Muster fell on Saturday, and a number of Ags had the opportunity to make it to the Washington County Muster for the first time. Speaker Ryan Swope ’13 gave the crowd some background on how he came to be an Aggie (with some football stories prominent to the story). There was plenty of good food and drinks (thank you Mike Hopkins Distributing). We remembered those Aggies that had departed since the 2017 Muster. After Silver Taps, the Aggie Muster was adjourned until April 21, 2018.
Aggie Moms Liaison — Michele Kwiatkowski ‘89

Favorite A&M memory: That would have to be my graduation day. I was the 1st Aggie in my family. Walking across that stage was a wonderful experience and the beginning of a family tradition.

Get to know Michele: I married my high school sweetheart Jimmy in August of 1989 and we have been married 28 years. We are blessed with two children. Our son, Mason, graduated from A&M in 2015 with a degree in civil engineering. Our daughter, Lauren, is a biomedical engineering major in the Class of 2020. After graduation in May of 1989, I joined Seidel Schroeder’s audit department and passed the CPA exam that November. In 2001, I became a partner in the firm and continue to lead our Brenham audit department. As many would imagine, the accounting profession is very demanding of my time, but I love it! I have been involved with Washington County Aggie Moms since 2011 and serve on the board of the Brenham ISD Education Foundation. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, traveling, and watching Aggie baseball.
Speaker Coordinator — Mack Skinner ‘79

**Favorite A&M memory:** I lived from 1975 to 1979 in non air-conditioned Hart Hall. When my roommate and I arrived as freshmen from West Texas, we had never experienced living in such high humidity. So, we immediately decided that we would move to an air conditioned dorm as soon as possible. But, we made a lot of good friends in the dorm and decided that having good friends was more important than air conditioning, and we never left. Besides, Hart is in a great location. Most of my favorite memories have to do with the good times I had living in Hart Hall and the friends I made there...many of whom I still keep in touch with. Of course, football games, working on Bonfire, Silver Taps, Muster, Thursday nights at Lakeview (for you slightly older Ags!) would all have to rank right up there with my favorite A&M memories.

**Funniest A&M memory:** I have a lot of funny memories from A&M, and a lot of them don't need to be published! But this story illustrates how much things have changed since the 1970s. As a Freshman, I was heading down Texas Avenue in my 1969 Pontiac LeMans and rear-ended a car in front of me. It was a minor accident and nobody was hurt, but it pushed the car's bumper and grill inward so that I couldn't open the hood. A buddy of mine who had some tools offered to help me fix it, but it was a very hot afternoon and we needed a place to work in the shade. We loaded up the tools and pulled the car through the open gate in the chain link fence that surrounded Kyle Field, and parked the car under the shade of the east side stands! We worked for a while to get the front bumper removed, but were hot and thirsty. For some reason, with the bumper removed, the headlights were dangling from their wires. So we duct taped the headlights back in place, put the bumper in the back seat of the car (leaving part of it hanging out the open window) and drove to Sparky's for "refreshments" since the legal drinking age in those days was 18. Then we drove back to the shade of Kyle Field and finished, somewhat crudely, our repair work.

**Get to know Mack:** I graduated from A&M in 1979 with an Ag degree in Range Science. I worked for the Agricultural Extension Service as an Assistant County Agent in Wise County (Decatur) for about 3 years before moving back to my home town of Abilene to embark on a career in banking and finance, primarily serving as Vice President and Cashier of the Peoples State Bank in Clyde, Texas, just east of Abilene. In 1999, I decided to leave the bank to pursue a career in the IT field, and for the past 18 years I have done IT support and consulting for rural public libraries. However, after August 31 of this year, my plan is to be fully retired! I met my wife of 38 years, Debbie, while at A&M. She is also class of 1979, and is a retired school teacher. We have one daughter, Allison, Aggie class of 2007. She and her husband currently live in Austin. We have owned a small property in Burleson County (near Deanville) for a number of years, and because we enjoyed spending time in this area so much, we decided to move here from Abilene in 2016. Debbie and I are looking forward to meeting and working with our fellow Aggies here in Washington County.
Scholarships — Erin Nelson ’04

Get to know Erin: I’m thrilled to be serving on the Scholarship committee, as last year we were able to give a scholarship in our son’s honor, Roane Alan, whom we lost the Summer of 2016. My husband, Shane and our 4 kids, Maelee, Roane, Hattie Grace and Anderson, moved from Houston to our ranch June of 2015. We had lived here on weekends for the year before that but hated leaving; so we decided to make it permanent. It was definitely an adjustment, as Anders was only a month old and the house on the ranch was built in the 1920s and hadn’t been lived in in at least a decade. Shane is a Patent and Trademark attorney, here in Brenham, working in the old Faske building downtown. I homeschool our kiddos and while not wrangling children, I wrangle our farm animals. We enjoy anything outside, fellowshipping with friends and spending time together as a family. We absolutely love living on a ranch, living in Brenham and being part of this wonderful community. I look forward to serving our A&M chapter. Thanks and Gig’em!

Favorite A&M memory: My favorite memory would have to be one of many nights serving at Breakaway Ministries. I served in several capacities there, however greeting was a highlight. I loved welcoming people in on Tuesday nights to worship and learn more about a loving and life changing Savior. An after college favorite memory at A&M would have to be the first kiss I shared with my future husband at Midnight Yell.

E-mail newsletter suggestions for local businesses with Aggie connections, Good bull stories, Ol’ Army Aggie interview candidates, Travel pictures/stories from Aggie sporting events, or anything else!

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