2012 Scholarship applications have been sent to 26 area high school counselors’ offices. Interested h.s. seniors need to complete and mail them to Box 884, Abilene, 79608, before April 15. If you have a high school senior in your life, or know someone who does, remind them to stop by their counselor’s office soon! Contact Marta Hollowell ’82 at 325-692-6255 or marta@hollowell.com for more information or a copy of the application.

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Join the Club! Member dues are a mere $35, and if you’re married to an Aggie, we’ll let you both in for the same $35 – where can you beat a deal like that? Memberships cover expenses like lunch and gifts for speakers, Country Club fees for the lectern and microphone, comp meals as appropriate from time to time for special guests, etc., so that our fundraising dollars can fund scholarships. PLUS, members receive a printed copy of the newsletter mailed to the address of your choice, AND an awesome maroon ballpoint pen with “Abilene A&M Club” and the A&M logo embossed in gold! Join today – membership form is on the back page.

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The Country Club has raised the price for lunches. Your board has considered the effect of the increase, and starting in February, the price for lunch will be $13 if you pay by cash or check. If you’re an ACC member, you can still sign a ticket to have it charged to your account.

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Support the Club and demonstrate your love for Texas A&M by placing a business card ad in the newsletter! At $75 annually, ads pay for printing and postage costs. The printed version is mailed to between 100 – 200 area Aggies (who pay their dues), and an electronic copy is emailed using the Association of Former Students’ email list of several hundred area Aggies. Promote your business, express your support, help cover the costs of Club communications. Contact Jason Adams ’06 at 979-324-9559 or jason12adams@gmail.com and he’ll set you up!

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Meet and interact with other Aggies in a relaxed setting after work! Join Social Chairperson Vanessa Roberts and the gang for Aggie Happy Hour, Thursday, Feb 23, 5:15 at Copper Creek. And put the third Thursday of each month on your calendar for a similar gathering – places will rotate around town, so watch the newsletter for the location of the month.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

(All Regular Club and Board Meetings are at Noon at the Abilene Country Club, 4039 S. Treadaway.)

Sat. April 21, 2012 Aggie Muster. Lytle Bend Ranch, casual, family-oriented, only $10 each!
Fri. June 22, 2012 Abilene A&M Club Golf Tournament, Diamondback Golf Course
Aggie Happy Hours March 15 @ Cypress Street Station/ April 19 @ The Beehive
From fish Joey Lavalleé ’15, 2011 scholarship recipient from Tuscola:

My first semester at Texas A&M went great! I am loving it!... ...I have met a lot of great people and the classes are quite interesting!... ...the friendliness of the community and sense of family in and around the university have made the transition [of moving from the small town of Tuscola to College Station] much easier. I have no doubt in my mind that Texas A&M is where I need to be. I have been truly blessed by people like you who have helped me get to where I am today...

And he backs up his claim of well-being by sporting a 3.46 GPR after his first semester. How many of you can remember starting off that well? Good job, Joey – we’re proud of you. Keep up the good work!

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And this from an email received from Ruth Graves Fields ’81 of Montgomery, TX. A writer for the Conroe Courier, Ruth is from a long line of Aggies, up, down and across the family tree. She is a former Class Agent and recent marathon runner.

Several years ago, my brother, Russ Graves ’80, had a terrific idea: to compile a collection of Aggie Ring stories and publish them in a coffee table book that Aggies would enjoy. I recently joined him on this project and we have collected some incredible stories about Aggies and their rings. We have also obtained the blessings of the Association of Former Students, which holds the trademark on the Aggie ring.

...We are currently a little heavy on the “lost and found” variety, and need only the most unusual, hard-to-believe or heartwarming lost and found stories; however, we could use many more stories of the “other” kind, such as stories surrounding family ring traditions, the importance of Aggie rings to their owners and unusual ways that Aggie rings have opened the door for Aggies.

FYI, we have a web site at www.aggieringstories.com (although it is admittedly sparse).

Thanks and gig ‘em!

Ruth Graves Fields ’81

If you have a great story, don’t miss the opportunity to share it with Aggies around the world by sending it to Ruth. Use her website. She’ll do you proud.