

## HELPFUL TOOLS FOR MEMBERSHIP 2012-2013 Membership Committee

The following is revised material from the 2011-2012 Membership Workshop material. We hope these revisions (in red) will be of use to you. Please feel free to contact Sharon Johnson, [sjohnson47@att.net](mailto:sjohnson47@att.net), Federation 8<sup>th</sup> VP Parent Socials; Membership Committee Chair, or Linda Schmidt, [lindas@hpfm.com](mailto:lindas@hpfm.com), 1<sup>st</sup> VP Membership if we can be of any assistance to you.

### HELPFUL TOOLS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- Current Club Membership— refer to past club directories for those who do not return
- Federation Directory—refer to the Federation directory for any needed assistance from any of the officers

### SIMS REQUEST

- Jennie Norris at the University, Enterprise Information Systems, is the contact person for SIMS request. Her email address is [jnorris@tamu.edu](mailto:jnorris@tamu.edu)
- Mailing labels addressed to the parents of or mom of can be requested
- Permanent addresses of the students are included.

### ADOPT A MOM PROGRAM

This is a program for an out of state Aggie Mom wishing to be adopted by a Texas Aggie Mom club in order to be affiliated with Aggie Moms. These moms are in attendance with their Aggie at the summer New Student Conferences. At the Parent Social part of the New Student Conferences, the Federation 8<sup>th</sup> VP Parent Socials is invited to give a presentation on Aggie Moms. At this time all new moms, who are interested, are provided with an "Interest in Membership" form, or told they may get it off the Federation website. When received, the Federation 8<sup>th</sup> VP disperses the filled out forms to the clubs, and the out of state moms' forms on to the clubs who have stated interest in sponsoring an out of state mom. For more information on this, please contact the Federation 8<sup>th</sup> VP, Parent Socials.

### COMMUNICATION Newsletter

Club newsletters are informative and a good reference for members. Newsletters from other clubs—refer to Federation website, [www.aggie moms.org](http://www.aggie moms.org), for all clubs; look at those with websites and use their newsletters as a guide for you—make it a personal fit to your club! It is recommended that if using this means of communication you try to send one out at least once a month, but like everything, it depends on your club. (You may try starting with three times a year.) Suggestions as to what to include in your newsletter are: (As above stated, make it fit your club.)

- President's Message / note – this should be personal, motivating and always thankful to your Moms.
- Minutes and any correspondence – putting this in your newsletter can save time at meetings.
- Mail received from University groups – this is a great place to pass this information on
- Congratulations – graduates, engagements, weddings, new employment, births, awards and honors of all Aggie family members.
- Members – illness, deaths, sorrows, prayer requests
- Announce and welcome new Freshmen Moms
- Next meeting reminder – try to post in the same area of the newsletter
- Coming events and deadlines

Try to mail newsletter at the beginning of the month so they won't miss anything coming up for that month.

### Howdy Letter to New Moms

This is your invitation to your new Freshmen **Moms, Adopt A Moms**, and any other new Aggie Moms to inform them about your club and what you are about. Suggestions on what to include:

- You club calendar **showing meeting dates, special events, Officers names and contact info**,
- Membership form
- Aggie Mom Fish Camp information and registration form
- Aggie Football schedule
- History of the Federation of TAMU Mothers' Clubs

### **New Mom's Packet**

This is easy to put together and new Moms love it. Things you can include in your packet are: map of campus, map of College Station / Bryan, University calendar, Federation calendar, A&M Parent's Handbook, Club Bylaws, **coupons for local businesses, list of restaurants and hotels with phone numbers, phone books**, copy of current officers and their phone numbers, club yearbook, if there is one, and anything else that will get their interest.

### **Suggested Large Mailing**

**(Some of these may be combined into one event—Example: Howdy Party/Membership Drive events. Make it fit your club's time, budget and needs!)**

- Howdy Party Invitations
- New Mom's Tea Invitations
- Membership Drive Dinner Invitations
- First Club Meeting Notification

### **Membership Form**

- Include a demographic section which asks for the following information: Aggie Mom's name, address, telephone number (work, cell and home), birthday and email address
- Include a demographic section for their Aggie student information: Aggie's name, campus address, phone number (campus and cell), email address and birthday
- Include a section asking what area they would be interested in helping with: holding an office, phone committee, special events, fundraisers, student care packages, set up and cleanup for meetings, **etc.**

### **"We Missed You" Cards**

These should be mailed out to members who have missed several meetings along with information for the new year. This is a great way to let your Moms know **you care** and have missed them. **Make these cards on a craft night along with Birthday cards for your Aggies and Aggie Moms.**

**Email—NEED MORE PERSONAL CONTACT! This cannot be stressed enough!!**

**E-mail is good for reminders of events, etc., information, but personal contact is great when someone has been missing meetings—they need to know they are missed and wanted!**

**See TELEPHONE COMMITTEE! (Pg. 3)**

### **Web Site**

This is an excellent way to stay in touch with your Moms as well as put your club's information out there for any Moms looking for a club to join. Your newsletter and club updates can be posted here giving Moms 24 hour access. **Please do not hesitate to contact the Federation Electronic Chair for help with this!**

**FACEBOOK!**

This is somewhat new for some of us, but it seems more and more are going to it. A good way to spread news and see news! It is advisable to have a designated person to post all your information and upcoming events.

### Newspaper

**Another way for publicizing your club!** Use your local newspaper for articles about upcoming events, speakers coming to your club, your upcoming meeting dates and any accomplishments or activities your club has been involved in. **All of this can also be on Facebook and website!**

### Telephone Committee

This is a **very important tool!** You can split the list up among the committee members so no one has too many calls to make. Use it to call each Mom (**especially the new moms**) to remind them of upcoming events or meeting, missed them at a meeting, etc. A good telephone committee can make a real difference in your membership and your club's growth. There is nothing like a personal call to make your Moms feel **welcomed and missed!**

### Yearbook/Directory

Provide each of your Moms with a club yearbook/directory. Suggestions on what to include:

- A list of all paid members of the club with addresses, telephone numbers, birthday and email address
- Their Aggie's name, campus address, phone numbers, email address and birthday, if possible
- **List of Club Officers and their contact information**
- Club calendar containing meeting dates, special events, Federation Meeting dates and campus events
- Club Bylaws
- Can include listing of College Station and Bryan hotels with phone numbers.

## INVOLVING YOUR AGGIE MOMS

### New Aggie Moms

Use your membership forms to follow up on the "Interests of your new Aggie Moms". You can determine in what capacity they would like to serve, if any, in the club. Ask them to assist a second or third year Aggie Mom at an activity to get them started. **Sometimes when personally asked, they have a hard time refusing!**

**Aggie Brags** at meetings is a great way to get to know your new Moms and their Aggie. At end of your meeting ask if anyone has any news to share about their Aggie or needs any help/advice in any way to pass on to their Aggie. This **doesn't always** have to be a "brag" time, as some may be struggling in an area. This is where **Aggie Mom support** comes in.

Provide a **list of places** their Aggies may need: hair dressers, doctors, place to get flat tires fixed, B-day cakes made, etc. This list may come from your present Aggie Moms!

Remind them of the **Tent Sales** every home game weekend!

Encourage your new Moms to attend **Aggie Mom Camp**, this will give them a way to meet other Moms and learn about the traditions of Aggieland.

Ways to **include** your new Aggie Moms and their entire family:

- Howdy Party
- Membership Drive Dinner
- Holiday covered dish with their Aggies
- Tailgate Party
- Dad's appreciation cook-out **or special meal—may be the night of your regular meeting;**
- Officer installation dinner—**may be combined with the Scholarship Recipients' Recognition event**

- **Scholarship recipients' recognition with a meal (covered dish by club members). This could be your end of the year meeting in May**
- Chili Cook-off
- New Mom's Tea

## KEEPING YOUR MOMS INTERESTED

**CONTINUING MOMS!** Keep those who do not have an Aggie anymore! **Make that phone call! They have experiences to share and knowledge of the club's activities and operation. Let them know you need them.**

**Below is an example of a program for those Former Moms. See if someone would want to start this for your club:**

### **"RING OF HONOR"**

#### ***Let the Spirit Continue***

This would be established as a sub group of your local club. It would consist of Aggie Moms who have a graduate(s) of Texas A&M – may have a graduate of Texas A&M and in now grad school:

1. Formed for Moms who no longer have students at TAMU but wish to share in the camaraderie of being an Aggie Mom and getting together to share in the Aggie Spirit and keeping in touch with the friends they made thru the club
2. No officers required—need Co-Chair Moms to organize a social and/or luncheon/dinner
3. Only meet two-three times/year, or however often you wish—announce thru e-mail to save postage

#### Membership Requirements:

1. Must be a paid member of your local Aggie Moms' Club
2. Must have a graduate/former student of TAMU

#### Duties of the organization:

1. Assembled as an auxiliary to your local Aggie Moms' Club and supports the club
2. Meet 2-3 times a year to keep up with our former students and to maintain our Aggie Friendships

#### Benefits for you:

1. May attend any monthly club meeting/activity, may donate to any club activity (TLC bags, Boutique), may help/work any club activity/fundraiser, and receive club news and announcements—as active only as you wish to be! Visit with your former Aggie Mom friends and have fun!!

#### Ring of Honor Logo Pin: OPTIONAL!

1. Was designed by the El Paso Aggie Moms Club to represent the continuing commitment of the mom to TAMU and to the local club. These may be purchased only with the approval of the Ring of Honor Chair(s)—must meet requirements of membership. (May attach Membership Form with letter.)

\*START UP FEES for organization: May need help from club to get started with letter and membership form??  
Suggestions!

### Meetings and Activities

Making your meetings **interesting**: alternate formal and informal meetings and invite speakers.

- Boutique work sessions
- Exam / Goodie Bag assembly
- Salad supper or ice cream social
- Potluck dinners
- Have boutique items displayed at meetings to sell to members. You may have a room filled with maroon and white but your new Aggie Moms probably don't.
- New Aggie Moms Tea Party ~ this is a great time for questions and answers with new Moms and seasoned Moms.

- Aggie Mom Buddies ~ Pair up a seasoned Mom with a new Mom, exchange phone numbers encouraging seasoned Moms to stay in touch and check on.
- Door Prizes ~ it is always fun to receive a small gift
- Special Door Prizes ~ hold a drawing for a special door prize amongst those members who bring a friend or prospective member to the meeting.

### Points to Consider

#### **KEEP BUSINESS PART OF MEETING AS SHORT AS POSSIBLE!!**

- Allow time for socializing
- Start meetings at the scheduled time
- Make meetings as short as possible, we are all busy Moms
- Try to hold meetings at the same time, date and location if possible.
- Have a seasoned Aggie Mom as a greeter
- Pair up a seasoned Aggie Mom with a Freshman Mom
- Always make everyone, seasoned and new, feel welcome – make sure officers mingle
- Spend time **getting to know your Aggie Moms**, “Aggie Brags” are always a great way to do this, sharing stories, worries and concerns dealing with your Aggie. Remember to always make it fun and interesting.

Linda Schmidt, [lindas@hpfm.com](mailto:lindas@hpfm.com), 1<sup>st</sup> VP Membership

Sharon Johnson, [sljohnson47@att.net](mailto:sljohnson47@att.net), Federation 8<sup>th</sup> VP Parent Socials; Membership Committee Chair