



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY CLASS OF '80

THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS

Howdy, Class of 1980!

It was on Oct. 4, 1876, when the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas opened as the first public institution of higher education in Texas.

From this fall to next summer, the 150th anniversary will be celebrated as we can recall our experiences from 1976 as we were beginning our Aggie journey.

Please note the information on our upcoming Class-led Reunion in Fredericksburg March 4-6, 2027, and the announcement of our 50 Year Reunion Class Gift. A huge shoutout to the committees who invested many hours of research and virtual meetings.

We are deeply grateful to The Association of Former Students for their support over the years and look forward to future opportunities as we near our 50th anniversary. We encourage each of you to get involved in Class of 1980 activities.

Gig 'em!

[Phil Gougler](#)

[Ken Jones](#)

[Mark Rhea](#)

[Kari Moore Roush](#)

[Kyle Sears](#)

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CLASS-LED REUNION – SAVE THE DATE

SAVE THE DATE for the Class of '80 Class-led Reunion, March 4–7, 2027. Don't miss this wonderful weekend in the Texas Hill Country!

Thursday, March 4, 2027 – 12 Fires Winery and Vineyard

Start the weekend early with a private event at Aggie-owned 12 Fires Winery. We will spend a laid back evening at their beautiful facility set amidst a serene oak grove overlooking the vineyard. There will be great food, fire pits, cornhole and lots of good bull!

Friday, March 5, 2027 – Alstadt Brewery

You're invited to an Oktoberfest in March at the legendary Alstadt Brewery. Enjoy authentic German atmosphere, live music and Bavarian-inspired food. We will begin the evening with German pretzel appetizers and world-class beer with dinner to follow. Award winning beer, shandies, wine and soft drinks are all available.

Saturday, March 6, 2027 – William Chris Vineyards

Aggie owned William Chris Vineyards has been named one of the World's 50 Best Vineyards, earning the No. 31 spot among the most celebrated wine destinations across the globe and becoming the first and only Texas winery ever to make the list. Come raise a glass to the Fightin' Texas Aggie Class of '80 at the fabulous WCV Hye Estate. We will be celebrating in style with a delicious brisket dinner followed by live music and dancing.

Other Class-led Reunion events include:

- Group rate tickets to the National Museum of the Pacific War (Nimitz Museum).
- Our very own Class of 1980 42 Tournament.
- A "Sip and Shop" tour of downtown Fredericksburg personalized for our group.
- Lots of unscheduled time during the weekend for gathering with friends.

We are working to secure discounted group rates at Fredericksburg hotels and will post details soon. If you prefer to stay at one of the historic homes or B&B's, please visit: <https://www.visitfredericksburgtx.com/hotels-lodging/>



Left to right: **Sara (Feldman) Beaves, Carolyn (Storm) Kettenacker, Brenda (Jernigan) Grimsley, Kari (Moore) Roush, Charlotte (Williams) Purl and Patty (Paisley) Rabel.**

A LASTING LEGACY FROM THE CLASS OF '80

80 Classmates. \$80 a month. That's the idea behind our 80 for '80 campaign. After your vote, we have selected a Core Value Award for Excellence as our Class Gift in conjunction with our 50th Reunion in 2030. Like the Selfless Service Award we previously funded, it will be awarded to a graduating senior who best demonstrated Aggie excellence during their years at Texas A&M University. Our goal is to endow the award with \$135,000, with all pledges committed by the end of 2027, and all gifts fulfilled by the end of 2029. This will allow us to present the first award in our 50th Reunion year.

The idea is simple: If just 80 Classmates give \$80 per month, we will be well within reach of our goal by the spring of 2028. Of course, neither the number of participants nor the suggested monthly gift should be considered a floor or a limit; every gift in any amount and every contributor brings us closer to our goal and helps ensure that the tradition of generosity continues from our Class to future generations of Aggies. Members of the Gift Committee and your Class Agents have committed to this gift, and we hope you'll join us.

Additional information on making your pledge or gift will be coming soon. We hope you'll stand with your Classmates, demonstrate the spirit of excellence, and help us leave this lasting legacy.

For further information on how to participate, contact **Dillard Stone** at aggiedcc80@gmail.com.

SELFLESS SERVICE AWARD

Mazie Johnson '26, a business honors and management major in the Mays Business School, received the Class of '80 Core Value Award for Selfless Service.

A summary of her services activities include:

1. The 12th Can – Chief Engagement Director
2. Student Government Association Executive Cabinet – Chief of Operations
3. SGA Academic Affairs Committee – Director of Operations
4. Campus Muster – Muster Host
5. Class Councils – Council Member – Sophomore-Junior-Senior
7. University Committees – Scholarship Committee
8. The Big Event-Aggie Replant – Bonfire Memorial Cleaning – 3 years
9. Grade Point Average – 4.0



TEXAS AGGIE BAND ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Howdy, my name is **Phil Gougler**. I am the new Texas Aggie Band Association President and proud member of the FTAB Class of 1980. I would like to take a moment to introduce the rest of our TABA team, including two new officers and one new Board of Director member. This is an outstanding group of people and I am looking forward to working with them.

Our other officers are:

- **Tim Gaither '80** (New) - Vice President
- James Hughes '82 (New) - Treasurer
- Lance Clark '94 - Secretary
- Rick Ashley '76 - Past President

Board of Directors are:

- Jay Brewer '81
- Samantha Clements '09 (New)
- Tim Green '86
- Mike Hering '76
- Steven Hering '14
- Mark Maltsberger '97
- Tim McMillan '15

Please keep in mind all officers and board members are volunteers serving the membership over a two-year term. Our mission is to continue and grow our financial support of the current cadets and the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band. No student should be deterred from becoming a member of the band because of the additional financial costs associated with “wearing the uniform.”

Newsletters over the coming weeks and months will show in detail where and how your donations are allocated in support of cadets and the band. If you would like more information regarding the TABA and ways to get involved, please visit the [TABA Website](#). Or give us a shout via email at taba@tabaonline.com. One of the officers will get back to you promptly.

I look forward to serving the TABA and its membership over the next two years. Thank you and gig 'em!

Phil Gougler '80

President - TABA

ARCH 'BEAVER' APLIN '80

Our Classmate **Arch “Beaver” Aplin III** is transforming hospitality, retail and marketing education with milestone gifts for Texas A&M University.

To read more, click [here](#).

DON CONSTANTINE '80

Columbia Basin A&M Club's annual Muster was hosted by our Classmate **Don Constantine** in Kennewick, WA. Don plans to host Muster again in 2027 and extends an open invite to all Classmates to attend.



NEW TEXAS A&M PRESIDENT

Texas A&M University System regents unanimously appoint Dr. Susan Ballabina as president of Texas A&M University.

To read more, click [here](#).

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF TEXAS A&M

Texas A&M University is gearing up to celebrate its [150th anniversary](#) and you're invited to take part in this historic milestone!

Beginning Friday, Oct. 2, 2026, and continuing through May, 1, 2027, the university will host a variety of events and activities to commemorate 150 years of Aggie traditions, excellence and impact.

If you're planning a trip to College Station with Classmates, consider attending signature celebration events such as the [Sesquicentennial Speaker Series](#), the [Aggie Family Parade](#) or the [closing festival](#).

Not planning an event in Aggieland this year? We'd still love to see how your Class is celebrating! Share your Aggie Spirit by hosting a service project or Class gathering in honor of the 150th anniversary.

Texas A&M has provided [several assets](#) like Zoom backgrounds, promotional images and other printables to support themed events. We encourage you to use these to help celebrate this milestone consistently and effectively.

Thank you for helping us celebrate 150 years of Texas A&M and the Aggie Spirit!

To read more and explore the 150th celebration, click [here](#).



HERE

Listed below are the names of Classmates whose passing The Association has been notified of since our last Class newsletter. Please keep the families in your thoughts and prayers. Click on a name for the full listing (when available), and visit our [Class Page](#) for all up-to-date listings.

<u>Classmates Names</u>	<u>Deceased Date</u>
Belinda Shufelt	03/08/2023
Peggy Cook	03/31/2025
Mark Troutz	04/02/2025
Ronny Clark	05/15/2025
Annelle Reinberg	05/27/2025
Stephen Watson	06/10/2025
Fannie Smith	08/13/2025
Alfred Nasser	09/02/2025
Tom Wilkes	09/17/2025
Mike Kriegel	09/23/2025
Bryan McKenzie	11/05/2025
Scott Statton	11/06/2025
Elizabeth Hayes	12/17/2025
Bobby Cain	01/08/2026
Dorthy Torno	02/11/2026
Randy Huron	02/11/2026
Kenneth Faubion	02/23/2026
Donald Dyal	02/25/2026
Jeffrey Nelson	02/25/2026
Joel Carter	04/01/2026
Allen Wuensche	04/12/2026
Wendy Schwartz	04/23/2026
Glenn Monette	04/28/2026
Ricky Huffman	06/19/2026
Catherine Ritter	07/20/2026

We get notifications from The Association during the week with a list of Aggies that have passed away. Sometimes The Association is not notified by the family or friends until months or years after death. Please let The Association know as soon as possible about the passing of an Aggie. You can email information to Class@AggieNetwork.com and AddAName@AggieNetwork.com.

Class Programs are supported by donors to **The Association of Former Students**. Connect with your Class at tx.ag/Class and lend your support at tx.ag/Give.



The Association
OF FORMER STUDENTS®
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