

THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2008

# TEXAS AGGIE

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE AGGIE NETWORK

## The First Lady of Aggieland



Leadership Development | Aggie 100 | The Science of Change

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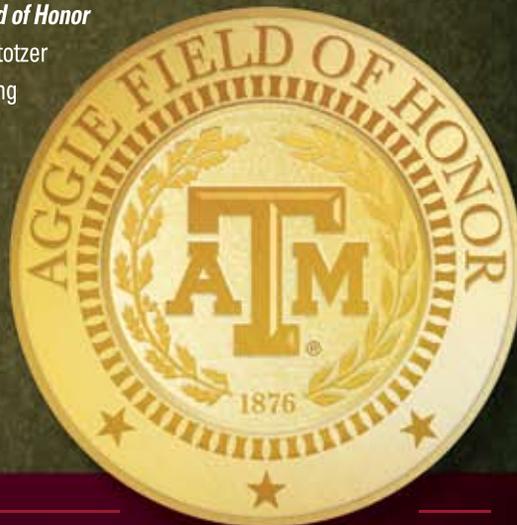
# “Softly Call the Muster...”

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The City of College Station is pleased to announce the development of the **Aggie Field of Honor** as part of the new Memorial Cemetery of College Station, located at 3800 Raymond Stotzer Parkway (northwest corner of FM 60 and FM 2818). Grounds will be open in the spring of 2009 on a total of 56 acres, with 20 acres designated to the **Aggie Field of Honor**.

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# AGGIE CONTENTSFEATURES



## 50

### LEADERSHIP

In the last part of a six-issue series highlighting Texas A&M's core values, *Texas Aggie* looks at leadership. Meet five student leaders who help set the pace on campus; see how "the other education" continues to set A&M apart; and listen as Josh Rowan '02 explains how A&M's leadership lessons are helping improve the quality of life in Iraq.

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### THE FIRST LADY OF AGGIELAND

As Reveille VIII takes her place as the first lady of Aggieland, *Texas Aggie* looks back at the history, myths and legends surrounding A&M's beloved mascot.

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### THE SCIENCE OF CHANGE

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### AGGIE 100

*Texas Aggie* presents the fourth annual list of the 100 fastest-growing Aggie-owned or Aggie-led businesses in the world. Learn more about this year's winners and how their talents, ambition and the core Aggie values have shaped their success.

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### BUILDING THE FUTURE

A pictorial update of the construction progress at the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center and a personal interview with Billy Pete Huddleston '56.

# College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

## Salutes its 2008 Outstanding Alumni

| **Jarvis E. Miller, Ph.D., Agricultural Administration '50**

After receiving a doctorate in agricultural economics from Purdue University, Dr. Miller returned to Texas A&M University in 1955 to serve on the faculty in the agricultural economics department. He served as director of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (now Texas AgriLife Research) before being appointed as the 18<sup>th</sup> President of Texas A&M University. Following his presidency, he served as director of the state's Office of Budget and Planning and was appointed to the Texas College and University Coordinating Board (now Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board).



| **Robert Smith III, Agricultural Economics '61**

Robert Smith served for 35 years in the U.S. Navy before retiring as a two-star Rear Admiral. After a distinguished military career with honors, he joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas and served in several capacities before being appointed to his current position as senior vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Houston. Mr. Smith served as President of the Association of Former Students and Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Texas A&M Foundation. He is a recipient of the university's Distinguished Alumni Award and has been inducted into the Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor.



| **T. Michael O'Connor, Range Science '77**

A fifth-generation Texas cattleman and businessman, Mr. O'Connor currently serves as the sheriff of Victoria County, Texas and is a captain in the U.S. Air Force Civil Air Patrol. He is a member and past chair of the College of Agriculture Development Council and served on the Board of Directors for the Association of Former Students. Mr. O'Connor served a six-year term on the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System. Sheriff O'Connor currently serves on the Texas Border Security Council and is President of the South Texas Coastal Sheriff's Alliance.



The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences recognizes these former students for outstanding leadership and significant contributions in agriculture, natural resources, life sciences or other related areas of science and agribusiness.

# AGGIE CONTENTS DEPARTMENTS



## On The Cover

SHE IS KNOWN TO THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB AS TAPESTRY TENACIOUS JUELL AND TO HER FORMER OWNERS AS KELLY, BUT TO AGGIES EVERYWHERE, SHE IS NOW AND WILL FOREVER BE KNOWN AS REVELLE VIII, THE FIRST LADY OF AGGIELAND. PHOTO BY JOHN BUSCH



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THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS

# TEXAS AGGIE

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE AGGIE NETWORK

November-December 2008

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The origins of Texas A&M's mascot tradition are obscured by time and myth, with at least 30 people claiming to have brought the first Reveille to campus in the 1930s. In this issue, Krista Smith '09 tries to sort through the competing claims (see Page 62). This picture of Reveille I is from 1941—we think.



The Association of Former Students  
 (979) 845-7514  
[AggieNetwork.com/Calendar](http://AggieNetwork.com/Calendar)

# AGGIE CALENDAR 2008

## EVENTS

### NOVEMBER 8-9

The Association of Former Students  
 Fall Leadership Council Meeting

### NOVEMBER 13-14

Winter in Aggieland Bazaar  
 MSC 224-226, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 14

Aggie Ring Day  
 G. Rollie White Coliseum, 3-6 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 18

Bonfire 1999 Remembrance Day

### NOVEMBER 21-22

Chi Omega Songfest  
 Rudder Auditorium, 7 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 25

Elephant Walk  
 Junior E-Walk

### DECEMBER 2

Silver Taps (if needed)

### DECEMBER 7

Texas A&M Choral Activities  
 Holiday Concert  
 Rudder Auditorium, 3 p.m.

### DECEMBER 11

The Next Tradition Graduation Party  
 Student Recreation Center

### DECEMBER 12-13

Commencement and Commissioning

## REUNIONS

### FALL 2008

November 14-16	Class of '44	Mini Reunion	Waco
November 14-16	Class of '46	Mini Reunion	Salado

### SPRING 2009

February 1-8	Class of '51	Mini Reunion Cruise	
February 6-8	Class of '93	15 Year Reunion	College Station
February 16-18	Sul Ross Group	Annual Reunion	College Station
February 16-18	Class of '54	55th Anniversary & Induction	College Station
March 27-29	Class of '99	10 Year Reunion	College Station
April 19-22	Class of '59	50th Anniversary Reunion	College Station



PHOTO BY BRANDY KINES '05

# BASKETBALL

## Men's

November 16	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	4 p.m.
November 18	Stephen F. Austin	7 p.m.
November 21	Jackson State	7 p.m.
November 25	UNC-Wilmington	7 p.m.
November 28	Tulsa @ South Padre Island	7:30 p.m.
November 29	Illinois/Kent State @ South Padre Island	TBA
December 5	Arizona	8:30 p.m.
December 13	@ Alabama	7 p.m.
December 15	Florida A&M	7 p.m.
December 17	SMU	7 p.m.
December 20	LSU @ Houston	3:30 p.m.
December 28	Sam Houston State	7 p.m.
December 31	@ Rice	3 p.m.

All Times Central



## Women's

November 14	Mercer	8 p.m.
November 16	vs. Pittsburgh @ Baton Rouge	4 p.m.
November 20	@ Michigan	5:30 p.m.
November 25	@ Arizona	8 p.m.
November 28	vs. Penn State @ Malibu, Calif.	3 p.m.
November 29	@ Pepperdine/Coppin State	3/5:30 p.m.
December 7	SMU	1 p.m.
December 13	Texas State	7:30 p.m.
December 21	TCU	1 p.m.
December 30	New Mexico	7 p.m.

All Times Central



Have a question about The Association or the Aggie Network? Check here for answers about submitting Silver Taps, sharing Class news, keeping your information up-to-date, getting your *Texas Aggie* and more.

# AGGIE RESOURCEGUIDE

## A&M Clubs

To find your local A&M Club, log onto [AggieNetwork.com/Clubs](http://AggieNetwork.com/Clubs) or contact The Association's Club Programs office. If you can't find a Club in your area, contact us and we'll help you get one started.

## Change of Address/Phone/E-mail

Updates to your contact information may be submitted a number of ways.

- Log on to [AggieNetwork.com/UpdateInfo](http://AggieNetwork.com/UpdateInfo).
- Submit the form on the last page of your Class Newsletter.
- E-mail information updates to [Records@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:Records@AggieNetwork.com).
- Call The Association and ask for the Records department.
- Mail your new information to The Association, ATTN: Records.

## Class Agents/News

To share your news with Classmates, find your Class Page at [AggieNetwork.com/Class](http://AggieNetwork.com/Class).

To submit your news online, click on "Tell Us Your News" on the right menu bar. You may also mail the form on the last page of your Class Newsletter to your Class Agent or e-mail your news to your Class Agent or to The Association's Class Programs department at [Class@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:Class@AggieNetwork.com).

## Find An Aggie

Every donor at the active level or higher receives access to Find An Aggie, the online directory of former Texas A&M students. This powerful tool can help you reconnect with old Classmates and friends. To access Find An Aggie, go to [AggieNetwork.com/directory](http://AggieNetwork.com/directory). For information on becoming a donor, call The Association and ask for the Annual Giving department, or go to [AggieNetwork.com/giveback](http://AggieNetwork.com/giveback).

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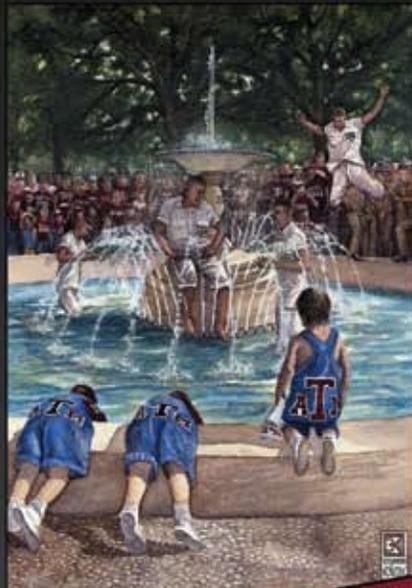
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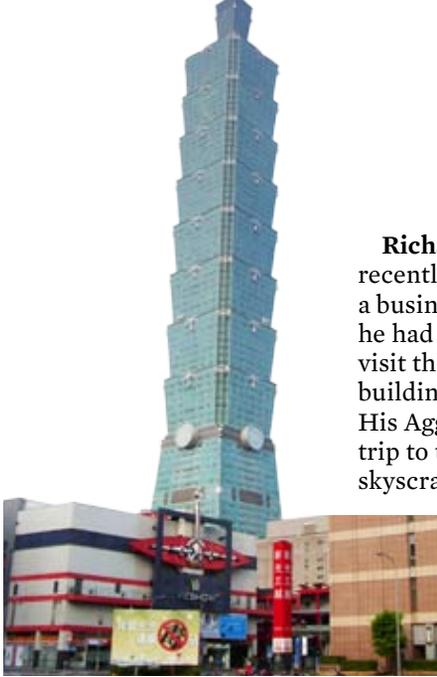
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# AGGIE NETWORKNEWS



**Richard Hay '93** was recently in Taiwan on a business trip when he had the chance to visit the world's tallest building, the Taipei 101. His Aggie flag made the trip to the top of the skyscraper with him.



## Former Student News FROM THE FRONT



"Howdy, I'm **Maj. Al Voss '08** and I was recently on a deployment to Saudi Arabia with the Army. I was part of an exercise called Earnest Leader, made up of trainers that worked with the Royal Saudi Land Forces in February of this year," Voss wrote. "I took this picture in front of the 10th Brigade Headquarters of the Royal Saudi Land Forces."



**Lt. Col. Bentley Nettles '85** works for the deputy chief of staff for plans, strategy and assessments. He deployed to Iraq in September with a team in support of Multi-National Corps Iraq. He's pictured (far right) briefing Gen. David Petraeus with the group's first Red Team product at Multi-National Force-Iraq. In the picture (left to right): Maj. Gen. Paxton, Multi-National Force-Iraq chief of staff; Maj. Gen. Robeson; Gen. Petraeus; Col. Scott McConnel; Col. LaRivee; and Nettles.

# COL DU TOURMALET (Alt. 2115 m)



**Jesse Czelusta '97** rode the 2008 Tour de France course in memory of his friend and mentor, Rick Shelton. Czelusta, who graduated from Texas A&M with a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics and a master's degree from the Bush School of Government and Public Service, rose early every day to complete each Tour stage ahead of the peloton. The undertaking was a goal he and Shelton, also an avid cyclist, had wanted to one day accomplish. Czelusta, who raised money for disabled athletes and spent many nights camping along French roads, rode into Paris on July 27, finishing the more than 2,000-mile-long journey.



By the end of the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, three former students had earned places on the medal stand. **Stacy Sykora '98** (right and above), who competed for the U.S. in volleyball, won a silver medal. **Davey Johnson '64**, manager for the U.S. baseball team, earned a bronze medal with the rest of Team USA. **Christine Marshall '10**, swimming for the U.S., won a bronze in the 800-meter freestyle relay.

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Visit [AggieNetwork.com/TroopSupport](http://AggieNetwork.com/TroopSupport).



**Capt. Jason Winkelmann '02** (right) won the Best Sapper Competition held at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Twenty-five two-man teams from around the Army came to compete for the title. The competition tests physical and mental abilities of sappers (combat engineers), with the first day of competition starting at 3 a.m. for a fitness test, followed by swimming, raft building, demolitions, target competition and a road march. Other competition included treating casualties, identifying foreign mines, completing a knots test and obstacle course and several other grueling tasks. Winkelmann earned his Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from Texas A&M.



**1st Lt. Scott Taylor '04**, **1st Lt. Aaron Kinsey '04** and **1st Lt. Jason Purcell '04** are deployed to Balad Air Base, Iraq. Taylor is a navigator, Kinsey is a pilot and Purcell is a maintenance officer on C-130 E/H models. "We were all fish buddies together in Squadron 2 (Gator 2), so it was pretty cool that we all were deployed here at the same time," Kinsey wrote.



**Maj. Ivan Palacios '96** (left) and **Maj. Robert Keck '96** are serving at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Palacios is the brigade intelligence officer for the 4th Sustainment Brigade. Keck is the operations officer for the Logistic Civil Augmentation Program.



**Robert Fausett '97** traveled to Beijing, China, to participate in the 2008 Olympic Games as a volunteer for the U.S. taekwondo team. He is the assistant coach and trainer for the first set of three siblings to make the same Olympic team in more than 100 years. He's pictured with his wife, Anna, after the 2008 U.S. Olympic Taekwondo Team Trials in Des Moines, Iowa.



**Dr. Heather Till Patton '00** and her mother, **Ada Till '87** (not pictured), traveled to Ghana in west Africa this past July for a medical mission. With limited access to medicines and resources, Dr. Patton and other volunteers treated numerous patients for snake bites, malaria and tuberculosis. Till taught accounting at the local high school.

## Former Student News FROM THE FRONT



**Wes Bringham '94** (left) and **Patrick Pfanz '93** are buddies from Corps of Cadets Company P-2. The two completed the navy executive officer pipeline in June 2008 and a submarine command course, followed by Prospective Executive Officer Command Leadership School. Pfanz is now aboard USS Connecticut. Bringham is aboard USS Virginia. This is the fourth Navy command that they have served together, including two submarines.



**Rob "Bob" Sproat '98** just returned from a deployment where he was the lone sailor on an Army battalion staff as the electronic warfare officer. "Please keep in your prayers those soldiers who are still deployed," both in Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Operation Enduring Freedom Area of Responsibility, he wrote. "They continue to put their lives on the line for America and our democratic way of life."



**John F. Landgraf '73** and **J. Fletcher Kelly '73** climbed to the rim of Mt. Kilimanjaro in July. "Not a bad accomplishment for two 57-year-old fish o' ladies!" Kelly wrote.



The Texas A&M Chabad Jewish Student Group went on a 10-day tour of Israel through Mayanot Birthright and Taglit. Forty students made the trip to learn about the land, history and culture. They kayaked the Jordan River and visited the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem and Independence Hall in Tel-Aviv. Part of group is pictured overlooking Jerusalem: (left to right) **Michael Kogan '06**, **Rabbi Yossi Lazaroff**, **Manya Lazaroff**, **Michelle Rozemberg '11**, **Jade Lazarow '12** and **Lindsey Rosenbaum '09**.

**Chad Wallace '93** climbed to the summit of Mt. Aconcagua, making the 22,841-foot journey solo via the False Polish Glacier route.



Aconcagua is the highest point in South America, the tallest point in the western hemisphere and the highest mountain outside the Himalayas. Wallace lives in the Dominican Republic with his wife, **Krista Adams Wallace '94**, and family.

## In Memoriam



**John Mark "Johnny" Stallings**, the son of Texas A&M University System Regent and former football coach **Gene Stallings '57**, died Aug. 2. John Mark, 46, was born with Down syndrome and suffered from health problems due to a congenital heart condition. He touched many lives, and following his death, newspapers across the nation ran stories about him, remembering him as kindhearted and a good listener. In *The Dallas Morning News*, his sister was quoted as saying "he could open hearts." Stallings was the only son in a family with four sisters. He lived with his family in Powderly, Texas.

**Tim Oliphant '97** is the new *American Gladiators* champion. The 5-foot-8 graduate has a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and works as a media director for Kanakuk Camps, a Christian summer camp in Branson, Mo. *American Gladiators* is a television show that matches a cast of amateur athletes against each other as well as the show's gladiators. Oliphant won the championship televised Aug. 4, securing a \$100,000 cash prize and a SUV.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NBC

## PROFESSIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Capt. Timothy Culpepper '97** received the inaugural Lt. Gen. Sidney T. Weinstein Award for Excellence in Military Intelligence, given by the Military Intelligence Corps. The event was part of the Military Intelligence Hall of Fame ceremonies. Culpepper is stationed in Italy with his wife and three children. He returned from Afghanistan in July. It was his third combat tour in five years. Culpepper is credited with rallying against local corrupt Afghan officials and was noted for his innovative approaches to intelligence collection.

**Dr. Albert K. Sparks '47** was the 2007 Society for Invertebrate Pathology Founders' Lecture Honoree. The Founders' Lecture Honoree is given to those who contribute to the science of invertebrate pathology so much that their findings significantly influenced the origin, direction, recognition and science of invertebrate pathology as a distinct discipline. Sparks was an academic and teacher for more than 20 years, including time at Texas A&M. He published more than 100 scientific papers and is the author of several book chapters.



**Marcus Lopez '93** was named a "Rising Star" attorney in the April 2008 issue of *Texas Monthly* magazine. The award recognizes top attorneys 40 years of age or younger. Texas lawyers nominate the best lawyers they have observed in action, and *Texas Monthly* follows up with independent

research. Lopez is an attorney for the firm Jackson Walker. He is a partner in the transactions, international, corporate and securities sections of the San Antonio office. He graduated *magna cum laude* with a degree in political science from Texas A&M.



**Dr. Alice J. Rowlands '05** was awarded the Outstanding Advising Certificate of Merit in the Faculty Academic Advising category by the National Academic Advising Association as part of the 2008 National Awards Program for Academic Advising. As a professor of mass communication at Houston Baptist University, Rowlands was named HBU Advisor of the Year. She is also a past recipient of the university's Opal Goolsby Award for Outstanding Teaching.



**Troy Vanderburg '93** was promoted to chief operations officer at Peoples Bank. Vanderburg, a senior vice president, is responsible for managing daily bank operations and its five banking locations. Vanderburg earned a master's degree from Texas A&M in land economics and real estate.



**Brad Marks '94** was elected director of the board for the Community National Bank. Marks is vice president of I.W. Marks Jewelers, a retail jewelry store recognized as the largest independent jeweler in the greater Houston area. Community National Bank is an independent bank in Bellaire. Marks earned his bachelor's degree in psychology and is certified by the Gemological Institute of America.



**Brent Ivey '86** was named vice president of Gilbane Building Company. He is district manager of Gilbane's central Texas office. Ivey has overseen projects including Battlefield Health and Trauma Center at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio and Rice University Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business in Houston. In 2003 he was Project Manager of the Year for the Houston chapter of American Subcontractors Association. Ivey earned his bachelor's degree in construction science.





## No Experience Required Book Tells True Story Of Sherrill's 12th Man Kickoff Team

It started with a small advertisement in *The Battalion*:

"Persons interested in trying out for the 1984 12th Man Kickoff Team should report to the Kyle Field Dressing Room on Monday, January 30th at 5:30 pm for General Meeting. No prior experience is required."

The 12th Man was already among the most precious of Texas A&M traditions, but that tradition took on new life and new meaning when Jackie Sherrill formed his kickoff coverage

team made up entirely of non-scholarship volunteers.

The 12th Man Kickoff Team would go on to be a phenomenal success, whether measured by its performance on the field or by the way the idea resonated with fans. Coach Jackie Sherrill recently told *Texas Aggie* that the full story of the team has never before been publicly revealed.

"Over the years, I had quite a few journalists that wanted to do stories on the 12th Man Kickoff Team," he said. "I always prefaced to them, 'I will talk to you but I will not tell you everything. I will only tell you part.' So the whole story has never really been told."

Until now. *No Experience Required* is a book by and about Sherrill and the 1983-89 12th Man Kickoff Teams.

When Sherrill decided last year that it was finally time to tell this story, he didn't call a publisher; naturally, he called on the 12th Man. Sherrill brought together a small committee of former players who helped get the book researched, written and published and who now serve as directors of the nonprofit foundation behind the book. All profits from the book benefit scholarships at Texas A&M.

Shawn Page '87 covered kicks for

Sherrill and is also on the committee that helped get the book published and is overseeing the foundation. He noted that the book was originally planned for 96 pages but came in at 244 pages.

"It would have been easy to talk to a few of us, get some stats, write a little book. Anybody could do that," he said. But to tell the full story, author Caleb Pirtle III interviewed more than 60 of the men who played on Sherrill's kickoff teams, plus Sherrill, R.C. Slocum, Billy Pickard and many of the scholarship players from that time. "We wanted to write why this happened and why it was successful at A&M," Page said. "And why it couldn't be done anywhere else."

He said the lesson of the book is the same as the lesson of the team. "You can accomplish anything you set out to do if you are just tough enough and dedicated enough. The title is *No Experienced Required*. And that's the way life is, too."

*No Experience Required* is available at selected bookstores and through [www.12MKOTstore.com](http://www.12MKOTstore.com). A leatherbound limited edition is also available, autographed by Coach Sherrill. Requests for autographs from particular members of the kickoff team are also honored whenever possible.

## Excerpts from the prologue to *No Experience Required*:

They were out of shape, generally hadn't lifted serious weights for a long time, were better at chasing girls than running backs, never expected to come any closer to an on-field collision than their seats in the third deck of the twenty yard line, and, most often, suffered bodily injury only when they slipped off the barstool or found themselves face to face with a wayward fist at the Dixie Chicken. They simply didn't have the speed, quickness, agility, strength, or muscle to play big-time college football. That's what Division One Football thought. But Division One Football didn't see what I saw, know what I knew about Texas A&M, its traditions, its legacy, and the never-say-die, never-say-quit, never-back-down spirit that dwelled deep

within the hearts of a student body that would run through a brick wall or tear the sonuvabitch down with their bare hands if the maroon and white asked them to.

• • •

During my years as head coach at Texas A&M, no one ever returned a kickoff for a touchdown. Only a couple ever reached the fifty. Every yard came with a price, and it was paid for with stitches and blood. It was commonplace for the 12th Man Kickoff Team to lead the nation with the fewest return yards allowed, or at least be in the top three. It wasn't unusual at all for them to have a better average in the kickoffs they covered at home than my varsity return team had on the road. I would have proudly taken

them to every game. I would have lined them up on every kickoff. I had that much confidence in them. But NCAA rules limited our travel squad to sixty players, and, except for the last road game of the year when that restriction was eliminated, I had no alternative but to keep my 12th Man Team at home. Kyle Field has traditionally been recognized as one of the loudest and most frenzied venues in the nation for college football. But when those towel-waving members of the 12th Man Kickoff Team bolted out of the tunnel, Kyle Field exploded. The noise was deafening. The decibel level touched nerves that hadn't been touched in years. You could scream, but there was no way you could hear the words you were screaming.



Do you know someone whose story epitomizes the Aggie Spirit and Texas A&M's core values? Let us know by e-mailing [TexasAggie@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:TexasAggie@AggieNetwork.com).

# AGGIE MYSTORY

## Feeding Africa

By Stephanie Jeter '06

HE CAN'T WAIT ANYMORE—  
“This isn't something that can wait.”

Belay Ejigu '09, Ph.D. candidate and former minister of agriculture and rural development for Ethiopia, clasps his hands in his lap and hammers the point: “We don't have time. We are out of time.”

He leans forward in his chair.

“We can't afford to change things tomorrow. Today, today, today.”

Because today in Africa, he said, people are in poverty. Today someone will starve.

And yet, today, all that could change. Today, today, today—because of technology in agriculture, a new way of thinking and his degree from Texas A&M University—Africa could change. Today.

Ejigu's heart beats for that moment. The agriculturalist has devoted his life to the cause. He holds degrees from his home university in Ethiopia, earned his second master's degree in public policy from Harvard and is now getting close to completing his doctorate in biotechnology at A&M's Norman Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture. It's all for his home.

“I have to go back to agriculture,” he said.

In the beginning, it was agriculture that altered him. Twenty-six years ago, he was a 17-year-old high school graduate in Ethiopia and “had the opportunity to stay five or six months in a very remote area,” Ejigu said. He taught locals how to read and write. They taught him, too.

“My whole perspective changed,”



he said.

He saw the tie between improving life and improving agriculture. He held it in his hand and since then, he's gathered some statistics. Of Ethiopia's population, 85 to 90 percent are subsistence farmers, he said. It's the same in many other African countries.

Subsistence farming leaves nothing for the future—little to send to market, just enough for today. The end result is poverty, Ejigu said, and it's been a problem for generations, and for generations of problem-solvers.

“The only way to help people and farmers is by introducing them to the idea of agriculture for business,” Ejigu said. Biotechnology, planning, new techniques, planting for quality and planting for consumers are all things he pushed during his seven years as minister of agriculture and rural development in Ethiopia.

His government job wasn't a political appointment. Before leaving for Harvard, Ejigu said, he'd spent nearly his entire life working for the minister of agriculture at all levels. He

Belay Ejigu '09, former minister of agriculture and rural development for Ethiopia, was drawn to Texas A&M because of the Norman Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture. He said that through agriculture, you can “create hope in hearts.”

worked and continues to work in the “battlefields,” Ejigu said. “I'm always on a plane.” He travels to Africa often, coupling government and organizations to help transform African agriculture into an industry.

After his most recent trip to Ethiopia, he's happy to be back.

“The Borlaug Institute plays a leading role in international science to fight poverty. This is the legacy of Dr. Borlaug. This is the guy who used science as an instrument to fight poverty,” Ejigu said.

The institute and Ejigu share the same passion, he said. “If it's not for humankind, what is it for?” he questioned. “I'm to empower the people.”

Change is coming to Ethiopia. And it has a degree from Texas A&M. 🌾

Stephanie Jeter '06 is a reporter, writer and photographer for *Texas Aggie* magazine. To contact her, e-mail [SJeter06@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:SJeter06@AggieNetwork.com).



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Have you enjoyed a recent event with Classmates, your local A&M Club or another group of Texas Aggies? If so, send your stories and pictures to [TexasAggie@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:TexasAggie@AggieNetwork.com).

# AGGIE CONNECTIONS



## Hot Diggity Dog

Hot Diggity Dog, a cookout hosted Aug. 19 by The Association of Former Students to welcome new students to campus, drew about 1,600 members of the Class of 2012. The event allowed students to meet their new Classmates and enjoy free hot dogs while getting a taste of one of Texas A&M's most honored traditions—they were invited to try on their Class' Aggie Ring. University President **Dr. Elsa Murano** addressed the new freshmen and yell leaders led a yell practice from atop Bus 12.





## Welcome, International Students

Each school year, Texas A&M welcomes hundreds of international students to its community of learning. To celebrate this year, The Association of Former Students, in conjunction with International Student Services, threw a welcoming party complete with dancing, music, games, live entertainment, door prizes and refreshments Aug. 14 at The Zone at Kyle Field.



## F-2 Class Of '73

Company F-2 Class of '73 held a 35th Reunion and golf outing in April at Twin Lakes Golf Course near Canton. Pictured (left to right) are **Ken Cox, Colby Norton, Mike Groover, Bud Green, Steve Broussard, Bill Becker, Greg Baenziger, Buster Carmouche, Doug Bender, Richard Bergfeld and Jan Miller.**



## Aggies Reunite In Jackson Hole

College friends **Susan Barnett Eby '79, Lisa Noble Bujnoch '79, Mollie Winston Barrow '80, Mary Kay Stamoulis Bishop '82, Anne Gibbs Hamilton '80, Lynn O'Neal Dippon '79 and Barbara Tatum White '80** meet semi-annually for a Reunion. This year they reunited in July in Jackson Hole, Wyo. "We had a great time as usual," Dippon wrote. "Two couldn't make it this year, but true Aggie Spirit lives on!"

## The Next Tradition

The Next Tradition was hosted Aug. 7 by The Association of Former Students, drawing more than 170 graduating students. TNT helps celebrate the end of current students' time on campus and commemorates their next tradition as involved former students. Free hamburgers, counsel from The Career Center and several door prizes were offered, along with the opportunity to join the Century Club and learn more about A&M Clubs.



## A Battery Class Of '72

A Battery Classmates from the Class of '72 gathered this past spring at Caddo Lake for a Reunion. A good time was had by all. Members in attendance from A Battery were **Dennis Baird, Tony Brochtrup, Bill Cooke, John Norton, Bob Picard, Morris Sadler, Mike McMurrey, Merrill Ham** and **Henry Ostermann**.





## Squadron 10 Class of '71

**Butch Conner** (left) and **Larry Brill** hoisted the Aggie colors aboard the Voyager of the Seas during the Class of '71 Squadron 10 Mini Reunion this past March. Butch and Larry represented the Class and Squadron 10 on the cruise out of Galveston with stops in Jamaica, Grand Caymans and Cozumel. They reported that it was amazing how many other Aggies found them when they wore the colors.



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## Class of '55 In The Greek Isles

The Class of '55 and the Traveling Aggies held a joint mini Reunion and Traveling Aggies trip on the Greek Isle Cruise aboard the M/S Insignia. The trip included ports of call at Istanbul, Turkey; Kusadasi, Turkey; Rhodes, Greece; Delos, Greece; Mykonos, Greece; Santorini, Greece; Corfu, Greece; Sarande, Albania; Dubrovnik, Croatia; and Athens, Greece. This is the second time the Class of '55 has held a mini Reunion in conjunction with a Traveling Aggies trip.



## Staffers Visit Hong Kong

The Hong Kong A&M Club recently enjoyed a visit from several University staff members.

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## Albuquerque A&M Club Hosts Aggie Family

The Aggie football team visited New Mexico in September, and the Albuquerque A&M Club's hard work paid off with a great weekend and a win on the football field. From a dinner Friday night with both University presidents and many other dignitaries, to yell practice and a tailgate before the game, it was a fantastic weekend for the Aggie Family thanks to the Club.

# ELECTION NOTICE!

## The Association of Former Students Area and National Representatives

*Terms run January 2009 through December 2009.*

[www.AggieNetwork.com/Ballot](http://www.AggieNetwork.com/Ballot)

*Electronic Ballots will be distributed via e-mail to all former students for whom  
The Association has current e-mail addresses.*

*To request a paper ballot, please call Brenda Lessor at (979) 845-7514.*





Justin Lewis '03 and Mary Jo Prince '78

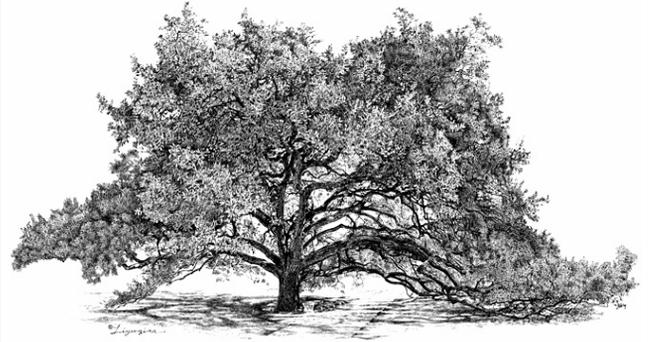
## Finding Another Connection

**Mary Jo Prince '78** attended the Texas Citizens Police Academy State Conference in Wichita Falls as president of the College Station Citizens Police Academy. She was part of a delegation there to bid for Bryan-College Station and Brazos County to host the 2010 Texas Citizens Police Academy State Conference: "I am proud to report we won the bid!" Conference planners invited about 30 NATO pilots, instructors and their commanders from all over the world stationed at Sheppard Air Force Base to the kickoff dinner. "I asked one of the commanders, since the NATO air team was such an elite group, there had to be at least one Aggie pilot in the room—and of course, there was—**Justin Lewis '03**, currently a NATO pilot instructor and former member of the Corps of Cadets Squadron 2." Sheppard Air Base holds special sentimental value for Prince, as her parents met and married there in 1942 while both were serving in the Army Air Corps.

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*Dolor sissat... alit...  
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2nd Lieutenant O. Lester Fitzhugh, a young Texas Aggie, BA AgEd, 1940, was teaching Agriculture at Kyle High School when he was called up for WWII and sent to the Philippines.

He did not make it home. His letters reveal his love of family and for the girl back home, his eager anticipation for the arrival of mail on the clipper ship, his daily experiences and observations, and his sense of duty to his country.

One can only imagine the horrors he suffered after the Philippines were invaded. His kindness and generous spirit are honored in this book.

2nd Lt. Fitzhugh was on the island of Corregidor and made the Bataan Death March.



To purchase your copy of, "The Awful Truth" by Suzanne O'Bryan, please contact her at: [suzanne\\_obryan@yahoo.com](mailto:suzanne_obryan@yahoo.com) or send \$20.00 + \$4.00 S/H per copy to Suzanne O'Bryan, 1102 E Avenue H, Alpine, Texas 79830

## Aggie Night At The Dell Diamond

The Williamson County (Texas) and Capital City A&M Clubs teamed up for another fantastic Aggie Night at the Dell Diamond. The Round Rock Express baseball team donned maroon jerseys and the *War Hymn* blasted over the loud speakers to top off a great family night.



## Camping With SoCal Aggies

The Southern California Texas A&M Club enjoyed its annual camping trip in Sequoia National Forest. A group of more than 25 spent the long weekend roughing it while touring the park. Sights seen included the General Sherman tree, one of the largest trees in the world and estimated to be more than 2,500 years old. Each night ended with a large campfire and a guitar singalong to **Robert Earl Keen '78** songs.

## Rockwall Moms Host Howdy BBQ

The Rockwall County (Texas) Aggie Moms recently hosted their annual Howdy BBQ. Pictured are **Dinah Eastup, Weston Wilcox '10, Shirley Stanley '85, Nancy Belew '77, Casey Schaefer '10** and **Janet Foreman**.



A&M students **Brett Fincher '10** (left) and **Ryan Shults '11** enjoyed meeting and eating with former A&M students and Aggie friends.

## Coryell Aggies Host First Picnic

Former students, current students, parents, and friends of Texas A&M University held their first annual picnic at Faunt Le Roy Park in Gatesville, Texas, to introduce the officers and directors of the newly formed Coryell County A&M Club.



Young County A&M Club President Michael Armstrong '99 presents Coach Sherrill with an Aggie blanket.

## Young County Hosts Coach Sherrill

The Young County (Texas) A&M Club held a great event with former head football coach **Jackie Sherrill**. Many of his former 12th Man Kickoff Team members were in attendance. Good Bull and great memories were a theme of the night. **Dr. Joe Peeks '80** was also recognized for outstanding contributions to the Club with a special Life Membership.

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## Denton Ice Cream Social

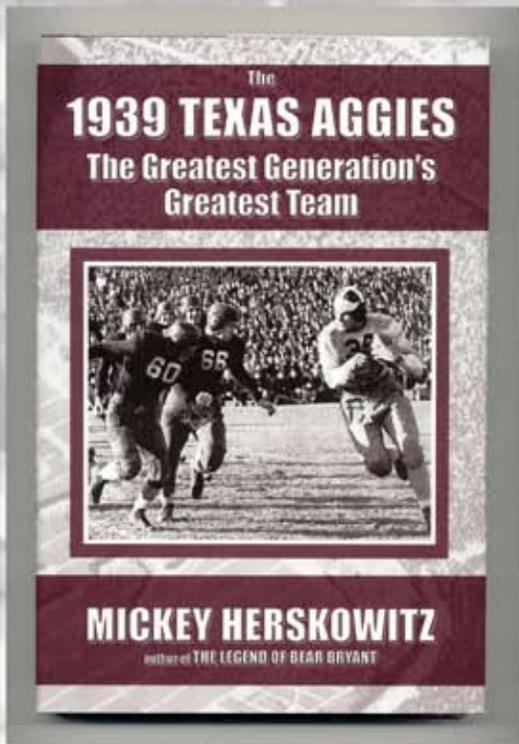
Cold ice cream always hits the spot on a hot day, so the Denton County (Texas) A&M Club Ice Cream Social was a great success.



## Family Day In North Louisiana

The North Louisiana A&M Club called in perfect weather for Aggie Family Day in Shreveport. Traditions Council was there to give the incoming freshmen a head start before Fish Camp.

# AGGIE FAVORITES



**The 1939 Texas Aggies**  
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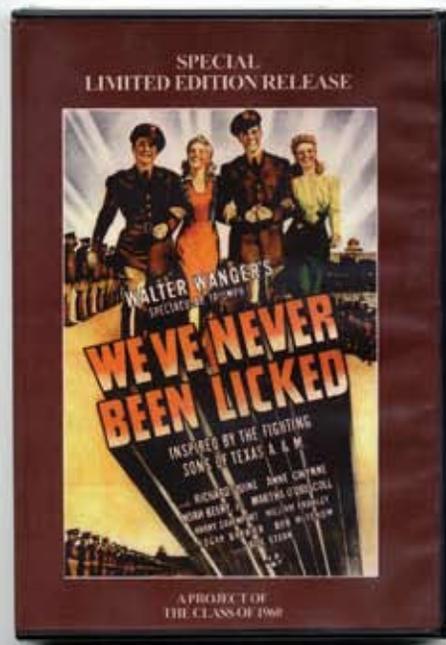
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These were the Texas Aggies, who couldn't afford to pave the dirt under the stands in the north end zone.

They were coming off a .500 season, and in the preseason polls for 1939 had been picked to finish fifth—in the Southwest Conference.

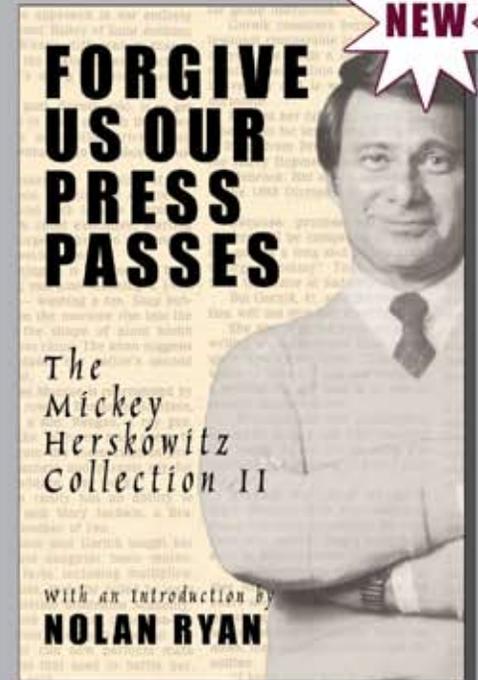
They would go on to win it all.



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# Corps



## THE **CORPS 21** ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The **CORPS 21** scholarship program was created in the fall of 2006 to promote recruitment of outstanding cadets who demonstrate both merit and financial need. Though this is a young program, over 35 generous donors have already committed to support the Corps of Cadets through **CORPS 21**. Endowments of \$100,000 can be created through a one-time gift or with a series for pledge gifts. Donors may name their scholarships in honor of individuals (themselves or a family member, colleague or friend), a class or an organization. **CORPS 21** donors are recognized with special plaques bearing their image. Although the **CORPS 21** scholarship program offers excellent financial assistance, it is primarily designed to enhance the quality of cadets attending Texas A&M University.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
CORPS OF CADETS



*Forging Leaders of Character*

For more information on the **CORPS 21** program and other Corps of Cadets giving opportunities, contact: Brian Bishop '91, Director of Development for the Corps of Cadets, Texas A&M Foundation, 1234 TAMU, College Station, Texas 77843-1234, phone: 979-862-4085, fax: 979-458-1691 or email [bishop@tamu.edu](mailto:bishop@tamu.edu).

The **CORPS 21** ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM was initiated in the fall of 2006 by James D. "Doug" Pitcock '49, a former cadet and chairman and chief executive officer of Willams Brothers Construction Co. in Houston. His gift of \$1 million was used to challenge other donors to create endowed scholarships for members of the Corps of Cadets. Pitcock matched the first 10 donors who gave \$100,000 and the donors had the privilege of naming both scholarships.

# The Corps of Cadets

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Barbara and Donald Zale '55



Margaret P. and  
BG George W. Connell '45



Harriet and David B. Wolf '52



Helaine and Gerald L. Ray '54



Clara and Daland M. Griffiths '44

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
CORPS OF CADETS



Trisha and  
L.C. "Chaz" Neely, Jr. '62



Dorothy and H.J. Kolinek '46

*Forging Leaders of Character*



Notebook is your source for news and information about Aggieland. If you have a story to share about current events from the A&M campus, e-mail us at [TexasAggie@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:TexasAggie@AggieNetwork.com).

# AGGIE NOTEBOOK



## New Vice President Of Student Affairs

**Lt. Gen. Joseph F. Weber '72 USMC (Ret)** was selected as vice president of student affairs at the recommendation of President **Dr. Elsa Murano** in late August. Weber entered the U.S. Marine Corps as a commissioned officer immediately after his graduation and served for 36 years. In addition to his degree from Texas A&M, Weber earned a master's degree from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. "As a student at Texas A&M, I acquired the values, discipline, knowledge and leadership skills necessary to make a much needed difference in my life, but more importantly, to be able to go out and make a difference in the real world," Weber wrote on his website. "The opportunity to return to my alma mater and become an advocate for, a mentor and example to a truly unique and special student body is a remarkable one; one which I do not take lightly and one for which I will remain forever grateful."

## Texas A&M To Cover Tuition For Eligible Low- And Middle-Income Students

Texas A&M President **Dr. Elsa Murano** announced a new program called "Aggie Assurance" that will cover tuition costs for Texans eligible for admission to the University and whose families have incomes of \$60,000 or less.

Freshmen who meet the guidelines, including maintaining a grade point average of at least 2.5, can be a part of the "Aggie Assurance" program for a maximum of four years. Eligible students must fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid by March 31. Once it is completely implemented, the program is expected to cost the University about \$3 million a year.

More than 1,500 students of this year's freshman class of 8,091 are eligible for the program since it was made retroactive to include the current academic year. More than 500 of those eligible are in the middle-income category.



Reed Arena became a shelter for special-needs patients who fled Hurricane Ike.

## Texas A&M University Pitches In To Help During And After Hurricane Ike

- Reed Arena was turned into a shelter for special needs patients, housing hundreds of evacuees along with the doctors and nurses responsible for giving care.
- Student groups like the Corps of Cadets, Greek Life, the Memorial Student Center and the Student Government Association volunteered on and off campus.
- The Association of Former Students allocated special funds totaling \$200,000 to assist TAMUG students displaced by the hurricane. The funds will be administered by A&M officials and used to replace essential personal items, textbooks, and other academic resources destroyed by the storm.
- Texas A&M-Galveston students joined the main campus' Sept. 19 Aggie Ring day at the G. Rollie White Coliseum.
- Texas A&M offered a building on campus to shelter pets and livestock belonging to evacuees.
- Texas AgriLife Extension Service and The Texas Department of Agriculture paired to create "No Fences," a horse and cattle relief donation website for Hurricane Ike. Texas AgriLife is part of the A&M System.
- Students conducted a school supply drive for Sea Aggies and collected funds for victims of Hurricane Ike.



## Texas A&M Galveston Update

He stood in the middle of Rudder Plaza, his TAMU-Galveston polo tucked into a pair of black dress pants. As student body president for TAMU's seaside campus, **Mike Spiers '10** (photo above right) was looking for familiar faces Sept. 23—about 1,400 of them.

Watching the ebb and flow of students pass across the plaza 150 miles from his Galveston home, Spiers took a minute to remember how he got here.

After Hurricane Ike's violent landfall into Galveston on Sept. 13, it was known almost immediately that campus would be closed for a while, he said. TAMUG students were told to evacuate before the storm hit. Almost two weeks after the last storm surge, school still couldn't continue in Galveston, but administrators said it could continue in College Station.

The first day on main campus for many Sea Aggies was Sept. 23. With more than 1,400 new students arriving from all areas of the state, student volunteers from main campus gathered together at Rudder Plaza to answer questions and accompany Galveston students on campus tours. After that, Spiers said, it was to Kyle Field for orientation and welcoming ceremonies.

"What I want to tell you tonight is we're all Aggies," said **Lt. Gen. Joe Weber '72**, TAMU's vice president for student affairs. He addressed the crowd of Galveston students and faculty from the 50-yard-line of Kyle Field. "Texas Aggies take care of Texas Aggies," he said.

**Dr. R. Bowen Loftin '71**, Texas A&M vice president and CEO for the Galveston campus, spoke using a Powerpoint

presentation broadcast on Kyle Field's 12th Man TV. Among the photo slides of Galveston's damaged campus was a meteorological map of the hurricane with "We Don't Like Ike" stamped across. The crowd whooped.

"We took some damage," Loftin said. Some have nothing left, he said, "but we will make it." Galveston is still there, "and soon, you will be too," he said. Every student who chose to continue the semester on main campus received housing, Loftin said. Classes will resume, and there will be ample materials for everyone, he said. Plus, the Sea Aggies have 48,000 new friends to make the change smoother.

"Here's my pledge to you: Commencement, December 2008, back in Galveston," he said.



## All Aggie Hullabaloo

Aggies from multiple Classes packed the “Holler House on the Brazos” Sept. 26 as The Association of Former Students hosted the first ever All Aggie Hullabaloo. The Classes of '02, '98, '88, '83, '78, along with the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, and the Department of Leadership, Education and Communications, held reunions in conjunction with the event. There was plenty of food, fun and face time for Aggies as they reconnected at the G. Rollie White Coliseum. Texas A&M's Career Center, Prospective Student Center and Honors Program were present to help former students tap into the Aggie Network. The event included a miniature “bottle cap alley” for photos, domino tables, a special area for children's activities, and a live concert by Bleu Edmondson.

## Texas A&M President Launches Newsletter

**Dr. Elsa Murano's** first issue of her monthly newsletter, *Presidential Perspectives*, was distributed in September. The electronic newsletter includes a message from Murano along with features on students, faculty and Texas A&M research. To receive the newsletter, send an e-mail to [tamunews@tamu.edu](mailto:tamunews@tamu.edu) with “subscribe to Presidential Perspectives” in the subject line.



## Ground Broken For Aggie Field Of Honor

A new cemetery under construction in College Station that contains a special area for former students and friends of Texas A&M broke ground April 19. The Memorial Cemetery of College Station and the Aggie Field of Honor promise state-of-the-art features and hope to become a memorial attraction for citizens and visitors, along with a final resting place for local residents, Aggies and their families. Once complete, the cemetery will be found at 3800 Raymond Stotzer Parkway.



## Almost 2,000 Walk At Summer Commencement

Nearly 2,000 degrees were awarded to Texas A&M University summer graduates on Aug. 8. During the two commencements held at Reed Arena, 1,995 students were handed their diplomas. University officials said it was one of the largest summer graduating classes in school history.

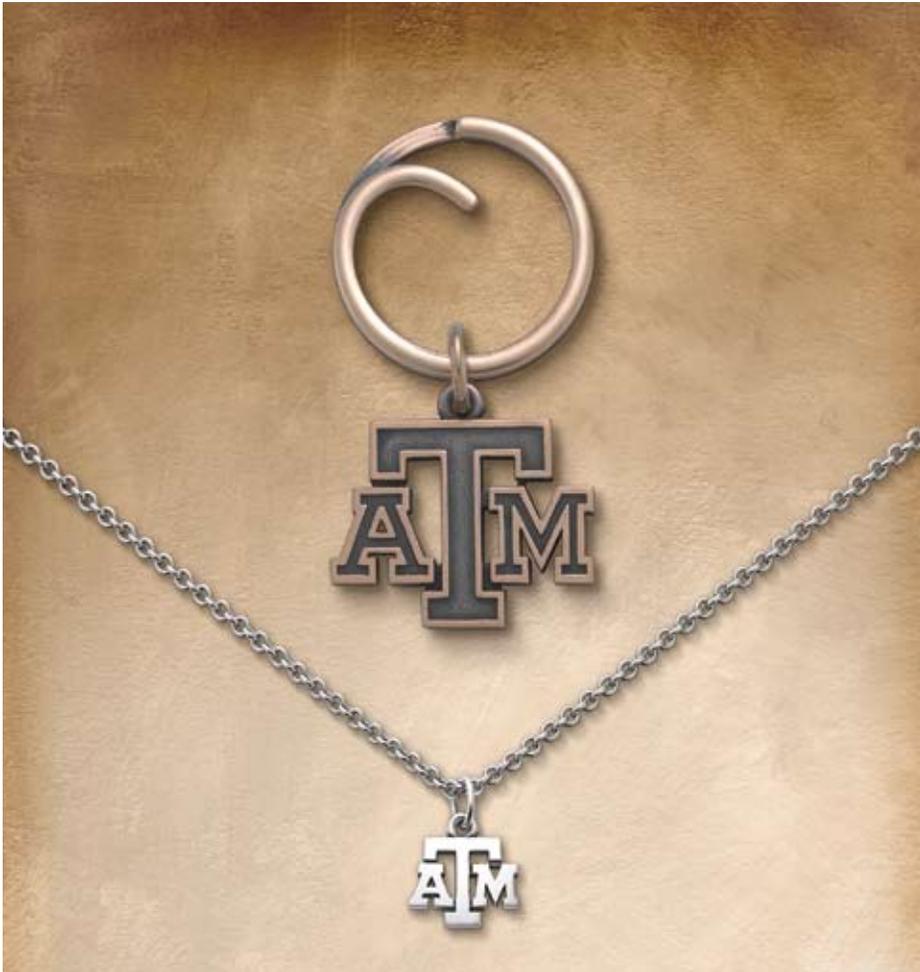


## Students In Class Of '12 Welcomed To A&M At Freshman Convocation

The Class of 2012 was welcomed to Texas A&M Aug. 24 at the annual Freshman Convocation, a ceremony for A&M's newest undergraduates and their families. Faculty from each academic department, vice presidents, provosts, and University President **Dr. Elsa Murano** were present in full academic regalia. The Class of 2012 is the largest in the University's history.

## Introducing My Aggie Network

There is a new way to stay connected inside and outside Aggieland. Launched in August by The Association of Former Students, **My Aggie Network** is a 24/7 networking site for all former students, current students and friends of Texas A&M. **My Aggie Network** offers tools to send and receive messages, blog, post pictures, join groups and receive Aggie-created information. **My Aggie Network** is the first of its kind among universities, and the number of Ags logging on continues to grow. **My Aggie Network** is the newest way to keep up with old friends and make new ones. Check it out by visiting [www.MyAggieNetwork.com](http://www.MyAggieNetwork.com).

Introducing the Texas A&M Collection by James Avery. Perfect gifts for the new graduate, special student or alum in your life.

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Texas A&M Key Chain (1" long) bronze \$60, sterling silver \$95. Block Texas A&M Logo Charm (7/16" long) sterling silver \$37, 14K gold \$100 — shown on our cable chain, sold separately.  
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## Veterans Boot Camp

Mays Business School at Texas A&M hosted a program Aug. 16-23 called Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities. The program offered training in small business startup and management to 17 servicemen and servicewomen injured in the line of duty since 2001. The program integrated world-class faculty, entrepreneurs, disability experts and business professionals in an educational program focused on training veterans in the competencies associated with small business ownership. For more information, go to <http://whitman.syr.edu/ebv/>.

EBV participant Natasha Espinoza gives her final venture pitch about her proposed business Royal Recreation, a boutique for "sneaker freaks." Espinoza and others in the program presented their ideas before a roomful of peers, instructors, guest entrepreneurs and press members as the final component of their on-campus entrepreneurship training.

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To learn more about Traveling Aggies trips, or to see more pictures from past adventures, go to [AggieNetwork.com/Travel](http://AggieNetwork.com/Travel). If we can be of service or answer any questions, call us at (800) 633-7514 or e-mail us at [TravelingAggies@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:TravelingAggies@AggieNetwork.com).

# AGGIE TRAVELINGAGGIES



## Essential Europe

Graduating seniors enjoyed the seventh annual Essential Europe trip in May. Thirty-eight Aggies traveled 11 countries in 24 days. From the sun-kissed beaches of Greece to the glorious art of Florence, from the snow-capped Austrian Alps to the pomp and pageantry of London, Aggies experienced Europe's infinite variety of people, places and traditions and made memories that will last a lifetime.

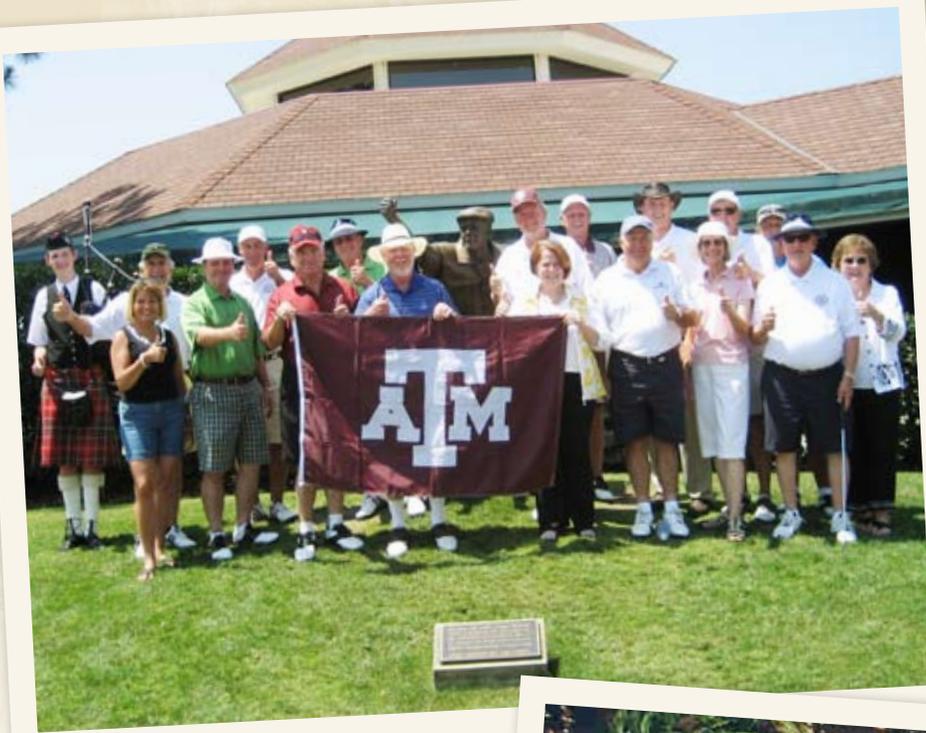
## Tuscany/Cortona

In June, the Traveling Aggies explored the Tuscany and Cortona regions of Italy, steeped in beauty and history. They journeyed through the surrounding Tuscan hill country, the cobbled streets of Siena, Montepulciano—the heart of Chianti Country—and experienced the Cradle of the Renaissance in Florence. The Aggies toured the Texas A&M campus in Santa Chiara and had dinner with the students.

*"The program and tour operator were very sensitive to the comfort and time of the travelers, resulting in a most memorable and pleasant tour."*

W.L. Powell '56





## Pinehurst Golf Trip

The Traveling Aggies, along with Gary Blair, head coach of A&M's women's basketball team, traveled to Pinehurst, N.C., in June for a week of golf at the Pinehurst Golf Resort. Pinehurst hosted the U.S. Open Golf Championships in 1999 and 2005. On course No. 4, Coach Blair made a hole-in-one.

*"Pinehurst was the ultimate as far as a golf destination and bridging the gap between the Old South and the Aggies. The hospitality was outstanding and having Jennifer on the trip made everyone feel wanted and taken care of."*

Gary Blair

## Alaska Cruise And Cruise Tour

The Alaska Cruise and Cruise Tour in July was the largest Traveling Aggies trip to date, with 146 Aggies on board the Coral Princess. The Alaska Cruise was a seven-day southbound Voyage of the Glaciers cruise sailing from Whittier to Vancouver. Ports of call included Skagway, Juneau and Ketchikan. The 14-day Cruise Tour combined the cruise with seven days of land travel. Highlights of the land program included Denali National Park, Mt. McKinley and the amazing Kenai Wilderness.



## Alpine Mountains And Lakes

The Traveling Aggies journeyed in July to the picturesque countries of Liechtenstein, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Highlights included the Napoleonic Museum at Arenberg Castle, Europe's largest waterfall, the Rhine Falls, a visit to the beautiful flower island of Mainau, and the monastic architecture on Reichenau Island.





Founded 132 years ago and eager to honor the past, Texas A&M is as rich in history as it is in spirit. In "Archives," we explore that history and pay tribute to our proud Aggie heritage.

# AGGIE ARCHIVES

## The Crisp Affair: A Final Blow To A Doomed Administration

By David L. Chapman '67, Director, Cushing Memorial Library and Archives

It is quite possible that Texas A&M's first president, Thomas S. Gathright, would have failed even without the uproar over what came to be known as the Crisp Affair. By the end of his third year as Texas A&M's first president, Gathright had many serious problems on his hands. In his defense, the state expected too much of him and the school while providing very little in the way of sorely needed financial support.

The school's student body grew at a rate that quickly outstripped the meager available resources. By the second year, 332 students occupied a campus designed to house a little over 100. Cadets were stuffed into every nook, including the third and fourth floor classrooms of Old Main, stairwells, attics and even administrative offices. Living conditions were less than sanitary and common diseases wracked the campus. Measles, mumps, diphtheria, influenza and ordinary colds were a constant threat and distraction. These outbreaks brought on criticism

of Gathright and his abilities to properly administer the state's first experiment in public higher education.

Perhaps the most bothersome problem Gathright faced was the dissension and opposition within the ranks of his own faculty. The governor of the state of Texas selected the faculty and therefore they owed their allegiance to someone other than Gathright. Most had been headmasters at other schools and believed that they could administer the school better than Gathright. In addition, they were more than willing to point out his mistakes and shortcomings to anyone who would listen. Unfortunately, Gathright did have numerous shortcomings.



Cadet John C. Crisp

According to P. L. Downs, Class of 1879 and private secretary to the president, "Gathright was wholly opposed to any military discipline. He believed in putting the boys on their honor and trusting them implicitly, and yet Major Morris, as Commandant, insisted upon carrying out the governmental requirements as to military training and that did not altogether suit the

*The beginning of the end to the Gathright presidency began with just such a challenge. In essence it was a revolt of the faculty that became known as the “Crisp Affair.”*

president.” During his short tenure as president, Gathright had several clashes with military discipline, including a confrontation with an armed cadet sentry who did not recognize the president and denied him access to one of the campus buildings.

Gathright was in many ways his own worst enemy. He had a bad temper, ruled with an iron hand, and expected strict adherence to his policies. Needless to say, he did not take kindly to any criticism or challenge of his authority. The beginning of the end to the Gathright presidency began with just such a challenge. In essence it was a revolt of the faculty that became known as the “Crisp Affair.”

As background, what had been a series of minor disputes between faculty factions became bitter in the hot dry summer of 1879. Alexander Hogg, professor of pure mathematics, published a small tract on how he believed an agricultural and mechanical college should be organized. He sent copies to members of the Board of Directors and to the governor. Gathright believed that Hogg was promoting himself as the future president of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas. It was true that Hogg was actively promoting himself among the business leaders of Bryan.

At this point, Capt. George T. Olmstead submitted recommendations for cadet promotions for the upcoming school year. In past years the faculty had automatically approved the list. On the list was Cadet John C. Crisp for promotion to senior captain of Company A. At the time this was the highest rank in the Corps. Crisp was an excellent student, an exemplary member of the Corps of Cadets and by all rights deserving of the promotion. However, the faculty rejected Crisp’s promotion

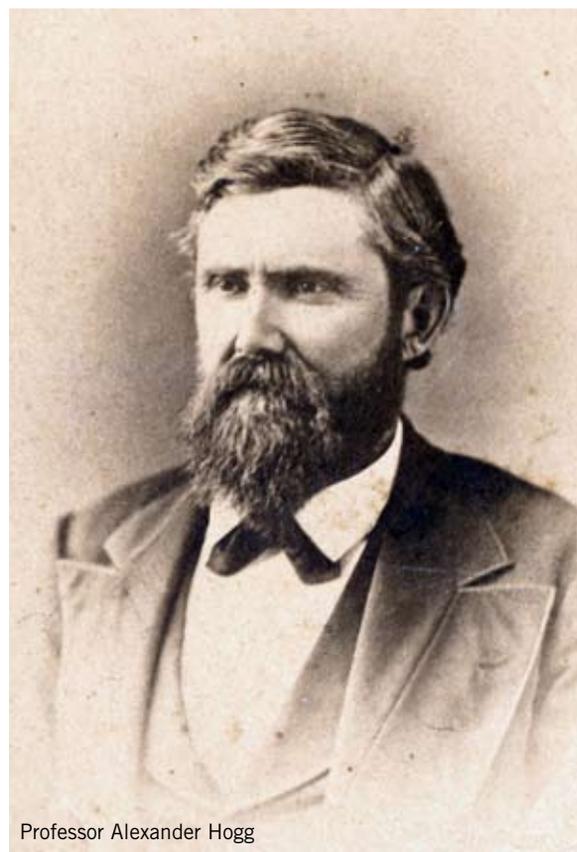
by a vote of 5 to 4. Professor Hogg led the opposition to Crisp’s promotion.

On Aug. 26, 1879, Cadet Crisp lodged a formal complaint against Hogg during a meeting of the Board of Directors, charging him with being an “incompetent teacher” and that he had made inappropriate offers to trade class work grading and reports for high grades. The board convinced Crisp to drop his charges and in effect said that the faculty should work out their differences. Hogg answered by demanding Crisp’s dismissal from school. Gathright supported Crisp and the feud became even more intense. The situation worsened to the point where Gov. Oran Milo Roberts called an emergency session of the board to bring an end to the bickering.

The board met on Nov. 18, 1879, to investigate all the charges. After lengthy testimony, they found Crisp to be an “honorable young man” and that he “bore no blame” for the turmoil then underway at the college. The board also found that the primary problem was the inability of the faculty and administration to work together. Therefore, the board demanded the resignation of the entire faculty including the president. Despite protests by some of the faculty over their dismissal, new faculty began to arrive in a matter of days.

The decision of the Board of Directors radically altered the direction Texas A&M would take for nearly a hundred years. It would now adhere strictly to the tenets under which it

had been founded—the Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862. For those involved it was a life-changing experience. John Crisp, who never received his promotion, remained in school one more semester and then left before completing the requirements for graduation. He later became a successful journalist in South Texas. Gathright died a bitter and disappointed man in Henderson, Texas, on May 24, 1880, just six months after his dismissal. Alexander Hogg became chief of the corps of engineers for the Houston and Texas Central Railway. In all, it was rocky start to what had been a promising beginning for the school. One is left to wonder the fate of Texas A&M had reason and cooler heads prevailed. 🍷



Professor Alexander Hogg



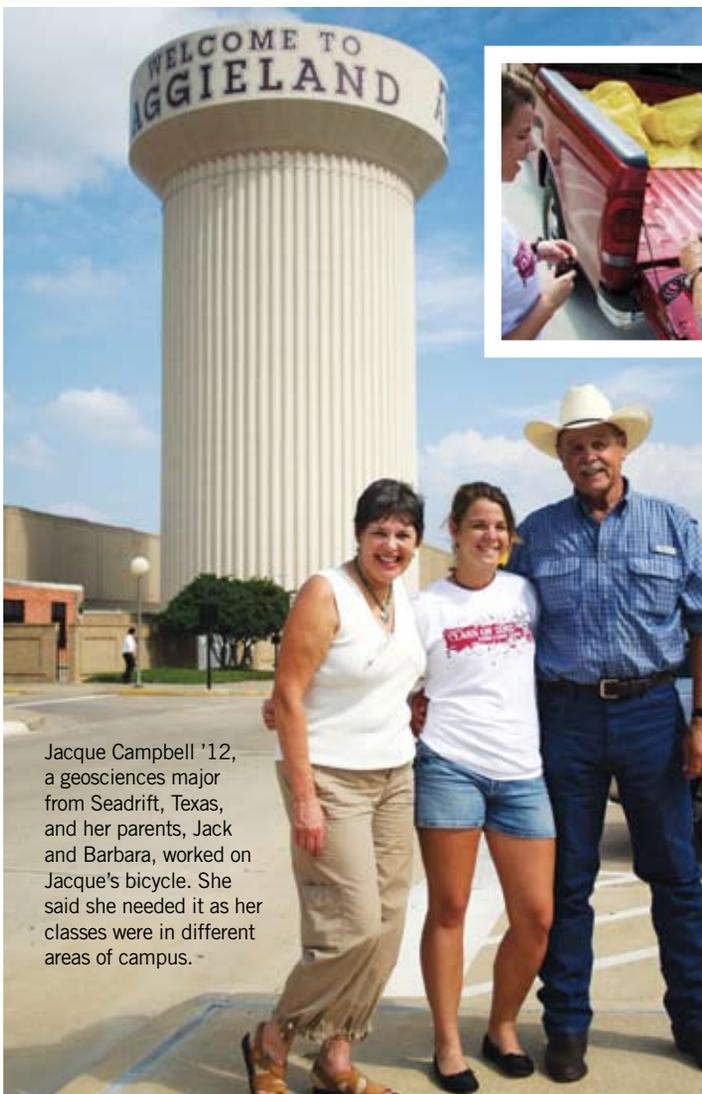
# AGGIE PHOTOESSAY

In College Station, the change of seasons from summer to fall is marked more by the return of students than the calendar. A week before school started, *Texas Aggie* followed several new and returning students as they moved into Texas A&M's dormitories. The Association of Former Students welcomes everyone back to Aggieland!

All Photos By Stephanie Jeter '06



▲ Former students Brian '85 and Kyndall '87 Bass helped move their daughter, Melanie '12 (not pictured), into her new dorm. Little sister Haley and brother Kyle teamed up to move boxes.



Jacque Campbell '12, a geosciences major from Seadrift, Texas, and her parents, Jack and Barbara, worked on Jacque's bicycle. She said she needed it as her classes were in different areas of campus.



▲ Kelsey Kayser '12, a communications major from Arlington, Texas, decorated her McFadden dorm room. She went potluck to find a roommate and said she was grateful that they shared a similar style.



Jessica Gunn '12 and her father, John, pulled over at Beutel Health Center to focus on a campus map to find Jessica's dorm.



Roommates Troy Luster '12 and Scott Wilkinson '12 get settled into their Walton dorm room.

David Robbins '12 and his father, Gary, both of Rusk, toted all of David's belongings up three flights of stairs to his dorm room. Robbins, a business major, said he packed light for that very reason.



After moving into his dorm, Nicholas Forge '12 from San Antonio walked with his family (left to right: Jennifer, Eloise and Nick) to the MSC.



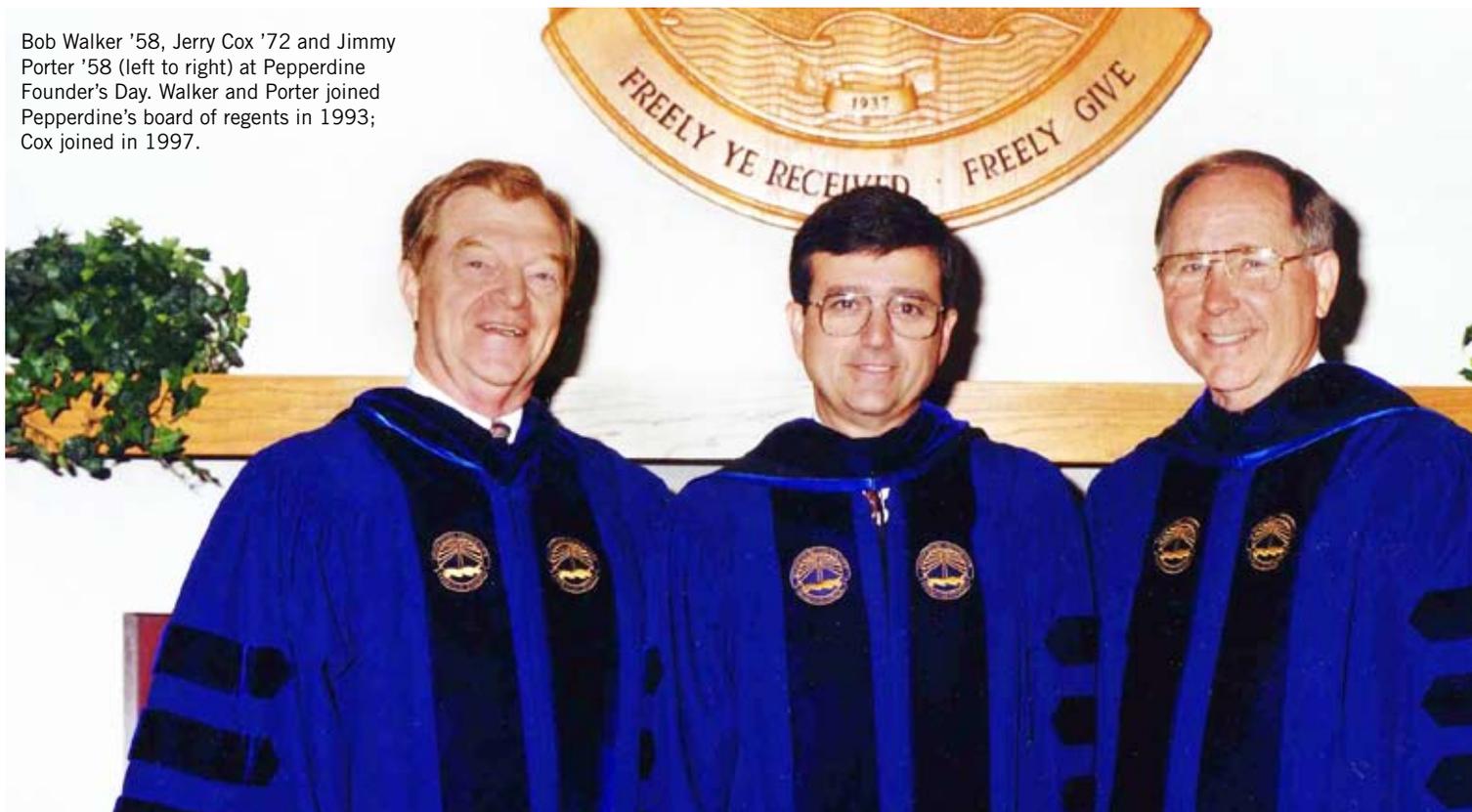
This was the second move this semester for Justin Whelan '10 (left), an agriculture leadership major. His sister, Suzanna '12, moved into her dorm earlier. Their father, Brian, and brother, Kevin, helped with both moves.



Do you have a story that displays the pride and Spirit of Aggieland? Share your Good Bull stories by e-mailing [TexasAggie@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:TexasAggie@AggieNetwork.com) or mailing your story to *Texas Aggie* magazine, Attn: Good Bull, 505 George Bush Drive, College Station, Texas 77840.

# AGGIE GOODBULL

Bob Walker '58, Jerry Cox '72 and Jimmy Porter '58 (left to right) at Pepperdine Founder's Day. Walker and Porter joined Pepperdine's board of regents in 1993; Cox joined in 1997.



## Aggies Lead The Way At Pepperdine University

By Stephanie Jeter '06

“THERE’S A PICTURE I WANT you to see,” said Bob Walker '58. He works in fundraising for Texas A&M. His office is on main campus. The former cadet can almost see Kyle Field from his window; he waved toward the glass with the hand that wears his Aggie Ring.

He remembers when campus looked different, but that’s another story.

Walker slid a color photograph of three former students in full academic regalia to the corner of his desk. The men were dressed in blue. Across the photo’s back was written in red script: Bob Walker '58, Jerry Cox '72, Jimmy Porter '58—Pepperdine Founder’s Day in 1997.

“We are all on the board of regents for

Pepperdine University,” Walker explained. Yes, that Pepperdine—the private Christian university located in California with a beach-front view.

The university calls its board of regents the “legal governing body and chief policy board of the university”—and a majority of the members of that board are Aggies.

They’ve each been blessed with the skills and mindsets to help, Cox said. Life experience and an education at Texas A&M are great preparation. “But, as the last of three to join the board, I had a huge advantage by having two friends there with Aggie Rings,” Cox said.

“Make no mistake about it,” he said. “We’re kindred spirits. Even though we’re part of a larger group of leadership, we are a nucleus.”

It spurred on a work ethic Porter said continues today.

Cox agreed. “Anyone can achieve anything if they’re determined enough to pursue it,” he said.

And so now they work united again.

They don’t try to make Pepperdine look like A&M. “We can’t duplicate it,” Walker said. “We emphasize it when we can.”

“There’s a spirit at Texas A&M that can ne’er be told,” Walker said. “It’s en-



In many ways, A&M is seen as a kindred spirit to Pepperdine, Cox said. The two schools share core values, and are upfront and non-apologetic about who they are, he said.

“We jokingly tell the people out there that we have the majority on the board, so we run the board,” Walker said. He earned his bachelor’s in

business administration and a doctorate in educational administration from Texas A&M.

“It is really rare to have three regents from a university so far removed geographically,” said Jerry Cox. He earned his bachelor’s in finance from A&M and is president and chairman of the board for a corporation in Houston.

“We get ribbed a lot, like Aggies are taking over the university,” said Jimmy Porter—an entrepreneur from the Woodlands. He earned his bachelor’s from A&M in industrial engineering.

There truly are Aggies everywhere. Of the three men, only Walker has a degree from Pepperdine. So, it is not school loyalty that draws the trio quarterly to the West Coast.

“We each look on this as sort of a servant role,” Walker said.

In many ways, A&M is seen as a kindred spirit to Pepperdine, Cox said. The two schools share core values and are upfront and non-apologetic about who they are, he said.

“I think people are quite interested wherever you are in the Aggie loyalty and the traditions,” Porter said. “They find it amazing.”

So, when the board meets, the three Ags find themselves telling stories: “How the food was called by different names and about our yell practices,” Porter said.

Porter and Walker were in the same Fightin’ Texas Aggie Class of 1958, “so we knew each other then, in the Corps,” Porter said.

Walking the bull ring in front of the Quad on Saturday morning, memorizing the upperclassmen’s names, “we never minded,” Porter said. When things got tough, “I can remember the phrase ‘Highway 6 runs both ways.’”

It was hard. “No one ever handed you anything on a silver platter.” School was challenging; the Corps was challenging.

grained in us while we’re here. I think A&M graduates, probably any former student, has a respect and a feeling about this place that you don’t find anywhere else in the country.”

You never have to sell the worth of A&M to a former student, Walker said. “He or she just believes in the place. That’s why Aggies as a whole are so supportive.”

Pepperdine often asks about Texas A&M in that regard, Porter said. They ask how they can generate the loyalty at their school.

These Aggies know something about loyalty—acceptance forever. They know about the other five core values, too: integrity, excellence, selfless service, respect and leadership.

What they do is the very nature of leadership. 🍌

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With annual donations from former students and the entire Aggie Network, The Association of Former Students provides support to Texas A&M University and Texas Aggies. "Dollars at Work" reflects how your annual gift to The Association impacts the lives of students, faculty, staff and former students, perpetuating a lasting legacy of Aggie Spirit, camaraderie and pride.

# AGGIE DOLLARS@WORK

## The Texas A&M Rodeo Club: Ride 'Em, Cowboys (And Cowgirls)

Jason Calkins '09 lives for the rodeo—the dirt arena, the aluminum bleachers, the feel of the rope in his hands. And it isn't surprising that like other rodeo enthusiasts at A&M, Calkins rode his way into the Texas A&M Rodeo Club.

Calkins, who is the club's president and competes in team roping, said the club boasts about 50 members. The club stages two main rodeos each school year. The first is an alumni rodeo in the fall, at which former club members battle current team members for buckles, Calkins said. The second rodeo occurs in the spring as part of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Southern Region series.



Jason Calkins '09 (right) rides alongside Matt Ammerman '08 during their team roping competition.

A team composed of 10 rodeo club members competes in 10 regional rodeos throughout the year, or five each semester. Calkins said the locales of the rodeos range from South Texas

to Central Louisiana, making travel the primary expense of the club.

"Everything we get goes to help the team members and the people in the club with traveling expenses," he said.

It is with help from the active members of The Association of Former Students that the club—one of the most successful in its region—is able to travel to the out-of-town competitions. A&M's men ended the year in the top five in the standings, while the women came in first place. Many individuals even went on to compete in the NIRA national competition in Caspar, Wyo., Calkins said. And with a strong team and a fresh season ahead, the club is ready for a perfect ride.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JASON CALKINS '09

## Facilities Employees Enjoy Fun Day At Rec Center

It's a day that A&M facilities employees and their families look forward to—an afternoon of food, fun and competition at the Student Recreation Center.

Polli Satterwhite, executive assistant to the vice president for facilities, said all 984 employees, including custodial, utilities, physical plant, airport and office workers, are invited to attend the annual Fun Day.

"It's a time for them to access the facility during a time that not all of them would normally be able to do," Satterwhite said.

The Fun Day began nearly 10 years ago when Charles Sippial, vice president for facilities, wanted a way to show appreciation to the employees for everything they do for the

University, Satterwhite said. The result continues to grow as 450 to 700 people attend the Fun Day each year.

Many employees use the Fun Day, which is held in August, as an opportunity to spend time with their families. The entire recreation center is open to the employees, including the pool and playing courts. Tournaments are held in ping-pong, basketball, volleyball and other events, with top finishers winning trophies. Other activities include a hamburger and hotdog cookout and bingo games, Satterwhite said. The event, which Satterwhite said many of the employees' children remember faithfully every year, would not be possible without the financial support of The Association of Former Students.



A&M facilities employees line up to register at the office's annual Fun Day, an event created to show appreciation for the employees and their service to the University.

"We want to thank The Association for their support not only for the Fun Day, but for the support of the other things we do in this division," Satterwhite said. "We couldn't do all of this without your money."

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR FACILITIES

## Black Engineers Win National Honor

The A&M chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers is one of the most flourishing chapters in the country, said Jasmin Nwgpokor '10, the group's president. And all of that success comes from the high caliber of student that A&M attracts, she said.

NSBE's mission is to increase the number of culturally responsible black engineers who succeed professionally and serve their communities, Nwgpokor said. The chapter's mission, the members' support of one another and their service to community are the reasons why the group was named the National Distinguished Chapter of the Year and the Region V Distinguished Chapter of the Year. Prior to this year, Nwgpokor said, the A&M Chapter had twice been a finalist for the national award and had been recognized for its community service efforts.

Community service is just a small part of NSBE. Nwgpokor said the chapter works hard to ease the stress of freshmen year on new engineering students.

"The first year of engineering is the hardest," the biomedical engineering major said. "We do lots of activities to get freshmen to know one another and get through their first year."



Quadri Kazeem '09 (left), Chelir Grady '08 and Jomar Sharp '08 at the NSBE chapter dinner at the 2007 Fall Regional Conference in Baton Rouge.

Each year, the A&M chapter makes its way to the national NSBE convention; last year in Orlando, Fla., and this year in Las Vegas. The 40 students who attended last year's convention would not have been able to go and take advantage of the networking opportunities, workshops and career fairs had it not been for funds from The Association of Former Students, Nwgpokor said.

"The Association of Former Students helped us go to our national convention, which is a great opportunity for us to network with other black engineers," she said. "It just goes to show that The Association supports our mission and will give us what it takes to get there."

## Thank You From A Future Leader

Alek A. Schmidt '09 participated in the Academy for Future International Leaders and wrote to express his appreciation for The Association's help:

"The Academy stipend that you helped fund was pivotal in my ability to be able to travel in this time of the weak dollar," he wrote. "Studying abroad was one of the richest and greatest experiences I have had in college. It was an invaluable five weeks, and I wish more students were able to get past the financial barriers and open their minds to



the whole world. That is why your generosity is so important to the lives of Aggies. Even a little contribution makes a huge difference, and in the case of the Academy stipend that you provided, it was the 'push over the hump' that allowed me to go on the trip.

"Thank you once again for allowing me to travel abroad. The experience confirmed my interest in international culture that I hope to take with me into my career, and I could not have done it without The Association of Former Students."

## Maggies Make The A&M Campus G.L.O.W.

They make the A&M campus glow for one night each spring, as thousands of runners and walkers make their way between buildings, lighted only by the glows sticks around their necks. The sight is something to see—a steady stream of bobbing light. And even more than a pretty picture, the G.L.O.W. 5K Run benefits New Horizons, a halfway home for abused children, and an orphanage in Honduras.

The G.L.O.W. run—it stands for



Several G.L.O.W. organizers wait for the race's first runners to cross the finish line. The 5K marathon takes place at night, and all participants wear a glow stick.

Giving to Light Others' Way—is an annual event sponsored by Maggies and the Aggie Men's Club. Maggies is a women's leadership organization that focuses on service and fellowship with other young women, said Lauren Lambert '09, the group's co-president.

"We bring together a diverse group of women from across the A&M campus and use that diversity to learn from one another and reach out to our community," Lambert said.

G.L.O.W. is a massive undertaking that has grown larger each year, Lambert said. Three years ago, the number of participants was 800. At the most recent run, more than 2,000 people participated.

The Association helped G.L.O.W. in more ways than Lambert thought was possible.

"I practically lived at The Association," Lambert said with a laugh. "I was making so many copies. The Association saved us more than \$2,000 in printing costs, and I never felt like a burden. We were offered help beyond what we imagined."

# Leadership by Example

{ Meet Five Student Leaders Who Help Set The Pace on Campus }

By Stephanie Jeter '06



**Mark Gold '09**  
Student Body President



**Jordan Reid '09**  
Corps Commander



**Amber Jordan '10**  
Pan-Hellenic  
Council President



**Nick Petree '09**  
MSC President



**Lans Martin '09**  
Head Yell Leader

**O**n a campus where everyday discoveries affect the world, student leadership twists through and transforms the College Station prairie like the roots of the old oaks lining campus.

At Texas A&M, students don't share everything in common, but are each spurred on in unity. Student leadership helps guide the future of a 132-year past.

It's in the lively blue eyes of the student body president, the shine of the Corps commander's brass and the animated enthusiasm from a Greek leader. It's in the MSC president's memories and the head yell leader's scratchy throat. They're not the only stars of campus, but together they form a brilliant snapshot of what student leadership looks like at Texas A&M University. Because at Texas A&M, everyone serves, and they do it all under the same College Station skyline.



## STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

**M**ark Gold '09 says he sometimes gets nervous speaking before a crowd. It never shows. He's a rock on stage, a rock that smiles a lot. If it were possible to make eye contact with every person in the crowd, Gold would be the one to do it. Already, he's making connections, slapping high fives as Fish Camp volunteers rush by and catching up with those he hasn't seen since the start of summer. He takes one last look at his speaking notes before the introduction blares through the speakers: "Let's everybody welcome your student body president, Mark Gold."

And he's off—a rocket of enthusiasm as he bounds to the center of Reed Arena.

It's Fish Camp season at this point of August for the SBP. Every four days, before the next session takes off in buses for the specialized camp geared toward welcoming new students, Gold greets the rowdy group as the student face of the University.

"At these Fish Camp sendoffs, the energy is electric," Gold said

over the crowd's roar. Earlier that morning, he had to duck out of a meeting early to make it on time to Reed Arena, from where the buses would depart. The University was looking for ways to improve the performance of a street on main campus. They asked Gold to show up to the meeting and offer University officials the student opinion. Gold scribbled notes in the margins of all the handouts. The information sheets passed out at the meeting were already text heavy. With Gold's extra thoughts, the page almost swam with words.

"I like the visuals. They help me explain things to my team and to the student body," he said. It's important that everyone understand, because come the next meeting, Gold expected to come back with thoughts from members of the student body.

Now it was off to talk to the newest members. His parking spot helps get him out of some time crunches, but this time, he knew he'd have to sneak out a little early. He doesn't like to miss meetings. It's a statement his calendar reflects. "That's

probably the biggest time commitment," he said. Gold meets and shares the students' voice with some of the most authoritative characters on campus. No matter whom he's speaking with, Gold said, only one thing matters. "I am always thinking about students," he said, even if he's disagreed with and even if he's in the minority.

"I always ask if we can increase the number of committee members so more students can be present," Gold said.

He works the issues as they come. The phone rings a lot, in fact, it's ringing right now. Even though he has more things to do, and another meeting to get to, he answers. "I used to write things down more, kind of like a to-do list, but I realized that the list got so long, I wasn't able to get to everything," he said. "If I wait, sometimes it doesn't happen."

So he answers the students' call to lead, every time. 🌟





## CORPS COMMANDER

**H**e moves through the Quad's weathered red-brick buildings, under the shade line of a dozen trees, over the concrete sidewalk. Past the arches made of brick to the corner of C.P. Fountain Hall, where a group of freshman Corps recruits are in training. The new students stand at attention. Marching is today's order, but like most things within the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets, the command to train isn't about marching in stride, said Corps Commander Jordan Reid '09.

As the leader of a 132-year A&M tradition, Reid is looking for the result.

"Everything we do has a purpose," he said.

As he spoke, a group of red-faced freshman ran past, splitting the air with their cadence. The Army-style jodie had an even beat.

"Everything is geared toward success," he continued. Training

produces leaders.

"Our goal is to have the most well-prepared freshmen on campus," Reid said. Freshmen are on his brain right now. It's day four of the Corps of Cadets' Freshmen Orientation Week. On day five, he'll climb the stairs in front of Rudder Tower and address the Class of 2012 cadets as their commander. He'll offer his wisdom and the promise that, with each year, the cadets will grow stronger in leadership, resilient in adversity and solid in ethics. Then he'll ceremoniously remove his four-diamond brass from his right shoulder and toss it to the crowd of freshmen as a symbol of the pass-down nature of leadership. A similar talk Reid's freshman year still rings in his ears: "Four years from now, one of you will be the corps commander," Reid remembers his commander saying. "Four years from now one of you will step up."

The statement is proven true every

year. This year, it was proven true in him. So when Reid looks at the squadrons and outfits and batteries now green with freshmen, it's easy for him to see what he so passionately tells the other student leaders in the corps. "When you look at a freshman, don't see who they are now, but who they could be," Reid said. "We train for excellence and we have solid leaders to carry out the plan."

Four steps and four class years: "There's followship, direct leadership, indirect leadership and executive leadership," he rattled off. Everyone has a job.

Freshmen are trained in followship, being a member of a team and learning how to follow directions, Reid said. "Sophomores are the example, the demonstrators," Reid said. "They are responsible for those freshmen." Juniors teach the sophomores and help them understand their purpose, and senior executive leaders help set policy, he said. "It's a bittersweet moment as seniors as it's the last chance to really impact the group."

Reid is an executive leader, in a way, the executive leader. "At the end of the day I'm responsible. I set the vision and focus," he said, but points to his 23-member staff for recognition. He's festooned with leadership, what with his weekly meetings with the general, Sundays with his staff and commanders, and other responsibilities to make sure the corps is connected with the student body. It would be easy for him to get wrapped up contemplating his position, but he doesn't. "The overall purpose and effects of what you do (as corps commander) is not on an expressional level. I try not to think about what I'm doing, but think about how the corps can be made better today," he said.

"At our core is training leaders," Reid said. "There's no purpose if they're not serving."

He says that's true for him, too. 🍓

## PAN-HELLENIC COUNCIL PRESIDENT

In the meeting room, they call her Madam President. Roberts Rules of Order demands it. But in her world where Greek traditions reign, she knows that the people and council's legacy are more important than her position.

Amber Jordan '10 leads Texas A&M's National Pan-Hellenic Council, all eight of its nationally affiliated fraternities and sororities. Though an active student, council isn't something that can be put on the backburner, just as she can't ignore the vote waiting on the tap of her gavel.

From the front of the room she sees lives changed. Nothing drastic, she said. It's all understated: students getting involved, showing respect, gaining knowledge, practicing leadership, and celebrating brotherhood and sisterhood.

Nationally, sororities and fraternities break into four historic groups, the Inter-Fraternity Council, the Multicultural Greek Council, the Collegiate Pan-Hellenic

Council and the National Pan-Hellenic Council. Though they're all Greek, the breakup allows Jordan to solely focus on NPHC.

That's what she's doing this August day, preparing for a retreat meant for her and her council officers. "We'll discuss goals for NPHC," she said. The retreat hasn't happened yet, but as president, Jordan knows where the council needs to improve. When you know something as well as Jordan knows Greek life, it's easy to spot the holes.

"We'll discuss more Greek unity and targeting more freshmen," she said. A personal item of business she expects to bring up is injecting more professionalism into council meetings. "It helps us be more effective and take care of business."

On the business side, Jordan has been studying NPHC's constitution. With the fall school semester yet to arrive, she's still preparing for that first question. "I can't speak or go against anything in the constitution." Right now, it's one of her



strongest tools to assist the council, the constitution and her schedule book, because outside of her weekly meetings with her council officers and the council's general body, she just opened a letter inviting her to lunch at a University vice president's house. "This is to request that you serve as a member of the Student Leader Communications Group," the stationary reads.

Jordan would love to, she said. She's already preparing ahead.

"I'll carry my heels," she said. "I get out of class at 5:10; this meeting starts at 5:30."

Jordan has always been a leader, just never in this way. She has a way with organizing people, she said, but sometimes the significance of her position just "hits me over the head."

"I'm just a business student from Dallas," she tells the invitation creased open on the round table. It's a table similar to the one from which she conducts meetings with her council officers. They're an important part of the council's success, she said. "I'm never alone in the decisions I have to make," she said. "We're a democracy, and I'm just the face."

She's a face whose hands are always busy. 🌸



## MSC PRESIDENT

Welcome to the office of Memorial Student Center President Nick Petree '09. It's square with a back wall that doubles as a bookshelf and built-in desk, but it's not used as such. Instead, a collection of quotes lean against its flat surface. A few Benjamin Knox prints fill the whitespace, and a grouping of three-ring binders sit upright in the shelf.

Former MSC presidents have left other things behind in the MSC second-story office. There's a fish named Mace who's on loan until its owner gets back from a job overseas. The Aggie art was a gift from his mother: "For my last birthday, I got six ties and office decorations," Petree laughs at the obvious reality that student leadership really does change things. The couch Petree claims on the rare long nights he chooses to sleep in his office sits on the opposite side of the room.

Petree's in the middle of it all, checking e-mails.

"The e-mails always start early, so I try to be in the office early," he said. "I've tried to treat A&M as a full-time job this year, getting here at 8 a.m." His cell phone doubles as an alarm clock in the morning. The sound could rattle a window.

As MSC president, Petree helps lead the MSC's 19 committees and six resource areas with a student base of 1,200. Once his name was placed at the top of the organizational chart, Nick Petree became president and CEO of one of the largest student unions in the country.

Sometimes he feels his greatest demand as a student leader is to attend a slew of meetings. The goal is to leave for home around 5 p.m., but "on a relatively busy day, I get out of the office at 9 p.m.," he said.

Yet, "this is the absolute great-



"There's something about the quality of students at Texas A&M," he said. Leadership is so prevalent. "When it comes down to it, you just can't re-create a Texas Aggie."

est thing I could be doing with my time," he said.

Student leaders seek office because they want to give back to the University, Petree said. "My best opportunity to give back is by giving back through service A&M offers."

Up until four years ago, he wasn't interested in leadership or service. "I just played basketball," he said. That was what was important. "But when I got to A&M and just saw how this school touches people's lives—and then it did the same for me—it was profound."

The first semester of Petree's freshman year, Hurricane Katrina funneled thousands of displaced citizens to find shelter in College Station. "I volunteered at Reed Arena," he said. "Honestly, it was one of

the first volunteer opportunities I'd ever taken advantage of."

Since then, there's no looking back.

"Involvement gives you something you can't get out of books," he said. "Some people don't understand how something could take up so much time, be such a commitment, but when you know someone is waiting on your part of the equation and a team comes together; it's hard to describe."

So he won't search for the words. He suspects both current and former students understand where he's coming from.

"There's something about the quality of students at Texas A&M," he said. Leadership is so prevalent. "When it comes down to it, you just can't re-create a Texas Aggie." 🍌

## HEAD YELL LEADER

**H**ead yell leader Lans Martin '09 is crisply ironed, energetic and, like yell leaders before him, completely devoted to Texas A&M. He loves the Spirit, the Aggie family, the traditions. And, not surprisingly, he's got a little story for you.

It was enthusiasm that compelled Martin to run for yell leader. He wanted to respond in leadership to what Texas A&M had provided him in experience. There's something special about Aggieland, he said. He's at home in a family of 48,000.

Martin's outpouring of gratitude landed him on the ticket. A majority of student votes handed him the opportunity. And now, he lives it.

Martin said he knows that people view yell leaders as "the face of A&M." He knows that no matter if he's on the court leading yells for volleyball or basketball, on the field yelling for the soccer team or running the sidelines of Kyle Field, Martin is representing Texas A&M. No matter



if he's in class, at dinner, studying at the library or walking campus, he is representing Texas A&M.

No matter where, "I represent A&M in everything I do," he said.

Being natural in that spotlight didn't come automatically, Martin said, but "it taught me how to be part of something greater than myself."

Texas A&M is different: Traditions bind current and former students together, he said. A con-

tinual willingness to serve keeps Aggies involved. Shared core values ensure that a student leaves better than he came. "And at Texas A&M we have the best fans anywhere," Martin said. "It's exciting to be part of that."

Leading yells is a yell leaders' main job—"That's our name," Martin said—but the role has some spring to it, as the yell leaders bounce out of the Aggie sporting arena and into public speaking roles.

The yell leaders' calendar is kept online. "We have one to two events a day," Martin said. Most anyone can request a formal visit by the boys in white: student organizations, former student groups, Aggie Mom Clubs. With regards to Martin's schedule, "it's kind of like you're on call all the time," he said.

Pair that with his Corps of Cadets responsibilities and school requirements, and Martin entertains full days. But those responsibilities are an opportunity, Martin said. He and the

other yell leaders have a role in the best University in the world, Martin said. "We're all five just normal students blessed with this position," he said. Because in his role, Martin can work to make Texas A&M just a little bit better. For a student loyal to the 12th Man, service is an outpouring of passion. 🍷



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# Learning to Lead

By Krista Smith '09

**T**he other education—the term is used to describe the less formal learning that goes on during an Aggie’s years at A&M. It’s the relationships formed, the organizations participated in, the life lived. But A&M’s other education may not be as casual as you would think, since it, too, is teaching and developing in students a trait that Aggies are known for: leadership.

The Memorial Student Center was filled to the brim, and Collin Laden '10 was wandering through the throng, pausing at tables manned by different student organizations during the annual Open House event. It was fall 2006, and Laden was a freshman trying to discover his niche in Aggieland. He paused in front of a series of tables recruiting for Freshman Leadership Organizations, or FLOs, and it was here that Laden found where his campus involvement would lie.

Like hundreds of other freshmen that year, Laden applied and was accepted into one of the organizations, MSC Freshmen In Service and Hosting, or MSC FISH. This year, he

chairs the group, an organization that he says gave him a home away from home when he needed it the most.

## Getting Them Early

A&M produces quality leaders through a process that is multifaceted and massive. The opportunities for a student to get involved in a leadership program are nearly endless—there are countless leadership organizations, conferences and even an on-campus living community dedicated to nurturing leadership. For many students, like Laden, the leadership bug bites in the form of a FLO—there are 12 FLOs recognized as student organizations, two of which were formally recognized this year.

“FLOs provide this fun experience that you’ll never get in another organization,” Laden said. “You meet people who are completely different from you, people you can trust in and learn from—these people are the next generation of leaders.”

And that’s something that James Kress '08 knows: the students he interacts with on a daily basis are going to lead into tomorrow. Along with two others, Kress serves as director of the Freshman Leadership Advisory Council, or FLAC. FLAC has existed for nearly as long as FLOs have, but the council was only officially recognized as an organization this year. The council consists of former FLO members—Kress spent his undergraduate years as a member, counselor and director in Aggie Fish Club—who have the experience necessary to guide, connect and unite the 12 FLOs. Kress doesn’t take this job lightly.

“I’m taking a step back and looking at different things like organizational issues, finances, budgeting

and all of the behind-the-scenes stuff,” he said. “We have a chance to help the FLO directors and keep them motivated and involved.”

Incoming students have an opportunity to become leaders from the moment they first step foot on campus, Kress said, and this is something that other schools can’t offer their freshmen.

“A&M gives you chances to get plugged into campus,” he said. “It gives you real experiences to prepare you for the world.”

### LEADing The Way

A freshman may have missed an application deadline or missed an opportunity to get involved, but spreading leadership to Aggies is a goal worthy of granting those students a second shot. Sophomore students have specialized leadership organizations, like MSC LEAD.

Stephanie Burns '09 is the 2008-09 chair of MSC LEAD, a position she earned after being selected as a member of the organization as a sophomore. For Burns, the organization has shaped her A&M experience.

“I’ve met my closest friends and I’ve learned that there are so many ways you can impact people,” she said. “That’s what drew me in.” LEAD has even influenced Burns’ future profession—she wants to make leadership a lifelong career.

Like the FLOs, LEAD is a structured group. Members are selected after an application process during their sophomore year; at the end of that year, those members can apply to be on different committees that will oversee the organization during the coming year.

MSC LEAD teaches leadership to its members through speakers and interactions. It is also service-oriented, as the group regularly participates in projects with the Boys & Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity,

local nursing homes and Whoop for Troops, a newly created service project that gathers care supplies for overseas soldiers. However, the organization’s flagship project is Aggies Reaching Out, or ARO, an outreach program that allows LEAD members to travel to parts of South Texas to promote a college education to middle school students facing economic struggles. After the program, the middle school students are invited back to the A&M campus for a weekend during the fall semester. ARO, which now makes visits

### It’s All In The Family

When Frank and Joanie Abbott’s middle and youngest sons wanted to attend Texas A&M in the 1980s, the couple didn’t know a thing about Aggie culture. But as both of their boys became heavily involved in the Corps of Cadets and other campus organizations, Frank and Joanie found themselves on campus more and more. They regularly connected with students in the MSC and were named Parents of the Year for 1987-88. But Frank and Joanie wanted to give back more to the University that had given



in McAllen and Corpus Christi, has plans to extend into the inner cities of Austin, Houston and San Antonio.

Projects like ARO—which is all student-organized—makes students excited about the work they are doing, especially when they realize the influence they are having on others, Burns said.

“It gives students opportunities to be leaders,” she said. “In fact, Texas A&M itself is unique in that fact. We don’t just learn it, we’re actually doing it. That’s what student activities really focus on, allowing students to be more confident in those leadership skills.”

their children so much.

Using their connections in the MSC, the Abbotts established the Abbott Family Leadership Conference, or AFLC, in 1995. The purpose of the conference is to promote and encourage sophomores and juniors to adopt a leadership style that is based on ethical and moral values, service and the importance of family, said Kelly Cox, the program’s director. In 1995, the conference was held once a year with 20 delegates, or students, participating. Today, the two conferences are held each year, each with 36 delegates and even more student directors who actually



help plan the conference's logistics.

The conferences—one is held in San Antonio, the other in Austin—are four-day affairs that feature roundtable discussions, guest panels, service projects and networking opportunities, all centered on the AFLC's four core values: ethics, service, family and morals.

"This is a full-family buy-in," Cox said. "Frank and Joanie and their three sons all participate in each conference. Frank and Joanie come to every one and barbecue—the family is actively involved in this, and they make sure to get to know all of the delegates."

The success and popularity of the conference is reflected by the hundreds of applications AFLC receives each year. Students of all majors apply, and after a screening and interviewing process, are notified whether or not they are selected to attend a conference.

"The Abbotts—and A&M—are here to plant these seeds," Cox said. "After that, people leave and go out in the world and use those leadership abilities. You don't just learn those skills, you have to experience them."

### **A Retreat To Grow On**

A three-day retreat in the woods of Navasota—it's just what student lead-

ers need to get to know one another before the start of a school year, said Ben Weiner '08, chair of the MSC Fall Leadership Conference.

The conference, now in its 56th year, was created by the student leadership within the MSC as a way to take themselves away from campus and administration. Now, the conference's major goal is to get student leaders of all calibers together to network and focus on goals and challenges facing them during the school year.

Weiner attended the conference for two years because of his involvement in the Corps of Cadets and the MSC. As chair of this year's conference, he is proof that the three days at Camp Allen are well-spent.

"The conference held a special place in my heart through the relationships I've built," he said. "It's interesting to look at the dynamics. You see these relationships form or strengthen that help unify student activities on campus, and that's what happened when I came."

The conference includes leaders from the wide array of student organizations. Everyone from the student body president to the head of A&M's sports car club signed up for this year's conference, Weiner said, and every connection students make

## **Your Dollars At Work**

The Association of Former Students annually invests in student leadership opportunities at Texas A&M. In 2008, almost \$400,000 in direct support for leadership development was provided to student government, MSC, the Corps of Cadets and other student organizations.

with one another only strengthens campus life.

There are teambuilding exercises, special speakers and group dinners, but it is the emphasis on focus groups that makes the leadership conference unique. Throughout the afternoon, students are separated into small focus groups, led by former students or A&M faculty and staff members. The groups give the students time to interact with one another in an intimate setting, Weiner said, fostering contacts that will benefit Aggieland for years to come, just as the students of yesterday impact the students of tomorrow.

"From day one in our history, you were always being prepared for the next step," Weiner said. "The University has changed and adapted, but it's held on to the fact that it's important to be prepared for whatever you go out and do."

Weiner said the University attracts students who want to get involved, and that helps cultivate the reputation of talented leaders that A&M has built through the decades.

"It's been here since the beginning, this prominence of leadership—we can probably blame it on the water," he said with a laugh. 🍷

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# From Aggieland to Iraq

{ Taking Leadership Lessons Into The Real World }

By Krista Smith '09

**H**e could see the fear in the Iraqi people's eyes, he felt it every time they jumped away from a U.S. soldier, and Capt. Josh Rowan '02 wanted more than anything for the Iraqis to feel safe and secure. After three months of planning, using the leadership theories and skills he learned at Texas A&M, Rowan helped formulate the Sons of Iraq program, a project that has halved the violence around Baghdad.

It started with an e-mail—a quickly typed message from the battalion commander, a note that reached the inbox of Capt. Josh Rowan '02 during a cool, clear night in Iraq during August 2007. Rowan, who served as a platoon leader during the early days of his tour of duty, had recently been promoted to a staff position as effects coordinator. And this e-mail, this message, would mark the beginning of a project that would not only

define the rest of Rowan's tour but also radically alter the security of a war-torn country.

Rowan, a field artillery officer with the 82nd Airborne Division, had his first taste of deployment when his unit was sent to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. The disaster relief efforts kept the division busy, but the government had another plan for the outfit. The United States was having a difficult time in Iraq;

mistakes were made, unforeseen circumstances had appeared and morale was down. A military strategy change was in order, and President George W. Bush announced just that in January 2007. Operation Together Forward, or what commonly became known as the troop surge, would begin as soon as possible. The 82nd Airborne was the first unit to go—they shipped out in February.

Rowan was stationed in Baghdad province, in the Adhamiyah Security District. The violence in the province caused the Iraqi people to live in fear, he said. The markets were empty, the citizens shrank away from U.S. soldiers, city governments weren't meeting, students weren't attending school. Rowan's unit was at a loss—how could they elevate the Iraqi's quality of life? The answer



Josh Rowan '02 confers with another platoon leader as they check on the status of the guards in the sector.



Rowan takes notes at one of the first meetings with local Iraqi leaders to discuss expectations and parameters for the Sons of Iraq program.

came from Marines out west in Anbar province.

“Local Iraqis were being overrun by Sunni extremists in that area,” Rowan explained. “The other Sunnis approached the military folks and said, ‘Hey, we want to establish a local security force to protect us from terrorists and extremists out here.’ That’s when the Anbar Awakening was formed.”

Word of the program and its eventual success spread across the country. Iraqis began approaching U.S. soldiers stationed in their areas, asking for a similar program in their respective areas. An army unit near Abu Ghraib began the second program before Rowan’s battalion commander, Lt. Col. Wilson A. Shoffner, was approached by a group from Baghdad province. The program would have to work

differently; Baghdad is home to a mix of Sunni and Shia people, while the earlier programs catered only to Sunnis. Shoffner knew such a program would benefit the area, and he knew just the man who could make it successful, a man who had the education and experience to handle this type of project: Rowan, an Aggie who had graduated with a degree in agricultural and leadership development, or ALED.

### A Leadership Laboratory

The ALED degree began in 1991, and its students learn theories of leadership, how to deal with groups, conflict management and how to develop and evaluate leadership programs.

Dr. Christine Townsend, a professor in the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications, said the major operates on the belief that Texas A&M is a leadership laboratory.

“We have so many student organizations here where students can experience leadership,” Townsend said. “Texas A&M gives you that safety net, where if you fail, you have something to catch you.”

The professors within the department are pragmatic with their

teachings, emphasizing the theory of leadership, but Townsend said the success of ALED graduates wouldn’t be possible if students didn’t blend what they were taught in the classroom with their campus involvement.

ALED graduates are people-oriented individuals who go on to work in communications, politics, extension work and youth development programs. But Rowan’s situation was unique, Townsend said, because his success developed out of a crisis situation. When Rowan sent Townsend an e-mail about his involvement with the Sons of Iraq, she knew his experience at the Texas A&M leadership laboratory had paid off.

“I was teaching a course on change when Josh wrote and sent me a news article about the program,” she said. “As a professor, I jumped up and down with joy and pride, but then turned around and took it right into the classroom and said, ‘Here’s a change process and how it works.’”

Leadership and heritage go hand in hand with the tradition at A&M, and it is showing current students what former students have accomplished in the real world that fosters their learning, Townsend said.

“They (current students) get more excited about what former students are doing out in their jobs,” she said. “So we take these examples and put them in our classroom, in our lectures, in our notes.”

In fact, it was a lesson about Abraham Maslow’s hierarchy of needs from Townsend’s class that Rowan remembered before he began organizing the Sons of Iraq program.

“What Maslow said was people are going to come from a lot of different places in life, but before they can move up, they have to have security—that’s the bottom of the hierarchy,” Rowan explained. “The population was ready to take this on. The people had to be at a turning

point, they had to be ready to say ‘We renounce violence’ and say ‘We renounce these people living among us.’ They were ready.”

## Birth Of The Sons Of Iraq

After receiving Shoffner’s e-mail, Rowan got right to work, contacting the other two local security programs.

“I just asked what worked, what didn’t work, what would you do different,” he said. “I didn’t want to reinvent the wheel; I needed to take their programs and adapt it to our area. Every program had to be different. That was my challenge.”

The idea was bold: take just the right mix of local Iraqis, give them training and supervision, collect data on the program, put them on the streets and eventually transition them into police officer roles.

Rowan started by contacting Iraqis who were trusted agents, local leaders who had cooperated with the unit before. Eventually, eight men—sheiks, business leaders, former military officers—were selected and assigned responsibilities for certain aspects of the overall program. In turn, the eight men talked to their communities, seeking men who were prepared to help secure their province.

Next, Rowan organized a sort of career day. Interested men showed up and were cleared in a terrorist database before being subjected to retinal and fingerprint scans, as well as having a digital photograph taken. From this new database, Rowan, his fellow soldiers and the eight Iraqi leaders reviewed each applicant before voting on each individual. Once a consensus was reached on which men to accept into the program, the training began.

“We took all the guys we had agreed on and put them through a three-day training program that we had developed,” Rowan said. “They

were trained in marksmanship, rule of law, how to search a vehicle, just a variety of different subjects.”

The men received a certificate and an ID card to verify their completion of training, and although the U.S. military couldn’t give the men weapons, they were authorized to have them when on patrol. Each man would earn \$300 a month for his duty, a decent wage, but one that was intentionally designed to be less than the monthly salary of an Iraqi police officer.

But this program was not going to be a militia—the goal was to make these security guards transition into police, supported entirely by Iraq and not by the United States. To ensure this, Rowan created a series of checkpoints throughout the city. Each checkpoint was staffed with guards 24 hours a day, and Rowan designed a hierarchal chain of

Muqtada al-Sadr. The Sons of Iraq have prevented IEDs, detained fugitives and stopped kidnappings. But what’s even better—the markets are thriving. Housing prices are up. The people are smiling, the children waving and asking U.S. soldiers for candy.

As more military units began adopting the program after Rowan’s success, the U.S. military standardized the programs into one project, making the Sons of Iraq a national entity. But most important, Rowan said, Sons of Iraq members are making the jump to becoming Iraqi police. To date, about 60 percent of those originally tapped in Rowan’s program have made the transition.

Rowan returned home to civilian life in June, but he follows the progress of the Sons of Iraq as much as he can given the sensitive security issues, hoping that others can learn

“They (current students) get more excited about what former students are doing out in their jobs,” she said. “So we take these examples and put them in our classroom, in our lectures, in our notes.”

authority within each checkpoint, something he had learned from his post as president of the Memorial Student Center.

Three months, 1,100 trained guards and \$3 million dollars later, the first Sons of Iraq members hit the streets, patrolling a city with a population of more than 1 million. And Iraqi life, Rowan said, has improved significantly. The program’s statistics show that violence is down more than 50 percent in the province, a statistic that Rowan also attributes to the troop surge and ceasefire agreement from

from the project.

“It’s not the last time an Aggie is going to have to come up with a creative solution to a problem,” he said. “Other people from A&M are going to solve huge, major issues. And A&M provides you with a live, living leadership, a learning laboratory, making you ready for that type of thing. A&M’s not like any other university—it’s a great place.”

Krista Smith '09 is a student writer and photographer for The Association of Former Students. To contact her, e-mail [KSmith09@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:KSmith09@AggieNetwork.com).

A photograph of a brown and white horse standing in a grassy field. In the background, there is a tall, light-colored building with many windows. The sky is clear and blue. The horse's fur is thick and shaggy, with a mix of brown and white patches. The building has a grid-like pattern of windows, and there are some trees in the distance.

‘Traditions are not born on the form of sudden revelation but rather as a gradually accelerating, expanding philosophical acceptance by all. And this tradition started in the most minute origin, and became nationwide, and it is a joy to me that it has happened.’

–George Comnas '35



# The First Lady of Aggieland

By Krista Smith '09

**I**t was Aug. 30, the first home game for the Aggies. The eyes of the more than 80,000 in attendance turned to the end zone. Sitting there was a panting dog, bedecked in maroon and white finery.

“Look! It’s her!”

“There she is! The new one! Isn’t she gorgeous?”

And when her image flashed on the giant video screen a few seconds later, an all-out roar of applause and whoops erupted.

After Reveille VII’s retirement was announced in February, it took a lengthy process to find the new mascot. But Reveille VIII was finally home. She has been formally installed as First Lady of Aggieland and continues a fabled legacy rich with tradition.



Reveille I marked the start of many traditions, including that a cadet has to give up his bed if Reveille wants to rest on it.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CUSHING MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

## Your Dollars At Work

The Association of Former Students is proud to support the tradition of Reveille, providing assistance with transportation and lodging when Reveille and her handler travel to out-of-town football games.



### Rev I: An Accidental Beginning

She's arguably one of the most recognizable dogs in the country, but the origins of how Reveille came to call Texas A&M home are murky. More than 30 people lay claim to bringing the mutt to campus in the 1930s, but some tales are more believable than others.

There's Warren Collins '35, who said he picked up a puppy after hitting it with his Model T. There's Bob Norwood '35, who said he and a roommate found the dog in a ditch by Walton Hall. Then there are the members of the class of 1934 who swear they picked up the dog on a march to the Brazos River, as well as Asa Gibbs '37, who said he and a friend found the dog in a ditch near Northgate. And then there's Eddie Chew, an assistant groundskeeper for the athletic department, who swore that the pup in question was born on his property south of campus.

But there's one Reveille origin tale that carries more clout than the others. George Comnas '35 said in his 1980 campus Muster speech that he was responsible for finding and caring for Reveille I. In a series of letters written to University officials after the speech, Comnas discusses specifics on when, where and how Reveille I was found.

Comnas, then a sophomore, and some friends were hitchhiking from Navasota to Bryan during a midterm break in January 1932; they arrived at a highway gate on the south side of campus, across from a railroad station. Comnas said cadets were disembarking from the station as

he and his friends arrived. That's when Comnas, flanked by 25 to 30 cadets, noticed a whimpering puppy lying alongside the road, "apparently hit by a slow moving train and knocked into the ditch." Comnas picked up the puppy—which he described as a fox terrier and mongrel mix—and brought her to his dorm room in Leggett Hall, raiding Sbisa Dining Hall for meat and bread to feed her.

A&M enforced a strict no-pets policy, so the puppy lived in a box under Com-

*She began making trips out of town with her cadets and quickly became a regular part of campus life, especially since she loved to march with the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band, much to the delight of football fans.*

nas' bed as his dorm neighbor, veterinary student Robert Anderson '35, monitored her health. In about four or five days, Comnas wrote, the puppy rebounded.

Comnas said he named the spirited dog Reveille since he was forced to put her into hiding before the bugler blew Reveille and Assembly each morning. The name was one that stuck, as "on her first day of convalescence, she rushed out into the street when we fell out for reveille and calisthenics," prompting the cadets to say, "Here comes our Reveille."

Comnas is also the only finder of Reveille on record to pick apart each of the other origin stories. In another letter to the University, Comnas argues why his version is the truth by stating

the faults of the others: the year and timing does not match up, the dog's physical description is wrong, the location of the discovery is not documented, the chronological events are out of order. Comnas does write, however, that some of the cadets who claimed to have found Reveille were actually present when she was discovered, but did not pick her up or care for her. To support his story, Comnas even had three fellow B Troop Cavalry cadets vouch for his tale in sworn affidavits.

George Comnas may swear by his story, but so do the others. Lisa Kalmus '93, curator of the Sanders Corps of Cadets Center, notes that although the plotlines of the various stories may be inconsistent, they all have a happy ending.

"In all of the stories, [Reveille] was incapacitated in some way and brought

back to campus," Kalmus said. "And then she just became theirs. The cadets took on mutual care for her, and everyone played a part in her life and was connected to her."

Reveille I, a black and white dog, roamed campus as she pleased and snuck into buildings, restaurants and dorm rooms. She began making trips out of town with her cadets and quickly became a regular part of campus life, especially since she loved to march with the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band, much to the delight of football fans. With World War II taking many Aggies overseas a few years later, the student body rallied to purchase Reveille's first official ranking as a general for \$100 in the K-9 unit of

the WAGS division of Dogs for Defense, an action that was open to dog owners in the United States to sponsor the war effort. Reveille I cemented her legacy after her role in the 1943 Aggie film *We've Never Been Licked* and was accepted as a tradition by A&M administrators.

But shortly after the film was released, Reveille I died in the A&M Veterinary Hospital, presumably of old age. Her casket, lined in maroon velvet, was purchased by H.S. Dan Boone '46 for \$15. With hundreds of people present, Reveille I, the campus queen, was laid to rest with full military honors on the north end of Kyle Field. And with that, a tradition that had grown to become a staple of the Aggie Spirit for more than a decade simply faded away.

### The Others

With Reveille I gone and World War II ending, any effort to find a new mascot was delayed. In June 1946, more than two years after Reveille I's death, Rusty, a 4-month old black mongrel puppy, was presented to the college by a student veteran. And so began an eight-year parade of different dogs as mascots, some endorsed by the student body, others simply adopted and loved by a single Corps unit. Rusty, who from all accounts was no fan of people and loud noise, lasted until November 1946, when Freckles, a cocker spaniel owned by Hal "Moon" Mullins '48, appeared at a football game. Because of the positive reaction of the mascot-deprived crowd to Freckles' boundless energy, *The Battalion* immediately launched a campaign to have the student body vote for Freckles as mascot—a vote that ended overwhelmingly in Freckles' favor.

Although Freckles had the same privileges as Reveille I, she was never noted as an official mascot by the college and after Mullins was commissioned in 1948, Freckles left campus with him. Tip and Tripod, a three-legged dog, appear in Corps history during this time, but each were cult figures only, as neither gained the acceptance

and love of the student body. Ranger I, Ranger II and Ranger III, the pet English bulldogs of former A&M President James Earl Rudder '32, were also popular campus figures, but were also never named official mascots. A Dalmatian named Spot came along after Freckles departed, but the accident-prone dog was remembered for falling off the top of Kyle Field (only one deck at the time) and breaking two paws. Shortly after recovering from these injuries, *The Battalion* reported in October 1950, Spot died after being hit by a car.

The student body finally had enough of the inconsistency. A&M needed a legitimate mascot, so in April 1951, the Corps of Cadets voted to find an official mascot who would be christened with the name Reveille. The student senate approved a motion to begin fundraising to procure a German shepherd, but was not able to raise sufficient funds to purchase the dog. That's when Arthur Weinert, Class of 1900, and his wife stepped in to help. The Weinerts presented Grady Smallwood '52, president of the senate, with a Shetland shepherd puppy in 1952. Reveille II had finally found her way to Aggieland.

### Rev II: A Dying Tradition Reborn

Reveille II was adopted by the cadets, and her original caretaker was the Aggie Band. However, today Reveille's needs are tended to by

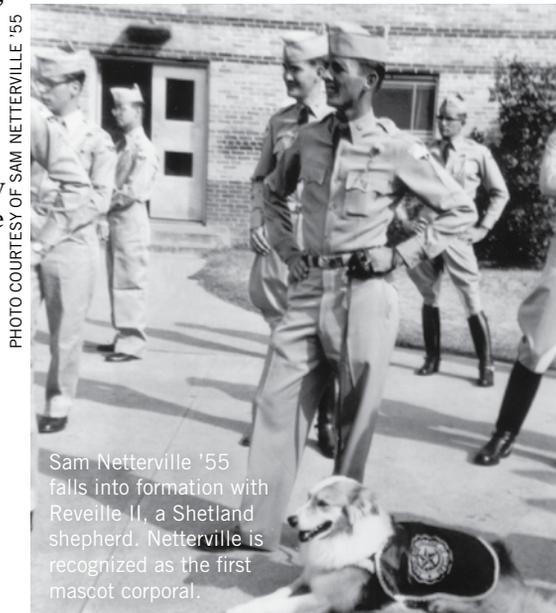


PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM NETTERVILLE '55

Sam Netterville '55 falls into formation with Reveille II, a Shetland shepherd. Netterville is recognized as the first mascot corporal.

1932-44



Reveille I

1952-66



Reveille II

1966-75



Reveille III

1975-84



Reveille IV

1984-93



Reveille V

1993-2001



Reveille VI

2001-08



Reveille VII

2008-



Reveille VIII

## The Truth About Miss Rev

### Q Do classes dismiss when she barks?

It depends. Some professors abide by this tradition; others don't. However, Sean Cook '10, mascot corporal for spring 2008, said he has heard of many a class getting dismissed by Reveille's bark. "It doesn't happen often," he said. "She's just like most college students when she goes to class—she hangs out for a little bit and then falls asleep."

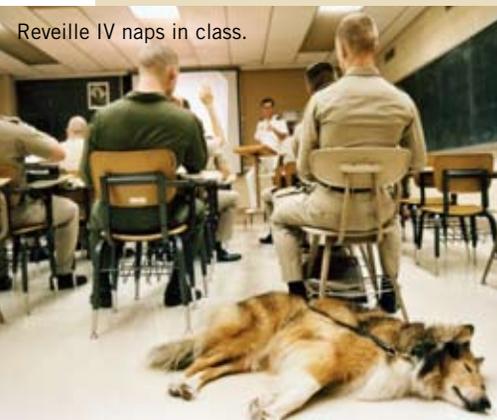


PHOTO COURTESY OF CUSHING MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

### Q Does her name appear on the class roster?

No. Reveille's name is not listed on a course's roster. But, Cook said, the mascot corporals alert their professors prior to the semester starting to let them know that Reveille will be coming to class regularly. In nearly all circumstances, the professors are accepting of Reveille's presence unless the class is not dog-friendly.

### Q Does she really have her own credit card, cell phone and ID card?

Yes. Reveille did have a credit card, but now, Cook said, her finances are handled a bit differently, making the credit card no longer necessary. She also has a fully functioning cell phone provided by the University, which the mascot corporal carries with him at all times. The phone is used to verify Reveille's appearances with officials in the Memorial Student Center, Com-

mandant's Office and hosts. Reveille also has a student ID card, identical to the ones issued to all current students. The ID card is activated, allowing Reveille access to her dormitory; however, she does not have any meal plans or AggieBucks on her account.

Reveille also has her own iPod. Rev VII's white Nano was a present from the class of 2010 on her birthday in 2006. With the back inscribed "Happy birthday, Miss Reveille, ma'am," it was loaded with only Aggie music, including songs played by the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band and by country singer Granger Smith '02. And yes, Cook said, Reveille does listen to her iPod's music, as her handler frequently plugs it into a speaker system for her and the rest of E-2 to hear.

### Q If she falls asleep on a cadet's bed, does he have to let her sleep there?

Yes. Probably one of the oldest traditions linked to Reveille, as it dates back to Reveille I, a cadet has to accommodate Reveille if she rests on his bed. Though Reveille VII usually preferred a closet or floor to a bed, Cook said there were quite a few times when he had to surrender his bed to the First Lady of Aggieland, especially when the two were traveling together.

### Q Does Reveille accompany her mascot corporal on dates?

Yes. Reveille goes anywhere and everywhere her handler goes, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If that's a date, then she's with him. If it's at a home or away Aggie football game, she's with him. And even if he's at George W. Bush's inauguration, you can bet she's at his side. The only time the mascot corporal does not have Reveille in his possession is if another member of E-2 is caring for the mascot.

Company E-2.

"That transition isn't clear," Kalmus said. "We just know that it happened since E-2 cares for her now."

But Sam Netterville '55 said he knows.

It was the summer of 1954. Reveille II had been on campus for two years and had had a litter of 10 puppies—the only A&M mascot to do so. Netterville's friend Larry Hill '56 was passing by the Memorial Student Center one day and noticed Reveille II on the drill field. The dog was unattended, and appeared hungry and dirty. Hill fed Reveille II breakfast in the MSC and then took the dog to class with him. Netterville met Reveille II as she journeyed to his and Hill's hometown



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM NETTERVILLE '55

of Beaumont throughout the summer. When the fall semester began, Netterville, a junior in A Company Quartermaster, kept the dog in his dorm room. A Company Quartermaster was renamed as Company E-2 when the Corps units were reassigned in 1959.

"She wasn't as prominent then as she is now," Netterville said. "I had to fight like hell to keep her in the spotlight because no one cared."

Netterville soon ran into the problem of affording Reveille II's upkeep. When he appealed to the dean of students, he was told Reveille II did not formally belong to the college or the state of Texas, making funding impossible. Netterville resorted to placing waste cans in Sbisa Dining Hall for cadets to throw their spare change into and accepting donations from his stepfather, C.N. Magee '34.

Unlike her namesake, Reveille II did not freely wander campus—she was kept on a leash and stayed at Netterville's side, though this activity was not endorsed by the college.

“She went to the movies, church, home with me, on dates,” he said. “She stayed in some of the finest hotels in Texas. I did all of this unofficially.”

And with this simple action, Sam Netterville spent the next two years unknowingly developing the modern tradition of Reveille.

Netterville escorted Reveille II to football games, where she would proudly march with the Aggie Band. She earned a reputation as a naughty girl, however, since she had a bad habit of relieving herself on the field. As a result, Aggies would place bets on which yard line Reveille II would choose each week. College officials ordered Netterville to keep the dog in her harness at a game vs. Rice in 1955 to avoid her usual restroom break, but with 70,000 Aggies yelling for their beloved mascot, Netterville let Reveille II ease out of her harness using a trick he had taught her.

“The crowd went wild,” he said. Reveille II did indeed take care of business, much to the delight of the crowd, and Netterville was able to talk himself out of punishment the following Monday.

Netterville was named commanding officer of A Company Quartermaster in fall 1955. Even though Reveille II still slept in Netterville’s room every night, he began delegating daily tasks of Reveille II’s care regiment to underclassmen because of his new responsibilities—another enduring tradition.

“Reveille II was recognized and adopted, but there wasn’t a university tie,” Kalmus said. “Sam Netterville codified the Reveille tradition and said, hey, this is how we’re taking care of her, this is whose responsibility it is.”

Netterville graduated in 1955, leaving Reveille II in the care of A Company Quartermaster, where she stayed until her death in 1966 from kidney failure and arthritis.

### Revs III Through VI: A Collie Affair

The reign of the collie was one that started out innocently enough. Reveille II was nearing the end of her life, and the University was looking for a replacement. Randy ’67 and Steve ’67 Andes knew they had the per-



Revs V and VI



Rev IV



Revs VII and VI

fect solution. The twin brothers called their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Husa of Fairbanks, Alaska, who had a litter of collie puppies on the way. And before Reveille III was even born, the student senate had already approved a measure to welcome the collie puppy as mascot.

But why the collie? The breed is known to be intelligent, obedient and good with children, making it a good fit for the new University. Another selling point was the breed’s recognition in pop culture, since the television show *Lassie* was in the middle of its near 20-year run.

“A&M was more recognized through academics and sports,” Kalmus said. “It brought about the need to set this standard image. That’s one of the reasons for sticking with the collie. She’s a recognizable, iconographic image.”

And so began the parade of collies: some slender and fine-boned, some with thicker coats, some with darker markings, but collies all the same.

“Reveilles III through VII have been the standard collie breed,” Kalmus said. “All of them had their own little quirks, but they weren’t that distinguishable from each other because physically they looked the same.”

No matter their nearly identical outward appearances, Reveilles III through VI each had unique personalities, preferences and distinctions. Reveille III, from all accounts, was loveable, but not the sharpest tool in the shed. Reveille IV was the first mascot to have her own expense account; before it was established, the mascot corporal and E-2 cadets paid for her upkeep. Reveille V had a habit of stealing erasers from the chalkboard or

Reveille VIII on her bed with her Bevo chew toy and 12th Man towel.



dry erase board as a professor lectured, delivering the stolen item to a student in the class. As for Reveille VI, she is known for one incident Aggies would like to forget—being stolen as a 4-month-old pup from the Dallas backyard of then-handler Jim Lively in 1993 by Neil Andrew Sheffield, a University of Texas at Austin student. A&M denied for nearly a week that Reveille VI had been stolen, but once the University admitted she had been dognapped, Sheffield tied her leash to a signpost at Lake Travis and tipped off authorities to her location. Slightly flea-infested, Reveille VI returned to College Station for a veterinarian examination and made a quick recovery to cheer on the Aggies at the 1994 Cotton Bowl.

All of the Reveilles have been laid to rest with full military honors surrounded by thousands of mourners at the north end of Kyle Field, with their noses and paws pointed toward the scoreboard. However, the Reveilles were exhumed in 1997 and moved to a temporary location in Cain Park for two years when the University expanded the north end of the stadium. When construction was complete in 1999, the Reveilles were returned to their new cemetery, which had been outfitted with a scoreboard since their original view was disturbed by the expansion.

After Reveille VI's early retirement in 2001 due to epilepsy and other ailments, Aggies met Reveille VII.

### Rev VII: A Cadet's Best Friend

A purebred hailing from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Reveille VII arrived in Aggieland in 2001. Coming to Texas A&M at the start of the new millennium piled more responsibilities on Reveille VII than any of her predecessors. She is the most traveled mascot in Texas A&M history.

A particularly spirited pup, Reveille VII made headlines when the decision was made to send her to obedience school because of her initial nervousness around crowds and loud noises. The dog—which her E-2 buddies don't hesitate to call the most beautiful that A&M had ever seen—also found her name in the papers when she bit then-mascot corporal Pierce Hunter '10 last fall when Hunter stepped on her tail during a run.

It wasn't the rumors of cadet-biting or

misbehavior that caused Dean Bresciani, then-vice president of student affairs, to announce in February that Aggieland's First Lady would be retiring. Rather, Bresciani said that University officials, E-2 cadets and veterinarians felt Reveille VII's high profile and busy lifestyle could speak for itself.

"There is no university mascot that is used as intensively as Reveille," Bresciani said. "She has earned this retirement."

Reveille VII may have lived a glamorous life on campus, but her retirement home in Bryan with caretakers Paul '66 and Tina Gardner is a welcome vacation, said Sean Cook '10, Reveille VII's last mascot corporal.

"You couldn't ask for two better people for her to be with," Cook said. "She's getting to calm down and lead the life of a dog. She can throw in the towel and say she had a good run."

## A Day In The Life Of Aggieland's First Lady

5:15 a.m.	Reveille and her handler wake up, get dressed and meet the rest of Company E-2 outside for a morning run.
6:30 a.m.	E-2 falls into formation after cleaning up following their run. Reveille waits and then leads the company into Duncan Dining Hall for breakfast.
7:15 a.m.	With breakfast over, Reveille and her handler return to his dorm room, where Reveille is served her own breakfast. Everything needed to properly care for Reveille—including food, brushes and toys—is kept in the mascot corporal's dorm room.
8 a.m.-4:15 p.m.	During the day, Reveille's schedule varies depending on her handler's classes and her social calendar. She accompanies the mascot corporal to his classes, plays outside on the Quad when she has a break and makes any appearances that have been scheduled for her.
4:30 p.m.	Reveille meets back up with all of her E-2 buddies, as the outfit prepares for an afternoon physical activity. If it's an intramural game, Reveille cheers her boys on; if it's another run, she runs along with them.
6 p.m.	E-2 falls back into formation, and Reveille leads them back to Duncan for dinner.
6:40 p.m.	Reveille and her handler return to his dorm room for the night. She is fed her dinner, and usually dozes while her handler works on homework.
10 p.m.	It's bedtime for Reveille and the mascot corporal. Both retire for the evening, ready to get a full night's sleep and start their routine all over again in the morning.



PHOTO BY MICKEY KEPLER '09  
TOP PHOTO BY JOHN BUSCH '11



Cook's experiences with Reveille VII are memories he will carry with him for the rest of his life. There was the time Cook returned to his dorm room to find Reveille sleeping in his closet with her head stuffed into one of his cowboy boots. Then there were all of the times Cook had to polish his shoes extra hard since Reveille had lovingly scratched their surface. Or there were countless times Cook took Reveille, who he described as a Frisbee enthusiast, outdoors for a game of fetch.

And there are more memories to come, as Cook regularly visits the Gardners' home to visit his former charge, who now lives with two other furry friends.

"It's hard to let go of her," he said. "She's definitely a man's best friend ... a cadet's best friend. She belongs to the Aggies, to A&M. She is the Aggie Spirit."

### Rev VIII: Not In Kansas Anymore

Julie Hinrichsen and Russell Dyke had every intention of keeping Tapestry Tenacious Juell, one of their prized collie puppies born May 23, 2006, at their Juell Collies kennel, as a show dog. In fact, the AKC-registered puppy, who Hinrichsen and Dyke called Kelly, had already adjusted to her life with the couple and their 11 other show dogs in Topeka, Kan.—she was even training with the couple's 14-year-old niece, Felicia Van Cleave. But that was before Hinrichsen and Dyke heard from friends at the Collie Club of America about Texas A&M's nationwide search for a new mascot.

The University's hunt for a mascot began in the spring, when a 16-mem-

ber committee was formed of students, former students, faculty, staff, as well as members of the Corps of Cadets, athletics and Federation of Texas A&M Mothers' Clubs. The committee had developed the following criteria that a candidate to become the future First Lady of Aggeland must meet: a medium to large size, healthy, outgoing personality, likes people and remains at ease in crowds, not fearful of noise, not highly reactive and positively motivated. The dog also needed to be female, at least a one-and-a-half years old and have a noble or collie-like appearance.

Hinrichsen and Dyke volunteered information to the University about 2-year-old Kelly, a sable and white dog who eventually wound up on the top of A&M's list of preferred mascot candidates, made up of six dogs from across the country. Still, Hinrichsen, Dyke and Van Cleave were hesitant to give her up until they took a trip to campus with Kelly in early August.

The couple had learned more about the Reveille tradition through Becky McClintock '98, a friend who had served as training director for the Texas Hearing and Service Dog Association, but it was the campus trip that convinced them Kelly would be perfect to fill Reveille VIII's shoes.

"We both knew of Reveille and thought, 'Wouldn't it be an honor to get involved in the tradition?' But we didn't truly grasp how big it was," Dyke said in a University press release. "If it doesn't hurt a little to give her up, Texas A&M is not getting a good enough collie for what the University deserves."

John Busch '11, the 2008-09 mascot corporal, knows he is experiencing a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The Beaumont native said he is excited about transitioning Kelly into the role of Reveille VIII and introducing her to campus life.

"It's definitely a transition," Busch said. "We're getting close, developing this bond, something she'll remember."

Reveille VIII is calm and has a great temperament, Busch said. It's what initially attracted the University to her, he pointed out.

"No barking, no aggression," Busch said. "She's a very calm dog. She wants to sit on the couch and not the floor. She's a sweet girl, and she has the ability to obey and the ability to learn."

Reveille VIII will be kept on a tighter leash, so to speak, than her predecessor. She will not participate in any event that is not University-sanctioned, and she will only be allowed to participate in two to three events a week, depending on her mental and physical condition as assessed by her caretakers. All of these are precautions taken to ensure the health and quality care of A&M's newest five-star general, Busch said.

And the more he's gotten to know Reveille VIII over the last few months, the more Busch said he knows the University made the correct selection—a decision that will satisfy the Aggie family.

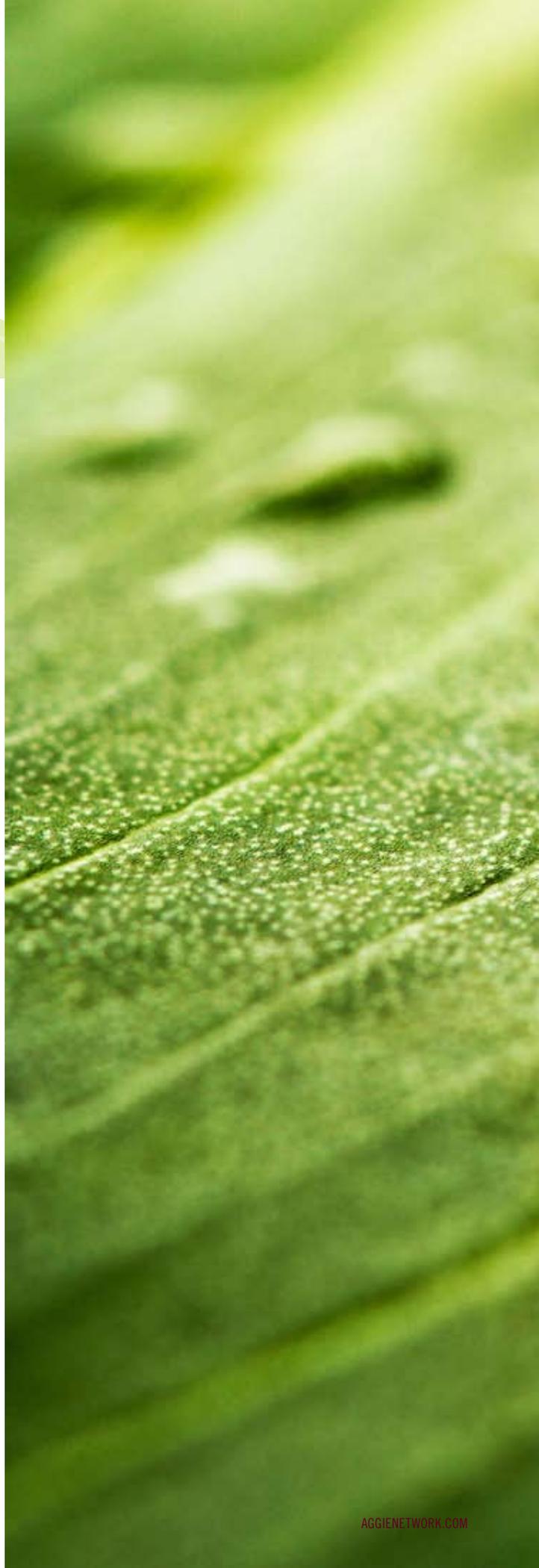
"She's a great fit," he said. "She's the right dog for Texas A&M." 🐾

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Reveille VIII



# *The* Science *of* Change

New Department Seeks Research-Based Solutions To Real-World Problems

By Stephanie Jeter '06

**I**t takes work to be the best.

You have to be stronger, faster and made of flexible steel to lead in the field of education. It's more than academia. Education has a way of jumping lanes, taking research to industry and then translating that industry to the world.

A recent merger in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is proving that by being open to change, a department can fill the void in both places. Because for as long as ecosystems require awareness, Texas A&M's Department of Ecosystem Science and Management will be there to lead and inform.





**T**he third floor of the west campus Horticulture Building is home to a jumble of sciences. There are cacti in a lab off the hallway undergoing experiments to make them easier to eat. Parked outside an office door, there's something that looks like a high-tech lawnmower on three wheels. Instead of whirling blades, the contraption sends and receives radio signals to show what's in the soil. A classroom downstairs is teaching rangeland and forest management principles.

The impressive mixture is a new concoction in teaching and science, said Dr. Steven Whisenant, department head of Texas A&M's Department of Ecosystem Science and Management.

It's hands-on learning, analytical-based teaching that's proving a wide-reaching result. Born out of an experiment ripe with uncontrollable variables, what emerged is an ecological story-tale.

### Starting At The Beginning

Once upon a time, the department on west campus was a come-one, come-all blend of range and forestry. The department went by one name—Rangeland and Forestry—and it stayed that way from 1946 to 1969. Soon, though, “the two split off,” Whisenant said. As two separate departments, they each pursued their own agendas for 38 years, focusing on and developing rangeland and forestry as different disciplines.

Time ticked by. “The world changed a lot during that 38-year trial separation,” Whisenant said. Time always brings two

characters together in a story, and slowly through the decades, the environment became something more to protect.

During that time, social, environmental and scientific changes emerged naturally to again pair rangeland and forestry.

The two departments—Rangeland Ecology and Management, and Forest Science—had more in common than they realized. So much so that in March 2007, the two became one once again.

“But rather than call it rangeland or forestry, and rather than make the department name both names like 60 years ago, we chose Ecosystem Science and Management,” Whisenant said.

It was a perfect union, he said. Strong in different ways, yet focused on the same thing. “There were far more similarities in the goals and objectives of the two departments than differences,” he said.

Plus, together, they could extend that collaboration of ideas to research, teaching and extension programs. Together they would join more faculty members to translate the research data to solve real problems.

The ultimate departmental marriage; they sealed it with a shared letterhead.

### Degrees Offered

The Department of Ecosystem Science and Management offers degrees in:

- Rangeland Ecology and Management
- Forestry
- Renewable Natural Resources
- Spatial Sciences
- Ecological Restoration

### A New Department

“We're a very diverse department as far as the kinds of people we have,” Whisenant said. “It's not just rangeland and forest. We have geneticists, ecologists, eco-hydrologists, restoration ecologists and social scientists that study policy and the human decision making process. We have scientists who work with endangered species and invasive species. We have those who work on aspects of global-change ecology. We have scientists who work with spatial sciences—things like geographic information systems, landscape ecology and remote sensing. And we have people who work on different kinds of land management.”

Ecosystem Science and Management has a lot.

As a result, Ecosystem Science and Management impacts a lot because the next step this newly unified department took propelled Texas A&M in a hundred different directions. The next step took the findings to the world.

There are more examples of the department going outward with its research

Graduate students collect soil samples at the department's La Copita Ranch near Alice, Texas.



PHOTO BY TOM BOUTTON



(Left) Graduate student Tony Ku, Dr. Robert Washington-Allen and Dr. Sorin Popescu prepare to do a three-dimensional laser scan in a rainfall exclusion shelter.

(Below) Savanna ecosystems are expected to be impacted due to future global change. Just how much impact is studied by using rainfall exclusion shelters.



PHOTO BY MARK TJOELKER

than the cactus in the lab has spines. Assistant Professor Dr. Robert Washington-Allen's office is on the third floor with the lab, but you can't keep his work in one place. His computer takes him to spots like Afghanistan, Ethiopia and Mongolia to put information in the hands of nomadic pastoralists, or nomads who travel with the herds.

Using two sets of satellite-generated data, Washington-Allen revealed that scientists can pinpoint how much vegetation grows in certain areas. Find the areas with the most vegetation, he said, and put it on a weekly radio program, and these roaming agriculturalists can take their herds to the best grazing spots.

Word of mouth can certainly work to a point, but the program Washington-Allen helps to offer sends information directly to those who need it.

"We're in a world with more and more problems, and we have to solve these problems and come up with applications to do it," he said. "We do have people who are gung-ho about coming up with solutions to these things then actually coming up with applications."



PHOTO BY MIKE MESSINA

The department doesn't just work internationally. The process of gathering information is easily altered and brought to the United States, he said. The same system of satellite weather data, satellite vegetation data and computer technologies are being mixed to help local ranchers and assist forage loss insurers.

The examples never end. Dr.

(Above) A portable gas analyzer is used to assess carbon uptake rates in several post oak seedlings.

(Left) Students participated in a prescribed burn at Jones State Forest to help maintain habitat for the red-cockaded woodpecker.

PHOTO BY MARK TJOELKER

Mark Tjoelker, an associate professor of forest ecology, is working to understand the implications of future climate and weather conditions. With global warming now scientifically accepted, Tjoelker said, they want to know how native ecosystems will respond.

"The entire planet is a living, breathing organism," Tjoelker said. Change some-



PHOTO BY MIKE MESSINA

## Departmental Definitions:

**Ecosystem** (ē'kō-sīs'təm) **noun:** a community of organisms together with its environment, functioning as an ecological unit. It's the trees and the soil, the rocks and minerals, plants and animals. It's a community of everything living and nonliving in an area.

**Rangeland:** (rānj-land) **noun:** land used or suitable for grazing livestock.

**Forestry:** (fôr'ti-strē) **noun:** the science of developing, caring for or cultivating forests, or the management of growing timber.

“This reorganization enriches our research programs by expanding our spatial and disciplinary scope and engaging a more diverse group of faculty. ... The department aspires to be a premier ecosystem science and management program that significantly impacts the science, education, and management affecting ecosystems.”

Dr. Steven Whisenant, head of the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management

thing, and the organism will be altered.

Using sheltered plots, Tjoelker can control the rainfall and temperature of a savanna ecosystem. The experiment continues. The result, he hopes, is to emerge with an idea of the future.

“It’s a really exciting opportunity,” he said. “Taking what we have and what former scientists have discovered—

throw it together and we can start to think creatively about the future.”

Another of Washington-Allen’s ventures offers market prices to nomadic pastoralists.

“This web collection shows individual market data,” Washington-Allen said. “The significance of this is, if you’re a pastoralist and you’re stuck out in the

middle of nowhere and you need to sell, that normally involves a middle-man telling you the market price.”

Being able to check market price ensures a fair price, he said. Scientists are working on making that service available by phone.

Then there’s the department’s focus on improving ecosystem management, Whisenant said. Once unheard of, community spotlights on environmental clue words like carbon footprinting, clean water practices, flood prevention and nutrient cycling are proving to be financially beneficial. “Our students manage or repair those damaged ecosystems to better serve the needs and goals of society,” he said.

Like most modern-day problems, Tjoelker said, remedies are complex and don’t come easily. The effective thing about the department is because of its diversity, “we have everyone needed to answer in one department,” he said. “It really is exciting to bring people together.”

## A New Way Of Teaching

It’s revolutionary, Whisenant said. For so long, collegiate and scientific thinking has focused on definitions and stiff solutions. Not anymore. “We now bring cutting edge science to real-world problem solving,” Whisenant said. Similar problems don’t always share identical solutions, he explained. Every ecosystem is different and decisions are often made by groups instead of one person. “Students still learn

(Below) Dr. David Briske leads students in a field tour to explore the effects of global climate change in post oak savanna ecosystems.

(Right) Dr. Rusty Feagin teaches a class in geographic information systems for research management.



(Above) Students assess biodiversity in an old-growth forest in the Angelina National Forest.

(Left) Dr. Andrzej Jagodzinski measures light interception in a forest stand in Poland as part of an international collaborative research project with Texas A&M University.

forestry or range management and understand how natural systems operate, but we're incorporating collaborative decision-making skill into our education," he said.

Dr. Xinyuan Ben Wu, a professor in the department, has seen the change, and has even been part of it.

"The objective of the course has evolved over the years," Wu said. "Traditionally we focused on knowledge. We want them to have a general knowledge about what ecology is about, but over the years we've become more and more interested in inquiry and the student's ability to learn."

Because when students understand the process of generating knowledge, they can better solve problems. And when problems are solved better, the result is better.

"There's an increasing interest in the future," Wu said. People go out into nature and find pristine environments that they want to protect, "but we also want to improve what we already have," he said. "Ecological resources have become an emerging area."

Gone are the days of just describing problems in the environment,

Whisenant said. "We attract many students who really want to make a difference in the world. They want to be proactive and address those problems, make the world a better place."

Students who pass through the degree program are equipped with the tools needed to positively impact ecosystems. The department's vision of teaching science-based problem solving addresses real-world quandaries. Texas A&M has the expertise; it's the students who are taking it to the world through practice.

With knowledge from classroom and lab settings, students "will go out and be leaders in different fields," Wu said. "That's where education really works. You're doing something where a light sparks. That's what lasts. That's what will stick."

### Leading In Education, Leading In Industry

The world is a little more complicated now, Whisenant said.

It's not just what you want to harvest from the land. "As we manage lands to get a product, we have opportunities and obligations," he said. There's always someone downstream.

"We have an obligation to our students and society to prepare them for the future," Whisenant said. He's pleased with what's happened so far.

After all the teaching and all the research hours, the question left is, has the department done it? Are they on the right track to really effect change?

"Oh, yes, without question," Whisenant said. "We are a leader in our field."

As the leader, Whisenant knows others are watching, "so we have a lot to do." 🌱

Stephanie Jeter '06 is a reporter, writer and photographer for *Texas Aggie magazine*. To contact her, e-mail [SJeter06@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:SJeter06@AggieNetwork.com).

# AGGIE 100

**M**AYS BUSINESS SCHOOL'S CENTER for New Ventures and Entrepreneurship created the Aggie 100 to identify, recognize, and celebrate the success of the 100 fastest-growing Aggie-owned or Aggie-led businesses in the world. The program also serves as a mechanism for Aggie entrepreneurs to share real-world experiences with today's students.

Each year the Center seeks nominations for the Aggie 100 and invites each nominated company to apply for inclusion in the list. Applicants are ranked by compound annual revenue growth percentage over a two-year period, and the 100 fastest-growing applicants are named to the year's Aggie 100 list. To qualify, each nominated company must be Aggie-owned or -led,

be at least five years old and have had revenues of at least \$100,000 in 2005. The companies must also operate in a manner consistent with the Aggie Code of Honor.

The 100 companies named to this year's list participated in ceremonies on campus recognizing their achievements. On Oct. 30 recipients were welcomed with a reception at the Hagler Center and then individually recognized at a luncheon at the Zone Club at Kyle Field the next day. Many Aggie 100 leaders also gave back by speaking to student groups on campus.

Class years ranging from 1959 to 2005 are represented among the leaders of this year's Aggie 100. Four international companies made the list,

with businesses in Mexico, France and Thailand represented. John Moore Services, founded in 1965, is the oldest firm on the list.

The annual revenue growth rate cutoff to make this year's Aggie 100 list was 25.91 percent, down slightly from last year's 30.07 percent.

These successful Aggie entrepreneurs represented on the Aggie 100 embody the core values of Texas A&M, and reflect the University's mission of developing leaders of character dedicated to serving the greater good. The Association of Former Students is proud to partner with the Center as a sponsor of the Aggie 100, and salutes the achievements of these Aggies. 🌟



# Building to the Top

Tesoro Founder Melded Entrepreneurial  
Streak With Skills Learned At A&M

By Krista Smith '09

**L**IKE MANY AGGIES BEFORE HIM, Clay Schlinke '94 saw a need in the world, a need that he could fulfill: families wanted to live in high-quality homes that were affordably priced. And so by using his degree in management with a specialization in entrepreneurship, along with a little Aggie ingenuity, Schlinke founded Tesoro Homes and Development Ltd. in 2002.

The success of Tesoro Homes has shown Schlinke that his vision was correct. His business landed in the No. 1 spot atop the 2008 Aggie 100 list.

Schlinke was working at Access Real Estate Investments after graduation when he saw the opportunity to start his own business. By using creative and aggressive financing, Tesoro Homes, which is based in San Antonio, provides affordable homes for any

buyer. Schlinke expanded the business in 2004 to include multifamily properties in the south central area of Texas. Plans are already in the works to expand the young company nationally.

A second-generation Aggie, Schlinke knew that Texas A&M produced leaders and innovators unlike any other college. And now, the University is recognizing Schlinke for his accomplishments, a product of an Aggie education.

*Texas Aggie caught up with Schlinke recently to discuss his thoughts on Texas A&M, the Aggie 100 and the keys to his success.*

Q&A

**TEXAS AGGIE:** Why did you choose to attend Texas A&M?

**CRAIG SCHLINKE:** My father, Dr. James Schlinke, like a lot of fellow Texas Aggies' fathers, graduated from Texas A&M, Class of 1967. I grew up on a ranch in West Texas and just always knew I wanted to be a Texas Aggie. The bond one forms with fellow Aggies is important and everlasting. For these reasons, my children also want to be Texas Aggies.

Q&A

**TA:** Where did the idea for Tesoro Homes come from?

**CS:** I graduated in 1994 and moved to San Antonio. I started to purchase and rehab older homes upon arrival and was very successful. In the early 2000s that market started to tighten, so I looked at building new single-family homes. I realized that I could build a new single-family home and be able to market that home to be competitive with the older homes I was doing. In 2003, Tesoro Homes built our first home and then completed a subdivision in El Paso. While working in El Paso, we began to work with an investment group out of state who purchased our last 40 houses. This created a spark, and that is when I realized the huge demand from investors for townhomes and fourplex buildings in appreciating markets.

Q&A

**TA:** How did your education at Texas A&M benefit your career?

**CS:** Being able to take specialty courses for entrepreneurship through the management program benefitted me greatly. It helped me better analyze my business and industry and gave me the confidence to know that I would be successful.

Q&A

**TA:** How has the Aggie Network impacted your business?

**CS:** To sum it up, being a Texas Aggie is a great honor. All fellow Aggies feel this way and we all have a strong respect for our great University. I feel we are all family. Throughout my career I have met many an Aggie, either at banks, vendors, etc. ... and every time I meet another fellow Aggie, I know that I am going to get the best service and respect possible. By being an Aggie, I established some of my first lines of credit with banks strictly on that common Aggie bond. I feel that by being an Aggie, this has helped me more than any other single thing to be a success.

Q&A

**TA:** What does being named No. 1 in the Aggie 100 mean to you?

**CS:** What a fantastic honor! I felt that I would be included in the group but had no idea that I would come out No. 1. Earlier this year, I received the award for being the No. 1-rated company in San Antonio for growth, but the No. 1 rating in the Aggie 100 far surpasses that award. I am really proud of my organization. I value my degree and the Aggie family so much. Receiving this honor has been amazing, and I appreciate it more than words can say.

Q&A

**TA:** Do you have any advice to pass along to Aggies looking to start their own businesses?

**CS:** Dream big and stay focused. You really can achieve whatever your goals are. All it takes is hard work and dedication. You already have a leg up on your competition because you are a part of the Aggie Network. Use that to your advantage and once again be determined, dedicated and never stop dreaming. Gig 'em!



Emergency teams from The Miner Corp. spent weeks in Houston helping businesses prepare for Hurricane Ike and—after the storm passed—get ready to reopen. With power down throughout most of Houston, Miner rented seven generators, and crews brought in hundreds of sheets of plywood, fuel, food, water and grills to help the city of Houston and the businesses Miner serves.

# Moving Forward

Core Values Guide The Miner Corp.

By Stephanie Jeter '06



**T**HE STATS ARE IMPRESSIVE. The Miner Corp. boasts of 58 consecutive profit quarters.

Four times on the Aggie 100, and for the second year in a row, five of its businesses were featured on the Inc. 5000, a listing of America's fastest-growing private companies.

What's The Miner Corp.'s secret?

"It starts with the core values," said Phil Miner '81, CEO and namesake.

While at Texas A&M studying ocean engineering, the businessman picked up a few irreversible notions. One, he is definitely a "water person," Miner said. His fascination with the ocean remains, even as he works to expand his business, headquartered

in north-central San Antonio. Two, the Aggie Ring represents more than a kinsmanship. And three, when united by a set of core values, a group of people or a company can proceed full-steam toward a goal with priorities still in line.

The Miner Corp. works in material handling. It's a murky description for a company whose work is found everywhere across North America.

Miner said, "If you think about any retail store or a warehouse or manufacturing plant—go to the back of those buildings and they all have loading dock areas."

Walk around back and you're welcomed into Miner Corp.'s kingdom. Anything a company needs to assist the flow of materials in and out of a building—fork lifts, pallet jacks, docklevelers, commercial doors, trash

## Miner Facts:

- Started in 1994 as a local business and gained national attention in 2006.
- Focuses on helping Fortune 500-class companies.
- Offers 24/7/365 support.
- Reported a growth rate of 578.7 percent for 2002-05.
- Employees: 155-plus.
- Associates: 250-plus.
- Countries serviced: US, Canada, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and Mexico.
- Number of customers: 4,000-plus.
- Oversees subsidiary companies in San Antonio, Houston, Dallas, El Paso, Phoenix and Orlando.

compactors—Miner Corp. offers.

Miner's biggest seller, however, is an intense sense of service that comes with each product. It's bolstered by Miner's four core values: build trust through open dialog and candor, a code of honor, a first instinct to respond to the best interests of the customer, and a belief in the golden rule.

It's a method of successful industry that Miner derived from Texas A&M's core value system.

"It transcends Aggieland," Miner said. Employees feel part of something "bigger than themselves" when it's built around a core set of values, especially when that set of values points to a relationship with people.

"When you think about the traditions at A&M and the overall A&M experience, they are also supported by a set of core values and beliefs," he said.

Miner said his employees don't become members of The Miner Corp. workforce just "for the paycheck. They want to genuinely help others, to be heroes," he said. "That's where their passion lies."

This focus correlates seamlessly with Texas A&M's core value of selfless service.

A&M's value of loyalty can be found in the company's relationships with return

customers. Miner said the core value of leadership gives employees confidence to follow, and integrity is the base of always doing what's best for the customer.

Excellence is the most public part of the Texas A&M's core value crossover. Of the list of Fortune 500 companies, The Miner Corp. serves 291 of them with their material handling needs.

And of Miner's four core values, he ranks respect, by virtue of the golden rule, up at the top, just like Texas A&M.

Miner's core values and A&M's core values melt into a reflection of each other. It makes for good business, he said. "Because what ultimately drives long-term successful companies—those companies that transcend a single leader, business concept or idea—is it really comes down to what you stand for," Miner said.

So, they talk about core values in training; it's asked about in job interviews; the values are celebrated. They're even posted on the wall.

"I tell our people continuously, that if you ever wonder what to do, look on the wall. Go to our core values. If you use those as your guide, everything will be fine," he said.

"That's what Texas A&M graduates are taught to do. They are taught to be values-based decision makers and leaders." 🍎

Stephanie Jeter '06 is a reporter, writer and photographer for *Texas Aggie* magazine. To contact her, e-mail [SJeter06@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:SJeter06@AggieNetwork.com).

Miner's biggest seller, however, is an intense sense of service that comes with each product. It's bolstered by Miner's four core values: build trust through open dialog and candor, a code of honor, a first instinct to respond to the best interests of the customer, and a belief in the golden rule.



Rank	% Growth Rate	Company Name	Industry	Founded	Management	Location
1	261.51	Tesoro Homes and Development, Ltd.	Construction	2003	Clay Schlinke '94, owner	San Antonio
2	258.20	Latshaw Drilling & Exploration	Oil & Gas Drilling Contracting	1981	Trent Latshaw '75, president, owner, founder	Tulsa, Okla.
3	225.03	D&S Factors LLC	Transportation/Finance	2003	Scott Moscrip '93, CFO, owner, founder	New Plymouth, Idaho
4	164.90	Hotslings, Inc.	Manufacturing	2003	Kristen DeRocha '96, CEO, owner, founder	Dallas
5	138.25	Desert Industrial X-Ray, LP	Oil & Gas	1999	Douglas Frey '77, CEO, owner	Odessa, Texas
6	133.79	River Place Golf Group L.P.	Golf Resort	2001	Todd Routh '86, president	Austin
7	128.17	Earth Information Technologies, Corp.	Information Systems	1999	Dan Rooney '92, CEO, owner, founder	Madison, Wisc.
8	118.76	Premier Placement Media, LTD	Online Advertising	2001	David Gedeon '96, president, owner, founder	Cypress, Texas
9	103.50	Project Solutions International (Thailand) Company Limited	Information Technology	2001	Bob Albers '87, managing director	Bangkok, Thailand
10	97.75	Next IT Corporation	Software	2002	Fred Brown '84, president, CEO, founder	Spokane, Wash.
11	93.19	eInstruction Corp.	Technology	1981	Darrell Ward '73, CEO, founder	Denton, Texas
12	91.29	Brazos Technology	Information Technology	2000	Michael McAleer '92, president, owner, founder	College Station
13	84.49	AQWA, Inc	Wastewater Management Solutions	2002	Steve Barry '94, president	Wilson, N.C.
14	77.00	Mackey & Tanner LLC	Executive/Professional Recruiting	2001	Jeff Mackey '87, owner, founder; Frank Tanner '87, owner, founder	Houston
15	75.12	Computer Innovation Services, Inc.	Software/Consulting	1997	Kenneth Robinson '93, CEO, founder; Donavan Wheatfall '98, COO, founder	Irving, Texas
16	72.85	Olive Barn Inc.	eCommerce Retailer	2000	Jacqueline D'Elia '05, president, CEO, owner, founder	Houston
17	72.22	Green Grass Studios	Animation	2003	Brian Cole '99, owner, co-founder; Jesse Sandifer '00, owner, co-founder	Dallas
18	69.72	REDE, Inc.	Organizational Support Services	1998	Hubert D. Glover '92, president, owner, founder	Metairie, La.
19	68.67	Cypress Advisory Services Ltd., LLP	Wealth Management	2003	Kurt L. Box '99, principal, CIO, founder	Houston
20	67.35	Elements Of Architecture, Inc.	Architectural Services	1996	Deborah Fulwiler '86, president, owner, founder	Fort Worth
21	67.29	JWA Financial Group, Inc.	Financial Analyst	1998	James N. Whiddon '82, CEO	Dallas
22	65.39	Allstar Recycling	Metal Recycling	1987	Cody Graham '99, general partner, owner	Pinehurst, Texas
23	64.75	Fat Tire Bike Tours / City Segway Tours	Tourism	1998	David Mebane '98, president, owner	Paris, France
24	64.11	Chaparral Energy Inc	Exploration and Production	1988	Mark A. Fischer '72, CEO, president, founder	Oklahoma City
25	61.93	EnerSys Corporation	Oil & Gas	1994	Russel W. Treat '80, president, founder	Houston
26	59.75	CES Environmental Services, Inc.	Environmental & Industrial Services	1998	Matt Bowman '93, president, owner	Houston
27	58.59	New Tech Engineering	Petroleum Engineering	1998	Larry Cress '76, president, CEO, founder	Houston
28	58.23	JaCody, Inc.	Commercial Construction	1994	W.A. McKean '69, president, founder	College Station
29	58.17	CENTAURI Technologies, LP	Engineering	2001	Kyle Killebrew '83, president, owner, founder	Pasadena, Texas
30	57.38	Gladstone Inc.	Information Technology	1996	Michael Hnatt '91, president, owner, founder	Calvert, Texas
31	57.05	Clarus Imaging of Houston	Medical	2003	Taseer Badar '95, CEO, owner, founder	Houston
32	56.79	John Moore Services, Inc.	Residential Multi-Services	1965	Donald G. Valentine '69, president, owner	Houston
33	56.78	Meridian Constructors, L.L.C.	Commercial Construction	1999	Kyle Cook '91, president, owner, founder; Mike Galvin '77, vice president, owner	Houston
34	55.78	The Liere Agency	Insurance	1992	Leslie G. Liere '84, president, owner, founder	College Station
35	54.66	Intercontinental Consultants, LLC	Financial Services	1997	John Kauth '77, CEO	San Antonio
36	53.00	Compliance Strategies & Solutions, Inc.	Engineering Services	1997	Elizabeth M. Drake '87, president, owner, founder	Houston
37	52.88	AgniTEK	Computer Technologies	1996	David Ohendalski '98, president, owner; Antonio Ortiz '99, director of operations, owner	College Station
38	52.16	Layne's of College Station	Restaurant	1994	Mike Garratt '98, owner	College Station
39	51.98	Achilles Group	Human Resources	2002	JP Magill '89, president	Houston
40	50.46	Advanced Inspection Technologies	Advanced Non-Destructive Inspection	2003	Michael Beard '90, managing partner, founder	Spring, Texas
41	50.00	Oprex Surgery Center of Houston	Medical	2003	Taseer Badar '95, CEO, owner, founder	Houston
42	49.58	Miner Fleet Management Group	Industrial Services	2001	Phil Miner '80, CEO	San Antonio
43	49.36	TDI-Brooks International, Inc.	Oceanographic Research & Services	1996	James M. Brooks '70, president, owner, founder; Bernie B. Bernard '78, vice president, owner	College Station
44	49.22	Intelligent Logistics	Transportation	2002	Tim Miller '93, president, CEO, owner, founder	Round Rock, Texas
45	49.09	Zerenity Sleep Lab of Houston	Medical	2003	Taseer Badar '95, CEO, owner, founder	Houston
46	48.93	Marquee Tent Production, Inc.	Event	2000	Damon W. Holditch '65, vice president, founder	Austin
47	48.91	Ranch House Designs, Inc.	Communications	1999	Rachel Williams '01, president, owner, founder	Wharton, Texas
48	46.87	Industrial Solutions de Mexico	Information Technology	1994	Juan Manuel Lamparero '87, CEO, owner, founder	Naucalpan, Estado de Mexico, Mexico
49	46.39	Mustang Engineering	Energy	1987	Steve Knowles '84, president	Houston
50	45.93	Routh Development Group	Real Estate	1994	Todd Routh '86, manager, owner; Rob Routh '78, vice president, owner; Stephanie Routh '93, vice president, owner; Clay Routh '87, vice president, owner	Austin
51	45.88	Dailey Electric, Inc.	Electrical Contractor	2003	Chris Dailey '93, president, owner	College Station
52	45.47	MacResource Computers	Computer Hardware/Repairs	1994	Carolyn Harwell Turk '84, owner; Buckley Lee Turk, Jr. '83, general manager	Bryan
53	42.92	Catapult Systems Inc.	IT Services	1993	Sam Goodner '90, CEO, owner; David Jacobson '90, CTO, owner; Liam Collopy '96, GM, founder; Andrew Montz '90, GM, founder; Mike Albe '88, controller, founder	Austin
54	40.76	Vanguard Fire Systems, L.P.	Construction	1998	Cynthia Richter '84, managing partner, owner; Rance Richter '83, vice president, owner	Pflugerville, Texas
55	39.67	Slay Engineering Co. Inc.	Civil Engineering Consulting	1983	Michael M. Slay '71, president, owner	San Antonio

Rank	% Growth Rate	Company Name	Industry	Founded	Management	Location
56	38.44	Cabinrock Investments, L.L.C.	Real Estate & Construction Services	2002	Richard A. Cashen '02, president, owner, founder	Plano, Texas
57	37.75	Energy Systems Group, LLC	Energy	1994	James Adams '76, president, founder	Newburgh, Ind.
58	37.56	Command Commissioning, LLC	Commercial Construction Consulting	2002	Ken Meline '82, president, founder; John Hatcher '82, senior vice president, founder	Irving, Texas
59	37.18	RE/MAX Town & Country	Real Estate	1996	Shane T. White '96, owner; Paige White '96, owner	Liberty Hill
60 (tie)	37.01	CAPSHER Technology, Inc.	Consulting	1994	K. Stefan Capps '82, president, owner	College Station
60 (tie)	37.01	DSI - American Manufacturing	Manufacturing	2000	Angelica Diaz-Hall '80, chairman of the board; Gregory E. Hall '82, president, CEO, owner	Boling, Texas
62	36.59	ZT Investments, Inc.	Investments	2001	Taseer Badar '95, CEO, owner, founder	Houston
63	36.04	Omega Atomizers / SDA Engineers, LTD.	Spray Dry Atomizing	1997	Kenny Rogers '90, vice president, founder	Argyle, Texas
64	35.59	Knowledge Systems	Oil and Gas Software and Services	1985	James Webster '92, CEO; James Bridges '59, owner, founder	Sugar Land, Texas
65	35.37	Miner Houston, Ltd.	Industrial Services	2000	Phil Miner '80, CEO	Houston
66	35.19	Workman Commercial Construction Services, Ltd.	Commercial Contracting	1991	Kyle D. Workman '97, president, CEO, owner; Paul D. Workman '73, secretary, owner, founder	Austin
67	35.10	House of Forgings, Inc.	Industrial Distribution	2001	Robert M. Borsh '03, president, CEO	Houston
68	35.02	Speech Privacy Systems	Privacy / Acoustics	1998	Bruce Davidson '78, principal, owner, founder	Plano, Texas
69	34.95	Lake Highlands Financial Services, LP.	Tax	2002	Ronald J. Mussett '94, senior partner, owner	Dallas
70	34.92	DrawWorks, L.P.	Energy	1996	Albert Mullins '60, president, owner, founder	Cypress, Texas
71	34.50	Team Housing Solutions	Corporate Housing	1995	Mandy Cavanaugh '90, president, CEO	New Braunfels, Texas
72	34.08	RBSI Consulting Inc.	Consulting and Staffing Services	1995	Damon Veazey '86, CEO, owner, founder	Carrollton, Texas
73	34.03	Specialty Appliance, Inc	Retail	1999	Burton Stevens '97, chairman	Greenwood Village, Colo.
74	33.78	BakerRisk	Engineering	1984	Quentin A. Baker '78, president, owner	San Antonio
75	33.43	Hollinden I professional services marketing	Marketing	1993	Christine M. Hollinden '87, principal, owner	Houston
76	33.40	Collins, Basinger & Pullman	Legal	1994	Michael J. Collins '74, director, owner; Kyle G. Basinger '81, director, owner	Dallas
77	33.18	BJ's Restaurants, Inc.	Restaurant	1978	Jerry Deitchle '73, chairman, CEO	Huntington Beach, Calif.
78	32.75	Hill Country Electric Supply, LP	Electrical Equipment Distributor	1998	David Inman '82, partner, founder; Wayne Blasingame '78, partner, founder	Austin
79	32.38	Heritage Wealth Mgmt	Wealth Management	2002	Daniel Michalk '92, president, owner, founder	Houston
80	32.37	LiquidFrameworks	Software Development	2001	Travis Parigi '94, president, owner, founder	Houston
81	32.08	Sterling Structures, LP	Commercial Construction	1997	Jay B. Carlton '81, president, owner	Houston
82	32.02	Internet Truckstop LLC	Transportation	1995	Scott Moscrip '93, president/CEO	New Plymouth, Idaho
83	31.74	Barhorst Insurance Group, LTD	Insurance and Financial Services	1993	Warren E. Barhorst '88, CEO	Houston
84	29.76	Schipul - The Web Marketing Company	Web Marketing	1997	Ed Schipul '90, CEO, owner, founder	Houston
85	29.74	Acequia, LP	Irrigation Management	2001	Rodger Timothy Wiley '73, partner, owner, founder; Kenneth W. Cook '80, partner, owner, founder	Austin
86	29.69	Mechanical Reps, Inc.	Construction/HVAC	1974	Larry R. Bloomquist '79, president, CEO	Austin
87	29.57	Bray International, Inc.	Control Valves	1986	Craig Brown '75, president, CEO, owner, founder; David Gent '75, senior vice president, owner	Houston
88	29.56	Capstone Commercial Real Estate Group, Inc.	Commercial Real Estate	2000	Steven R. Burris '90, co-founder, principal	Addison, Texas
89	29.43	Gas Certification Institute	Oil and Gas	2000	Russel W. Treat '80, president, founder	Houston
90	29.17	Frontier Truck Gear	Manufacturing	2001	Roscoe B. Marshall, Jr. '81, president, CEO, founder	Center Point, Texas
91	29.04	Bury+Partners, Inc	Engineering	1984	Paul J. Bury III '78, president, owner, founder	Austin
92	28.87	Land Design Partners, Inc.	Landscape Architecture	1996	Daryl Benkendorfer '82, president, owner, founder; Paul J. Bury III '78, owner	Austin
93	27.41	Gill Services, Inc.	Petroleum/ Energy	1977	Gay Gill Wathen '80, president	Houston
94	27.40	Commercial Insurance Solutions Group, LLC	Insurance	2003	Justin Trail '93, president, owner, founder; Chris Austin '91, partner, owner	Dallas
95	27.26	OTA Compression, LLC	Oil & Gas	2002	Grant Swartzwelder '85, president, owner, founder	Irving, Texas
96	27.10	Margarita Naturalmente, S.A. de C.V.	Natural Health Products	2000	Gordon Ivan Townsend '81, director general, owner, founder	Mexico City
97	26.65	AFS Environmental, Inc.	Environmental Construction	1994	Stephanie Long '82, president, owner, founder	Cedar Park, Texas
98	26.02	FiberOptic Bulbs Incorporated	Medical Distribution and Service	1996	William Keith Przybyla '86, president	Tomball, Texas
99	25.97	Zajonc Corporation	Consulting	2000	Kyle D. Barrington '87, CEO, owner, founder	College Station
100	25.91	AGS Scientific, Inc.	Equipment Distribution	2003	Jason P. Gray '96, president, founder	College Station



The parking lot is expanding, and access for the disabled will improve. On the right are the foundations for new quote walls; each of the six walls will reflect an A&M core value.

# Building *the* Future



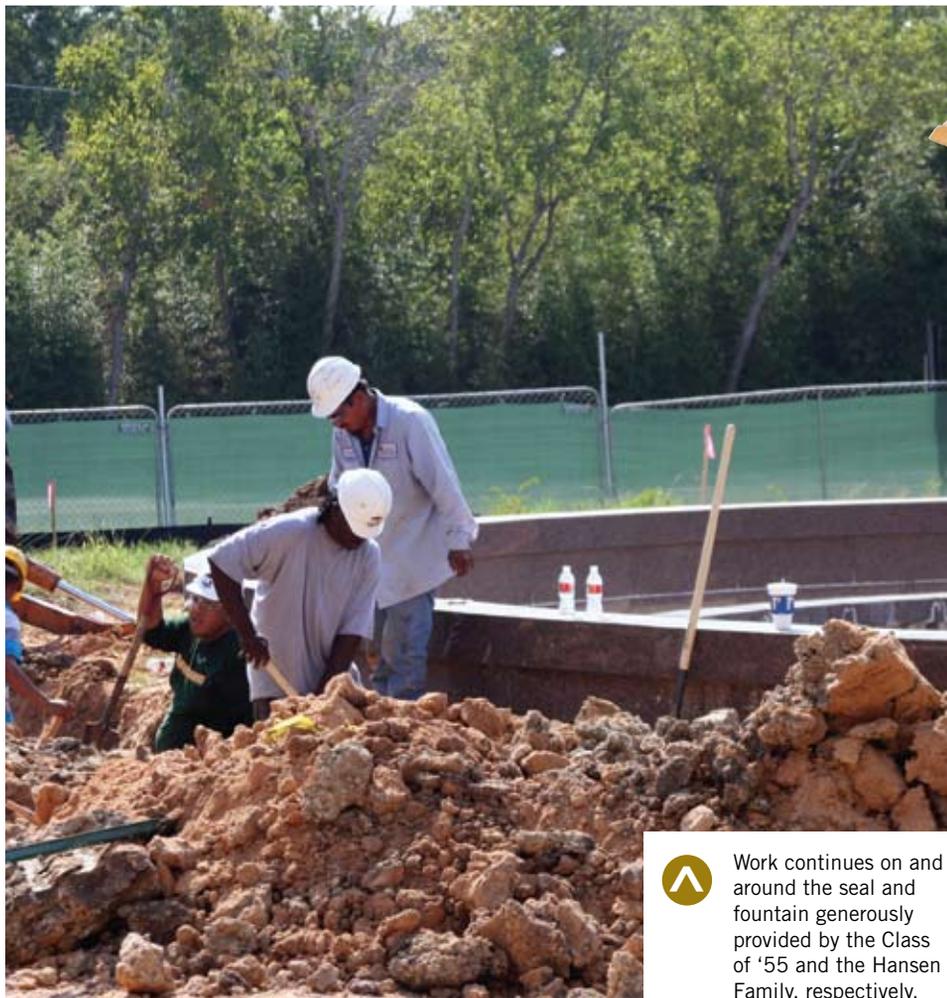
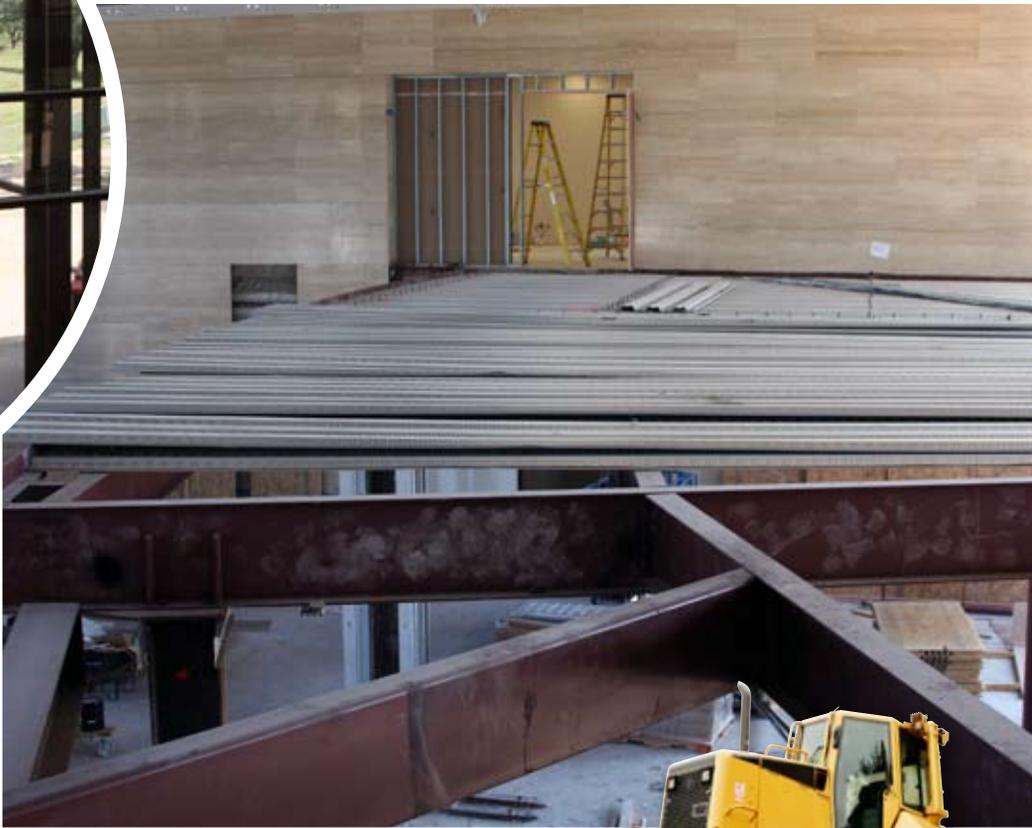
**W**ork continues into the fall on enhancements to the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. The enhancements are intended to enable the building to continue to serve a former student and current student base that is much larger than when the building was first conceived. The enhanced Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center will provide a welcoming and engaging environment for prospective students, current students, former students, friends of A&M and their families.

In addition to enhancing the most visible features, the transformation requires behind-the-scenes improvements to such items as mechanical systems, security, sprinkler systems, technology and fire alarms to ensure the safety and continued enjoyment of the facility.





When completed, this mezzanine will be used for the display of precious artifacts from Texas A&M's rich history.



Work continues on and around the seal and fountain generously provided by the Class of '55 and the Hansen Family, respectively.

### How To Reach Us

- Telephone number: (979) 845-7514.
- Postal mail: 505 George Bush Drive, College Station, TX 77840
- For more information about contacting The Association, see the Aggie Network Resource Guide on Page 10.
- Most Association staffers and departments are temporarily working out of Crystal Park Plaza, 2700 Earl Rudder Freeway in College Station. If you need turn-by-turn directions to the temporary location, call The Association at (979) 845-7514.
- The Campus Programs team and Ring Office remain on campus with an office in the Grove, just south of Albritton Tower.



# Connecting With Billy Pete Huddleston '56

**B**illy Pete Huddleston had plenty of choices when it came time to pick a college. He was a three-sport star in high school, started every football game for four years and was one of the top rushers in the state. He was All-State in football, All-District in basketball, ran track, set a state record in the hurdles and received scholarship offers from more than two dozen colleges.

But although Huddleston was a star athlete, he was also a young man of old-fashioned, small-town values and discipline. He was born in 1934 in the West Texas oilfield camp of Iraan, and he had been working in the oilfields since he was 12. He visited many of those other schools, but A&M was “by far” the place he felt most comfortable.

“A&M was a lot of small-town country people,” he said recently while recalling his visits to prospective colleges. “I was back in my element.” Of course, there were some adjustments to be made.

“I had been very disciplined,” he said, “but I didn’t realize it was a sort of lone-wolf discipline. So when we started marching, they had to holler at me to get in step. The military was different for me. For one thing, nobody had ever hollered at me before.”

And although A&M's student body at the time was mostly "small-town country people" like Huddleston, the sheer number of students on campus was something of a shock to him. "I never had seen this many people," he said. "And the first day of football practice was an absolute shock. We had 133 players. I had never seen more than 22 players on the field at any one time. And everybody was All-State, All-District, All-Something. I had never seen so many big, fast people. It took me a while

to adjust." to adjust." petroleum engineering, and then spent a couple years in a fighter-interceptor squadron for the Air Force and several more working for Marathon Oil before starting his own consulting firm, Huddleston & Co., in 1967. Then in 1971 he founded Peter Paul Petroleum Co., which manages interests in more than 2,500 oil and gas properties and 525,000 mineral acres.

"Now I've got 62 years in the oil business in some form or fashion," Huddleston said.

not all at A&M, but most of them," he said. "We require each one of our students to either write us a note or call us at the end of each semester. We have over a 90 percent success ratio, and we think it's not the money necessarily. It is knowing somebody believes in them and they have support. That's been very rewarding."

The Huddlestons are also prominent supporters of the project to enhance the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. He said that is partly

“But the other thing is that you get to know people very well here. You make a lot of lasting relationships, and you make friendships that go on forever.”

to adjust.”

But he adjusted just fine, playing four years for legendary coach Paul “Bear” Bryant and serving as captain of the 1955 team. He even survived the legendary summer at Junction, though it wasn't quite the ordeal for him that it was for some: “Some people from ESPN came to interview me about Junction and I told them that Junction is where boys from Iraan used to go on vacation.”

The ESPN interviewer wanted to know if that brutal summer practicing in a Junction goat pasture was the worst experience of his life. “Heavens, no,” Huddleston replied. “By no means.” Then what was, the interviewer asked? “Thermodynamics,” Huddleston retorted.

Huddleston could have made a career out of playing and coaching football, but he had other plans and other talents. By the time he got to A&M, he was already an experienced oilfield hand, and he continued working on rigs in the summers. He had been a derrick man by the time he was 16, and before the age of 20 he was probably the youngest driller in West Texas.

He graduated from A&M in June 1957 with a bachelor's degree in pe-

His expertise in petroleum engineering would eventually earn him an invitation to serve as a visiting professor of petroleum engineering at Texas A&M. He taught for 17 years, starting in 1981, and estimates that at one time he had taught about 15 percent of all the practicing petroleum engineers in the United States.

He is retired from teaching now, but Huddleston & Co. and Peter Paul Petroleum are still going strong, and Billy Pete is still the chairman of both companies. He notes that his wife—her name is Flora but he calls her Flos—is “super smart” and does all the financial work for the two companies. “We still work every day,” he said, “and we don't plan on retiring any time soon.” The two have been married for more than 52 years, since his fifth year at A&M. But they've known each other much longer than that, having started first grade together back in Iraan.

The Huddlestons have eight grandchildren, including two who are students at A&M. But they have made, and are making, a difference in the lives of many more students. “We have had well over 100 scholarships for students,

due to his friendship with Williams—“Clayton and I have been close friends for many years”—and partly due to his belief in the work of The Association of Former Students. “I think The Association just does a very good job,” he said. “Since that building was created over 20 years ago, certainly we way outgrew our building, without any question. We're going to have to have more former student support in the future to fund things like that. And I think it will be there.”

He said A&M is deserving of such support because it is such a special place. “The unique thing about A&M is that it builds confidence,” he said. “The graduates, if anything, are probably overconfident. You can have the guy that is the county agent in East Texas who doesn't mind telling the president of the University how to run the school. A&M builds confidence that stays with you all of your life.

“But the other thing is that you get to know people very well here. You make a lot of lasting relationships, and you make friendships that go on forever.

“Texas A&M is just a great place. If I was going to start all over again, I'd do it all over the same way.” 🍷



To learn more about The Association's Century Club, visit us online at [AggieNetwork.com/GiveBack](http://AggieNetwork.com/GiveBack) or call us at (979) 845-7514.

# AGGIE CENTURY CLUB

## Every Donation Helps Maintain Texas A&M's Tradition of Excellence

ONE OF THE BEST WAYS WE AS Aggies can demonstrate our leadership and keep the treasured traditions of Texas A&M alive is by consistently giving back to the University.

While students at Texas A&M, we learned the importance of being active and involved with Texas A&M. It is important that we keep this tradition alive after graduation as well. As former students, we should remain involved and active with the Aggie Network.

That's why the Century Club was formed in 1965 to recognize and honor loyal Aggies who contribute at least \$100 each year to the Annual Fund.

As a Century Club member, you'll play a leading role in helping The Association provide millions of dollars to Texas A&M in the form of scholarships, student activities, financial aid, Aggie traditions and much, much more. After all, it's up to us to ensure that the tradition of excellence at Texas A&M continues for years to come.

Remember that many companies sponsor a matching gift program, which can make it even easier for you to attain or upgrade your Century Club status. Check with your employer or contact The Association for details.

This is your opportunity to ensure that Texas A&M is the best it can be—not only this year but in every year to come.

To demonstrate your ongoing support for Texas A&M through The Association, simply choose one of the following

Century Club donation levels and make your annual contribution today.

- Bronze – **\$100-\$249**
- Silver – **\$250-\$499**
- Gold – **\$500-\$999**
- Diamond – **\$1,000-\$1,999**
- Double Diamond – **\$2,000 - \$4,999**
- Platinum – **\$5,000 - \$9,999**
- Double Platinum – **\$10,000+**
- Endowed – **\$25,000 or more**

New graduate membership in the Century Club is available for discounted donation levels. This makes it even easier to start giving back immediately.

There are no dues to be a member of The Association. Gifts to A&M through The Association are tax-deductible and a receipt is furnished for each gift. Become an active member. Donate today!

To learn more about The Association's Century Club, visit us online at [AggieNetwork.com/GiveBack](http://AggieNetwork.com/GiveBack) or call us at (979) 845-7514.



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OF FORMER STUDENTS®

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

**TEXAS A&M**  
THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS  
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**W**ITH GENEROUS SUPPORT from thousands of former students, Aggie parents and friends of Texas A&M, The Association of Former Students has been able to make a difference to Aggies everywhere.

The Annual Fund supports not only student programs, but Texas A&M as well through Aggie traditions, academic scholarships, financial aid and so much more. In addition, former students benefit from services such as Class news,

A&M Club events, Reunions and Former Student Career Services. For more information on how your gift will benefit Texas A&M or to join the Century Club, visit [AggieNetwork.com/GiveBack](http://AggieNetwork.com/GiveBack).

We would like to give special thanks to the following new Century Club members and to those who have increased their level of support to The Association of Former Students. Thank you for your support of the Aggie Network.

*Gifts posted between June 26, 2008, and Aug. 27, 2008.*

*Due to the large number of generous donors, the following pages contain only the names of those individuals who have increased their level of Century Club support (indicated by \*) and those who have given to the Century Club for the first time.*

#### DOUBLE DIAMOND

##### \$2,000-\$4,999

- \* Frank W. Burger '43
- \* Richard L. Jones Jr. '55
- \* Thomas G. Smith '57
- \* J. Daniel Nixon '72
- \* Charles E. Jacobs '76
- \* Steven W. Martin '78
- \* Joseph R. Eulberg '79
- \* Patricia A. Martin '79
- \* Russell L. McClellan '79
- \* Thomas E. Cangelose '80
- \* David D. Frederick '81
- \* Kenda Sipes Frederick '81
- \* Martin T. Koszewski '84
- \* L. Kim Jordan '85
- \* Kevin J. Fikes '88
- \* Jeffrey P. Sladeczek '88
- \* Tamara G. Lovell '89
- \* Michael W. Piper '90
- Warrick D. Holdman '99

#### DIAMOND

##### \$1,000-\$1,999

- Glen D. Smith
- \* Lester C. Fenter '67
- \* Randolph A. Scott '73
- \* John David LaRue '74
- \* James H. Simpson '74
- \* Bruce N. Tilley '74

- \* William W. Davis '75
- \* Neal G. Skinner '76
- \* George P. Smith III '77
- \* Suzanne Stewart '78
- \* Carol A. Harris '80
- \* Scott A. Harris '80
- \* Kathleen M. Gibson '81
- \* Marchetta Templeton Kleb '81
- \* Lee D. Kleb '82
- \* Kent L. Streeter '82
- \* Timothy J. Hedrick '85
- \* Daniel C. Yeager '85
- \* Jose S. Hernandez '86
- \* Stephen E. Ogden '87
- \* Keith A. Swainson '90
- \* Kenneth E. Rose '92
- \* Robyn L. Rose '92
- \* Jacquie L. Segal '92
- \* Luke J. Park '96
- \* Nicholas S. Cleveland '00
- George A. Okvist, III '02
- \* Kathryn K. Westerheim '03
- \* Jeffrey M. Fetzer '04
- \* Brandon S. Westerheim '04
- Theresa L. Smith '08

#### GOLD

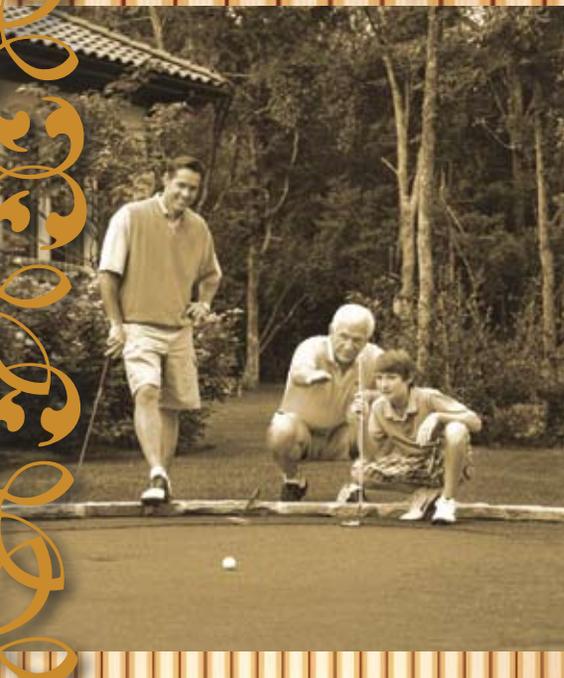
##### \$500 - \$999

- \* Robert E. Hall '50
- \* Douglas Z. Gayle '55

- \* Marshall D. McGilliard '63
- \* Donald S. Cameron '64
- \* John Piwonka '65
- \* David A. Trifon '66
- \* Charles L. Kroll '71
- \* Louis J. Wardlaw III '71
- \* Dolores M. Little '73
- \* Robert D. Street '73
- \* Patrick L. Coyne '74
- \* James D. Hansford Jr. '74
- \* Arthur V. King '75
- \* Paul E. Oefinger Jr. '75
- \* Lawrence J. Huwe '76
- \* Diane P. Oefinger '76
- \* Herman M. Blanton '77
- \* Thomas B. Meadows III '77
- \* Guillermo A. Lopez-Llamozas '78
- \* Michael L. Wiggins '79
- Mark R. Cox '80
- \* Tanya N. Wiggins '80
- \* Charles L. Cinek '81
- \* David S. Followill '81
- \* Firmin D. LePori '81
- \* Lori S. LePori '81
- \* Louis F. Lester '81
- \* Armando Lopez '83
- \* Emily N. Rose '83
- \* Robert E. Rose '83
- \* Trey Schneider '83
- \* Debi L. Schneider '84

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Obtain the Property Report required by Federal law and read it before signing anything. No Federal agency has judged the merits or value, if any, of this property.

*\*These individuals increased their level of Century Club support.*

- \* Rebecca Followill '85
- \* Lecia A. Majewski '85
- \* Daniel J. Vitello Jr. '86
- \* Randall G. Davis '87
- \* William T. Ellis '87
- \* James M. Majewski '87
- \* Lochlan O. McNew '87
- \* Denise B. Ellis '90
- \* Tracy L. Townsend '90
- \* Kyle R. Cook '91
- \* Christine R. Van Poppel '91
- \* Scott A. Van Poppel '91
- \* Patrick M. Hranitzky '92
- \* Jarrett L. McCleskey '92
- \* Katherine L. McCleskey '92
- \* Alva E. Woodward '92
- \* Beth Daines '95
- \* Andrew B. Doria '95
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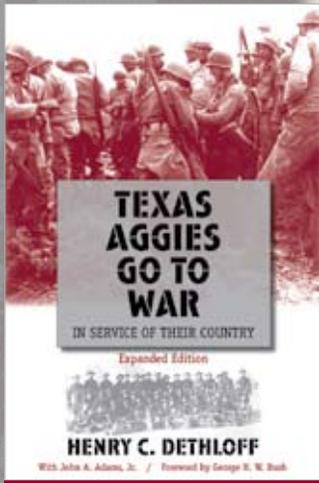


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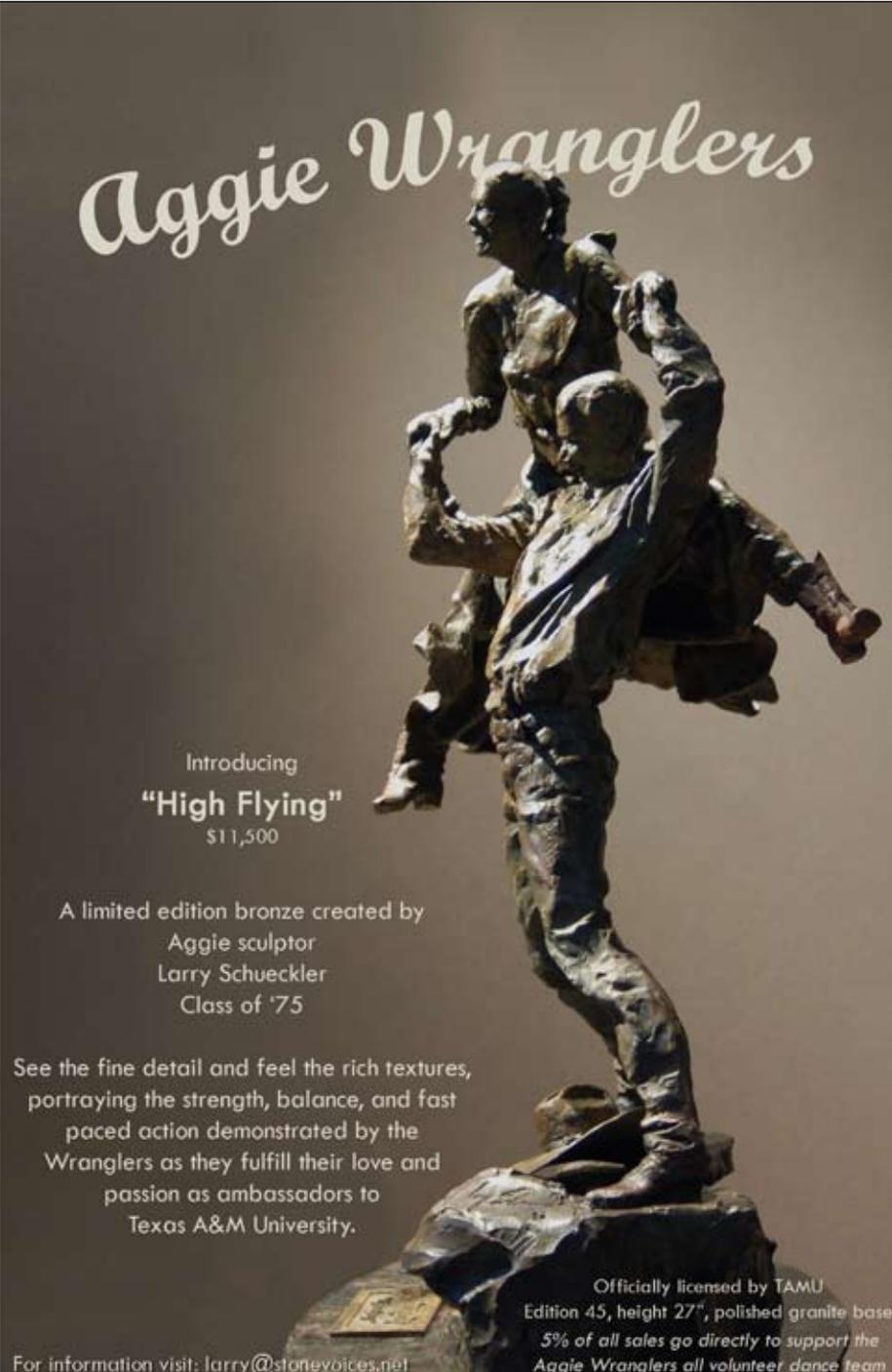
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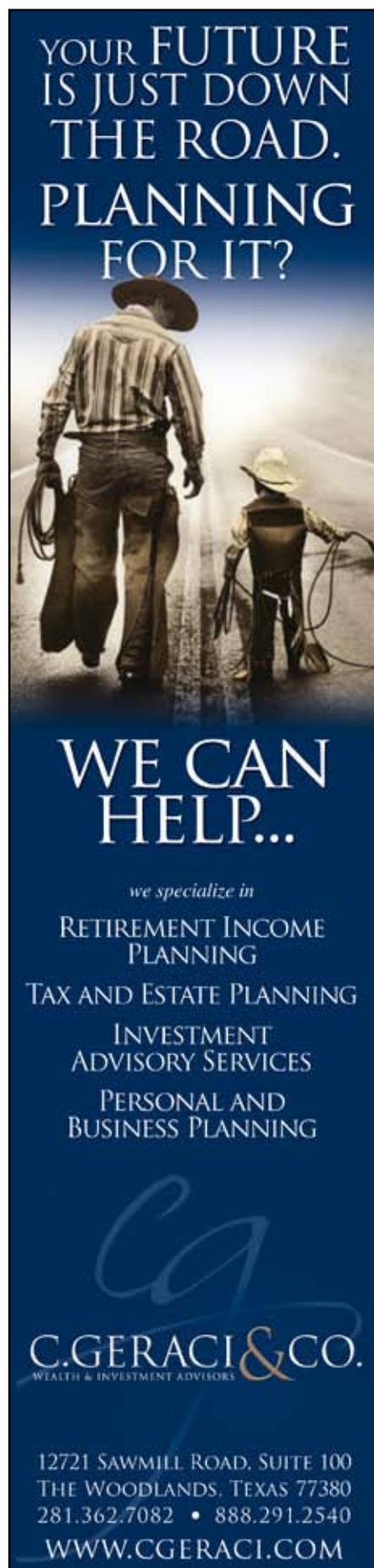
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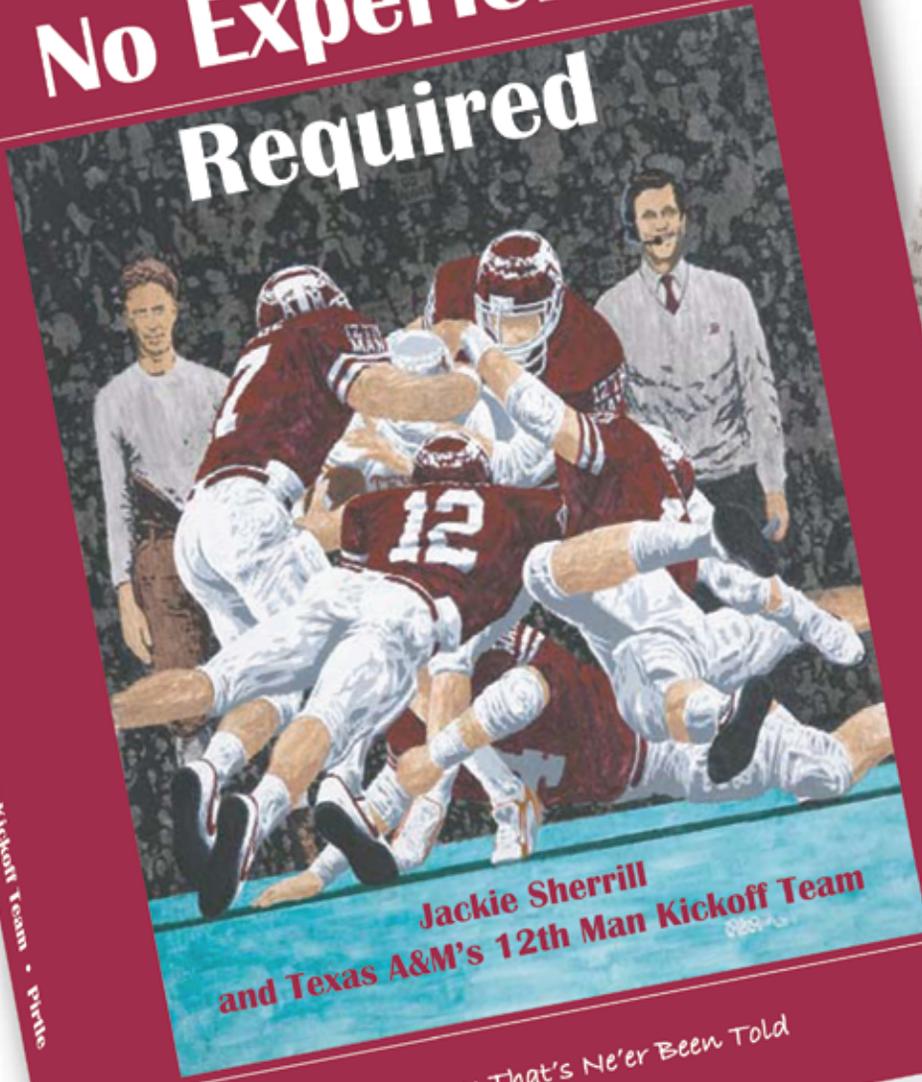
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## *It's About Saving Lives*

Any season of the year Mike and Olive O'Connor can be found helping others, whether delivering food to the homeless or serving as a patient's advocate. At Texas A&M the Houston couple's quiet commitment to safety education is changing the world.

Mike is the visionary behind the Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center, now in its second decade as the leading international source for industrial accident analysis and prevention. In addition, two faculty chairs endowed by the O'Connors provide the capability to attract much needed expertise in chemical engineering and process safety to Texas A&M University.

The O'Connors recently created a planned gift to further strengthen Texas A&M's signature programs in safety and chemical engineering. What inspires them to give? In Mike's words, "It's about saving lives."

The difference between good and great universities is private support. Interested in creating your own gift? Contact the Texas A&M Foundation's Engineering Development Office at (979) 845-5513.

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To learn more about opportunities to give back to Texas A&M through The Association of Former Students, please contact Barbara Kasper '82, assistant executive director, at (979) 845-7514.

# AGGIE TRADITION OF GIVING



## Patrick Cox '86

THROUGH A CASH GIFT TO The Association of Former Students, Patrick Cox '86 established the Dr. Mary McGee Osborne Cox, Ph. D. '81 Endowed Scholarship and Mary C. "Kitty" Worley '67 Endowed Memorial Scholarship. His gifts will allow The Association to continue its rich and lasting tradition of supporting students, former students and the traditions that bind the Aggie family.

"Texas A&M University was one of few significant influences on my life as a young adult," Patrick said when asked why he decided to give to The Association of Former Students. "It taught me the value of hard work, good sportsmanship and the importance of giving back to those who helped you. We were always asked as students to think of those who will come after us. I was always impressed, amazed and gratified to see the generosity of the former students who came before me.

I promised myself then that I would do my part when I was able. This is the first part of fulfilling that promise."

Worley taught for 32 years in the A&M Consolidated school district, first in second grade and later high school English and Spanish. "She was a very special person who made a significant impact on my life," Patrick Cox said. "We used to call her Doña Kitty. In Mexico, the title of Don (Doña for women) is a sign of great respect. We would go to Mexico in the summers to live with local families and study Spanish."

Patrick earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting in 1986. He continued his education by attending the Academia Hispano Americana in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, and Alliance Francais in Cannes, France. Patrick practiced public accounting in College Station and Houston before joining Kemper Insurance Companies. He served in various roles at Kemper in commercial and personal insurance divisions in both underwriting and finance areas.

He is currently the CEO of TaxMasters in Houston, a position he has held since 2001. Patrick is also very active in a variety of civic activities, including the Charles L. Sommers Alumni Association; French American Chamber of Commerce of Houston; Noon Lions Club of Houston; BSA; Northern Tier High Adventure Canoe Bases; and Dunn and Bradstreet Insurance Advisory Council.

To others who might be thinking of making a gift to The Association, Patrick says, "Just do it. You will be glad you did. I heard from Mr. Worley and his family after they were told of the endowment by The Association of Former Students. Mr. Worley, himself a retired professor from TAMU Engineering, was thrilled to know that all of the sacrifices he and

Mrs. Worley made over the years to educate us in high school and college were appreciated by their students.

"I am fortunate enough because of the influence on me of the Worleys, my mother, and many others that I can show my appreciation in this way. It meant a great deal to me to know that this small gesture was so warmly received by her family. One of the Worleys' daughters called and another wrote to tell me how much it meant to their father and to them to know that their mother's sacrifices all those years on behalf of her students was sincerely remembered and appreciated by those students. I only



Mary C. "Kitty" Worley '67



Dr. Mary McGee Osbourne Cox '81

wish it could have been done in time for Mrs. Worley to know before she passed away unexpectedly.

"It was also a great Christmas present for my mother to set up a scholarship in her name. She always preached education to us as children. She made sacrifices to see that we received the best possible education. We were sometimes less than receptive and grateful, but she persevered and managed to get us all educated. My brother, Walter '91, and my sister, Cynthia Cox Day, collaborated on the design of the scholarship endowment so that we could present it as a present to her at Christmas. She was thrilled to know that we cared enough to do this to honor her and help others in her name." 🍷



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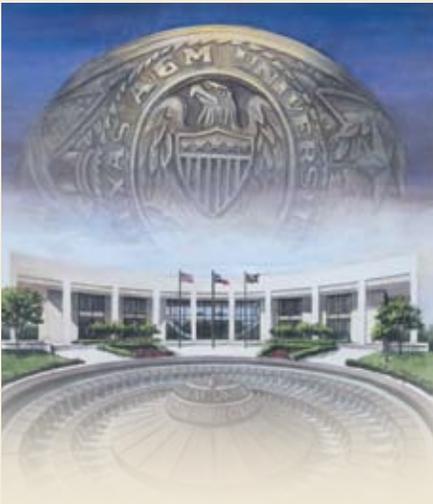
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### The Endowed Century Club

Twenty-four years ago, The Association of Former Students formally established its Endowed Century Club program, creating a unique and enduring opportunity to give to Texas A&M. By taking part, members are lighting a path toward continued success in Aggieland, perpetually impacting our great university in ways that are critical to its future.

In the years since its inception, the program's influence has been abundantly clear. Endowed Century Club members have helped pave the way for the financial support of numerous projects, such as scholarships, academic programs, student activities, staff and faculty development and much, much more. Through their generous contributions, the impact of these dedicated individuals will resonate forever on the Texas A&M campus.

- Permanent recognition in the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center
- Special recognition in *Texas Aggie* magazine

### How To Become A Member

Membership in the Endowed Century Club can be attained with a minimum gift of \$25,000. This gift can be given over a five-year period with a minimum of \$5,000 to be paid each year. For tax purposes, the Benjamin Knox print is valued at \$200 and is not tax-deductible from the initial gift. Upon receipt of the initial gift, you will become a recognized member of the Endowed Century Club with all the rights and privileges of lifetime Century Club membership in The Association of Former Students.

As our University continues to develop and progress, we want to extend an invitation for you to join the Endowed Century Club and become even more involved. For more information on how you can further advance your legacy of giving to Texas A&M, please contact Barbara Kasper '82, assistant executive director, at (979) 845-7514.



Barbara Kasper '82

### Benefits of Endowed Century Club Membership

- Lifetime Century Club membership benefits of The Association of Former Students
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- A special Endowed Century Club lapel pin or pendant



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## Mary S. '84 and John L. Castorina '81

Coppell, Texas  
Members of the Century Club for 10 years

JOHN L. CASTORINA '81 GRADUATED FROM TEXAS A&M with a bachelor's degree in both environmental design and building construction. In 1984, he earned his master's degree in architecture. After graduation, John joined HKS Inc. in Dallas as an architecture intern. In 1989, he joined FDS International as a design director and over an 11-year period became executive vice president of architecture. In 2000, FDS International was acquired by the global design firm RTKL Associates, where John holds the position of senior vice president and design leader for its health care sector.

Mary graduated from Texas A&M with a bachelor's degree in finance in 1984 and received a master's in finance from UT Dallas in 1996. She had a 13-year career in banking and the investment industry as an investment officer, federal funds trader and brokerage manager. Since 1997 Mary has stayed home to raise their sons, Donovan and Nicholas. John and Mary reside in Coppell, Texas.

### What encouraged you to make this generous commitment to The Association's Endowed Century Club?

Success allows you to reflect on beginnings ... those things that influence your life, offer opportunity and imprint upon you the values needed to achieve and handle success. Texas A&M was an integral part of that equation. Therefore, we feel it an honor to offer back so that others may benefit as we did.

### What impact has being an Aggie had on your life?

Being an Aggie is a unique status that maintains the belief that spirit, honor and tradition are not outdated values. You are a part of a community. Anywhere you go, when you see the Ring, you meet a friend.

### What made you attend Texas A&M?

John: My parents. They were wise and understood who I was and what university would bring the best out of me.

Mary: I loved the campus when I visited. Everyone was friendly and helpful, more so than any other school I visited.

### What are your fondest memories from campus?

John: The all-nighters. The people I shared those experiences with (in the Architecture Building) are still my friends today.

Mary: Living in Mosher and experiencing campus life, especially in the fall during home game weekends.



## Cynthia and Jarrell Gibbs '60

Hot Springs Village, Ark.  
Members of the Century Club for 22 years

AFTER GRADUATING FROM TEXAS A&M WITH A bachelor's degree in finance in 1960, Jarrell Gibbs joined the United States Army. While serving in the Army, he had two tours in Vietnam, earned a master's in management of administration at Texas A&M and went to the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College in 1973. He retired from the Army as a lieutenant colonel in 1980 and then went to work for TXU Corp. He also continued his education by attending the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program in 1989. Jarrell held several upper-level management positions at TXU Corp. until he retired in 2002 as president. He has also volunteered much of his time in a variety of civic activities, including the U.S. Savings Bond Campaign in Dallas County (chair in 2000), chairman of the Texas A&M Research Foundation, and chairman of York College. Jarrell and his wife, Cynthia, live in Hot Springs Village, Ark., and have two children, Timothy J. Gibbs and Karen N. Baskin.

### Why is it important to you to give back to Texas A&M University?

The Association of Former Students does great work in annual giving to the University's various student activities and those activities are a very important part of one's college education. Texas A&M University has provided the foundation for any success I have experienced in the business world. Those of us who have experienced such success should feel obligated to share their financial rewards so that others may also have an opportunity.

### What impact has being an Aggie had on your life?

Profound. Texas A&M not only provides a quality academic education, but it also provides an opportunity for leadership not found in any other university.

### What made you attend Texas A&M?

My dad never had the opportunity so I think I had maroon diapers when I was a baby!

### What are your fondest memories from campus?

Every time the Corps formed up for a march-in at the football games; win, lose or draw.



## Andrea and David Heath '76

Austin  
Members of the Century Club for 23 years

DAVID A. HEATH '76 GRADUATED FROM TEXAS A&M with a bachelor's in health and physical education in 1976 and earned his master's in 1979. Upon graduation, he went to work for the Athletic Department at Texas A&M University, first as a full-time assistant. Later he was head athletic trainer until 1981. He then began a career with Hughesco/Clossco as a sales rep and then owned and operated a multi-state sales agency until 1990. David began his career with Nike as an apparel sales manager in December 1990. Since then he has spent his entire career in a progression of sales and upper management positions with Nike, with the exception of a two-year stint as a senior vice president for Fossil Inc. from 1999 to 2001. Today, he is the vice president of global sales for Nike. David and his wife, Andrea, live in Austin. They have two sons, Joel '05 and Todd '07.

### What encouraged you to make this generous commitment to The Association's Endowed Century Club?

Texas A&M provided the foundation for my success in business. My father, J.A. Heath '40, was assisted by an uncle providing financial support and I, too, received both a National Merit Scholarship and an Opportunity Award to help with my school funding. Both of my sons are recent graduates. It is time to give back and "pay forward" for the benefits I received. My wife and I are happy to be able to make this gift to The Association and the university.

### What impact has being an Aggie had on your life?

Texas A&M opened many doors for me in my early career. I had some great mentors such as Billy Pickard '56, Emil Mama-liga '50, Wally Groff '64, John Koldus, Shelby Metcalf '74—all mentored me as a young man and I still heed their words today.

### What made you attend Texas A&M?

My brother, class of '67, exposed me to campus life. My father and uncles on my mother's side were graduates—'22, '23, '40—and I knew from an early age that I wanted to attend the university.

### What are your fondest memories from campus?

Silver Taps, Muster, bonfire, dorm life and some outstanding basketball games such as Arkansas in 1975.



## Johnette '70 and Jon '68 Jarvis

Jarvis Farm north of Stinnett, Texas  
Members of the Century Club for 33 years

JON JARVIS '68 GRADUATED FROM TEXAS A&M IN 1968 with a bachelor's in agricultural economics and in 1969 with a bachelor's in sociology. He received his commission at A&M and served in the United States Army from 1970 to 1972. Johnette '70 graduated from Texas A&M in 1970 with a bachelor's in accounting. She and Jon have owned and operated farming and ranching interests in the Texas Panhandle since 1972. They were selected as Aggie Parents of the Year in 1999. Johnette and Jon live in Stinnett, Texas. They have two children, Shanna Jarvis '98 and Scott Jarvis '00.

### Why is it important to you to give back to Texas A&M University?

Texas A&M has been part of the life of the Jarvis family for three generations now. We met at A&M and now have two Aggie children and an Aggie daughter-in-law. The Association of Former Students is the organization that works to hold Aggies together as the Aggie family after we all graduate and leave campus. We think that is important because we love being part of an Aggie family and The Aggie Family.

### What made you attend Texas A&M?

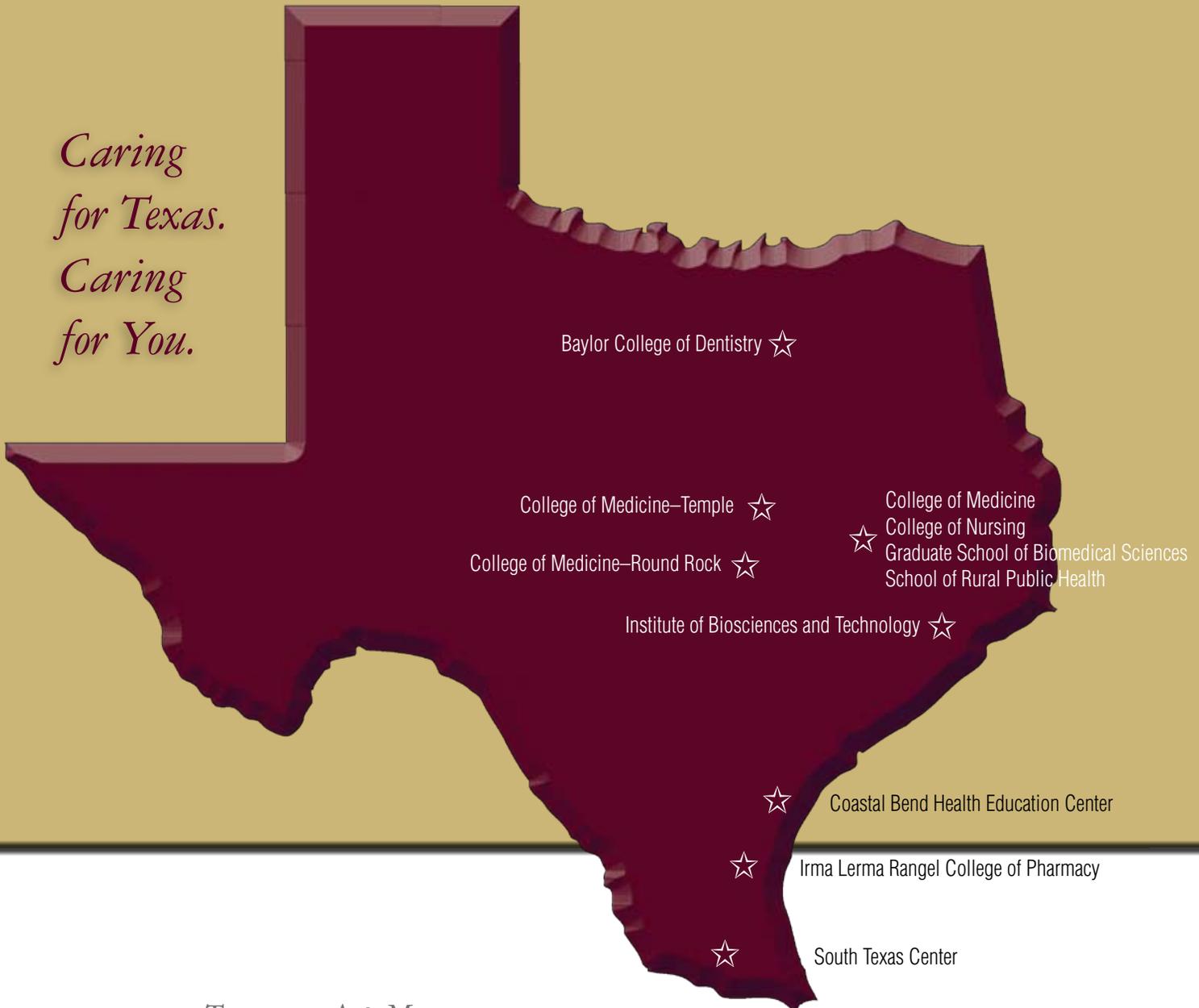
Jon's father was Class of 1925. His brother Britt is class of 1965. It is a family tradition.

### What is your favorite tradition at Texas A&M?

Silver Taps and Muster are favorites because they are both unique to A&M and show the values Aggies hold dear.

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# AGGIE SILVERTAPS

**Anne Legendre Armstrong**, 80, of Kingsville (formerly of New Orleans) died July 30, 2008, of cancer. She was a member of the Texas A&M University System's Board of Regents from 1997 to 2003. She rose to prominence in the Republican Party and served in the Nixon, Ford, Reagan and George H.W. Bush administrations as an advisor to presidents Nixon and Ford and as an advisor on foreign intelligence to presidents Reagan and George H. W. Bush. She was the first woman to serve as U.S. ambassador to Great Britain, appointed in 1976. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the country's highest civilian honor, for her service to the country in 1987 by President Reagan. She succeeded her late husband, Tobin Armstrong '46, as a Kenedy County commissioner upon his death in 2005 and held that position until her death. Survivors include three sons, two daughters, 13 grandchildren and a sister.

**L. W. "Larry" Coleman, Jr.**, 71, of Bryan (formerly of Dallas) died Aug. 10, 2008. He graduated from Baylor University in 1958 and from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston in 1962. He completed his residency in general practice at John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth in 1964 and was a family practitioner in Tyler from 1964 to 1965. He established his orthopedic practice in the Bryan-College Station area in 1969 after he completed his orthopedic residency at the VA Hospital in Dallas. He was chief of staff and chief of

surgery at St. Joseph Regional Health Center in Bryan and was on staff at Richards Medical Clinic in Rockdale. He was a team physician for Texas A&M from 1982 to 1994 and was in practice until 2006. He was a captain in the Texas National Guard Medical Corps. Survivors include his wife of three years, Nancy; 13 children, including Cari M. Coleman '85, K. Brooke Coleman '85, Ashley Coleman Leasure '93 and Bradley W. Coleman '05; 13 grandchildren; and a brother.

**Bruce Lynn Gardner**, 65, of University Park, Md. (formerly of Solon Mills, Ill.) died March 14, 2008, of multiple myeloma. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1964 and received his doctorate in economics from the University of Chicago in 1968. He was a faculty member at North Carolina State University and at Texas A&M before joining the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Maryland, College Park, as a professor in 1981. He helped shape U.S. farm policy during two presidential administrations as a member of President Gerald Ford's Council of Economic Advisors from 1975 to 1977 and as assistant secretary of agriculture for economics under President George H.W. Bush from 1989 to 1992. Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Mary Ann; a son; a daughter; two grandchildren; his mother; and three sisters.

**John B. Herbich**, 85, of Wailuku, Hawaii, (formerly of Warsaw, Poland) died

June 19, 2008, of pneumonia. He joined the faculty of the civil engineering department at Texas A&M in 1967 and was instrumental in founding the coastal and ocean engineering program within the department in 1972. He served as consultant to government and international projects involving the engineering design of ports, harbors and coastlines, including the Khadakwasla Central Water and Power Research Station in Poona, India, for the United Nations Development Program. He wrote more than 200 papers and several textbooks, including the Handbook of Dredging Engineering (1992) and the Handbook of Coastal Engineering (2000). He was named W.H. Bauer Professor of Dredging Engineering in 1990. He was named professor emeritus of civil engineering and ocean engineering upon his retirement in 1994. Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Margaret; a son; two daughters, including Patricia J. (Herbich) O'Connor '83; and a granddaughter.

**Roy O. Kendall**, 95, of San Antonio died Jan. 19, 2008. He retired in 1972 from the federal civil service after working for the U.S. Army (1941-53) and the U.S. Air Force (1954-72). He and his late wife, Connie, traveled into Mexico and all over Texas collecting moths and butterflies. He documented and published scholarly papers in scientific journals on the life history of these insects. He was featured in the October 1982 issue of *Texas Monthly* magazine for his work. His collection

was donated and transferred to Texas A&M's entomology department in recent years. Survivors include a stepson and two grandchildren.

**Robert W. Toler**, 79, of San Antonio (formerly of Norphlett, Ark., and College Station) died June 25, 2008, after an extended illness. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Arkansas; a master's from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; and his doctorate in plant virology from North Carolina State University, Raleigh, in 1962. He worked at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, University of Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station in Tifton, Ga., before joining Texas A&M in 1966 as an assistant professor in plant pathology. He retired in 1994 and was named professor emeritus of plant pathology and microbiology. He was a pioneer in plant virology research methods and wrote more than 40 research papers on sorghum, maize, wheat and St. Augustine grass. He led the research team that developed Floratam, a St. Augustine decline-resistant grass, and received the Distinguished Service Award from Texas-SAD Producers Association in 1972 for his leadership. In 1988 he was named Outstanding Plant Pathologist by the Southern Division of the American Phytopathological Society. Survivors include three daughters, 10 grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

**James W. "Hoot" Gibson, Jr.** '35, 94, of Fort Worth (formerly of Crandall and Kaufman) died June 5, 2008. He was a captain in the 77th Field Artillery during World War II in North Africa, Sicily, France and Germany. He was a salesman and sales manager for National Cash Register Co. in Dallas; Shreveport, La.; Baton Rouge, La.; and Fort Worth. Survivors include a son.

**William G. Greak** '35, 95, of Sour Lake (formerly of Batson and Liberty) died April 2, 2008. He was a motor transport officer in the 90th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army under Gen. Patton during World War II. He retired after 30 years of service in the U.S. Army. He also retired from the Farmers Home Administration after many years of service. Survivors include two sons, including G. Ted Greak '62; a daughter; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**John C. Atchison, Jr.** '36, 92, of League City (formerly of Alpine and Harlingen) died July 25, 2008. He served during World War II. He worked in Houston before moving back to Harlingen in 1946 and starting an orchard management business. He also opened the Atchison Citrus Center in 1968 and was the exclusive supplier of gift fruit for Sakowitz of Houston. Survivors include two sons, a daughter, three grandchildren, a great-granddaughter and a brother.

**Berry F. Krause** '37, 93, of Houston (formerly of Beasley) died June 5, 2008. He joined Gas Lift Corp. in Kilgore and worked in South America, Mexico, Canada and all parts of the U.S. as a pioneer in gas lift devices. He worked in defense plants and the naval shipyard in Pearl Harbor during World War II. Survivors include a daughter, a grandson, a great-grandson and a sister.

**Elmer E. Pratt** '37, 93, of Radnor, Pa., died March 27, 2008. Survivors include his wife, Marjorie, and a daughter.

**Chester L. Bugh** '38, 92, of Flint (formerly of Beebe, Ark.) died Aug. 10, 2008. He retired to his Huntsville ranch in 1979 after a long career with Tenneco as a mechanical engineer. He moved to

Flint in 1996. Survivors include two sons; a daughter; four grandchildren, including M. Scott Ary '92, Heather L. (Bugh) Sanders '94, and Jennifer P. Ary Aurie '96; and six great-grandchildren.

**Nugent F. Chamberlain** '38, 92, of Katy (formerly of Henderson) died June 25, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He worked for Humble Oil (later Exxon) in Baytown for more than 40 years. He funded two President's Endowed Scholarships at Texas A&M. Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Barbara; two sons, John H. Chamberlain '68 and David A. Chamberlain '75; a granddaughter, Kathryn M. Chamberlain '03; and a sister.

**Ben E. Dillon, Sr.** '38, 92, of Bryan (formerly of Liberty and San Angelo) died June 3, 2008. He retired from the Texas Department of Transportation after 42 years of service. He moved to Bryan from San Angelo four years ago. Survivors include his wife of 69 years, Marguerite; a son, Ben E. Dillon, Jr. '67; a daughter; three grandchildren, including Rachel E. Dillon '01; and a great-grandchild.

**Raymond "Ray" Helpert** '38, 94, of Baytown (formerly of Burlington) died June 23, 2008. He was a major in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was a chemical engineer and worked in the carbon black industry until he retired from J.M. Huber Corp. in 1983. Survivors include a son, a brother and three sisters.

**Charles H. "Charlie" Hudson** '39, 89, of Dallas (formerly of Pearsall and Laredo) died April 24, 2008. He worked two years with Colombian Petroleum Co. in Colombia, South America, before serving in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during World War II. He was a lieutenant colonel in the European theater

of operations. He retired in 1982 from Mobil Oil Co. as manager of Mobil exploration and producing services after 42 years with the company. He had also lived in Midland, Oklahoma and Denver with the company. He was battalion commander of the 2nd Battalion staff at Texas A&M. Survivors include two daughters, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and a brother.

**John J. "Jack" McNeil '39**, 90, of Fort Worth died June 1, 2008. He was a retired veterinary pharmaceutical sales representative. Survivors include a daughter, four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

**Jewel "Raymond" Peace '39**, 90, of Round Rock (formerly of Arkansas and the lower Rio Grande Valley) died July 1, 2008. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. He co-founded the Peace and Thornton Lumber Co. in McAllen. He moved to Arkansas in 1952 and returned to South Texas in 1965 to manage Noser Lumber Co. Survivors include five sons, three daughters, a stepson, 10 grandchildren, step-grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

**Andrew W. "Andy" Rogers '39**, 90, of Wimberley (formerly of Dallas) died May 7, 2008. He was a major in the U.S. Army Artillery during World War II. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserve in 1969 at the rank of brigadier general as mobilization designee in the Pentagon. He operated a bridge building business, Navarro Contracting Co., as a civil engineer and general contractor building bridges in Texas, mining coal in Kentucky and performing engineering in Nigeria. He endowed the Corps of Cadets Leadership Excellence Program in 2004. Survivors include his wife, Janice; a son; and a granddaughter, Jessica Rogers Flaherty '01.

**Lonnie H. Stern '39**, 90, of Levelland died June 8, 2008, after a brief illness. He was a major in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. He worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and then was general manager of Producer's Marketing Association for 25 years. He established a President's Endowed Scholarship at Texas A&M in 1989. Survivors include his wife of 67 years, Floriene; two sons, including Ernest R. Stern II '71; three granddaughters; and a sister.

**Taylor J. "T.J." Short '40**, 89, of Houston (formerly of Decatur) died June 29, 2008. He was a pilot instructor in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He became a land lease agent, manager, vice president and district manager of the Pasadena and Baytown district plants for Houston Poster Advertising Co. He later received a real estate broker's license and worked with Piney Point Realty for 22 years. He became an appraiser with the Harris County Appraisal District and retired in 2000. Survivors include a son, two grandchildren, a brother and two sisters.

**Charles M. "Charlie" Wilkinson '40**, 88, of Model, Colo. (formerly of Menard) died June 21, 2008. He was captain of a tank company in the 756th Tank Battalion during World War II and served in North Africa and Italy before being taken prisoner at Cassino, Italy. He escaped but was recaptured. He retired from the U.S. Army after 20 years of active and reserve service. He had been commanding officer of the local Reserve unit. He was a cattle rancher in Colorado since 1951 and at the time of his death owned two ranches in Las Animas County, Colo., and another in Texas. He had been manager of two irrigation companies and public trustee of the county. He was managing editor of *The Battalion* and a member of the meats judging

team at Texas A&M. Survivors include a son; a daughter; a granddaughter, Sydney L. Wilkinson '11; two brothers, Fred T. Wilkinson '47 and William A. Wilkinson '52; and a sister.

**James T. Anderson '41**, 88, of Bullard (formerly of Rose Hill) died June 16, 2008. He was a captain in the 515th Parachute Infantry Regiment in the U.S. Army during World War II. He retired from Colgate Palmolive and founded Promoters Supply Inc. in Tyler. He moved to Bullard after he retired from PSI. Survivors include his wife, Peggy; a son; a daughter; a stepson; three grandchildren; a step-granddaughter; and seven great-grandchildren.

**Grant D. "Dan" Aubrey '41**, 89, of Irving (formerly of Dallas and El Paso) died July 17, 2008. He was a major in the U.S. Army in the Philippines during World War II. He worked at El Paso Natural Gas Co. in El Paso for more than 35 years. Survivors include his wife, Margaret; four sons, including John C. Grant '75; two daughters; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Thomas M. "Tom" Hagood, Jr. '41**, 88, of Paris, Texas, died June 27, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II in the Asiatic-Pacific theater. His assignments included commanding an anti-aircraft battery. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserve in 1980 at the rank of colonel. His military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal. He was a professional engineer for 29 years in the headquarters of District 1 of the Texas Department of Transportation. He retired in 1979. He was regimental commander of Coast Artillery at Texas A&M. Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Louise; three daughters; six grandchildren, including Gordon T. White '96, Jeffrey P. Radighieri '98 and

Greg A. Radighieri '99; eight great-grandchildren; and a brother, William N. Hagood '44.

**Orel L. "Pat" Patterson '41**, 90, of Benjamin, Texas, died July 12, 2008. He taught vocational agriculture at Mobeetie for a term and was an assistant county agent in Abilene. In 1943 he moved to Johnson City, where he was Blanco County agriculture agent for more than 24 years. He served in the U.S. Army in 1945 for a few months but was discharged to return to work as a county agent. He moved back to Benjamin in 1967 and operated the Patterson Ranch until 1993. Survivors include two sons, a daughter, five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

**Charles J. "C.J." Poulter '41**, 90, of San Angelo (formerly of Ardmore, Okla.) died Feb. 12, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army. He joined his father and late brother, George A. Poulter '44, in real estate, abstract and home building businesses. He was an Eagle Scout. He was a member of the Aggie Band at Texas A&M. Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Marinell; a son; a daughter; four grandchildren; and a sister.

**Miles W. Preskitt '41**, 90, of Providence, R.I., died July 25, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and retired at the rank of lieutenant commander. He was an industrial engineer for US Gypsum Co. for 33 years before retiring in 1978. Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Patricia; two daughters; three granddaughters; and four great-grandchildren.

**Alfred Y. "Sonny" Scarborough '41**, 88, of Richmond, Texas, (formerly of Augusta) died May 1, 2008. He was a lieutenant and pilot in the U.S. Navy stationed in Cali-

fornia, Alaska and Hawaii during World War II. He was a pilot for Waukesha-Pearce Industries for 33 years. Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Virginia; three sons; two daughters, including Marie Scarborough Kirkham '81; eight grandchildren; and a sister.

**Robert E. "Bob" Sieker '41**, 88, of Kerrville (formerly of Menard) died June 29, 2008. He was a flight instructor in both primary and advanced flight schools in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He was a wool and mohair buyer in Comfort for a short time before moving to Kerrville, where he owned and operated Kerrville Flying Service from 1947 to 1972. He operated an FAA- and VA-approved flight school, had the first Kerrville VA air ambulance contract, operated an air charter service, and had an aircraft sales and rental service, rental car company, aircraft maintenance service and aircraft storage facility, all as part of Kerrville Flying Service. He had the first contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to drop sterile flies from airplanes to help eradicate the screw worm fly in Texas. He left the aviation business in 1973 to own and operate the family ranching business interest in Menard County and in Dewey County, S.D., until his death. Survivors include his wife, Sylvia; two sons; two stepsons; three stepdaughters; two grandchildren; and 16 step-grandchildren.

**James W. "Jack" Coursey '42**, 87, of Paradise Valley, Ariz., (formerly of Lubbock) died April 1, 2008. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II at Iwo Jima, Guadalcanal, Bougainville and Guam. He was a cotton merchant until he retired in 1982. Survivors include a daughter, a grandson and a great-granddaughter.

**Gerald H. Easterly '42**, 87, of Crockett died June 17, 2008. He was a lieutenant in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was a minister and founded Talent Sharing Community Church in Crockett. He also ministered in local and county jails and in the Texas Prison System. Survivors include two sons, Jimmy E. Easterly '71 and Jerry M. Easterly '73; four grandchildren, Jason T. Easterly '02, Darby Easterly Humpflik '04, Marlene Easterly Cogwin '04 and Carissa M. (Easterly) Todd '06; and a brother.

**Gerald L. Proctor '42**, 88, of Stamford (formerly of Winters) died May 30, 2008. He was a technical sergeant in the U.S. Army during World War II. He taught veterans classes and became a high school agriculture teacher in Winters. He moved in 1949 to Stamford, where he was the vocational agriculture teacher. He later taught agriculture classes for Avoca High School. In 1962, he and partners opened Bronco Seed Co., from which he later retired. He was president and a director of the Texas Seed Trade Association and president and director of the American Delinter Association. He received the American Cottonseed Delinters Association's Delinter of the Year award in 1988. Survivors include a son; a daughter; six grandchildren, including L. Michelle (VanDuyn) Brechbuhl '90, Victoria R. (VanDuyn) Appleton '95 and Michael G. Proctor '01; and 11 great-grandchildren.

**Earl G. "E.G." Bailey, Jr. '43**, 87, of Dexter, Mo., died July 24, 2008. He was a major in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps during World War II. He made the invasion of Okinawa in April 1945 and remained there for 15 months after the war ended, working to restore their livestock with cattle sent from the U.S. He had a large equine practice in

southeast Missouri. He did veterinary relief work in Florida and Missouri from 1978 until the time of his death. He was a past president of the Missouri Veterinary Medical Association and received the Missouri Veterinarian of the Year Award in 1972. Survivors include his wife of 38 years, Barbara; a son; three daughters; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; two brothers; and a sister.

**Curtis E. Connor '43**, 87, of Daingerfield, Texas, died June 24, 2008. He taught agricultural education in Crosby before serving in World War II. He served in the Fifth Army's 339th Infantry Regiment, 85th "Custer" Division on the Italian front. His military awards include the Bronze Star. He farmed and ranched on family land and in 2007 received certification in the Family Land Heritage Program for 150 years of continuous agricultural operation within the same family. Survivors include three daughters; six grandchildren, including Benton C. Kirk '97 and Katy L. Robertson '05; and a great-grandson.

**Clayton J. D'Avy, Jr. '43**, 87, of Opelousas, La., died April 25, 2008, after a long illness. He was a captain in the European theater during World War II as an interpreter in France and as an Army liaison officer under Gen. Dwight Eisenhower. He was a major in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. He was the first architect in St. Landry Parish and was responsible for the construction of many projects throughout south and central Louisiana, including Opelousas General Hospital and Opelousas High School. He was a past president of the Louisiana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Clara; five sons; four daughters; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and two siblings.

**Orvie "Gene" Foster '43**, 85, of Whitesboro, Texas, (formerly of Kaufman) died July 7, 2008. He retired in 1979 after 14 years as director of the evening division at Grayson County College and 37 years of service in education. He also worked at Security Bank of Whitesboro, retiring in 1989 as bank officer. After he retired, he wrote and had stories published in newspapers and books. The vocational center at Whitesboro High School was named the Gene Foster Vocational Center in 2004. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Dorothy; two sons; a daughter; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and two sisters.

**Albert C. Machemehl, Jr. '43**, 86, of Bellville died June 30, 2008. He was a pack mule team leader in the U.S. Army in the China-Burma-India theater during World War II. He began his career as a vocational agriculture teacher, teaching men returning from the war. He went on to own a Ful-O-Pep feed mill while starting a cattle and poultry business. He joined Texas Farm Bureau in 1946 as a member of the Austin County board of directors, then was state director and president, and later became a field man traveling over the southeast and Texas Gulf Coast counties promoting agriculture. He retired from Texas Farm Bureau in 1986. Survivors include two sons, Paul M. Machemehl '74 and Albert C. Machemehl '79; two daughters; and four grandchildren, including Marcus A. Machemehl '05, John P. Machemehl '06 and Amy L. Machemehl '10.

**Thomas E. Peeler '43**, 86, of Pleasanton, Texas, died July 2, 2008. Survivors include his wife, Faye; a son; a daughter; three grandchildren; a step-grandson; and three great-grandchildren.

**Dwain A. Treadwell '43**, 87, of Fairhope, Ala., died June 30, 2008. He had been with

International Harvester Co. more than 30 years as a senior manager in overseas assignments in the company's international division. He retired to Cool, Calif., in 1980. He moved in 2000 to Fairhope, where his volunteer work included becoming a Stephen Ministry caregiver. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Beverly; three sons, including Gary A. Treadwell '74; a daughter; 13 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Robert A. Bostick '44**, 87, of Canton, Texas, (formerly of Troy and Richardson) died March 5, 2008. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 17 years. He was a hump pilot over the Himalayan Mountains in the China-Burma-India theater of operations during World War II. He later flew in the Berlin Airlift and during the Korean War. He retired from the U.S. Air Force Reserve as a lieutenant colonel after 22 years of service. His military awards include the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was chief pilot for Triton Energy Corp. Survivors include his wife of 27 years, Ernestine; a son; a daughter; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Edmond A. "Ed" Henderson '44**, 85, of Devers, Texas, (formerly of Galveston) died May 18, 2008. He was a captain in the U.S. Air Force. He practiced veterinary medicine in Galveston for 41 years and undertook a variety of business ventures, including airline interests, real estate development and ranching. He led family businesses that operated ranches in Medina, San Patricio and Liberty and in northwest Kansas. He was active in cattle ranch management from his home on Spindletop Ranch until his death. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Cathy; two sons, including James C. Henderson '80; two daughters; and seven grandchildren.

**Thomas W. "Tom" Marshall '44**, 84, of Portland, Texas, (formerly of Durango, Colo.) died July 23, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army in France, Belgium and Germany during World War II and served in the reserves for the Korean War. He was an assistant district engineer with Humble Oil and Refining Co.'s production department before moving to Corpus Christi in 1951 and going into the commercial construction business. He was a project superintendent and engineer with A.E. Hinman Construction and became a partner in 1956. The company was renamed Marshall Co. in 1963. He retired in 1992. He became a registered professional engineer in 1947. He lived in Skidmore from 1975 to 2004. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Tookie; a son; three daughters, including Karen Marshall LaVergne '77 and Karla J. (Marshall) Wilburn '79; seven grandchildren, including Lauren N. LaVergne '08; three great-grandchildren; and a sister.

**E. P. "Pete" Richards, Jr. '44**, 86, of Austin (formerly of Lufkin and Tyler) died June 14, 2008, after a lengthy illness. He served in the military during World War II. He worked in the petrochemical industry through the 1990s. He had worked and lived in Louisiana and Illinois but lived most of his life in Pasadena, Texas. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Gene; a son; a daughter; and four grandchildren.

**Thomas R. "Tom" Sessums '44**, 85, of College Station died June 14, 2008. He retired from WKM Corp., where he was a mechanical engineer for many years. Survivors include his wife, Peggy; two daughters; three stepchildren; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two brothers.

**A. Marion Smith '44**, 89, of Mesa, Ariz., (formerly of Hunt Valley, Ariz., and Snowflake, Ariz.) died June 25, 2008. He was a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps at Fort Eustis, Va., during World War II. He went into general veterinary practice in the Phoenix and Scottsdale area. He built the Ingleside Animal Hospital in 1958 and operated it for 20 years. He then moved to Mesa and built the Dobson Road Animal Clinic, which he operated for 10 years before retiring at age 70. He was instrumental in founding the Phoenix Zoo in 1962 and served as the zoo veterinarian. He was president of the Arizona Veterinary Medical Association in 1962 and served three terms on the Arizona State Board of Medical Examiners. Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Wanda; four sons; three daughters; 28 grandchildren, including Brian K. Harper '05; 22 great-grandchildren; and a brother.

**Rex L. Hardaway '45**, 82, of Llano, Texas, (formerly of Leesburg) died July 21, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Winnie; three sons, including Rex D. Hardaway '70; two daughters; 15 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

**William H. "Bill" Huffman '45**, 83, of Conroe (formerly of Weatherford and Cisco) died June 16, 2008. He served in the 99th Infantry Division during World War II and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded the Bronze Star. He worked for Humble Pipeline and its successor, Exxon Pipeline, for 36 years before retiring in 1983. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Mary; two sons, Richard H. Huffman '69 and W. Mike Huffman '75; four grandchildren, including Leslie A. Huffman '06 and Amy C. Huffman '07; and a brother.

**Jack W. Kolb '45**, 83, of Richland, Wash., (formerly of Sherman) died May 24, 2008. He trained fighter pilots in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He began his engineering career with General Electric Co. in Schenectady, N.Y., and transferred to Richland in 1952 to work at the Hanford site with G.E. and Westinghouse. He retired in 1989 after 37 years of service. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Nicki; three daughters; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Dan H. Kuykendall '45**, 83, of Germantown, Tenn., (formerly of Cherokee) died June 12, 2008. He was a B-17 pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He moved to Memphis, Tenn., in 1955 to work with Procter & Gamble as regional manager for five states. He became chairman of the Shelby County Republican Party in 1963 and was elected to the U.S. Congress for four terms from 1966 to 1974. He moved to Potomac, Md., and worked as a lobbyist-consultant for small businesses and government agencies before returning to Tennessee. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Jacqueline; two sons, including Dan H. Kuykendall, Jr. '76; two daughters, including Kay Kuykendall Wettemann '86; and nine grandchildren.

**Jesse K. "Jess" Mattox, Jr. '45**, 84, of Lubbock (formerly of Pearsall) died June 30, 2008. He was a captain and B-24-H bomber navigator in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, primarily in the China-Burma-India theater. He had a career in the air conditioning, refrigeration and appliance wholesale business. He moved to Lubbock in 1962 and started TERSCO Inc. of West Texas, which grew to five locations throughout West Texas and close to 100 employees at the time it was acquired in 1985. He

served three years as chairman of the foundation board of St. Mary's Hospital. He was an Eagle Scout. Survivors include his wife, Sunshine; two sons; a daughter; four grandchildren, including Brandon A. Mattox '06; a brother, Charles W. Mattox '46; and a sister.

**Gerald T. McCarty '45**, 83, of Houston died Feb. 22, 2008. He was a lieutenant in Europe during World War II. He worked for Texaco and Scurlock Oil Co. Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Elaine; two sons; and two grandchildren, including Molly E. McCarty '09.

**Quentin F. Naumann '45**, 84, of Houston (formerly of Spicewood) died June 21, 2008, after a long illness. He served in the 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division of the U.S. Army during World War II and participated in the Dachau liberation. He retired from Humble/Exxon. Survivors include his wife, Joyce; three daughters; and three grandchildren.

**John K. Oliver '45**, 84, of Lampasas died June 26, 2008. He served in the U.S. Air Force in Alaska, Germany, San Antonio, Maryland and Alabama. He retired at the rank of lieutenant colonel. Survivors include two sons, two daughters and nine grandchildren.

**Robert "Jack" Orrick, Jr. '45**, 83, of Beaumont died May 20, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He received a medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and completed his residency in general surgery at Parkland Hospital in Dallas. He returned to Beaumont in 1956 to practice surgery with the late Dr. Norman Duren '42. He retired in 2008. He is survived by extended family.

**Eck G. Prudhomme, Jr. '45**, 84, of Fort Worth (formerly of Texarkana, Hemphill

and Pineland) died June 14, 2008, of a stroke. He was a first lieutenant and weather officer in the U.S. Army Air Corps in Burma and India during World War II. He graduated from medical school at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston in 1952. He practiced family medicine in Winnie before moving to Fort Worth, where he practiced at the River Oaks Clinic from 1957 to 1978. In 1978 he became medical director of the Schick Shadel Hospital for the treatment of alcohol and drug addiction. He retired in 1985. He was an Eagle Scout. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Margaret; two daughters; seven grandchildren, including Matthew M. Tillman '08 and Ryan Y. Tillman '08; a great-grandson; and three brothers.

**Lawrence Galfione, Jr. '46**, 82, of Houston (formerly of Galveston) died June 17, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He worked in construction before joining the Texas Highway Department in 1954. He became district design engineer for the Houston District in 1971. He took early retirement in 1977 after supervising the design of many large freeway projects in Harris, Galveston, Brazoria and Fort Bend counties. In 1977 he joined the consulting firm of Turner Collie & Braden Inc., where he established the firm's transportation division and was senior vice president and chief transportation engineer. He retired from full-time employment with the firm in 1998 but provided oversight and quality assurance for the firm for 30 miles of toll roads in the Austin area and 12 miles of the Westpark Tollway in Houston. He lettered in baseball at Texas A&M in 1944. Survivors include two sons, a daughter, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Clarence "Sumner" Hunter '46**, 83, of Austin (formerly of Uvalde) died May 27, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy. He was a rancher in Uvalde most of his career. Survivors include four sons, a daughter, seven grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and a sister.

**Robert D. "Bob" Kahn '46**, 82, of Austin (formerly of Shreveport, La.) died March 14, 2008. He worked as a jeweler until he became ill. Survivors include his wife of 25 years, Kay; two sons, including William C. Kahn '82; four daughters; two grandsons, including Ryan D. Kahn '08; and a sister.

**Brady R. Law '46**, 82, of Houston (formerly of Alvin) died March 1, 2008. Survivors include a son.

**Robert K. "Bob" Ridley '46**, 84, of Houston died July 9, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was a retired lumber broker. He was a former Class Agent for the Class of '46. Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Diane; a son; a daughter; two grandchildren, including Andrew A. Rice '05; and a brother. Memorials may be made to the Texas A&M Foundation, 401 George Bush Drive, College Station, TX 77840-2811.

**Jack Brasher '48**, 81, of Weimar, Texas, died June 9, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Fargo during World War II and served again during the Korean War. He took over the Brasher Insurance Agency, which had been started by his father and continued by his mother. He sold the agency in 1989 and turned to ranching. Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Betty; two sons, John M. Brasher '75 and James E. Brasher '80; two daughters, including Marilyn Brasher Hollar Wade '75; and nine grandchildren, including Christo-

pher N. Brasher '00, John E. Brasher '02 and Neal C. Hollar '03.

**Harold Calhoun '49**, 88, of Dallas (formerly of Sherman) died May 29, 2008, after a lengthy illness. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, mostly in the China-Burma-India theater. He worked in sales and marketing for Ford Motor Co. for almost 30 years. He was a consultant for several years after he retired. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Martha; a son; a daughter; six grandchildren, including Ruth A. Cooper '06 and Sara R. Cooper '10; and three great-grandchildren.

**Edwin E. "Ed" Coker '49**, 79, of Dallas died May 19, 2008. He served in the National Guard. He sold piece goods (textiles) to retail entities in Texas and adjacent states. Survivors include a daughter.

**Joe E. Conway, Jr. '49**, 80, of Bryan (formerly of Fort Worth) died June 30, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was the building supervisor for maintenance for Texas A&M's physical plant for 20 years. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Mittie; two daughters; three grandchildren, including Scott D. Campbell '02; and a sister.

**Richard P. Kirkpatrick '49**, 82, of Casper, Wyo., (formerly of Capps and Kermit) died Feb. 13, 2008. He retired in 1991 as a drilling superintendent for True Drilling Co. in Casper. Survivors include his wife of 33 years, Joyce; two sons; a stepson; a stepdaughter; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Woodson E. "Mose" McCook '49**, 91, of Post, Texas, (formerly of Goldsboro, Abilene and McCamey) died June 6, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was a coach/teacher in Brownfield, Ozona and McCamey and a

principal. He was also a sporting goods dealer. He co-owned and managed The Athletic Supply from 1952 to 1969. He was named to the Abilene Christian University Hall of Fame in 1993 for football and track. Survivors include two sons, four grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and a stepsister.

**Charles W. Measley '49**, 79, of Plano, Texas, (formerly of Borger) died June 14, 2008, after a lengthy illness. He worked for Employers Casualty Co. in Beaumont. He was called to service in 1954 and was a captain and served as commanding officer of food services during his tour in the Far East. He retired from Sun Oil Co. in 1988 in Plano after 37 years. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Pat; two sons, Charles W. Measley, Jr. '81 and Paul W. Measley '90; and four grandchildren, including Travis H. Measley '08.

**Howard C. Minyard '49**, 79, of Houston (formerly of Decatur and Corsicana) died Feb. 15, 2008. He was an artillery officer in the U.S. Army and served a deployment to West Germany during the Cold War. He joined Mobil Pipe Line Co. in 1953 and retired from Mobil headquarters in Dallas after 31 years with the company. He participated in the opening of the Alaskan pipeline. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Inez; four sons, including William F. Minyard '83; and eight grandchildren.

**E. Wayne Rogers '49**, 85, of Parker, Colo., died July 16, 2008. He served during World War II. He was a petroleum engineer for 40 years and retired from Hunt Petroleum. Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Audrey; a son; two daughters; and four grandchildren.

**J. W. "Bill" Chappell '50**, 82, of Oklahoma City, Okla. (formerly of Galveston) died

June 17, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He had a long career in the petroleum industry before owning and operating the Chaparral Storm Window Co. in Oklahoma City. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Claudia; four children; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Alvin M Hurd '50**, 83, of Rochelle, Texas, (formerly of East Sweden) died April 29, 2008. He was a professional civil engineer. Survivors include his wife of 36 years, Lorene; two sons, including Daniel A. Hurd '96; a granddaughter; and a sister.

**Howard S. Mitchell '50**, 82, of Bryan (formerly of Childress) died Aug. 15, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He taught vocational agriculture in the Panhandle before moving to Bryan in 1950. He founded and managed Ace Fence Co. in the 1980s and retired as a cattle rancher in 2004. Survivors include a daughter; a stepson; two grandchildren, including Kaylee M. Little '90; a step-granddaughter; and a sister.

**Dan E. O'Neal '50**, 86, of Midland, Texas, (formerly of Doerun, Ga., and St. Petersburg, Fla.) died June 29, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army in Texas, Louisiana and California. He was city engineer for the city of Odessa and in later years was project engineer for locations at Rio Rancho and Cochiti Lake, N.M. Survivors include a daughter, a granddaughter; two step-grandsons, two great grandchildren, six step-great-grandchildren, a great-great-granddaughter and two step-great-great-granddaughters.

**William K. "Billy" Penrod '50**, 81, of Houston (formerly of Gonzales) died June 21,

2008. He was a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne during World War II. He taught math and coached for several years before working with the development of computer systems. Survivors include two daughters, including Leslie Penrod Dunbar '77; six grandchildren; and a brother.

**William C. "Bill" Proctor, Jr. '50**, 82, of Wichita Falls (formerly of Amarillo and Del Rio) died May 7, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army. He was in the oil and gas industry for 40 years and was recognized for his rig repair business in Oklahoma and throughout Texas. Survivors include a son, two daughters, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Calvin F. Wallace '50**, 82, of Corpus Christi died March 2, 2008, after a lengthy illness. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps and the Corps Reserve. He was a veterinarian. Survivors include his wife of 25 years, Janice; 10 children, including Elizabeth A. (Wallace) Case '88 and Richard C. Wallace '97; nine grandchildren; a brother; and a sister.

**Spencer "Hall" Barret, Jr. '51**, 80, of Belzoni, Miss., (formerly of Vicksburg, Miss.) died June 14, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy. He joined his father in the family farming business. His farming career of 57 years began with the production of cotton and grains and grew to include catfish farming. He was president of the Mid-Delta Cotton Processors Inc. for 17 years. He was vice-president of Delta Council in Stoneville, Miss., and was named Ginner of the Year in 1985. Survivors include his wife of 33 years, Joy; a son; a daughter; three stepsons; a stepdaughter; 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

**Reuben W. Blackburn '51**, 87, of Beaumont (formerly of Port Arthur) died March 8, 2008. Survivors include his wife, Ima.

**Charles P. Crosby '51**, 83, of Orangevale, Calif., (formerly of Kelly Field; San Antonio; Denver, Colo.; and El Paso) died Jan. 29, 2008. He was an aircraft mechanic in the U.S. Army Air Corps in the Philippines and Japan during World War II. He was a commissioned officer in the U.S. Air Force and a B-29 navigator during the Korean War and flew reconnaissance during the Vietnam War. He retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1990. He had lived in Orangevale since 1968. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Margaret; two sons; three daughters; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Charles L. Novosad, Jr. '51**, 77, of Pojoaque, N.M. (formerly of Bryan) died April 29, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy for 12 years. He was a medical doctor. Survivors include a sister.

**Frank L. Sheffield '51**, 79, of Lufkin, Texas, (formerly of Crosby) died June 24, 2008. He was a forward observer for the artillery during the Korean War and later became an aide to Gen. Osborne. He retired in 1993 after 32 years as an engineer with the Lufkin Paper Mill. He was a member of the Ross Volunteers at Texas A&M. Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Edgardene; a son, Bryan L. Sheffield '82; a daughter, Charlee Sheffield Garbs '95; four grandchildren; and a brother. Memorials may be made to the Frank Sheffield '51 Memorial Scholarship Fund, The Association of Former Students, 505 George Bush Drive, College Station, TX 77840-2918.

**James M. "Jim" Richardson '52**, 78, of Houston (formerly of Alto) died Aug. 7, 2008.

He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He had a 42-year career in the oil and gas industry. Survivors include a son, a daughter and two grandchildren.

**James D. Barnard '53**, 77, of Fort Worth (formerly of Brandon and Hillsboro) died April 26, 2008. He was an artillery officer in the U.S. Army. He worked for Convair (later General Dynamics and Lockheed Martin) and retired from Lockheed in 1994 as an engineering chief after 40 years of service. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Peggy; a son; a daughter; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

**Sidney L. "Sid" Borden '53**, 78, of Pasadena (formerly of Galveston and Houston) died June 21, 2008. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He worked in the credit department of Neiman Marcus department store. He later became a licensed real estate broker and, for many years, owned and operated a home remodeling business in the Houston area. He was a fish yell leader at Texas A&M. Survivors include a son, two daughters, seven grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and a twin sister.

**Forest B. "Brad" Buford '53**, 84, of Weatherford (formerly of Haskell) died May 16, 2008. He was a B-17 gunner in the U.S. Army Air Forces 8th Air Force, 306th Bomb Group during World War II, stationed in England. He worked for the Texas Highway Department for 20 years as a supervising resident engineer and retired as consulting engineer in 1985. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Jean, and a daughter.

**Robert E. "Bob" Huffman '53**, 77, of Sudbury, Mass., and Albuquerque, N.M., (formerly of Breckenridge) died Aug. 14, 2008. He was a captain in the U.S. Air

Force and continued working for 40 years in a civilian capacity as a senior scientist in the U.S. Air Force research and development labs at Hanscom Field in Massachusetts. Survivors include a son, two daughters, a granddaughter and a brother.

**Robert E. "Bob" McCarley '53**, 77, of Blue Ridge, Texas, (formerly of McKinney and Dallas) died April 28, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division. He was vice president of operations for McBee Operating Co., where he worked for 44 years. He lettered in football in 1952 at Texas A&M. Survivors include his wife, Billie; three daughters; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; two brothers, including Hugh E. McCarley '59; and two sisters.

**Dan M. Stanford, Sr. '53**, 90, of Linden died Aug. 7, 2007. He was a petty officer second class in the U.S. Navy. He taught two years at Bloomburg High School. He was a high school principal, counselor, math and science teacher and bus driver at McLeod ISD for seven years. He retired from Linden-Kildare CISD after serving as principal, bus driver and math teacher for 19 years and with 29 years in education. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Violet; two sons, including Dan M. Stanford, Jr.'87; five grandchildren, including Annella E. Stanford '10; two great-grandchildren; and two brothers, including Edward T. Stanford '51.

**Robert W. Briggs, Jr. '55**, 74, of Victoria, Texas, (formerly of Pharr) died June 12, 2008. He entered the family businesses, Briggs Ranches and the Fordyce Co., in Victoria. He lettered in golf at Texas A&M in 1953 and 1955. Survivors include his wife, Barbara; a son; a daughter, Louise Briggs Thurmond '86; three

stepchildren; two grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; and two sisters.

**Ray E. Stratton '55**, 74, of Valparaiso, Fla., (formerly of Houston) died Feb. 28, 2008. He served in the U.S. Air Force in a variety of positions, including instructor pilot and forward air controller in Vietnam. He retired as commandant of the Air Force Special Operations School at Hurlburt Field, Fla., after 30 years of service. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Bronze Star. He joined Lockheed Martin's Skunk Works in Burbank, Calif., and worked with the company for 14 years, last as director of the corporate business development office in Tampa, Fla. Survivors include his wife of 38 years, Jan, and eight children.

**James E. "Jim" Cook, Jr. '56**, 75, of Houston died April 30, 2008. He received his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston in 1960. He was a captain in the U.S. Army from 1960 to 1962 before completing his internship at University Hospital in Jackson, Miss. (1962-64). He practiced general medicine in the Spring Branch area of Houston for 36 years before closing his practice in 2000, and he was on the staff of Sam Houston Memorial Hospital, Spring Branch Memorial Hospital and Memorial City Hospital. He was a fellow of the American Academy of Family Practice. Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Carol; four daughters, including Kelly Cook Gauger '84; six grandchildren; and a brother.

**Don E. Smith '56**, 73, of Hideaway, Texas, (formerly of Colfax) died May 2, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army for 20 years, rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He retired in 1997 and returned to the Colfax community until 2007, when

he moved to Hideaway. Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Latrece; four children; 11 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; a brother; and two sisters.

**Robert R. Arms '57**, 72, of Whitehouse, Texas, (formerly of Tyler) died May 17, 2008. He was a certified public accountant in Tyler for 48 years as president and principal in Arms, Jeffers & Co., which became Arms, Shilling & Pye. He was a founder and director of First Southwest Savings and Loan Association of Tyler for 17 years. Survivors include his wife, Kay; a son, Robert "Mike" Arms '80; a daughter, Cynthia Arms Vines '83; five grandchildren; and a brother.

**Cyrus H. "Cy" Holley '57**, 72, of Trophy Club, Texas, (formerly of Chicago, Ill.) died June 27, 2008. He was an engineer and corporate officer. He worked for BASF Wyandotte Corp. and Engelhard Corp. He and his wife were partners in a commercial real estate business after he retired. He was a trustee from 1987 to 1997 for Bloomfield College in Bloomfield, N.J., where he was an executive-in-residence lecturer. He was named trustee emeritus in 1997 and awarded an honorary doctorate of laws degree by the college in 1998. He was listed in *Who's Who in the World* for many years. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Shirley; two sons; three grandchildren; and three sisters.

**Scott T. Poage '57**, 76, of Waco died May 13, 2008. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a production control officer at the headquarters of the Air Material Command. He was professor of industrial engineering at the University of Texas at Arlington from its inception until 1967 and was a professor and chairman of the industrial engineering

department at the University of Houston from 1968 to 1983. He was the author of several software packages for use on personal computers and wrote *Quantitative Management Methods for Practicing Engineers*, published by Barnes & Noble. He was a fellow of the Institute of Industrial Engineers and served as national vice president of the organization. He is listed in *Who's Who in Education* and in *American Men of Science*. He owned and operated the Lazy 11 Ranch in Throckmorton County under the family name, Poage Land and Cattle, with his father and uncle and managed the family's land holdings throughout the state. He is survived by extended family.

**Robert S. "Bob" Stuart '57**, 72, of Midland, Texas, (formerly of Chicago, Ill.) died April 7, 2008. He was a major in the U.S. Air Force and served as project manager for the Sprint Spartan Missile System. He worked in the life insurance industry for many years. He retired in 2001 from Midland College as an instructor of computer science. Survivors include his wife of 20 years, Martee; three sons; three daughters; seven grandchildren; and a sister.

**John E. West '57**, 73, of Brenham, Texas, (formerly of Pettus) died July 11, 2008, after a lengthy illness. He was a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve. He wrote and edited sports at the *Bryan-College Station Eagle* newspaper from 1960 to 1965. He worked for Texas A&M for 30 years as special events editor in the University News Service and was the photographic and visual aids laboratory manager. He typed football and basketball play-by-plays in the Kyle Field press box and G. Rollie White Coliseum for 41 years. He played trombone in the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band. He retired to Gay Hill. Survivors

include his wife of 14 years, Susan; two daughters, including Amy L. (West) Sisco '89; two stepdaughters, including Erin M. Hawkins '08; two grandchildren; and a sister. Memorials may be made to The Aggie Band Association, 3606 East 29th St., Bryan, TX 77802.

**Joe K. Allen '58**, 72, of Olmsted Falls, Ohio, (formerly of Bonham) died March 9, 2008. Survivors include two daughters, two granddaughters and his mother.

**Dan J. Craig '58**, 79, of San Antonio (formerly of Waco) died May 27, 2008. He was a veterinarian. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 26 years, including assisting and coordinating with the U.S. Air Force in the development of specialized canine training for the Federal Aviation Agency, the Armed Services and the Department of Defense. He retired in 1984 at the rank of colonel. Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Edith; a son; two daughters; four grandchildren; two great-grandsons; a brother; and two sisters.

**John C. "Jack" Russell '58**, 78, of East Hampton, Conn., (formerly of Schenectady, N.Y. and Melrose, N.Y.) died Feb. 23, 2008. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He worked briefly for the state of Connecticut before working at Hartford Hospital in Hartford, Conn., for 33 years. He retired in 1993 as director of facility development. Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Diane; three sons; a daughter; seven grandchildren; and a brother.

**Paul M. Curda '59**, 70, of Houston (formerly of Chicago, Ill.) died Aug. 12, 2008. He taught math and English in the Comal County school systems in the 1960s before moving to Dime Box, where he taught math and English in the 1970s and 1980s. He lived in Houston for

the past 25 years and was a substitute teacher in the Houston and Channelview school districts. Survivors include four sons, including Robert L. Curda '95; eight grandchildren; his father; two brothers; and two sisters.

**William "Jack" Hatchell '59**, 70, of Plano died June 28, 2008, of cancer. He was a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Transportation Corps and captain in the U.S. Army Reserve. He worked as an engineer with the Texas Department of Transportation, the city of Midland, and the Texas Transportation Institute before going into public service. He served on the city council of Plano from 1975 to 1985. He then served on the Collin County Commissioner's Court since 1986, where he was member and later chairman of the Regional Transportation Council, and member and later president of the North Central Texas Council of Governments executive board. He served as president of the Texas District of the Institute of Transportation Engineers and as chairman of ITE District 5. Among his many awards was the NCTCOG's highest award, the William J. Pitstick Regional Excellence Award, which he received on June 13, 2008. Survivors include his wife of 44 years, Pat; two daughters, including Amy Hatchell Briggs '91; a grandson; and a sister.

**Gary W. Hipps, Sr. '59**, 70, of Huntsville, Texas, (formerly of Dallas) died June 7, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army as an air defense artillery officer for 26 years, serving in Vietnam in 1969 and as a staff member of the joint chiefs in Washington, D.C. He retired in 1986 at the rank of colonel. He was then the facility maintenance director for the Texas Department of Corrections for 15 years, retiring in 2001. Survivors include his wife, Patricia; three children, including

Gary W. Hipps, Jr. '82; a stepdaughter; 11 grandchildren; and a brother.

**Joe B. Watson '60**, 67, of San Antonio died Oct. 4, 2007. He served in the U.S. Army. He then joined the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and worked in Germany, Texas, Hawaii and Virginia for almost 30 years. He retired to San Antonio. Survivors include his wife, Irmgard; two daughters; and two granddaughters.

**Frederick P. "Fred" Billings, Jr. '61**, 68, of Bastrop, Texas, (formerly of Chicago, Ill., and Dallas) died March 9, 2008. He was a coach at Quitman High School, Elysian Fields High School and The Kinkaid School. He pioneered golf camps at Fairway Farm Golf & Hunt Club in San Augustine and Circle D Lodge in Bastrop. He was also an organic foods farmer. Survivors include his wife of 47 years, Carol; two sons, Frederick P. Billings III '84 and Scott C. Billings '85; and nine grandchildren.

**Ben H. Houston '61**, 86, of Colorado Springs, Colo. (formerly of Frankston) died May 18, 2008, after lengthy illness. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1971 as a mathematics professor at the U.S. Air Force Academy. He had also worked at NORAD at Patterson Air Force Base in Colorado, helping to set up the weather station at the facility. He received the Meritorious Service Medal. Survivors include a son, a daughter and five grandchildren.

**Donald M. "Don" Turner '62**, 75, of Denison, Texas, (formerly of Ringling, Okla.) died May 20, 2008. He taught in Ringling, Okla.; Amarillo; El Paso; and Anchorage, Alaska. Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Jan.

**Edwin "Barry" Ferrell, Jr. '63**, 67, of Richardson, Texas, (formerly of Midland and Albuquerque, N.M.) died May 14, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army in West Germany. He retired from the U.S. Civil Service Commission (later the Office of Personnel Management) in 1996. He moved to Richardson in 1973. He was a member of the fish drill team and was executive officer of D-2 in the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M. Survivors include his wife of 39 years, Helen; six children; and 10 grandchildren.

**Delbert L. "Del" Holcomb '63**, 67, of Abilene (formerly of Lamesa) died July 3, 2008, after a lengthy illness. He moved in 1974 to Abilene, where he was a contractor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture classing station. Survivors include his wife of 27 years, Bettye; three sons; a daughter; eight grandchildren; and three brothers.

**Charles A. "Chuck" Tingle '63**, 66, of San Antonio died June 12, 2008, after an extended illness. He worked in retail sales with Sears Roebuck Co., Montgomery Ward, O.R. Mitchell Dodge, Gunn-Betts Oldsmobile and Tom Benson Chevrolet. He later earned a state teaching certificate at Angelo State University. He was a substitute teacher at Edgewood and Roosevelt high schools before gaining a position as a vocational teacher at Burbank and South San Antonio high schools for more than 25 years. He retired in 2004. Survivors include his wife of 46 years, Diane; a son, Travis R. Tingle '86; two daughters, including Jill Tingle Potter '01; and four grandchildren.

**Andrew M. "Andy" Andersson '64**, 66, of Plano, Texas, (formerly of Bryan) died May 29, 2008. He was an electrical engineer and worked for Texas Instruments for more than 30 years. He served as an

ordained deacon at each church he attended. Survivors include his wife of 42 years, Linda Beth; three sons, including Arthur A. Andersson '92 and Benjamin E. Andersson '98; two grandchildren; a brother; and a sister.

**Bevan A. Cates '64**, 68, of Rancho Mirage, Calif., (formerly of Baytown and Spicewood) died May 9, 2008. He served in the 4th Army, 1st Armored Division, 501st Aviation Company. He joined Van Waters and Rogers Inc./Univar in 1972 as a sales representative and retired in 2000 as senior vice president after 28 years of service. Survivors include his wife of 35 years, Smokey; three daughters, including Jennifer A. (Cates) Duval '01; a granddaughter, Erica S. Erwin '05; and a brother.

**William L. "Billy" Crain '66**, 64, of Richmond, Texas, (formerly of Pearsall) died June 3, 2008. He was an elder at Abiding Life Christian Fellowship in Stafford and was a volunteer prison chaplain at the Carol S. Vance Unit in Sugar Land. He lettered in baseball at Texas A&M from 1964 to 1966. Survivors include his wife, Jennifer; two sons, including Jeffrey A. Crain '97; a daughter; eight grandchildren; and a brother.

**Dan D. Drew '66**, 81, of College Station (formerly of Abilene and Paris) died May 14, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He worked for the Naval Ordnance Test Station in China Lake, Calif., and for General Dynamics and IBM before moving to College Station in 1960 to join the computer science division at Texas A&M. He became director of the computer science division in the School of Engineering. He retired in 1987 and was named professor emeritus of computer science. Survivors include his wife, Florence; four sons, including Daniel W.

Drew '75; a daughter; 13 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**John S. Bennett '67**, 63, of Luling, Texas, (formerly of Pearsall) died July 5, 2008. He graduated from Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Worth and was a retired physician. He had also been a pharmacist, a biology and chemistry teacher, a deejay, and radio announcer for the Pearsall High School football team. Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Sharon; a son; a daughter; and seven grandchildren.

**Roger L. Collins '68**, 61, of Granbury, Texas, (formerly of Braintree, Mass.) died May 20, 2008. He retired after 28 years in the auto parts industry. He was a member of Squadron 2 in the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M. Survivors include his wife, Julie; two sons; a daughter; six grandchildren; a brother; and a sister.

**Edward C. "Ed" Park, Jr. '68**, 66, of Clayton, N.C., died Dec. 4, 2007. Survivors include his wife, Rachel.

**Brice R. Bonner III '70**, 60, of Eureka, Texas, (formerly of Dallas) died Aug. 6, 2008. He was a retired high school teacher. Survivors include a son and a daughter.

**Monte G. Norton, Sr. '70**, 62, of Amelia Court House, Va., died July 1, 2008. He was an engineer and federal employee. He retired in 2007. He also studied the genetics of dogs and helped his wife plan breedings to produce healthy offspring of the caliber to win AKC championships in the show ring. He moved into his dream house in Amelia in November 2007. Survivors include his wife of 22 years, Toni; a son; a stepson; a stepdaughter; four grandchildren; his mother and stepfather; a brother; a sister; and three half-brothers.

**Wesley A. Boothe '71**, 59, of Lufkin, Texas, (formerly of Corpus Christi) died May 16, 2008. He was plant engineer for Georgia Pacific for more than 15 years. He was a member of the Corps of Cadets and the Aggie marching band. Survivors include his wife, Debbie; a son, Brian J. Boothe '03; a daughter; and a sister.

**Thomas F. "Tom" Hill, Jr. '72**, 67, of Groesbeck, Texas, (formerly of Henderson) died March 11, 2008. He retired from Dow Chemical as a chemist. Survivors include his wife of 11 years, Peggy; two sons; two stepsons; a stepdaughter, Antoinette Flanagan Riester-Wood '01; two grandsons; six step-grandchildren.

**Wayne S. Dammier '73**, 57, of Amarillo died July 27, 2008. He farmed and ranched with his father and later with his son. He was a director of Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association and a past president of the Panhandle Livestock Association. He was an Eagle Scout. He was a member of the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M. Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Mary Kay; a son; a daughter; his father; his mother; and a sister.

**John W. "Bill" Jermyn III '73**, 57, of Jefferson City, Mo., (formerly of Baltimore, Md.) died May 15, 2008. He received a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Worth. He began his 33-year career in emergency medical services as an attending physician in the emergency department at Normandy Hospitals in St. Louis, Mo., and then served as director of the emergency departments at Community Hospital in Grand Junction, Colo., and the Moberly Regional Medical Center in Moberly, Mo. He was director of emergency medical

services for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for the past three years. He had been an assistant professor of clinical surgery at the University of Missouri, Columbia, and was an attending physician for the Emergency Physicians of Missouri and an instructor in the division of emergency medicine at Washington University, Barnes Hospital in St. Louis. He was a past president of the Missouri College of Emergency Physicians and had served as chair of the Missouri State Advisory Council on EMS. He was a fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians and the American Academy of Emergency Medicine. Survivors include his mother, a sister and his fiancé.

**Carl A. Sanders '74**, 56, of Sabine Pass, Texas, (formerly of Houston) died June 16, 2008. He was a lieutenant junior grade in the U.S. Navy Reserve. He worked for Bay-Houston Towing Co. in Houston before founding Neches-Gulf Marine Inc. in 1987. The company is now based at its own dock facility in Sabine Pass and owns and operates four offshore utility vessels and Quality Boat Store, a marine grocery/supply business. He was commissioner for The Port of Port Arthur and was the first graduate of Texas A&M at Galveston to serve on its Board of Visitors. Survivors include his wife of 34 years, Jeanette; two sons, Todd B. Sanders '98 and R. Rhett Sanders '01; a granddaughter; his mother; and a brother, M. Doyle Sanders '69.

**Sidney D. "Sid" Kleeman '75**, 55, of Georgetown, Ky., (formerly of Los Angeles and Texas) died unexpectedly July 4, 2008. He was in the horse breeding and racing industry and owned Matagorda Farm in Georgetown for the past 18 years. Survivors include two sons.

**Donald W. "Don" Barnes, Jr. '77**, 83, of Winston-Salem, N.C., (formerly of Uxbridge, Mass., and Macon, Ga.) died April 23, 2008. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was among the first American troops to enter Nagasaki, Japan, after the city was bombed in August 1945. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserve at the rank of captain after 30 years of service. He and his now-deceased wife, Patricia, owned and operated the Lamplight Restaurant in Macon. They moved to Albany, Calif., while he received his undergraduate and master's degrees in architecture from the University of California-Berkeley. He began teaching at North Carolina State University in Raleigh in 1968, specializing in teaching structures at the School of Design (now College of Design) and was a pioneer in solar design principles. He moved to Florida after he retired as an associate professor of architecture and later moved to Avery County in North Carolina. He moved to Winston-Salem in 2000. Survivors include three children, four granddaughters and a sister.

**Frederick V. "Freddy" Waddill '77**, 52, of Liberty, Mo., (formerly of Brady and Rochelle) died May 13, 2008, of complications from a heart attack suffered on May 6 while he was on business in Terra Haute, Ind. He was a technology specialist with Capgimina Corp. Survivors include four sons; a daughter; his father; his mother; two brothers, including Van H. Waddill '69; and a sister.

**Larry R. Cannell '78**, 55, of Mesa, Ariz. (formerly of Johnstown, N.Y.) died May 16, 2008. He taught and coached at Albion, Neb.; College Station; Leavenworth, Kan.; Tempe High School; and was an assistant principal in Gering, Neb. He left education to serve as a special

agent in the FBI in Louisville, Ky. He was part owner/operator of the Scottsdale Pavillions Shell Service Station for the past 10 years. Survivors include his wife, Nori, and two daughters.

**David A. Keahey '78**, 51, of San Antonio (formerly of Austin) died May 26, 2008, after a long illness. He began his career in banking and financial planning and later moved into mortgages and real estate. Survivors include his wife of 25 years, Melissa; a son; his parents; a brother; and a sister.

**Mark P. Wooley '78**, 58, of Hutto died March 14, 2008. Survivors include his wife of 23 years, Beth.

**Randolph W. "Randy" Parnell '79**, 51, of Conroe, Texas, (formerly of Houston) died May 3, 2008, while competing in the swimming portion of the CB&I Triathlon in The Woodlands. He was an experienced triathlete and marathoner. He was a demolition engineer. Survivors include his wife, Sharon; a son, Mason R. Parnell '11; and two brothers, Craig R. Parnell '84 and Ward D. Parnell '91.

**Ralph P. Hartman '80**, 49, of Deer Park, Texas, (formerly of Houston) died May 16, 2008. He was a brewer at Anheuser-Busch Brewery for 23 years. Survivors include his father and stepmother and a sister.

**Randall K. "Randy" Mervish '80**, 56, of Palestine, Texas, (formerly of Marshall and College Station) died June 24, 2008. He received a master's degree in criminal justice from Sam Houston State University and had worked as a counselor for the Texas Department of Corrections at the Coffield Unit in Tennessee Colony for the past 18 years. Survivors include a daughter, his father, his mother and a sister.

**Ronald C. "Ron" Neugebauer '80**, 53, of College Station (formerly of Henrietta) died June 18, 2008. He worked for A.G. Edwards for more than 24 years, most recently as a vice president of investments. Survivors include a son, Robert E. Neugebauer '08; a daughter; his parents; a brother; and two sisters.

**Sarah Anne Phillips Cobb '82**, 48, of College Station (formerly of Tyler and Henderson) died July 3, 2008. She taught fifth grade at Lamar Elementary School in Bryan, was a homemaker for several years, and taught pre-kindergarten II and kindergarten at Allen Academy in Bryan for 11 years. Survivors include her husband of 24 years, Brian; two daughters; her father, Hugh M. Phillips '42, and mother; and a sister.

**Kristina L. Kendrick '82**, 48, of Austin (formerly of Elk City, Okla.) died Feb. 19, 2008. She was a child of the military and grew up in many places including Oklahoma, Texas, Alabama, California and Germany. She trained horses and cared for animals. Survivors include her mother and stepfather, a brother and a sister.

**Andrew C. "Andy" Wilkinson '82**, 51, of Fort Worth (formerly of Lubbock) died Oct. 30, 2007. He served in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps. He was a veterinarian, director at Alcon Research Ltd. and a diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. Survivors include his parents, a brother and two sisters.

**Giles W. "Chip" Willis III '82**, 47, of San Antonio (formerly of Patrick AFB, Fla.) died April 9, 2008. He worked for SPATCO Environmental and TVG Environmental, both of Nashville, Tenn., before starting his own environmental consulting company, APW Environmental,

which he operated until his death. He was a registered professional environmental engineer and geologist. He lived in Franklin, Tenn., from 1988 to 2001, before relocating to Texas. Survivors include his wife, Renee; three daughters; his father, Giles W. Willis, Jr. '60, and mother; and a sister.

**Austin H. Tong '83**, 47, of Boerne (formerly of Houston) died July 17, 2008, after a lengthy illness. He had been a systems engineering manager. Survivors include his wife M. Kathleen McDonald Tong '83; a daughter; his mother; and a sister, Karen L. (Tong) Abbott '86.

**Robert A. "Bob" Powell '84**, 46, of West Point, N.Y., (formerly of Leesville, La.) died June 9, 2008. He was a colonel in the U.S. Army and has served in the Air Defense Artillery as an ordnance officer with assignments in the U.S., Korea and Germany. He received a master's degree in operations research/management science from George Mason University and, in 2002, received a doctorate in systems engineering from the Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey. He then joined the Department of Systems Engineering at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, where he was an academy professor and deputy department head. During that assignment, he was a USMA fellow at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., earning a master's in national security and strategic studies. He had served in the U.S. Army for more than 24 years. He was author of and contributor to books, journal publications and technical reports. His military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters. Survivors include his wife, Lita; four children; his mother; two brothers; and three sisters.

**Christina C. Guthrie Walker '85**, 45, of Clear Lake Shores, Texas, (formerly of Texas City) died April 4, 2008. Survivors include her husband, Billy; three sons; her parents; a brother, Thomas K. Guthrie '83; and two sisters.

**Jon R. Galland '86**, 44, of Helotes, Texas, (formerly of Arlington) died June 3, 2008. He worked in the insurance industry and had owned Texcess RE of Boerne. Survivors include three children, including Jenna R. Galland '11; his parents; a brother; and two sisters, including Jennifer A. Galland '93.

**Scott L. McGinnis '86**, 52, of San Marcos, Texas, (formerly of Norfolk, Neb.) died March 16, 2008. Survivors include a daughter, his parents, a brother and a sister.

**Julie Chapman Hardwick '87**, 43, of George West, Texas, (formerly of Seguin and Beeville) died Aug. 9, 2008. She was a homemaker. Survivors include her husband of 20 years, Harvey; a son; a daughter; her father, Jefferson C. Chapman '67, and mother; two sisters, including Leslie Chapman Vandever '94; her grandfather, James T. Chapman '43; and a grandmother.

**Suzanne Standerfer '87**, 47, of Lemont, Ill., (formerly of Plano) died July 27, 2008. She was a chartered financial analyst and principal with Prudential Mortgage Capital Co. Survivors include a daughter and her mother.

**Robert L. Knight '88**, 42, of Teague, Texas, (formerly of Barksdale Air Force Base, La., and Arkansas and California) died July 5, 2008, of injuries sustained while fighting a structure fire in Teague. He joined BNSF Railroad in 1989 and was a train engineer and safety coordinator at the time of his death. He joined

the Teague Volunteer Fire Department in 1989 and had been fire chief since 1999. He was also a paramedic and had worked for both the Teague and Fairfield EMS at times. He was named Citizen of the Year in 2007 by Teague Chamber of Commerce. Survivors include his wife of eight years, Terri J. (Richards) Knight '96; a son; two daughters; and a brother.

**Michael C. "Mike" Coldewey '89**, 41, of Floresville, Texas, (formerly of San Antonio, Austin and Houston) died May 16, 2008. He had been a Wal-Mart store manager for more than 18 years and was with store 5144 in Converse at the time of his death. He had moved back to Floresville in 2000. Survivors include his wife of 18 years, Dawn T. Hutchinson Coldewey '89; three daughters; his parents; two brothers; and his maternal grandmother.

**Aaron R. Gilmore '89**, 42, of Cypress, Texas, died March 18, 2008. He was a minister. Survivors include his wife, Wanda; two daughters; his father; eight brothers; and five sisters.

**Jacque A. Miller Barnett '90**, 57, of Bryan died July 14, 2008. She began her 18-year career in education in 1990 as a science teacher at Stephen F. Austin Middle School in Bryan. She was later assistant principal of Sam Rayburn Middle School and principal of Crockett Elementary School. She died the day before her 36th wedding anniversary. Survivors include her husband of 35 years, Hugh C. Barnett '72; a son; a daughter, Meredith Barnett Pennington '02; four grandchildren; and a brother, Clifford G. Miller '75.

**Scott K. Gibson '92**, 38, of Coppell, Texas, (formerly of Arlington and Victoria) died May 9, 2008. He had received a

doctorate in biochemistry and molecular biophysics from the University of Pennsylvania in 1999 and was working as a research associate at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. Survivors include his wife, Tara; a son; a daughter; his parents; a sister, Leah D. (Gibson) Sparks '96; and his maternal grandmother.

**Jackie Ramirez Cantu '93**, 37, of Katy, Texas, (formerly of Robstown) died April 24, 2008. She was a homemaker. Survivors include her husband of 15 years, Michael W. Cantu '94; two children; her parents; a brother; and maternal grandparents.

**Mark "David" Lackey '93**, 37, of Denver, Colo., died Oct. 7, 2007. He was Internet systems manager with Exempla Healthcare Systems for their three campuses in Denver. Survivors include his parents and fiancée.

**Alice "Ali" Mitchum Stone '94**, 57, of San Antonio (formerly of Moncks Corner, S.C.) died July 3, 2008. She had worked for Texas A&M and for the University of Texas at San Antonio and retired from USAA in 2007. She died four days short of her 58th birthday. Survivors include her husband of 39 years, Brice M. Stone '78; a daughter, Laura A Stone '02; and a sister.

**Robert B. "Ben" Boren '98**, 42, of Galveston (formerly of Denton) died July 4, 2008, in a motorcycle accident in Jasper. He worked for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Galveston. He had completed the police academy and was a volunteer deputy with the Galveston Sheriff's Department. Survivors include his parents and a sister.

**Richard W. Story '00**, 31, of Dayton, Texas, (formerly of Houston) died June 28,

2008. He was a geotechnical engineer with Halliburton. Survivors include his wife, LaShonna; a son; a daughter; his father; his mother; two brothers; three sisters; and grandparents.

**Stephanie W. Billings '02**, 28, of College Station (formerly of Houston) died May 26, 2008. Survivors include her father and stepmother, her mother, and a grandmother.

**Daniel W. Hendley '02**, 27, of Houston died Dec. 11, 2007. Survivors include his wife.

**Donald R. Murray '02**, 40, of Alvin, Texas, died June 1, 2008. Survivors include his mother.

**Terrence D. Kiel '03**, 27, of San Diego, Calif., (formerly of Lufkin) died July 4, 2008, in an automobile accident. He was a member of Texas A&M's football Wrecking Crew. He was a second-round draft pick of the San Diego Chargers in 2003 and became known as "The Hammer" in his four-season professional career. Survivors include a son, his parents, a brother, a sister, maternal grandfather and his grandmothers.

**Mary E. "Mary Beth" Farmer '08**, 21, of College Station (formerly of Boerne) died May 15, 2008, in an automobile accident in Austin. She had been accepted into the psychology department's doctoral program at Texas A&M and was interested in working with autistic children. Survivors include her father, Joseph C. Farmer '78, and mother, Margaret E. "Beth" (Phelan) Farmer '78; three brothers, Christopher M. Farmer '04, Andrew T. Farmer '07 and John S. Farmer '10; and a sister, Abigail J. Farmer '12.



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