# VERMONT TECH

Vermont Technical College Alumni Newsletter Winter 2013 www.vtc.edu

34

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## **INSIDE:**

SOAR: Vermont Tech's Summer of Applied Research

GroundWork Series: Vermont Tech's Institute for Applied Agriculture and Food Systems

Longtime Academic Dean Pat Menchini Retires

Students Blaine Conner and Ben Cayer working on a SOAR Project



Dr. Philip A. Conroy, Jr., President

# Counting on You

Vermont Technical College exists for students, to provide them with an outstanding applied education they need for tomorrow's jobs. Our academic programs encompass a wide range of engineering technology, agricultural, health, and business fields that are vital to producing the knowledge workers needed most by employers in the state and in the region.

Our dedicated faculty and staff make this possible by teaching, advising and mentoring. Their efforts are integral to students' success and Vermont Tech's vibrant reputation.

But we can't do this alone. Just as a Vermont Tech education is a group effort—a collaboration of faculty, staff and students, so is supporting the college's mission.

That's why I'm asking you today—whether you're a graduate or friend, faculty or staff member—to participate in this year's Annual Fund. The College's Annual Fund plays a critical role each year, bridging the gap between tuition and the actual cost of educating a Vermont Tech student.

Why does a public college need an annual fund? Because, as I explain, Vermont Tech is a publically missioned, privately financed college: Only 10% of our funding actually comes from the State. Tuition is the biggest source of funding, with additional contributions from grants and the Annual Fund.

You may wonder what a gift to the Annual Fund supports. The answer is, everything that makes up a Vermont Tech education: scholarships and student programs, modernized classrooms and up-to-date labs. Outside the classroom, the Annual Fund helps provide athletic programs, student activities, library resources, and beautifies campus.

That's why we're counting on you. You are a vital part of the equation: Every day, students depend on the Annual Fund to help deliver the College's mission. By making a gift, you make this education possible.

Please join us in making a gift to the Annual Fund today.

# SOARing through Summer

t's no coincidence that the acronym for Vermont Tech's Summer of Applied Research program is SOAR because that is exactly what five ambitious and hard-working students did over the summer. In labs and in the field, these students reached new academic and personal heights as they tackled complex challenges in a range of projects.

"SOAR is a big step forward in the College's long-standing commitment to applied learning. Our SOAR students are taking the lessons learned in the classroom and then applying their knowledge and skills to projects on which they work very independently," says **Professor Joan Richmond-Hall**, Director of the Sustainable Design and Technology major and a SOAR faculty participant.

SOAR projects are developed by faculty, who are responsible for obtaining support through grants and other funding sources. Most of the projects are multi-year in scope and involve local partners, such as government agencies, small businesses, or groups of farmers. In addition to Richmond-Hall, faculty included **Mary O'Leary**, **Dr. Christopher Dutton**, and **Dr. John Kidder**. The SOAR lab was overseen by technician **Geoff Finkels**.

Students Blaine Conner, James Blakely, Ben Cayer, Cole Predom, and Adam Sprague worked on the eight SOAR projects, most of which focused on exploring scientific questions that related to agricultural advances that are relevant to the Vermont community. For example, one of the projects sought to identify the process parameters of making biomass fuel pellets with a small-scale pellet mill. The students identified the pellet production process and created relevant safety precautions.

"We would develop goals as a group every few days, and then the day-to-day prioritization was up to us, and we were very effective at getting stuff done," says Conner, who is pursuing a dual major in Architectural Engineering and Sustainable Design and Technology.

Another project, dubbed "Grass Basket," involved "ground truthing" the GIS [geographic information system] technology to determine field use and feasibility of mowing. "Our students were building things, digging things up, and measuring using the latest in GIS technology," says Professor O'Leary, who teaches Civil Engineering and Sustainable Design and Technology.

In a soil and water quality study, students worked to determine the long-term monitoring of soil and water quality in a watershed fertilized with effluent produced by anaerobic production.

"Our SOAR students interact with clients, with regulators and with community representatives. They truly act as professional scientists," says Professor Richmond-Hall. "Having students speak directly to clients, not professors, is very important."

Faculty interview potential SOAR students during the academic year, looking for those who are self-motivated, have the potential to work both independently and as part of teams, and excel at time management. Students work up to 37.5 hours per week.

"My working relationship with other SOAR students was great," says Ben Cayer, a Sustainable Design major who worked on all eight of the SOAR projects developed over the summer. "The faculty were great to work with as well. They let us do our thing, and if we needed anything they got it for us. SOAR made me realize that I have acquired many great skills over the last three years at Vermont Tech."

# GroundWork

The GroundWork Series Features Vermont Tech's Commitment to a Sustainable Future Through Education, Applied Research and Innovation. hen **Linda Dimmick** and her husband Rob, who both attended Vermont Tech, started running Neighborly Farms more than 20 years ago, information on launching a small business was scarce. She had questions about how to write a business plan, secure financing, and interact with state regulators, but there was little information available in the pre-Google era, and Dimmick had to pound the pavement to find answers to her questions.

Flash forward to 2012. Now a seasoned business owner, Dimmick is telling budding entrepreneurs that the place to find information is Vermont Tech's "GroundWork: A Series on Cultivating a Sustainable Future through Education, Applied Research and Innovation."

"GroundWork is hitting the topics that are important," says Dimmick, who was a panelist at the first GroundWork event, which focused on Entrepreneurship. Dimmick's two children also attend Vermont Tech, and she has taken classes related to her role as general manager of her farm, which produces cheese as its main product.

GroundWork is the latest initiative of Vermont Tech's newly founded Institute for Applied Agriculture and Food Systems. The Institute is already attracting significant support: in September, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) awarded \$3.4 million to the College to help fund the Institute. The DOL provides institutions of higher education with funds to expand and improve their ability to deliver education and career training programs. "This grant is instrumental in allowing Vermont Tech to improve upon our degrees and college-level certificates and help meet the employment needs throughout the state," says President **Philip Conroy.** 

The Institute for Applied Agriculture and Food Systems uses a cooperative educational learning model in partnership with state government to assist businesses within Vermont's agriculture, waste management, and energy sectors. The Institute focuses on food processing and production, dairy farm management with an emphasis on soil conservation, and an innovative approach to energy production.

Among other ventures, the grant will allow Vermont Tech to move forward in building a dairy and food processing facility for both college and community use. The processing center will have two production spaces with one dedicated to processing milk into fluid milk, cheese, ice cream, butter, yogurt and other dairy products, while the other will process, prepare, package and freeze vegetables, fruit and berries.

#### "GroundWork is hitting the topics that are important." LINDA DIMMICK, Neighborly Farms

The GroundWork series features Vermont Tech faculty and students and a mix of Vermont's agricultural, business, and government leaders. The first event included a keynote speech by **Richard Waybright**, a world-renowned innovator in the Pennsylvania dairy industry and owner/operator of Mason-Dixon Farms. The panel discussion that followed was moderated by Vermont Tech's associate professor of agriculture, **Chris Dutton**, and featured five of Vermont's most innovative agricultural entrepreneurs: **Lisa Ransom** of Grow Compost; **Tyler McNaney**, a current Vermont Tech student who is the inventor of Filabot; **James Kleptz** of LaPlatte River Angus Farm; **Norah Lake** of Sunrise Farm; and Dimmick.

Participants also heard about resources for agricultural entrepreneurs during a forum that included Lawrence Miller, Secretary of Vermont's Agency of Commerce and Community Development; Steve Paddock of the Small Business Development Center; Ela Chapin, Director of Vermont Farm Viability Enhancement Program; Ben Waterman of Vermont Farmland Access Network; Donna Barlow Casey, Director of Vermont Tech's Center for Sustainable Practices; Doug Lantagne Dean of University of Vermont Extension and Mia Roethlein of Vermont Tech's Department of Continuing Education. Roger Allbee, former Vermont Secretary of Agriculture and senior advisor to the president at Vermont Tech, moderated the discussion.

The response to the GroundWork series has been overwhelmingly positive. "People are lucky to have this information spread out before them," says Dimmick. "It's very humbling to start a new business, but events like Ground-Work remind us that you can't be afraid to keep trying."

#### GroundWork 2012-2013

November 13, 2012 Entrepreneurship

#### December 4, 2012

Enacting Sustainable Practices that Reduce Food Processing Waste

Co-presented with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

#### January 15, 2013

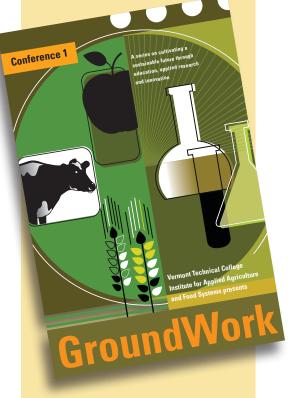
Connecting Education with Employers

Co-presented with the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund Farm to Plate Network

#### March 12, 2013

Aligning Educational Needs and Resources:

Vermont Technical College's Road Map and Collaborations with Educational Counterparts



To register, visit vtc.edu/groundwork

# **Faculty News**

## Longtime Academic Dean Pat Menchini Retires

It's hard to know where to start the list of Patricia Menchini's accomplishments at Vermont Tech. Her December retirement culminated a 24-year career with the College, which took Menchini from a practical nursing faculty position to overseeing every aspect of the full curriculum as Academic Dean since 2007 — not to mention her year as Interim President of the College in 2010-2011.

"Pat has served the college in so many ways," said President **Philip Conroy**. "Her sense of humor, leadership, and dedication to our students will be sorely missed."

But more than the programs she supervised or the accreditations she spearheaded, Menchini's legacy is undoubtedly the people she inspired.

"I have lived and worked in many places around the world and have had many bosses and I can honestly say Pat has been the best," said **Anna Gerac**, Director of Nursing Education Programs. "She stands back and let's you work things out on your own. She's there if you need her and she never makes you feel your questions or concerns are insignificant."

Both her well-known sense of humor and her ability to see situations from every perspective were among Menchini's many admired traits. A generous donor to the College, she always put students first.

"If a student's performance fell off, Pat told me to look at the human side of why people behave the way they do," explained Gerac. "She cautioned me to be careful because the decisions I make have the potential to destroy a student's dreams."

In her first Vermont Tech administrative post, Director of Nursing Programs, Menchini oversaw transfer of the state's Practical Nursing Program from the Department of Education to the College.

"**Bob Clarke**, then president of Vermont Tech, gave me three tasks: to unify the current schools, change the practical nursing certification from contact hours to credit-bearing, and to expand access," explained Menchini. "And I'm a nurse, and nurses get things done."



And get things done she did. Highly regarded throughout the state education and nursing communities, Menchini has received numerous awards, and in 2011 served on **Governor Shumlin's** Blue Ribbon Commission on Nursing.

Among her many accomplishments, Menchini points to the College's award-winning distance learning as a particular point of pride. "Bringing nursing to a broad geographic region is probably the most important work I accomplished — with a lot of help from wonderful faculty and administrative people, of course," said Menchini, who oversaw the nursing program expand from three to 13 statewide facilities and satellite operations.

What's next for Menchini? "One of my sons lives in New Zealand, so we plan to visit there," said Menchini, and bursting with enthusiasm she can't hold back: "We have tickets for Lady Gaga in Montreal!"

"I have lived and worked in many places around the world and have had many bosses and I can honestly say Pat has been the best yet."

ANNA GERAC Director of Nursing Education Programs



The unveiling of the Harold G. Wirtz Award Wall in the Administration Center was well attended on November 29th. The President made brief remarks about the award and its recipients.

The Harold G. Wirtz - Master Teacher Award is presented to faculty who are role models for other faculty, have given long & distinguished service as a faculty member, maintain the highest academic standards, demonstrate deep mastery of the subject matter, engage students at all levels of preparation, foster intellectual curiosity and growth, and maintain strong collegial relationships with the Vermont Technical College community.

The recipients thus far are Harold Wirtz, John Knox, Calvin Blessing, Joyce Twing, Scott Sabol, Kenneth Vandermark and Matthew Zimet.

Pictured above (L-R) Professor Emeritus Ken Vandermark and Professor John Knox watch as the wall is unveiled.



VISIT www.vtc.edu/countingonyou

# **Alumni News**

## Alumnus Turns Farmland Into A Conservation Area

On Vermont's Canadian border, just a stone's throw away from the New Hampshire side of the Connecticut River, sits what used to be known as Johnson Farm. This 1,000acre tract of land, lovingly assembled and stewarded by **Bill Johnson** AD '74 and his wife, **Ursula**, over the past 38 years, has been called an environmental treasure trove. Their property, encompassing wetlands, rare clayplain forests, and six miles of riverfront is home to abundant wildlife and more than 80 species of birds.

Thanks to the foresight and generosity of the Johnsons, generations of Vermonters and visitors will now be able to enjoy 800 acres of this prime Connecticut River Valley site as conservation land.

"We've always tried to be good stewards of the land and good citizens to the town and the state," says Johnson, who studied dairy farm management at Vermont Tech and now represents Canaan in the state legislature. "We always tried to share, keeping our land open to hunting, fishing, trapping and snowmobiling. When we looked at retiring, we realized we couldn't be certain that new owners would feel the same way."

So to preserve their "open-door" policy, Johnson, who is also past chair of the state's House agriculture committee, decided to turn the bulk of the land into a conservation area. "It wasn't a snap decision; it was two years in the making," he explains. Like a farmer, carefully cultivating seed and tilling soil, Johnson patiently navigated the complicated agreement, which ended up involving nonprofit environmental groups, state agencies and private foundations.

"There's an incredibly diverse habitat on the property, with numerous species of plants and animals, some of which are endangered." WILLIAM JOHNSON '74



For example, the Vermont Land Trust worked to conserve the farmland and assure it would continue as a working dairy farm. The Vermont Nature Conservancy focused on the wetlands, riverbanks, and wildlife habitat, while the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife now holds management rights on the wetlands and a special riverbank buffer zone. The project's primary funder is the Upper Connecticut River Mitigation Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

"There's an incredibly diverse habitat on the property, with numerous species of plants and animals, some of which are endangered," Johnson says. "It's a valuable asset for the state of Vermont." As a businessman and a citizen, he's particularly pleased that 260 acres will remain a working farm, one that supplies jobs, generates cash flow, and produces tax revenue for the town.

Though the deal is complete, the Johnsons plan to remain in the area, living in a farmhouse they own about a mile from their former land. And even in retirement, Johnson intends to keep on representing the district in the statehouse in Montpelier. "I'll keep doing it as long as my constituents want me to," he says.



Rear L-R: Bruce Tucker, William Simonds, David Freeman, Richard Cook, Edward Pecott, Carl Johnson, William Hella and their guests.

### Return & Reconnect: 2012 Alumni Homecoming Day a Success

On September 29, a group of three score, including alumni, family, and friends, braved the rainy weather to take part in Vermont Technical College's annual Alumni Homecoming Day.

The Class of 1962 alumni and guests enjoyed a morning reception with President Philip Conroy and his wife Dr. Jan Conroy at Orchard House in honor of their 50th reunion, followed by the Alumni Association luncheon and annual meeting. The highlight of that event was the presentation of the Alumnus of the Year Award, which this year went to **Alfred Dunklee** AG '46.

Selected by the Alumni Association executive board, the Alumnus of the Year Award honors a graduate for outstanding service to the college, their community, or their profession – and usually the recipient has all three. Dunklee, a Vermont dairy farmer and founder of VernMont Farm in Vernon, Vermont, was recognized for his contributions to agriculture as well as service to his community and to his profession. In addition to dairy farming, Dunklee served as a town lister; in several different capacities at Farm Credit Services; was an Eastern States Coop dealer, and a sales representative for the Pioneer Seed Company. According to his nomination letter, Dunklee "made many lasting friendships statewide…and through his efforts, many farmers in Vermont were able to make progress and move forward."

Following the awards ceremony, alumni and friends received their very own locally grown Vermont pumpkin, donated by **Sam Lincoln** AMT '96, proprietor of Lincoln Farms in Randolph Center.

Capping the day was the varsity women's soccer game, which pitted the Vermont Tech Knights against the SUNY Canton 'Roos. That was followed by the ever-popular Alum-ni Soccer Game, where the varsity men's squad matches up against alumni soccer players. A hard-fought match as always, this year's contest ended in a hard-fought 2-2 tie.



#### **Stay in Touch!**

Did you know that 30 percent of the U.S. population creates a new e-mail address each year? Are you one of the 30 percent? If so, we'd like to hear from you! We are trying to build our alumni email database. This will allow the alumni office to communicate with you when we have special events or important news.

This email will not be spam and you can opt out at any time. Please send your updated email to cclement@vtc.edu

Thank you!

# **Campus News**



"I've been very impressed by the food... fresh, local ingredients have played a key part in the quality."



## **Everything is New Again**

Students returning to Vermont Technical College's Randolph Center campus saw plenty of "new and improved" this fall. Revamped spaces, a new dining service provider, and residence hall upgrades were among the changes, all designed to make the student experience even better.

"Astounding" was the way **Matt Franzosa**, BSCPM '14 described the improvements to Morey Dining Hall, including fresh paint, new lighting and furniture, as well as fresh take on cuisine, brought about by the food service provider Sodexo. "The feel of the room is much different. Students hang out longer and feel much more welcome," Franzosa says. "I've been very impressed by the food," adds **Eric Meade** BSCIT '14. "I think fresh, local ingredients has played a key part in the quality."

The former Morey Hall lounge is now home to a new Student Affairs Office Suite, bringing together Residence Life, Student Activities, and Student Affairs. "It's much more convenient to have student affairs in one place, instead of three different buildings," says **Tabitha Totten** FSC '13 "Now you can get your lunch and then go talk with student affairs staff, if you need to."



That's exactly the idea, according to Dean of Students **Eric Braun.** "More students are coming through the door," he says. "And we have meeting space for student groups that's used regularly."

In Keenan Hall, "my residents love the new rooms," adds Totten, who's also a resident assistant. "The bright colors on the walls and new tiles on the floor make it more homey. The new beds are also great because you can bunk them and create more space."



On the academic side, the Construction Management and Auto Tech programs switched locations: Auto Tech now occupies the Catamount building on Route 66, and Construction Management is on the campus at the top of the hill in Randolph Center.

"It was ideal because Auto Tech needed more space, and the Automotive Center was sufficient for the Construction program," says **Steve Belitsos**, associate professor and chair of the Diesel Power Technology program. "Auto Tech students now have more lab stations, with fewer students per group. Diesel and Auto Tech staff, faculty, and students can now communicate more easily, share tools and equipment, and benefit from each other's expertise."

In Conant Hall, the Center for Academic Success has been reconfigured to be more accessible and promote "synergy among faculty and tutoring staff," says Director **Susan Polen**. "We hope the new structure will be more effective in assisting students with their learning needs." Finally, the Allen House rehabilitation project was complete this past spring and now provides a new headquarters for the Center for Sustainable Practices. Several celebrations took place to mark the return of this historic structure to active use. Honored guests— from generous donors to great-great grandchildren of the Allen family attended events, which integrated documents identifying the historic and environmental attributes that were part of the project.



Above, Allen House parlor, former North side living room.

#### PERSONNEL

Vermont Tech Welcomes New Faculty and Academic Dean



After almost three years with the Vermont Council on Rural Development, **Philip Petty** returns to VermontTech in the role of Dean of Academic Affairs. Petty actually called VermontTech home for the previous 29 years, as a professor in plant and soil science and horticulture from 1980 to 2007 and as a staff member from 2007 to 2010. Please join us in welcoming him back!

Six full-time professors also joined the faculty. The Vermont Tech community celebrated their arrival at a dinner at the Orchard House on August 23rd.

Stephanie Dorosko Science

Phyllis Mitchell Nursing

Kelly Ogrodnik Landscape Design and Sustainable Horticulture

Michelle Sama Science

Inge Smith-Luce Nursing

**Chenguin Wang** Computer Information Systems

## VERMONT TECH

Continuing Education & Workforce Development

# How to get ahead and stay ahead in today's competitive environment.

OSHA 10 – Construction Industry, Brattleboro Jan. 19 & 26, 2013

SHRM Learning System, White River Junction Jan. 30 – April 24, 2013

Supervisory Leadership Program, Brattleboro Feb. 11, 2013

WorkKeys GroupTesting **Ongoing** 



For more info, visit www.vermontcorporatecollege.com/events

#### The Annual Fund 2012

The Annual Fund is critical to the operation of the College. It is our greatest source of unrestricted support and support designated for departments and academic divisions. Annual Fund gifts are expended in the year received and are applied to those areas of greatest need and opportunity.

The Annual Fund Honor Roll lists contributions by club level. Gifts made by local businesses, corporate matching gifts, and honor and memorial gifts are listed here as well.

#### **President's Club**

Gifts of \$500 and above.

Dean's Club Gifts of \$250 to \$499.

Century Club Gifts of \$100 to \$249.

Green & White Club Gifts up to \$99

Vermont Tech regrets any omissions or errors in the listing. Please bring corrections to the attention of the Alumni & Development Office at (802) 728-1513 alumni@vtc.edu.

#### **President's Club**

AAA of Northern New England The Agnes Lindsay Trust ASHRAE Champlain Valley Chapter Carl Brandon

Bryant Chucking Grinder Company Donna Barlow Casey

Central Vermont Tractor Club Commonwealth Dairy, LLC The Congregational Church of Needham

Philip Conroy, Jr. Construction Journal Timothy Donovan Christopher Dutton James Fayette, CET '85 Feed Commodities International, Inc. David Ferreby Follett Higher Education Group Gwendolyn Forbes

The Grainger Foundation Green Mountain Animal Hospital Green Mountain Mustang

Club Hackett Valine & MacDonald, Inc. Susan Hein John Herriman Roger Howes IC Federal Credit Union Jerry's Sports Tavern, LLC Mary Kathryn Juskiewicz KBR Lajeunesse Interiors, Inc. Liberty Mutual Insurance Co. Lincoln Agrisource, LLC G. Geoffrey Lindemer Elizabeth Lindsev Jacqueline Marceau Patricia Menchini Milton CAT Thomas Munschauer National Automobile Dealers Charitable Foundation Northeast Delta Dental Foundation, Inc Hubert Norton, HT '66 Norwich University MarthaTrombley Oakes Ottauchechee Health Foundation

John Paterson

E. Miles Prentice

Rachel Repstad

Brent Sargent

Randolph Garden Club

Albert Soforenko, AG '49

Poulin Grain

## Honor Roll of Donors

Joyce Twing Vermont Antique Automobile Society, Inc. Vermont Farmstead Cheese Company Vermont Veterinary Medical Association Fraser Walsh

#### **Dean's Club**

Lydia English Ralph Esposito Robert Fredricksen, ECM '03 Matthew Gallagher Robin Goodall George Longenecker Alex Northern Nvidia Thomas O'Donovan Mary O'Leary Albert Robitaille Scott Sabol Terrance Stanley, BUS '10 **David Sturges** Lauri Sybel Vermont Wireform Michael Wooden

#### **Century Club**

Orin Adams, AG '59 Byron Angell, HA John Audsley, AG '49 Fay Bashaw, EET '70 Howard Bemis, AG '50 Christine Black Linda Bonnette, ABT '74 James Bouffard, ABT '92 Eric Bowers, EET '69 Russell Bragg, MEC '81 Judy Brasseur, ABT '76 Carol Buchdahl Lee Cassidy, AG '50 Clark Copeland, VAST '00, EET '03, ELM '05 Nicholas Digiovanni, CPM '02 Rosemary Distel, AMT '81 Steven Dwyer, EM '77 Timothy Ellsworth, ABT '79 Gary Evans, AG '70 Mark Falcone, AMT '74 Kathleen Fletcher, EET '78 Allan Forward, DFM '93 Susan Fredette, BUS '95 Mark Gambero, EET '93 Ellen Grimes Jean Hakim Jeffrey Higgins Larry Hoaglund, AG '54 Royce Hunt, AG '50 IBM Corporation Matching Grants Program Beniamin Johnson Ryan Johnson, CET '92

Robert Lalancette, MEC '81 Louise Maynard Roland Mayo, HT '61 Mark Moyer, CET '96 A. Douglas Nadeau, ET '60 Benjamin Nutter, AB '73 John Page, AG '42 Todd Parshley, ABT '02 & AET '05 Roland Perron, HT '61 Frank Perry, MEC '81 Ronald Piro, EET '79 Gordon Revnolds Eugina Robbins Thomas Roughton, AG '46 Laurie Sabens George Shortsleeves, MEC '69 James Smith, CPE '01 & CPF '03 Steven Spadaccini, EET '82 Nathan Strong, RHT '97 Mary Jeanne Taylor Charles Waterman, DFM '79 Philip Watson, ABT '77 Karl Winchester, ABT '77

#### **Green & White Club**

Donald Adams, AG '51 Josh Allen William Atkinson, CPM '02 Philip Baldyga, CPE '07 & CPE '09 Deron Barnes, CET '90 Dana Bathalon, DFM '99 Katherine Beltaire Mary Jo Berube, NUR '00 Robert Boisvert, EM '71 Karry Booska, ECM '03 & BUS '05 Robert Bragg, HT '64 Eric Braun Dale Briggs, AG '67 Scott Brown Nancy Budd Edward Champine, AMT '75 Carol Chase Carrie Clement, BUS '98 Dwight Cross David Daggett, AG '69 Ray Daniels, Jr., MEC '81 Brent Decoste, CPE '89 & FFT '89 **Deborah Dunklee** Jill Ely James Forest, HT '65 Roland Frascoia, HT '62 Nicolaas Garbacik, CET '93 James Gates, AET '95 Alexander Gay Jennifer Gile, AET '09 Russell Glen, ABT '80 Ronald Greenwood, AG '64

Katrin Helgason Marjorie Hennessey Joey Hinton, CPM '01 Gary Hodgdon, AMT '75 H. Douglas Hoes, EM '69 Robert Hughes, AG '46 Kristin Husher Alexis Kane Sandra Katz, VET '05 John Kidder Allen Kieslich, HT '63 George Kingsbury, AG '47 Mark Klebauskas, ABT '75 Ashley Kuit Linda LaFrance, EET '81 Thomas Larose, EET '01 David Lathrop, HT '63 Logan Lesperance Bruce Lippens, EET '62 Karl Marchessault, CET '95 Justin Martin Michael McLoud, CSE '12 Diana Mellar Mark Milazzo, EET '80 Roy Monta, AG '55 Terrence Murphy Jennifer Norton-Magnan Matthew Nusbaum, MEC '00 & ELM '08 Robert Payeur, AG '63 William Pellerin, EET '63 Philip Petty Gary Phelps, AG '66 Brian Picotte, CET '97 Susan Polen Norman Potvin, EET '70 Donald Randall, AG '63 John Reilly Timothy Rice, CET '88 **Richmond Animal Hospital** Rene Roy, Jr., EET '72 David Russell, HT '68 Rutland Veterinary Clinic and Surgical Center William Sawyer, EM '75 Charlie Schaefer, AG '97 Danni Sennett David Silloway, AG '66 David Socinski, EET '79 Kermit Spaulding, AG '55 Carolyn Stannard-Carlo Michael Taylor RobertTracy, EET '66 Bruce Tucker, EET '62 Pierre Vaillancourt, AG '76 Jessica Van Deren Joel Wenzel, ABT '98 Betty Westcott Lynford Wheatley, HT '67 The Xerox Foundation

## **Class Notes**

Michael Anastasi, CPM '01, was

united in marriage to Lela Sciortino on May 5, 2012. Michael is employed by the town of Watertown as a firefighter and Lela is employed as an account associate at Athena Health. After a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple lives in Watertown.

**Brian Crossman, EET '02,** was united in marriage to Karri Cathrall on June 30, 2012. The groom is employed by Goodrich and the bride is employed by Fletcher Allen Health Care. The couple resides in Vergennes, VT.

**Corey Mitchell, EET '03,** has recently announced his engagement to Danielle Lindley. Corey is currently employed at MicroStrain as an Electrical Engineer. Danielle is currently employed at Northwestern Counseling and Support Services as the Parent Child Center Program Manager. A Vermont wedding is scheduled for May 2013 on Lake Champlain.

Jeremy Brown, AMT '05, is pleased to announce his engagement to Deborah Rose of Rutland. Jeremy is currently employed as a safety and security officer in the Rutland area. Deborah currently works as a nurse in the Rutland area. A wedding is being planned for 2013.

Devin Franklin, EET '06 & CPE '07, was united in marriage to Amanda Quintela on August 4, 2012 in an outdoor ceremony overlooking the Green Mountains. Devin is employed as a software engineer by United Technologies Corporation, formerly known as Goodrich Corporation of Vergennes, VT. His bride is employed as a reporting specialist by HP Enterprise Services of Williston, VT. The couple resides in Charlotte, VT.

#### Michael Camire, ABT '07 & BSAET

**'09**, was united in marriage to Megan Brooks on May 12, 2012. Michael is currently employed as an energy auditor at Solar City in Marlborough, MA; his bride is employed as an RN at St. Joseph Hospital in Nashua, NH. The couple honeymooned in St. Thomas and currently resides in Hudson, NH.

Kimberly Jaquish, LPN '07, was united in marriage to John Benoit, Jr. on September 1, 2012. Kimberly is employed at Timberlane pediatrics in South Burlington while her husband, John, is employed at Hazelett in Colchester. The couple is planning a beach vacation mid-winter for their honeymoon. They reside in South Burlington, VT.

Joshua Bates, DFM '08, is proud to announce his engagement to Whitney Gingras. Joshua is currently employed at Bates Farm Home and Garden in Enosburg while Whitney is employed at Northwestern Medical Center. A June 2013 wedding is planned and the couple will be building their future home in Highgate, VT.

Ayla Bickford, VET '09, was united in marriage to Thomas Bousquet on June 4, 2012 on the Northern Lights Lake Champlain Cruise boat. Ayla works as a certified vet technician at Lamoille Valley Vet Services in Hyde Park. Thomas works as a system operator at Intralot in East Montpelier. The newlyweds honeymooned in Orlando, Florida, and came back to start their married life together at their home in Morrisville, VT.

**Stephanie Adams, NUR '10,** was united in marriage to Brian Winslow on September 24, 2011. Stephanie is an emergency room registered nurse at Baystate Medical Center. Her husband is a special education teacher and baseball coach at Franklin County Technical School.

Katie Floeter, VET '10, was united in marriage to Jason Heath on June 30, 2012. The couple enjoyed a honeymoon in Florida in September. They reside in Enfield, NH.

Christine Peacock, DHY '11, was united in marriage to Jeffrey Vance on July 21, 2012. Christine is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree from Vermont Tech in dental hygiene and also practices in the Fairfax, Virginia area. The groom is employed as a data analyst at Team Velocity marketing in Dulles, Virginia. After a honeymoon in Orlando, Florida, the couple returned home to Fairfax, Virginia.

#### **OBITUARIES**

**Ralph Davis, AG '38,** passed away in the comfort of his home and family on October 13, 2012. Born at the family home in Duxbury on November 15, 1918, he was the son of the late Ray T. and Ethel M. (Preston) Davis. On June 5, 1945, Ralph married the former Helen Burbank in Hyde Park.

Ralph attended Duxbury schools and was a 1938 graduate of Waterbury High School. He continued his education at the Vermont School of Agriculture. Following graduation, Ralph followed in his family's footsteps and worked on the Davis farm that had been in the family for over 150 years and dated back to one of the first settlers of Duxbury.

In addition to dairy farming, Ralph was also a logger, maple sugar maker, egg producer, sold firewood and often helped other farmers and exchanged work.

Long active in the town of Duxbury, Ralph served as selectman for over 30 years, tax collector, justice of the peace, truant officer, and had been a participant and vocal advocate on many issues from the age of 18 at the annual Duxbury town meetings in March up until two years ago.

His other memberships included: Waterbury Grange #237 where he served as a member for over 50 years and was past master; served as an officer of Pomona Grange; was a member of the State Grange and National Grange; a member of ACP, an organization that provided information on agriculture, soil improvement, self reliance and sustainable agricultural practices; was president of the Washington County Farm Bureau; a member of the Washington County Field Days Committee; a 4-H leader; president of the Graves Cemetery Association in Duxbury; and a member of the Waterbury Congregational Church.

Ralph is fondly remembered for his kindness and compassion; for his love of his wife, children and their families; the generosity of his time to visit friends who were ill or in nursing homes; and the simple pleasures and joy of just riding the backroads with Helen after Sunday morning worship services.

John Melahn, Jr., AG '51, died on September 5, 2012, at his residence following an extended illness. He was born in Kearny, NJ, October 13, 1931, a son of John C. and Priscilla (Firth) Melahn, Sr. He graduated from Kearny High School in 1949. Jack spent 20 years serving in the United States Navy in a variety of capacities, primarily as an aviation mechanic. Upon his discharge in 1972, he retired to Bradford where he was employed with the Vermont Department of Transportation as a mechanic in the Bradford Shed retiring from that job in 1991. Jack was a member of the Bradford Congregational Church and served as a Trustee for nine years, was a member of the Fleet Reserve Association, Rutland, VT, Vermont Tech Alumni Association, and was a former President of the Maple Center Good Sam Club. Jack enjoyed building model airplanes and flying them as well. He also enjoyed fishing. He married Priscilla Nelson on January 14, 1956. Together they enjoyed many years of camping and wintering in Tall Timber Trailer Park in Silver Springs, FL.

William Ryan, AG '70, died peacefully October 5, 2012 at the Fletcher-Allen Medical Center in Burlington, Vermont with his wife and daughters at his side. He was born on February 17, 1949 in Hardwick, VT a son of the late James and Alice (Cole) Ryan. He graduated from Craftsbury Academy in 1968. On July 31, 1971 he married Carolyn Harvey who survives him. Willie farmed all his life and co-operated the Ryan Brother's Farm in Craftsbury. He was President and a Board Member of the Orleans County Farm Bureau, an honorary member of the National Honor Society at Craftsbury Academy, and was town lister for over 30 years. Willie served on the Future Farmers of America Foundation Board, Orleans County Natural Resource Conservation District, and was the Craftsbury Planning Commission Chairman. He also coached girl's basketball at all levels and was the assistant boy's basketball coach at Craftsbury

Academy. Among his hobbies, he loved to watch NASCAR, his favorite driver was Dale Earnhardt, Sr. and he enjoyed attending Thunder Road in Barre, VT. Willie had a strong love of basketball and could be found at any gym across the state of Vermont supporting local athletes. Willie enjoyed listening to Country Music, especially Willie Nelson and he was a New York Yankees fan. He loved to read, and he enjoyed spending time with his family and close friends at camp on Greenwood Lake.

**Stanley Lundin, MT '72,** died September 19, 2012. He was born January 2, 1952, to Stanley and Virginia Lundin.

Jack lived in South Londonderry all his life, being a third-generation well driller with his brother Ken of Carlson and Lundin Artesian Wells Inc. since 1968.

Jack attended the Londonderry School and graduated from Burr & Burton in 1970. Jack had a love for the outdoors, enjoyed walking with his dog Nona, often played Friday night card games with his friends, fishing on Gale Meadows, hunting, as well as observing the wildlife that crossed his land.

Jack had a passion for helping others. As he wrote on Facebook, "My life is devoted to those that need help or assistance." He joined Champion Fire Co # 5 of South Londonderry in 1984, and most recently served as the Assistant Chief. He was also a member of Londonderry Volunteer Rescue, serving since 1998 as an EMT-I-03.

Jack was a good friend to all, and was always willing to help out whenever he could.

He loved to ride his motorcycle and was a member of The Red Knights.



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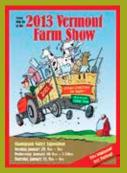
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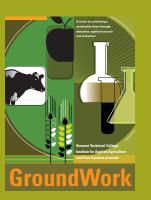
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**June 8, 2013** Strolling of the Heifers Brattleboro, VT

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