

Aggie News

Volume 10 Issue 1

January 2007



From The Editor:

Greetings Classmates,

The good news is that in this issue we have an announcement that we will be establishing an office on the school campus. The bad news is that the percentage of alumnus that help support the alumni association with payment of annual membership dues remains very small. Please take note of the Urgent Notice below so that we may continue to meet here again via this newsletter

Charlie Main Class of '56

In This Issue:

Page 1: From The Editor – In This Issue – Urgent Notice

Page 2: Alumni Library Fund – 501(c)(3) Status - Alumni Office

Page 3: News From The Classes – Teachers and Staff

Page 4: Deceased Classmates

Page 5: Reunion News – Record-Breaking Enrollment – Family Day Picnic

Page 6: History Corner – In The Spotlight

Page 7: Membership Registration Form

Urgent Notice:

As you all know, membership dues and donations provide the only funding for our alumni association. Our expenses include office expenses, maintaining our web site, the printing and mailing of this newsletter and scholarships for Essex Aggie's graduating class.

The number of paid memberships has not kept up with the increasing cost of printing and mailing of the newsletter and therefore we must consider discontinuing its publication. It is not an option that we look forward to but if the current rate of paid memberships continues we will be forced to consider shutting it down. We feel that the newsletter provides a valuable service by keeping everyone informed about school and alumni news and have received many encouraging comments about what we are doing. Unfortunately, those expressions of approval have not been followed up with paid membership dues.

We are proud of what we have been able to accomplish since the alumni association was reborn in 1997. Our web site offers many features of interest to former grads and helps us all get back together and keep in touch. Our scholarship program has provided assistance to deserving students and we hope to expand that program. Our newsletter provides an additional means of keeping everyone informed.

We ask that everyone consider taking a moment this month to send in a check to the alumni association for 2007 membership dues. \$20.00 spent on just one meal at a restaurant will soon be forgotten but a \$20.00 check for Essex Aggie Alumni Association membership dues will go a very long way and will last for an entire year.

Joe LaBonte '58 & Charlie Main '56

Alumni Library Fund:

The Essex Aggie Alumni Library Fund was established in 1987 to provide Aggie students with scholastic equipment or materials to benefit the education of Aggie high school and college students.

Acquisitions have included reading and reference material, scanner, copier, computer and computer accessories.

Debra Murphy, Head Librarian and Information Literature Teacher, shows her latest acquisitions, a television monitor and a DVD/VHS player.



Bob Gaudet '56

501 (c) (3) Tax Exempt Status:

After considerable efforts by our alumni treasurer, the mountain of rules, regulations and forms has been climbed and we have been approved by the Internal Revenue Service as an official 501 (c) (3) income tax exempt organization. All donations to your alumni association will be tax deductible. This will be beneficial to both donors and the association as we move forward to expand our scholarship program and other worthy projects.

Alumni Office:

Due to the efforts of Bob Gaudet '56 we are happy to announce that we will be establishing an alumni office on the school campus. Bob is working with Superintendent, Helen Hegarty and Head Librarian, Debra Murphy, to set up an area that we can call home. It has been many years since we had a presence on campus and we are excited about this opportunity.

The Alumni corner will be in the school library, in an area of prominence, next to the entry way. This location will provide us with a base of operations and also will enable close contact with students, teachers & staff where we can ask and answer questions and distribute alumni related material. The office volunteers will pick up our mail and distribute it to the proper parties. We intend to furnish the office with alumni documents, class yearbooks and photos.

The Aggie Alumni thanks Helen Hegarty and Debra Murphy for making this office available. This generous opportunity will give students the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the alumni missions such as scholarships, class reunions, activities and school history.

What we need now are volunteers to man the office. Bob Gaudet '56, Michael Gaudette '74 and Tom Blair '81, have offered to help man the office on a regular basis to pick up and distribute mail, etc. We still need more volunteers to be put on a rotating schedule. If anyone who lives within a reasonable distance to the campus would like to help out they can contact any of the above three office committee members or alumni secretary Charlie Main '56 to be added to the office staff.

Charlie Main '56

All alumni correspondence can now be sent to our new address.

**Essex Agricultural & Technical High School
Attn: Essex Aggie Alumni Association
562 Maple Street, P.O. Box 362
Hathorne, MA 01937**

News from the Classes:

Laura (Fairbanks) Senter Class of 1955

We received this photo of Laura (Fairbanks) Senter and her husband Larry. They live in Moab, Utah and do quite a bit of traveling. This photo was taken on their recent trip to Crater Lake National Park.



Crystal Galloway Class of 1999

Crystal Galloway married Andrew Arnott of Amesbury on August 26 in Newburyport, Massachusetts.



Teachers and Staff:

While traveling down the Internet Highway recently we came across an article about Joyce Pote on the Essex Regional Retirement Board web site.

Joyce worked for 20 years in the cafeteria at the Essex Agricultural School. Many will also remember her husband Phil Pote, a class of 1955 graduate who was the school's Farm Superintendent for many years. Together they lived in the yellow house near the fruit stand, originally built for the blacksmith.

Joyce worked for the school from 1972 to 1992 and Phil was there for 38 years, beginning as herdsman in 1957 and retiring as Superintendent in 1995.

Retirement meant the couple had to leave the house that the school provided, so they headed to their West Newfield, Maine vacation place as their permanent home, where they did all the things retired couples do until Phil passed away in 2001.

"Living in the superintendent's house was like living in a fish bowl," she remembers. On snowy days the school's office would be closed and the telephone operator stayed home. So the phone rang at their house and she became the "no school today" voice to caller after caller while tending to her own three young children.

One of Joyce's three children, Ellen, and her husband live in Sedona, Arizona, where he is a contractor. Her son-in-law built her a home nearby in the town of Lake Montezuma, Arizona, and that's where she lives today.

In addition to daughter Ellen Farnsworth in Sedona, daughter Deborah Grover is in Maine and son Clifford lives in Winthrop. She now has three grandchildren and is having a great time!

We rely on submissions from our readers to support this page of the newsletter. Please send news and photos of your activities to the editor at: cmain@gwi.net or 643 Main Road, Phippsburg, ME 04562

Deceased Classmates:

Bernard C. Carleton, Class of 1934

HAVERHILL - Mr. Bernard C. Carleton, 92, of Haverhill, and formerly of West Newbury, died Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2006 at Wingate of Haverhill.

He was born in Haverhill, Dec. 10, 1914, son of the late Ralph and Josephine (McKeon) Carleton.

He was educated in the Haverhill Public Schools, and was a graduate of Essex Aggie Agricultural School, Class of 1934.

During the 1950's, he owned and operated a poultry farm in West Newbury and had an egg route in the Haverhill area. Prior to his retirement in 1968, he had been employed for over 25 years as an inspector at the Haverhill Paperboard Co., and later worked for Hampshire Manufacturing.

Mary Ann (Panebianco) Fowler, Class of 1952

SALISBURY - Mary Ann (Panebianco) Fowler, 71, of Salisbury, died Tuesday evening, Oct. 3, 2006 at Anna Jaques Hospital in Newburyport, after a long battle with cancer.

Born in Lawrence, July 25, 1935, she was the daughter of the late John and Mary T. Panebianco. A lifelong resident of Lawrence, she attended Rollin Grammar School and graduated from Essex County Homemaking School in Danvers, with the class of 1952.

Amy (Bruce) Bruce, Class of 1976

CARATUNK - Amy M. (Bruce) Bruce, 47, formerly a longtime resident of Essex, Mass., and wife of Robert D. "Joe" Bruce Jr., died Tuesday, June 20, 2006, in her Caratunk, Maine home.

Born in Gloucester, Mass., July 20, 1958, daughter of Gladys (Mears) of Essex and the late Robert A. Bruce, she was raised in Essex and was a graduate of the Essex Agricultural and Technical High School. Married in 1980 at the First Congregational Church of Essex, the Bruces lived for several years in Fryeburg, before making Caratunk their home.

Amy was a stay-at-home mom and was a self-employed seamstress known as "The Amy Bruce

Workroom." She made custom drapes and slipcovers, working for various interior designers in Maine. Her first love was her family and her greatest passion was her garden. She enjoyed spending time cultivating her flowers and vegetables. She was a member of the First Congregational Church of Bingham, the Rapid Rippers, the Quilter's Guild, the National Affiliation of the Mentally Ill, and for many years she served as the Caratunk Town Treasurer.

Amy was killed in her home June 20. Her 24 year old son, William, who suffers from mental illness, has been charged in her death.

Ronald E. Meuse, (Staff)

SALEM, NH - Ronald E. Meuse, 74, a veteran and the owner of Claron Farm in Salem, NH, died Saturday morning, April 1, 2006 following a courageous five year battle with cancer. He was the husband of Claire M. (Cidado) Meuse, who died January 7, 2002.

He was born in Winchester, MA, on October 12, 1931, a son of the late Stephen and Edith (Day) Meuse. He had lived in Salem since 1954.

He graduated U.N.H. in Durham, and taught in the Nashua, NH, public school system for more than twenty years.

Ron taught Botany, Plant Science and Vegetable Gardening in the 1960s.

He retired from teaching to devote full time to the operations at the farm and greenhouse business that he and his late wife founded and operated. The name of the farm was the contraction of his and his wife's name, "Claron Farm." The farm was well known for the self-pick strawberry and raspberry patch, along with flower and vegetable seedlings sold to the public.

We rely on submissions from our readers to support this page of the newsletter. If you hear of any deceased classmates please send any available info to the editor at: cmain@gwi.net or 643 Main Road, Phippsburg, ME 04562

Reunion News:

Class of 1956

In September 2006 the class of '56 met for their 50th year reunion at the Bates-Morse Mountain Conservation Area at Small Point in Phippsburg, Maine. We had 21 guests who came from Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Virginia, Kentucky, Wisconsin and Florida.

The reunion took place from Saturday evening thru Wednesday. We were able to provide lodging on the premises for anyone who requested it. Many of the guests stayed overnight and there was plenty of time for get-togethers and talking over old times.

The main event was a catered Maine Lobster Bake done in the traditional way with the food cooked in seaweed over a wood fire. On the second day we chartered a boat and enjoyed a cruise around the local waters. Some of us were also able to take advantage of the hiking and beach facilities in the area.

An extensive collection of photos of the reunion can be found on the alumni web site on the Reunions page.

Charlie Main '56



This is the only reunion report that we received this year. Reunion organizers: Please send us a report of your event so that they may be published in the newsletter and on the web site.

Record-breaking Enrollment

Essex Aggie opened its doors last September with the largest number of students in its history. This year there are 451 students enrolled at the school. Another continuing trend is the increase of female students. This year there are 307 girls enrolled which comprises 70 percent of the student body.

The programs at the Aggie seem to be attracting more young ladies as they evolve. The vocation of farming has diminished over the years as other agricultural fields such as natural resources and landscaping have grown.

Animal science is still the most popular program at the school and is geared more toward veterinary technical and agribusiness management courses.

Alumni Family Day Picnic:

There has been a recent discussion among the alumni board of directors concerning the possibility of organizing an alumni-sponsored family day picnic. This could be a one time affair or an annual event if there is enough interest.

A survey was sent out via e-mail Aggie Gram last November to solicit opinions on the project to see if there was enough interest for such an event. The survey was sent out to all those for which we have a valid e-mail address on file. It was sent to 685 people and we got back 19 replies. Of the 19 replies, 12 people included contact information so that they could be part of the planning committee or be part of any volunteer work required.

The number of replies and the number of volunteers would indicate that interest in having the alumni association organize a Family Day Picnic is limited. The idea has not been dropped however and anyone who did not receive the survey can still let us know what they think about the idea.

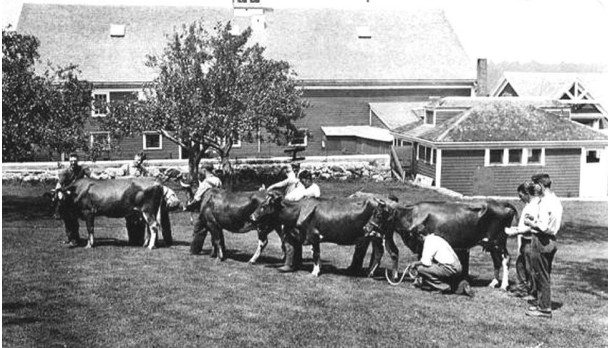
We have 1,095 people who are registered with the alumni association. Of that 1,095 we had only 102 paid memberships in 2006. Lets put a stop to that situation with a paid membership for 2007

History Corner:

Dairy Department in the 1930s

Instructor John Eastwood conducting a class in Cattle Judging. Year of photo unknown.

John "Doc" Eastwood was a class of 1917 grad.



Chester Ellis, Class of 1932 showing the herd bull.



Chester Ellis cleaning up the school barn.



We still need historic memorabilia and photographs for the alumni archives. If you have photos that were taken on campus please send them in. They don't even have to be old photos. If a picture was taken yesterday it will be an old photo someday!

In The Spotlight:

Kent Martin, Class of 1960

Kent Martin has just released a new CD "Love Emotions". Kent started singing in church, as a young boy, and continues to this day, whenever asked. In his late teens, Kent was a song stylist and soloist with the US Army Special Services. For nearly three years he was on constant call to perform for top dignitaries at bashes for White House guests at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He also did five command performances for First Lady, Lady Byrd Johnson. When not called to perform at the Officers' Club, Kent had plenty of time to develop a reputation as a solid performer at the local piano bars. He developed a special affection for the songs of the thirties and forties, because of the great stories they told.

He has also been a member of the International Champion Quartet, (The Boston Common), for 35 years, and has traveled to a dozen different countries. He has also done solo work, and sung with his quartet in all 48 contiguous states. The quartet has sung in the finest halls in the world, including NYC's Carnegie Hall, Canada's National Performing Arts Center, as well as the Boston Pops, and the Portland Symphony. Although Kent is a Master Carpenter by trade, his lifelong love of music is in his soul. For that reason, this CD project was done. Contact Kent for info:

themastercarpenter@cfl.rr.com



Essex Aggie Alumni Association Membership Registration Form 2007

**Membership dues for 2007 will be \$20.00
\$5.00 for Junior Membership (current students)
(Term of membership is Jan 1 to Dec 31)
Please fill out the form below
We need your support**



Member Name and Address: (Please Print)

Class of _____ () High School Division () College Division

First Name _____ Maiden Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____ Cell Phone () _____

E-Mail _____ Spouse Name _____

Please register my membership for 2007

I am enclosing my check for \$20.00 for 2007 Membership: \$ _____

I am enclosing my check for \$5.00 for 2007 Junior Membership: \$ _____

In addition, I would like to donate to the Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

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

Total amount enclosed for membership & donations: \$ _____

**Check should be made out to: Essex Aggie Alumni
Mail this form to: Essex Agricultural & Technical High School
Attn: Essex Aggie Alumni Association
562 Maple Street, P.O. Box 362
Hathorne, MA 01937**

The Aggie News

Essex Agricultural & Technical High School

Attn: Essex Aggie Alumni Association

562 Maple Street, P.O. Box 362

Hathorne, MA 01937

"Getting old friends and classmates together"

www.essexaggie.org