HOWDY!

Thanks to Harry Green ’52 for a superb job as our president last year!

WE DID IT! The Sul Ross Group pledged $200,000 to purchase a pillar in the new MSC Flag Room and you have given $202,835. Absolutely fantastic! Don't miss the excitement of walking out the west side of the Flag Room and seeing that massive pillar with the words SUL ROSS GROUP inscribed on it.

Our Reunion last March 5-7 was just super and your comments indicate as such. Please continue to give us your ideas. Our Board meets four times a year and we appreciate your suggestions.

Plans are already underway for next year's Reunion on March 3-5, 2014. Can you imagine the possibilities for our programs? How about celebrating a National Championship in football with Johnny Football winning the Heisman Trophy again, keeping the Outland Trophy at A&M, being able to see the first phase of the new Kyle Field being started, and choosing a new gift to A&M from the SRG. The list is endless and I know that you will want to be brought up to date as we always do at our Reunions. Let me remind you that the rooms at the Hilton sell out very early on a first come-first served basis.

There were so many highlights at this year's Reunion, but for me, I was stunned at the beauty of the new MSC. What an absolutely fantastic job our people did in modernizing the building while maintaining our traditions and legacies. We enjoyed our noon bluncheon in the new Bethancourt Ballroom with a comfortable capacity of 1200. Dr. Bowen Loftin ’71 was our keynote speaker and he enthusiastically reported on many of the outstanding things going on at A&M, not to mention his leadership in moving us into the SEC. The naysayers got quiet very fast, didn't they? Thank you, Johnny Football and all of your outstanding teammates.

Another highlight was the induction of 125 new members from the Class of ’58 into the SRG. As our Classes become larger, our Reunions are going to get larger, as well. At the induction ceremony, BG Joe Ramirez ’79 gave a
report on the Corps, noting a current enrollment of 2,300, the largest Corps in 30 years. The fall GPA among Corps members is 2.78, an increase of .05 over last year. During the middle of the meeting we stretched our legs with the Singing Cadets singing, “I’m Proud To Be An American” and, if you think that didn’t move the pride button into high gear, you are imagining things.

Other speakers included Texas A&M System Chancellor, John Sharp ’72 who spoke at the banquet dinner, and was followed by the Aggieland Orchestra. Jason Cook, VP for Marketing Communication, and, always favorites, Cadet Col. of the Corps Marquis Alexander ’13 and Student Body President John Claybrook ’13 also spoke at the farewell breakfast. What incredibly sharp, outstanding young men and we got a true glimpse of the caliber of student that we have at A&M.

You will hear from me again in the fall, but I am already looking forward to seeing you next March.

Gig ’em,

E. Ridley Briggs ’54

Annual Sul Ross Group Reunion
College Station, TX
March 3-5, 2014

Reunion Accommodations

A block of rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis, for the Sul Ross Group Annual Reunion. Make your reservations by calling the College Station Hilton directly before February 19, 2014 at 979-693-7500. Be sure to reference the Group Code: ROSS14 to receive the rate of $139 per night, plus tax. If you prefer to stay at another hotel in the area, please call the Accommodations Hotline at 979-260-9999 to check on hotel availability in the area. You may also go to the Bryan-College Station Accommodations website to book a room. Hotels in close proximity to the Hilton are Hyatt Place, Hawthorne Suites, Comfort Suites, Homewood Suites, Residence Inn and Holiday Inn Express. Call today!

*College Station Hilton — Reunion Headquarters Hotel
801 University Drive East — (979) 693-7500
$139/night, plus tax
Group Name: Sul Ross Reunion
Group Code: ROSS14
Hotel Reservation Deadline: February 9, 2014
Check-in time: 4:00 p.m.
Check-out time: Noon

*The Hilton sold out of rooms last year, so act now to secure your room.
George Brodie '43 starred in the A&M play 'A Night to Remember' in 1933 while attending A&M. He was a member of the 'H' Coat Artillery Outfit in the Corps of Cadets, and he resided in Hall A while attending A&M. He joined the army in the summer of 1940, and he served until the summer of 1945. After the war, he worked for J. R. Rose Truck Line Inc., from 1947 until 1982. While he was employed there, he did consulting work, and he also served as vice-president of the company. His daughter, Kay Louise Brodie, is in the Class of '75, and his son, Scott Brodie, is a member of the Class of '81. Currently, George enjoys spending his time in Houston and Fall River, Massachusetts, where he resides for six months of the year. He can be reached at 2226 Brooktree Drive, Houston, Texas 77008. Home: (713) 862-5828.

Robert "Bob" Williamson '51 was a member of the D Field Artillery Outfit in the Corps of Cadets while attending A&M. He was a member of the A&M football team and coached football at the field level for many years. He is happily married to his wife, Wilma Jane, and they have two sons: Robert '81 and Fredrick '86. Their address is 28011 Gadwall Dr., Katy, Texas 77494. Phone: (281) 592-8768.

Tom Tapley '52 was very involved during his attendance of Texas A&M. While he was here, John held the position of Junior and Senior Class Yell Leader, he was a member of the Fish Drill Team, and he also was a member of the A&M Corps Outfit. His wife, Carolyn, was also selected to be A&M's 75th Anniversary Queen. Upon graduating, John worked for Braniff Airways in Dallas, Texas, as a Chief Pilot. He is now retired, and he enjoys participating in Medal of Honor Activities in Gainesville, Texas, annually. He has one daughter and two sons. He can be reached at 102 Houston Drive, Lake Keno, Texas 76240. Home: (940) 665-4186. Tapley52@hotmail.com

Thomas D. Longbrake '56 was a veteran who attended Texas A&M. He was a part of Intramural sports, the Rio Grande Valley Home Town Club, and the Ag Economics Club. He also worked at the dorm counselor's office for Hart Hall, which was where he resided. He was a member of the Non Reg U.S. Army Outfit during his time in the Corps. Upon graduation, he worked at a State Horticulture Specialist for Texas Agricultural Extension Services. Thomas had the opportunity to work as a consultant in locales such as Panama, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Russia, Guinea, and Sumatra. Thomas' two daughters, Julie Giam '81 and Jeanne Valenta '82, both attended A&M and became the CEOs of their husbands, Pat Giam '81 and Dan Valenta '82. Thomas enjoys fishing, golfing, cactus collecting, gardening, cooking, and attending church. He would like all of his Classmates to know that he has shot his age and has been married for the last five years. He currently resides with his wife, Mary, at 1818 Laura Lane, College Station, Texas 77840, home phone: (979) 693-6778. longbrake2@tuddenlink.net

Bobby McCarr '56 was very involved while a student at Texas A&M. He was a member of B Infantry, Ino. Ed, Iota Lambda Sigma, and intramural sports. After graduation, Bobby worked for Ford Motor Co. and became the vice president of Standard Register Co. He also worked as a rancher for 12 years. Bobby and his wife, Barbara (Bobbie), live in Port Lavaca and have a grandson, Nick '10 who has carried on the Aggie legacy. Bobbie's current interests include writing, gardening, history, and politics. He has recently been appointed to the MFG Housing Foundation for the State of Texas Board of Directors (2013). He and his wife can be reached at home on 601 Brookshovel Dr., Port Lavaca, Texas 77797. Their home number is (361) 525-9189.

Gene Holder '57 was a member of the Dog Battery Corps Outfit while he attended A&M. He worked as a consultant for his occupation. He enjoys fishing during his free time. He is happily married to his wife, Pat, and he has two sons: Ken, Class of '90, and Mike. He also has a grandson, Kenny. He can be reached at 28011 Gadwall Drive, Katy, Texas 77494. Home: (281) 592-8791. gholder1@mson.com

Robert F. Nairn '57 participated in the Rifle Team, the Bull Ring, the D Field Outfit, and the B Field Outfit while he attended A&M. In 1955, he was drafted and served in the army. He then worked for Phillips Petroleum Company for 35 years as an engineering research technician and engineer in the field aspects of the petroleum industry. He is currently retired, and he enjoys his 55th year of marriage with his wife, Marie. Robert's 80 year old grandson graduated from the Texas A&M Corpus Christi Campus, another grandson is a senior at St. Thomas. Thomas, two more are juniors in high school, with one planning to attend A&M to pursue an engineering degree, another grandson is an eighth grade here in College Station, and he also has a one year old great-granddaughter. Currently, Robert is active in his church, and he enjoys hunting and fishing. He also fixes houses in his spare time with a local organization. Robert is looking for fellow Aggie, Roy Don Hickman, one of his co-freshmen in the D Field Outfit. He can be reached at 102 N. Frances, Sweeny, Texas 77480. Home: (979) 548-2683. Minnowu.ntsaps@hotmail.com

Enie Holder '57 was a member of the Dog Battery Corps Outfit while he attended A&M. He worked as a consultant for his occupation. He enjoys fishing during his free time. He is happily married to his wife, Pat, and he has two sons: Ken, Class of '90, and Mike. He also has a grandson, Kenny. He can be reached at 28011 Gadwall Drive, Katy, Texas 77494. Home: (281) 592-8791. gholder1@mson.com

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Lisle Wayne II ’57 and his wife, Sheila, reside in Evansville, IN. They have two sons who both attended A&M. Todd ’02 and Kyle ’05. Lisle was primarily employed with Evansville Plastic Surgical Assoc. where he was the president and owner of the Evansville location. He was involved in the Corps of Cadets while at Texas A&M and now has taken up the hobby of stamp collecting. Lisle’s son Kyle received his PhD. and is currently post doctorate for microbiology at Yale University. Lisle and Sheila can be reached at 807 Canterbury Drive, Evansville, IN 47715. Home: (812) 479-7973 Work: (812) 479-7973, saw123x@ATC.CDR.

John Altermann III ’58 was a member of the Corps of Cadets and the Singing Cadets while at Texas A&M. He lived in dorms 1, 9 and 14 and received his bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. Currently, John enjoys activities, gardening, singing in his church choir, reading, traveling and flying. John and his wife, Emily, have five children, eight grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. They live at 807 Canterbury Drive, Evansville, IN 47715. Home: (812) 479-7973 Work: (812) 479-7973, saw123x@ATC.CDR.

Earl Brown ’58 and his wife, Maxine, live in Brownsburg, Indiana, and have a son, Larry, and daughter, Jilla Brown-Hall. While at Texas A&M, Earl lived in the students apartments in the old army barracks which were converted at the time. After graduation, Earl worked for Carrier Corp. UTC for 33 years before retiring in 1992. Earl and Maxine can now be reached at 5520 North Country Road 1000 E., Brownsburg, Indiana 46112. They can be reached by their home phone at (317) 852-5134.

David Currin ’58 was very involved as a student at Texas A&M. He was on Fish Drill Team, a member of the Dallas A&M club as well as had many different part time jobs to support his family. He lived in dorms 3 and 14. David and his wife, Pat, were married during his sophomore year so that she could help him through school. “She was kidnapped by my good Aggie buddies as we left the reception and drove around Dallas until early Saturday morning.” David said. They are still married 57 years later. David retired as LTC Army – parachute rigger after 20 years and retired a second time from J.C. Penny after 18 years. David and Pat can be reached at home at 629 Headlee St., Denton, Texas 76201. Home phone: (940) 387-4568. “Our years in Aggieland are still among our most cherished!”

Jerry M. Reed ’58 was a very active student while attending the university. He participated on the Campus Pass Group, he was a member of the champion Corps volleyball team, he was named outstanding sophomore athlete for Squad 4, and he was also John Hardy’s body guard. After graduating, he worked in the retail furniture and appliance business until 2007, when he retired. He is happily married to his wife, Mary, and they have seven great-grandchildren, from the ages of four months to six years old! He likes to fish in his spare time, and he just purchased a new bass boat. He would like to tell the Class of ’58 “You guys are sure looking old.” He can be reached at 2917 FM 1452 W., Madisonville, Texas 77864. Home: (936) 348-2050. maryreedjgatt.net

Elmer Ellis Mooring ’58 is retired and married to his college sweetheart, Patricia, where they live in College Station, Texas. While at A&M, he lived in dorm 4, Fountain Hall and at his parents’ home in Texarkana, Texas. Elmer was also the president of ETA Kappa Nu and was involved in the institute of Radio Engineers. Elmer can be reached at 3709 Eisen Loop, College Station, Texas, 77845, (979) 355-6709. Elmer@fymooring.us.

James W. Dixon ’58 retired from Carlile & CRP and now lives in Friona, Texas and has four children. While a student at Texas A&M, James lived in dorm 2 and was involved in ROTC, Agriculture and attended church in College Station. He says that one of the most monumental moments this year was when, “We beat OU in the Cotton Bowl.” He would like to be sent more information about Carlile, CRP to keep him updated on current events. James lives at 604 CR B, Friona, Texas 79035. He can be reached at home: (806) 295-6392 work: (806) 265-7685 or by email at janeLatnell@WTRT.net.

Benjamin Hajek ’58 was a member of the Agronomy Club while he attended Texas A&M, and he lived in Inex, Texas while he was a student. He is married to his wife, Rosalie, and he holds the title of “professor emeritus” at Auburn University, in Auburn, Alabama. He resides at 340 Gardner Drive, Auburn, AL 36830. Home: (334) 821-1634. bhajek@charter.net

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Global Business Brigades is a national organization with a mission to create sustainable change by empowering students and communities. The organization and its Texas A&M chapter provide hands-on international business experience by taking a group of students on a weeklong trip to Central America each semester, helping local entrepreneurs realize their dream of escaping poverty and experiencing true economic development.

Most recently, the A&M group traveled to Panama, where the students worked with local business on developing plans and teaching business strategies, budgeting and organization, to local entrepreneurs. The students worked to help the community's economic development. The hope that the knowledge they shared would help the community's economic growth and create independence that would help the community in the long run.

With funding support from donors to The Association of Former Students' Annual Fund, the students were able to meet their fundraising goals and focus on the work they traveled to do, gaining experience in international business-settings.

Through teaching business strategies in an international setting, they traveled to do, gaining experience and communities. The organization and its Texas A&M chapter provide hands-on international business experience by taking a group of students on a weeklong trip to Central America each semester, helping local entrepreneurs realize their dream of escaping poverty and experiencing true economic development.

Funds were raised for a group of students on a weeklong trip to Central America each semester, helping local entrepreneurs realize their dream of escaping poverty and experiencing true economic development.
The Sul Ross Group Reunions, started in 1947, and were initially held for the purpose of fellowship among surviving former students of A&M who knew Sul Ross first-hand as they were students during his presidency. As the original group dwindled in number over the years, they took action to include former students who were aware of Sul Ross from history. This composite group, as it met in Reunion, honored the great man whose name they had adopted. The original and subsequent Reunions focused on establishing first-hand fellowship and support for their great school, Texas A&M. Today the Sul Ross Group meets in a combined, organized Reunion of all members of Texas A&M Classes who have been out of school more than 55 years. Each Class is inducted on the occasion of their Class’ 55th Anniversary. An objective for this mature group is to be a source of service and support for The Association of Former Students and for Texas A&M University.

Lawrence Sullivan “Sul” Ross
President of A&M 1891-1898
Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman

The Sul Ross Group