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# UMW CONNECTION

UMW/SSA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

November 2009

## A Reunion for Everyone!

By DREW AMO

Staff Writer, Waseca County News

Two lifetimes committed to agriculture were honored when the UM Waseca and Southern School of Agriculture held their annual reunion and awards ceremony, Sunday, August 16.

The first award given out was the Minnesota Ag Award, which is presented to someone that has served the agricultural industry to the fullest. This year's recipient was Harlan Holmquist. "Thank you very much for this," he told the group. "I feel honored to be recognized by you." Holmquist's career has taken him from the Experiment Station in Waseca when he first graduated from the Southern School of Agriculture to Lithuania to help dairy farmers when he worked for Land O'Lakes. His dedication to agriculture also involved time as director of Farmamerica, which he retired from earlier this summer. "I have really enjoyed working with him," Farmamerica site director, Jeff Huelsnitz, told the group as he was introducing Holmquist. "He was supposed to be part time, but if you know Harlan you know he puts 110% into anything he does."

Boyd Fuller was this year's Personal Service Award winner. The award is presented to those that have served the college and alumni association in an exemplary manner. Fuller is not originally from Minnesota but moved here from Maine after deciding to use a provision from the GI Bill to start up the Janesville Farm School in the 1950s. He graduated from the University of Maine with focuses in agriculture and spent two years in the Navy Reserve. Fuller said he wanted to combine his education in agriculture with experienced farmers and the rich Midwest soil. Fuller's work at the Janesville Farm School eventually got the attention of the Experiment Station, which would go on to become the Southern Research and Outreach Center, as well as the SSA and UMW. He spent years teaching agriculture to new generations of students in Waseca. "I really had the best job anyone could have had," Fuller told the group, explaining that he would teach the students throughout the year, then visit their farming operations in the summer.



Harlan Holmquist & Boyd Fuller

## Scholarships Available

The Alumni Association of the Southern School of Agriculture and the University of Minnesota, Waseca is again offering scholarships for 2010. Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded to any former graduate or former student that completed a minimum of 45 credits while at SSA or UMW and is pursuing a two-year, four-year, or graduate degree. Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded to any child or a grandchild of an alumnus. To be eligible for this scholarship, a student's GPA must be between 3.0 to 3.5. Five \$100 scholarships will be awarded to any former UMW or SSA graduate to attend a seminar or short course.

Scholarship application **deadline is January 1, 2010.**

To receive criteria and information on how to apply, write to Alumni Scholarship Committee, Southern Research and Outreach Center, 35838 120th St., Waseca, MN 56093-4521. Questions can be directed to Deanne Nelson at (507) 835-3620. Criteria is also posted on the Web at:

<http://sroc.cfans.umn.edu/UMWSSA/index.htm>

UMW/SSA Alumni Association  
Board of Directors

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President..... Cindy Glamm  
Vice-President ..... David Weinand  
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Jane Boots, Patrick Bowen, Colleen Carlson, Diane Deling, Barb Hoehn, Lanae Feser, Dennis Gartner, Cindy Glamm, Wayne Gottschalk, Harlan Holmquist, Julie Poehler, Dave Schlauderaff, Jay Schneider, and Dave Weinand

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Alumni Association Coordinator:

Deanne Nelson

UMW CONNECTION is published three times a year by the UMW/SSA Alumni Association at the Southern Research and Outreach Center, Waseca, MN. Questions or comments about this publication should be addressed to Deanne Nelson, Alumni Coordinator, SROC, 35838 120th St., Waseca, MN 56093-4521. Telephone (507) 835-3620. E-mail: nelso191@umn.edu

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**To Receive a Copy  
of Your Transcript**

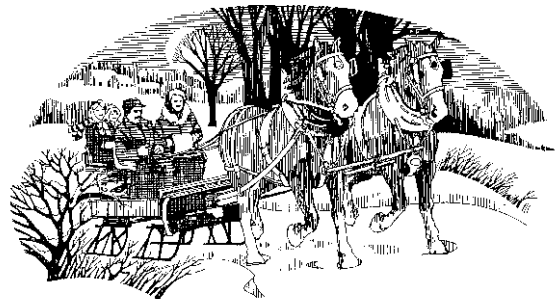
If you would like to obtain a copy of your transcript from UMW, send your full name, (and maiden name), address, and social security number, along with \$5.00 to:

University of Minnesota  
Admissions and Records  
130 Coffey Hall  
1420 Eckles Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
(612) 624-3731

For RUSH REQUESTS, the charge is \$10.

# Calendar of Events

- Friday, January 1 .....  
Scholarship Applications Due  
Southern Research and Outreach Center  
Waseca, MN
- Monday, January 4.....  
Board Meeting  
Southern Research and Outreach Center  
6:30 p.m.  
Waseca, MN
- Monday, April 5 .....  
Board Meeting  
Southern Research and Outreach Center  
6:30 p.m.  
Waseca, MN



*Waseca Sleigh & Cutter Festival Association, Inc.*  
3005 N.W. 102110 AVENUE  
Waseca, MN 56093

## 60th Waseca Sleigh & Cutter Festival

February 5 – 21, 2010.

- Squirts Hockey Tournament, Hobo Chili,  
Firemen's Kickball, Pool Tournament,  
Bridge Card Tournament, Snow Sculpting, Ice  
Harvest, Ice Plunge, Dinner/Dance at VFW Club,  
Parade,  
Kruger Snowmobile Race,  
Ice Curling, Diabetes Ice Golf Tournament  
Youth Ice Fishing

For dates and times of specific event, look at the  
Web site at:

<http://sleighandcutter.org/>

**UMW/SSA Alumni Association  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
October 5, 2009  
Southern Research & Outreach Center**

Cindy Glamm, President, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Members present: Diane Deling, David Schlauderaff, Dennis Gartner, Ed Frederick, Patrick Bowen, Cindy Glamm, Harlan Holmquist, and Deanne Nelson.

**Secretary's Report** of the August 16, 2009 meeting was distributed and approved.

**Treasurer's Report** was distributed and the documents discussed and approved. Several items were explained. It was noted that our appropriations from the University will be the same as last year. The foundation investments had experienced market decline and are now showing some recovery.

**Coordinator's Report**

Deanne reported on the success of the SROC annual open house held on September 10. The UMW Alumni Association did not have a booth at this year's event. We made a donation of \$150. A thank you letter from SROC was circulated at the board meeting. It was considered a very successful event with attendance of 2500 to 3000 people.

**Communication**

The address correction and updating is an ongoing and time-consuming process. Articles for the newsletter are due by October 15 with publication in early November. Deanne reviewed the expected contents.

**New Technology**

Criteria for the scholarships is currently available on the Web site. Upcoming newsletters will be available on the site in .pdf format.

**Continuing Education**

All of the 2009 scholarships have been paid out. Letters are going out soon to area schools soliciting scholarship applicants for 2010. Deadline for scholarship applications will be December 31, 2009. The criteria are the same as last year.

**Events**

This year's AgALA was reviewed. All felt that we had a successful event. We were happy with the way the day flowed. Sherry Turner Oleson's recognition of her father also fit in well. Suggestions for next year's AgALA were discussed. Having refreshments available after the awards presentation may keep the crowd together longer and make a more festive event. The FCI tour was a positive experience for those that participated. We discussed whether or not we should repeat the tour opportunity. No decision was made at this time. Deanne will ask if FCI is open to another tour. A suggestion of featuring a faculty/staff reunion at next year's AgALA was discussed. Ed will explore the idea with Denise Manthe.

**Other Business**

Receiving donation guidelines were discussed. How do we want to respond to future requests?

An updated committee list and calendar were distributed to the board members.

There being no further business, the president adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Harlan Holmquist, secretary

# Pipestone Native Reaches Out to Kenya

Courtesy of Pipestone County Star  
By Kyle Kuphal

Lila Farmer was born to William and Lois Farmer and raised in Pipestone County in the 1950s and 60s before leaving to attend Mankato State University (MSU) when she was 17. While there she had an epiphany that changed her life and eventually led her all the way to Africa. What began in the 1970's as missionary work, led more than 30 years later, to an effort to bring education, health care, stability and leadership to Kenya.

She grew up attending the Presbyterian Church in Pipestone, but while attending MSU, she became drawn to a life of ministry. That desire to spread the word of God led her to join the Campus Crusade for Christ International in 1969.

"I was so grateful that people helped me grow in my faith that I was willing to do anything and go anywhere," she said during a recent visit to Pipestone. "Immediately after graduating I went to Africa."

Her African experience began in Swaziland, a landlocked country in southeast Africa, where she taught English for three years beginning in March 1974. Then, in December 1976, she left Swaziland and went to Kenya where she worked as a graphic artist for Campus Crusade for Christ until 1983.

It was there that she met Solomon Kimuyu. At that time Kimuyu and his wife Protasia did translating work for Campus Crusade for Christ. More than 25 years later, this past January, Farmer and Kimuyu joined forces once again, when she became Coordinator of International Ministries for his non-profit organizations Solomon Home For Children International (SHCI) and the Solomon Center For Leadership (SCL).

Through his organizations Kimuyu has already opened his first Solomon Home For Children in Texas and seeks to build a university, a water tower, a clinic to help people with HIV and a place to provide help for orphaned children on land owned by his mother near Nairobi, Kenya.

After a 16-year break from missionary work to sell insurance, Farmer said, she's thrilled to be working to help people in Kenya again and particularly happy to be working with Kimuyu again. Back in the 1970s when she received her missionary training, she was taught to minister to the native leaders first because they would then be able to help minister to others.

"That's why I'm excited to be working with Dr. Kimuyu," she said. Kimuyu, it seems, has been busy since they last worked together in 1983. In the intervening years he moved to Texas with his wife Protasia; earned master's degrees in theology, business, sociology and higher education administration; wrote a book called "Solomon on Leadership"; started SHCI and SCL; and ran for a seat in the Kenyan Parliament in 2007. "He will run again in 2012," Farmer said. Kimuyu seeks election, Farmer said, to teach Kenyans about positive leadership and to help bring stability and safety to his home country.

"There's no ego trip," she said. "He wants to minister to those in Parliament." By writing his book "Solomon on Leadership," which explains Kimuyu's plan for better leadership and also exposes examples of corruption in Kenya's current government, Farmer said Kimuyu might have signed his own death warrant. "We're trusting that God will protect him," she said.

She's also trusting that God will help her and Kimuyu achieve what they are trying to do through SCL. Their goal, she said, is to provide a safe haven for neglected and abused children and women in third world societies, to train leaders in Biblical teachings and the Word of God, and to prepare them for leadership in church and society. Through the university, Kimuyu hopes to provide education in health care, the environment, the war on drugs and how to use the parliamentary system to enhance honesty in government. It's an effort that Farmer said she is happy to be a part of. "I've always had the heart of a missionary," she said. "I love helping people and it's so rewarding because I know I'm making a difference in somebody's life."

## SSA Class of 1959

By Norm Thompson

The SSA class of '59 held a 50th reunion on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the Holiday Inn in Owatonna. There were 39 people present, 21 class members, some of their spouses, and three former staff members: Boyd Fuller and Ted and Wanda Olson. The food, service and meeting room were excellent. There was no formal program but lots of time to talk about "old times" and to get reacquainted.



**Back row:** Paul Brekke, Al Sothman, Jerry Cooney, Jerome O'Conner, Jim Christensen, Wendel Coulson, Dale Bode (hiding), Jerry Joe Nagle, Gary Zeitz  
**Middle:** Al Durst, Jerry A. Nagel, Chan Fate, Pat (Cook) Pogalz, Larry Seibel, Jean (Schroeder) Johnson, Ron Abbe  
**Front:** Curt Carlson, Norm Thompson, Janeen (Schrock) Sarlin, Harold Paulson, Marv Durst

## 2009 Scholarship Recipients



Pictured: Connor Hinrichs, Austin Barchenger, & Wanda Paine

2009 Scholarship Recipients were recognized at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual AgALA held Sunday, August 16 at Farmamerica. Wanda Paine of Gaylord, MN was awarded \$500 as a former student of UMW. Paine graduated from UMW in 1987 with an associate of applied science degree in food products and inspection. She is continuing her education at Southwest Minnesota State University working to earn a bachelor of science degree in culinology.

Connor Hinrichs, a graduate of Zumbrota-Mazeppa High School was awarded a \$500 scholarship. Hinrichs is the son of Dan and Linda Hinrichs. He plans to attend Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee, WI to study biology.

Austin Barchenger, is the son of Paul and Laura Barchenger. He graduated from Hutchinson High School and is attending South Central College-Mankato to pursue a degree in Agri-Business Service and Management. Austin is the grandson of Dale & Shirley Huelsnitz. Dale graduated from SSA in 1958.

Sara Compart, daughter of Chris and Rochelle (Johnson) Compart's from Nicollet. Both parents are 1988 graduates of UMW. Sara graduated from Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School and is attending Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter. Her planned major is nursing.



# Obituaries

**John B. Kortuem, age 61**, of St. Michael passed away on Monday, May 4, 2009 at the Fairview University of Minnesota Medical Center.

He was born on April 9, 1948 in Mankato, the son of George & Rose Martensotto Kortuem.

On August 9, 1969 John Kortuem & Joyce Lagasse were joined in holy marriage in Winona. God blessed their marriage with five children.

John formerly engaged in dairy farming and loved his animals. He later became a meat cutter at J&B Group in St. Michael.

John was a faithful member of the Church of St. Michael in St. Michael and was a very prayerful man. He also enjoyed singing in church.

Survived by loving wife, Joyce; children, David (Amy) Kortuem of Minneapolis, Jenny (Randy) Anderson of Moorhead, Kris Kortuem of Leadville, Colorado, Justin Kortuem of St. Paul & Travis (Gina) Kortuem of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; grandchildren, Brittany, Jack & Michael; a brother, Charles (Bev) Kortuem of Sauk Centre; sisters, Mary (Dennis) Buschkowski & RoseAnn (Dick) Schoeb, all of Madison Lake, Margaret Roscoe of Prescott, Arizona & Kathy (Randy) Scholl of Mankato; other relatives and friends.

Preceded in death by his parents, George & Rose Kortuem and by a sister, Elizabeth.

A Mass of Christian Burial for John Kortuem was held Friday, May 8, at The Church of St. Michael in St. Michael. Father Michael Becker was the Celebrant.

**Nancy Mae Lindner, 68**, of Battle Lake, MN died September 21, 2009 at the Merit Care Hospital Palliative Care unit in Fargo, ND.

Nancy Mae Frisby was born April 24, 1941 in Tyler, MN to H.E. and Fae (Swenson) Frisby. She lived and attended school, K-12, in Ivanhoe, MN and went on to graduate with honors from Winona State College in Winona, MN. Nancy participated in many activities and organizations while in high school and college.

Nancy began teaching in Glenwood, MN in 1963. On August 15, 1964 she married Jack Lindner in Hendricks, MN. They lived in Glenwood, Montevideo, Minneapolis, Waseca and then retired to their current home on West Battle Lake. Nancy was a substitute teacher for many years and later owned and managed Lindner Discount Liquor in Waseca, MN. She was an avid reader, loved her family and black

lab dogs, enjoyed traveling and in later years spent winters on the Texas Gulf Coast.

She is survived by her husband, Jack; her daughter, Tania (and Mike) Woessner; her son, Troy (and Malissa) Lindner; her grandchildren, Tatiana, Taylor and Tara Woessner, and Sabina Lindner.

Nancy was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Charles Frisby.

A celebration of life was held on October 10, 2009 at Lakes Area Community Center in Battle Lake, MN.



**Shelby B. Kerns, age 67**, of San Antonio, TX passed away Wednesday, October 7, 2009 after a courageous battle with cancer.

He was born March 14, 1942 to Doris B. (Booth) and the late Richard M. Kerns in Corning, KS. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Mara Kerns; daughter, T. Robin Kerns; granddaughter, Sarah Finnegan; brother, M. Lynn Kerns; sister, Trudy Mathison, her husband, Milo, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Kerns was most recently Chairman of the Board of Kerns Petroleum, Inc. a company he founded after the sale of Kerns Oil & Gas in 2004. Shelby Kerns started in the oil business in 1969 at Apache Corporation. He was a 1960 graduate of SSA, in Waseca, MN. He served in the Navy and attended college at the University of MN. He was the financial manager of Apache's oil and natural gas programs, which involved the commitment of approximately \$350 million of partnership investments. In 1981, he left Apache to start his own company, Kerns Oil & Gas. Mr. Kerns and his partners built Kerns Oil & Gas into a leader in the Olmos play in South Texas. He enjoyed "starting again" with Kerns Petroleum and leaves a strong legacy. All who knew and worked with Shelby Kerns respected him for his high ethical standards, honest dealings, and generous nature.

A memorial service was held October 14 at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, TX.

# THROUGH THE DECADES

## Michael Prokes 1968

Married Debbie Tuma July 1973. I work at Chart in New Prague as a machine maintenance worker. My wife works at Mala Strana Nursing Home in the dietary department. We also farm. We have four children: Stacy, Sarah, Scott and Joanna. Sarah and Joanna are married. We are expecting our first grandchild in September. 6226 W. 280<sup>th</sup> St., New Prague, MN 56071, (952) 758-3827.

## Lila K. Farmer 1969

Graduated from SSA in 1969. Graduated from Mankato State University in 1973. From 1973-1993, I was on-staff with Campus Crusades for Christ, International. I was an insurance agent for 14 years. In January 2009 I returned to full-time Christian work with Solomon Home for Children, International serving Kenya, East Africa. 10239 Deermont Trail, Dallas, TX 75243, (214) 507-2745.

## We miss you!

Below are names of alums we have lost contact with. If you know where they are, please help and provide an updated mailing address to: [nelso191@umn.edu](mailto:nelso191@umn.edu) or Deanne Nelson 35838 120<sup>th</sup> St., Waseca, MN 56093. Thank you.

Amy Abas	Scott Benson	Stacey Busswitz	Wendy Dengal
Bruce Ackerman	David Bentz	Diane Cadwell	Thomas Determan
Deann Aissen	Virginia Berger	Catherine Callies	David Devorak
Tony Albrecht	Brenda Bergerson	Debra Campbell	Mark Dewitz
Nancy Alcorn	Steven Bernholtz	Luanne Campbell	Jeanette Diederich
Rebecca Alexander	Stephanie Bethke	Mary Carleton	John Diedrich
Jill Allen	Patricia Biggins	Nancy Carpenter	Tracy Doely
Patrice Allen	Karin Birhanzi	Daniel Carroll	Gregory Donahue
Charles Anderson	Charles Bisek	Susan Chase	Darwin Droogsma
Janice Anderson	Terri Bjerke	Mary Chicos	Leonard Duban
Keith Anderson	Gail Bjorge	Dean Christensen	Aileen Duit
Sonja Anderson	David Bloch	Rebecca Christensen	Paul Duncan
Susan Anderson	Daryl Bluhm	Linda Christenson	Claudie Durand
William Anderson	Sharon Bluhm	Dawn Chruszch	Thomas Duxbury
Jesse Arnold	Jeffrey Boike	Constance Clark	Douglas Dysthe
Stacey Asendorf	James Bonkoski	Rose Clausen	Jonathan East
Randall Asprey	Gary Borgschatz	Suzanne Compart	Ryan Eberhart
Becky Austiin	Darren Boyum	Christopher Conlon	Kirk Ebert
Laurie Ayers	Nathan Boyum	Pamela Connors	Ann Egan
Mary Babcock	Cory & Gayle Brady	Ronald Cornish	Barbara Eggers
Mary Back	Karla Branstad	Terri Costello	Theressa Einck
Alan Bahler	Larry Bratsch	John Cromer	Sherri Eisele
Wayne Baker	Lucille Braulik	Nick Cutler	Aaron Ekern
Laurie Ball	Diane Bremer	Debra Dammann	Carolyn Elgersma
Eric Barth	James Brewer	Michelle Daniels	Tony Emanuel
Marri Bateman	Michael Brooks	Jeffrey Danielson	Melenee Emanuel
Steven Bateman	Bruce Brown	Gene Daugherty	Kathy Enfield
Patricia Bauer	Melanie Bruce	David Bloch	Barry Erickson
Sandra Baumgartner	Monica Bruun	Judith Davidson	Kari Erickson
Pamela Bayer	Shirley Surdick	Jolie Davis	Leah Erickson
Rollin Beaver	John Burfend	Rick Deboer	Chad Estebo
Shannon Becker	Denise Burfend	Richard Deinken	Doris Euteneuer
Brian Benda	Curt Burns	Matt Demuth	Jennifer Eversman