



# FEDERATION OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY MOTHERS' CLUBS NEWSLETTER

## August 2017

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### Special inserts with this issue:

- Dinner Invitation
- Fall Workshops
- Voting Delegates

For questions regarding the Federation newsletter please contact: Lynda Jackson  
corresec@aggienetwork.com

We're on the Web!

[www.AggieMoms.org](http://www.AggieMoms.org)



Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs

## HOWDY AGGIE MOMS!

We are off to an amazing start for the 2017-2018 Federation year! The Board is busy working to support and serve you as we strive to carry out the mission of the Federation... *"by individual and united effort to contribute in every way to the comfort and welfare of the students and to cooperate with Texas A&M University in maintaining a high standard of moral conduct and intellectual attainment."* If there is any way that we can be of assistance to you this year, please don't hesitate to let us know. All contact information can be found on our website at [www.aggiemoms.org](http://www.aggiemoms.org) by clicking on the "Federation" tab and then on the "Officers" tab.

The theme that I chose for this year is "Aggie Moms: Nurturing and Inspiring." I dedicated the year to the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. We as moms nurture our children, and hopefully we are able to inspire them to grow and learn and achieve at great levels. In that same way the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences nurtures our Aggies (and nurtures plants and animals!) and inspires them to strive for greatness. As the year goes on, we will focus a spotlight on the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, a college that touches many of our students. I want to thank Dr. Mark Hussey, Vice Chancellor and Dean for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; he will be hosting us for the Fall Aggie Mom Dinner! Watch for special articles in our newsletters and others that are sent to you by email.

Please be sure to read very carefully through this newsletter for some exciting upcoming events. Also, be sure to read and share the emails that the board and I send to you throughout the year. There is a lot of important information in those emails. We appreciate everything that you do in your local clubs. Your success in providing moms in your area an organization where they can connect with other mothers who share a common connection translates to more support for our Aggies and for Texas A&M University. Thanks...and Gig 'em!



Carolyn Fey Phelan '89  
President 2017-2018

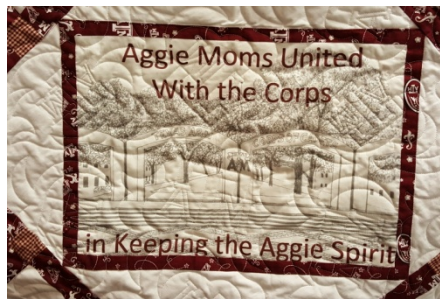


**Sharon Johnson, VP at Large**

I want to take this opportunity to express my most sincere “Thank You” to all of my Officers who served on my Board. I thank you for your support during my term last year as the Federation President. Your support kept me motivated and was a great part in the success of OUR year. We were a team working together and I thank each of you.

I also extend a very special “Thank You” to my Officers, Former Federation Presidents, family members, and all Aggie Mom Clubs who took the time to participate in the making of the Federation Visual Historical Record. The Quilt you have graciously taken the time to be a part of is priceless in value and beautiful beyond words. It symbolizes you, your club, and your part of the past year representing friendships and cherished memories of the past year.

I especially want to recognize and thank the very special Aggie Moms, **Kathy Perkins '78 and Laurie Bechtel '84**, from Collin Co., who took their time to design, piece, and stitch this amazing piece of art representing this past year. I'm not sure I could ever say “Thank You” enough to express my gratitude to you ladies for all your time and work. Your work is amazing!



The Quilt and Pictorial Record will be on display at the future meetings to share with you.

I encourage Aggie Moms to continue your work within your clubs, working as a team, and to keep Aggie Mom Clubs alive and increasing in numbers. I hope to see you at our Federation Meetings and other events this next year. I am looking forward to this next year as VP at Large with Carolyn Phelan '89 as the Federation President. It will be a good year!

Thank you and Gig 'em,  
Sharon Johnson,  
2016-2017 Federation President



*Aggie Moms United with The Corps In Keeping the Aggie Spirit*

August 2017

**Howdy Aggie Moms!**



I am **Peggy Nolan**, 2017-2018 President Elect. I am looking forward to this year and having the opportunity to work with you as we strive to be there for each other, for our Aggies, and for the University. If I can be of any assistance regarding Federal and State laws and rules pertaining to 501(c) (3) organizations, or to assist you in securing or maintaining your Federal and State Tax Exemption, please feel free to contact me. I may not have all of the answers but together we can solve any issues that may arise.

Be sure to remember to file your 990 with the IRS prior to October 15, 2017. If your club needs an extension, you may file a Form 8868 by October 15 which will give you until January 15; you can also file for a second extension until April 15 if needed. When you've completed filing your club's 990, I ask that you forward to me a copy of your 990 confirmation acknowledgement that you will receive from the IRS when they receive your 990. Forward that IRS acknowledgement to me at [preselect@aggienetwork.com](mailto:preselect@aggienetwork.com). Filing your 990 with the IRS is quite possibly the MOST IMPORTANT FORM you will complete all year long. And it must be completed on time.

You will submit your **Form T** to me by **February 1, 2018**. More information regarding that form will be sent later in the year.

My email address for all Federation correspondence is [preselect@aggienetwork.com](mailto:preselect@aggienetwork.com) and my cell number is 214-616-4851. **Gig 'em!**



**Howdy! I am Diane Eckols - 2017-2018 1<sup>st</sup> VP-Membership.** With our focus on Nurturing and Inspiring, my goal is to help each club be a welcoming place for all members. Whether it's growing your membership, retaining your current members or looking for new ways to energize your members, we want to make sure we are meeting this needs of today's Moms.

I want to encourage a representative from your club to attend the Membership workshops following the Fall Federation meeting. Mark your calendars! You will not be disappointed. Handouts will be posted on the Federation website prior to the meeting. Please print these to bring with you.

Increasing Membership Through Great Programs - Be sure to bring your best ideas that have worked for your clubs. What have been your best programs? How do you handle goody bags/exam packs for your students? Do you use social media? What social groups do you have in your club? Dinners? Bunco? Quilting? Book Clubs? This is a time to network with your peers for sharing ideas and best practices, so bring your questions!

Adopt-A-Moms - This year we are having a separate workshop available for Adopt-A-Mom clubs. The focus on nurturing the clubs we have includes welcoming our remote Moms into the current clubs. A great way to share the Aggie Mom Spirit is to adopt Moms. If you have volunteered to adopt Moms or want to

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learn more about the best practices to include your assigned Moms, this is the class for you! We want to provide a great experience for our distant Moms, too.

As all of you are aware, new recruiting activities were established this summer in order to reach the new Moms. We started with a postcard that was sent to all student addresses who accepted their admission. The newly created Aggie Mom video has been shown at every New Student Conference this summer. Finally, I hope you have taken the opportunity to add your events to the Aggie Moms events map. <http://www.aggienetwork.com/aggie-moms-howdy-party/> If you haven't, be sure to do so and keep your page updated. Directions to add your activities are on our website.

For the first time, we have parent social representatives at both College Station and Galveston. Cay Cannon Nash and Annette Osburn have done a great job meeting new Moms and passing Interest Forms on to the local clubs. As you receive forms, be sure to contact your Moms. Consider email, a postcard or a friendly phone call to reach out.

Feel free to contact me with any of your questions at 713-591-1709 or [1stVPMembership@aggienetwork.com](mailto:1stVPMembership@aggienetwork.com). I look forward to seeing you at the Fall Meeting.

Be sure to join us on Saturday morning, August 26, in the Gates Ballroom in the MSC for our Fall Meeting and Workshops. During the General Meeting session we will have a short Yell Practice to get your blood pumping, hear from several speakers, show our new Aggie Mom recruiting video that was shown at all of the New Student Conferences this summer in College Station and in Galveston (many of you were made into movie stars for the filming of that video!), and present proclamations honoring three ladies who recently passed away, but who meant so much to all of us: Former Federation Presidents Eleanor Walters and Shirley Neal, and Former First Lady of TAMU, Alma Miller. We will have a short Business Meeting which will be followed by the Fall Workshops. Be sure to look at the listing of workshops very carefully. We have added a few new offerings (College Station Living: Aggie Mom 411) and are changing the Presidents' session to be a two-hour workshop to include more sharing and ideas to help you have a successful year.



Katie McMordie Latham '80  
Second VP - Programs

*Be sure to see the  
attachments for  
Workshop Scheduling  
and Registration!*

**Help Needed for Registration!!**

I attended the Federation of Aggie Mothers Clubs meetings last year as the only representative from my club. Even though I am very social, it is sometimes hard to walk into a room of women that you don't know and try to make a new friend immediately in a sea of Aggie Moms. If you will find yourself in this situation this year, please let me know and I will connect you with another Aggie Mom that is the only representative from her club as well. Another way to get plugged in immediately is to help us at the registration table. We will need 12-15 volunteers to welcome Aggie Moms and special guests at the meeting. We will need help from 7:30 am until the meeting starts at 9:00 am at our Fall Federation meeting on August 26, 2017. If you are interested in helping, please contact me at 325-725-4041 or [3rdvpregristration@aggienetwork.com](mailto:3rdvpregristration@aggienetwork.com). Thanks and Gig 'em!



Risha Sanders

**Howdy Club Presidents and Scholarship Chairs -  
We Need Your President's Reports and Club Contribution Information!**



A reminder that Forms D, E and G were due June 1<sup>st</sup>. Form D is the President's Annual Report for your clubs 2016-2017 activities. Forms E & G provide important details about each club's donations to TAMU Student Organizations, as well as the Scholarships that you have awarded. Thank you to all the clubs that have already submitted their forms, but if you have not yet done so, please send in your forms as soon as possible! These forms are available on the website at [www.aggie moms.org](http://www.aggie moms.org). Note: Even if your club did not provide scholarships/donations this past year, we you to have completed a form. Thanks and Gig 'em! Contact Lisa McMillan '84, 4<sup>th</sup> VP Reports at [4thVPReports@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:4thVPReports@AggieNetwork.com)

LOOK!! Here's your District Liaisons, they'll be contacting your club throughout the year and will be keeping you up to date on all the Federation News!!

- District 1 Lisa McMillan '84
- District 2 Karen Hunter '85
- District 3 Cay Cannon Nash
- District 4 Kim Kovar
- District 5 Sue Munns '80
- District 6 Diane Eckols
- District 7 Annette Osburn
- District 8 Elaine Quinn
- District 9 Risha Sanders '91
- District 10 Colleen Holmes '76
- District 11 Stephanie Ferguson
- District 12 Katie Latham '80
- District 14 Clair Balliett
- District 15 Tara Kohlenberg
- District 16 Janet Davis '79
- District 17 Kristi King
- District 18 Connie Pritchard '81
- District 19 Linda Knapick
- District 20 Kim Muschalek '81
- District 21 Cathleen Inman '88

## SAVE THE DATE! Aggie Mom Boutique 2018

Will be held during Family Weekend on April 13-15, 2018.

During the Fall Federation meeting on August 26, 2017, please join us for a Boutique Workshop!

Joining me for this session will be Rosa Rodriguez, Sr. Administration Coordinator, in the **Trademark and Licensing Office Texas A&M University**. She reviews all the artwork that is submitted to the licensing program so she interacts with many different people every day: Aggie Moms, vendors from all over the U.S., crafters to name just a few. We are very lucky to have someone with the extensive knowledge of officially licensed products. We will also have Stephanie Medack and Melissa Saenz, **Tax Specialists from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Office**, to discuss items that are exempt from State Sales Tax and Fundraising policies as well so you can have the information you need to ensure your club is operating within the guidelines for the State of Texas.



I'll be having a Q&A session on Boutique as well. Please make plans to attend this important information and learning session. Come with all of your questions and we'll try to provide you with the answers. In the meantime, if you have any questions related to Boutique 2018 please contact:  
Colleen Holmes, 5<sup>th</sup> VP – Boutique  
[5thVPBoutique@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:5thVPBoutique@AggieNetwork.com)  
(979) 575-5969.

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Howdy, Ladies!

I have the pleasure of serving as the 6th VP this year and I'm really excited about it! The format for streamlined and close to home meetings that we have used the last two years has provided a great format for getting to know one another in a centralized location within each district, as well as very efficiently disseminating the important news of our organization. Generally with a meal and plenty of relaxed time for sharing successes, stories and time for offering each other the camaraderie and love that Aggie Moms are known for. The meetings will take place near you during January, February and March and I very much welcome your thoughts and suggestions about the gatherings. Details will be on the Federation website later in the year or feel free to contact me any time at [6thVPdistricts@aggienetwork.com](mailto:6thVPdistricts@aggienetwork.com) or 512.636.9423. Gig 'em!



Sue Guthrie Munns '80  
6th VP - Districts

Howdy all!

Since assuming my role as 7<sup>th</sup> VP Directory I have been hard at work obtaining quotes from various printers, obtaining ads from campus departments and businesses in Bryan College Station. I have been preparing the files to go to our printer of choice, complying 108 Form C's to be entered into the directory. A big thank you to the club officers that assisted me with insuring we had the correct details about your club! I am also working on the directory distribution list that will go out to various TAMU and Federation dignitaries and advertisers. We are working to have the directory ready for the Fall Federation meeting on Saturday, August 26 and also will have copies for sale for \$6.00 each. We will be printing 400 copies of the directory this year. I have enjoyed collaborating with the Federation President, Carolyn Phelan to highlight the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences to whom she is dedicating the 2017-2018 directory. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Fall Federation meeting. Thank you and Gig 'em! Kristi King, 7th VP - Directory



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**MEET YOUR SECRETARIES:**



**Kim Kovar**  
Recording Secretary



**Lynda Jackson**  
Corresponding Secretary

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**INTRODUCING YOUR HOSPITALITY CO-CHAIRS.**

**You'll be seeing lots of these moms throughout the year, so be sure to say Howdy and help if you can!!**



**Elaine Quinn**  
Hospitality Co-Chair



**Kim C. Muschalek '81**  
Hospitality Co-Chair



**Clair Balliett**  
Hospitality Co-Chair

# Treasurer's Corner

Howdy Moms! I'm excited to serve as your Treasurer this year. First up is our **Treasurer's Workshop** at the Fall Federation Meeting. I'd love to see you there! We'll have two sessions:

## Session 1:



State Sales Tax & Fundraising Policies  
**Rudder Tower, Room 510**

We'll have Stephanie Medack and Melissa Saenz there from the Comptroller's Office. This is an excellent opportunity to ask questions about anything related to Sales Tax or Fundraising. These ladies generously give their time and they know their stuff!

## Session 2:

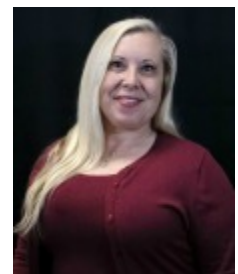


Best Practices and Q&A  
**Rudder Tower, Room 510**

This is a great session for Treasurers and anyone considering being a club Treasurer. We'll discuss best practices and have an open Q&A session. We'll also have information regarding filing 990s with the IRS, which are due as of 10/15/2017. Filing of 990s is mandatory. So we'll have lots of important information for you!

Please feel free to contact me at (830) 385-8811 or [treasurer@aggienetwork.com](mailto:treasurer@aggienetwork.com) if you have questions about anything Treasurer related. I look forward to hearing from you. Whoop!

Cathleen Inman '88  
Treasurer 2017-2018





Howdy Aggie Moms:

Fall Semester in Aggieland... when Aggies and Aggie Moms alike converge in College Station. It is always exciting to be back on campus to learn what's new, as well as learning how to Grow and Nurture our clubs. To give you that opportunity, Fall Federation Meeting has three components: Business Meeting, General Meeting, and Workshops for club officers. As with any business meeting, only designated voting delegates will be eligible to vote.

Each club has at least 3 Delegates (the Club President, or designee, and two active-paid members) to represent their first 100 members. For those clubs with more than 100 members, the club receives 1 additional delegate for every 50 members. The Voting Delegate Numbers for the year are posted below for your convenience. After confirming the number of delegates for your club, please submit delegate names to Risha Sanders at [3rdVPRegistration@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:3rdVPRegistration@AggieNetwork.com). I will be sending the format and instructions for delegate name submission to club presidents within the coming week. As we did with past meetings, there will be designated seating for the voting delegates. All other members and guests will be asked to sit in the unmarked sections of the room.

This year, I am also asking that every club please **send a complete digital Word document copy of your current bylaws and standing rules** to [parl@aggienetwork.com](mailto:parl@aggienetwork.com). Federation maintains copies of every set of bylaws in their files (and paper files can get a little cumbersome). I'm trying to digitize everything for convenience sake. I will be randomly selecting 20 percent of all by-laws for review this year to make sure they comply with Federation By-laws. Should there be any questions, please do not hesitate to email me.

I look forward to visiting with you at the Fall Aggie Mom Dinner, Meeting and Workshops. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Tara Kohlenberg  
Parliamentarian  
The Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs



**Be sure to check the attached  
Voting Delegate Form  
for your Club's  
Voting Delegate numbers!**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!!**

*2018 AGGIE MOM CAMP*

*February 2 – 4, 2018*

Come and join us for a Weekend of Fun and an opportunity to meet old and new Aggie Moms!!!!

We have moved Camp from the *Fall* to *February 2018*

We will be staying at the Hilton Hotel in College Station

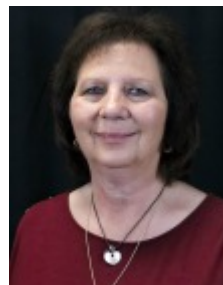
Registration Forms will be available in upcoming newsletters and all clubs will be notified about camp.

We will have **Campus Tours, Shopping, Entertainment** and opportunities to get information from various **Speakers**

*Take the weekend off and join us in Aggieland!!!*



*Connie Fletcher  
Pritchard '81  
Aggie Mom Camp  
Director  
281-785-5209*



*Linda Knapick  
Aggie Mom Camp  
Director  
210-219-2659*

ELECTRONIC INFORMATION CHAIR 2017-2018

Aggie Moms Club Websites

Does your Club have a website? Did you know that you can get a free, already customized and easy to maintain website with just a simple request from the Club President?

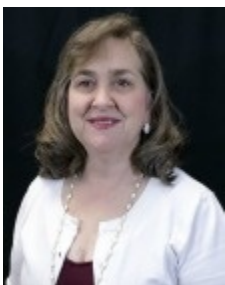
Because we are an Aggie Network Constituent Member, Aggie Moms Clubs are offered the option of having the Association host a website. There are several advantages to this:

- free @AggieNetwork.com Google account and email
- easy-to-use Wordpress platform
- standard platform (already set up), customized for Aggie Moms Clubs
- ready-to-use Aggie themes
- pre-set widgets with direct links to related Texas A&M websites
- thousands of Wordpress plug-ins to extend functionality
- site is not tied to an individual and can be recovered
- analytics for the visitors to your site
- all software is maintained and upgraded by the Association

To receive a website for your Club, just submit a request using this link: [Website Request](#). If your Club already has a website that has gone inactive and you want to begin using it again, please contact me.

Don't forget to sign up for the Website Workshop to learn more about Wordpress and maintaining your website.

Thanks and Gig 'em!



Karen M. Hunter '85  
Electronic Information Chair 2017 – 18  
[ElecInfo@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:ElecInfo@AggieNetwork.com)



**PARENT SOCIALS**

Howdy! June and July were busy months in College Station. A total of 18 New Student Conferences have been conducted thus far, and my volunteer team and I met lots of new moms, students & families! This year's format is different. Interest Forms are now included in every parent bag and we have a Resource Table in the MSC. This has allowed us to reach out to more people and spend more time sharing what Aggie Moms' Clubs are all about. We are also getting lots of positive feedback from families that have already been contacted by their local Aggie Moms' Club due to the Federation postcard mail out recommending families "Opt-In." Almost 1000 Interest Forms have been mailed/emailed out to the 108 Clubs that make up the Federation (including 44 from out-of-state/out-of-country Adopt-a-Moms). There are still two (2) NSCs scheduled in August, and mailed/emailed in Interest Forms continue to arrive daily.

None of this would have been possible without my amazing group of volunteers from Brazos County, Walker County, Hill County, Baytown, Angelina County, NW Harris County, Houston, Nacogdoches County, Friendswood Area, Austin & Clear Lake Area! Thanks & Gig 'Em!



Cay Cannon Nash  
Parent Socials Co-Chair  
College Station



Howdy! I have attended 4 New Student Conferences at the Galveston Campus since June 23<sup>rd</sup> with 2 more to attend in August! I have received a total of 100 interest forms from mothers. Most of the interest forms were received while at the conferences. I have had the great pleasure of meeting some wonderful moms. The moms were mostly from Texas but as far away as New York, Arizona, Louisiana, Missouri, Washington, Colorado, Ohio, California and Tennessee. The moms I been able to visit with were so happy to find out that they can be a member of a club close to where they live. The moms from out of state where we do not have a club are directed to be Diane Eckols for adoption by clubs in Texas. I have enjoyed spending time with all the moms, dads and students at the New Student Conferences. This is the first time that the Federation has had a representative at the New Student Conferences to represent all 108 clubs. Sitting side by side with the Galveston County Aggie Moms' Club to represent the Federation was a tremendous opportunity to share our information.



Annette B. Osburn  
Parent Socials Co-chair  
Galveston Campus

August 2017

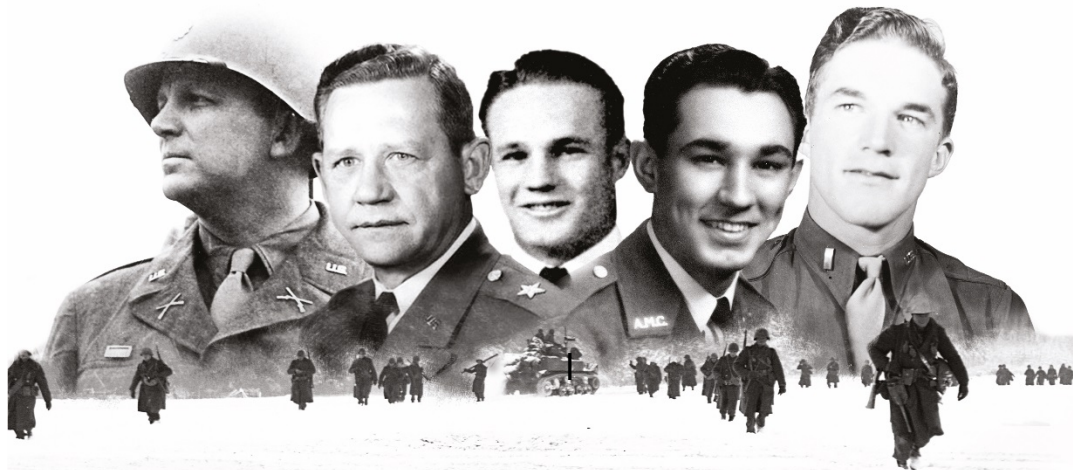


Stephanie Ferguson  
Historian

Howdy, I am Stephanie Ferguson, Historian for the Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs for the 2017-18 year as well as the president of my home club, the Comal County Texas A&M University Mothers' Club. I have more than 24 years of experience in the field of public education in Texas and 10 years in the newspaper industry, so I am looking forward to documenting Carolyn's year. Don't forget to send your pictures and other information to me for the yearbook. Thank you! [historian@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:historian@AggieNetwork.com)

## FROM BASTOGNE TO TEXAS

Texas Aggies Go to War 



You are invited to a special Sneak Preview  
for Aggie Moms

From Bastogne to Texas: *Texas Aggies Go to War*

Be sure to see the  
attached Invitation  
for more  
information on this  
**SPECIAL EVENT!**

Memorial Student Center / Stark Gallery

Saturday, August 26, 2017 at 1:40

(Immediately following Workshops)

**The Legacy Lives on.....**





*2017-2018 Annual Campaign*

benefitting

The Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs

From old fashioned picnics to modern tailgates....some things can always be counted on. Delicious fried chicken, homemade brownies and Mom's love! For 89 years, Aggie Moms have been looking out for the comfort and well-being of their Aggie Students.

The Federation serves as an umbrella organization consisting of 108 individual member Clubs with a membership of over 6,650 proud Aggie Moms. Unrestricted funds raised through the Annual Campaign will provide critical support for items such as:

-  Training , education and resource support for our individual member Clubs
-  Underwriting for Aggie Mom Camp
-  Defray costs associated with the Aggie Moms' Clubs participation in the Aggie Moms' Boutique held during Family Weekend
-  Providing tools and opportunities for increasing membership within the individual member Clubs.

Your tax deductible gift will add to the impact the Federation makes in the lives of Aggie Moms, Students and Texas A&M University. Won't you consider making a gift and ensuring that the wonderful Legacy of Aggie Moms will continue to thrive and grow?

Donor Gift Levels

(For details of each level , please go to <http://Aggiemoms.org/support>)

- |                             |                                       |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| _____ Excellence - \$10,000 | _____ Respect - \$500                 |
| _____ Integrity - \$5,000   | _____ Selfless Service - \$250        |
| _____ Leadership - \$2,500  | _____ Friends of Federation - \$100   |
| _____ Loyalty - \$1,000     | _____ Aggie Mom Angels - \$25 to \$99 |

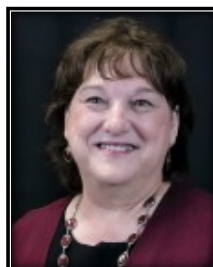
Donations can be made :\_\_\_\_\_ Checks Or \_\_\_\_\_ Online at <http://aggiemoms.org>

(made payable to Federation of TAMU Mothers' Clubs)

Mailed to: Federation of TAMU Mothers' Clubs  
P.O. Box 1443  
College Station, Texas 77841-1443

**Thanks and Gig 'em!**

*The Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs Development Committee*



Janet Hodges Davis '79  
Development Chair

**IN MEMORIAM**

August 26, 2017

Proclamations honoring three ladies who recently passed away will be announced

Former Federation President                      Eleanor Walters 1978 - 1979

Former Federation President                      Shirley Neal 1987 - 1988

Former First Lady of TAMU                      Alma Miller, Honorary Life Member

**ALL THE AGGIE MOM NEWS -- THAT'S NEW!!**

*The student who designed the logo for this year is Ms. Jensen Martinez*



*Jensen is a senior agricultural communications and journalism major from Menard, Texas. After graduation, she plans to attend graduate school at Texas A&M and then law school to study environmental or agricultural law. When not in school, she enjoys reading, staying physically active, and outdoor activities. Her parents are Daniel and Wanda Martinez and her mother belongs to the Heart of Texas Aggie Moms' Club.*

**A special Message from President Carolyn Fey Phelan '89:**

**I want to thank the Association of Former Students for their tremendous support. They help us in so many ways each year; I can't find the words to express our gratitude. I especially want to point out that they provided our clubs with the option to post information about our Howdy events and other events on a map on their website. This tool has had a tremendous impact on attendance at our Howdy events. The next time you are over at the Association, be sure to tell them**

**“Thank You from the Aggie Moms!”**

## GIFTS FOR GRADUATES!



### Howdy!

I'm Kathy Johnston, Past President of Austin Aggie Moms 2014-2016. Since my daughter gave me the gift of making me an Aggie Mom in 2011, I have been passionate about helping Aggie Moms clubs grow. We all continue to search for new ideas and the Federation Board always does such an awesome job sharing those at the Fall Meeting Workshops. Here is one new idea about student gift giving for your club to consider.

All Aggie moms are *very proud* of their Aggie students, but never more proud than when that son or daughter walks the stage to get their diploma! That moment, and Aggie Ring Day, are almost as great for the parents as for the students! **WHOO!!** Most clubs want to celebrate this momentous occasion with those parents and graduating students by honoring the students with a special gift. With laws that limit the amount of any gift to \$25, it is hard to find that "just right" thing. What can you give them as a constant reminder of their Aggie Family? What can you give them that they will really like, don't already have and won't just collect dust?

Instead of a thing, this idea is about giving the start of a tradition; the tradition of "Pass It Back, Pay It Forward" through The Association of Former Students. If you are not a former student, you may not realize the incredible role The Association of Former Students plays for ALL students, current and former. No student leaves Texas A&M without being impacted by The Association of Former Students. It serves the entire Aggie Network by supporting programs that promote and preserve the unique Aggie Spirit and leadership traditions of Texas A&M.



Additionally, The Association supports:

- The Corps of Cadets, the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band, the Fish Drill Team and the Ross Volunteers;
- Fish Camp, and other orientation camps: T-Camp, Howdy Camp, Venture Camp and S.A.L.T. Camp;
- The MSC, Class Councils, The Big Event; and
- The Career Center to assist former students in their career search.

The Association of Former Students has a program for recent graduates that will allow us to come together to give our local graduates that special graduation gift. For the first three years after graduation, The Association's Century Club membership is discounted at 50%. If our Aggie Mom gift is a donation of \$25 in honor of the graduating student that means they'll be an Active Member of The Association and will stay connected with the *Texas Aggie* magazine! Even better, our Aggies will be able to become \$100 - Bronze Level Century Club members for only \$25 additional dollars! Century Club members also receive a very nice wall plaque and a car decal.

In this way, we can help solidify our student's life-long connection to the Aggie Family. We can help them cultivate their personal legacy of giving back to A&M. We can be a part of helping our Aggies live out the Core Value of Loyalty. That's an excellent gift!



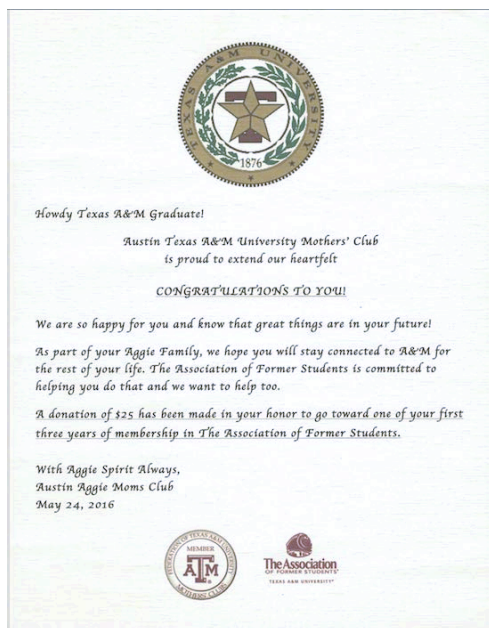
August 2017

The Association has set up a special accounting structure to be able to do this for all Aggie Mom clubs that want to give this special gift to the graduating seniors from their area. We say area, because any gift that is offered must be made publicly available to any graduating Aggie in your area, not just those from your club. It is possible that you may get a few who come forward to receive the gift who are not connected your club, *but they are still A&M students who just graduated!* **WHOOH!!** Our experience has been that there are very few who come forward having never been associated with the club. If they do, we just count that as part of the gift, for them to know that *Aggie Moms love all Aggie students!*

If you would like to plan to start this tradition in your club, your contact at The Association of Former Students is Sheila Nelson '92, Development Specialist, [SNelson92@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:SNelson92@AggieNetwork.com) . Her department needs a spreadsheet with the student's full name, permanent address, date of graduation, email and phone number. Other information such as their major can help The Association be sure the donation goes to the correct student. Your club donation would be one check that is the sum of \$25 x the number of graduates, made out and sent directly to The Association of Former Students.

Giving takes place at the end of the year and is reported on Federation Form E. As a plus for your club, your gift to the students also counts as a donation back to the University!

Below is an example of the certificate we present to our graduates, scrolled up and tied with a maroon ribbon. We create a slide show of a baby picture, graduation picture and brief information about each student's accomplishments and plans. Parents are invited, we have a guest speaker from The Association, cupcakes are served and a group picture is taken. **WHOOH!!**



The Association of Former Students exists to strengthen the Aggie Network, promote the interests and welfare of Texas A&M University, perpetuate the ties of affection and esteem formed in an Aggies university or college days, and to serve the current student body.

If you have additional questions please feel free to contact me at [kathygjohnston@gmail.com](mailto:kathygjohnston@gmail.com) or 512-461-1871

You are ALL cordially invited to attend this year's Fall Federation Aggie Mom Dinner on Friday evening, August 25. Dr. Mark Hussey, Vice Chancellor and Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, will host us at the beautiful AgriLife Center on West Campus, catty-corner from Reed Arena. Due to his graciousness and hospitality, the cost for the dinner will be only \$15; the net proceeds will be donated to The Gardens at Texas A&M University. Dr. Tobin Redwine, an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications, will be our after-dinner speaker. Dr. Redwine teaches photography, media writing, and other courses in agricultural communications and journalism. He is an energetic and wonderful storyteller, and I am certain you will want to be there to hear him speak. Please see the dinner invitation included in this newsletter for more information. Reservations are required; seating is limited.



Dr. Redwine grew up on a farm in Lazbuddie, a rural community in Northwest Texas. After serving as the Texas FFA President in 2003-2004, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Leadership and Development at Texas A&M University in 2008. While there he developed an affinity for ugly shirts and cheesy jokes. He earned a Master of Science degree in Agricultural Communications at Texas Tech University in 2009, and a PhD in Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications at Texas A&M in 2014.

Dr. Redwine is currently an assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications at Texas A&M University. He teaches photography, media writing, and other courses in agricultural communications and journalism. Dr. Redwine also researches storytelling. Specifically, his line of inquiry examines how we discover stories, how we make meaning of stories, and purposeful messaging, all in the hope that we can better understand how to tell the story of American agriculture.

He and his wife Shanna, who is infinitely better looking and more intelligent than he, live in Montgomery, Texas, with their toddler son Eli, who enjoys bananas and yelling in obscure ancient languages.

An enthusiastic presenter, Dr. Redwine has shared encouragement and optimism at more than 800 schools and organizations. His speaking and teaching style have led him to more than 30 states and 10 countries. He has been recognized internationally as a teacher and researcher, and is perpetually spouting less-than-witty puns.

Dr. Redwine is also a freelance journalist, photographer, music enthusiast, and amateur habanero salsa maker



Summer 2017

**Supporting those who make a difference**

COLLEGE STATION, Texas -- The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has many outstanding students who fill key leadership roles within the university. One such student, is Katie Aupperle, 2018 agricultural communications and journalism major and Aggie Golden Arrows president. Aggie Golden Arrows is an organization that strives to unite diverse women through empowerment, sisterhood, selfless-service, and passion.

The members focus their efforts to support their philanthropy, the Elizabeth House Maternity Home, and the community of Bryan/College Station. While Elizabeth House provides expectant mothers and their children a safe, enriching and loving home, the Arrows help the residents by cleaning, babysitting and running errands.

The women of the organization host multiple fundraising events throughout the school year to support those in need and unite the community. They also participate in projects like Big Event to make a difference in individuals' lives.

“Our organization has been able to make a difference in the lives of people in the community,” Aupperle said. “The gift from the Aggie Moms allows us to grow as an organization so we can better support our philanthropy and community.”

Every year Aggie Moms help raise funds and award scholarships. Last year the Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs raised over \$440,000 in scholarships. However, Aggie Moms also supports students by funding their organizations. The Aggie Golden Arrows recently received such a gift from a Mothers' Club.

The Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs contributed over \$160,000 to great student organizations, like the Arrows, last year. The gifts provided by the Aggie Moms will allow the Arrows to grow their organization. Aupperle expects membership to grow and she said the Arrows already have several recruiting drives planned for the beginning of the fall semester. They hope to grow to about 70 members. “We are very thankful for the generosity of Aggie Moms,” said Aupperle.



**August 2017****FEDERATION CALENDAR 2017-2018**  
**FEDERATION MEETINGS AND EVENTS****Fall Federation Aggie Mom Dinner – Friday, August 25, 2017**

Registration	6:00 PM	AgriLife Center, TAMU, College Station
Dinner & Speaker	6:30 PM	AgriLife Center, TAMU, College Station

**Fall Federation Meeting and Workshops – Saturday, August 26, 2017**

Coffee & Pastries	8:00 – 8:30 AM	MSC Room 2400 (Gates Ballroom)
Meeting	8:30 – 11:00 AM	MSC Room 2400 (Gates Ballroom)
Workshops	11:15 AM – 1:30 PM	Rudder Tower

**Winter Federation Aggie Mom Dinner – Friday, January 19, 2018**

Registration	6:00 PM	Association of Former Students, TAMU, College Station
Dinner & Speaker	6:30 PM	Association of Former Students, TAMU, College Station

**Winter Federation Meeting and Workshops – Saturday, January 20, 2018**

Coffee & Pastries	8:00 – 8:30 AM	MSC Room 2400 (Gates Ballroom)
Meeting	8:30 – 11:00 AM	MSC Room 2400 (Gates Ballroom)
Workshops	11:15 AM – 12:30 PM	Rudder Tower

**Aggie Mom Camp – February 2-4, 2018**

Hilton Hotel, 801 University Dr. East, College Station  
<https://aggiemoms.org/aggiemomcamp/> for more information

**District Meetings – Late Winter and Early Spring 2018**

Meetings will be held in each District  
<https://aggiemoms.org/districtmeetings/> for more information

**Spring Federation Meetings and Boutique, Family Weekend – April 13-14, 2018****Business Meeting, Directory Dedication, Election of 2018-2019 Officers****Friday, April 13, 2018**

Meeting	5:30 – 6:30 PM	Koldus, Rooms 110-111
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**General Meeting and Installation of 2018-2019 Officers****Saturday, April 14, 2018**

Coffee & Pastries	8:00 – 8:30 AM	Koldus, Rooms 110-111
Meeting	8:30 – 10:30 AM	Koldus, Rooms 110-111

**Aggie Moms Boutique 2018**

Move-In	Times to be assigned; Thursday, April 12 & Friday, April 13		MSC Ballrooms/Hallways
Boutique	10:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Friday, April 13	MSC Ballrooms/Hallways
Boutique	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Saturday, April 14	MSC Ballrooms/Hallways



*Your Federation 2017 - 2018 Executive Board*

President	Carolyn Phelan '89	Corresponding Secretary	Lynda Jackson
Vice President at Large	Sharon Johnson	Parliamentarian	Tara Kohlenberg
President-Elect	Peggy Nolan	Aggie Mom Camp Co-Chair	Connie Pritchard '81
1st Vice President-Membership	Diane Eckols	Aggie Mom Camp Co-Chair	Linda Knapick
2nd Vice President-Programs	Katie Latham '80	Hospitality Co-Chair	Elaine Quinn
3rd Vice President-Registration	Risha Sanders '91	Hospitality Co-Chair	Kim Muschalek '81
4th Vice President-Reports	Lisa McMillan '84	Hospitality Co-Chair	Clair Balliett
5th Vice President-Boutique	Colleen Holmes '76, '84	Electronic Information Chair	Karen Hunter '85
6th Vice President-Districts	Sue Guthrie Munns '80	Parent Social Co-Chair	Annette B. Osburn
7th Vice President-Directory	Kristi King	Parent Social Co-Chair	Cay Cannon Nash
Recording Secretary	Kim Kovar	Historian	Stephanie Ferguson
Treasurer	Cathleen Inman '88	Development Chair	Janet Hodges Davis '79