

404 East 7th St, Curtis, NE 69025 + ncta.unl.edu

Alumni Banquet and Reunion

Each year the NSA, UNSTA and NCTA alumni and friends meet to enjoy memories of the past. The locations of the reunions have always been in a city on the I-80 corridor because Curtis and NCTA lacked the hotel and conferencing facilities necessary to serve a large group. That has now changed through the new building projects. The Alumni Board of Directors voted to bring the reunion back to Curtis on **August 13, 2011**. Guests have the option of staying both Friday and Saturday evenings or arriving on Saturday. It will cost \$30.00 per night for one resident hall room; each room can sleep two people. The new resident hall facility will be available as will the older dorms. We do ask all guests staying in the residence halls to provide their own bedding and linens.

Schedule

Friday, August 12, 2011

- 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM** Alumni Board Meeting at the Curtis Cattle Company (CCC)
- 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM** Check-in at the Residence Hall
- 8:00 PM** Social mixer at the CCC

Saturday, August 13, 2011

- 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM** Breakfast in cafeteria (on your own)
- 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM** Explore campus on your own
- 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM** Alumni basketball game at Community Center
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM** Lunch available on campus at cafeteria, deli or downtown Curtis
- 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM** Aggie Games on football field (wear athletic attire or come to watch the fun)
- 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM** 1st round of campus tours
- 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM** 2nd round of campus tours
If only attending Saturday, August 13, 2011
- 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM** Check-in to dorm rooms
- 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM** Welcome home reception at the Curtis Community Center
- 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM** Alumni Banquet
- 9:30 PM – 1:00 AM** Dance at Curtis Cattle Company

Sunday, August 14, 2011

- 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM** Farewell brunch at NCTA cafeteria

Registration Form

NSA/UNSTA/NCTA Alumni Banquet and Reunion

Please reserve _____ banquet dinners at **\$35.00 per person**.
Dorm Room Fee per night **\$30.00** (sleeps 2 people)
Annual Alumni Membership fee **\$15.00**
All other meals/activities will be purchased separately.
Total Payment \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Department _____

Grad Year _____

Address _____

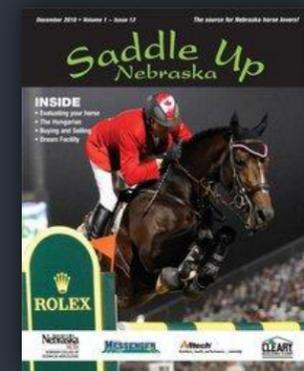
City/State/Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____

Email address _____

Please cut out and return this form and check payable to
NSA/UNSTA/NCTA Alumni Association
by July 20th to:
Larry Cooper
PO Box 531
Curtis, NE 69025
402-340-5173 ljcooper26@hotmail.com

(A \$10.00 late fee will be charged for all registrations received after July 20, 2011.)



Saddle Up!

Our very own, Eric Reed, is the news editor of *Saddle Up Nebraska!* As the general education professor, he has to find ways to give writing meaning. His connection to *Saddle Up* gives students an opportunity to publish their articles. Go to the website below to check it out!

<http://livestockroundup.net/saddleupnebraska/>

For additional information please visit: ncta.unl.edu/alumni

Volume 7
Issue 1

Spring
2011

NCTA News for Alumni of NSA, UNSTA, & NCTA

ncta in the news

“Weldon Sleight, dean of the University of Nebraska’s College of Technical Agriculture, which has six enrolled veterans, said discipline — a mainstay of the armed forces — was critically important in agriculture. “A lot of these rural vets have this wonderful knowledge base about agriculture...”

- *The New York Times*

“Gearing up for its full launch this fall, “Combat Boots,” at the college in Curtis -- a part of the University of Nebraska located about 225 miles from the main campus in Lincoln -- will be part job-training and part career-placement for military veterans interested in becoming farm or ranch owners.”

- *ABC News*

“There isn’t a “Barn” quite like the one at the University of Nebraska-Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) in Curtis, Neb. It was the last stop for “Tour Saturday,” the NCTA Open House held on April 2, 2011. As 65 visitors from Nebraska and four surrounding states relaxed in comfortable chairs and couches...”

- *The Fence Post*



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Letter from the Dean

Dear Alumni and Friends,

It is now spring time at NCTA and with it comes graduation. This year 93 students graduated and will now enter agricultural careers or continue their education at UNL or other four year institutions in other states. Current students from 12 states are enrolled at NCTA.

A recent review of UNSTA, and NCTA enrollments show that students from 42 states have studied at this wonderful institution. While the institution has remained small and dedicated to preparing students for careers in agriculture it is now focusing on the rural communities that serve Nebraska’s largest industry.

Our student ownership programs designed to return our students to rural communities are doing well. We now have over 20 students who have completed the 100 Beef Cow Ownership program and have purchased cows in partnership with established producers. Another program that has received a great deal of national recognition is our Combat Boots to Cowboy Boots program. This program is extremely important to our veterans coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan who want to return to their rural roots but don’t know how. It is interesting that rural communities within the U.S. only make up 17% of the total population, but 45% of the military personnel come from rural America. This program will help these wonderful veterans who have served us so well find a way back home to rural America as a partner in an agricultural enterprise or a rural main street business. This program and NCTA’s other ownership programs are important to the revitalization of our communities and schools.

Also, new this year is our new Rural Community Career Development dual enrollment course taught at rural high schools.

The major objective of this course is to create a “return plan” for high school seniors before they leave to go to college. It is of critical importance that agriculture and business enterprise owners and professionals create partnerships and mentorships with our youth to sustain rural communities.

The 2010-11 academic year has been a year of building for the future. The Education Center, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Residence Hall and biomass projects will give NCTA the capacity to double its enrollment, important to its sustainability. Many of you contributed to these important projects. We thank you and your names will be recognized on a donor wall.

As you know, through a letter I wrote to you in March, we are still \$500,000 short of having all the projects fully funded. We are very blessed that through some creative financing we were able to begin construction but now we must raise the additional funding by October 2011 when the project is to be completed.

We have developed a new Legacy Recognition Wall in the Education Center that will allow you to have pictures of your agriculture/business enterprise, family and your brand or logo etched into a glass tile. If you are not an owner of an enterprise you may have a picture of your family, pets or other significant images. This will provide you and your family a permanent record of your legacy at NCTA. The tile cost is \$1,000. One tile will be displayed in the new Education Center and the other will be sent home for you to enjoy.

Thank you for all you have done and will do to preserve this unique institution for future generations to enjoy as past generations have for 98 years.

Dr. Weldon Sleight

A Letter from Your Alumni President

Greetings Fellow Alumni:

I hope that this message finds everyone enjoying a very pleasant spring season. I am sure many of you are finishing up calving season or are in the field planting.

I cannot tell you how excited I am that this year's alumni reunion is going to be held in Curtis! I have personally been in Curtis several times over the last year in preparation of this year's reunion, and I for one am simply amazed at the construction taking place on campus. For those of you who haven't been on campus in a while (or perhaps since your own graduation), you are in for an eye full of change!

I am personally asking each and every one of you to make every effort possible to attend this year's reunion. The alumni board has been working very hard to make this move back to Curtis a success. Is there a classmate that you haven't talked to in a while? How about calling them up and meeting at the reunion? The reunions are a great time to reminisce with old friends, and perhaps make a few new ones!

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Progress is being made on the new Education Center.

Visit <http://ncta.unl.edu/construction-photos> to view pictures of all the new buildings being built.



New Faces @ NCTA

We have added many new, friendly faces on campus in the past year.

New Faculty:

Tee Applegarth
Assistant Professor - Horticulture

Jake Woehl
Assistant Professor - Agriculture Production & Livestock Judging Team Coach

Ashley Pinney
Assistant Professor - Agriculture Production & Horse Show Team Coach

New Staff:

Dr. Scott Mickelsen
Associate Dean

Erik Williams
Assistant Admissions Coordinator

Sarah Cole
Food Services

Crissy Currie
Food Services

Marina O'Valle
Custodial/Security



New University of Nebraska Vice President for Agriculture

In July Dr. John Owens retired from administration and we welcomed Dr. Ronnie Green as the new Vice President



and Harlan Vice Chancellor for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Dr. Green received his PhD from the University of Nebraska and received faculty appointments at Texas Tech University and Colorado State University. He was appointed USDA Department of Agriculture program leader in Food Animal Production with responsibility for the Meat Animal Research Center at Clay Center. At this time he moved to Sutton, Nebraska where he and his wife Jane have raised their family on the family farm. He most recently worked as the senior director, animal genetics global technical services for Pfizer Animal Health. We welcome Dr. Green who is very supportive of NCTA and its mission.

A Time to Build: The Future is Bright at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

Graduation day May 6, 2010, was a day of celebration for the graduates and also a time to celebrate the ground breaking for the long awaited Education Center, Veterinary Hospital addition and the new Residence Hall.

The Education Center, located on the old baseball field east of the Student Union (previously the gymnasium), currently has a steel structure erected. The Veterinary Hospital addition is of particular interest as the old Dairy Barn is being preserved and will become an integrate part of the building. The new residence hall will be located above the Mum Bowl looking out to the south with a view of Ag Hall and the valley.

The residence hall will be completed in August in time to welcome students for the fall semester. The Education Center and the Veterinary Hospital will be completed in October. All of the construction projects are coming along well and NCTA is very excited for the future.



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As most of you know, Curtis is very near and dear to my heart. For that very reason I have personally joined the many that have purchased tiles for the tile campaign going on at Curtis. Wouldn't you like to be included and remembered forever in the construction of the new buildings at Curtis?

The tile project is an excellent way for you to show your support for the progress being made on campus, as well as being forever memorialized. I encourage all alumni to join in and support the tile project.

I hope to see you all at this year's reunion!

Sincerely,
Tony R. Larsen,
NSA, UNSTA, NCTA
Alumni President

ALUMNI...Have news to share?

We'd love to hear from you!

Career Accomplishments? Rural community involvement? Making a difference?

The quickest way to share is to email your great information to ljcooper26@hotmail.com

Or mail information to :

NSA/UNSTA/NCTA Alumni Association News

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Curtis, NE 69025

