

Dean's Newsletter 2017

Dean's Note from Ron Rosati

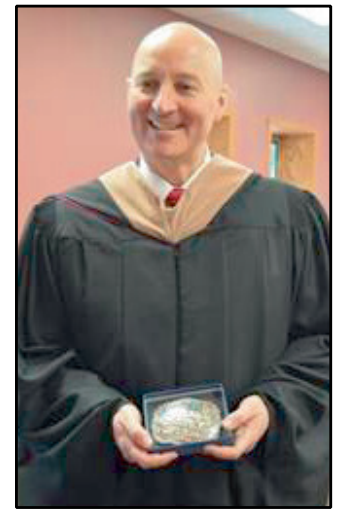


Greetings from campus! This year Nebraska is celebrating 150 years of statehood and NCTA has been providing educational services for Nebraskans for 103 of those 150 years. We are proud of this heritage and the role each of you holds as dedicated alumni and friends of the Aggies of Curtis!

The past year has been a time of growth and accomplishment for our students, faculty and staff. There is so much to celebrate! I will share few of the many accomplishments at NCTA:

- WalletHub ranked NCTA in the top 2% of U.S. two-year institutions (9th of 821), and #4 for "graduate career outcomes - return on educational investment".
- The Aspen Institute ranked NCTA among the top 150 two-year colleges in the United States.
- NCTA was named in the top 50 by Community College Weekly for the number of graduates from two-year programs in Agriculture, Agricultural Operations and Related Sciences.
- NCTA begins a single tuition rate starting fall 2017 of \$121 per credit hour for all students, regardless of residency!
- In December we welcomed new IANR Vice Chancellor Mike Boehm to campus.

- Dairy production coursework starts this fall in partnership with South Dakota State University.
- The Higher Learning Commission approved NCTA for its first online program offering.
- Our students and their coaches had highly successful teams in livestock and crops judging, ranch horse and rodeo, stock dog and trap clubs. The NCTA Crops Team won the 2016 National Championship!
- Seven faculty were recognized by the UNL Parent Association for their student support.



2016 commencement speaker Gov. Pete Ricketts accepts an NCTA belt buckle.



New Vice Chancellor of IANR Mike Boehm visits the NCTA campus in December. Left to right: Chuck Hibberd, Ron Rosati, Ron Yoder, Archie Clutter, Jennifer McConville, and Mike Boehm.

- A gift of \$16,000 from the Eighth Foundation allowed us to install new welders for the expanded welding program. Thanks Jim Stewart, UNSTA alumnus, for the impetus! NCTA had a first student become a certified welder by the American Welding Society.
- Agronomy Professor Brad Ramsdale, PhD, was selected to receive a Holling Family Teaching Award.
- The NCTA Agricultural Education program was named Nebraska's Outstanding Post-Secondary Education Program.
- The college received significant generous scholarship donations, memorials and designated gifts honoring our alumni.

THANKS to each of you for your support to NCTA students and our campus. You can be quite proud of your alma mater! I look forward to visiting with you on June 24 in Broken Bow.

~ Ron Rosati, dean

NCTA Aggies recognize alumni honorees

Aggies from Alaska to Illinois returned to their high school and college alma mater in Nebraska to celebrate more than eight decades of history.

The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture alumni reunion drew more than 140 registrants. The largest contingent was the Class of '71 from the University of Nebraska School of Technical Agriculture (UNSTA), with 21 graduates.

High school alumni from the first institution, the Nebraska School of Agriculture, included two graduates of '42 and more than a dozen from the Class of '49 with the University of Nebraska School of Agriculture.

Despite experiencing four name changes and missions of secondary, then post-secondary education, the agricultural campus has always been home for the Curtis Aggies. A time capsule which had been compiled at the college's 50th anniversary in November was officially placed in the brick patio east of Ag Hall during reunion events.

Dave Thorell, KRVN Radio personality and humorous speaker, served as emcee and entertainment for the Saturday banquet. Kim Bowers Mortensen, '83 Vet Tech, is serving her second year as alumni president.

Stan Matzke and his wife, Dorothy, of Lincoln were recognized as the college's "first couple" presiding from 1965-1968 and received Alumni Honorary Lifetime Memberships. Matzke launched UNSTA in 1965 and served as the first superintendent.

Gene Heller, Class of 1973 in Ag, Land and Water, was awarded the Alumni Service Award. The David City alumnus serves on the association's board of directors and is an alumni past president.

Former students and friends of Jo Bek of Curtis surprised the animal science professor with a customized plaque for the NCTA Legacy Wall located in the Nebraska Agriculture Industry Education Center. Justin Jarecke of Kearney, Class of '95, made the presentation.

Ann Bruntz of Friend, UNSTA Class of '71 Vet Tech, had retired this spring as a development officer with the University of Nebraska Foundation. She was presented a customized NCTA belt buckle for her years of service to NCTA and Nebraska agriculture. Catherine Potter Hauptman, alumni secretary and fellow vet tech alumnae ('2003) thanked Bruntz on behalf of NCTA and the alumni.

Reunion festivities concluded with a Sunday brunch at Aggie Dining on campus. Kim Mortensen, Curtis, said next Aggie Alumni Reunion will be June 24, 2017 in Broken Bow.



Kim Mortensen presents a plaque to Stan Matzke, Lincoln, joined by Dorothy, at left



Justin Jarecke congratulates Jo Bek.



UNSTA Class of 1971. Top row: L-R, Ron Schropfer, Fairmont; Dwayne Novak, Crete; Tom Lashley, McCook; Larry Duden, Ainsworth; Clifford Fuchtman, Creighton; Ron Stevens, Gothenburg; Loyal McFarland, Bloomfield; and Doug Werkmeister, McCook.

Middle row: Rex Hoffman, Henderson; Dick Brader, Glenville; David Bruntz, Friend; Daveta Brader, Glenville; Rod Lockhorn, Sidney; and Ann Ramm Bruntz, Friend.

Front row: Chuck Wrede, O'Neill; Doug Suito, Pratt, Kansas; Harlow Hill, Wauneta; Roberta Grafel, Culbertson; Jean Heider Orth, Burlington, Colo.; Janet Haffing Krogh, Anchorage, Alaska; and Connie Stevens, Gothenburg.

Parents salute seven NCTA faculty

Parents taking note of the influence and guidance provided to their sons and daughters while away at college recently recognized seven faculty from the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Parent Association awarded certificates of merit for the 2016 academic year to Ricky Barnes-Wach, Terri Jo Bek, Judy Bowmaster-Cole, Tee Bush, Glenn Jackson, Dan Stehlik and Alan Taylor.

In January, several of the instructors were able to attend the presentation in Lincoln where NCTA Dean Ron Rosati introduced the NCTA recipients. Representatives of the Parent Association presented the awards.

"These deserving individuals were recognized for the positive impact they make each day in the lives of NCTA students," Rosati said. "The caring, compassion and educational leadership consistently demonstrated by NCTA faculty has not gone unnoticed by students and their families."

Between the first and second semesters, parents of University students are asked to nominate members of the faculty or campus staff who have made a significant difference in their son's or daughter's life.

"We pride ourselves in outstanding student/faculty relationships amid the academic endeavors here at NCTA so it is especially nice for our staff's contributions to be noted by parents," Rosati said.



Seven NCTA faculty were recently recognized by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Parent's Association for outstanding work at Curtis with NCTA students. NCTA Dean Ron Rosati lauded their dedication to NCTA's campus and academics. Seated (from left) is Judy Bowmaster-Cole, Ricky Sue Barnes Wach, DVM, and Terri Jo Bek. Standing (from left) is Dan Stehlik, Tee Bush, Dean Rosati, Alan Taylor, and Glenn Jackson, DVM. (Hauptman/NCTA photo)

Aggie Alumni Scholarship Recipients



In 2016 the Aggie Alumni association awarded two scholarships to freshman NCTA students whose parents are alumni of NCTA or UNSTA. The recipients this year are Carli Johnson of Hastings and Cash Talamantez of Lisco.

Carli's mom, Tammy (Hintz) Johnson, is an UNSTA alum from 1985. Carli is a veterinary technology student and is involved with the NCTA stock dog club, ranch horse team, works as a campus news reporter, and she enjoys playing coed volleyball. Carli also volunteers at the Star Theater and Senior living choices in the Curtis community. Upon graduation Carli plans to return to her rural community and find employment as a veterinary technician.

Cash is a ag production student and works part time at the Lexington sale barn. His mom Cheryl Knodel is an UNSTA alumni from 1985. He is a team roper on the rodeo team and is the herd health manager for the team's livestock. Cash would like to continue his education at a 4 year institution in the Animal Science field after graduation.

The alumni association would like to continue to grow their scholarship awards and offer more money to more students in the years to come. The students use the money to help pay for classes and books.

Where are they now?

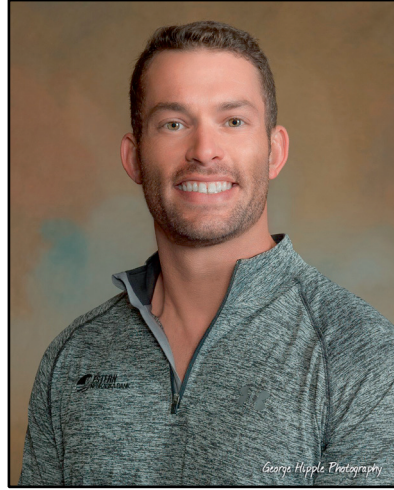


Amelia Adams (DeYong)
2012 Veterinary Technology

I've been married for two years and have two of the best four-legged fur babies anyone could ask for. I am currently licensed in two states and hopefully soon will be licensed in a third I have been working as a Tech for 4 years at Ellis County Animal Hospital which is a mixed animal practice where I do most of the lab work including some manual cbc's, reading a large number of bovine semen evaluations and most of the fecals!

My most rewarding experiences have been water therapy on two paralyzed dachshunds that

are both happy and walking now! Some of the best experiences have been the most challenging including patients crashing, patients that don't know how to leave a splint on, foals that need radiographs and of course putting IV catheters in dehydrated calves and puppies! You never really know how prepared you are until the inevitable happens!



Wade Shipman
2014 Agri-Business Management

My name is Wade Shipman and I currently reside in Curtis. After growing up on a dairy farm in north central Ohio, and upon graduation from high school, I decided to join the United States Marine Corp. Once that chapter of my life was over I made the decision to come to Nebraska and NCTA to pursue my goal of a college degree. During my time at NCTA I grew to enjoy the area, the people, and the rural culture.

I am employed in the local community as the Assistant Vice President / Ag Lender at Western Nebraska Bank. My normal day-to-day consists of working with the agriculture community in every aspect from financing to advising. I believe the experience I gained from NCTA has been instrumental in pursuit of my career and current position in which I am able to have an impact in agriculture, both local and statewide.

NCTA unveils new image identity



NCTA

In 2016 NCTA began using a new identification logo. The black N will be NCTA's primary logo.

For more information visit: ncta.unl.edu/identity-guide/logos.



Sholes (left) and Beals (right).
NCTA Valedictorians of 2014 & 2015

Kellie Sholes and McKenzie Beals, NCTA valedictorians of 2014 and 2015, respectively, were accepted to the Professional Program of Veterinary Medicine in cooperation between the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Iowa State University. Kellie and McKenzie transferred to UNL to complete Bachelor's Degrees in Animal Science following graduation from NCTA.

Kellie, from Ainsworth, Neb., is completing her first year in the veterinary program and will graduate in 2020. McKenzie, from Friend, Neb., will begin classes this fall and graduate in 2021. Kellie and McKenzie plan to specialize in food animal medicine and return to rural Nebraska following graduation to work directly with livestock producers to improve herd health and continue the production of sustainable and quality protein sources that feed the world.

Boo Law Memories

Boo received her teaching certificate from the Nebraska School of Agriculture in 1941. She taught in a one-room schoolhouse in Nebraska, helped build B-17 bombers during WWII as a "Rosie the Riveter" in Burbank, California; traveled to more than 150 countries; and was a Life Member of the Girl Scouts of America. A blog exists to honor her memory: <http://boolaw.blogspot.com>.

UNSTA-NCTA Alumni Awards

2016 – Gene Heller, Alumni Service Award
Stan and Dorothy Matzke, Honorary Life Membership

2015 – Jerry Sundquist, Distinguished/Legacy Award
David and Ann Bruntz, Alumni Achievement
Dr. Martin Massengale, Honorary Life Membership

2014 – Dave Smith, Honorary Life Membership
Mike Stewart, Alumni Achievement, posthumous
Dr. Walter Long, Distinguished/Legacy Award, posthumous

2013 – R.P. Smith, Distinguished/Legacy Award

2012 – Community of Curtis, Alumni Service Award

2011 – Richard and Marilyn Shinn, Alumni Service Award
Dr. George Garlick, Distinguished/Legacy Award

2010 – Elaine Siminoe, Alumni Service Award
Dr. Weldon Sleight, Honorary Life Membership Award

Alumni association awards are based on nominations submitted to the board of directors, in these categories for recognition:

Alumni Achievement – Recognizes exemplary service to NSA, UNSA, UNSTA, or NCTA or to Nebraska agriculture and natural resources, in general. The honoree must have completed a degree at the Curtis institution.

Alumni Service – For outstanding service to NSA, UNSA, UNSTA, or NCTA. The recipient need not be a graduate.

Honorary Life Membership – For outstanding service to Nebraska's agriculture or natural resources; recipient is not an alumnus.

Distinguished/Legacy Award – Recognizes personal or professional excellence in advancing the legacy of NSA, UNSA, UNSTA or NCTA, or for demonstrating exemplary commitment, leadership, and participation bringing distinction to themselves, their profession, the technical college, or to the NU system.

Nominations can be made to Dan Stehlik, Chairman Alumni Association Awards 404 East 7th Street Curtis, NE 69025, dstehlik@unl.edu or 308-367-5241.



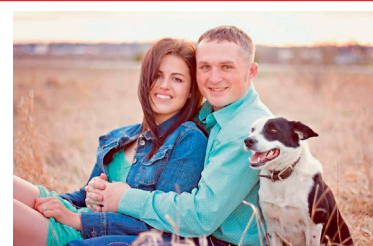
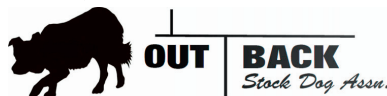
Gene Heller, David City, receives the Alumni Service Award (2016) from Dan Stehlik.



Ann Bruntz has a new belt buckle presented by Catherine Hauptman.

Thank you!

NCTA alumni Jake and Lacey Haskell recently contributed funds along with the Outback Stock Dog Association for new kennels on campus. Once installed, the kennels will be made available to members of the NCTA Stock Dog Team.



NCTA launches dairy program

NCTA teamed with South Dakota State University to offer a dairy production program in Nebraska. The curriculum was introduced at the Nebraska State Dairy Association convention in Columbus Feb. 21.

Dean Ron Rosati and Doug Smith, chairman of the NCTA Animal Science and Agricultural Education Division, were invited to outline the new statewide academic program at the dairy meeting which draws dairy producers and allied industries, said Rod Johnson, NSDA executive director.

“There is a real need for people who understand the dairy industry,” Johnson said. “Our dairy farmers are constantly looking for employees who have specialized training and the ability to care for dairy animals at any stage of the production cycle.”

NCTA is actively recruiting college students now to major in dairy production, Smith said. A partnership between NCTA and South Dakota State University was developed late last year.

Classes will begin Fall, 2017, with three semesters of coursework at NCTA in Curtis, and one semester at Brookings, S.D., where the SDSU Dairy Science department includes dairy production with a commercial scale dairy herd, along with dairy science and processing programs.

“The program involves 76 credit hours of courses, labs, and practical hands-on experience in dairy production and herd management,” said Smith. “Our University courses in Lincoln and Curtis do not include on-site dairy herds so the partnership with SDSU is a win-win industrywide, here for Nebraska residents as well as out-of-state students.”



Students at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture can now study dairy science at Curtis and at the South Dakota State University dairy program at Brookings. (SDSU photo)

Brick It!



The first order of paving bricks for the new courtyard on the east side of Ag Hall arrived and was installed last spring.

Customize a brick for \$100 in Phase II. Request your order form from Catherine Hauptman at chauptman4@unl.edu or 308-367-5200.

Legacy Wall Tile



Professor Terri Jo (Cahoone) Bek
Devoted, passionate educator/mentor
UNSTA/NCTA 1978-2017

Check out the Legacy Wall in NCTA's education center.

Consider contributing to help support the best learning environment possible. A 12" x 12" glass tile can include your logo or photo for a \$1,000 contribution.

Thanks for your generosity!

Aggie Alumni Weekend 2017

Saturday June 24th

1:00 P.M.: Alumni Board meeting
Bonfire Grill
509 S 9th Ave #103
Broken Bow, NE

5:30 P.M.: Social Time and Silent Auction
Nebraska One Box Convention Center
@ Cobblestone Hotel and Suites
2750 South 27th
Broken Bow, NE

Silent Auction contact: Ann Bruntz
402-366-6608 /
ann_bruntz@hotmail.com

**Please bring an item with you for the
silent auction**

7:00 P.M.: Aggie Alumni Banquet
Nebraska One Box Convention Center
Cash Bar available

Menu: Petite sirloin, pork loin, garlic
smashed potatoes, baked fettuccini,
salad bar, apple crisp, Oreo dessert

Broken Bow Accommodations

Cobblestone Hotel and Suites
308-767-2060
www.staycobblestone.com/ne/broken-bow/

Boarders Inn and Suites
308-872-6428
www.staycobblestone.com/ne/broken-bow-boarders/

Alumni Officers

President: Kim Mortensen, 1983 VT
President elect: Dave Mahaffey, 1983 Ag Mech
Secretary: Catherine Hauptman, 2003 VT
Treasurer: Taylor Rossenbach, 2014 APS

Alumni Board members:

Ann and David Bruntz, Boni Edwards, Dan Stehlik,
Dave May, Gene Heller, Jerry Sundquist,
Mary Crawford, Stephanie Stedman

Registration form for Aggie Alumni Banquet

Please return this form completely filled out and a
check payable to *Aggie Alumni Association* by
May 29th, 2017.

Mail to: Aggie Alumni Association c/o Catherine
Hauptman 404 East 7th St Curtis, NE 69025
(308)367-5200 or chauptman4@unl.edu

Name(s): _____

Department: _____

Graduation Year: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Annual Alumni Membership Fee per Alumnus:

\$15 _____

OR

Already a lifetime member: _____

Saturday June 24th

of Banquet Meals: _____ at \$35/person

Total Enclosed: _____

(Tear this half off and send in with your payment)

2017 Spring Newsletter
Editor: Catherine Hauptman
Layout: Eric Reed
Content by Mary Crawford and Catherine Hauptman
Send address changes, story tips and photos to mcrawford@unl.edu



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Alumni President Message

Hello from Curtis, February in southwest Nebraska is proving to be as unpredictable as ever...one day windy, 20° and clouds; the next 65°, sunshine and blue sky!

NCTA campus is thriving with excited students, progressively, forward thinking faculty and staff and extra-curricular teams bringing home lots of hardware from competitions! Mary Crawford and Catherine Hauptman keep our alumni groups informed of all happenings on and off campus that involve the NCTA students... check out the Facebook pages for NCTA Alumni and U.N.S.T.A. Alumni Page because these ladies keep them both updated with all kinds of college, alumni and general happenings.

Mark your calendar for our upcoming alumni reunion on Saturday, June 24th in Broken Bow! Yes, that's Broken Bow! We have been moving around the state as of recent years with every other year hosting the banquet in Curtis. There are a large number of alumni from the Bow area so make sure you send in your registrations, talk with classmates and plan on a great

evening of visiting! The board will be meeting at the Bonfire at 1:00 with the main event being held at the Nebraska One Box Convention Center starting at 5:00 with social time & Silent Auction. Supper will follow along with guest speaker R.P. Smith (2013 Distinguished/Legacy Award Recipient) and a short business meeting. If you have any questions feel free to contact Catherine Hauptman at (308)367-5200 or chauptman4@unl.edu.



Kim Bowers Mortensen
Vet Tech '83