



Introducing Class Ten

Class participants are:

- Scott Collins, Minesing, Cardinal Farm Supply*
- Alison Connell, Mississauga, BMO*
- Jim Cooke, Walkerton, Farmer (crops, beef feedlot)*
- Judy Dirksen, Harriston, Farmer (veal, crops, custom work)*
- Ken Filson, Ilderton, St. Willibrord, The Credit Union*
- Jay Fretz, Guelph, First Line Seeds, Farmer (dairy)*
- Helma Geerts, Guelph, Regional Municipality of Halton*
- Dave Gosnell, Waterloo, Engage Agro Corp.*
- Mary Ann Hendriks, Strathroy, Lymarix Farms Ltd (hogs and crops)*
- Robert Hunter, Toronto, Maple Leaf Foods International*
- Cathy Kennedy, Erin, OMAF*
- Henry Koskamp, Stratford, Farmer (dairy)*
- Ed Lee, Thorndale, Farmer (field crops) and contractor*
- Carol Leeming, Seaforth, Leeming Farms Ltd. (chickens and crops)*
- Kim Lennox, Ayton, Farmer (sheep and beef)*
- Geoff McMullen, Guelph, Sharpe Farm Supplies*
- Janice Patterson, Rockwood, Environmental Consultant*
- Lynn Philp, Cambridge, Veal Specialist, OMAF*
- Monica Quinn, Ripley, Snobelen Dehy Ltd., Farmer (sheep)*
- Paul Robinson, Chatham, S.W. AG Partners Inc.*
- Lilian Schaer, Guelph, Ontario Pork*
- Eric Schwindt, Elmira, Genex, Farmer (field crops and hogs)*

We're excited to introduce the participants in AALP Class Ten. They bring a wide variety of capabilities and experience to the program. The 13 female and 17 male members range in age from 23 to 56 years, with the average age being 37. Half of the new participants are farmers (dairy, beef, pork, cash crops, vegetables, sheep, poultry, and greenhouse plants). The remainder consist of agri-business employees, food industry workers, bankers, commodity group staff, and municipal and provincial personnel. Many of the participants' formal education has been in agriculture and related fields, with nine holding a B.Sc. in Agriculture and four holding agricultural diplomas. 14 others have degrees or diplomas in other fields and three have Masters degrees. The wide geographic distribution of the class will ensure that issues and concerns from many areas of the province are represented.

- Katie Sinclair, Guelph, Ontario Pork*
- Bev Sriel, Cambridge, Sriel International Services*
- Dean Tiessen, Leamington, Pyramid Farms Limited (greenhouse vegetables)*
- Andy Van Niekerk, Stayner, Farmer (hogs, beef and field crops)*
- Jeff Van Roboys, Chatham, Thames Van Farms Ltd. (field and vegetable crops)*
- Keith Wardlaw, Cookstown, Farmer (chickens)*
- Dan Wright, Ayr, Monsanto Canada*
- Barb Zettler, Teeswater, Farmer (hogs, beef and field crops)*

AALP

A Newsletter Published by Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program

in this issue:

- Class Ten
- 2004 Dream Auction
- New Board & Staff

Fall 2003

Class Ten Supporters

2004 Black & White Dream Auction – Saturday February 14, 2004



We've taken the lead and made Valentine's Day plans for you! Mark your calendar now for the fifth Black and White Dream Auction, being held on Saturday February 14, 2004, in the Atrium of the OMAF building at One Stone Road West, Guelph. Join AALP grads and friends from across the agri-food sector for this popular evening. Class Nine grads, Bev Devries and Gary Lannin are co-chairing this event and encourage everyone to

begin planning their donations. The 2002 event made just over \$57,000 for AALP and they want to maintain the tradition of each auction raising more than the previous one.

For more information and tickets, contact the AALP office at (519) 826-4204 or info@ruralleadership.ca. Start planning your donation today!

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Class Nine breaks longstanding Class Six fundraising record with the 2003 Pitch'n for AALP

After a six year undisputed reign as fundraising champions through Classes Seven and Eight, AALP Class Six has been stripped of its title.

Total funds raised through two Pitch'n for AALP ball tournaments by AALP Class Nine have reached more than \$11,000.

In spite of blackout conditions a day earlier, the second annual event was held on August 16 at the Marden Community Centre, just north of Guelph. The event also included a pig roast and dance. Funds raised from the 2003 tournament went to purchase a LCD multimedia projector and a lap top computer for the AALP program.

Winning the tournament was the OMAF team "On the Fly". Placing second were the "Hydroponics", a team of Agricorp employees and friends. Third place went to last year's champions from Chicken Farmers of Ontario, "Poultry in Motion". All three teams donated their winnings back to the tournament.

Special acknowledgement goes to Class Six's Brenda Trask whose spirits never waned despite being hit on the head with a softball. She returned from being stitched up at the hospital in time to enjoy the pig roast – now that's dedication!

Class Nine was delighted to have Class Ten members field a team for this year's tournament (aptly named the "Newbies") and Class Ten has been challenged to continue the event next year.

There are a number of groups that must be recognised for their support of this successful event.

- Thank you to companies who contributed a whopping \$3500 in sponsorship: Strub's Pickles, Rezwear Clothing, Thomas Canning, Family Tradition Foods, Ontario Pork and Campbell Soup.
- Thank you to players from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture's team who obtained more than \$900 in pledges from their board members for the number of runs scored throughout the day. This money has been added to the fundraiser's totals and was a significant boost to the event.
- Thank you to the 12 teams (eight returning, four new) that entered in the tournament.
- Thank you to the planning committee: Gary Lannin, Wendy Jahn, Bev Devries, Dan Carli, Nadine Buitenhuis and Kelly Daynard.



Bev Devries and Amy Lemay of AALP Class Nine help feed hungry players at the Pitch'n for AALP Baseball Tournament.

Proposed Advanced Leadership in Conservation Program

We've been approached by the Federation of Ontario Naturalists and Conservation Ontario to put together a one-year intensive leadership program for the environmental/conservation sector, based on the AALP model. The two groups feel there's a real lack of leadership training in their sector and have been really impressed by the quality of AALP as demonstrated by its grads. They also have a lot of interest in having the two leadership programs work together to begin building a better understanding and common ground between the agriculture and the conservation industries. Unfortunately, we cannot proceed with this program unless we get additional funding. An application has been submitted to the Ontario Trillium Foundation. We realize that the competition for Trillium grants is fierce, so we are looking for other potential funding sources as well.

Grad Trip to China – Join in the Adventure

March 6-18, 2004

Since the Graduate Services Program began in 2001, we've tried to provide more opportunities for AALP grads to continue their leadership development – and to recapture that great AALP enthusiasm and spirit. With this in mind, we're really excited to announce that a remarkable learning experience – the Grad Trip to China - is a go and everyone is invited!

Featuring the “Best of” Class Nine's trip, this is your chance to understand exactly how China's growth will impact our agricultural industry, learn about the environmental impacts of their development, see how employment is managed for one billion people and see some of the most amazing historical sites in the world. Some of the highlights include visits to Tiananmen Square, The Great Wall of China and the Terra Cotta Warriors; meetings with the Shanghai Agricultural Commission and Bright Dairy and Food Company and tours of a rural dairy village, a school, supermarkets, a food terminal, a silk processing plant and a tea plantation.

The trip costs \$3,450 for members of the Graduate Services Program and \$3,650 for non-members. This price includes your airfare, transportation within China, hotels, meals and admission fees. It's really a great deal. You won't be able to find a similar trip anywhere for this low price.

We've also built in an optional two or three night stop-over in Hong Kong for an additional cost of \$350 (includes two nights hotel accommodation, two breakfasts, airport shuttle and half-day city tour).

We are already well over half sold out – and we cannot accept more than 40 due to bus sizes so make your reservation today by calling Scott Allen or Judy Anger



Alen Mao, Semex China, Aaron Bickell and Ingrid Kapteyn on Class Nine's trip to China.

at Goliger's Travel Plus in Waterloo at 1-800-465-4437. A deposit of \$300 per person is required with the balance to be paid 45 days in advance of the trip.

Grad Forums

Three more Grad Forums are being planned during Class Ten's schedule. On November 14, 2003 in Peterborough, grads will attend the “Communication, Facilitation, Confidence and Motivation” session. March 2, 2004 will be the “Political Process and Urban Society” session in Toronto and on April 2, 2005, grads will be invited to Class Ten's final seminar and graduation banquet in London.

Class Four Gathers at the Outdoor Farm Show

Brian Bestard of Class Four reports that their class met at Woodstock during the Outdoor Farm Show. This reunion was a resounding success with a turnout of 13% (four in total) of grads making an appearance! In fact, the numbers were so good, they're going to make it an annual event!

Grad News • Grad News

Phil Anwender (Class 8) and wife Eleanor won the Stratford and District Chamber of Commerce, Business Excellence Award for their on-farm environmental initiatives.

Nadine Buitenhuis (Class 9) is Communications and Program Coordinator for the Agricultural Adaptation Council.

Julie Cayley (Class 8) is the chair of the Northeast Agricultural & Biological Engineering Community (NABEC) for 2004. NABEC, a community under the American Society of Agricultural Engineers (ASAE), is a multidisciplinary organization with a diverse international membership including government, researchers, academics and industry.

Evelyn Chambers (Class 4) is president of the Lindsay and District Chamber of Commerce.

Karen Daynard (Class 8) is chair of the OAC Alumni Association's Communications Committee and the editor of the OAC Alumni Newsletter.

Kelly Daynard, Cathy Lennon (Class 9) and **Crystal Mackay** (Class 7) toured Gord Miller, Ontario Environment Commissioner through a beef feedlot, a sheep and a hog farm. The composting of dead-stock and the management of manure were key topics of discussion.

Greg Devries (Class 8) is building a six-acre greenhouse complex to grow red peppers near Dresden.

Greg Hannam (Class 7) was appointed to the provincial Nutrient Management Advisory Council.

Wendy Jahn (Class 9) is the new general manager of the Ontario Soybean Growers.

Amy Lemay (Class 9) was the "Agrologist-in-Residence" during the Ontario Agricultural College's Career Week in September.

Kevin MacLean (Class 8) and partner Jo-Ann Earl are opening "Wellness in the Woods" a day-spa on their dairy farm just east of Napanee.

Sue McLarty (Class 5) is a director for South-West Agri-Development and is also project manager for the Agricultural Business Centre at Ridgetown College.

David Mitchell (Class 7) is the first and only councillor to be acclaimed in the City of Hamilton's 2003 municipal election.

Frances Shamley (Class 8) is the chair of the National Adult Literacy Database Inc. (NALD) and a director for the ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation.

Marilyn Sewell (Class 2) has just completed a term with the Board of Directors of the local day care and is now on the School Fair Committee and the Church's Transition Team. She and her husband Alan Kelley are also once again leading 4-H in Brant County.

Angela Stiles (Class 7) is the new executive director of the Agricultural Adaptation Council in Guelph.

Lisa Thompson (Class 6) has started her own business, LMT Consulting, specializing in training and organizational development.

Brenda Watson (Class 2) is the new executive director for the Canadian Partnership for Consumer Food Safety Education.

Lloyd Wicks (Class 1) helped organize a milk rally in Cannington to protest changes to the milk export practices.

Cora Whittington (Class 3) and her husband opened Golden Pathways Retreat and B&B, a retreat and vacation destination near Peterborough.

Introducing...



Dan Legault,
Executive Director, The Centre for Rural Leadership

Dan joined The Centre and AALP in June following the completion of a contract position as the Director of Development and Communications with the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Ontario Region. He is an accomplished fund and resource development, communications, marketing and administration professional with more than 14 years of management experience in the not-for-profit sector.



Kathy Kaye,
Administrative Manager

Kathy comes to us from The Ontario Rural Council (TORC) where she administered their rural health project, and played a coordination role in the youth symposium and TORC's regular forum series. She has demonstrated project and team coordination skills having worked for the Federal Rural Secretariat and on short-term projects in Zimbabwe, India and Korea. As well, she comes equipped with excellent communication and interpersonal skills.



Heather Ferguson,
Fund Development Manager

Heather Ferguson is filling in during Molly Ross's maternity leave. Heather has a strong fundraising background having worked for the University of Guelph's Equine Research Centre in a fund development capacity. In her spare time, she raises and trains horses and is also a riding instructor.

The Centre for Rural Leadership Board

Art Stirling of Pioneer Hi-Bred Ltd, is the new president of The Centre for Rural Leadership. Art has been involved with The Centre, and AALP for many years both as a lead sponsor and as a participant in Class Six.

In addition to Art, continuing board members are **Christine Dukelow** (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing), **Lisa Duffin** (Ontario Federation of Agriculture and AALP Class 8), **Rob Hannam** (Monsanto Canada Inc.), **Rod Stork** (Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food), **Dr. Craig Pearson** (University of Guelph), **Rick Culbert** (Bioniche Animal Health Canada Inc. and AALP Class 7), **Julien Den Tandt** (Den Tandt & Associates) and **Kevin Thompson** (Association of Ontario Chicken Processors and AALP Class 8).

The two new faces on the Board are **David Thomson** and **Dana Richardson**.

David Thomson is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Ontario Pharmacists' Association (OPA). Prior to his recent appointment, David worked for the MARS Discovery District, a public-private sector partnership focused on accelerating the commercialization of biotechnology in Canada. He is also a veteran of the Ontario Public Service.

Dana Richardson is the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Rural Development Division at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. She has also held this senior position at the Ministry of the Environment, at Cabinet Office and elsewhere in the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, most recently the Local Government Division.

AALP Management Committee

The new AALP Management Committee replaces the former Curriculum Development Team with responsibilities for curriculum planning and development of AALP and the Graduate Services Program, and will assist in other tasks relating to AALP, such as recruiting and fundraising. **Lisa Duffin**, TCRL Board and AALP Class 8 will chair this committee, while **Jim Mahone** of the University of Guelph will act as Curriculum Advisor. They'll be joined by **Mark Reusser** (Class 4), **Dan Carli** (Class 9), **Cathy Lennon** (Class 9), **Mike Nailor** (Class 9) and **Michael Toombs**, Director, Client Services, OMAF.