Wow, What a year we have had! I am so thankful for the way we have shined together as Aggie Moms. We have overcome during a year of many challenges. Last year, I said we would need to Fear Less and Try More. I am so blessed that everyone was willing to try new things without fear of failure. Even though we were apart, Aggie Moms continued to Shine.

Clubs figured out how to connect in different ways. Drive through Howdy Parties, outdoor meetings and of course, Zoom were the signs of the times. Even apart, connecting is the most important part of being an Aggie Mom. As we move forward, always remember what makes Aggie Moms special. We support our Aggies and Texas A&M, but it is how we come together and support each other that is unique. When we emerge out of these times of separation, be ready to connect.

Thank you to Dr. Anne Reber and the Offices of the Dean of Student Life to whom I dedicated my year. It is amazing how the school has cared for our Aggies and their wellbeing through this year of unprecedented times. It’s not the college experience normally expected, but our Aggies persevered and made it their own. There were sad moments, but we still continued to care. We couldn’t hug our hurting Aggies, so Moms found other ways to share our love.

Thank you to the 2020-2021 board. So many activities were taken to the next level. All Federation Meetings were broadcast here from the MSC. This is a beginning as all future meetings will continue to be offered in person and online. Aggie Mom University began educating clubs how to be more successful and will graduate its first Moms. Technology expanded with updates to the website, expanded social media influence, added holiday boutique, online raffles and a first ever online auction.

In spite of the challenges of COVID-19, development took fund raising to new heights. Relationships with our donors are strong as they continue to support the Aggie Mom mission. We thank them and ask you to join us in appreciation.

Membership added three new clubs this year bringing the total to 110. Even with the times, some clubs continued to increase their membership.

As you heard from Stephanie Graves, we are so proud to have paid off the $500,000 endowment to the Library started thirty years ago. Plans are in the works for a tour and reception for our Aggie Moms to see how our efforts are impacting students every day. Watch for that as the campus continues to open back up.

In my message last year, I shared how the Hatteras Lighthouse had to be picked up and moved in order to save it from potentially crashing into the waves with the next big hurricane. Just like Hatteras, Aggie Moms must continue to change and grow with the times and needs of our Moms and Aggies. Never be reluctant to change. As long as we always remember our mission, change should be celebrated. I can’t wait to see how the boards and clubs of the future will shine for Texas A&M University. May God bless you and all our wonder Aggies! Gig’em.