Howdy, Ags!

Hopefully we have gotten this newsletter out on time for a change. Your board has been trying to get it done in a timely manner. Kim and I found out that we are going to be grandparents in August! We're not old enough I think. We did get senior ticket prices at the movies the other day, so I guess that's okay.

Like everything else, inflation has caught up with our club. Our meal price will increase to $15 on March 1st. We have tried to keep costs reasonable. This is still better than our other dining options that require a set number of people. Also, we will begin to put out a tip jar for the lady who takes care of us. Please bring an extra buck or two.

One more money item. Our annual dues are due on January 1st. It kind of slipped up on me this year. See the back page of the newsletter for more information, and let's get our dues paid.

Thank you for allowing me to President. It's been a great learning experience with LOTS of help. Remember, look for those Aggie rings, and whip out to a stranger.

Andrew Turnbull ‘84

abileneamc@aggienetwork.com
2017 Abilene A&M Club Calendar

MARCH

1st - Monthly Meeting
9th - Happy Hour at Abuelo’s
16th - Board of Directors Meeting

APRIL

5th - Monthly Meeting
13th - Happy Hour at ????
20th - Board of Directors Meeting

Gig ‘Em, Ags!

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Riley Griffith ‘91, RPLS
MARCH SPEAKER: MASON BROOKS ‘16

Mason Brooks is a newly minted graduate, class of 2016. He was born and raised in San Angelo. His parents (class of ‘86) met at A&M, so he had maroon in his blood from the beginning. His father was in company B-2, and his mother was in the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

He chose A&M because of the tradition, education, and the corps of cadets. As he grew up he attended games with his family. When it was time to apply, he did not want to go anywhere else. He joined the corps to gain valuable leadership experience as well as to become a part of the keepers of the spirit. Mason was a member of company D-2 and served as commanding officer his senior year.

Mason received his degree in business management largely due to strong family ties in the business world. He has been employed at the Texas A&M Foundation since mid October 2016 and currently serves as the assistant director of development for the corps of cadets. His region of responsibility is South and West Texas. He works closely with the commandant to promote the general's fundraising goals and priorities so that the corps can continue to develop well educated leaders of character.
Aggie Traditions: Pennies on Sully

Lawrence Sullivan “Sul” Ross, president of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas from 1891-1898, was known for his legendary efforts to keep the college open; he is often credited as the embodiment of Aggie Spirit and tradition. A statue of the former Texas governor — affectionately called “Sully” — now stands as one of the most iconic landmarks on campus, situated in the heart of campus in the Academic Plaza. Those passing by the statue will notice stacks of pennies piled on the statue’s base, each placed there by current students. The tradition to “put a penny on Sully” is another homage to Ross. It is said that Ross would help students with their homework, and when students would ask how they could repay him, Ross would reply with, “A penny for your thoughts.”

Students leave pennies (as well as assorted bills, gift cards, and other trinkets) at the base of Sully for good luck before taking their exams. The items are collected each semester and donated to a local charitable organization.
Scholarships

Scholarship applications are available at all school counselor's offices, on the club website (abileneamc.aggienetwork.com), and at the Community Foundation of Abilene's website (cfabilene.org). Applications are due Saturday, April 1st!

Other Business

It’s time to renew your membership to the Abilene A&M Club. You will want to continue receiving the newsletter so you don't miss out on upcoming events such as Muster, club meetings, happy hours and more. Besides our website, we have a Facebook page and Twitter account.

Lunch prices will be going up to $15 per person at Joe Allen's for the meetings. We will also be setting out a tip jar to help pay our server's tip. She does a great job for us!
Did You Know?

Did you know that Milner Hall and Leggett Hall are the two oldest dormitory buildings on campus? Although both were built in 1911 as dorms only Leggett is still used for that purpose.

Milner Hall faces Ross Street and is located southwest of Sbisa Dining Hall. The building was condemned in 1972 (this was either the 6th or 7th time) and was scheduled for demolition. The students were no longer reprimanded for damages that occurred from frequent Roman candle and bottle rocket wars in the stairwells. Most of the furniture was moved to other buildings, however some was sold. One piece that was sold was a solid oak pool table that was housed on the second floor. This pool table was purchased by the family of Wayne Schoen who was a Milner resident. It took 10 young men to carry it down the front steps and load onto a burnt orange Ford pickup. The table remained in the Schoen family basement in Austin for many years and saw many hours of enjoyment.

Demolition did not occur as planned, and the building sat vacant until 1976 when it was converted to offices and classrooms. Today, it is home to the department of mathematics.

It is named after A&M president Robert Teague Milner, who served as president from September 1908 to October 1913. Before becoming president, Milner was a teacher, newspaper editor, state legislator and the first Texas agriculture commissioner. While a state representative, he authored the education code that requires public schools to teach Texas history, according to the Texas State Historical Association.

As the oldest dormitory on campus, Legett Hall has been a women’s dorm since 1979 which holds apartments and double rooms for approximately 125 students. The hall is located across from the Beutal Health Center along Military Walk. The hall is named for Judge Kirvin Kade Legett from Abilene. He was president of the Board of Directors from 1907 to 1911. According to the Texas State Historical Association he believed the agriculture and mechanical colleges were more in line with the nation’s demands than other institutions of higher learning. During his term, and until 1918, there were more students enrolled than there were beds available in the residence halls. Legett wrote a letter to the governor looking for funding, because “this is the only institution in the civilized world where a number of its students are forced to live in tents,”. The hall was named after him to honor his efforts.
We want your feedback!

Is there anything that you would like to see in the next issue of The Abilene Aggie? Do you have any ideas for events or fundraising? We would love to hear about it! Please send any feedback to andrewmoto@suddenlink.net or 325-673-6707.

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Prayers and Concerns

Bob Surovik ‘58 passed away on February 7th. We extend our condolences to Bob's family. Please keep them in your prayers.

We also wish to send healing prayers to Harry Swofford ‘44 and Rosie Evans and their families.

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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.
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 _____________________________
Home E-mail _____________________________

WORK Address _____________________________
City & State _____________________________
ZIP _____________________________

Work Phone _____________________________
Call _____________________________
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.