Howdy!

To be referred to as A Good Aggie is a true compliment to those of us who truly understand what Aggies are. It is also considered to be somewhere between less than complimentary to an outright slur to the uninformed, the Wal Mart shoppers and the envious. We all can readily recognize the 2 percenters and bad Ags, but do we ever consider the traits of A Good Ag? I seriously doubt that we do, simply because Good Ags don’t intentionally try to be good Ags, they just are. As I listened to Bill Libby’s words and read Harold Hughes’ obituary Monday morning, I realized I was hearing and reading the guidebook to being a Good Aggie.

I firmly believe that being “raised right” with traditional family values provide one with a head start. I still remember bringing home my first report card when I was in the second grade. My mother was looking it over and took the opportunity to stress that there was absolutely no excuse for anyone to make anything but an “A” in one subject on that card. What was the subject? Citizenship.

We live in a world with constant bombardment of news, a benefit of the electronic era, and sensationalism is the common format of our daily news. Sadly, what is normally being sensationalized, glorified and glamorized would immediately earn you an “F” in citizenship and the title of a bad Ag.

I was blessed to grow up around many World War II veterans and their families. All had endured hardships and suffering whether on the battlefield, in a new role as Rosie the Riveter or simply trying to raise a family or maintain a business with whatever they could acquire with their ration stamps. Once the war was over, they simply resumed their lives and returned to their roles as the true foundations of society.

In many ways, they set the example Good Aggies follow today. Most good Aggies will never be fortune 500 CEOs or national celebrities. Instead they will be the men and women who make this country great. They are the successful business people, the loyal members of their congregation and the community leaders. They are the volunteers that sustain their community whether it be coaching youth athletics, scout leaders, 4-H and FFA leaders, band boosters, PTA members, JA mentors, Meals on Wheels drivers, or active members and leaders in the countless other activities that make our communities better places. Good Aggies are the ones that live their lives as positive role models, take time to put the needs of others first and proudly serve their community, state and country with no expectation of special recognition. They earn an “A” in citizenship on life’s report card and they are proud to be a former student of a college where these values are reinforced, a little College on the Brazos, a College named Texas A&M.

Gig ’em
J. Clay Deatherage ’84
2015 Abilene A&M Club Calendar

August, 2015

August 5 - Regular Club Meeting
August 20 - Board of Directors Meeting
August 20 - Aggie Happy Hour, Mezamiz 3909 South 7th
August 31 - Counselor's Admissions Seminar

September, 2015

September 2 - Regular Club Meeting
September 10 - 19 - West Texas Fair & Rodeo
September 17 - Board of Directors Meeting
September 17 - Aggie Happy Hour

October, 2015

October 7 - Regular Club Meeting
October 15 - Board of Directors Meeting
October 15 - Aggie Happy Hour

Sell The Hell Outta French Fries!
West Texas Fair Is A Commin’
Introducing our August Speaker

Mr. Marshall Morris ‘08  
Vice President  
Commercial Lending

Marshall joined First Financial Bank in March 2011 as a Loan Review Analyst, worked as a Commercial Credit Analyst from June 2012 until promotion to Assistant Vice President and Loan Officer for commercial lending in January 2013. Promoted to Vice President for Commercial Lending in February 2014.

Education  
Bachelor’s degree in Marketing from Texas A&M University (Mays Business School), 2008

Community Involvement  
St. John’s Episcopal School – Board of Trustees  
Co-Chair of Young Leaders Society  
Junior Achievement - Board of Directors  
Abilene Preservation League – Board of Trustees  
Abilene A&M Club – Board of Directors  
Young Life – Committee co-chair

Welcome Marshall!
Initiating change

By 1946, World War II was over and life at the Agricultural & Mechanical College of Texas returned to as close to normal as possible in the aftermath of a horrific war that changed the world forever. It is safe to say that in 1946 no one could foresee the rapid changes that were about to occur in our Nation, and that our beloved A&M would not exempt from changes many would find incomprehensible.

From 1960 until his death in 1970, Gen. James Earl Rudder, class of 1932, was president of A&M College of Texas. Rudder led platoons of Provisional Rangers on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day in 1944. In 1955, Rudder was appointed as Texas land commissioner. He investigated and reformed the office after his predecessor vacated the position due to fraud allegations. In 1960, according to the Corps of Cadets Association website, the Corps traded in the Army insignia for one designed by the cadets. It is known as the "Corps Brass" and bears the motto "Per Unitatem Vis" — "Through Unity, Strength." Rudder urged the Corps leadership to take the new motto seriously in encouraging retention rates, as less freshmen would stay for another year, according to Keepers of the Spirit. "I want you to guide the freshmen with common sense — not hazing," Rudder said. Major obstacles and opportunities for growth were ahead for A&M, as society changed and enrollment dropped. Editorials by The Eagle in January 1958 called for the university to leave behind the "philosophies of 1876." Rudder and Board of Directors President Sterling Evans pushed the Texas Legislature to pass a bill in April 1963 to change the name to Texas A&M University. The same week the Texas House passed the change, the Board of Directors approved enrollment for women. In May, the board approved racial integration.

Compulsory military training had been rescinded from 1954 to 1958, according to A Centennial History of Texas A&M University by Dethloff. When the policy was changed, only freshmen and sophomores were required to be in the Corps, making it optional for juniors and seniors. In 1965, incoming freshmen and sophomores were no longer required to participate in the Corps. Col. Thomas R. Parsons, class of 1949, believed the participation change made the Corps better. While commandant, he said in an October 1975 article in The Eagle, "I'd rather have somebody do something because they are self-motivated rather than forced."

Integration and going coed, would prove the most significant and contemptuous changes the school had ever faced.
In 1964, five black freshmen registered to be cadets in the Corps, but it would take another 10 years before women were allowed. Black men had an easier time being accepted in the Corps because they did not threaten its masculinity or reputation as a military school, according to The Eagle’s A&M’s 125th anniversary special issue. Women formed their own unit in 1974, W-1, and later expanded in 1978 to a second, Squadron 14. In 1979, Melanie Zentgraf filed a class action lawsuit against the Corps on the basis of discrimination after being rejected from special units and activities. A&M president Jarvis Miller refused to shake her hand at the 1980 commencement ceremony, according to a September 2004 Eagle article on the 30th anniversary of women in the Corps. Federal courts ruled in her favor in 1988 and used Title IX of the Civil Rights Act to force A&M to encourage women's participation in activities they had previously been denied. Women joined the band in 1985 and the Ross Volunteers a year later.

During the 1990s, undercurrents of resistance to female cadets were still present. In 1990, W-1 and Squadron 14 were disbanded and female cadets were integrated into new coed units, G-1 and Squadron 9. A female cadet claimed in September 1991 that members of Parson's Mounted Cavalry attacked her twice, but a month later recanted her allegations of an attack, according to an Oct. 23, 1991 Eagle article. She maintained she was harassed and subjected to hazing. The allegations sparked internal investigations by Corps officials and the administration. Several cadets were dismissed or suspended and the cavalry was disbanded. Four female cadets and former students came forward, outlining more than 10 instances within the Corps including ostracism, harassment and abuse, according to an October 1991 Eagle article. They claimed these occurrences and others were "covered up" by officials. One cadet told The Eagle in September 1991 that she was raped. The conflicts caused A&M to look deeper into women's treatment in the Corps. The Office of the Commandant issued a statement to the Corps, and cadets were required to sign a statement against harassment and discrimination starting in fall 1992.

Maj. Gen. Thomas Darling, class of 1954, was commandant from 1987 to 1996. In an April 1996 article in The Eagle, he explained how the Corps was mirroring the military with an increase in women's enrollment. "Women now have more access to jobs in all the services," he said. "Men who can work in a diverse environment will be preferred over men who cannot."

Next month will focus on traditions from Good Bull to Bad Bull to No Bull
The full article may be found at: http://www.myaggienation.com/history_traditions/corps_of_cadets/the-corps-of-cadets-a-historical-look-at-the-keepers/article_cceffbec-e329-11e2-b6f5-0019bb2963f4.html
UNDERHYPED TEXAS COLLEGE SHOCKS THE IVY LEAGUERS, TIES FOR FIRST IN AMERICA

A surprise Texas school ranks right up there with Harvard, Yale, Princeton & Cornell for the No. 1 college in America when it comes to producing major CEOs. Whether one thinks leaders are born or made, one undeniable modern-day truth rings out: If you want to helm one of America’s top companies, it sure helps to go to the right college. It turns out one of the truly “right” places to go is a Texas university that’s anything but Ivy League in attitude or aura. Yet that school is every bit the equal of Harvard, Princeton, Yale and Cornell when it comes to producing CEOs. In fact, it’s tied with those elite Ivies for the No. 1 spot in America on U.S. News & World Report’s new CEO teaching rankings.

The new stats are as loud and clear as an Aggie Yell Leader’s yell. No college in America has produced more major CEOs than Texas A&M. U.S. News & World Report examined the educational backgrounds of the CEOs of the Top 100 companies on the Fortune 500 list, and A&M finds itself sharing top honors. It’s the only non-Ivy League school among the universities tied for No. 1. And Texas A&M ranks ahead of vaunted colleges such as Brown, Penn and Tufts.

In U.S. News & World Report’s highly touted overall college rankings, Texas A&M ranks No. 68. But A&M still produced three of America’s Top 100 CEOs, the same number as Princeton, Harvard, Yale and Cornell.

Bruce Broussard (1984 A&M grad, accounting) runs Humana, David Cordani (1988 A&M grad, accounting) helms Cigna Corp, and Greg Garland (1980 A&M grad, chemical engineering) serves as CEO of Philips 66. No other Texas university has more than one Fortune 100 CEO graduate. In fact, A&M is one of only five non-East Coast schools with multiple Top 100 CEOs.

Roxanne Schoen
Abilene A&M Club Silver Taps

Capt. Wallar Overton ‘61
Holly Nash Spencer ‘82
Mr. Raymond A McDaniel, Jr. ‘55
Mr. Robert Adams ‘75
Mr. James Harold Hughes ‘52

Prayers and Concerns

Mr. Harold Hughes ‘52 was added to the Muster Roll Call on July 23, 2015. Harold was an active member of our Club. There is no doubt, James and Fred Lee will continue the family legacy.

Please keep these Aggies and their families in your prayers.

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 A&M 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

MAIL NEWSLETTER TO
☐ Home
☐ Work

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Spouse's Full Name (If Any)

Spouse's Class

HOME Address

City & State

ZIP

Home Phone

Home Fax

Cell Home E-mail

WORK Address

City & State

ZIP

Work Phone

Cell Work E-mail

Annual Dues:
☐ $35/yr Individual ☐ $35/yr Aggie couple

I WANT TO HELP WITH:
☐ Scholarship Selections ☐ Muster ☐ French Fry Booth ☐ Golf Tournament ☐ Board of Directors

Optional Reveille Donations:
(above & beyond dues)
☐ $25 ☐ $50 ☐ $100

Golden Reveille Donations:
☐ $250 ☐ $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: $______________

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.