December, 2014

The Abilene AGGIE



Official Publication of the Abilene A&M Club, Inc.

NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 3, 2014 • 12:00 PM • ABILENE COUNTRY CLUB

Howdy!

Tradition is synonymous with Aggies, even the talking heads that babble incessantly to fill air time during television broadcasts of Aggie football games get it. They may not accurately describe the tradition, but at least they grasp the concept, **Aggies honor tradition**. Some traditions fade away while new ones are born. On November 18, 1999, one of the most cherished Aggie traditions died at 2:42 am along with 12 members of the 12th Man. Although the University shamefully ended Bonfire, students continue to honor the tradition and Ags that died on the stack by holding a memorial service on November 18, at 2:42 am each year. The tradition has faded, but the Aggie Spirit continues to burn.

We are in the midst of another annual tradition, the holiday season. I hope we paused during the turkey and football to count our blessings and reflect upon all we have to be thankful for last Thursday. I also hope we take time to look through the commercialization and reflect upon the true significance of the ultimate holiday. Christmas should be the celebration of all celebrations for that is the day we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. That miracle birth lead to the promise of everlasting life, absolved us of our sins, provided the foundation of a religion, was the justification for numerous wars, and lead to the founding of America which is celebrated on Thanksgiving.

We all know the character traits good Aggies are expected to possess. It is not surprising that they are the same traits expected of a good citizen in a Country founded upon the Christian faith. At our November meeting, Dr. Savell provided some insight into one of the reason Aggies continue to revere traditions that define the character expected of a good Aggie. He referred to a survey of students at "comparable universities". The survey found that 25% of students attending "comparable universities" in the US had no religious affiliation or foundation compared to 1% of students at A&M. Ags, we should all be thankful that the young men and women, who will honor the traditions, fulfill the expectations and carry the Aggie Spirit into the future were "raised right" and have the spiritual foundation to do so. We should be proud that this is the type of student attracted to a little University on the Brazos, a University named Texas A&M.

Merry Christmas & Gig 'em, J. Clay Deatherage '84

PCOMING EVENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING DECEMBER 18. 2014 11:45 AM ABILENE COUNTRY CLUB

ALL REGULAR CLUB BOARD MEETINGS ARE AT NOON AT THE ABILENE COUNTRY CLUB

DECEMBER HAPPY HOUR

December 18, 2014 • 5:30—7:30 PM • Joe Allen's, 301 South 11th, Abilene, TX 79602







2014 Abilene A&M Club Calendar

December

December 3 - Regular Club Meeting
December 18 - Board of Directors Meeting
December 18 - Aggie Happy Hour
December 25 - Merry Christmas

January, 2015

January 1 - Happy New Year
January 7 - Regular Club Meeting
January 15 - Board of Directors Meeting
January 15 - Aggie Happy Hour

February, 2015

February 4 - Regular Club Meeting February 14 - Happy Valentines Day February 19 - Board of Directors Meeting February 19 - Aggie Happy Hour

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

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ROBERT G. OGDEE, M.D. '84

OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY
BOARD CERTIFIED

1680 Antilley Road, Suite 120 Fax: 325-695-0534 Abilene, Texas 79606 Tel: 325-695-GYNO(4966)







Introducing our December Speaker

Marisa Liles

Travel Program Operations Manager

Marisa Liles was born and raised in Aggieland before earning a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Tech University in restaurant, hotel and institutional management in 2009.

Marisa previously worked for The Fairmont Dallas as a business and leisure sales coordinator prior to returning to College Station. She joined the Bryan-College Station Convention and Visitors Bureau in 2010 as a destination sales executive before becoming the director of conventions sales in 2012. While at the Convention and Visitors Bureau, Marisa assisted more than 200 planners and organizations in bringing conferences and events to the Brazos Valley.

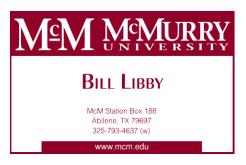
Marisa joined the Traveling Aggies in March 2014 as the travel program operations manager.

Welcome to Abilene Marisa















By-Laws Revisions

The Board of Directors has reviewed our Club's constitution and by-laws and identified some minor revisions that are needed to allow the Club to operate in the best and most efficient manner based upon our current programs and operating environment. Most of the proposed revisions are minor. However one proposal that addresses the term of the officers is a major change. Historically, the officer's term began on January 1, and we them at the January meeting. Simply stated, late December is not an optimal transitional period due to the holiday season. The Board is recommending the term in office be changed to February - January to facilitate the transition.

Article X of our By-Laws addresses the amendment process and states:

ARTICLE X
Amendments

Section 1/Two-Thirds Vote:

Following the meeting at which the motion was originally made and after notice of such amendment is published in a newsletter, the Bylaws of this Club may be amended or changed by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the next regular meeting. The Board of Directors must approve such changes by a majority vote. All Bylaws changes must be submitted to The Association of Former Students and approved by the Director of Club Programs of The Association.

The Board of Directors approved the recommended revisions to the By-Laws as presented at the November meeting and published in the November newsletter.

If they are approved by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the members present at the Regular December meeting they will go into effect immediately

ROBERT W. WILLEN

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Díd You Know

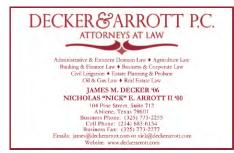
DID YOU KNOW: that Old Main was the first building to be placed on campus in 1876. "A stately, semi-classic building four stories in height", Old Main housed all the activities of the college for the first ten years of the school's existence. In the following three decades, Old Main played a prominent part in A&M activities and housed the offices of the school's presidents. The building caught fire in the early hours of May 27, 1912, and was unable to be saved. The armory being housed on the 4th floor may have been a contributing factor as some reported explosions as the building burned.

The Academic Building was constructed in 1914 at the same location as Old Main. Today the Academic Building houses offices, a few classrooms and a replica of the Liberty Bell that was minted in 1950. The 55 replicas were minted in France as part of the Liberty Bell Savings Bond drive. Each of the 48 states, the District of Columbia and all territories received a bell. The Texas bell was presented to Texas A&M University by Governor Alan Shivers in appreciation of the World War II military service of the school's students and graduates. Governor Shiver stated, "No one suffered more than the Aggies, so we will give it to them." All other replicas are housed on or near state capitals.

As far back as 1918, the Academic Building and Plaza has been the site of Silver Taps, with Aggies gathering in the plaza and buglers playing "Silver Taps" from the Academic Building's widows walk around the copper dome.

One of Texas A&M's most visible class gifts is the giant mosaic-tile rendition of the university seal. Presented to Texas A&M by the Class of 1978, the seal dominates the floor of the rotunda in the Academic Building.















Club Officers and Directors

The Club nominating committee will compile the slate of officers and directors at the December Board meeting. The slate will contain only one name for each position. In accordance with our By-Laws, the ballots will have a provision for a write in candidate for each position. The election will be held at the regular January meeting.

The following positions comprise the Club officers: President, President-Elect, Immediate Past-President, Vice-President/Activities-Programs, Vice-President/Finance, Vice-President/Membership, Vice-President/High School Relations - Scholarship, Vice-President/Publicity, Vice-President/Records, *Vice President / Special Programs - if the recommended By-Laws revisions are approved by the membership.*

Additionally, nine members serve as Club directors. Three directors are elected to a three year term annually. If you would like to serve as an officer, director or as a committee chairperson or member, please contact Curtis, Andrew or Clay prior to the December Board meeting.

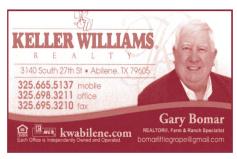
The 2015 Muster Committee has been appointed. Allison Cowling will chair the committee along with co-chairs Risha Sanders and Holly Reedy.

GOOD BULL

Abilene Aggies participated in this year's Rally To the Guidons. Dubb Pritchett '44 Braved the rain and cold to stand in an position of honor on the review stand.

Got any Good Bull? Send it to us!















Abilene A&M Club Silver Taps

Capt. Wallar Overton '61

Prayers and Concerns

Dub Pritchett '44 is home recovering from a recent illness.

Robert Adams '75 is home recovering from surgery on November 6.

The family of Wallar Overton '61

Please keep these Aggies in your prayers as we enter the Holiday Season.

Memorial Contributions

There are many ways to honor departed family members and friends.

Should you select a memorial contribution that embodies the Aggie Spirit as a method to celebrate the life of a loved one, the Abilene ASM Club will consider it an honor to help ensure your wishes are met.

Local Club options include the Senior Ring & Boot Fund, the Freshman Scholarship Fund and the Class of '43 White Belt Scholarship Fund. If your preference is one of the numerous organizations on campus or an affiliate of the Aggie network, please do not hesitate to contact us for assistance.

ABILENE A&M CLUB, INC. P.O. Box 884, Abilene, TX 79604

BE INVOLVED - DON'T BE A TWO PERCENTER

☐ Membership			Mail Newsletter to	
Change of Address			Home	
			Work	
Name (please print)			Class	
Spouse's Full Name (if Aggie)			Spouse's Class	
HOME Address	City & State		ZIP	
Home Phone	Home Fax	City	Home E-mail	
WORK Address	City & State		ZIP	
Work Phone	Cell		Work E-mail	
I want to help with: Scholarship Selections Muster French Fry Booth Golf Tournament Board of Directors Optional Reveille Donations:				
(above & beyond dues) \$\infty\$ \$25 \$\infty\$ \$50 \$\infty\$ \$100				
Golden Reveille Donations: \$\Bigcircle{1}\$ \\$250 \Bigcircle{1}\$ \\$500				
I wish to be acknowledged:				
in the Newsletter \$75.00/ yr on Aggie Football Radio \$400.00/ yr at the Golf Tournament				
Total Paid: \$				
tatement of Purpose: Primary functions of the Abilene A&M Club are serving as the focus of all organized alumni				

Statement of Purpose: Primary functions of the Abilene A&M Club are serving as the focus of all organized alumni activity in the Abilene area, and providing scholarship funds for deserving area students who are attending Texas A&M. The Club currently offers scholarships funded by your Membership Dues, Reveille Donations, Newsletter Sponsorships, the Aggie French Fry Booth at the West Texas Fair, A&M Football on radio and the annual Golf Tournament. Donations may also be made directly to the Abilene Community Foundation Texas A&M University Scholarship Fund (tax-deductible) which is a perpetual fund using only the income generated for scholarships.

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

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