short of a miracle when you look at what happened in 1997 and where they are today.

At the time of the flood, Fine Print had 12 full-time employees, today, that number has grown to 30. Currently, Fine Print operates a six-color press, printing goes directly from computer to plate, and recently, they added a screen printing and embroidery business. Don and JoAnn have worked together for 23 years. “We work together very well,” Don says, “We are responsible for our own areas, and we try to keep our work and home life separate.” Together the two of them operate Fine Print. “It has been quite a ride,”

Don and JoAnn reflect. Through it all, the Kuntz family never gave up.

The highlight of Don and JoAnn’s work together was being named the North Dakota Small Business Persons of the Year in 2002. Winning meant a trip to Washington, D.C. to compete for the national

The two of them have a deep commitment to people and community. They have a soft heart for children and give to the Grand Forks Community Violence Intervention Center, as well as the Prairie Rose Games, and numerous other organizations and efforts. They offer a great deal of per-



Don and JoAnn Kuntz stand in front of their six-color press at Fine Print of Grand Forks, Inc. This press is just one of the reasons for the outstanding print production at Fine Print.

award and the opportunity to present before a congressional sub-committee. They took both of their sons, Kevin, who is the accountant at Fine Print and Jeff, who has worked part time for them while he pursued his degree at the University of North Dakota (UND). This spring, Don and JoAnn will have the pleasure of watching Jeff graduate summa cum laude from UND with a degree in meteorology.

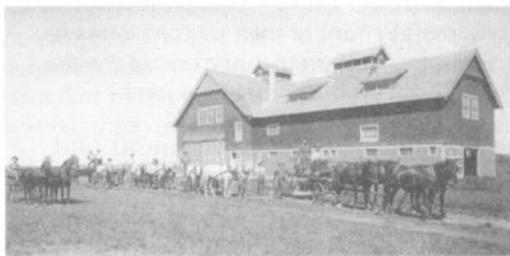
sonal involvement and company support to the region. Don and JoAnn support UMC through their contributions to Teambackers.

For more information about Fine Print and their services, please visit www.fineprintgf.com, and when you look through the Aggie, you will know who is behind it. Thanks Don, JoAnn, and everyone at Fine Print for your work to keep UMC alumni publications looking their best!

The Legacy Report

This report was written by Les Johnson, Director of Human Resources at UMC as part of his coursework for his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. It is a continuation of the portion appearing in the last issue of the Aggie.

Throughout the Northwest School of Agriculture's existence the school remained true to the land grant mission. On July 17, 1962, 300 farmers and guests gathered at the school to commemorate the centennial celebration of the Land Grant Act. Professor A. C. Hodson, head of the University of Minnesota's Department of Entomology, Fisheries, and Wildlife recognized the importance of the Morrill Land Grant acts.



He observed that the acts had established state colleges across the nation which promoted settlement of unoccupied land and developed scientific and technologic advances in farming which benefited the nation for a century. He praised the school's

continued land grant mission saying, "The Northwest School of Agriculture has served the Red River Valley well because it has been an arm of a land grant university" (*Northwest School News*, 1962, p. 4). As former Chancellor Sargeant explained, this commitment was passed down and continues to be treasured by the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) today. UMC continues the tradition of research and outreach designed to improve productivity and economic sustainability, benefiting all citizens of Minnesota, especially Northwestern Minnesota.

The NWSA niche was providing practical education that embraced technology and advanced methods to meet the utilitarian needs of agriculture, industry and business. The University of Minnesota, Crookston embraced that heritage when it developed the institution's current mission statement: "Our primary focus is on polytechnic education—a balance of theory and practical application—offering undergraduate instruction and career-oriented associate and baccalaureate degrees" (*University of*

Minnesota, Crookston 2003-2004 Catalog, p. 2).

Another important legacy is the institution's life long affiliation with the University of Minnesota. As both former Chancellor Donald Sargeant, and former student, Theodore Paul pointed out, students realized a huge advantage by enjoying access to the university's resources and reputation. The branding of the University of Minnesota continues to be a major marketing advantage for the institution.

UMC's most tangible inheritance from the Northwest School of Agriculture is the campus land which was donated by James Hill and the many buildings which were built in the early years. Many of these buildings are still in use today, including Owen Hall (1908), Kiehle Hall (1910), Robertson Hall (1910), Heating Plant (1913), Selvig Hall (1914), Physical Education Building (1930) and McCall Hall (1946). Every year, during the NWSA reunion, held at the UMC campus, alumni walk through the old buildings and reminisce. They feel

strong connections between their NWSA school experience and today's students. Former Chancellor Sargeant stated, "Today UMC is still true to James Hill's early vision. UMC's focus continues to be a practical and meaningful educational



and learning opportunity which includes an industry internship experience coupled with technology rich programs."

The newest legacy connecting the NWSA to UMC is the institutional logo. In celebration of its centennial, UMC developed a logo based on the traditional logo used for decades by the NWSA. The centennial logo incorporates the University of Minnesota, Crookston's "M," the NWSA's logo which had grains of wheat on each side of a crest of gold, the number "100" symbolizing a century of education and research excellence in the University of Minnesota's school familiar maroon and gold colors. The banner at the bottom marks

the beginning of the NWSA in 1906 to UMC's centennial year in 2006. Mike Meyer, former Director of Development and Alumni Relations said, "Our goal was to honor our roots and recognize the history of the Northwest School of Agriculture, acknowledge our close tie with the University of Minnesota, and show that we are the University of Minnesota, Crookston and will be for the next 100 years" (*The Aggie*, Fall 2004, p. 29). The influence of the NWSA can clearly be seen on the new logo.



Continuing from its early years as the Northwest School of Agriculture (NWSA) to today, the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) has successfully transitioned through a number of significant evolutionary stages. Over time, the institution has updated its mission as needed to meet the continually evolving needs of the region. Throughout the process, UMC has found strength in its historical roots of 1) providing a practical education which embraced the latest technology, 2) commitment to research, extension and outreach, 3) pro-

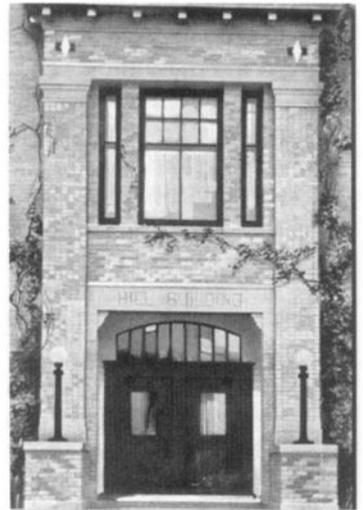
viding access to higher education to a rural population, 4) creating a niche market through commitment to student success by offering a rich array of quality student centered services, and 5) fulfilling the pragmatic needs of industry, business and technology. UMC maintains a beautiful campus with manicured lawns and artistic floral displays continuing traditions established early in the century. If T. A. Hoverstad, the school's first superintendent visited the campus today, he would reiterate the observation he made in July 1935, "I can say that the campus is one of the most beautiful in the Northwest. It has grown far beyond the dreams of those of us who were here during the early years" (Dowell, 1936).

UMC continues to cope with many of the same challenges the school faced throughout the twentieth century. The number of farm families is still declining, the population continues to shift from rural to urban, citizens are more mobile, technological advances continue to improve productivity in agriculture and industry, citizens demand higher levels of accountability from public institutions and the breadth of program degrees offered by the institution remains very limited. During each iteration of UMC's transformation, the institution invigorated the campus community and added

vitality and relevance as times changed. UMC evolved from the roots of the NWSA and flourished towards the end of the Twentieth Century. At the beginning of the new century, UMC will again need to reach back into its heritage and evolve once again to meet the changing needs of the region. Success will come from continuing to provide practical and technologically advanced approaches to help rural America cope with the evolving impact of globalization. Donald Sargeant may have summed it up best when he said, "The NWSA experience forever changed the lives of its students. When I attend NWSA reunions, alumni clearly recognize the positive impact the school had on their lives, families and communities. They want to see the legacy of NWSA continue for the benefit of current and future generations."

The University of Minnesota, Crookston was impacted by what came before. UMC owes a large debt to the visionary com-

munity leaders, supportive legislators, effective administrators and dedicated faculty and staff who served the needs of Minnesota through the Northwest School of Agriculture. Maintaining continuity with the past continues to



extend the institution's values, traditions and heritage into the future. UMC's future success will depend upon its ability to build on its strengths, offer wider selection of career oriented program degrees, leverage technology, improve efficiencies and successfully adjust to evolving market realities.

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Class Notes

Grant E. Peterson '44, Adv '45

Mankato, MN

Grant worked 35 years as a teacher, principal, and media director at Adams (Southland) High School.

Edward Pavек '48

Waubun, MN

Edward has the utmost praise for the Northwest School of Agriculture and states the atmosphere and the teachers were superb. Edward farmed southeast of Waubun with his dad. In 1962 he married Dolores Preisler and they later had two daughters. They purchased the farm home and still reside there. Their farm consists of 560 acres and they raised Herford and Holstein cattle. He is involved in the St. Ann's Catholic Church and was a trustee for 15 years. He has served as president of the Waubun Area Men's Organization for two years and was Grand Knight of the Mahnomen Knights of Columbus Council for 2 years. Presently he is serving their Council as financial secretary which he has done for 8 years. Edward also writes a news column for their Knights of Columbus newsletter. When the weatherman mentions the fact of 34 degrees in Crookston on March 7, 1948, he also remembers the later part of March when there was two inches of water on the campus.

Willard Brunelle '49

Crookston, MN

Willard was awarded the Good Neighbor of the North Award, a monthly awarded given by KROX Radio in Crookston. Willard and his wife, Joanne, have been married for 53 years. They have five children, 21 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.



Lyle Kasprick '50

Orono, MN

Lyle will receive The Sioux Award from the University of North Dakota (UND) Alumni Association at a banquet on May 25. The Sioux Award is the highest honor bestowed to alumni from the UND Alumni Association. Lyle and his wife, Kathleen, reside in Orono, MN.



In Memory

E. Norman Lorentson '29

Fosston, MN

February 21, 2006

Beatrice Skrove '33

Fergus Falls, MN

October 9, 2005

Adelore Cota att '39-'40

February 11, 2006

Frank Phillips '40

West Lake, OH

March 25, 2006

Robert Wood '43

Warren, MN

April 13, 2006

Melborne "Mel" Schroeder att '45-'47

Grand Forks, ND

February 5, 2006

Gaylan Eisert '48

Moorhead, MN

February 13, 2006

Duane Peppin '52

Grand Forks, ND

February 25, 2006

Gene Hovland '53

Minot, ND

February 11, 2006

Raymond Baatz '55

Nielsville, MN

March 9, 2006

Willard "Willie" Loing '55

Grand Forks, ND

April 12, 2006

Arlynn Seaton '60

Crookston, MN

February 8, 2006

Paul D. Pederson '67

St. Cloud, MN

May 10, 2006

Mrs. Lois Pulkrabek

East Grand Forks, MN

March 29, 2006

Mrs. Pulkrabek was the wife of Ted Pulkrabek who was the Veteran's Instructor under the GI program on campus from 1947-1951. They lived in Stephens Hall and were dormitory preceptors during that time. Ted is also deceased.

Ardis Thompson

Erskine, MN

Saturday, May 6, 2006

Ardis passed away at the First Care Nursing Home in Fosston, following a courageous fight against cancer. Ardis was well known for her welcoming smile and genuine warmth and caring in the alumni office. She worked with the Northwest School of Agriculture alumni for many years and cherished how Northwest School alumni made her a part of their family. Ardis will be deeply missed.

Memorial Gifts

The NWSA Heritage Fund accepts memorial contributions honoring departed alumni, friends and loved ones. If you wish to honor an individual, please make your gift to the NWSA Heritage Fund and send it to our office and we will notify the family that our office has received of a memorial gift. Please consider your alumni association family for future memorial gifts.

Pasque Flower — *First in the Spring, First Ever in the Youngquist Prairie at UMC*

Join us for Youngquist Prairie Garden dedication at the NWSA Reunion!

The pasque flower is making an appearance for the first time in the Youngquist Prairie Garden at the UMC. Located just outside the "Prairie Room" of the new Student Center, the garden is welcoming its first spring since native prairie plants were put in last fall by UMC students led by Natural Resources Department Head Dan Svedarsky. Community members are encouraged to stop by UMC for a look.

Established in fall of 2005, the Prairie Garden is divided into three unique sections to represent the spectrum of conditions found in the Northern Great Plains: dry, mesic (or moist), and wet prairie.

A sure sign of spring across much of the northern prairies, the pasque is already in full flower on the dry prairie. Pasque flower is one of the first native flowers to bloom after the snowmelt. They prefer dry prairies, especially gravelly hilltops and south-facing slopes where vegetation is low and sparse. Pasque flower stalks, growing between 2-6 inches, are densely covered in silky hairs that protect the plants from spring frosts and occasional late snowfall. A spring walk on a gravelly prairie reveals sprinkles of light blue petals with yellow clusters of stamens. The flowers generally finish flowering by the end of April and produce feathery extensions of



Pasque flower in the dry prairie of Youngquist Prairie Garden.

seeds in mid-May which are dispersed by the wind.

The name "pasque" comes from the French word for Easter, indicating that the plants are often in flower at this time of year. They are unique – sending up flowers even before they develop leaves. The state flower of South Dakota and provincial flower of Manitoba, the plant has many names: "prairie smoke," "May flower," and "prairie crocus." The genus name, *Anemone*, actually means wind flower. The species name, *patens*, means spreading, or literally, "spread by the wind." The latter name may have been applied by early settlers who had planted domestic *Crocus* in Europe and noted that they were the first to pop up in the spring. The Lakota name, "hosi' cekpa," translates as

"child's navel" and is descriptive of the unopened flower buds resembling a newborn's navel before it heals. Melvin Gilmore, in his book, *Prairie Smoke*, claims that people of the Arikara Nation would sometimes include pasque flowers in a spring-time ceremony.

The story goes that a holy cedar tree was floated down the Missouri River carrying worn-out baby moccasins and pasque flowers to notify down stream villages that the Nation was still alive and well.

Varieties of pasque flowers are widespread in North America in open areas, even in the tundra and in mountain meadows up to 10,000

feet. The plant also grows in limestone pastures in central and northern Europe and open areas of Russia. Greek legend has it that it sprang from the tears of Venus and the early physician, Dioscorides recommended its use for cataracts and other ailments.

UMC's Youngquist Prairie Garden was named to honor Bernie and Bernice Youngquist. Bernie Youngquist, the last superintendent of the Northwest School of Agriculture (the forerunner of UMC) championed the conservation of the prairie and natural history research. Native prairie plantlets were donated by Prairie Restorations, Inc. of Princeton, MN.

Natural history notes were provided by UMC Student Luke Wittkop, Hugo, MN, who will begin work with Prairie Restorations, Inc. after graduation in May 2006.



Youngquist Prairie Garden (November 2005) in front of the new Student Center. From left, David Youngquist, son of Bernie Youngquist; Bernie Youngquist, and Natural Resources Dept. Head and Professor Dan Svedarsky.

**WE'RE WAITING
TO HEAR THAT
YOU ARE
COMING TO
THE REUNION!**

June 23 & 24, 2006

*Join your friends and
classmates at the
reunion this summer!
Plan now to attend!*



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