

Federation Fall Leadership Academy 2019-2020

# President's Guide

For

Incoming Presidents and President-Elects

Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs



Cathleen Inman, '88: Current President of the Federation of Aggie Moms Clubs, Past President of the Blanco County Aggie Moms Club 2014-2015 & 2016-2017

Diane Eckols: Current President Elect of the Federation of Aggie Moms Clubs, Past President of Galveston County Aggie Moms 2014-2015

Kathy Johnston Past President of Austin Aggie Moms for two years 2014-2016

Karen Allen, Past President of the Austin Aggie Moms for two years, 2007-2008 & 2009-2010



August 1, 2019

Howdy Madame Presidents and President Elects!

Welcome and congratulations on being elected President or President Elect of your Aggie Moms' Club. We are so thrilled to see you here! Your commitment to leading the Aggie Moms in your club is exciting and shows your dedication to them, their students and TAMU. Leading can be very rewarding, but it can also be very challenging. We're here to help you navigate those waters with some great tips, suggestions and general information. We're confident that adopting and putting into practice the ones that work for you and your club will give you the tools you need to have a productive and effective year.

Karen Allen, Past President of the Austin Aggie Moms and Former Federation Officer, and Kathy Johnston, Past President of the Austin Aggie Moms will give you ideas in their workshop on how to keep your members interested once they have joined and ideas on including family members in Aggie Mom activities. We will also be providing information regarding State and Federal rules and guidelines to help you stay compliant in everything that you do.

A portion of the session will be a question and answer for our presidents. We realize that you come from all sizes of clubs with a vast difference in experiences. This year we will keep all clubs together regardless of size. We feel you learn from each other whether you are big or small. All ideas or situations can be adapted to fit your needs.

This packet contains suggestions from many different Presidents. You can adapt them to meet your needs.

For those of you who could not join us for the meeting and workshops, if you have any questions, Diane Eckols, Federation President-Elect, is always ready to assist you. You are also welcome to contact Karen or Kathy if you have questions about the information from these notes.

We are so happy that you are a part of the Texas A&M University Mothers' Club sisterhood and we wish you a wonderful year as president.

*Whoop!*

*Cathleen Inman '88*

*President 2019-2020*

*Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Club*

**In the end, sisterhood is about being a builder of other women. Helping one another is part of the religion of sisterhood. Be true. Practice friendship. Lift up. Speak truth. Put the same value on another as you do yourself.**

**"Of all the secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood, the most divine was humor."  
--Rebecca Wells, *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood***

# Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs



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## FIND WHAT WORKS FOR YOUR CLUB

1. Think of your club as a stool with three legs: Education, Service and Social. Without any one of these you will be missing something that is meaningful and important to different members. No stool can stand on two legs. No club can reach all moms if it doesn't meet multiple needs of many moms.
2. There are bylaws, meeting guidelines and suggestions, but no two clubs do everything in exactly the same way. Think outside the box and try new ways of doing things that may work for your club!

*The Annual Reports are provided for you to see many different club practices and get ideas.*

3. Many Moms join our clubs to learn more about A&M. Teaching about the traditions and core values builds pride and loyalty in the hearts of parents and connects them with their Aggie students. Most clubs will have an educational speaker and business meeting monthly or several times per school year.
4. Try to find a balance between keeping long held club traditions that returning members like and bringing in new ideas.
5. Supporting Texas A&M University and **all A&M students** is the mission of our organization and the *how and why* we are a 501c3. The bonds of friendship formed while serving together and sharing a common goal are often the strongest of all. Set your fundraising activities up as something all members participate in.
6. Socials, sometimes including Aggie Dads, in lieu of or in addition to a regular meeting are also great. New Aggie Parent friends are also a main reason many moms join our clubs. Make special time for connections to happen. Regular meetings do not provide enough time to get to know new people.
7. This is the **Aggie Family**, let your hair down, have fun! Play games, Sing Songs, Learn Traditions, Get to know each other, Practice Yells! Make meetings FUN!
8. Read the Annual Reports of other clubs, not for comparison or competition, but to get new ideas and see how other clubs do things.
9. Ask your members or your Board! Pass out a white card and ask them what they would like to see the club 1) Start 2) Stop 3) Continue.
10. Let the Core Values guide your leadership of your club.

**Excellence- Set the Bar High**

**Integrity- Highest Character**

**Leadership- Follow Me**

**Loyalty- Acceptance Forever**

**Respect- Highest Regard**

**Selfless Service- How Can I Be Of Help?**

## SUCCESSFUL BOARD MEETINGS

1. Give appropriate notice of a meeting and/or set a regular time for board meetings each month. Only hold board meetings that are necessary and have pertinent business to discuss.
2. Meetings can be held before the general meeting or on a separate day. It is up to the President and Board to decide how often meetings are necessary and which officers or Standing Committee Chairs need to be in attendance.
3. Prepare a thoughtful agenda. Distribute the agenda and stick with it as much as possible. Note in advance if action should be taken on specific items. Be sure to include any Federation information.
4. Start On Time -this is the most effective way to set the tone for the meetings. Begin with the Aggie Mom Prayer or whatever tradition your club uses. Smile and thank your officers for being there.
5. Keep a positive, caring, team spirit in the meeting. Your leadership dictates the group dynamics. Be sure to recognize good ideas and successes. Be diplomatic with differences. Appreciate input.
6. It is always helpful to e-mail the minutes to the board members at least two days previous to the meeting. Each member is responsible for bringing a copy for her own use.
7. Board Reports from each Officer and Standing Committee Chair should be turned in to the President at least two days prior to the Board Meeting. These reports should include current activities indicate time (if needed) to present information to the Board and/or Club.
8. Presidents may use whatever format they wish as long as it complies with their Club's by-laws. The format that has proven most effective is to follow the traditional meeting used by most organizations.
  - Call the meeting to order
  - Acknowledge who is in attendance
  - Read or waive the reading of minutes
  - Approval of the minutes & Treasurer's Report
  - Old Business
  - New Business
  - Announcements and Reports
  - Adjourn
9. Use Robert's Rules of Order. Roberts Rules are especially important to use for voting. An Officer, other than the person presenting a suggestion should make a motion for a vote and a third Officer needs to second it.
10. Check out [www.RobertsRulesCheatSheet](http://www.RobertsRulesCheatSheet), download and use the Parliamentary Pearls document posted as the hand out for the Parliamentarian Workshop on the Federation Website.
11. Assign someone (Recording Secretary) to take notes & write minutes. Action items and votes on motions should be prominent parts of the minutes.
12. Do not conduct committee business in the board meeting. Most committee topics should be discussed in committees and recommendations brought to the board with support. Some discussion may be needed, but usually the committee recommendation can be accepted.
13. When a decision is made in a board meeting, it should be documented and the appropriate person(s) or committee assigned the task of acting on the decision. Once a decision is made the entire board should support it to the club.
14. Remember, Aggie Moms are all volunteers that love their students and want to help. You are an encourager and supporter.

## GREAT GENERAL MEETINGS

1. It's SHOWTIME!! This is your opportunity to share your enthusiasm for Texas A&M and for all the fun and exciting things that you and the Board have planned for the year!

2. Greet your Fish Moms and returning Moms with a big smile and call them by name if possible! As challenging as that may seem, give it a try! Review their Facebook pictures, use nametags and TRY! This is so important to THEM and it will go a long way to set welcoming tone!! Board members do the same!

3. Have everyone sign in. If you use Eventbrite or Evite you can generate a list of attendees, but a sign in will also reflect those who came but didn't RSVP. A good record of attendance can be **helpful in highlighting potential officer candidates**. This can also be helpful for outreach to moms who have missed meetings.

4. Start meetings at the scheduled time and keep them moving, try not to let them go beyond appointed end time. Some Moms may not keep if coming meetings go over time.

5. Consider offering meals to those who want it. Eventbrite can be used to allow Moms to order and pay in advance for whatever food you can make available. For some Moms this is crucial, for others not so much.

6. Consider having a 30-minute time just for Fish Moms right before your General Meeting (or any other time) with appointed Fish Mom Mentors. There is so much that new Moms need and want to know that your returning members have learned. See "Fun Fish Mom Meetings" in this packet for a few ideas.

7. The schedule of your meeting can vary depending on the program or activities that are planned. A commonly used format is below including optional Board, Fish Mom meeting and meal:

### **Pre-Meeting**

5:00 pm Set up as needed. Place Nametags and Membership forms at entry and materials on tables.

5:30 pm Board meeting, if needed.

6:30 pm Fish Mom Mentors welcome to Fish Moms and meeting. VP of Membership and helpers at entry table: greet, collect membership forms and dues, Nametag and Goody Bag orders, Concert and Raffle Tickets when available.

7:00 pm Serve meal to those who ordered it, allow time for members to greet each other at tables.

### **Meeting:**

7:10 pm Welcome, Pledge and Prayer

7:15 pm VP Programs introduces program

7:17 pm Program

7:40 pm Program concludes, Q&A's

7:45 pm Door Prizes, Tradition Training or short Trivia Game

7:55 pm Business meeting starts, Announcements, Reports

8:30 War Hymn or Spirit, Adjourn

8. Be careful not to do Board or Committee work during your General Meeting. Opening things up for discussion for the entire club can become a verbal marathon, unless it's a very small club. Try introducing a new idea or project at your meeting, then asking for people to volunteer to be on a committee that includes at least one Board member or a Committee Chair.

9. Members can give input to a committee members *after the meeting or via private email or phone call*. If anyone really feels strongly about giving more input, they should be on the committee. The committee will make recommendations to the Board. Ask new members to serve on committees.

10. The outcome or plan is announced to the club at the next meeting or in an email or newsletter. This process gives everyone an opportunity for all to give input and for multiple people a chance to **be involved and show leadership**\* Most importantly it builds interactive consensus for a new idea. This is a way you can make progress toward positive adjustments in your club while keeping your meetings on track and on time~

**\*Opportunities for members to show leadership help potential future Board members to emerge.**

## TIPS TO MAKE YOUR MEETINGS FUN!

1. Remember, **you** set the tone. Smile!! If you are having fun, your members are more likely to as well.
2. Don't take yourself too seriously or be too nervous about everything going exactly right. All Moms can relate to multi-tasking, rolling with the flow and forgetting what you were about to say! ☺
3. Keep it going! Don't let meetings drag or get bogged down with too many questions for the speaker or individual comments about a club issue or decision. Most of these questions and discussions do not involve the entire club and can be addressed in a committee or after the meeting for those who are interested in staying.
4. Invite Student Organizations to come present to your club. Moms really enjoy seeing and hearing from students, especially groups that your club supports through donations at the end of the year!
5. Invite Guest Speakers that are interesting and relevant to a large portion of your members. The Federation Website has a list of speakers posted under "Resources for Member Clubs".
6. Communicate several times between meetings with your members about upcoming events; deadlines, order forms, club activities, volunteer needs, committee needs, Federation and A&M newsletters, etc. The more you inform them, the less time you need to spend explaining during meetings. Just reminding members of the emails, newsletter or where to find the information on your club web site will save time that can be used for something FUN!
7. Everyone enjoys drawings for door prizes, even for a very small item! Pass out little tickets to everyone or give them at the sign in table and call out winners to add a little fun and excitement to the meeting. Ask the winner to give their name and say a few words about their Aggie.
8. Quick trivia or getting-to-know-you games can be a fun change of pace between the speaker and the business part of your meeting. Keep it simple and make it quick! Your members will be smiling too! A few FUN games are in the back of this packet.
9. Involve seasoned members by asking them to lead a 5-minute Tradition Training. So many fun traditions to choose from! This could be a Yell, a short skit, or just a little fun Q&A!
10. It's fun if you have returning club members who will be Fish Mom "Buddies" or "Angels". This really can help integrate and include your new members into the club by having someone who is looking for them, maybe saving them a seat, meeting up with them at a social or calling them if they miss a meeting.
11. Have Aggie apparel, jewelry or Boutique items on display and for sale at your meetings. New moms are still excited to buy all things maroon and anything A&M! It wouldn't be nice to deprive them! ☺
12. End your meeting with the Spirit of Aggieland (including the Yell part at the end) or the War Hymn. Find a club member who is good at leading these. Your moms have seen and heard their kids doing all of this and it is fun to do it together at the end of your club meeting. Even for Longhorns. ☺

## FUN FISH MOM MEETINGS

- ❖ Nametags and getting to know names is high priority!
- ❖ 30-minute meetings start with a welcome and end with a drawing!
- ❖ Getting to know you games and Aggie Trivia are especially great for these ladies!
- ❖ Help them find other Moms with Aggies in the same major, dorm or student organization.
- ❖ Encourage them to talk about how their Aggie is doing!
- ❖ This is a safe environment where everyone understands the ups and downs.
- ❖ If possible, set up Aggie Buddies for your Fish Moms.
- ❖ Fish Mom Mentors in the meeting keep an eye out for any Mom who seems uneasy or alone

### Some Possible Topics For Your Fish Mom Meetings

September	How to get football tickets, navigate the game and tailgating? Download Destination Aggieland App. Which events do I book a Hotel for and how early? Important dates! How to get more involved in our club
October	It is never too early to sign a lease for the following year. Now that your child has textbooks is it better to rent or purchase? Tutoring? Where and why? Academic Success Center Information Fish mom Buddy!
November	Importance of your child finding a group...and you too! On campus meal plans or eating out? Costs and details Great places to shop for Aggie merchandise in Austin and College Station.
December	Making special homecoming traditions for your Aggie.
January	Things to know about TAMU: Bus for shopping, Meat for sale, Farmers Market, CARPOOL, Housing Fair
February	Meeting with campus advisors, Mentors Program Big Event, Club Officer and Standing Committee Positions
March	Parent's weekend, Boutique
April	Aggie Traditions: Muster, Silver Taps, Etc. Preparing to welcome your Aggie home!
May	Welcome to our incoming moms! Campus Resources



## PROGRAMS, PURPOSE AND PARTIES

1. Make meetings interesting by having a variety of presentations or speakers. Vary the programs from year to year, making sure not to repeat more than one or two of your club's favorites. There are so many departments and groups to choose from who are happy to come share with your members. A new speaker list has been compiled for the Programs Workshop; you can download those materials from the Federation Website. Also under "Resources for Member Clubs" there is a document called "Neat Ideas for Aggie Moms Clubs" Here are just a few ideas:

TAMU Police Department  
Startup Aggieland  
The Career Center  
Study Abroad  
Student Health Services  
Department of Engineering  
Academic Success Center  
Cushing Library

Traditions Council,  
CARPOOL  
Student Government  
BUILD  
Former Students Association  
BIG EVENT  
Aggie Replant  
Greek Life

2. Remind members often of the importance of the scholarship and student organization funds we raise. Our efforts make a big difference to a lot of students! Scholarship awards must be offered publicly and may go to any Texas A&M student from your area designated by the zip codes of members in your club. Student organization funds may go to any group your club selects that is approved by the University. A listing of over 900 student organizations can be found by category, key word or name under Student Activities at TAMU.edu

- Read or post thank you notes from recipients. Some will really touch hearts!
- Present fundraising activities as "our purpose" and ask for all club participation. We don't "require" but we can "really need" or "count on" member involvement.
- Have a few fundraising efforts spread throughout the year: Club Boutique project, Singing Cadets Concert, Raffles, Silent Auctions, partnerships with retailers or restaurants who will give your club a percentage of sales for a specific window of time, sell T-Shirts, Sticky Buns, Pecans, Candy or anything you can make a profit on, have a club Garage Sale, have a BBQ and Boot Scootin' Night with the Aggie Wranglers or any "Headliner" and include an Auction or Raffle.
- **Bonds of friendship formed while SERVING TOGETHER are some of the best of all!**

3. Social events can be as varied as your members and are a wonderful opportunity for new friendships to form. Have social events in between your meetings, or let them take the place of a meeting if that works for your club. Just be sure you have planned times for your members to enjoy more than a brief hello at meetings.

Lunch Bunch or Dinner Groups  
Painting with a Twist  
Club Bunco Night  
Salad Supper or Potluck  
Goody Bag Assembly Party  
Road Trip to College Station  
Crafting Night

Wine Tasting or Cork Pull  
Tea or Brunch  
Holiday Celebrations  
Aggie Grads and Brags Party  
Lake or Pool Day Party  
Bowling  
Girls Night Out Movie

**DON'T FORGET THE AGGIE DADS, SIBLINGS AND STUDENTS!**  
Social events geared towards or including Dads and siblings can be EXTRA fun!!

Dads could be invited to any of the events listed above including the meetings with great speakers. Gatherings when your Aggies students are home for a break from school are excellent opportunities for FUN! Dads and Siblings should be invited to any Howdy or Grads and Brags social gatherings honoring their Aggie! Tailgates and BBQ or Chili Cook-Off Parties are always a hit with Dads no matter what sport is in season. **The more you can involve the entire Aggie Mom Family, the more the friendships within your club will grow!!**

## FUN COMMUNICATION

**Communication is THE KEY to getting Moms to your club and keeping them there!!**

**Agenda to Email** ~ make it FUN with Color, Fonts, Bold, anything to make your reader smile!

**Develop a Brand:** Easy to spot in a full mailbox~ “Fun, Friends, Aggie Moms” and use it consistently.

**Be Consistent:** It’s good for people to know what to expect and look for.

**Be Enthusiastic:** It’s contagious! Have the goal of making your members smile.

**Make It Easy:** Provide the links and attach the forms~ there is no shame in spoon-feeding when you have a worthy motive. ☺

**Agenda** ~ Yes, EVEN an Agenda can be fun! Use front and back, make it eye catching, be creative.

**Facebook**~ Have a closed group that is just for members and a public page that is used as a marketing tool. The closed group is great for helping members get to know each other with pictures, ask the questions all moms have and *build the community* everyone wants. The public page is a great way to draw in new members and by sharing information about A&M and what your club is doing.

**Twitter** ~ Some Moms prefer twitter to Facebook. It’s just another avenue that can be used just like the public Facebook page.

**Eventbrite** ~ an excellent FUN tool if you need to invite guests and collect money for your event or food. It also allows you to generate some really good reports that can be useful.

**Evite** ~ much more FUN than an email, makes it more like a fun get together than a meeting.

**Mail Chimp**~ Present your Club News with pictures. Makes reading it more FUN! The goal is to share the information before they get tired of reading. Pictures and a different lay out helps.

**Website**~ a go to for all information! Create a thorough calendar of club events and post forms. Be sure it is always up to date and will encourage someone to want to be a part of your club.

Note: Let the Federation Electronic Information Chair know if you need help with your website.

**12<sup>th</sup> Mom** ~ an email structured communication system for putting needs out to your Aggie Mom community in a way and anyone can step up to help! It’s a great way to involve as many members as possible by letting needs be known one at a time and giving big recognition to those who volunteer.

**Sign-Up.com** ~ Way better than sign-up with pens and paper, it keeps track of what is filled and what is needed, automatically reminds volunteers and allows you to print reports and email just volunteers.

**Jib Jab**~ Send hilarious moving, dancing singing cards to your Aggies on their Birthday, during Finals and to members on special occasions and holidays. It’s under \$20 for 1200 sends per year.

**Communicate Often**~ The more you share in between meetings, the more time you will have for FUN during your meeting, because they are familiar with the information and you can run over it quickly!! Also people appreciate being looped in even if they have had to miss a meeting or two.

## PEARLS OF WISDOM

### **1. You are the #1 recruiter for your club**

Go to Vista Print and make yourself a business card  
Present yourself as a businessperson to members and others  
Encourage people to get in touch with you  
Don't be too busy at meetings to mix and mingle  
Learn names. It MATTERS.

### **2. From day one, be looking for the next year's Board Members**

Personally ask as many people as you can to be on committees.  
Cast a Broad Net with 12<sup>th</sup> Mom, which allows any member to step up.  
Pay attention to who your most regular meeting attenders are~ track with sign in sheets  
Keep track of who participates in socials and fundraisers~ track with RSVP's.  
When you see leadership potential in a Mom...tell her!  
Review your officer descriptions. Are they accurate and clear?  
Don't be afraid to pick up the phone and ask strong members if they would consider being Board Members  
Be ready to give your nominating committee a good list of candidates for their consideration

### **3. Love Your Moms~ you are like the "Mom of the Moms" in this one regard.**

Tell them how wonderful they are, how proud you are of their participation  
Encourage them; show that you care about them and their Aggie.  
Give credit to those who deserve it, don't let their efforts go unnoticed.  
Delegate tasks and projects to keep members involved.  
Remember the following quote:  
"Tell me and I will forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I will understand."

### **4. When something goes wrong, the President takes the ultimate responsibility.**

Take the heat and don't make excuses.  
Smile, apologize if necessary, and thank the person who pointed out the mistake.  
Don't hand down follow-up activities to any other board members or outsiders.  
As president, it is your responsibility to see that the board members fulfill their duties.

### **5. Always give suggestions for how to make each job better...in private!**

A Board Meeting is not the place to point out someone's errors.  
They probably know it, and nothing can be gained by calling them out in front of the board.  
Be understanding and ask yourself if you really gave clear instructions, expectations and help.

### **6. Try not to micro-manage!**

Don't require that every board member report to you on everything they do.  
If they do, you will go crazy trying to keep up with everyone, and they will invariably forget to report something.  
They are adults and may be a bit insulted if you don't seem to trust them or let them make any decisions.  
Everyone works in different ways; let them work in theirs even if things are done last minute.  
When/if it doesn't get done at all, keep in mind it's not the end of the world, and refer back to Item 4.

### **7. Keep your President-Elect up on what is going on**

Do not burden her with jobs you cannot find others to do.  
Her job is to assist with committees and special projects, not replace you.  
She needs to watch and learn, set a good example!

## FEDERATION FUN, RESOURCES AND REPORTING

### **Attend Federation Meetings~ THEY ARE FUN!!**

Go early so you can socialize while you're there,  
Get to know other club Presidents; sometimes they will pass on good ideas.  
Share your ideas, and listen to theirs.  
Encourage as many members as you can to also attend the Federation Meetings.  
Consider getting a vacation rental together and splitting the cost.  
Talk about Aggie Mom Fun! It's a grown up slumber party with wine!!

### **Download Every Federation Workshop Packet**

You don't have to be the expert in everything, but you need to know the basics  
Keep for your future reference  
These can even be helpful to pass along at next Officer Transition

### **Learn From The Experience of Others**

Review the Annual Reports of other Clubs on the Federation Website  
Contact Clubs that are doing things you like with your questions

### **Go to your Federation Board Members with Questions or Problems**

Go to TAMU.edu and search anything you think of or have a question about... it's probably there!

### **Attend Aggie Mom Camp**

A wonderful experience for all Moms! Get a big group from your club together to go!  
**Feb. 7- 9, 2020 ~ SAVE THE DATE:** AMC 2020 is at Texas A&M Hotel and Saturday night dinner is in the Hall of Champions at Kyle Field!  
Campus Tours, Kyle Field Tour, George H. W. Bush Presidential Library Tour, Shopping, and Entertainment  
You will enjoy a weekend of "Aggie Momraderie"....we meet and make lifelong friends here!

### **Attend Your District Meeting**

#### **Sharing ideas with other Clubs, Getting Information You Need**

It's a very important time to learn get the latest updates and training on things you **need** to know like;  
Rules regarding Raffles, Auctions, Taxes and Student Gifts~ Update coming in September  
Reporting and paying Sales Tax~ who has to pay, who has to report and what has to be reported  
Filing State Sales Tax Returns ~ make sure you club does it right.  
Determining if you need Insurance and how much of what kind; liability, property or Directors and Officers  
Guidelines for Historians~ send pictures to Federation Historian and archive club materials in Cushing Library  
Many of the items listed in "RESOURCES FOR CLUB PRESIDENTS" on the Federation Website, shown below have been handouts and topics of information at DISTRICT MEETINGS. Don't miss yours this year!

- Federation Forms
- Federation Documents
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Neat Ideas For Aggie Moms Clubs
- Download the Federation Member Seal Graphic
- TAMU EIS Department's "List of Students" Program Information
- Texas A&M University Licensing and Trademark Information
- Texas A&M University Approved Logos/Brand Guide
- Official Photos of Texas A&M University
- Aggie Videos
- Aggie Songs
- List of Potential Speakers for Aggie Moms' Club Meetings
- Raffle Auctions Tax Student Gifts
- Reporting and Paying Sales Tax
- Filing State Sales Tax Returns
- Guidelines for Aggie Moms Club Historians

## Consider running for Federation Office

Having been President qualifies you~ you do not have to be an A&M Graduate  
Serve Aggie Moms on another level ~ you will make a difference!  
Be on a team of awesome Aggie Mom Leaders for 108 Clubs.

## Reach out to you Federation Officers

They are there to help you and are happy to hear from you!  
Invite your Federation Liaison to your club meeting  
Invite Federation Board Members to join your club for Special Events  
Invite a Federation Board Member to do your officer installation

## January 2020 Workshops will be held to provide all the information you need about all Forms

Draft versions of all of the forms are in your Presidents' Package.  
The current forms that need your attention are below.  
Thank you in advance for your part in making sure your club takes care to turn in forms correctly and on time.

## Federation Forms are there to help and protect your Club

990,990-EZ, or 990-N: VERY IMPORTANT!

Please see additional handout at <https://aggiemoms.org/workshops>

This is your income tax return for your club •

They are due by **10/15/19** and it must be completed on time.

For help completing it contact Tamra Walker '89 treasurer@aggienetwork.com (214) 850-4473

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.

Forward a copy of your 990 confirmation acknowledgement from the IRS when they receive your 990.

Forward to [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.

## Forms D, E and G were due June 1<sup>st</sup>

Form D is the President's Annual Report for your clubs 2018-2019 activities.

Forms E & G provide important details about each club's donations and scholarships awarded.

Please be sure your club has taken care of this reporting. Thank you!!

## Tax Free Days need to be designated in your September Minutes

Your club may plan and take two days per year when sales tax is not due.

You must select the dates and have record of a Board vote in your minutes

This should be done at your September Board meeting

## The Federation has to furnish the IRS with a listing of subordinate groups (local clubs) yearly.

The current information about each club is collected through our FORM T.

FORM T is for Federation internal **record keeping only**.

FORM T is **not** filed with the IRS.

Returning the FORM T to the Federation **does not** exempt your club from filing a Form 990 with the IRS

These questions have raised awareness for many clubs about the laws we must follow to protect our 501c3

Other clubs seem to not be aware of the importance of how we award scholarships and make donations.

Our Club has filed the appropriate Form 990 with the Internal Revenue Service.

Does your club prepare an annual Budget and have it approved by your Board and then shared with or approved by your club members?

Does your club share a Treasurer's Report at each meeting with your club members?

Does your club have the financial records audited at the end of the fiscal year?

Does your club award scholarships to only club members' students?

Does your club require a mom's club membership as part of the criteria for the scholarship application?

Does your club publicize in several ways and distribute your scholarship applications across the zip codes that your club represents?

## Consider supporting our Federation with a Donation to the Annual Campaign

The Federation is an umbrella organization for 108 Clubs with 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<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>; Underwriting for Aggie Mom Camp<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>; Defray costs associated with the Clubs participation in Boutique held during Family Weekend<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>; 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.

## A Few Other Items to share with you:

- ❖ Beware of phishing scams. They are out there and any one of us could get tricked into a costly mistake.
- ❖ Check your new Directory; review all of your club information. Report and errors to the 7<sup>th</sup> VP
- ❖ New Brochures are coming soon that Clubs will be able to use as their own personalized marketing tool
- ❖ Check out the Association of Former Students Map with club events! 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.”
- ❖ Please keep adding your events to populate the map!!
  
- ❖ New Student Conferences have been a big success this year in College Station and Galveston.
  - Next year we will be in McAllen, which will be at another Branch Campus.
  - The Federation of Texas A&M Mothers’ Clubs serves College Station and the other branch campuses.

## Fun Fact:

There are multiple System Campus locations: Prairie View A&M, A&M Commerce, Tarleton State University, A&M Kingsville, A&M Corpus Christi, A&M International University, A&M Texarkana, A&M Central Texas, A&M San Antonio. Each one has it’s own mission and goals and many joined the A&M System long after they had been established.

The institutions at Galveston and Qatar are under the management and control of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, with degrees offered under the name and authority of Texas A&M University at College Station.

The Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers Clubs, like the Association of Former Students, is part of the Aggie Network and is connected to Texas A&M University at College Station.

# FEDERATION CALENDAR 2019-2020

## FEDERATION MEETINGS AND EVENTS

### Fall Federation Aggie Mom Dinner – Friday, August 23, 2019

Registration	6:00 PM	George H.W. Bush Presidential Library
Dinner & Speaker	6:30 PM	George H.W. Bush Presidential Library

### Fall Federation Meeting and Workshops – Saturday, August 24, 2019

Registration, Breakfast	8:00 – 8:30 AM	MSC 2400 (Gates Ballroom)
Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM	MSC 2400 (Gates Ballroom)
Workshops	11:40 – 1:45 PM	Rudder Tower

### Winter Federation Aggie Mom Dinner – Friday, January 24, 2020

Registration	6:00 PM	Texas A&M Hotel & Conference Center
Dinner & Speaker	6:30 PM	Texas A&M Hotel & Conference Center

### Winter Federation Meeting and Workshops – Saturday, January 25, 2020

Registration, Breakfast	8:30 – 9:00 AM	MSC 2400 (Gates Ballroom)
Meeting	9:00 – 11:15 AM	MSC 2400 (Gates Ballroom)
Workshops	11:45 – 1:00 PM	Rudder Tower

### Aggie Mom Camp – February 7-9, 2020

The Texas A&M Hotel & Conference Center, College Station  
<https://aggiemoms.org/aggiemomcamp/> for more information

### District Meetings –February - March 2020

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

### Spring Federation Meetings and Boutique, Family Weekend – April 17-18, 2020

#### **Business Meeting, Directory Dedication, Election of 2020-2021 Officers Friday, April 17, 2020**

Meeting	5:30 – 6:30 PM	Location TBD
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#### **General Meeting and Installation of 2020-2021 Officers Saturday, April 18, 2020**

Registration, Coffee	8:00 – 8:30 AM	Location TBD
Meeting	8:30 – 10:30 AM	Location TBD

#### **Aggie Moms Boutique 2020**

Boutique	10:00 – 5:00 PM	Friday, April 17	MSC Ballrooms
Boutique	10:00 – 5:00 PM	Saturday, April 18	MSC Ballrooms

## 2019-2020 Federation Forms Chart

FORM	POSTMARK DEADLINE	FEDERATION OFFICER RESPONSIBLE	SUGGESTED LOCAL CLUB OFFICER RESPONSIBLE	PURPOSE
<b>990 to IRS</b>	October 15 EVERY YEAR	PRESIDENT - ELECT	TREASURER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ALL clubs required to fill out</li> <li>• Send confirmation of filing to President-Elect</li> <li>• *May file for <b>extension</b>, have 3 months, <b>Form 8868</b></li> <li>• Contact Federation Pres. Elect for more info</li> </ul>
<b>FORM A Nomination for Federation Officer</b>	February 1, 2020	PRESIDENT and CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Any local club member interested in a Federation Office must be recommended by a letter from local club President or Former President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nomination for Federation Officer</li> <li>• <b>ONLY</b> submitted if your club is nominating a member for a Federation Officer &amp; has paid club dues by February 1</li> <li>• Must be accompanied by a recommendation letter from the local club president and be signed by the local club president</li> <li>• <b>FORM A is returned to the Corresponding Secretary whose address is on FORM A</b></li> </ul>
<b>FORM B Dues &amp; Archive Fees</b>	February 1, 2020	TREASURER	TREASURER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment of Dues &amp; Archive Fees to the Federation</li> <li>• <b>FORM B is returned to the Treasurer</b></li> </ul>
<b>FORM T IRS Group Exemption</b>	February 1, 2020	PRESIDENT- ELECT	PRESIDENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Club's required information for IRS Group Exemption</li> <li>• Local Club must confirm its compliance with the IRS Form 990 annual filing requirement</li> <li>• <b>FORM T is returned to the President-Elect</b></li> </ul>
<b>FORM F Boutique Table Reservations</b>	February 1, 2020	5 <sup>TH</sup> VICE PRESIDENT BOUTIQUE	BOUTIQUE OFFICER OR CHAIRPERSON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>ONLY</b> submitted if your club plans to sell items, or hold a raffle you must return this form</li> <li>• <b>FORM F is returned to the 5<sup>th</sup> VP Boutique</b></li> </ul>
<b>FORM Y Checklist for Tax Compliance</b>	May 15, 2020	TREASURER	TREASURER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tax Compliance Verification</li> <li>• <b>Form Y is returned to the Treasurer</b></li> </ul>
<b>FORM C Local Club Elected Officers</b>	May 15, 2020	7 <sup>TH</sup> VICE PRESIDENT DIRECTORY	OUTGOING and INCOMING PRESIDENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Club Officers Elected to serve for 2019-2020</li> <li>• This information is used for the Federation Directory</li> <li>• <b>FORM C is returned to the 7<sup>th</sup> VP Directory</b></li> </ul>
<b>FORM D Annual Report</b>	May 31, 2020	4 <sup>TH</sup> VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS	PRESIDENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Club's annual report of club activities</li> <li>• <b>FORM D is returned to the 4<sup>th</sup> VP Reports</b></li> </ul>
<b>FORM E Donations to Student Organizations</b>	May 31, 2020	4 <sup>TH</sup> VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS	OFFICER DESIGNATED BY LOCAL CLUB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Club report of donations to Texas A&amp;M student organizations</li> <li>• <b>FORM E is returned to the 4<sup>th</sup> VP Reports</b></li> </ul>
<b>FORM G Scholarship Awards</b>	May 31, 2020	4 <sup>TH</sup> VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS	OFFICER DESIGNATED BY LOCAL CLUB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Club report of academic scholarships awarded to Texas A&amp;M students</li> <li>• <b>FORM G is returned to the 4<sup>th</sup> VP Reports</b></li> </ul>



## KNOW YOUR BYLAWS!!

- 1) Yes, follow them! This requires knowing them. Your bylaws are very important because it is state law to have them. Following them is a legal requirement of your club's 501(c)(3) status. See "Non-profit Governance: The Importance of Bylaws" at <https://hagehodes.com/nonprofit-governance-the-importance-of-by-laws/>. More importantly, failure to follow the provisions of the bylaws can have devastating legal consequences for an organization and perhaps even for individual board members.
  - a) Bylaws outline specific guidance for your club's structure and operations, and membership.
  - b) Bylaws provide consistency in the running of the organization.
  - c) Bylaws communicate organizational rules so internal disputes and conflict can be avoided and meetings and elections of the club run smoothly.
- 2) Your bylaws might need some maintenance from time to time, especially if there are things in your Bylaws that really don't apply to current club. This does not need to be a hindrance or hold your club back from making needed, positive changes. Your bylaws should be *a working document that provides rules and boundaries but also reflects how your club needs to operate*. Some suggestions for the process are listed below.
- 3) **Send your current or updated and approved bylaws to the Federation Parliamentarian Tara V. Kohlenberg. She will review and record them, unless there is any question or problem. If so she will contact you and guide you on next steps.** [Parl@agqienetwork.com](mailto:Parl@agqienetwork.com)

The process of making changes to your bylaws if needed:

- 1) Form a Committee, with at least one Board Member, plus your President and at least one or two other actively involved club members.
- 2) Your bylaws must not conflict with the Federation Bylaws, and should be as similar possible. Where there are different needs, consult Roberts Rules of Order for optional suggestions on how to amend your bylaws.
- 3) Come up with the changes your committee would like to make, show them as highlighted sections right below the current bylaws sections that are being changed to them clear for all to see.
- 4) Present the committee recommendations to the Board for any needed discussion and approval.
- 5) When possible, give your club members the required advance written notice and all of the proposed changes.
- 6) The By-Laws may then be amended by a majority vote (of members only) at any meeting, provided advance written notice and all of the information has been given; or they may be amended by unanimous vote of the members without the formality of previous notice.
- 7) Make a new official version of you Bylaws with the words "Amended and Approved, August 26, 2017" or whatever the date is.

**The Standing Rules** may be changed as often as needed by each administration (President, Board, Club).

Only a motion and a second are needed to approve a change. Standing Rules:

- Relate to the details of administration
- May not conflict with approved bylaws
- Are adopted as a need arises
- May be suspended, unlike bylaws, for a current session by a majority vote

Search the web for "Roberts Rules Cheat Sheet", download and use the Parliamentary Pearls document posted as the hand out for the Parliamentarian Workshop on the Federation Website.

## EXAMPLE OF A PRESIDENT'S TIME LINE

### This is a month by month of one Presidents TO-DO List

#### Make your own Calendar, you will need it!!

#### Ongoing Duties

- Prepare agendas and preside at the Board and General Meetings.
- Review the Minutes from the Board and General Meetings.
- Notify the Secretary of any additions or corrections.
- Advise her to publish the minutes to the Board and/or general membership.
- Prepare the President's Letter for the Newsletter each month.
- Edit and approve the final copy of the Newsletter.
- Check the Federation website periodically for updates.
- All forms with due dates are posted to the website.

#### May

This is the first Board Meeting with the current Board. even though it is prior to installation. This joint meeting permits the transfer of files to the incoming Board. and it's a great way to welcome the new Board members. You may also designate a "Friend to the Board," such as a past president, etc. to attend meetings to provide some history and expertise. This is at your discretion.

- Prepare the Calendar for the upcoming year:
- Obtain school calendars from the local school districts (can be found on-line)
- Set Board Meeting dates.
- Set General Meeting dates.
- Summer Socials - secure hostesses, then set dates.
- The outgoing VP Programs can assist with this.
- Fish Moms' Tea- secure a hostess and set the date.
- Prepare a new Membership form. This can be included in the May Newsletter.
- New Officer Installation – find a former president to conduct the installation for you and the new Board.
- Order labels from A&M (incoming and transfer students) to use for the Summer Socials. The first batch of labels will be utilized for the postcard/notifications to incoming Moms to inform them of the Summer Socials. A second set of labels is requested for the Fish Moms' Tea. This update includes just the Moms of new students that have accepted.
- Use this email address: eis@tamu.edu to request the labels.
- Check with department for current contact and guidelines.
- Establish a Budget Committee ~ this would typically include the outgoing and incoming presidents and treasurers.
- You may also include others with some history of Club income and expenses.  
The budget must be prepared and submitted at your first Board Meeting.
- Summer Conferences at A&M - You will receive information from the Federation regarding the Summer Conference schedules. Solicit a volunteer to go to the conferences to assist Federation in recruitment. Typically, 2 Moms have gone down when their students' conferences were in session.
- Make sure the VP of Membership contacts any prospective
  - Members whose names you receive from the conferences.
  - June/July
  - Send out the June/July/August Newsletter.
- The president is responsible for preparing the President's Letter and for editing the entire newsletter each month prior to distribution. You will work with the VP of Publications on this activity.
- Board Meetings in the summer are at your discretion.
- Check in with the Summer Socials hostesses prior to events in their homes via email or phone.

### **August**

- Make plans for the Fish Moms' Tea. Postcards have been used in the past, as they're most economical.
- Request a set of new mailing labels from A&M (EIS) for Moms of students that have officially accepted.
- The first Federation meeting of the year is the weekend before school starts. You will receive a packet of information prior to the meeting. If you are unable to attend, get another Board member to attend to pick up the Club's packet of information for the coming year. Workshops are held during these meetings and it's helpful for new Board members to attend. Voting delegates are based upon membership numbers.
- Information on Aggie Mom Camp should be available and should be publicized to the general membership.

### **September**

- First General meeting – have something FUN and good speaker.
- August graduates are honored at the September General Meeting.
- Sign up for Seasons in Aggieland Craft Fair.
- Promote Aggie Mom Camp.

### **October**

- Goodie Bag Sales begin.
- Plan for the Board Christmas Party - no business, just fun!
- Promote Aggie Mom Camp.
- Cut off for dues to be in directory November
- Hand out Goody Bags so Mom's can give to kids at Thanksgiving
- Distribute directories
- Promote Aggie Mom Camp.

### **December**

- Board Christmas Party!
- No General Meeting

### **January**

- The Scholarship Committee should begin preparing for their upcoming activities.
- Decide how late you will permit the interviewing process to continue.
- Federation meeting on campus. Once again, packets that are vital to year end activities are distributed at this meeting, so it's important to attend or have someone attend for you. If there are business items to be voted upon, be sure we have delegates in attendance. Your packet will have information and deadlines for Boutique at Parents' Weekend, dues to Federation, annual reporting, and tax filing, etc. Review the information carefully.
- The District Meeting may be held at this time Our Club is asked to participate in some way, which is usually providing door prizes or favors for the meeting.
- December graduates are honored at the January General Meeting.
- Begin Goodie Bag sales for spring.
- Pass out Officer interest forms at meeting and email
- Form the Nominating Committee. Ask at least 3 people, plus yourself as chair of the committee.
- The proposed slate of incoming officers should be announced at the March General Meeting and included in the March Newsletter.

### **February**

- Begin talking about Parents' Weekend at the General Meetings and explain the activities.
- Pass out Officer interest forms at meeting and email
- Nominating Committee and Scholarship Committee start working.

### **March**

- Present the proposed slate of officers at the Board Meeting. Announce the slate at the General Meeting and publicize the information in the Newsletter and email distributions.
- Vote on the slate at the General Meeting. Inform the incoming president that she needs to select someone to do the office installation in May.
- Review the club donations list at the Board Meeting.
- Make sure Boutique and Raffle are coming together for Parents' Weekend.
- Announce Muster activities at A&M and also activities to be held locally by Aggie Clubs.
- Order the President's pin

### **April**

- Inform the incoming president that she needs to select someone to do the officer installation in May.
  - Secure last minute details for Parents' Weekend.
  - You will need voting delegates for the Federation meeting.
- Make plans to attend the outgoing Federation President's Luncheon.
- Invite the new Board members to attend the May Joint Board Meeting.
  - Scholarship should be in full swing. Depending on the interview process, you may be able to announce the winners at the Board Meeting and General Meeting.
  - Include the donations form in the Newsletter and make it available to the general membership. Explain the balloting process to members.
  - Have Hospitality prepare for hosting graduates and scholarship winners.
  - Get gifts for the outgoing Board and Committee Chairpersons during Parents' Weekend.
  - Donation elections will be sent to you. Calculate the totals based on the formula.  
See spreadsheet.
  - Plan year-end expenses to be paid before the new Board takes over. The Treasurer can assist with this. This will include a carry over for Boutique, general expense.

### **May**

- Send donation breakout and money to Foundation – certified or personally deliver
- Send Scholarship money and names to Student Finance, special forms – certified or personally deliver
- It all begins AGAIN!

## RING OF HONOR

### “The Spirit Continues Through the Ring of Honor”

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:

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ No officers required—need Co-Chair Moms to organize a social and/or luncheon/dinner.
- ❖ Only meet two-three times/year, or however often you wish!

#### 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 members:

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

Ring of Honor Logo Pin: OPTIONAL

Some clubs have “Pin Dunk” parties for their new members



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.
2. These may be purchased only with the approval of the Ring of Honor Chair(s)—must meet requirements of membership.

\*START UP for the organization: May need some funds from club to help get started.

Some Clubs with Successful Ring of Honor Groups: Check them out!!

Clear Lake Aggie Moms <https://clearlakemoms.aggienetwork.com>

Northwest Harris County, <http://www.nwhcaggiemoms.org>

Galveston Aggie Moms, <http://galvestonaggiemoms.ch2v.com>

## ICE BREAKER GAMES, SONGS AND FUN FACTS

### The ABCs of Motivating Aggie Moms

- A. Accept each Aggie Mom for who she is
- B. Be Positive in everything you do
- C. Communicate with your Moms on a regular basis
- D. Develop and follow a plan for your meeting
- E. Enjoy what you do, it is contagious
- F. Form strategies that allow every Mom to become involved
- G. Give yourself a pat on the back regularly
- H. Hug a Mom
- I. Introduce ideas in an exciting manner
- J. Join in activities interaction is a positive motivator
- K. Keep notes on who does what and give praise at meetings
- L. Love on your members.
- M. Make each Mom feel special by showing an interest in her and her Aggie
- N. Never be too busy to listen
- O. Objectives provide structure
- P. Provide feedback on all ideas
- Q. Quietly listen if a Mom needs to talk to you
- R. Remember, relevant activities encourage participation
- S. Smile! Smile! Smile!
- T. Take time to relax and reflect
- U. Use tasteful humor, don't be afraid to laugh
- V. Vary the Moms you ask to do things
- W. Welcome everyone with a big Howdy
- X. "X-cellent" work and effort deserves praise
- Y. You set the tone for your meeting
- Z. Zero in on the strengths of each Mom

(Chorus)

We are the Aggies – the Aggies are we  
True to each other as Aggies can be  
We've got to FIGHT boys  
We've got to fight!  
We've got to fight for Maroon and White  
After they've boosted all the rest  
They will come and join the best  
For we are the Aggies – the Aggies are we  
We're from Texas AMC  
(Yell sequence that follows; traditionally deleted at Muster)  
T-E-X-A-S A-G-G-I-E  
Fight! Fight! Fight-fight-fight!  
Fight! Maroon! White-White-White!  
A-G-G-I-E  
Texas! Texas! A-M-C!  
Gig 'em, Aggies, 1-2-3  
Farmers fight! Farmers fight!  
Fight! Fight!  
Farmers, farmers fight!

**"The Aggie War Hymn"**

All hail to dear old Texas A&M  
Rally around Maroon and White  
Good luck to the dear old Texas Aggies  
They are the boys who show the real old fight  
That good old Aggie spirit thrills us  
And makes us yell and yell and yell  
So let's fight for dear old Texas A&M  
We're goin' to beat you all to  
Chig-gar-roo-gar-rem  
Chig-gar-roo-gar-rem  
Rough Tough! Real Stuff! Texas A&M  
Good-bye to texas university  
So long to the Orange and the White  
Good luck to dear old Texas Aggies  
They are the boys that show the real old fight  
"The eyes of Texas are upon you..."  
That is the song they sing so well (Sounds like hell!)  
So good-bye to texas university  
We're going to beat you all to  
Chig-gar-roo-gar-rem  
Chig-gar-roo-gar-rem  
Rough! Tough! Real Stuff! Texas A&M

**"Saw Varsity's Horns Off"**

Saw Varsity's horns off! Saw Varsity's horns off! Saw Varsity's horns off! Short!  
Varsity's horns are sawed off! Varsity's horns are sawed off! Varsity's horns are sawed off! Short!

**"The Twelfth Man"**

Texas Aggies down in Aggieland,  
We've got Aggie Spirit to a man.  
"Stand united!" That's the Aggie theme,  
We're the 12th Man on the team.  
When we're down, the goin's rough and tough,  
We just grin and yell: "We've got the stuff  
To fight together for the Aggie dream."  
We're the 12th Man on that FIGHTIN' AGGIE TEAM!

**"Texas, Our Texas"**

(Official State Song)  
Texas, Our Texas!  
All hail the mighty State!  
Texas, Our Texas!  
So wonderful and great!  
Boldest and grandest,  
Withstanding ev'ry test,  
O, Empire wide and glorious,  
You stand supremely blest,  
God bless you Texas,  
And keep you brave and strong,  
That you may grow in power and worth,  
throughout the ages long.  
God bless you Texas,  
And keep you brave and strong,  
That you may grow in power and worth,  
throughout the ages long.

**Gig 'em** - [Pass Back: Closed fist with thumb pointed straight up]  
Aaaaaaaa.....Gig 'em, Aggies!

**Aggies** - [Pass Back: Hands flat, with index fingers and thumbs touching to form an "A"]  
A-G-G-I-E-S.....A-G-G-I-E-S.....Aaaaaaaa.....Fight 'em, Aggies!

**Farmers Fight** - [Pass Back: Closed fists rotating around each other in alternating directions]  
Farmers fight!.....Farmers fight!.....Fight! Fight!.....Farmers, farmers fight!

**Military** - [Pass Back: Saluting motion]  
Squads left! squads right!  
Farmers, farmers, we're all right!  
Load, ready, aim, fire, BOOM!  
(Seniors only: "Reload!")  
A&M, give us room!

**Old Army** - [Pass Back: Upward pointed finger moves in circular motion]  
Aaaa, Rrrr, Mmmm, Yyyy(Drop voice)  
Tttt, Aaaa, Mmmm, Cccc(Drop voice)  
Aaaaaaaa.....O! Army fight!

**Locomotive** - [Pass Back: Hand looks to be pulling a train whistle, reaching upward and twisting on downward motion]  
(slow) Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!.....-A-M-C  
(faster) Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!.....T-A-M-C  
(very fast) Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!.....T-A-M-C  
(Seniors only: "Whoop!").....Aaaaaaaa.....Rah! Rah! Rah! Team!

**Kyle Field** - [Pass Back: Left hand raised with waving motion, right hand at your side with index finger pointing to the ground]  
K-Y-L-E.....F-I-E-L-D.....Aaaaaaaaaaaaa.....Kyle Field, Aaaa

**Sky Rocket** - [Pass Back: Slap hands together with right hand moving upward and index finger pointed to the sky]  
Whistleeeeeeeeeeeee.....BOOM.....Rah Rah Team Aaaaaaa

**Beat the Hell** - [Pass Back: Left arm clapping bicep, Right arm pulling up, fist clenched]  
Beat the hell outta (whoever we're playing that week)!

**Fifteen for Team** - [Pass Back: 15 fingers are shown, followed by a "T" motion similar to a "time out" signal]  
Rah! Rah! Rah! Team!

**Fifteen for Team, Farmers Fight, Call it a Night** - [Pass Back: 15 fingers are shown, followed by a "T" motion similar to a "time out" signal; Closed fists rotating around each other in alternating directions; Hands clapped together, brought to right side of head in a "sleeping" motion]  
Rah! Rah! Rah! Team!  
Farmers fight!.....Farmers fight!.....Fight! Fight!.....Farmers, farmers fight!

**Horse Laugh** - [Pass Back: Hands with fingers straight are held palms together, and then hands move back and forth in a pointing motion]  
Riffety, riffety, riff-raff!  
Chiffity, chiffity, chiff-chaff!  
Riff-raff! Chiff-chaff!  
Let's give 'em a horse laugh:  
Ssssss!

**Team** - [Pass Back: Hands form a "T", like a "time out" symbol]  
T-E-A-M, T-E-A-M.....Aaaaaaaa.....Team! Team! Team!

**Aggie Songs - "The Spirit of Aggieland"**  
Some may boast of prowess bold  
Of the schools they think so grand  
But there's a spirit can ne'er be told  
It's the Spirit of Aggieland.



## AGGIE MOM WORD SCRAMBLE

EDSU \_\_\_\_\_ (1 word)

PAITDORSR \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words)

ESTIMGNE \_\_\_\_\_ (1 word)

KABOYREO \_\_\_\_\_ (1 word)

UGEIGTSADETN \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words)

OMFESLOGBTALA \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words)

OYGAOSGBD \_\_\_\_\_ (1 word)

EOFBESOK \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words)

NALOSPCEHL \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words)

IDOSRZOPER \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words)

ELGANGIDA \_\_\_\_\_ (1 word)

UTOEQIUB \_\_\_\_\_ (1 word)

EWDERNEPESKANT \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words)

ISKRGRABNPE \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words)

LCPIASROH \_\_\_\_\_ (1 word)

DAOTIRINT \_\_\_\_\_ (1 word)

(Answers)

EDSU<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

Dues<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

PAITDORSR

Road Trips

ESTIMGNE

Meetings

KABOYREO

Yearbook<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

UGEIGTSADETN

Aggie Student

OMFESLOGBTALA

Football Games

OYGAOSGBD

Goody Bags

ITUNOTI

Tuition<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

EOFBESOK

Book Fees<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

NALOSPCEHL

Phone Calls

IDOSRZOPER

Door Prizes

ELGANGIDA

Aggieland

UTOEQUIB

Boutique<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

EWDERNEPESKANT

Parents Weekend

ISKRGRABNPE

Spring Break

LCPIASROHSH

Scholarship

DAOTIRINT

Tradition

## AN AGGIE MOM

An Aggie Mom is a special person. She has to suffer through countless Aggie jokes when she tells her friends where her child is going to college. She has to drive the endless roads to College Station for there is no shortcut.

She prays silently when her child leaves to make the long trip to school each time after a visit home. An Aggie Mom has to endure the comment, "That's just like an Aggie", every time her child does something less than perfect, sometimes a lot less than perfect.

But, the Spirit of Aggieland is alive and well in the heart of each Aggie Mom. She cheers the athletic teams even when she knows none of the rules and none of the players.

Her heart swells with pride when the scholarly accomplishments of faculty and students are related over the media – even when she has never heard of the individuals or what they have studied.

Sound of the Aggie War Hymn, Silver Taps, Reveille barking, sights<sup>SEP</sup> of the Bonfire, the Twelfth Man Towels, the Aggie Senior Ring; all of these make an Aggie Mom proud.

But nothing can compete with the pride shining in her eyes as her Aggie crosses the stage with a diploma in hand – and looks up into the crowd searching for Mom's face.

Being an Aggie Mom does not end with graduation –

because **"Once An Aggie Mom, Always An Aggie Mom!"**

**Composed by Binnie Dierschke Former President, San Angelo Mothers' Club Mother of Patrick Dierschke '91**

## AGGIE MOM TRIVIA QUIZ ~ MATCHING

1. Corps of Cadets \_\_\_\_\_
2. Silver Taps \_\_\_\_\_
3. Aggie Bonfire \_\_\_\_\_
4. Ross Volunteers \_\_\_\_\_
5. Gig 'em \_\_\_\_\_
6. Elephant Walk \_\_\_\_\_
7. Dixie Chicken \_\_\_\_\_
8. The 12<sup>th</sup> Man \_\_\_\_\_
9. Aggie Wranglers \_\_\_\_\_
10. Howdy \_\_\_\_\_
11. Aggie Muster \_\_\_\_\_
12. Fish Camp \_\_\_\_\_
13. "Lights Out" \_\_\_\_\_
14. Reveille \_\_\_\_\_
15. Fightin' Aggie Band \_\_\_\_\_
16. Aggie Mom \_\_\_\_\_
17. Memorial Student Center \_\_\_\_\_
18. Big Event \_\_\_\_\_
19. Aggie Ring \_\_\_\_\_
20. Replant \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Largest single-day community service project in the nation.
- B. Everybody's favorite part of Midnight Yell
- C. Dedicated to the memory of all those who have died defending our country
- D. First ceremony was held in 1894 in honor of Lawrence Sullivan Ross
- E. Just as Aggies came together in the fall to build the Bonfire, they still unite in the Spring
- F. The best in the world
- G. Rich in symbolism, tradition and memories
- H. The Seniors gather to commemorate that they are about to move on
- I. Freshman program started in 1954 by Gordon Gay
- J. A&M's internationally famous country and western dance group that started in 1984
- K. Encouragement to go out and do your best at whatever you are doing
- L. Dates back to 1909 and has been held each year Except for 1963
- M. A&M's oldest tradition, which is held each April 21st and dates back to 1883
- N. Prides itself on being the "Founders of the Spirit and Keepers of the Tradition" of Aggieland
- O. Place where you dunk your senior ring
- P. The highest-ranking member of the Corps of Cadets and a 5 Star General
- Q. The oldest student organization in Texas; Honor Guard for the Governor
- R. The official greeting of Texas A&M
- S. Formed in 1894, the "Pulse of Aggieland"
- T. Aggies

## Spirit of Aggie Moms

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Some may boast of friends so sweet

And the deed that they have done,

But there is one who can ne're be beat –

It's a TEXAS AGGIE MOM.

We are Aggies and Aggie Moms, too,

Supporting our Aggies in all that they do,

We stand behind them – our girls and boys

For that affords us our greatest joys,

And if they sail the ocean wide,

They will come back to our side,

For they'll never find, save in Heaven above,

A Texas Aggie Mother's Love.

(Tune: "Spirit of Aggieland") Composed by Mrs. W.C. Webb 1950 President Liberty County Aggie  
Moms' Club

## You Know You're an Aggie Mom When:

You experience an overwhelming sometimes – tearful sense of pride when your Aggie presents You with a plaque that reads “An Aggie never forgets his first true love, his MOM.”

When your Aggies talk about the “Dixie Chicken” you know they aren’t talking about a new Southern recipe for KFC!

When you hear someone talking about “RV’s” you think of the Ross Volunteers, not Recreational Vehicles.

You own more than two pieces of Aggie jewelry, T-shirts, vests and other Aggie items

When you hear the word “Freebird” you don’t think of the classic rock song, but of the World’s biggest and best burrito.

When to you, ATM means Texas A&M University, not “automatic teller machine.”

You enclose the date for “Parent’s Weekend” in your Christmas cards, telling all your relatives not to plan any family reunions on that date.

Your answering machine says “Howdy!”

When you hear the “First Lady” is going to be making an appearance and you think of Reveille.

You refer to all cheerleaders as “Yell Leaders”.

## Know Your Aggie Moms I

Wearing maroon \_\_\_\_\_

Plays dominoes \_\_\_\_\_

Knows the words to the Aggie Word Hymn \_\_\_\_\_

Mom of Corps Member \_\_\_\_\_

Mom of Freshman \_\_\_\_\_

Mom of Junior \_\_\_\_\_

Mom of Former Student \_\_\_\_\_

Husband went to A&M \_\_\_\_\_

On the Board \_\_\_\_\_

Has 2 students at A&M now \_\_\_\_\_

Has more than 3 Aggie students that have ever gone to A&M \_\_\_\_\_

Has a Singing Cadet \_\_\_\_\_

Has a parent that is an Aggie \_\_\_\_\_

Has been to an Aggie football game this year \_\_\_\_\_

Knows the words to The 12<sup>th</sup> Man \_\_\_\_\_

Knows when Parent's Weekend 2006 is \_\_\_\_\_

Knows who the current Football Coach is \_\_\_\_\_

Knows who the September speaker was \_\_\_\_\_



## Know Your Aggie Moms II

Former Student \_\_\_\_\_

Plays Bunco \_\_\_\_\_

Plays Bridge \_\_\_\_\_

Past Aggie Mom President \_\_\_\_\_

Mom of Aggie Band \_\_\_\_\_

Mom of Sophomore \_\_\_\_\_

Mom of Senior \_\_\_\_\_

Is a Grandma \_\_\_\_\_

Mom of Sorority/Fraternity Member \_\_\_\_\_

On the Board before, but not now \_\_\_\_\_

Has 3 or more students at A&M now \_\_\_\_\_

Has been to Aggie Mom Fish Camp \_\_\_\_\_

Is married to an Aggie \_\_\_\_\_

Has been to Aggie Muster \_\_\_\_\_

Knows the words to The Spirit of Aggieland \_\_\_\_\_

Knows the name of the Aggie Mom Federation President \_\_\_\_\_

Knows who the current A&M President is \_\_\_\_\_

Knows who the current Aggie Athletic Director is \_\_\_\_\_

Knows who the October speaker was \_\_\_\_\_

## TAKE ON THE AGGIE MIND SET

(Find the tradition or situation that fits the statement or question.)

Have you ever walked in the dark on the first Tuesday of the month?

A time set aside to share a special place with the ones who make it possible.

Some are shiny, some are old, some are new, always recognized as something good

Always ready to go in and play.

It sometimes pays to be hit by a car.

Have you ever flicked your Bic at midnight?

Something you do repeatedly, but would never do intentionally or at least not in front of your mother.

The sign of approval and of winning, just about everywhere.

An encouragement given to fellow Ags to go out and do your best at whatever you are doing.

With a name like that he could always be considered a fish! Instead of having fins, he was one of the all time greatest fans.

Only one way to score after a touchdown.

Have you stacked during push?

A long and bonding road to death.

The process of drinking a pitcher of beer for the gold at the bottom.

Have you told the bus driver to sit down?

Have you witnessed roll call among thousands?

Have you taken a saw to varsity's horns?

This black bird has a trophy to prove his accomplishments