



HOUSTON AGGIE

Houston's Aggieland Connection



SEASON OF THE AGGIE

The Houston A&M Club is the largest association of former students in the world. HAMC is run by volunteers and funded entirely by donations.

Membership is **FREE**, but registration is required each year to ensure that our records remain current.

www.HoustonAgs.org

The HAMC is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization recognized under section 501(c)(3). Our Federal Tax ID# is 76-015741.

**Houston Aggie, P.O. Box 27382
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The Houston Aggie Magazine, published four times per year (in March, June, September, and December), is the official publication of the HAMC and is free to all members. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the HAMC or the editor. Content may not be reprinted without the permission of the author, artist, or editor.

Submissions are encouraged and should pertain to news/information relevant to Houston Aggies. Send to:
**Houston Aggie Magazine, c/o Deborah Lawson '92,
P.O. Box 940082, Houston, Texas 77094-7082
deborahlawson@aggienetwork.com**

Submissions may be edited for length, grammar, accuracy, or for any other reason. Articles may also appear on the HAMC's website. Please contact the editor for additional information, including deadlines.

Important reminders:

Please ask your employer about matching your contributions to the Houston A&M Club.

Because the Houston Aggie Magazine is sent via bulk mail, it is not forwarded or returned. Please remember to update your address on the website: www.HoustonAgs.org.

Editor: Deborah Lawson '92
Designer: Adriana Dean '06

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AGGIE SPIRITS CENTURY TREE MERLOT



The Houston Aggie Women have bottled this fall's Century Tree Merlot just in time for the holidays!



Contact Shannon Paige (shannon@vintnersown.com or 713-880-3794) at Vintner's Own to order your wine today. Or contact Lindsey Sharp (lsharp@aggienetwork.com) and Rhonda Batke (rsbatke@aol.com) for more details.

Howdy from the President

This time of the year we start reviewing the year past and start planning for the year ahead. For the Houston A&M Club it has been a great year; from Muster, the Meet & Greet, CAMP, Volunteering at the Food Bank, Traditions Lunch, Happy Hours and Coach's Night we have had tremendous events with a lot of great people.

Planning for the future even looks better! The Houston A&M Club is made of Aggies in the Greater Houston area volunteering to serve for the betterment of Texas A&M. This is your Aggie Club and its mission is to support Texas A&M, raise money for scholarships and to foster the Aggie spirit in the Greater Houston area.

Please consider getting involved in your club and promoting the Houston A&M Club. Plan on coming to events that are scheduled, and participating in the activities planned for the coming year. You will not regret it. What can be better than working with and having fellowship with AGGIES?

The coming year, 2013, is the Houston A&M Club's 90th Anniversary, and we will be gearing-up to celebrate the milestone of the oldest Aggie club in the world! Plan to take part in the activities planned. The first event in January is an old fashion Barn Dance [similar to Lakeview] with a live band at the SPJST hall in the Heights.

This is my last President's letter, as I will turn this responsibility over to Deborah Lawson, your 2013 President. It has been a pleasure to serve the Houston A&M Club and YOU, Aggies in the Greater Houston area. Thank you for the opportunity.

Gig' Em!

Clint' 78 - 2012 President HAMC - clintsmith@aol.com



Alumni News!

Send your Alumni Announcements to HAMCNews@yahoo.com to make the next newsletter!



Kevin and Melissa Vader welcomed Logan Michael Vader to the family on 20 November 2012 at 5:26PM. He was 7 lb. 7 oz. and 19.75 inches. They went home Thanksgiving Day around 6:30pm, just in time to have Thanksgiving dinner with their families.

Congratulations to Mrs. Bayou City, Melissa Vader, who put Houston in the Top 10 at the Mrs. Texas Pageant.

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LIVE AND LEARN PASSIONATELY

BY ROBERTO NOCE, P.E., B.S., M.S. MBA - TAMU CLASS OF 1989

One of the most rewarding aspects of coaching is helping others find work they truly enjoy. Without a doubt, having work that is meaningful is something that people desperately want.

In my coaching experience, clients who succeeded in finding a career and/or a lifestyle they love have tested just about everything under the sun when it comes to seeking their passion:

- Traveling the world and experiencing new adventures
- Taking continuing education courses and seminars
- Reading a lot of books
- Writing blog articles, stories, ideas, journals
- Meeting entrepreneurs
- Working for small, medium, large companies
- Starting businesses
- Attempting things that, at first, seemed impossible

In all this, there is a common thread: learning. It's the one thing that will ensure you the very best chance at finding and living what you are passionate about.

It really is that simple. Learning is the key.

For change to happen, we ourselves have to change. Learning is the catalyst for this change and improvement. As we get better, things

will get better too.

Learn something new every day in some way. It might be reading books or watching talks by inspiring individuals, listening to a podcast, having lunch with a new person every week whom you hold in high esteem, interviewing a business owner or simply sitting down in silence for 30 minutes. Whatever it might be, make learning a way of life.

Most of all, learn about yourself in every way possible. The more you know about yourself, the more you will know what lights you on fire. Test what you're capable of mentally and physically. Test how you process information. Then go beyond and do the seemingly impossible.

In conclusion:

1. People who are passionate about their work are passionate about getting better at it and learning more.
2. If you think there's something that isn't worth learning about, it's not something that you're going to love doing.
3. What do you wish you knew more about? What interests you? Answer this question, pursue it, and you will be well on your way to living your passion.

About the Author:

Roberto Noce is recognized as an accomplished and respected executive with over two decades of engineering and management experience spanning the globe. Born in Italy, Roberto is a professional engineer registered in the state of Texas with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, an MS degree in Industrial Engineering from Texas A&M University, and an MBA degree from the University of Houston. He is fluent in English, Italian and Spanish. Roberto offers life and career coaching services part-time as a means to share his insight and expertise and help others live their passions. You can find him at www.pivotalchanges.com or at 713-505-5576.



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CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

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In 1923, the Houston A&M Club was born. Over the last nine decades, we have grown into the largest group of former students in the world, fostering the Aggie Spirit right here in Houston.

In honor of our rapidly approaching 100th birthday, the Houston A&M Club is collecting memories for a Centennial Celebration pictorial history. We hope to be able to show every decade of our existence, so dig deep and share generously.

Please send electronic submissions to HAMCPhotos@yahoo.com with the RE: "Centennial Celebration." Please include as much information about the Aggies in the photograph and the event as possible.

If you have photos that you would like to include, but that are not in electronic format, please mail them to:

The Houston A&M Club
Attn: Centennial Celebration
P.O. Box 27382
Houston, Texas 77227-7382

We realize that not all photographs are easy to share, so we will make every effort to assist you with submitting photos. Please contact [deborah lawson](mailto:deborahlawson@aggienetwork.com) at deborahlawson@aggienetwork.com for more information.

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D-Day Luncheon

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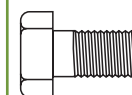
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Shaping the Future One Paw at a Time



The Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, established in 1916, is one of only 31 Colleges of Veterinary Medicine in the United States and Canada. To date, over 6000 Aggie veterinarians proudly serve our state, our nation, and the world in countless ways. Many changes will be shaping the future of veterinary medical education and veterinary medicine in the future, and Texas A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences is determined to help lead the way. So it is with pride that we share some of the wonderful things going on at the CVM.

Living with Inspiration

Take a short stroll through the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and you'll see that there's no shortage of inspiration at Texas A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. Chastity and Vonn's story is just one of many:

On August 16th, near Millican, a mother and son pit bull wandered in search of water. They had been badly beaten and burned, and it didn't appear that they would live long. Despite their injuries, Cristi Wuthrich coaxed both dogs into her car and transported them to a College Station vet, who called the Aggie Small Animal Hospital's critical care unit to evaluate the puppy. Knowing it was going to be an expensive endeavor to treat him, Dr. Jimmy Barr, a clinical assistant professor at the college, cautiously agreed to take on the case.

The vets believe that the puppy, Vonn, was doused in lighter fluid, set on fire, and left for dead. His burns covered 60 percent of his body, so they gave him only a 50 percent chance of survival. Yet despite obvious pain and emotional torture, Vonn endured and was their happiest and most determined patient. His will to live was simply inspiring.

Through the Capper and Chris Save the Animals Fund, established in 1995 by Capper and Terry Thompson to provide financial assistance to pet owners who cannot otherwise afford lifesaving procedures and care for their animal, the college raised funds for Vonn's costly care. When the media told stories of Vonn pick-pocketing breakfast burritos from Dr. Barr's lab coat and his love for scrambled eggs, the public responded, donating more than \$8,000. After meeting Vonn, Jackie and Ron Whitley committed to covering the rest.

Having just started a new job as director of development, Chastity Rodgers was drawn to Vonn. She found herself visiting daily and updating others about his cheerful demeanor and miraculous recovery. With everyone's support, Vonn healed much faster than expected, and he was ready to find a forever home after only six weeks at the Small Animal Hospital. As the one person who had visited Vonn daily, Chastity was the obvious choice. Vonn was her "welcome gift from the College of Veterinary Medicine."

Vonn has his own Facebook page, and Chastity jokes that he needs an agent to keep up with his "public" demands. But she knows "when the story has faded from the limelight and it is just us, he will be my constant reminder of the wonderful things happening every single day at the College of Veterinary Medicine for animals and the people that love them. I am blessed to be a very small part of this team. It's definitely worth the three feet of sleeping space – or more – I have given up at night!"

Operation New Horizons

In April, the Texas A&M Veterinary Emergency Team participated in a large-scale, multi-agency emergency response training exercise designed to prepare the team for future deployments responding to animal issues during a disaster. For many, animals have become true family members, and the ability to reunite an injured animal with its human companion and to provide a resource to first responders who previously were not able to help with injured animals, only humans, is a focus of the VET team.

Operation New Horizons allowed the VET to train alongside Texas Task Force – 1, providing key veterinary support to their search and rescue canines. The VET not only practiced responding to potential injuries, but provided important physical exams and hydration during the exercise. This assistance allows the search and rescue canines to stay in the field longer and potentially save more lives.

The VET also works with the Texas Animal Health Commission during emergencies, and this exercise allowed participants to practice planning and inter-agency communication so that they can be prepared to address animal welfare concerns together when deployed in the field. Often, a surviving pet is the only remaining link to the time before a disaster. Being able to reunite a pet with its human companion can make a huge psychological impact on both.



Texas A&M Foundation Director of Development Chastity Rodgers at home with her boys, great dane Keightley and Vonn.



Disasters inevitably occur, and training exercises such as Operation New Horizons provide new opportunities to build cooperative relationships that enhance the ability to save lives of humans and animals alike.

Thank you to Chastity Rodgers, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences for sharing her stories with the Houston Aggies. Read more about Aggie veterinarians at: <http://vetmed.tamu.edu/news/press-releases>.

\$360,000 and counting towards Texas A&M scholarships!



Alex



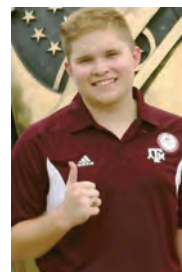
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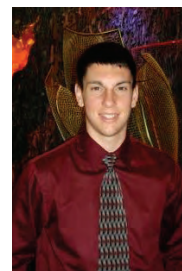
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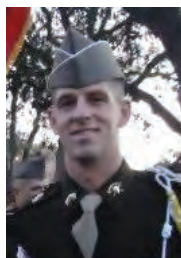
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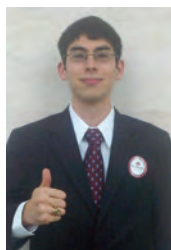
Matt



2012-2013 Scholarship Recipients

As an acknowledgement of their dedication to Texas A&M and the Aggie Spirit, each of these students will receive \$1,000 to help cover the cost of their education at Texas A&M University.

For more information about Howdy Club, our scholarships, events, and sponsorship opportunities:



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teachers to adopt a four-year university or alumni organizations and partner with that organization to bring the college spirit to the classroom, sharing the dream of building a successful educational destination beyond high school.

The plan is for each classroom to be decorated in the university's colors and for the students to experience the school's unique spirit. In Jessica's case, that means lots of Aggie Maroon and includes learning the yells, songs, and traditions of the school we hold so grand. To start off the school year, the HAMC and PSC donated sports posters, pens, pencils, pennants, and more to Jessica's 4th Graders.

Jessica chose Texas A&M because she loves the Aggies. "The tradition, school spirit, and students are beyond compare. The life lessons that are engrained in the traditions will be proudly taught in my 4th grade classroom." Jessica's husband, Larry Sullivan '12, was in the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band and Jessica fell in love with Texas A&M from the very start. Claiming to be an Aggie at heart and hoping to soon wear the Aggie ring, for Jessica: "There is no greater place to be than Aggieland."

If you would like to be a part of No Excuses University and share your Aggie story with Jessica's class, please contact jessica.sullivan@cfisd.net and 903-806-5577.



Houston Food Bank Engineering Project



Each week, the Houston Food Bank feeds 137,000 different people, so an efficient system is key to the program's success. This system is well known to the Houston Aggie Volunteers, who volunteer their time every first Tuesday of the month. To that end,

Dr. Georgia-Ann Klutke of the Texas A&M Industrial-Systems Engineering Department has agreed to work with the Houston Food Bank to develop a more efficient system. This spring, Dr. Klutke's students will take on the task of making the Houston Food Bank more efficient as part of a new class project.

This project is not unique. Several years ago, the IE-S Department helped Elves & More make substantial improvements to their Holiday bike assembly process, energizing their volunteers and increasing their productivity. As a follow up to that project, Elves & More invited the IE-S students to come up with a design to modify a standard bike to accommodate disabled children. The resulting kit costs about \$200 and uses off-the-shelf parts, instead of the typical \$1000 or more.

The 3415 Project

Texas Capitol Vietnam Veterans Monument

Honoring Our Texas Heroes



The Texas Capitol Vietnam Veterans Monument 3415 Project needs our help locating families of those Texans who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam, so that their stories and personal effects can be preserved.

The Monument will stand as a permanent honor to all Texans who served in the Vietnam War – serving as a permanent memorial to the 3,415 Texans who never came home. The 3415 Project will individually honor each Texan who died in service to his country in Vietnam by creating a set of two dog tags for every hero, each personalized with a name, branch of service, rank, date of loss, and Texas hometown. One tag will be kept for educational display; the other will be entombed in the Monument during the groundbreaking ceremony on the Capitol grounds on 25 March 2013. A public roll call will be held on 24 March 2013 at the LBJ Presidential Library Auditorium in Austin.



For more information or to volunteer for roll call, please visit: <http://buildthemonument.org/>

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Backpack Buddy Delivery Service



Each day, many children who rely on free or reduced-price lunches at school go hungry at night and on weekends. The Houston Food Bank's Backpack Buddy program works to fill that gap. On Fridays, at participating schools, children take home child-friendly, nonperishable, easily consumed and vitamin-fortified food. Unfortunately, for the program to

work, the backpacks have to make their way from the Food Bank to the schools for distribution.

The Backpack Buddy program is nothing new to the Houston Aggie Volunteers, who spend the first Tuesday of each month at the Food Bank, occasionally putting together backpacks. So it's not surprising that when CAMP Volunteer Tara Rollins '01 shared Kujawa Elementary's story with CAMP co-founder Freddie Wong '69, the Backpack Buddy Delivery Service was born.

Kujawa Elementary, where Rollins works, used to participate in the program until about two years ago, when they were forced to drop the program due to budget cuts. The program hung on for a bit, until the Food Bank relocated and the school's nearby food pantry stopped making deliveries. Undeterred by these setbacks, Tara and Freddie rallied the Houston Aggie Volunteers to take on the task of picking up 32 backpacks and delivering them to the Kujawa students each Friday.

A week after first announcing the BBDS to the Reveille Club, seventeen volunteers had already signed up to help Kujawa, and a week later, the first delivery was made. Since then, the BBDS has added "luggage tags," with the HAMC logo on one side and space for the student's name on the other, allowing each backpack to be easily identified.

If you are interested in being part of this amazing new program, please contact Freddie Wong at fp.wong@sbcglobal.net.

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2013 Houston A&M Club Officers

Congratulations to the 2013 Officer and Director Nominees. If you are interested in joining our leadership team, please contact deborah lawson '92 at deborah@lawsonlegal.net. Please join us at the Annual Meeting on January 21st to vote for these amazing Aggies.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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 Rhonda Batke '84.....CN Silent Auction
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 Amy Moore '03...Happy Hour in Cypress
 Brandon Hamburg.....Kick-off to Kick-off
 Brandon Hamburg.....Tip-off to Tip-off
 Amy Moore '03.....Muster
 Pam Saleme '91.....Muster Family Liasion
 Jamie Taft '06.....Muster Tribute Coordinator
 Linda Patterson '77.....Ol' Army Cocktail Hour
 Stephen Baker '72.....Traditions Lunch
 Frank Moreno '84.....Veterans Day Lunch
 Ashley Cassel '05.....Wh3op Houston!
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Texas A&M University President Visits the Houston A&M Club



Dr. Loftin speaks to Aggie alumni at the Monday's Traditions Luncheon.



Clint Smith, Dr. Loftin,
deborah lawson, Nick Mirgeaux

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Each year The Reveille Club of Houston hosts a celebratory breakfast that recognizes the successes of the recently named Aggie 100 recipients. The breakfast promotes "Aggies doing business with Aggies" and collaborates with Executive Director Dr. Richard Lester from the Center for New Ventures and Entrepreneurship (CNVE) to recognize Houston and surrounding area Aggie 100 recipients. The Mays Business School CNVE identifies and recognizes the 100 fastest growing Aggie companies in the world. Recognized companies are Aggie-owned or Aggie-led, have been in business 5+ years, meet specified revenue criteria with annual growth rates, and operate with the values of Texas A&M University. Visit our websites for more information on Reveille Club meetings (reveille.org) and the Aggie 100 (Aggie100.com) program.



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2013 Howdy Club Aggie Spirit Scholarship



Do you know a current Texas A&M student who exemplifies the **Aggie Spirit**? Then encourage them to apply for the **Howdy Club Aggie Spirit Scholarship**!

Unlike most scholarships which are based on financial need or academics, this one is based on the **AGGIE SPIRIT**.

NEW HIGHER SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS

Awards

Winners of the Howdy Club Aggie Spirit Scholarship will be selected based on their scores from the written application and the personal interview. The four students with the highest over score will each be awarded a **\$5,000 scholarship**. The next eight top-scoring applicants will be awarded a **\$2,000 scholarship**. **This is a total of 12 scholarships totaling \$36,000.**

Background

Texas A&M is an elite institution built on the foundation of superior academic programs, world-class students, and a second-to-none alumni network. But what makes Texas A&M different from any other elite university is the "other education" students receive while here- an education with unparalleled leadership opportunities, that builds men and women of character, and fosters a deep camaraderie and loyalty that lasts a life time.

The Howdy Club, a Houston-based Former Student organization, recognizes the determination and effort necessary to succeed at Texas A&M. The Howdy Club mission statement is as follows:

The Texas A&M Howdy Club is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to promoting and supporting education, professional growth, service, and scholarships among Texas A&M University Alumni, Students, and Staff.

In accordance with our mission, the Howdy Club provides scholarships to students who best exemplify the "Aggie Spirit." Howdy Club holds monthly happy hours and other events where donations are collected for the purpose of funding these scholarships.

Please help assist Howdy Club in finding these 12 exceptional Texas A&M University students by passing this along to those that exude the Aggie Spirit.

Visit www.HowdyClub.com to find out more information.



Orange & Maroon Legislative Day 2013



On 5 February 2013, Orange & Maroon Legislative Day 2013 will once again bring together a statewide, grassroots network of alumni and friends of the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University. These alumni work to increase public and legislative support for our state's higher education system, particularly The University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University. For more information on OMLD 2013, please visit: <http://omld.aggienetwork.com/legisDay/>

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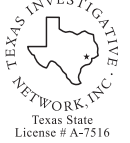
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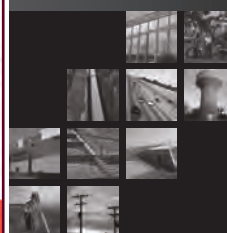


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WH30P!
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January event at
The Tasting Room
City Centre

January 9th at 5:30pm

Advance registration is recommended
as space is limited.

Register at WH30PHouston.com
\$18 includes a complementary glass of wine,
small bites and happy hour beer and wine
specials for Wh30p attendees until 8:30 p.m.

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**Make a difference in the life of a child. Volunteer with
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CAMP is now accepting reservations for the January
orientation sessions.













Monday, 21 January 2013 at 6:30pm
Wednesday, 23 January 2013 at 6:30pm

Sheraton Brookhollow Hotel (intersection of Loop 610 and Hwy 290)










You don't have to be an Aggie to be a CAMP volunteer, so please
feel free to invite your friends and family, too. Don't miss this
opportunity to change the course of your life by helping a student
take control of theirs.

HOUSTON AGGIE EVENTS

January 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 	3 ANI 	4  Cotton Bowl OU	5
6	7 traditions lunch	8  	9 WH30P! HOUSTON	10  	11	12
13	14 traditions lunch	15	16 Cypress Happy Hour 	17  	18	19
20	21 traditions lunch	22	23 ANI	24 	25	26 HOWDY Club Pub Crawl
27	28 traditions lunch	29	30	31 HOWDY 		

February 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Houston Aggie Moms Crazy Auction - HESS	2
3	4 traditions lunch	5 Orange & Maroon Legislative Day 	6 	7 ANI 	8	9
10	11 traditions lunch	12 	13	14  	15	16
17	18 traditions lunch	19	20 Cypress Happy Hour 	21 	22 HOWDY Club Scholarship Apps Due	23
24	25 traditions lunch	26	27 ANI	28 HOWDY 	30	

KATY A&M CLUB UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4TH

Cotton Bowl watch party at All Stars Family Grill at 26440 FM 1093

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

Joint Membership meeting with the Katy/West Houston Aggie Mom's at 6:45 pm at the Living Word Lutheran Church located at 3700 S. Mason Road. Guest Speaker will be General Joe Weber.
Send an e-mail to Katyamclub@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

HOUSTON AGGIE MOMS

CRAZY AUCTION

"Aggies Around the World"

Friday, February 1, 2013
HESS Club

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HOUSTON AGGIE

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Friday, January 18th from 7:30PM-12:30AM

VISIT houstonags.org
for TICKET information

March 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				 		Spring Break Begins
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
HOWDY Club Scholarship Reviews				 		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Spring Break Ends			 	 		
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30
				 		



Traditions Lunch

12pm, Hess Club, 5430 Westheimer Rd



Downtown Meet & Greet Lunch

12pm, Artista Restaurant, 800 Bagby St



Wh30p! Happy Hour

Locations on whoophouston.com



OI' Army Cocktail Hour

5:30pm-?, Sheraton Brookhollow, 3000 NW Fwy



Houston Food Bank

6pm to 8:30pm, 535 Portwall St



The Woodlands Lunch

12pm, Americas, 21 Waterway Avenue



Reveille Club

6:30am, Cafe Express, 1101 Uptown Park



Houston Aggie Women's Lunch

12pm, Maggiano's, 2019 Post Oak Blvd



Howdy Club Happy Hour

Locations on howdyclub.com



Houston Aggie Moms' Club

6:30pm, Church of Christ, 1910 Bering Dr



Cypress Happy Hour

6:30pm, Cork Cafe, 25712 NW Fwy, Ste C