

## Sul Ross Group (SRG) Board of Directors (BoD) 2026-2027



### **President, Neal Patton '67**

Neal was born in Harlingen and graduated from Texas A&M as a Distinguished Military Graduate with a BA in economics and a commission in the Air Force. He later attended Arizona State University earning an MBA. At A&M he was a member of the Ross Volunteer Company, Squadron 12, until it was disbanded, and the Air Division staff and was the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wing commander as a senior. In a thirty-year air force career, he commanded a fighter squadron, a reconnaissance group, a provisional F-4 wing, two air base groups, and a logistics group. He also served as the Vice Commander of two Numbered Air Forces. He has over 5000 military flying hours in the F-4, F-5, and the O-1 with 397 combat sorties in Viet Nam and Desert Storm. After retiring from the Air Force in 1997, Neal joined Raytheon Aerospace, later Vertex Aerospace, serving as general manager of Air Force and International Programs. He developed and led programs providing aircraft, aircraft maintenance and logistic support to the US Army and Air Force and the air forces of Israel, Egypt, Greece, Morocco, Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan. He is married to the former Cheryl Fitzgerald of Avon CN. They have two children and two grandchildren. He and Cheryl live in Boerne, TX. This will be his second year on the board.



### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Neal Adams '68**

Mr. Adams was born and raised in Tyler, Texas. He earned his BBA in Marketing from Texas A&M University in 1968 and obtained his Juris Doctor in 1970 from Baylor University School of Law. While attending Texas A&M University he served as: Head Yell Leader; Member of Student Senate and Adjutant General, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, Corps of Cadets. After obtaining his Juris Doctor in 1970 from Baylor University, Mr. Adams served in the United States Army as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, Adjutant's General Corps, and was trial counsel for Headquarters Command, Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Mr. Adams resides in Bryan, Texas and has been practicing law in Fort Worth, Tarrant County since 1972. He is President of the law firm of Adams, Lynch & Loftin, P.C., located in Grapevine, Texas. He is a past member of the Board and Past President, Hurst-Eules-Bedford Independent School District; a past member of the Board and Past President, Hurst-Eules-Bedford Chamber of Commerce; a past member of the Board and Past President, Mid-Cities Rotary Club. Mr. Adams continues to be very supportive of Texas A&M. He serves as a member and Past Chairman of President Welsh's Board of Visitors for the Corps of Cadets; member and Past Chairman of the Chancellor's Century Council; Past Chair of the 12<sup>th</sup> Man Foundation; Chair of the Baylor Oral Health Foundation (supports the Texas A&M University College of Dentistry). He has also served as: Past Co-Agent for class of '68; Past President and current Treasurer of the Former Yell Leaders' Association; Member of the Dean's Advisory Council, Texas A&M University School of Law; Member of the Advisory Board and as Chair of the Development Committee for the Texas A&M University Bush School of Government and Public Service. Governor Rick Perry appointed Mr. Adams to the following: Member of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (2001-2007); Vice Chairman (2005 to 2007). Mr. Adams is a member (2009-to date) and the current Chair (2011-to date) of the Board of the Texas Higher Education Foundation. Mr. Adams is a recipient of the following: In October 2002 and 2007, Texas Lawyer Magazine named him as the "Go-To-Lawyer" for school law in the State of Texas. From 2003 through 2011 and 2013 through 2024, he was named one of the Texas Super Lawyers in school and education law by "*Texas Monthly Magazine*". In 2015, he was inducted into the Hall of Fame, Hurst-Eules-Bedford Independent School District; the 2016 Kelly Frels Lifetime Achievement Award by the State Bar of Texas School Law Section; the 2020 Dan Rugeley Price Memorial Award from the Texas Bar Foundation for professionalism; the 2022 Distinguished Aggie Lawyer Award from the Texas Aggie Bar Association; the 2023

Blackstone Award by the Tarrant County Bar Association (highest honor given in recognition of a career that exemplifies professional aptitude, integrity, and courage); in 2008 named as a recipient of the Association of Former Students Distinguished Alumni of Texas A&M University; in 2010 he was inducted into the Hall of Honor, Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets. He has been a continual supporter of the Texas A&M University School of Law from its inception and served on the Law School's Search Committee for its first Dean in 2013 and its second Dean in 2017. Since 1988, Mr. Adams has been a keynote speaker at 18 Aggie Musters from Phoenix, Arizona to Houston and many locations in between. He is married to the former Sonja K. Moreland and they have enjoyed 56 years of marriage and have 2 daughters, Marti Morgan '93 and Paige Petro. This will be his first year on the board.



**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Bill Youngkin '69**

Bill J. Youngkin '69 earned a bachelor's in agricultural education from Texas A&M University, where he was a head yell leader, Ross Volunteer, class officer and Distinguished Student. After graduation, he served in the U.S. Army, with a tour in Vietnam, and earned a law degree from Baylor University in 1975. He built a successful legal career as principal of Youngkin & Associates and was named Aggie Lawyer of the Year in 2020. A dedicated advocate for education and veterans, Youngkin has served on the boards of the Greater Texas Foundation, the Brazos Valley Veterans Memorial and as the 1991 Chair of The Association of Former Students' Board of Directors. He is a 37-year Century Club donor, a Class Agent and a past Fish Camp namesake. In 2014, he was inducted into the Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor and was the Campus Muster speaker. He and his wife of 52 years, Marilyn, were the 2000-01 Parents of the Year and have two Aggie daughters, Libby '00 and Katie '03.



**Senior Vice President, Mickey Batsell '67**

Mickey was first elected class agent at his five-year reunion and has been serving since. He was a member of Squadron 11 and the first and only fish drill team to march with unsheathed bayonets. He was commissioned into the USAF, graduated with a degree in Marketing and married Nancy two days after graduation. As a First Lt. he was selected to be Aide de Camp for the Commanding General of the USAF Special Operations Forces. While in that role he participated in a mission to rescue American POW's being held at Son Tay prison camp in N. Vietnam. They had been moved and were not in the camp; however, the mission was a major turning point in the war. He then served as a briefing officer for SECDEF, Melvin Laird. In that role he toured Europe briefing NATO and Allied commanders on sensor systems applications. His final active-duty assignment was as Comptroller for a Tactical Control Group. After a little over five years' active duty, he joined the USAF Reserves for the balance of his 29 years of service. He held the positions of Deputy Commander of Resources for a fighter unit and Director of Transportation for 10<sup>th</sup> AF and retired as a Lt. Colonel. He is an experienced insurance and financial services professional with almost fifty years of experience. He has been an active member of six national financial organizations and the Chairman or President of several of them. The Batsell's have four children, eleven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, with twelve Aggies in the family. He is a Muster speaker for A&M Clubs and was a founding member and first President of the Coppel A&M Club. This will be his first year on the board.



### **Secretary/Treasurer, Doug Ferrata '67**

Doug is a native of Houston. Growing up on Sul Ross Street, he always seemed destined to be an Aggie. He graduated from St. Thomas High School and was inspired to attend A&M and join the Corps of Cadets, following in the footsteps of his brother, Col. John B. Ferrata Jr. '57. Doug earned a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering in May 1968 and a Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering in August 1969.

After being commissioned into the Air Force, Doug was assigned to Vandenberg Air Force Base in California as a Launch Guidance Officer for Thor and Titan boosted satellite launches. In 1971, when the Air Force began granting vision waivers, he immediately applied for pilot training and was assigned to Laredo AFB, Texas. Upon graduation in August 1972, he was assigned as a C-141 pilot at Charleston AFB, South Carolina, where he served on the Wing Staff and became an Aircraft Commander. In 1975, Doug became an Instructor Pilot at Craig AFB, Alabama, and served as a Flight Commander. Following Craig AFB's closure in 1977, he was assigned as a Staff Officer in the Military Airlift Command Directorate of Training at Scott AFB, Illinois. There, he oversaw the design and development of the Military Airlift Command Aircrew Resource Management System (MACARMS), a pivotal program that tracked flying hours and currency for all MAC aircrew members worldwide. By 1980, Doug had moved to the Directorate of Operations at the Headquarters of the United States Air Force in the Pentagon. He conceived and led a joint services program to design and develop a secure microcomputer system for unit-level use, enhancing operational security and efficiency. In 1984, he accepted a position in the Directorate of Plans and Policy within the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. After nine years of staff duty, Doug returned to flying in 1986 as a C-21 pilot and Operations Officer at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. In 1988, he was assigned to the Air Force Space Technology Center at Kirtland, where he managed weapon systems development for the Strategic Defense Initiative Office (SDIO) and served as the Deputy Director for Program Management. Retiring from the Air Force in 1990, Doug transitioned to the private sector, where he managed the development of automated systems for prominent organizations, including TD Bank, Sandia National Laboratories, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Arnold Engineering Development Center, Lockheed Martin Corporation, the Nevada Test Site, Entergy Corporation, Dell Computers, and the Department of Defense Hypersonic Propulsion Program. He concluded this chapter of his career with a retirement in 2017. Doug served as President of the Texas A&M Club in Albuquerque for 15 years. In 2023, he embraced a new challenge by accepting a position to develop systems for the DOD Cryptologic Systems Modernization Program in San Antonio, Texas. Additionally, he is a partner in Coreena's Bridal Boutique, located in College Station and Georgetown, Texas, and a member of the Sul Ross Group Board of Directors. Doug married Elena McDonald from Havana, Cuba, in 1968. They have two sons, Doug Jr and Nick, both proud Aggies from Squadron 17, classes of '99 and '03. Their legacy continues with three grandchildren, future Aggies of the classes of '31, '34, and '37. This will be his second year on the board.



### **Director, Hal Hornburg '68**

Hal grew up in the Dallas area and entered A&M in the fall of 1964. During his years at A&M he was a Ross Volunteer and commanded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Group his senior year. After graduation in May, '68, he was commissioned a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt in the USAF, completed pilot training and flew 238 combat missions as a Forward Air Controller in Viet Nam. Following a tour as a T-38 instructor pilot, Hal transitioned to fighters and flew the F-4 D/E, all models of the F-15 and F-16. He directed air operations in Bosnia and commanded the largest combat wing during Desert Storm during which he flew 16 combat missions over Iraq in the F-15E Strike Eagle. He retired from the USAF in 2005 at the rank of General, having commanded the two largest major commands in the Air Force. In resuming civilian life, Hal was self-employed as a consultant to numerous corporations in the defense sector. He served on the board of directors of the Texas A&M Association of Former Students for seven years, and was selected as Chairman of the Board in 2007. He was named a Texas A&M Distinguished Alumnus in 2012 and has also been inducted into the Corps Hall of Honor. Hal and his late wife Cynthia have two sons, both retired Air Force pilots. His son, Chris is a 2022 graduate of the Bush School, and granddaughter, Maddie, is an honors graduate of the Mays School of Business. Now fully retired, Hal stays busy in numerous volunteer capacities, including a ministry in the Kendall County jail and assisting men whose wives suffer from dementia. His home is in Boerne, TX. This will be his first year on the board.



### **Director, Danny Barr '68**

Danny was born and raised in Atlanta, Texas and graduated Atlanta High School in May of 1964, as salutatorian. He entered the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas in August, 1964, becoming a member of the Corps of Cadets, Fighting Squadron 11. Danny graduated Texas A&M in May, 1968 with a Bachelors of Business Administration, Finance and a commission in the USAF. He later received a Master's in Management and Supervision from Central Michigan University in 1977. After he was commissioned in the USAF, he headed to Laredo AFB for Undergraduate Pilot Training. Danny married Elaine in June, 1968 (she deceased Dec 2010). Little did he know, being a pilot would define his professional life. He flew C-141s in the 15th MAS, 63rd MAW, Norton AFB, CA from Aug 69-Jun 73 and during that time, he flew Bob Hope and troop on two round the world USO Christmas Tours, 1970 and 1972. He also flew three Operation Homecoming Trips to Hanoi, North Vietnam in Feb and Mar 73, repatriating many POWs to Clark AB, the Philippines. After a remote tour for a year to Ubon AB, Thailand, he was assigned to Andrews AFB, MD, joining the 99th MAS, 89th MAW to fly the C140 Jetstar and remained there for the next 23 years of his USAF career. April 1980, Danny was selected for the Air Force One crew, flying the VC-137s and would fly Presidents Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton. A couple of his many memorable trips was flying Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip on their visit to the US as guests of President Reagan in 1981 and flying First Lady Nancy Reagan to the royal wedding of Lady Diana and Prince Charles in 1983. He led the process of acquiring and certifying the Boeing 747s as the replacement for the B-707s which included building the new AF One hangar. In Jan 1989, became the 10th Presidential Aircraft Commander for President Bush, being the last to fly tail numbers 26000 and 27000 and the first to fly tail numbers 28000 and 29000. He retired from the USAF on 7 May, 1997 with the rank of Colonel. He continued his flying career as a corporate pilot with RESA Air, flying Prince Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi Arabian

Ambassador to the US, flying the Airbus 340, 1997-2004 and then joining the aircrew of Discount Tire Company and flying the Falcon 900 before retiring 31 Dec 2011. Danny was inducted as a Distinguished Alumnus of Atlanta High School in 2012 and was also very proud at being selected a member of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor in 2018. He lives in Bryan, Texas. He has two sons, Rob '93 and John '95, six grandchildren, Coale, Jack, Joey, Tate, Will and Anna. This will be his first year on the board.



**Director, Scott Taylor '69**

M. Scott Taylor '69 earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in finance at Texas A&M University before earning his law degree from the University of Houston's Bates College of Law. He served in the U.S. Army, attaining the rank of captain. Scott is a board-certified trial attorney who practiced over 36 years. He served roles with the Angelina County Bar Association, the East Texas Trial Lawyers Association, the Area 2-B State Bar Grievance Committee and is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. Scott is a 47-year donor to The Association of Former Students. He served on the 12th Man Foundation Board of Trustees, including as chairman. He served on the Kyle Field Redevelopment Committee and played a key role in Texas A&M's transition to the SEC. Honors include the Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor and the 12th Man Foundation's 12th Man Award. Scott has two children: Robin and Laura '99. His wife of 53 years, Patricia, passed away earlier this year.



**Director, Bill Carter '69**

After a sterling college career that included serving as the Student Body President at Texas A&M, Bill Carter was a Distinguished Military Graduate of Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets, receiving a degree in agricultural economics. Following a brief stint as an assistant buyer for Sanger Harris Stores in Dallas, he served two years as an academic counselor for the U.S. Army at Fort Benjamin Harrison. He began his financial planning career with R.E. Sisk and Associates in Indianapolis, Indiana in 1973 before moving to Financial Services Corp. in Dallas for three years. In 1976, he formed Financial Planning Services, later to become Carter Financial Management. In 1980, he established Carter Advisory Services Inc., a registered investment advisory company. His professional achievements include Chairman of the Board of International Association of Financial Planning and the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) Board of Standards. He also chaired the CFP International Council and has served on the boards of the Institute of Certified Financial Planners and the Foundation for Financial Planning. In addition to the advising numerous colleges and universities, he has provided leadership o the American Diabetes Association, the Foster Grandparent Advisory Council, and the Greater Dallas Alliance to Help Eliminate Alcohol and Drug Addiction. He now serves on the boards of the Baylor University Medical Foundation and the Planned Giving Council of Children's Medical Center of Dallas. The past four years Carter has been named among the Best Financial Advisors by Worth Magazine. He was also recognized as a Rising Star of Texas by Texas Monthly magazine in 1986. He is frequently quoted in the New York Times, Money Magazine, USA Today, The London Financial Weekly, and The Wall Street Journal. The 1992 President of the Association of Former Students has been the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Texas A&M Foundation. He was a member of Texas A&M's Vision 2020 Task Force, served on the Texas A&M University System Investment Advisory Council to Texas A&M President Dr. Ray. M. Bowen '58. A past president of the Dallas A&M Club, he serves on the board of the 12th Man Foundation.



### **Past President, Henry Goodwin '66**

Henry Goodwin '66 was born in Pasadena, Texas and graduated from Pasadena High School in 1962. He entered Texas A&M in fall of 1962 and was assigned to Company B-1 in the Corps of Cadets. As a sophomore he was chosen to serve as an Assistant Squad Leader and also served as an Intramural Manager. As a junior and senior, he was on the 1st Battalion and 1st Brigade Staffs. He was commissioned into the US Army upon graduation with a degree in Business Management. His assignments included Officer Basic at Ft. Lee Virginia; the 2nd Infantry Division, Korea to Company A of the 2<sup>nd</sup> S&T Battalion - first as a platoon leader and later as a company commander (Army Commendation Medal). He was transferred to Fort Sam Houston upon return to the US. He then entered the commercial sector, first with Electronic Data Systems, Inc. from June 1969 to May 1972. He then joined Merrill Lynch in Houston, Texas in May 1972 and is still serving as a Senior VP Financial Advisor (Life-Time Achievement Award). He has been active in a myriad of service activities including; President Southwest Houston A&M Club, raising sponsorships to fund Radio Broadcasts of A&M Basketball games in Gulf Coast Area, member and Chairman of Corps of Cadets Development Council, member of the President's Board of Visitors to the Corps of Cadets (Founding Member), funding two Sul Ross Corps Scholarships and an athletic scholarship, an inductee into the TAMU Corps Hall of Honor, is a Century Club Member, a SCONA 100 Member, and is a founding member of the Corps of Cadets Association (CCA). He is also a current member of the Chancellor's Advisory Council. He is married to Linda Lou Ewart, and they have enjoyed 58 years of marriage. They have two sons - Bryan Class of '98, D-2, and Michael, Class of '03 Squadron 3. They are proud to have three future Aggie grandchildren. Henry and Linda live in College Station. This will be his third year on the board.