Evans, Peterson Named Top Aggies
Both Recall Their Outstanding NWSA Instructors

Marshall Evans '37

In presenting Marshall Evans his Top Aggie Award, Lucille Medlund Kildal remembered that his high school ambition was to be a "technical agriculturalist." He certainly did achieve that goal. After receiving a B.S. degree, with distinction, from the University of Minnesota and an M.S. degree from Iowa State University, Marshall led twenty-four years of the most productive sweet corn breeding programs anywhere in the country, at the Green Giant Company. He then served for ten years as manager of production development for the International Division of the Green Giant Co., with major emphasis in Taiwan, France, Italy, Israel, Australia, Mexico, Costa Rica and Yugoslavia. He was out of the country for about half of each of those years, and Pat traveled with him half of that time. Marshall is now considered the "father" of sweet corn growing and processing in southern Europe and Israel, especially in France.

Pat Evans also attended the NWSA. She graduated in 1936 and was a special student of '36-37. Pat and Marshall were married in 1945 and have three married sons, all of whom graduated from the University of Minnesota Medical School, and twelve grandchildren. Marshall says the boys do know that Crookston is the most important University campus for them, because they owe their lives to it, as this is where their parents met.

Marshall retired nine years ago and now they travel much, visiting friends and family. They are enjoying their music and flowers. Marshall and Pat have participated in Boy Scouts, the Catholic church, the LeSueur County Club, the public school music program, Rotary International, the UMC Advisory Board, and recently the UMC Associates 1000 Club.

"I think that the students and faculty were the finest people with whom I have ever associated in all my life."

Marshall is remembered as being persistent during his high school days, and as having a commitment, a concern for mankind. His persistent digging to find the correct answers helped to earn him the position of Valedictorian of the NWSA class of '37, it helped him to work his way through college, to achieve academically and professionally and personally ever since.

Accepting the Top Aggie Award, Marshall said he thinks he is a representative of so many Aggies who are worthy. "Considering all that the Aggie has to offer, the Aggie is the one who sticks. I think that the students and faculty I was fortunate to associate with here, were the finest people with whom I have ever associated in all my life." And the connections from the NWSA continued for Marshall. His faculty advisor during graduate school at Iowa State University was Iver J. Johnson, NWSA class of '23, who received the Top Aggie Award in 1973.

"Since the NWSA gave us simply almost perfect foundations, and the college continued with excellence, I think it is really fitting and right that we contribute good words in support of this college where they count, and otherwise as we may choose."

Harris A. Peterson '42

The term "vision" is used repeatedly in descriptions of Harris Peterson. Dr. Larry Smith, superintendent of the Northwest Experiment Station, reports that Harris has had a hand in the development and marketing of every one of the specialty crops seen in the Red River Valley today.

Harris started processing seed for farm neighbors in a quonset in 1950. His vision, determination, entrepreneurship, and hard work have moved his seed processing career from one Forsberg sieve mill and one elevator leg to an $8 million complex - the most modern and efficient mustard flour mill in the world. The fully computerized plant can be started up by pushing one button!

"We get busy in our own worlds, projects, and don't come back often enough."

In 1966, about forty growers organized the Minn-Dak Growers Association under the management of Harris. The association now has about twelve hundred member-growers in the Cooperative and contracts and processes specialty crops produced on about 125,000 acres yearly.

About 60 percent of the total business of the Association is in the import/export field. In 1969, when relations between the United States and China were strained, they started importing various seeds from China. Minn-Dak now has an office in Los Angeles to handle the import/export commodities of human food and bird food products.

The Peterson family farm in Kittson county is now operated by Harris' son, Harold, and his daughter, Janet, is involved in the Minn-Dak Seeds Limited Business. Harris is married to Beulah Ann (BJ) Peterson and they reside in Grand Forks, ND.

Harris is involved with the North Dakota Export Trading Corporation and began a term on the North Dakota Export Council Board in July. He serves as president or general manager of nine corporations involved in the processing, storage, marketing, and manufacturing of various specialty crops. He serves as director and has a controlling interest in the Crookston National Bank and is a major shareholder in the Karlstad State Bank. Harris is also a great supporter of the University of Minnesota and was one of our charter members of the Presidents Club at the University of Minnesota-Crookston.

During the NWSA reunion Harris told how getting up at 4:30 or 5:00 in the morning got to be quite a habit for residents of Senior Hall on campus. It seems they would get up that early and have light signals to communicate to the people in Robertson to set up a meeting! He says he never really got over that habit. He still gets up that early to get started in his very exciting business, with so many things still to do.

Harris is proud, pleased to have had the opportunity to come to school at the NWSA. "The inspiration you get from faculty members and fellow students sticks with you a long time."

"We get busy in our own worlds, projects, and don't come back often enough."
From the President

The Northwest School Heritage Fund will soon be a reality. The stated purpose - "To keep alive the spirit of the Northwest School of Agriculture" - should appeal to all former Northwest Aggies.

This fund is intended to: (1) provide scholarships to descendents of NWSA students, (2) further develop and improve the Alumni Center and its archives, and (3) preserve the memories of the thousands of former students, faculty, and staff.

These are good goals for each of us. We all took something with us when we left NWSA and now we must put something back.

Dairy Research and Teaching Center Dedicated

Roger Odegaard '56, chaired the dairy industry support group for the facility. In his remarks at the dedication, Roger reminded everyone that "dairying is the #1 industry in northwestern Minnesota," and that the dairy research herd at the NWS is "centrally located in a dairy belt that runs from Roseau county to south of the Fergus Falls area." Realizing the important role of dairying, the dairy industry support group worked "not only to get the appropriations necessary, but believed in this program enough that they were willing to contribute their own money to make this facility possible."

The Experiment Station and the University are especially important to us and Roger... "at a time in agriculture when the only way to succeed in dairying is to become more efficient and a better operator. The time has come that when our children graduate from high school, we can no longer hand them a pitch fork and a scoup shovel and expect them to make a success of dairying. That is why the opportunities here at UMC, where youth can come and get management skills and hands-on experience, is so important."

The new Dairy Research and Teaching Center will be used to continue the applied research in nutrition, breeding and management and to test and demonstrate high technology in the environmental area, record management, data collection, milking procedures, feeding, and labor saving systems. New courses in animal breeding and nutrition are being planned.

The facility is not quite complete. There is space for a milking parlor which will be built as applied technology is proven and funds are available.

This mailing goes out to about 3,500 alumni. We don't need much from each of us to all participate. If each of us gave $10.00 per year, we would far exceed our goal of $80,000 by the 80th Anniversary of the NWSA Alumni Association in 1991.

There will be some larger gifts and they are necessary to the success of any fund drive. However, I believe that this venture will live or die - succeed or fail - based upon everyone participating with moderate gifts on an ongoing basis.

We can't leave this to the future generations - they're not making NWSA Aggie Alumni anymore - it's up to us.

Oscar Lee Honored

A reunion attendance record has been set by Oscar Lee '53. He has traveled from the Cambridge area to Crookston for more than thirty consecutive reunions, and was presented with a plaque at the 1987 banquet as an "Expression of Appreciation for Faithful Dedication and Countless Years of Attendance at NWSA Alumni Reunions."

As you might expect of someone who has been around for that much story telling, Oscar's father brought him to see the school in 1906, when it was lots of mud and not too many buildings yet. The superintendent's wife told them they had "so many boys wanting to go to school here... they only had room for them on the third floor... there were so many boys they had three six-footers in each bed!" His dad thought it must be a good place to go to school, and that's how Oscar was sent here. "I'm sure nobody here can say they saw this place in 1906 and 1907, but I did."

The plaque is at the White House because that's where Oscar thought it would be best to keep it. Please come by and see it.

Hafslo Church Dedicated

Charlene Walters Stromstad '43, invited everyone at the banquet to attend the dedication of the Hafslo Church across the road from the White House the day following the NWSA reunion. She pointed out the connection we have in that corner of the campus - a home, a school, and a church - the basic elements that tie together our society.

Harold Moe '57 flew in early for the reunion and spent Friday polishing pews and helping with other church dedication preparations.

Comments were heard during reunion visiting about who got married in that church when, it has many connections to Aggies.
NWSA GRADS
They Ain’t Making Us Anymore

NWSA Board Kicks Off
"Northwest School Heritage Fund"

"To establish a permanent fund to support programs or projects that keep alive the spirit of the Northwest School of Agriculture."

That is the purpose of creating a permanent endowment called the Northwest School Heritage Fund.

You will recall from the last "Aggie" and from 1987 Reunion Banquet remarks, NWSA Alumni Association President Dick Widseth talking about "they ain't making us anymore" and how it sure would be nice to create a fund to perpetrate the heritage of the Northwest School.

At a subcommittee meeting on July 30, that idea became a reality. The subcommittee moved to bring the NWSA Alumni Association Board of Directors a proposal for the Northwest School Heritage Fund.

The fund would be used for scholarships for NWSA descendent students who attend the University of Minnesota-Crookston, for special projects that the NWSA Board many deem appropriate and for administrative expenses associated with running the NWSA Alumni Association.

Subcommittee member George Schultz ’31 said that he could not have gone to the NWSA school without a scholarship and he knows scholarships are just as important today.

The goal is to establish a permanent endowment fund under the control and responsibility of the NWSA Board. The Board would annually review the fund to determine a budget.

Paying tribute to the heritage of the Northwest School, preserving the NWSA school memories, and acknowledging the accomplishment of the NWSA "Aggies" were other comments made by subcommittee members Marge (Ofstadahl) Hanson ’43, and LeRoy Sondrol ’55.

"Participation", said President Widseth, "is the Key! We have 3,500 NWSA colleagues who can help keep the memory and spirit of the Northwest School alive!"

1988 NWSA REUNION
June 25


We're looking for class leaders to help organize these efforts. Please volunteer by contacting Berneil Nelson at Kiehl Library (218-281-6510, ext. 397).
1922 - Roger Briden, left and Richard Aakre, right, both from '22, are joined by Walter Sprung, '20.

1927 - (L to R): Loren Parkin, Ruby (Hanson) MacDonald, Bess...


Krogstad Sisters Gather

The Krogstad family from Fertile has a strong connection to the Northwest School. Seven members of that one family graduated from the school between 1925 and 1940. For close to twenty years, at least one child from that family was here. That's a lot of school history stored in one family.

Four of the five sisters were here for Reunion '87 to recall some of those times. Pictured (1 to r) are Louise Schos '40, Littleton, CO; Helen Clementson '34, Erskine, MN; Emma Olson '30, Beltrami, MN; and Alma Severt '39, San Pedro, CA. Janet '37, St. Paul, was unable to join the family/school reunion.

The two Krogstad brothers, Elmer '25, and Clarence '27 are deceased.

'37 Highlights

'37 was a very good year at the Northwest School. Just ask any of the 32 class members who turned out for the 50 year reunion. They started arriving on campus Friday - campers parked in the White House Alumni Center parking lot and the party began! Class leaders arranged for a Friday night get together at the Crookston Minakwa Country Club and several people were able to get here in time for it.

In honor of 50 years, the class had 1987 anniversary cake and coffee during the Saturday afternoon reminiscence time. Though they had a lot of talking to do, they did break away from each other long enough to get their picture taken and visit with others attending.

Not only did class members participate in this significant reunion, their class advisor, Katherine Hennig, was here as well. She recalled the class was energetic and interested in everything - and they still are. And class members found her to be the warm, interesting, energetic person they remembered so fondly from high school days. Katherine provided a special treat for the whole reunion, as well as the class of '37, by performing two songs during the banquet. She was accompanied by George French, director of music and theatre at UMC, who was a student at Augsburg College when Katherine was teaching there.

NWSA Students Celebrate with Former Instructor

January 1987, a group of NWSA students of Miss Elvira Bierbauer gathered at the Jones-Harrison Retirement Home in Minneapolis to honor Miss Bierbauer's 85th birthday. Members of the class of '41, their families, and Miss Bierbauer's sister, Norma enjoyed a fun filled time of "remembering" and eating birthday cake and ice cream with a wonderful person.

Miss Bierbauer, a vocal and music instructor at the NWSA for a number of years, was also the class advisor for the class of 1941.

Quartet of 3 Performs

The class of '52 started an entertainment tradition at the 87 reunion banquet. A singing group from that class performed for us "My Wild Irish Rose." Now, do you know who they were? They called themselves a quartet of three because one of their former members did not participate. Have you guessed yet who the quartet is? Chuck Holmquist, Laurie Mykelby, Ralph Tucker sang, and Perry Brantsen did not. George French, UMC director of music and theatre, accompanied the group, and sang a few notes too. We all enjoyed this special reunion of performers. I'll bet there are some other famous combos out there for future reunions. Who do you remember performing when you were here? Wouldn't it be great to hear some of those acts again?

'62 Class Celebrates

The class of '62 celebrated its 25 year reunion with great vigor. Twenty-one class members and their guests shared this special day. After the school banquet they adjourned to a Crookston club for an evening of rock-n-roll from the 50's and 60's spun by KBOX's "An Evening at the Oldies" host, Tom Helgeson. Reports indicate that after twenty-five years, the dance fever is still there.

Some of the organizers of this event prepared a banner for everyone to autograph. Now, if you weren't here, you'll probably have to wait for the 50 year reunion to see it!
CLASS NOTES

1931
John O. Pearson, Warren, MN - Retired Marshall County superintendent of schools, he has recently been selected Warren's outstanding senior citizen and competed for the county title at the Marshall County Fair.

1932
Agnes (Eggen) Borgland, Shelton, WA - Thankful for their health, the Borgland's spend part of the winter months in a mobile home in Casa Grande, Arizona. They usually come to Minnesota yearly also.

1938
Glenn L. Dahlgren, St. Louis Park, MN - Glenn served as a flight engineer in WWII, then worked for Honeywell Corporation 31 years as a manufacturing planner. He's married, has five daughters, and likes to hunt, fish and travel in retirement.

Grace E. (Olson) Rusk, Bloomington, IL - Married to William D. "Rusty" Rusk, a NWSA faculty member from 1935-37. They have two children who also live in Illinois. Rusty retired in 1978 and they are enjoying boating, fishing, golfing, reading, walking.

Paul Vaudrin, Crookston, MN - Named the May Experienced Citizen of the Month. The Vaudrins lived in the new Golden Link Senior Center. That's fitting, Paul volunteered countless hours on the project, even got himself appointed "straw boss."

1940
Frank B. Evans, Minneapolis, MN - Retired from commercial art career in 1980, he's teaching art at the Edina Art Center, and exhibiting landscape paintings at five Twin Cities art galleries. Frank is active in three Twin Cities art organizations, and enjoys tennis, gardening, and living life in "retirement."

1941
Matthew C. Jansen, Denver, CO - Matthew has been involved with research in Internal Medicine (Mental Health), diseases of the blood, etc. for twenty-one years.

1945
Ron Walker, Lake Park, MN - Ron, who was honored during the University's Centennial Banquet this spring, retired after 20 years on the faculty in Industrial Studies at Moorhead State University. He expects to buy his own business or work in manufacturing.

1948
Emma (Labine) Palmer, Alameda, CA - Emma has been living in California since the early 50's. She worked for the Corax Company as a secretary and as a personnel recruiter, retiring in 79. Her husband, George, also retired two years ago from his electrical business. They have a mountain home in the Sierra's where they spend time, and do a lot of boating, fishing and hiking. Emma also enjoys traveling, reading, and crafts.

1949
Duane S. Truax, Miami Beach, FL - Duane works in the Mechanical Engineering Dept. of the Miami Heart Institute. Wife Charlene is an LPN at the same hospital. They live in an apartment overlooking Biscayne Bay with a great view, 8 minutes from work, 5 minutes from the beach! They also do landscaping and maintenance for an ex Miami Dolphins football player, Bob Kuechenberg, on his 22,000 sq. ft. mansion with a 3/4 acre yard.

1951
Murle Wiltsie, Clifford, ND - Murle and Vickie recently moved to Clifford from Alturas, NM. He officially opened the doors of Clifford Welding and Repair May 11, and will specialize in farm and automotive repair work. They have three children and five grandchildren, enjoy the outdoors and are prize-winning muzzle-loading fans.

1953
Joan (Howard) Gentreau, Grand Forks, ND - She's been married 33 years, has three sons, four grandchildren. Joan works seasonally at the American Crystal Sugar Co. Quality Lab in East Grand Forks, MN.

1957
Robert E. Hance, Jr., Baxter, MN - He has spent the past two years in Brainerd as Regional Administrator for the MN Department of Natural Resources. Three sons-one in St. Paul, one in the Navy, near the Persian Gulf, one who finished high school in 87.

1962
Daniel R. Durand, Argyle, MN - City Engineer and Superintendent. Patty (Kuzia) Durand runs a licensed Day Care Center for six children. Daniel is involved in community service organizations and is on the city council.

Help Us Find Your Classmates

1913 - Earle Mills
1916 - Lloyd Stewart
1920 - Hazel Koerner
1921 - Edith Shoosten
1922 - Lloyd Boistad
1923 - Claire Halverson
1925 - Violet Hansich (Mrs. Thomas Watts)
1927 - Harry Lewis
1928 - L. M. Aase
1929 - Marie Bernath (Mrs. Roy Eggert)
1931 - Jesse Filipi
1933 - Eleanor Torkelson (Eleanor Hem)
1935 - Marcus Wolden
1941 - Orestor Aase
1944 - Leroy Aandal
1945 - Duane Tietz
1946 - Paul Anderberg
1947 - Irvin Godtland
1948 - Joyce Slick
1949 - Carrol Storbeck
1950 - Richard Ehrenstrom
1951 - Marlys Earle (Mrs. Duane Brestwer)
1954 - Larry Driscoll
1955 - Sylvester Greskowiak
1956 - Mervyn Clausen
1957 - Donald Sharp
1959 - Arnold Brummond
1960 - Dallas Boeter
1961 - Clarion Haacke
1962 - Larry Love
1963 - Mike Borch
1964 - W. Neil Bohnsack
1965 - Anthony Kamil
1966 - Edwin Durose
1967 - Duane Tietz
1968 - Paul Anderberg

Annual Fund Rollcall

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Total: $10,510.00
WINNERS!

UMC students won the sweepstakes for the junior college division plus the traveling trophy in the junior senior and division at the National Association of College Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Invitational Judging Conference held recently in El Reno, Oklahoma.

The crops team placed first overall.

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Fall 1987

NWSA GRADs SUPPORT THEIR SCHOOL

Contributions to the 1987 Annual Fund by Northwest School of Agriculture alumni will have a major impact on the 1987 academic year and beyond. Your support of UMC scholarships and programs will benefit deserving students and insure continued quality education at the University of Minnesota-Crookston.

All Annual Fund gifts are expended as donors designate. Gifts without donor designations are used for alumni association expenses (AGGIE, class reunions, alumni center, etc.) and specific UMC programs, as the NWSA Board of Directors approves.

The NWSA Alumni Association Board of Directors thank the following individuals for their 1986-87 Annual Fund gifts.

Contributors whose donations were received between July 1, 1986 and June 30, 1987.

Joyce (Eftfelder) Sather '51
Bandsol Saugiad '16
Raymond Schaffer '42
Deane Scheler '51
Harriet (Severson) Schueler '33
Herk Schroeder '31
Lillian (Quality) Schuetz '44
George Schueler '31
Kenneth Schumacher '62
Edmund Scepanski '63
Frederick Spieksma '50
Thomas Scepanski '54
Margaret (Johnson) Semon '45
Nenda '63
Anna (Jensen) Saide '36
Bethany Savare '25
Laura (Hanson) Sherwood '35
Richard Simmons '43
William Sittko '33
Don Steve '40
Tuma (Saz) '51
Larry Solberg '56
Leo Sondol '55
John Stamos '36
Allen St. Germain '56
Roy Stolz Jr. '47
Eugene Storla '42
Clarence Strengren '35
Walter Stromstad '38
Donna Swan '55
Wilbur Swan '41
Besse Swan '27
Hugh Swift Jr. '92
Al Seppaas '58
Roy L. '59
Mary (Saxman) Thayne '39
Frank Thompson '58
Thomas Thompson '66
Vilma Thompson '51
Nelvin Thomodson '44
Deena Thorson '52
Gordon Thornton '46
Orris Thureen '50
Eugene Timmer '11
Irvin Tollef '44
Joe Torvil '25
Julian Trangrud '56
Vera (Walters) Urmash '30
Harold Vig '53
Leroy Vonasek '58
"Wills Wagner '45
"Seward Valley '30
"Daniel Wayne '65
James Wayne '66
Sandra Warren '61
Edwin Washburn '34
"Lucille (Lerud) Wayda '42
"Morris Webster '45
James Wells '33
Myrtle (Grove) Whetstone '21
Clarence Widner '34
"Edward Willard '33
Duane Wimhemmer '49
"Ilia Winterbourn '41
"Arnold Wolske '31
Harley Youngren '46
Robert Yuengres '63
Charles Zammert '56
Eliottwerd Zetz '41
*Council Members (100.000+ Givers)
*Matching Gift

1986-87 NWSA Annual Fund
$ 25.00 Ag Division
2750.00 Alumni Program
200.00 Scholarships
9,860.00 Unrestricted
155.00 White House
$10,610.00 TOTAL