Aggie News

Volume 8 Issue 2

From The Editor:

Greetings Classmates,
This year, in the month of December there will be an election for alumni officers and directors who will be serving for the years 2006 and 2007. Anyone who is interested in volunteering for officer or director positions are urged to make it known to the President or the Secretary so that their names can be placed before the nominating committee. To be eligible to be on the ballot and to vote for officers and directors you must be a paid member of the alumni association.

Charlie Main Class of ’56

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2005 Alumni Scholarship Award:
The 2005 Essex Aggie Alumni Scholarship was awarded to graduating senior Kerry Giakoumis of Saugus. The $500 scholarship, to be used for college tuition or books, was awarded to Miss Giakoumis as the winner of a 500 word essay contest. The subject of the essay was: "If you were to write about one teacher that greatly influenced your years at the Aggie, please tell us the teacher you choose and how they influenced you as an individual and in continuing your education." There were seven entrants in the contest. The teacher Miss Giakoumis chose to write about was Ms. Donahue. All the entrants to the contest were worthy of the award and it was with much difficulty that the scholarship committee chose a winner.

Alumni Logo:
We recently sent out an inquiry to find out if there were any alum with graphic artist skills who would be willing to redesign our alumni logo to reflect the current name of the organization. We were pleased to have received four different designs and will be using all of them for various applications such as return address labels, letterhead, web site logo, etc. Thanks to Joshua Sneed ’94, Ken Elwell ’75, Justin Regan (Nephew of Don Cyr ’56) and Barbara (Russell) Keenan (Daughter of Ed Russell ’43) for their designs.

Currently under consideration is a plan to utilize our new logo for production of various articles for sale such as hats, tee shirts, mugs, etc.
Feature Article:

Letter from Harold M. Kelly
(This is a letter that we received last summer from Harold Kelly, who passed away at age 83 in January 2005)

Harold M. Kelly
9 Summer Street, Apt 317
Danvers, Mass 01923

August 17, 2004

Charles Main
Essex Aggie Alumni Association
643 Main Road
Phippsburg, Maine 04562

Dear Mr. Main.

My name is Harold “Bud” Kelly, class of 1939 (entrance). The names that I mention below are my personal opinion. First, I knew every Director. Mr. Smith, Mr. Mostrom, Mr. Gallant, and finally Ray Potter.

The outstanding gentlemen that I knew as teachers, were as follows: Mr. Gallant, Mr. Brown, Major Thurlow, Mr. Clark, Mr. Eastwood, Joe Wood, Fred Chase, Mr. Lee, Mr. Costa, Mr. Stearns, Mr. Couhig, Mr. Ranta, Mr. Wright, Mr. Metcalf, and Mr. Oclair.

This is the list of teachers that I considered dedicated to Essex Aggie. There were some other fine teachers of short duration, who left to pursue their dreams. I’m glad Mr. Gallant was recognized for the new high school, new science building and the associate school across the street. Four agricultural classrooms were set up at no cost to the taxpayer, during Mr. Gallant’s term.

Two men, who have never been recognized for outstanding duty, were Richard Brown, who established most of the scholarship funds, and Phil Couhig, our athletic director, who coached all sports after hours on his own time.

Also, deserving of recognition is Lucille Haynes, Secretary-Treasurer of the Alumni Association in the early 1950’s, who raised enough money at an auction for the Alumni to sponsor the field house. Lucille’s husband, Forrest Haynes, was a herdsman at the school at the time and I recently discovered that he is still with us.

In closing this short message, there is one other gentleman who should be mentioned, Mr. Ralph Minichello. Ralph thought that 54 hours was a short week of work and he was always early to work!

Sincerely,

Harold M. Kelly
Harold “Bud” Kelly
Retired Chairman Plant Science Department
News From The Classes:

Charles Bonanno Class of 1955
Hello! It’s Charlie Bonanno from the class of 1955. I grew up in Methuen on our family farm. My father sold the farm to his brother two years after I graduated from the Aggie. The farm is still in the family and is in full operation today.

After the farm was sold I went to work at Elm Farm Foods as a meat cutter-manager for 10 years, then the company went out of business. At that time my in-laws owned and operated a family diner called Mary’s Lunch for many years and decided to retire. My wife and I ran the diner for 19 years. Eventually we outgrew the old building and we built a larger modern restaurant on the same lot which was named Mamma Mary’s. After 37 years in the restaurant business, we finally retired on Jan. 12, 2004 and sold the family business.

I have been married to my wife Elaine for 46 years. We have two daughters and one son and five grandchildren. I still live in Methuen on Bonanno Court on the same street where I was born.

I feel the experience and knowledge I learned from the Aggie has played a big part in my life. My son is a graduate from the Aggie Culinary Arts College. He was a great help to our restaurant.

I hope the new vocational school will be underway very soon. It is desperately needed.

I was very sorry to read of Dick Brown’s death. We kept in touch over the years. My sympathy to the Brown family.

Charlie Bonanno

Ken Wonoski Class of 1974
Anyone who has seen this year’s Beverly National Bank calendar will notice that four of the months contain photos by Ken’s wife Karen. One of her photos, used for the month of April is an outstanding picture of the Aggie.

Brian Levasseur Class of 1977
Brian was recently awarded a Doctor of Education Degree from Argosy University/University of Sarasota, Florida. His Major was Educational Leadership. Concentration: Higher Education Admin.

Florence (Hemingway) Davis Class of 1963
After a Spring in the Arizona desert Florence and her husband Howard Davis will be spending this summer at Gross Ventre Campground in the Grand Teton National Park. As always, they welcome visits from any Aggie people who happen to be in the area.

Michael Bourgault Class of 1971

Mike Bourgault and his wife Beth while visiting friends in Claremont, New Hampshire last fall.

Ralph Cahalane Class of 1961
Ralph has been located in Quebec for the past 8 years where he was the Engineering Manager at the Goodyear Canada tire plant. Since last April he has been relocated to Montlucon, France at Goodyear’s Dunlop plant and is currently their Production/Maintenance Manager.
Deceased Classmates:
Alexander J. Swiniarski Class of 1930
DANVERS — Alexander J. Swiniarski 94, of Water St., a 53-year Danvers resident, died Wednesday, May 4, 2005, at Beverly Hospital. He was the husband of Mildred (Pappalardo) Swiniarski.

Born in Upton, he was the son of the late John and Ann (Stanezewski) Swiniarski. He received his primary education in the Peabody school system and was a graduate of the Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute of Danvers, class of 1930. Mr. Swiniarski had been employed for 30 years as the caretaker at the New England Home for the Deaf in Danvers until his retirement in 1982. Mr. Swiniarski was also very active in the Massachusetts Horticultural Society; North Shore Horticulture Society; Horticultural Club of Boston; The Grange of Danvers; North American Gladiolus Society; The Essex Agricultural Society; and was a lifetime committee member for the Topsfield Fair.

Alexander is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, John and Mimi Swiniarski of Beverly; a daughter and son-in-law, Ann and George Chandler of Danvers; a sister, Mary Bishop of Topsfield; a sister-in-law, Mary Pariseau of Danvers; four grandchildren, Holly and her husband, Greg Legault, of Woburn, Carrie and her husband, Larry Meyers, of Lancaster, Pa., Andy and his wife, Amy Swiniarski, of Lynn and Wendy Chandler of Concord, N.H.; four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by two brothers, John and his wife, Beatrice Swiniarski, and Thomas Swiniarski; and a sister, Jennie Michalczyk.

Expressions of sympathy may be made in Alexander's memory to the Essex Agricultural and Technical School Scholarship Fund, 562 Maple St., Hathorne, MA 01937-0362.

Remembering
Richard M. Brown Class of 1934

Remembering
Harold M. Kelly Class of 1934

Margaret F. (Dotolo) Cipolla
Friday, January 21, 2005

LAWRENCE -- Margaret F. (Dotolo) Cipolla, 61, died yesterday at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. She was a professor of cosmetology at North Shore Community College and Essex Aggie. A Danvers resident most of her life, Mrs. Cipolla received her bachelor's degree from Fitchburg State College and her master's degree in education from Cambridge College. She moved to Lawrence in 1988 and was a member of First United Methodist Church in North Andover. She leaves her husband James Cipolla; mother Margaret (Addario) Dotolo of Plymoutth; daughter Janet Caron and her husband Lawrence of Manchester, N.H.; brother Joseph Dotolo of Plymouth; two grandchildren; and a niece and nephew.

Peter N. Whelton
CAPE CORAL, Fla. - Peter N. Whelton, 66, died early Saturday morning, Jan. 30, 2005, in Cape Coral following a long illness with cancer. He was the husband of the late Linda Bendel-Whelton. Born in Salem, Mass., he was the son of the late Salem police Lt. John Joseph and Emily (Norton) Whelton. He was raised in Salem and graduated from Salem High School. After high school, Mr. Whelton attended Boston College until he left to serve in the U.S. Army. He was stationed in Berlin, Germany as a translator for three years until his discharge.

He worked as a mathematics teacher at Essex Agricultural and Technical High School in Hathorne, Mass. After earning tenure, he headed the math department for several years. Mr. Whelton served as the secretary-treasurer of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers for many years and most recently worked as a conciliator for the state of Massachusetts.
Reunion News:

Classes of the 30s, 40s, & 50s
Essex County Agricultural School & Essex County Homemaking School Year 2005 Class Reunion
A Multi-Decade Reunion for all classes of the 1930s + 1940s + 1950s will be held Saturday, October 1, 2005 - 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm - To be held at the Andover Chateau Restaurant - 131 River Road, Andover, MA. Contact Alice Henning ’56 or Lillian Seaborne-Smith ’56 for info.

Reservation forms are available by contacting Charlie Main ’56 or via download from the alumni web site.

Class of 1980
Hello to all my 1980 classmates. The reunion date is July 16 2005, at Angelicas Restaurant in Middleton, MA. Time will be 11:00-4:00PM. You can take a look at the menu at www.angelicas-online.com. The address is 49 South Main Street at the corner of 114 and 62. The cost will vary by menu item. They have a great selection with soup salad and desert from about $20.00-$26.00. Also + 5% tax and 18% house charge that covers gratuity. An all-cash bar will cost $35.00 for the bartender so we split that.

I put down the deposit of $160.00 to hold the date and time. If you would like to go I do need to know a minimum number of people by July first. Also would like a $10.00 deposit by July first. This is sure to be fun so bring the family if you like. If you know of anyone’s location so we can invite them please have them get in touch with me.

Ken White
1280 Belgian Trail, Elizabeth, Colorado 80107
303-646-5909  kjetfixer@juno.com

Class of 1996
The class of 1996 celebrated a reunion on April 30, 2005, at the Elks club in Lawrence. Originally, it was scheduled to be a multiyear reunion that would explain why it was only nine years. We had over sixty-five classmates and guests in attendance. We also had a 50/50 raffle to benefit the alumni and raised seventy-five dollars.

Michelle Mercier ’96

News From The School:

Senior Class Graduation
Graduation exercises for the class of 2005 took place June 9th. Eighty five graduating students representing 27 different communities marched into the large tent on the front lawn of the school to accept their diplomas. There was much loud laughter, cheers and applause heard emanating from the tent that day where many proud parents and students gathered to celebrate the graduation of this year's seniors from a proud school.

Educator of the Year
Charles Saulnier, Head of the Environmental Science Department has been named Educator of the Year during the Massachusetts Envirothon held at the campus.

"It was the school that made it possible. Essex Aggie gave me the opportunity to create this new department and the freedom to develop the "expeditionary learning" model, which may be why I won the award," he said. "The program is unique, because the school is unique."
History Corner:

Letter from Harold M. Kelly
(This is another letter we received from Harold Kelly before his passing. It provides some interesting and valuable historical information).

August 17, 2004
Dear Mr. Main,

I thought you might enjoy a little information about our orchards at Essex Aggie. I was involved from 1939 to 1979.  
The Railroad Orchard in back of Wood Hall had about 40 pear trees, including Bartlett, Bosc, and Seckel. It also had mixed varieties of apple trees: 6-7 different Delicious varieties, as well as Gravestein and Hume.

The Hill Orchard had the following varieties of apple trees:

- Machintosh + Cortland
- Baldwin + Gravestein
- Red Gravestein + Astracan
- Milton + Early Machintosh
- Ben Davis + Northern Spy
- Tompkins King + Yellow Transparent
- Golden Delicious + Macoun

The orchard up on the hill also had about 45 peach trees.

Three years before retirement we planted some cross varieties. I only remember two of them: Spy Gold and Spy Jon. In addition there were 8 rows in the vineyard, comprised of Concord, Fredonia, Niagra, and Brighton varieties.

We also had many strawberry, blueberry and rhubarb varieties.

When the gymnasium was complete, about 25 to 30 experimental trees were put on the banking next to the gym. To my knowledge those still remain intact.

FYI ... the Road Stand which originated on Route 1 was moved to its current location on campus in 1942. Several students helped me accomplish this. Later the FFA funded and built the present road stand (after World War II).

Sincerely, Harold M. Kelly
Retired Chairman Plant Science Department

In The Spotlight:

Kathy (Hincman) Marini Class of ‘82
(From the Ipswich Chronicle - Oct. 14, 2004)
Kathy Marini was crowned Mrs. Essex County 2005 at the Topsfield Fair Sunday. The Linebrook Road resident, now 40, has been going to the fair as long as she can recall. She is carrying on the fall tradition with her children, Christine, 2, and Anthony, 6, and she’s thrilled at being selected.

Married to Vincent Marini for the past 15 years, she and her family live just down the road from the Marini Farm Stand which her father-in-law Mario and brother-in-law Michael own and manage. While they live near the family business, Vincent works as a mechanical engineer.

Being part of a farming family is a natural extension of Kathy Marini’s interests. A graduate of Essex Agricultural High School, she was a member of the Future Farmers of America and worked at the FFA cider stand at the Topsfield Fair as a teen. She then attended Iowa State University in Ames, a school with a strong agriculture program.

Her hobbies include cooking, working in her perennial flower garden, and quilting. She exhibited her cooking skills at this year’s fair, entering her grape nut pudding in the recipe segment of the pageant.

All contestants were asked on the stage at Coolidge Hall, “How do you find happiness in life?” Marini responded simply, “Through my family.”

When she was named Mrs. Essex County, Marini says it didn’t sink in at first. Then she looked out in the audience at her husband, who gave her a “two thumbs up.”

Marini works part-time as a secretary for the Ipswich Board of Health and is a volunteer at Doyon School, where Christine is a fifth-grader and Anthony is in kindergarten. The Marinis share their home with Kathy’s father, Joseph Hincman.

As Mrs. Essex County 2005, Marini will serve as the official hostess for the Topsfield Fair through next year, when the fair will run from Sept. 30 to Oct. 10. In that capacity she will walk from building to building, welcoming visitors, awarding ribbons and judging contests. Marini will be spokeswoman for the Essex Agricultural Society, which puts on the annual fair, in the next year, and will make sure her children are involved in the fair-related fun as well.
Essex Aggie Alumni Association Membership Registration Form 2005

Membership dues for 2005 will be $20.00
(Term of membership is Jan 1 to Dec 31)
Please fill out the form below
We need your support

Member Name and Address: (Please Print)

Class of __________ (____) High School Division (____) College Division
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 2005

I am enclosing my check for $20.00 for 2005 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 Aggie Alumni Association, George P. Jones, III, Treasurer, P.O. Box 49, North Salem, NH 03073

Occasionally our members move and forget to notify us of their new address. This often results in us never being able to find them again. Please provide the name of someone who will always know how to find you.

Name ____________________________ Relationship __________________
Address __________________________ City __________________ State ______ ZIP __________________
Phone (____) __________ E-Mail __________________________

Your Alumni Association Officers: Always available for questions, comments & suggestions.

President: Alice Henning (’56) 3075 Woodsmill Drive, Melbourne, FL 32934 407-255-9843 alicefromwonderland@cfl.rr.com
Vice President: Lillian Seaborne-Smith (’56) 1 Aline Street, Dracut, MA 978-686-4209
Secretary: Charles Main (’56) 643 Main Road, Phippsburg, ME 04562 207-443-6309 cmain@suscom-maine.net
Treasurer: George Jones (’58) P.O. Box 49, North Salem, NH 03073 603-898-5687 jonesgp@attglobal.net
Director 1950s: Edward Smith (’55) 1 Aline St., Dracut, MA 01826 978-686-4209
Director 1960s: Henry Zawadzki (’68) 18 Heritage Lane, Methuen, MA 01844 978-685-4493 h zawadzki@attbi.com
Director 1970s: Peter Tierney (’75) 69 Albion Street, Everett, MA 02149 617-726-5203 p tierney@aih.org
Director 1980s: Elaine Flanagan (’83) P.O. Box 114, Antrim, NH 03440 603-588-3974 irishhearts_03442@msn.com
Director College Div.: Mary Wood (’77C) 466 Main Street, Dunstable, MA 01827 978-649-3903 marymurphywood@aol.com
Director At-Large: Michael Gaudette (’74) 360 South Street, Beverly, MA 01915 978-921-6304 mgtree@yahoo.com
Director At-Large: Thomas Blair (’81) 130 Bridge Street, Beverly, MA 01915 978-927-5634 tblairlandscape.com

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