



Volunteer Champion Awards 2014

Honorary Life Memberships



Diane Hrechuk

Nominated by the Elstow Ag Society

Diane has been a lifelong member of the Elstow Agricultural Society and has been secretary for many years. She has participated in the Elstow Fair, and volunteered at all the functions that have taken place at the Elstow Agricultural Society Hall. Whenever something needs to be done Diane steps forward and does it. She has been very involved in her community for over 50 years, including working with 4 H, the Elstow North Rural Water utility, the Elstow Cemetery Committee, as well as working with the Elstow History Book Committee, which compiled a History of Elstow and District. She is also a member of the Red Hat Society. She moved to Elstow in 1945, and was married to Jerry in 1962. They have continued to farm there since then, with Diane helping out with all aspects of the operation. SAASE is very pleased to present Diane with a SAASE Honorary Life Membership.



Edna McCall

Nominated by the Abernethy Ag Society

Edna is a tireless leader who has the ability to listen to others and guide them to find appropriate ways to invest their particular talents to make Fair Day and the Dinner Theatre so successful. During all these years that Edna has been involved with our Ag Society and our community she has shown what a true volunteer is and done it with humility and class. The attitude of unselfish service is very much what Edna is. She is an exemplary role model. Edna has been a Director of the Agricultural

Society over 25 years and President for 16 years. Her willingness to continue serving as President long after her term ended just because she refuses to see the Abernethy Fair end is a significant gift to our community and to Saskatchewan, as our Fair continues to draw large crowds. Through it all Edna has had tremendous support from her husband Bill. He and Edna have been a team working together as volunteers for many community events in addition to the fair. In addition to working very hard on the fair they have also worked on the Annual Agricultural Society Dinner for over 25 years. Edna has been an active member in her church since 1971 holding various positions including superintendent of the Sunday School, Secretary-treasurer and President of the Alliance Church Women's group, as well as volunteering with the functions that take place at the church. She also has served on the Co-op Board. Edna is currently Secretary for the Balcarres and District Housing. She also works with the Gideons distributing Bibles and coordinating and filling Christmas and Easter baskets for the Women's Shelter at Fort Qu'Appelle. Edna and Bill have 4 children and 7 grand children, and continue to be very involved in the community and the Abernethy Agricultural Society.



Marion and Rollie Nordell

Nominated by the Turtleford Ag. Society

Rollie and Marion Nordell have been integral parts of the community of Turtleford and the Turtleford Agricultural Society. Both have been directors of the Turtleford Agricultural Society for a total of 61 years. Marion has been the Secretary-Treasurer since 1971. They helped guide the Turtleford Agricultural Society Fair turning it into the “Best Little Country Fair in the West” – a fair representing a community of 500 that would draw over 5,000 people for the weekend. Rollie has always been Marion’s right hand man - pitching in and helping out whenever and wherever needed.

In addition to the Turtleford Agricultural Society both Marion and Rollie have been heavily involved in volunteering for other organizations within their community. The both were involved in the Mervin 4 H Club for years. Annually they sponsor the General Proficiency Award presented at the club’s achievement day. Marion was involved with the West Hazel and Parkland Women’s Institutes for years, holding many executive positions. Marion is also the current President of the Turtleford Historical Society and has held the position since 1984. She played a major role in publishing the Turtleford History book, as well as organizing community reunions. She is currently the secretary for Turtleford Communities in Bloom and works very hard on getting the plants planted and tending to them throughout the summer. If you are around Turtleford around 6:30 am or after 10 at night you may very well run in to Marion tending the plants. Marion served as a board member for the health board, during which the Turtleford Integrated Health Centre was built - Marion and Rollie donated the land on which the complex sits. She currently sits on the Lakeland Community Health Advisory Committee. Marion also helps out with the Chamber of Commerce and the Turtleford and district Recreation Association. Rollie in addition to all his volunteer work has also been involved as a charter member of the Turtleford Lions Club, as well as the Turtleford Tiger Hockey Association. He played hockey all the way from a minor right through to senior hockey in his 60s. Rollie also worked very hard for the Turtleford and District Recreation Association - he assisted in the building of 2 community centres/hockey rinks. They have both accomplished all this while being agricultural producers since 1953 and raising two children - Garry and Betty. It is with great pleasure that we present Marion and Rollie with Honourary Life Memberships in SAASE.

George Belchamber

Nominated by the Nipawin Exhibition

George has been involved with the Nipawin Exhibition since 1990. He was Vice-President in 1996 and then served with exception of 2 years as President from 1996 through 2012. During George’s time as president he was instrumental in the construction of a new wash rack that is used by both beef and horse exhibitors. He was also the project lead when the roof was replaced and the washrooms were upgraded in the main pavilion. In 2012, George and his wife Wendy gave up the use of their garage and driveway for over a month while this area provided the space, and equipment, required to construct new bleachers for the grandstand. George also created the plans that were used to build the bleachers. After a period of absence, George’s efforts also saw the return of the beer gardens to our Exhibition.

George has been and continues to be very involved in many organizations in our community. George is a founding member of the Twin Lakes Trailblazers Snowmobile Club. He was the Club’s first president in 1979 and has been an active member of the club ever since. George was an alderman for the Town of Nipawin for 6 years and served on numerous committees not only with the Town, but on regional committees as well. George is currently involved with the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association, and was a Director in 1987. He was very involved with Western Canada fairs and was President in 2008.

During his time with the Nipawin Exhibition Association, George felt it was important to know every aspect of the show and kept his finger on the pulse of each part. He accepted the responsibility of looking after everything from advertising to trenching water lines. In addition to the hours and hours George would put in during the months prior to our 3 day show making sure that everything was prepared, George would be found on the exhibition grounds everyday from two weeks prior to the show to a week after. He wanted to make sure that no detail got overlooked and that our community got to attend a top quality show. George has been granted Life Time Memberships to the Twin Lakes Trailblazers Snowmobile Club and the Nipawin Exhibition Association.



Robert Sproule

Nominated by the Melfort Ag Society

Bob became active in the Melfort Agricultural Society in 1966 as a member of the Light Horse Committee. Since that time he has spent several years on the Executive including two terms as President. In 1988, he and Dick Claggett (a lifetime member) rebuilt the pole barn to meet the standards required for stabling at the Summer Games. Bob represented the Melfort Agricultural Society as a delegate to Western Canada Fairs for many years, and also served as President. Bob was presented with an Honourary Life Membership award for the Melfort Agricultural Society at the annual meeting this past December.

Bob is an active member of the Carrot River Arabian Horse Association; a member of the Western Canadian Arabian Breeders Show Commission and represents Saskatchewan on the Regional 17 (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia) Arabian Show Commission. He is a long standing member of the Melfort United Church and has been part of the Church Board. Bob has recently retired (seasonal work only now), from Richardson Pioneer. His extra time is spent enjoying his grandchildren and his pets.

Gloria Perkins

Nominated by the Nipawin Exhibition



Gloria has been involved with the Nipawin Exhibition for 38 years, and was a Director from 1987 -2012 where she has held the position of Vice-President. In addition to being the Director in charge of the Indoor Exhibits portion of our Exhibition, Gloria has been the person that was solely responsible for organizing and scheduling workers for the Trade Show Booth that we operate at the annual local trade fair. Also, every year our Association hosts a volunteer appreciation supper for all the people that give of their time and talents to make our show a success. Gloria is the person that organizes and hosts this event. One of the things that Nipawin Exhibition Association is very grateful to Gloria for is that she was able to re-establish the Indoor Exhibits as part of the Nipawin Exhibition. Our show had gone for a period of time without Indoor Exhibits being a part of it, and thanks to Gloria's determination they again became one of our major attractions. Gloria has also been a member of the Nipawin Bowling Association for many years and has served as the Association Secretary, and has been a past member of the Saskatchewan Quilters Guild and the Saskatchewan Parkinson Society.

Volunteers of the Year

Matt & Jennifer Roth - Nominated by the Rosthern Ag. Society

The Rosthern Agricultural society nominate Matt and Jenn Roth as Volunteers of the Year. Matt and Jenn have great community spirit and truly care for the events that the Rosthern Agricultural Society host and the impact that they have on the community. They put aside their work and make sure that they get done what needs to be done on the grounds. Over the past year they have put in over 200 hours of volunteer work between them and have donated the use of their equipment, which includes the use of their bobcat, truck, backhoe and semi. They both go way beyond what a volunteer normally does to ensure the success of the events. SAASE is very proud to name Matt and Jenn Roth as our Volunteers of the Year.