

Editor's Note- ramblings

February is a very exciting month for many reasons. Containing three, fictitious 'Holidays' it is the only month to provide so much hope with so much disappoint. Bill Murray may be the only person in history to benefit from Groundhog Day. St. Valentine's Day provides a chance for lovers to do things for each other that shouldn't need a special occasion. February also contains the illusive leap-year, which plagues many Feb 29 children.

On a more serious note February also provides a chance to share in culture and history. African Heritage Month is a chance to learn and explore different cultures. February 14 also allows many of us to celebrate 'Founding Day' of the NSAC.

Cheers,
Brad
Happy Caffeine Addiction Awareness

Coming Events

NSIA Curling Bonspiel
March 13, 2010 @ 8:45am
Truro Curling Club

NSIA Ethics and Professionalism
March 14, 2010
Haley Institute, NSAC

NSIA Annual General Meeting
April 15, 2010 @ 3:00pm
Best Western Glengarry, Truro

**NSIA Honours and Awards
Banquet**
April 15, 2010 @ 5:30pm
Best Western Glengarry, Truro

NSIA Hosts NSAC Class of 2010

Submitted by Merridy Rankin and Brian Crouse



On Wednesday, January 20, 2010, graduating B.Sc.(Agr.) and M.Sc.(Agr.) students were hosted by members of the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists for the annual "Meet the Grads" banquet at the Best Western Glengarry, Truro. NSIA President, Chris Atwood, Class of 1990, and Program Chair, Merridy Rankin, Class of 1985, welcomed the NSAC students to the networking event with agrologists. Guest speaker was Dr. Richard Donald, Vice-President, Research, Extension and Outreach at NSAC. A highlight of the evening was the introduction of NSIA members – each with career advice for the 'graduands.'

The following was offered as advice to Students:

- *everyday is still a school day – you'll continue learning*
- *when you are so busy and think you can't do anymore, dig down, you'll always find you have the capacity for more*
- *take the 'fork' in the road*
- *learn how to learn*
- *believe in yourself and your accomplishments*
- *don't assume you can't make a difference*
- *follow your heart – find your passion and enjoy. Don't be scared to take a chance*
- *never be intimidated by any person or job – you can do it all*

NSIA attends annual Career Fair

Submitted by Bob Vair



Bob Vair and Kathryn Bremner take a break from talking to students at the annual NSAC Career Fair. The fair was well attended by prospective employers.

NSIA Honours and Awards nomination deadline February 28

Submitted by: Jeff Norrie

Dear NSIA members,

With your help, the Honours & Awards Committee has the pleasure of identifying candidates to recognize life achievements, dedication, and outstanding contributions to agriculture in Nova Scotia. It's not too early to forward names of potential nominees.

We provide awards for the following categories:

- Distinguished Agrologist Award (must be P.Ag.)**
- Distinguished Life Member Award (must be P.Ag.)**
- Outstanding Young Agrologist Award (must be P.Ag.)**
- Honorary Member Award (P.Ag. status not required)**
- Outstanding Farmer Award (P.Ag. status not required)**

The family of the late C.A. Douglas also has a special award to recognize an outstanding NS agriculture extension worker. Please visit the NSIA website under Honours and Awards for more information www.nsagrologists.ca

Regards,
Jeff Norrie, Ph.D., P.Ag., CPH
Chair, Honours & Awards Committee
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NSAC Agrologist Club Update

Submitted by: Audrie-Jo McConkey



Agrology Club members at the Atlantic Agronomy Workshop (l-r): Nicholas Brown, Kendra Juurlink, Shawn Loo and Amanda Ward.

The Agrologist Club had an active month of January! They had the privilege to attend the Atlantic Agronomy Workshop on January 19th located in Charlottetown. Club members were very enthusiastic about the information that they gained from attending the workshop. The next meeting the club has Yousef Papadopolous as a guest speaker, discussing “The American Society of Agronomy Grand Challenge.”

Want to be a mentor?

Submitted by: Kathryn Bremner

The Articling Agrologist committee is looking for mentors for the Articling Agrologist program. We currently have a very short list of mentors that was compiled several years ago and needs to be updated. If you are interested in mentoring an articling agrologist or if you have any questions about the mentoring process, please contact Kathryn Bremner (bremneka@gov.ns.ca) for more information. We would like to connect Articling Agrologists with mentors in similar fields, so please include where you are located and your field of interest.

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NEW!!! PHONE: (902) 897-6742 EMAIL: NSAGROLOGISTS@EASTLINK.CA