Winter 2017

# **HOUSTONAGGIEMOMS**

ever Underestimate the Heart of An Aggie Mom

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## Welcome to the Second Half!

I am so proud to present our winter newsletter as it reflects what our many members have contributed over the past seven months as we continue to pay tribute to our



last 90 years.

As of this newsletter we are 300 members strong and want each of our members to seek out ways to become more involved with Houston Aggie Moms such as considering a position on our board. Please contact Patti Turner, Nominating Committee

Chairman or Beverly Krell, Immediate Past President to find out more information.

We have enjoyed wonderful meetings this past fall including presentations from the BUILD program, Representative Bill Flores and Dr. Daniel Pugh. Our members also participated in four fundraising/volunteer events that included Kendra Scott, the Houston Food Bank, a Stella & Dot wine party and our annual Christmas luncheon. Be looking for more information on our Spring social events.

Coming up is the Federation of Aggie Moms' Winter Dinner and Meeting in College Station on January 20-21 and I encourage you to come along. You can find more information on the Federation website or you can contact me at jgunter@sbcglobal.net.

We are also counting down the days to our Annual Crazy Auction held on Friday, February 3 at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral's Martel Hall. All of the net proceeds go directly to benefitting Texas A&M University scholarships and programs.

March 31 is the deadline to apply for a Houston Aggie Mom Scholarship. An application and guidelines can be found at www.houstonaggiemoms.com.

Please join your student and other families at Family Weekend in College Station, April 7-9. Many events are planned by student committees and it is the best time to shop for signature Aggie gear.

You'll find information about all of this and more in this newsletter, as well as how to support the Houston Aggie Mom Scholarship Fund by purchasing Benjamin Knox's numbered and signed print "Aggie Mom Quilt."

I am grateful for the opportunity to work with each of you and considerate it a privilege to represent you. You are an amazing group of women who support our students and Texas A&M University! Whoop!

Jana Gunter 2016-2017 President Houston A&M University Mothers' Club jgunter@sbcglobal.net

### Scholarship Deadline Looming!

Houston A&M University Mothers' Club Scholarships are awarded annually at a reception in May. Applications are due by March 31, 2017. Please go to http://houstonaggiemoms.aggienetwork.com/houston-aggie-moms-club-scholarships/ to get more information and to download the scholarship application. Applications will not be accepted if they are not postmarked by March 31, 2017.

In April, 1952, Houston A&M University Mothers' Club proudly established Award Scholarships administered through the Texas A&M University Student Financial Aid Department. Today Houston A&M University Mothers' Club is recognized as a member of the A&M Legacy Society: Heritage Membership, those who have given \$1,000,000 to \$4,999,999 to the University.

The following list are scholarships funded by endowments established by the many devoted Mothers before us. More information can be found at <u>https://scholarships.tamu.edu</u> or in the <u>scholarship handbook</u>.

#### **Endowed Scholarships**

Endowed Academic Excellence Scholarship (Funded 7 one year scholarships at \$1000 each)

• Awards are based on scholastic records, activities, leadership positions, work experience and in some cases financial need. Awarded at the end of the spring semester for the following academic year. The award can range from \$500 for one year up to \$10,000 for three years. The student must be a full time student and maintain competitive scholarships of at least \$4,000 per academic year beginning this year.

- Deadline: February 1
- 75th Anniversary Endowed Scholarship (Funded 1 one year scholarship at \$1,000)
- Two \$1,000 scholarships in recognition of the 75th Anniversary of the Houston A&M University Mothers' Club.

President's Endowed Scholarship (Funded 1 four year scholarship at \$3,000 per year)

- Awarded to incoming freshman. Apply through the ApplyTexas Application. Minimum SAT and/or ACT requirements.
- \$3,000 a year for 4 years
- Must maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPR
- Deadline: December 1
- Sul Ross Scholarships (Funded 5 one year scholarships at \$1,200 each)
- $\bullet$  Awarded to a member of the Corps of Cadets. Apply through the ApplyTexas Application.
- Go to http://corps.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/ScholarshipFAQ.pdf for more info.
- \$1,200 per year for two years (renewable)
- Deadline: December 1
- Endowed Opportunity Award Scholarships (Funded 2 one year scholarship at \$1,250 each)
- Awarded to incoming freshmen with outstanding high school records. Apply through the ApplyTexas Application.
- Awards range from \$100 to \$12,500 per year.
- The student must be a full time student and maintain competitive scholarships of at least \$4,000 per academic year beginning this year.
- Deadline: December 1
- Endowed Outstanding Mathematics Teaching Assistant Awards (Funded 5 stipends of \$100 each)
- Five stipends of \$100 each plus a Certificate of Excellence awarded to Teaching Assistants in the Mathematics Department.
- Address inquires to the Head of the Mathematics Department, Emil J. Straube at head@math.tamu.edu.

Spirit of Bonfire '99 Scholarship (Funded 1 one year scholarship at \$1,350)

• In memory of the 12 Aggies who died in the Bonfire Tragedy of 1999.

Robert L. Boone Endowed Scholarship (Funded 2 one year scholarships at \$750 each)

•Scholarship awarded to Singing Cadets

Global Study Scholarship; Study Abroad (Funded 1 one year scholarship at \$1000)

- Fall: Opens March 1, Deadline April 1
- Spring/Winter: Opens September 10, Deadline October 12
- Summer : Opens October 15, Deadline February 1
- Minimum GPA is 2.5

#### Programs

In addition to the scholarships, Houston Aggie Moms is proud to have provided funds for TAMU Mothers Club Library Endowment, Carpool, Student Counseling Services, The Big Event, 12th Can Food Pantry, T-Camp, Veteran Resource and Support Center, Galveston Yell Leaders Travel Fund and the Corp of Cadets George Jouine Award.



Houston Dear Aggie Moms Club - Houston Chapter,

I am extremely grateful to have become a recipient of the Endowed Scholarship for the 2016-2017 academic year. I had the pleasure to meet several amazing representatives of the Houston Chapter of the Aggie Moms Club during the President's Endowment Scholarship Banquet on September 3, 2016. I wanted to take a moment to inform you of how your generous gift is affecting me and others.

My name is Amanda Rakoski, and I am a proud member of the Class of 2020. I am a Biomedical Engineering major, and I plan to go to graduate school after gaining a Bachelor of Science Degree in four years. Even though the pursuit will be challenging, I will work until my goal is accomplished since my dream to go into medical research. I want to develop and improve innovative materials and technology that will help people overcome life's inherent obstacles .

In my short time here, I have been accepted to work on research with the graduate students in one of the Biomedical Engineering labs. The focus of their research is to develop more effective hydrogels, models for human tissue, by injecting them with cancer cells in order to monitor disease interaction with proteins in human cells. Now, my dream of contributing to the future of health care is starting before I have even entered the world of industry.

Academically, I have been able to maintain straight "As" in all my classes which includes Chemistry, Physics, Calculus, and Engineering. I hope to return your generosity to the best of my ability and spread your kindness through my actions inside and outside of my educational journey.



Mark your calendars and reserve your hotel rooms (if you have not already) for Texas A&M University Family Weekend, April 7 thru April 9!

Formerly known as Parents Weekend, the special time was first established in 1919. Like Houston Aggie Moms, it has

been a long standing tradition. There are activities throughout the weekend and more information can be found by going here.

Houston Aggie Moms' will be at the Aggie Moms' Boutique on Friday, April 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, April 8, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We look forward to having you join us at the boutique for one of the shifts and shopping throughout the Memorial Student Center. Aggie Moms' are all over the second floor selling their favorite Aggie items. It is the best shopping in Aggieland. Valerie Hubbard and Tammie Coker will be reaching out to you for help in the Boutique.

Aggie Moms' also have the opportunity to help during Aggie Ring Day, Friday, April 7. Located in the Clayton W. Williams Jr. Alumni Center, Aggie Rings are given out to the student and their families by volunteers. It is a special experience for the student, their family and the volunteer. More information can be found at here. Volunteer sign-up information will be posted later this semester.

#### Benjamin Knox donates "Aggie Mom Quilt" to Aggie Mom 2016-2017 Scholarship Funds

Benjamin Knox has graciously gifted numbered and signed special edition prints of his "Aggie Mom Quilt" to the Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs and has allocated those prints to the 109 clubs based on size. Houston Aggie Moms' received 11 of those prints (#12-#22). On February 3, the Crazy Auction will feature three of the prints (#12-#14) that have been framed by Benjamin Knox and are available for auction. Houston Aggie Moms are selling the unframed prints for \$400, fair market value is \$100. \$300 will go directly into the Houston Aggie Moms' Scholarship Fund. This fundraising campaign will end May 31, 2017. Please consider purchasing one of these special edition prints from the Boutique. Contact Valerie Hubbard and/or Tammie Coker for more information.

#### THINGS TO NOTE

AGGIE BRAGS: We want to know about what wonderful things are happening with our Aggies. At the meetings we will have a chance to tell our Aggie "Brags", or go to houstonaggiemom. aggienetwork.com to submit.

FINALS CARE PACKAGES: Our care packages are filled with goodies to sustain our Aggie student during finals and are put together by our own Aggie Moms. At the September meeting you will have the opportunity to see a sample and place your order for May at an unbeatable price. Download the order form here or contact Robyn Repass or Georgia Butta to order at rrepass@comcast.net or glbutta @sbcglobal.net.

PRAYERS: If you know of someone who needs our prayers, please contact Cheryl Dinwoodie at cadinwoodie@ aol.com

SCHOLARSHIPS: Please remind your students to check the financial aid website for possible scholarships to which they can apply: financialaid.tamu.edu The deadline for financial aid scholarships vary. Keep a look out for the Houston Aggie Mom scholarship application. It will be available soon. Contact Beverly Krell at msbev@flash.net for more information. The deadline is March 31, 2017.





**The** Houston Aggie Moms Club has a closed Face Book page that only members can join. It's a great opportunity to share events, pictures, prayer requests and other things between formal meetings. You are encouraged to join and invite your friends to do so as well. Oh, and don't forget to share your special moments here as well.

facebook.com/groups/HoustonAggieMoms/

Linda A. Younger



Left: Houston Aggie Moms Enjoyed Working on Yell Practice with the Galveston Yell Leaders