



# WCSA AlumNEWS

Spring 2009

## Morris campus history told through new symbol

The University of Minnesota, Morris embarked on its first-ever integrated marketing initiative during the fall of 2007 that began with an information gathering phase. During that period, they learned that campus history was an important characteristic of the Morris experience for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends. Using that knowledge, a new campus symbol was created that “tells” the campus history and mission through shapes and colors...and the West Central School of Agriculture plays a central role in that history.

The symbol’s formal wordmark element, University of Minnesota, reflects the Morris campus’s 100-year relationship to the world-renowned University of Minnesota through the West Central School of Agriculture and the University of Minnesota, Morris. It celebrates the University’s 150-year history, its land-grant mission, and its commitment to academic excellence.

The symbol’s monogram M stands for Morris and for Minnesota. The M is constructed of graceful lines that arc outward, conveying the openness and expressiveness of the Morris campus.

Uncontained and unconstrained, the M is centered within three overlapping circles. The two lower circles form the infinity sign, illustrating a sense of limitlessness and perpetual motion, and reflecting the “renewable and sustainable” liberal arts education that students receive at the University of Minnesota, Morris.

The three shapes that form the M remember the three institutions that have made their home on the 120-year-old Morris campus.

The first buildings on the Morris campus housed an American Indian boarding school that opened in 1887. The school was first administered by the Sisters of Mercy order of the Catholic Church and later by the United States Government. It closed in 1909, and the campus was transferred to the State of Minnesota with the stipulation that American Indian students



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**MORRIS**

“shall at all times be admitted to such school free of charge for tuition,” a policy still proudly honored.

The University of Minnesota established the West Central School of Agriculture on the Morris campus in 1910. It is the WCSA time period, from 1910 until 1963, that garnered the campus its placement on the National Register of Historic Places as the West Central School of Agriculture and Experiment Station Historic District. As alumni know from experience, the WCSA served area school children well, providing a solid education in English, mathematics, and science, as

well as business and agriculture courses.

In the late 1950s, when the University announced that agricultural schools would be phased out, a grassroots citizens movement convinced the Minnesota Legislature to create a public liberal arts college within the University system on the campus. In September 1960, the University of Minnesota, Morris opened its doors and began fulfilling its institutional vision to be an affordable, undergraduate, small, residential, public liberal arts college.

The maroon and gold colors represent Morris’s relationship to the University of Minnesota. The green color represents its rural setting and its commitment to sustainable energy and green living. The Morris campus has been identified as a national leader for its “green” initiatives—wind energy, biomass energy, Pride of the Prairie local, sustainable food projects, and its goal to be carbon neutral and energy self-sufficient by 2010.

The University of Minnesota, Morris is proud to share WCSA history through its new symbol, and proud of the relationship it holds with WCSA alumni.





## Greetings from the Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving

It never ceases to amaze me how winter, stubborn as it can be, finally bows to the exuberance of spring. This year, spring is especially welcomed by those of us in the upper Midwest as we experienced a real old-fashioned winter with lots of blizzard watches and warnings that were all-too-able to deliver on their promise. Unlike our friends who escaped south for the winter, those of us who stood fast to face to Minnesota's winter climate hold all bragging rights for making it through another tough winter.

No doubt, you know of the "tough" economic climate in America today, and beyond. Most of us have experienced negative repercussions from the Wall Street, banking, mortgage, auto industry, and credit predicaments. The University of Minnesota, including the Morris campus, faces challenges as a result of these quandaries. However, Chancellor Jacquie Johnson reassures us that while difficult decisions need to be made, Morris's mission to provide the best possible education to willing and bright students will not waiver.

Chancellor Johnson also reminds us that Morris always has much to celebrate. Adding to that list is her announcement that students Kellcee Baker '10, Audubon, and Ashley Gaschk '10, Bismarck, North Dakota, were named 2009 Truman Scholars. These women are two of sixty selected across the entire United States. They were selected from among 601 candidates nominated by 289 colleges and universities. Congress established the Truman Scholarship Foundation in 1975 as the federal memorial to the 33rd president. It awards highly competitive, national scholarships for college students to attend graduate school in preparation for government or public service careers. The 2009 selections bring Morris to a total of four Truman Scholars in recent years. Much to celebrate, indeed!

The Student Center will again be the annual summer reunion location. We look forward to "rolling out the red carpet" and welcoming Aggies back to campus on Saturday, July 18, 2009. Please fill out and return the registration form located on page 11 as soon as possible. If you are inclined to support Morris financially, and we truly appreciate your support, please send a separate check for your gift rather than including it with your reunion registration fees. This immensely helps the office staff. Thank you!

I look forward to seeing many of you this summer at the reunion, but feel free to contact me anytime. I can be reached at [rileycj@morris.umn.edu](mailto:rileycj@morris.umn.edu) or 320-589-6394.

*Carla Riley '85*

## 68 attend 2009 Arizona Winter All-School Reunion in Mesa

Sixty-eight people attended the 2009 Winter All-School Reunion in Mesa, Arizona. It was held at the ViewPoint RV and Golf Resort on Monday, February 9, 2009. Special guests were University of Minnesota, Morris Chancellor Jacquie Johnson and Maddy Maxeiner, vice chancellor for external relations. Johnson provided information about "what's happening" on campus. Bob Torkelson '55 entertained the group with accordion music.

Longtime reunion coordinators Arloa Zahrbock Larson '48 and Carone Flan Lyng '49 have retired from their positions, leaving the annual event in the capable hands of new chairpersons Ardean Hauschild '53, Ted Horning '54, and Ted Storck '54.

Mark your calendars for Monday, February 8, 2010, for the next Arizona reunion.



## WCSA Engineering Building to make statewide "green" history

The University of Minnesota, Morris broke ground on a historic renovation in February 2009. The former WCSA Engineering building, built in 1915 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, will be renovated to become the first building in Minnesota to use energy efficient chilled beam technology. The renovation strategy maintains the integrity of the historic building and reduces energy use. Chilled beams, using water not air, and in-floor radiant heat will cool and heat work spaces. An energy cost savings of 37 percent is projected.

The building will also be powered by the wind turbine and biomass plant. The completed project will be the University's first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum building and one of only thirteen higher education LEED Platinum certified buildings in the world.

When complete, the building, renamed the Gateway Center, will house the Offices of Admissions, External Relations, and Continuing Education, and the Center for Small Towns.

## WCSA garden planting scheduled



Invest a wonderful spring morning in the West Central School of Agriculture Alumni Garden on the Morris campus, then return to campus for the reunion in July to see the lovely fruits of your labor—the garden in full summer bloom. If you'd like to help with this WCSA tradition, mark your calendars for Friday, May 29, 2009, at 10 a.m. Although not necessary to participate, letting us know

if you will be attending helps with planning for the morning. E-mail [alumni@morris.umn.edu](mailto:alumni@morris.umn.edu) or call 320-589-6066. See you in the garden!

### Sprinkler system installed in the WCSA Alumni Garden

The University of Minnesota, Morris installed a sprinkler system in the WCSA Alumni Garden this spring. The new addition to the garden facilitates the appropriate use of water—the right amount at the right time—and decreases the amount of water wasted due to run off.



### New overlook ready for visitors

The West Central Research and Outreach Center (WCROC) invites visitors to view the Pomme de Terre Valley from the Horticulture Garden's new scenic overlook. The project is "an interpretive location between horticulture, environment, agriculture, energy, prairie, rivers of west central Minnesota." It also links the City of Morris biking/walking trail to the WCROC gardens.

Artist's rendering from WCROC

## Greetings from the Alumni Association President



The calendar says it is spring, and here are some springtime dates you do not want to miss.

The first is the date to plant the WCSA Alumni Garden. We have traditionally planted the garden the Saturday following Memorial Day. We are changing that this year to plant on the Friday following Memorial Day with the hope we will have more helping hands available. The date is May 29, and we will plan to begin planting at 10 a.m. If this date works for you, seriously consider joining us. When we have lots of people, the physical work is limited for all of those old and creaking joints, and the conversation is always wonderful.

One of the nice things about being part of planting the Alumni Garden is returning for the second important date and seeing how good a garden can begin to look after only six weeks. That important date is Saturday, July 18, 2009, when we will enjoy our All-School Reunion. Many of the classes graduating in years ending in "4" and "9" will be having special gathering times in addition to coming together with the rest of us for a luncheon or early evening meal. This year we will be back in the Student Center again. Registration information is on page 11.

The third important date will be the reunion to be held in 2010. It will be the 50th anniversary for UMM and the 100th anniversary for the WCSA and Experiment Station. The newly remodeled Engineering Building should be complete and what a wonderful blend of the two campuses we and future generations will be able to enjoy! Members of the alumni board are working with University staff in an effort to make sure WCSA is represented in the building in very special ways. If you have thoughts regarding how that might be accomplished, feel free to visit with one of the members of the board at the reunion or by contacting them by e-mail at [alumni@morris.umn.edu](mailto:alumni@morris.umn.edu).

I want to re-visit the alumni garden. As our alumni age, the question has come before the board, "Should we turn the planting and care of the garden over to University staff?" Please provide feedback to the board on this and your thoughts on the Engineering Building. You can send your correspondence to Carla Riley, and she will bring it to the WCSA Board of Directors.

In closing, I wish each of you a wonderful spring and summer and look forward to seeing many of you in May and July!

*Carol Pederson Meyer '60*

# Class News

compiled by Adam Thurber '09, St. Paul

**D. Jeanette Dolven '34** passed away in March 2009.

**Lowell A. Doebbert '40**, Glenwood, passed away in December 2008.

**Kathryn Kay Arey '41** lives in Berea, Ohio, and has three stepchildren. She writes: "The four Henry Kay girls, formerly of Wheaton, attended the Aggie school at Morris. Three of us, Kathryn, Bea, and Marge are now in our 80s! Ruth is still in her 70s! We all reminisce and discuss 'the good old Aggie days' with fond and loving memories. We all had such fun and most enjoyable high school days there."

**Bea Kay Fullerton '43**, Glenview, Illinois, has three children.

**Eugene Haas '44** and wife Carol have been married for 61 years. They first lived on a farm near Willmar and then in New Brighton for 42 years. Eugene, an electrician, also worked at Ford Motor in management. He retired in 1982 after a heart attack and four bypasses. The couple has two sons, four granddaughters, and one great-granddaughter. Their oldest son lives in St. Paul and works with computers. The younger is an X-ray tech in a Montana hospital.

**Darlene Hauglund '44** passed away in February 2009.

**Marge Kay Brand '45**, Alpharetta, Georgia, has three children.

**Anders Christenson '46** writes: "Here is an observation. Those of us born in the late 1920s and early 1930s are referred to as the 'lost generation.' We are saddled with the guilt of being unworthy of success in life. Another way of saying that is we should not show pride in 'doing well.' And how about 'it could always be worse.' WCSA was an 'Island of Hope' for us. As I look back at my days there, I am reminded of a Frost poem about traveling on a road and coming to a Y and taking the road less traveled and that made all the difference. WCSA provided, for me, that choice, and that has made all the difference. I think I am not alone in that observation. I think it made a difference for many of my classmates, too."

**Sidney Schmidt '46** writes: "I failed a cardiac stress test in July 2008 and without delay had quadruple by-pass surgery to correct four blocked arteries. The experience could be compared to an 18-wheeler learner driver practicing by backing up to the dock over your body—over and over! Having an 81-year-old body makes recovery



**Shirley Pew Barbero '46** passed away in December 2008. Her family submitted photos from her memorial service. From left: at Christmas 2008 and at age 19.

rather slow. Darleen and I will celebrate our 59th anniversary in August 2009—a GREAT woman!"

**Lester Sanderson '47** rebuilds antique furniture for family and friends and works with the Marshall Senior Citizen Center making items for kids and teens. He is a Heart to Heart program member, which gives gifts to underprivileged kids at Christmas.

**Conrad Jorgensen '49** passed away in July 2008.

**Jarl Knutson '49** retired from Hoffman Engineering in Anoka 15 years ago and has worked part-time the past few years at Elden's Food Fair in Alexandria two or three days per week. He and wife Glenice have been married for 52 years. They have two sons, Mike and Tim, and five granddaughters, two grandsons, one great granddaughter, and one great grandson. They love traveling and have been to Japan, Norway, Iceland. They spend winters in Mazatlan, Mexico, where part of the time they work with the local missionary. For the past eight or nine years, they have enjoyed being Santa and Mrs. Claus in Ashby, Fergus Falls, and Alexandria. They live on Pelican Lake southeast of Ashby and love having company if anyone is in the neighborhood. Contact Jarl at 320-491-8051.



**Members of the Class of 1950 get together at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria every year on the first Monday in May at 11:30 a.m. Join them for lunch! From left: Shirley VanHorn Gades, Betty Paulson Wirtjes, Phyllis Thielke Gades, Bertha Maus Sperr, Audrey Rinke Jackson, Lorna Chapman Hahn, Erna Lehrke Ellingson, JoAnn Redfield Anderson, Edelle Bruce Magnuson, Anna Gibson Rothi, Donna Evavold Sonmor, Peggy Blakesley Horning, and Betty Norman Anderson**



**Nine members of the Class of 1954 held a reunion at the home of Ted Storck in Surprise, Arizona, in February 2009. From left: Jim Dewey, Ted Horning, Adrienne Akerson Horning, Dennis Van Wechel, Marlys Thorstad Charles, Ted Storck, Carroll Holman, Joe Dahlin, and Harold Lampman**

**Marilyn Johnson '50** wrote to tell say how much she enjoys hearing about WCSA in the *AlumNEWS*. She shares that her four years at WCSA were some of the best of her life.

**Ruth Kay Sharkey '50** lives in Marshall. Her three children also live in Minnesota.

**Glenn Sethre '50** writes: "I think it has been long enough ago that I can admit to wandering around with friends late at night in the heat tunnels under campus after the fire in the girls' dormitory. We gained access from the burned-out building. Then, there was the time we were not going to be able to drive our cars on Senior Skip Day, but that got changed to working a given number of hours over at the barns for punishment. The reason, there were not enough cars left to take everyone on Skip Day. I have thought many times over the years what a wonderful teaching staff we had. I wish I would have shown some appreciation back then."

**Eugene Hahn '50** and **Lorna Chapman Hahn '50** write: "We spend our summers at Carefree Country Club near Big Lake. It is a complex of 400 RVs and park models with an 18-hole golf course. From there, we visit our son and his wife, grandsons and wives (four), and great-grandkids (eight)...all near Shakopee. We lived in Shakopee while we were working. We spend the winters in Apache Junction, Arizona, and we drive over to the Palm Springs, California, area to visit our other son. We have had the best of both worlds for the past 15 years. Gene is a golfer and a carver. Lorna has directed choirs but now is just singing in the church choir, doing needlework, reading a lot, and putting out the park newspaper. We have not missed our class reunion for fifty years and are looking forward to the next one."

## **Wes Thompson '51: in his own words**

I graduated in 1951 and moved to Michigan, where I managed three farms and a hog operation for my uncle for a few years. I married Carol in September 1951, and went to school nights at the Grand Rapids Bible College. We started a Baptist church 15 miles west of Grand Rapids. The first Sunday, there were 28 people. Carol taught the children, and I taught the adults. Now, the church is a thriving ministry.

In 1959, we moved to Bemidji and were on staff at Oak Hills Bible College—as a student and in charge of the property department. I also served as a pastor of a church north of Bemidji. In the last fifty years, I have served churches in Minnesota, California, and South Dakota. I'm now retired in Minnesota.

We started three churches and have been very involved in youth ministries and camping. For 22 years, I would take up to 50 teens on horses on trail rides from Monday through Saturday. We never had an accident! God was watching over us! Our philosophy is we'd rather help build a boy or girl than mend a man or woman. It works! We've seen hundreds of youth get the vision, pick up the torch, and prepare themselves for life's ministries. We worked with adults, too. I learned: "Never work harder on a person's problem than they were willing to work." I love helping people.

God blessed Carol and me with five children and eleven grandchildren. The boys graduated from Bethel University. Cindy graduated from nursing schools. Carol and I had fifty years together in our ministry. She was a nurse and a tremendous co-worker in our ministry. In 1996, we retired and moved to a 20-acre ranch. She passed away in 2000.

At a retired pastor and missionary retreat, I met a widow for whom we had prayed for the past thirty years. We've been married seven years. We try to visit our children every year. We just got back from a 5,000-mile trip out East and a cruise.

I teach a Thai Sunday school and work with Thai Christian Fellowship that meets in our church. That is the hardest job I have ever done. I don't speak one word of Thai, so I work through interpreters.

Now we are ready to slow down a bit. We are purpose-driven persons. I guess I developed that from youth. I learned much about life and values while at WCSA. I've learned that "people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." I learned that from WCSA staff. I reflect often on experiences with Mr. Youngquest, Mr. Gray, Miss Jelstrup, Mr. Edson, Mr. Croom, and others. I have thought about Miss Hanson, our typing teacher, hundreds of times as I moved into the computer age. I look forward to seeing many of you at reunions in the future. I would love to hear from anyone in that period of my life ([fernwes@msn.com](mailto:fernwes@msn.com)). Until we meet again—here, there, or in the air—so long.

**Vivian Jorgenson Christopherson '51** writes: "I just returned from a vacation in Mexico with a sunburn and peeling nose! Next, I'm going to Chicago to visit my sisters. My brother **Milton Jorgenson '44** has purchased a condo in the metro area and spends winters here and summers at the farm in rural Clinton, so I see him often. My brother **Conrad Jorgenson '49** passed away in July 2008. **David Jorgenson '52** retired from farming and lives in Ortonville and spends his winters in Arizona."

**Shirley Finberg Ferguson '53** writes: "I had two big vacations this year. First I went on cruise with my sister and five other people. We were gone ten days and went down the coast of Mexico and back again with six stops on the way. It was my first cruise, and I never knew just how wonderful they are. Had a great time, but you could really get spoiled with all the attention you get on board. The second vacation my daughter, Lynda, and her husband and their daughter, Hannah, asked me to join them at Disneyland for a week. That was fun, too, in a different way. Grandma went on some of the rides but not the roller coaster; six-year-old Hannah loved it and went several times. There must have been a million people, as we had to stand in line for a long time to ride, but it really goes so smoothly. The last time I went was just after it opened in 1955—sort of a long time between visits! In June, I am planning a trip to Minnesota for grandson Benjamin's high school graduation. Granddaughter Sarah graduates from high school in May in Arizona. Granddaughter

Nicky graduates from college in South Carolina. For someone who has always been healthy, I am finding myself going to the doctor more often. So, I guess age gets everyone in the end. This may not be heavy news, but beats the 'death notice.'"

**Stanley Weeding '55** farmed with his dad on the home farm until 1965 and retired in 2008. After a farm sale last July, he moved to Chokio in November and is adjusting to not being on the farm.

**Rick Storck '55** and wife Joyce traveled in their motor home to Arizona where they visited his brother, Ted Storck. They visited friends around Phoenix and then went to Green Valley, Arizona, for more visits and touring. They are still in the antique business, so they attended many garage and estate sales, of which there are many in the area. They also checked out all the antique shops and flea markets. Rick did some golfing and panning for gold, which was a new adventure. He did not find much, but it was fun, and he may do it again next year. Rick and Joyce live in Greenfield, so stop in if you are in the area. Contact them at 763-477-6415.

**Gordon Ohman '56** writes: "I retired with 25.5 years in the Air Force as a radar tech. I have been married for 50 years and have three girls and one boy, eleven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Old age is catching up with me. I had a stroke in December 2008. I was not able to drive until recently. I lost my right peripheral eye sight, so things are different now. I lost some

## A 57-year mystery: a request from Kirby Green '53

"Over the 50+ years since I left WCSA, I recall revisiting the volumes of the *Moccasin*—years 1951 and 1952—on an irregular yet consistent basis. A perusal of the entries always brings fond memories and good feelings for those long gone days.

One entry in my 1952 *Moccasin* always makes me smile, yet also fills this Old Buck with wonder—wonder at the fine sentiments and wonder about the real identity of its author. I wonder if others, too, have a similar entry in THEIR 1952 *Moccasin*.

A single salient feature of this entry stands out. In the two volumes I have, only one entry is written in RED ink! It is addressed to me as 'Dear Kirby'—very much like all the other entries—yet this one is written in the upper left hand corner of the blank blue sheet opposite page 51 in the 1952 *Moccasin* It



looks like a medium nib fountain pen was used. So, I doubt that it was written by someone from my 16-18 year-old peer group. It is NOT signed...but says: "written by Elsie Kay Holm."

Just the other day, I got the distinct idea that this particular message may be more widespread than I had imagined, that perhaps somebody was inscribing other yearbooks—likely many others—with these same sentiments. So my quest is to ask each of you from 1952 or near years to kindly check your *Moccasins* to see if you have one of these entries in red. Note also, if it is on the back of the BLUE sheet facing page 51. Also, in the girls' yearbooks, was the signature the same?

Finally, have any of you more astute than this Old Buck, figured out just who the author of this mystery entry's name or identity may be? Was it a faculty member's joke? How widespread is this, and how come it took this Old Buck more than one half century to even think to ask the question?"

Editor's note: We made a mistake scanning Kirby's photo from the *Moccasin* for the fall 2008 *AlumNEWS*. We apologize for the error, and we are happy to publish two photos...now and then...of Kirby that he submitted. Kirby joined the Marines in April 1953 and married wife Alice in April 1955.



balance. Other than that, I am blessed. God had to be looking out for me. I did not lose my motions or voice. I hope to get my strength back this summer, so I can pursue my winter activities.”

**Lois Aanerud Olsen '58** passed away in March 2009.

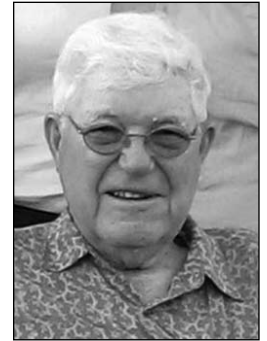
**Gilmore Sem '59** received a University of Minnesota bachelor of science in 1964 and a master of science in 1967 in mechanical engineering. In 1966, he married wife Virginia. In 1971, they adopted daughter Sonya from Korea. From 1967 until 2007, he was employed by TSI, Inc. in Shoreview. He engineered a sophisticated semi-trailer air pollution laboratory as well as about 20 commercial aerosol (airborne particle) measurement instruments. From 1978 until 2003, he was general manager of aerosol instruments. He served as the co-chairman of the 2006 International Aerosol Conference in St. Paul. In 2008, he was elected American Association for Aerosol Research president. He traveled to Europe about seventy times, to Asia about twenty, and around the world four times. His first trip around the world was in 1970 with two University friends by way of the Trans-Siberian Railroad. His primary hobby is family history. In 2003, he published a 1,161-page book on the Sem family history.

**John Burkard '61** writes: “Jean and I are part-time RVers. We do all we can to be on the road four to six months per year

in a 31-foot Airstream Classic. Our intentions are to travel the United States from east to west until we have it all covered. We have seen most of the East Coast with having been in the New England states in late summer and fall 2008. We were in Phoenix in February and March 2008 and attended the WCSA reunion. The only person I remembered was the red-headed nurse, Ms. (at the time) Lavonne Littlefield. I remember scaring the pants off the freshmen by telling them the nurse used square needles with a propeller on the end. I thought a few were going to faint. We all had a fun time telling our stories both funny and memorable. In May 2009, we are going back to New England to cover what we missed last time and then on to Minnesota for a number of events. Maybe if timing is right, we will attend the reunion in July.”

## Faculty and staff notes

**Wes Gray**, husband of **Avy Miller Gray '47**, passed away in June 2008. He served WCSA and the Experiment Station as a teacher, coach, and research scientist. He retired from the West Central Research and Outreach Center in 1988 but remained active as a volunteer instructor, consultant, and gardener.



The WCSA Winter Texan Reunion in McAllen, Texas, in February 2009 was attended by 24 alumni plus 14 spouses and guests. The attendees report that everyone enjoyed the chance to remember good memories and enjoy old friendships. Mark Tuesday, February 16, 2010, for next year's gathering. Standing from left: Lyle Maanum '55, Russ Erlandson '55, Ken Kutzer '54, Richard Keller '50, Gary Peterson '56, Jim Becker '57, Charlie Dupree '54, Loyal Larsen '57, Loren Maahs '56, Allen Albertson '56, Erin Rochell '55, Doug Glesne '56, Wally Affield '63, Dennis Mae '55, Robert Danielson '51, Arvey Larson '49, Ralph Hartsuiker '56. Seated from left: Carol Dewey Erlandson '55, Mary Anderson '56, Lucille Hensch Sorenson-Freitag '55, Barb Jorgenson Albertson '57, Ardie Hardi Voss '53, Marlene Leininger Larsen '58, and Lavonne Schmock Dupree '59

## A message from Maddy Maxeiner, associate vice chancellor for external relations



Spring has sprung, and we look ahead to summer months with pleasant expectations that include seeing good friends. Of course we especially look forward to welcoming WCSA alumni back to campus for your annual July reunion. Each year, there is a gentle competition for those who travel the greatest distance, with the most

grandchildren, from the earliest classes, and a variety of interesting attendee characteristics. It's a spirited occasion.

Even as the plans are made for summer 2009, we look ahead to summer 2010. Special events are planned to mark the 100-year anniversary of the founding of the WCSA and Experiment Station, and the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the University of Minnesota, Morris. We are collaborating on a schedule that will recognize the past, honor the present, and celebrate the future. Please be sure to mark your calendars for the 2010 reunion on Saturday, July 17!

Chancellor Jacquie Johnson and I enjoyed our visit with the WCSA alumni in Phoenix in February. Chancellor Johnson spoke about Morris's green initiatives and how they reflect our roots as an agricultural school, and even earlier, as a school for American Indian children. We are pleased to be included in this annual gathering and thank you for making us feel welcomed. We hope to return the welcome when you visit campus in 2009, 2010, or both!

## 50/100 Committee requests reflections on the West Central School of Agriculture

Planning is underway to mark the the 100th anniversary of the founding of the WCSA and Experiment Station and the 50th anniversary of of the University of Minnesota, Morris in 2010. Dian and Andy Lopez, professors emeriti of computer science, serve as co-chairs for the planning committee. The committee is researching different ways to celebrate: a Garrison Keillor show and barn dance; a "green scholar" on campus; a campus history documentary; a 1910 garden for Horticulture Night; Stevens County Fair exhibits; special DVDs, a Web site, dedication of buildings, a special art exhibit...the possibilities go on and on!

Send your answer to "How has the University of Minnesota, Morris and/or the West Central School of Agriculture impacted your life?" and your thoughts will be incorporated into campus history, online and/or in print. Send your essay (It doesn't have to be long.) to [weberm@morris.umn.edu](mailto:weberm@morris.umn.edu) or to Melissa Weber, 11 Education, 600 East Fourth Street, Morris, MN 56267 by June 30, 2009. Please also let us know if you would like to received periodic e-mail updates on celebration plans.

## Plan to celebrate WCSA and Experiment Station anniversary

Dennis Johnson '58, professor of animal science at the West Central Research and Outreach Center (WCROC) in Morris, serves on the 50/100 Committee that is planning the 100-year anniversaries of the founding of the West Central School of Agriculture and the West Central Research and Outreach Center (formerly the Experiment Station) and the 50-year anniversary of the University of Minnesota, Morris. Special events and activities are being planned throughout 2010.

States Johnson: "The West Central School of Agriculture and West Central Experiment Station were the original outposts of the University of Minnesota sited at Morris. Several WCROC signature events are being planned."

- In celebration of the centennial, a DVD featuring filmed memories of Les Lindor, Walter "Slim" Hokanson, Harley Hanke, and other notables is being produced.
- *The History of Ag Research at WCES* is being extended from 1950 to the present.
- The Stevens County Historical Society will present agriculture exhibitions expected to open in February or March of 2010.
- An Old-Fashioned Summer Field Day featuring ag research past and present will be held on Friday, July 16, 2010. The day precedes the All School Summer Reunion by one day, so WCSA alumni are encouraged and invited to come a day early and attend both events.
- The WCSA All-School Summer Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, July 17, 2010.
- On Thursday, July 29, 2010, a special Horticulture Night will feature rededication of the remodeled and expanded WCROC office building. It includes a 1910 farm home garden. It is hoped that University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks will be able to attend.
- Tentatively, there will be a Stevens County Fair stage presentation themed "The University of Minnesota in West Central Minnesota."

In addition, Johnson reports, a Web site featuring all the 50/100 events will be developed to provide information about activities as details become available. For more information, contact Johnson at [dairydgj@morris.umn.edu](mailto:dairydgj@morris.umn.edu) or 320-760-4431.

# Class reunion announcements for All-School Reunion

## Class of 1949's 60th reunion

Some of the members of the Class of 1949 are beginning to wake up. There has been contact between several members. Our classmates are scattered all through the year, and even a long-term address and phone number is not reliable for contact. We are sure a goodly number from our class, walking, limping, or wheeling, will want to gather on Saturday July 18, 2009, on the Morris campus. The alumni relations staff has assigned the Prairie Lounge in the Student Center for us to hold forth with stories, lies, and confounded truths of our past years. You may be surprised with an additional letter of encouragement to attend before the 18th of July with more hope and enthusiasm to enhance the day. Contact with some players, so far, has been encouraging for a significant turn up (or is it turn out). If class members have suggestions for happenings for the day, contact: Carmon Jackson at 218-736-4275 or [acjack@prtel.com](mailto:acjack@prtel.com); Argyle Iverson at 218-828-0884 or [nancyi@chartermi.net](mailto:nancyi@chartermi.net); or Wally Hystad at 405-722-1907 or [hynpat@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hynpat@sbcglobal.net).

## Class of 1954's 55th reunion

Hello everyone! We will again be gathering—for our 55th reunion—on July 18, 2009, on the Morris campus. We hope many of you can join us in celebrating. Our class will meet in the Study Lounge in Oyate Hall from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. After the evening meal and program, we will gather at the Prairie Inn for more fun and memories. If you ordered a 55th reunion book, it will be distributed during registration. For more information or to send messages if you cannot attend, contact Rosella Hoffman Staples at 320-589-4255 or [kobbervignettie@yahoo.com](mailto:kobbervignettie@yahoo.com) or Adrienna Akerson Horning at 320-324-7312 or 320-808-6535 (cell) or [horning@fedtel.net](mailto:horning@fedtel.net).

## Class of 1959's 50th reunion

We are about to celebrate our 50th reunion from the West Central School of Agriculture and encourage you all to attend the celebration. The annual WCSA Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, July 18th, 2009, on the campus of the University of Minnesota, Morris. Activities will take place in the Student Center on campus, and our class will have a room designated for our classmates to gather and visit. If you are unable to join us the day of reunion, we encourage you to send an update about yourself to the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving at HFA 123, 600 East 4th Street, Morris, MN 56267 or [alumni@morris.umn.edu](mailto:alumni@morris.umn.edu), and we will share your update with our classmates. Class of 1959 reunion co-chairs include Les Bensch, 218-747-2121, and Leon "Bud" Kopitski, 952-250-2044. We look forward to seeing you on July 18, 2009!

## Class News

WCSA alumni love reading *Class News*, so send us your updates! Mail us a letter, give us a call, or send an e-mail about your careers, families, travels, hobbies, activities, and WCSA memories. We will include your news in the next *AlumNEWS* issue. The deadline is **September 30, 2009**.

## Calendar of Events

### May 29, 2009

WCSA Alumni Garden planting at 10 a.m. in the garden

### June 1, 2009

Board meeting at 7 p.m. at LaFave House

### July 10, 2009

Summer Station Day at the WCROC

### July 18, 2009

WCSA All-School Summer Reunion on campus

### July 30, 2009

Horticulture Night from 5 until 9 p.m. at the WCROC

### September 14, 2009

Board meeting at 7 p.m. at LaFave House

### February 8, 2010

Arizona All-School Winter Reunion at noon at the ViewPoint RV and Golf Resort at 8350 East University Drive in Mesa

### February 16, 2010

Texas gathering at 11:30 a.m. at Mr. Gatti's in McAllen

## Funding for *AlumNEWS*

Your donations fund *AlumNEWS*. Thanks to those who have given in the past! We appreciate your donations. Checks to support *AlumNEWS* should be made payable to the University of Minnesota, Morris and sent to the address below.

*AlumNEWS* is produced by the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving. It is available in alternative formats upon request. Class news, donations, comments, corrections, or questions may be directed to:

Carla Riley '85

Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving

University of Minnesota, Morris

123 Humanities Fine Arts

600 East 4th Street

Morris, Minnesota 56267-2132

320-589-6394 or [rileycj@morris.umn.edu](mailto:rileycj@morris.umn.edu)

## Morris Area Lodging Information

### Best Northland Prairie Inn

200 Highway 28 East, Morris, 1-800-535-3035 or 320-589-3030  
Please inform the Prairie Inn that you are attending the WCSA Reunion when reserving rooms.

### Morris Motel

207 Highway 9 South, Morris, 320-589-1212

### Super 8 Motel Morris

102 Highway 28 East, Morris, 1-800-800-8000  
Please inform the Super 8 in Morris that you are attending the WCSA Reunion when reserving rooms.

### Super 8 Motel Benson

600 22nd Street South, Benson, 1-800-800-8000

### Cedar Inn of Starbuck

604 South Main Street, Starbuck, 320-239-4300

### Rob's Motel

198 Highway 9 NE, Benson, 320-843-3484

### Prairie Waters Inn

900 North Munsterman Street, Appleton, 320-289-2500

### Scotwood Motel

Highways 55 and 28, Glenwood, 320-634-5105

### Country Inn and Suites

300 14th Street South, Benson, 320-843-4395

### RV Parking

RVs may be parked at **Pomme de Terre Park** on a first-come, first-served basis. Prices are \$12 per night without electricity and \$18 per night with electricity. Bathrooms and water, but no water hookups available.

Free parking for self-contained recreational vehicles is available in all of the **University of Minnesota, Morris campus parking lots**. The East lot has the most shade and is the largest, quietest area. No water or electrical hookups are available.

### Dormitory Rooms

You may rent an on-campus dorm room for \$16 per person per night, double occupancy. A single is \$20. Call 320-589-6066 to make a reservation.

On-campus apartments, which sleep four, are available at \$51 per night. Linens will be provided for \$5 or you may bring your own. It is recommended that you bring a fan. Call 320-589-6066 to make a reservation.

## 2009 All-School Reunion Tentative Schedule of Events

**Saturday, July 18**

**9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

Registration, Student Center, Morris campus

**9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Campus walking tours  
visiting, reminiscing, refreshments

**10:30 a.m. – noon**

Buffet brunch, Oyate Hall, Student Center

**1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.**

Bus tour of the  
West Central Research and Outreach Center,  
the Morris campus, and the City of Morris

**At your leisure**

Visit the WCSA Alumni Garden

**4:15 p.m.**

Business meeting, Edson Auditorium, Student Center

**5 p.m.**

Banquet, Oyate Hall, Student Center



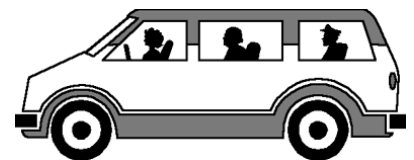
## All-School Reunion parking and free shuttle service

During the All-School Reunion, a van will provide FREE shuttle service from the North and West Lots on the University of Minnesota, Morris campus to the Student Center where the 2009 All-School Reunion will be held.

Parking in the mall area is restricted to vehicles with

handicapped plates or permits. ALL mall-area parking spaces will be reserved for handicapped permits providing approximately 20 handicapped parking spots around the campus mall.

All parking is free on the Morris campus during the reunion.



# Registration Form

## 2009 WCSA All-School Reunion

**Saturday, July 18, 2009**

Name(s) for nametag(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Class(es) \_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent Address**

Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Winter Address (if applicable)**

Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

1. Registration Fee

\$7 per person to cover printing and other miscellaneous reunion costs.  
 (Please enclose \$14 if you are bringing a guest.)

**Registration Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

2. Brunch, 10:30 a.m. until noon at \$12 per person (\$15 if not pre-registered by 7/10)

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ (quantity) meals at \$12 each.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. Banquet, 5 p.m. at \$17 per person (\$20 if not pre-registered by 7/10)

Chicken Picata with rice pilaf, green beans almondine, rolls, dessert, and beverages

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ (quantity) meals at \$17 each.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

4. Afternoon refreshments

**NO CHARGE**

5. West Central Research and Outreach Center, the campus, and City of Morris Tour in air-conditioned motor coach

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ (quantity) seats at 1 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. (Circle one.)

**NO CHARGE**

6. I will/will not be attending the All-Classes Reunion, but I have enclosed a gift (a separate check, please) for:

- \_\_\_\_\_ (amount) Rural Students Scholarship (#5616)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (amount) WCSA *AlumNEWS* (#4634)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (amount) WCSA Alumni Garden (#4633)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (amount) Herb Croom Endowed Scholarship (given to WCSA and UMM legacy students) (#3910)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (amount) West Central Research and Outreach Center (#2094)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (amount) The Wes Gray Honorary Garden Fund (#1051)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (amount) Class of 1956 Scholarship (#5166)

If your gift is (please check) \_\_\_ in honor of a living person, or \_\_\_ in memory of someone who has passed away, please write his or her full name here: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

If you plan to attend the reunion, please return this form by Friday, July 10, 2009. Even if you do not plan to attend the reunion, please use this form to update your address information and send your donations. Please make checks payable to the University of Minnesota, Morris. To help us keep accurate records, please send a separate check for your donation. Return this form with your check(s) and updated address information to:

**Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving, 123 HFA, 600 East Fourth Street, Morris, Minnesota 56267**

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Ashby, Minnesota 56309  
218-747-2121

The WCSA Web site can be found at  
[morris.umn.edu/WCSA](http://morris.umn.edu/WCSA).

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