Howdy!

Howdy Ags. Welcome to another exciting issue of the Abilene A&M club newsletter. I was at the local scout camp this past weekend teaching training. As I stood in the food line I noticed an Aggie ring on a stranger’s hand. I whipped out to the young man. He was class of ’97. Now I am not a corps member but I know to whip out to another Aggie.

I guess I notice rings more than average and sometimes I wait for the other person to initiate contact. Sometimes it works. How long has it been since you whipped out to a stranger? I met a young man at a remodel job that he was managing. I whipped out to him and found out that he and his wife were new to Abilene and wanted to know about our club. How about that?

Now I don’t expect everyone to do this. Old Ags are exempt, right? NOT!!! I guess my point is to start looking around for fellow Aggies. We’re usually pretty easy to spot by shirts, hats, ties, or maybe a ring. Let’s get some new members to come join our great fellowship and programs that benefit the future Ags we can expect to whip out to us.

I hope I can live up to the high standards that Clay Deatherage has set for the club president. As an Eagle scout, I promise that I will do my best. See y’all on the first Wednesday. Bring a friend.

Whip out Ags!
Andrew Turnbull ’84
2016 Abilene A&M Club Calendar

February, 2016

Please Renew Your Memberships & Ads
February 3 - Regular Club Meeting - Installation of Officers
February 18 - Board of Directors Meeting
February 18 - Aggie Happy Hour

March, 2016

March 2 - Regular Club Meeting - Installation of Officers
March 17 - Board of Directors Meeting
March 17 - Aggie Happy Hour

April, 2016

April 6 - Regular Club Meeting
April 21 - Aggie Muster

Scholarship Applications ARE On The Website!
Introducing our February Speaker

Mr. Brian A. Yates ‘89

Brian A. Yates is employed by the Abilene, Texas, Chamber of Commerce where he serves as Vice President for Military Affairs. The all-volunteer Military Affairs Committee (MAC) advocates and engages with military and elected officials to preserve and enhance the operation of Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene. The base has an estimated $430 million annual economic impact to the local economy, and is the region’s largest employer. The MAC also provides direct support to the Airmen of Dyess, hosting the “World’s Largest Barbeque” free of charge for Airmen and their families every year for the last 50 years.

Brian is a native of Jacksonville, Texas, where he graduated high school. He then earned his degree and commission from Texas A&M University before entering the Air Force. During his Air Force career, Brian was a special operations navigator, schoolhouse instructor, C-130 pilot, staff officer at the AF Safety Center and US Transportation Command, C-130 Airlift Squadron Commander, Twelfth Air Force Chief of Safety, and Mission Support Group Commander. He was selected for Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, and the US Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. He deployed numerous times in his career, to include combat tours flying missions in Afghanistan and Iraq. Brian retired from the Air Force in 2015 after 25 years of service to our nation.

Brian’s education includes a Bachelor’s in Business Administration from Texas A&M University, a Masters in Industrial Engineering from New Mexico State University, a Masters in Military Art and Science from Air University, and a Masters in Strategic Studies from the US Army War College. He has served in an ex officio board position on the Frontier Texas Board of Directors.

Brian has been married to Stacey Yates for 23 years, and they have three beautiful daughters.

Welcome To Abilene Brian!
Introducing the 2016 - 2017 officers and directors of the Abilene A&M Club. Please contact these Aggies with any recommendations to improve our Club, our service to the community and Aggie Family, or most importantly to offer your assistance. Good help is always needed and appreciated!

**Officers**

President - Andrew Turnbull '84

President Elect - Marshall Morris '08

Past President - J. Clay Deatherage '84

VP Records - Lesli Andrews '94

VP Finance - Trey Todd '07

VP Activities & Programs - Alice Yates '90

VP Membership - Laura Millican '04

VP Publicity - Marla Hanks '02

VP Scholarships - Marta Hollowell '82

VP Special Events - Roxanne Schoen '74

**Directors**

3 Year Term

Risha Sanders '91

Henry Hahn '07

Bill Libby '58

2 Year Term

Nick Arrott '00

James Hughes '82

Bobby Odgee '84

1 Year Term

Charlie Kitchell '51

Ron Ingram '76

Allison Cowling '01

---

**ROBERT W. WILLEN**
P.O. Box 2283
Albany, Texas 76430

Tel. (325) 762-2477  Fax (325) 762-2102
robert@rbrazos.com

---

**BML INC.**
CRUDE OIL MARKETING
ESTABLISHED 1981

POWELL BERRY '82
GREG BERRY '84
DEAN BERRY '87

---

**Condley AND COMPANY, LLP**

Trey Todd, CPA '07
rey.todd@condley.com
www.condley.com

991 North Third Street
P.O. Box 2993
Abilene, Texas 79606-2993

Phone 325-677-6251
Fax 325-677-8066

---

**TOMSCO L.L.C.**
Real Estate Investments

Tom McAllister '70
333 Elm Cove Dr
Abilene, TX 79605
325.677.7543
Fax 325.691.0760

---

**cordell's**

2301 South 14th Street
Suite 23
Abilene, TX 79605

Tel: (325) 465-1624  www.shopcordells.com
Fax: (325) 460-5216

---

**DK & Kirschen & Co., P.C.**
Quality Nutritional Knowledge
Bobby J. Melton, CPA '58
Russell Gadberry, CPA '60
Jeremy Stephen, CPA '00
Tradition and Aggies go together like beer and barbecue, peanut butter and jelly, bacon and eggs, and ……… well you get the idea. Two of the most sacred Aggie traditions that are held dear by all but 2 percenters are Aggie Muster and Silver Taps. These events are more than ceremonies, they are symbols of the Aggie Spirit and the respect that all members of the Aggie family have for each other. They are also “Aggie things” that define A&M and set it apart from other schools, making Aggieland the special place we all know and love.

However, there is a third tradition that conveys respect in the same manner that some Ags may not know. It is Echo Taps, a special ceremony in the Corps of Cadets, is held when a current cadet dies, or, in times of national tragedy. Non-cadets are invited to attend. The flags on the Quad, where the cadets live, are raised to half-staff the morning of the ceremony. At 2230 hours, cadets fall out and line up along the length of the Quad and stand at attention. One bugler plays Taps at one end of the Quad and continues as a second bugler "echoes" the phrases at the opposite end. The cadets then return to their dorms in silence. Set dates for Echo Taps are Sept. 11 in memory of victims of the 2001 terrorist attacks; Nov. 18 for A&M’s Bonfire collapse; and Jan. 28 for the Challenger Space Shuttle disaster in 1986. Corps outfit Squadron 17 Challenger is named for the shuttle and its

On a personal Note

I would like to express my appreciation to the Abilene A&M Club for allowing me the honor and privilege of serving as your president for the last two years. The Club can be proud of several notable achievements during this time and 100% of the credit goes to the Board of Directors. Each of you deserve a special “thank you” for your dedication, commitment and plain hard work. Y’all have made every thing that has been accomplished possible. I would be remiss if I failed to mention the encouragement and support of some of the Old Ags, Dub, Fred Lee, Harry, Jimmy, Lynn thank you.

No one has benefitted more than I. Striving to meet the high standards and expectations that are a hallmark of the Abilene Club has made me a better person and a better Aggie. Words cannot truly express my gratitude.

Clay
Did You Know

USA Today ranks Texas A&M #1 for military veterans. Texas A&M currently provides support and guidance for more than 1,100 veterans and at least 2,200 military dependents, spouses and survivors who are currently enrolled students.

In early 2013, the Veterans Resource Service Center began to informally build contacts within the many academic departments that could help support the growing population of student veterans. The list grew quickly and the concept of the Aggie Veterans Network was created to keep track of these people. The list has since expanded to include other offices beyond merely academics and now has contacts for over 100 TAMU offices as well as a large list of local, state and national resource contacts for veteran students.

In 2014, the VRSC partnered with the Association of Former Students to begin building the “Aggie Veteran/Military Constituent Network” which will become a former student extension of the AVN. The goal is to have our AVN contact list transformed into a searchable web-based program next year that can link to other veteran networks throughout Texas and the nation.

Roxanne Schoen ’74

GOOD BULL

It is a new year Ags. Please take the time to renew your Club memberships and newsletter ads. Our Club is one of the top A&M Clubs in the world. It is well renown for it long standing commitment to A&M through its scholarships and innovative programs. Ags y’all are the backbone of the Club. Your dedicated support, commitment and generosity allows the Abilene A&M Club to stand above the rest.

Got any Good Bull? Send it to us!
Abilene A&M Club Silver Taps

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

Prayers and Concerns

Dub Pritchett ’44 is recovering from a recent illness at Wisteria Place here in Abilene. He says the therapists are trying to kill him but he is determined to be back in our midst soon.

Please keep these Dub, Mary and their family 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.
Membership
Change of Address

Mail Newsletter to
Home
Work

Name (please print)

Spouse's Full Name (if Aggie)
Spouse's Class

HOME Address
City & State
ZIP

Home Phone
Home Fax
Co
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.

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!