

***AGGIE MUSTER***  
***2020***



***CLASS OF 1969***  
***MUSTER IN PLACE***

**Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**

**6:00 PM**

## **MUSTER IN PLACE**

**The Aggie Class of 1969 made history when we stepped foot on the A&M campus in the fall of 1965. Today, we are still making history as we celebrate this most hallowed of Aggie traditions, Muster. Never has this been accomplished entirely through the use of web-based technology from so many remote locations. Even the FIRING SQUAD will participate from various locations throughout Texas. TAPS will be played from Florida.**

**All this while “social distancing.” Yet, the bond between us remains as close as ever and the Spirit remains truly strong and unbroken. Thanks to all who have made this possible and thanks to all of you who participated in this truly special and unique event.**

***"An Aggies life begins with HOWDY and ends with HERE"! May God continue to bless you and may we all meet again in 2021. Gig ‘em!***

## **MUSTER PROGRAM**

<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	<b>Steve Beachy</b>
<b>Programming Instructions</b>	<b>Larry Lippke</b>
<b>“The Aggie War Hymn”</b>	<b>All Standing</b>
<b>Invocation</b>	<b>Bill Maddox</b>
<b>Introduction of Speaker</b>	<b>Steve Beachy</b>
<b>Remarks</b>	<b>Clifford Fry</b>
<b>“The Last Corps Trip”</b>	<b>Bob Segner</b>
<b>“The Spirit of Aggieland”</b>	<b>All Standing</b>
<b>Roll Call of the Absent</b>	<b>Bill Youngkin</b>
<b>Firing Squad Gun Salute</b>	<b>Boozin B Volunteers</b>
<b>TAPS</b>	<b>John Poe</b>
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<b>Steve Beachy</b>
<b>Invitation for 2021</b>	<b>Don &amp; Paula House</b>
<b>Closing Charge</b>	<b>Bob Segner</b>



# THE MUSTER TRADITION

Century-old roots provide the basis for Muster as Aggies know it today. It has changed, yet the Spirit in which it was established remains the same. Since the founding of Texas A&M, every Aggie has lived and become a part of the Aggie Spirit. What we feel today is not just the camaraderie of fellow Aggies, it is the Spirit of hundreds of thousands of Aggies who have gone before us, and who will come after us. Muster is how that Spirit is remembered and celebrated, and it will always continue to unite Texas A&M and the Aggie family. A&M may change, but the Spirit never will.

## In the Beginning...

Aggies gathered together on June 26, 1883, to live over again their college days, the victories and defeats won and lost upon the drill field and in the classroom. By April 21, 1903, this annual gathering evolved into a celebration of Texas Independence on San Jacinto Day. These early meetings included field games and banquets for Aggies to reflect and celebrate their memories of Aggieland. *"Let every alumni answer a roll call,"* wrote the Former Students. It was not until 1922, however, that April 21 became the official day of events for all Aggies; thus, the annual tradition of Muster was born. The March 1923 Texas Aggie urged, *"If there is an A&M man in one hundred miles of you, you are expected to get together, eat a little, and live over the days you spent at the A&M College of Texas."*

## Bigger and Better...

Still remembering and honoring the time spent in Aggieland, the tradition of Muster has grown in strength, in meaning, and in spirit. By 1929, the meetings had spread worldwide, and in 1942 Aggie Muster gained international recognition. Twenty-five men, led by General George Moore '08, Mustered during the Japanese siege of the Philippine island of Corregidor. Knowing that Muster might soon be called for them, these Aggies embodied the commitment, dedication, and friendship that is the essence of the Aggie Spirit. They risked their lives to honor their beliefs and values. That small group of Aggies on an outpost during World War II inspired what has developed into one of our greatest traditions.

## Today...

Muster is celebrated in more than 300 locations worldwide, with the largest ceremony taking place on the Texas A&M campus in College Station. The ceremony brings together more Aggies worldwide on one occasion than any other event.

# **CLIFFORD L. FRY '67, PhD**

## **ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR HAGLER INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**



**Clifford L. Fry is Associate Director of the Hagler Institute for Advanced Study at Texas A&M University. Dr. Fry, who joined the Institute in September 2013, assists with the administration and promotion of the Hagler Institute.**

**Prior to his current position, Dr. Fry supported numerous industry and private sector clients in economics and finance-related consulting for the past two decades as co-owner and Executive Vice President of RRC, Inc, a national economic consulting firm located in Bryan, TX. Dr. Fry graduated from Texas A&M with a bachelor's in Economics in 1967, and he received his doctorate in economics in 1972 from Texas A&M. He began his academic career on the Washington State University faculty and served on the University of Houston faculty for 17 years. During his tenure with the University of Houston, he served as chairman of the Department of Finance in the College of Business Administration and also as Director of Academic Programs for the College of Business Administration. His research has been published in peer reviewed journals in Economics and Finance. Dr. Fry has also worked as a Financial Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas and as Vice President and head of the U.S. Economics Division of Crocker National Bank in San Francisco. He also has served as a visiting faculty member in the Department of Economics at Texas A&M. He has devoted years of service to the International Rett Syndrome Foundation, as a board member, regional representative for Texas, and as chairman of the Family Empowerment Board of [rettsyndrome.org](http://rettsyndrome.org).**

# ROLL CALL OF



# THE ABSENT

<b>Bruce Edwards</b>	<b>8/3/14</b>	<b>Jimmy Taylor</b>	<b>9/3/19</b>
<b>Robert Johnson</b>	<b>12/8/18</b>	<b>Emilio Mutis-Duplat</b>	<b>9/6/19</b>
<b>Wayne Pray</b>	<b>2/23/19</b>	<b>Larry Thornburg</b>	<b>9/29/19</b>
<b>James Story</b>	<b>4/17/19</b>	<b>Harold Welch</b>	<b>10/6/19</b>
<b>Danny Seale</b>	<b>4/20/19</b>	<b>Richard Tobaben</b>	<b>10/7/19</b>
<b>Rodger Kloppe</b>	<b>5/9/19</b>	<b>Donald Lewis</b>	<b>10/8/19</b>
<b>Samuel Weaver</b>	<b>5/13/19</b>	<b>Anand Katiyar</b>	<b>10/9/19</b>
<b>Lyle Kallenbach</b>	<b>5/13/19</b>	<b>Harry Schmidt</b>	<b>10/19/19</b>
<b>Donald Cole</b>	<b>6/11/19</b>	<b>Sherry Fewin</b>	<b>10/29/19</b>
<b>Arrenia Ellis</b>	<b>6/13/19</b>	<b>Russell Large</b>	<b>11/6/19</b>
<b>Frank Baldwin</b>	<b>6/13/19</b>	<b>Richard Smullen</b>	<b>12/4/19</b>
<b>Jack Parker</b>	<b>6/22/19</b>	<b>Elvis Shankles</b>	<b>12/11/19</b>
<b>Thomas Roberts</b>	<b>6/23/19</b>	<b>Samuel Parks</b>	<b>12/17/19</b>
<b>James Elmore</b>	<b>7/24/19</b>	<b>Lee Schlanger</b>	<b>2/5/20</b>
<b>Roger Bradshaw</b>	<b>8/3/19</b>	<b>Gary Bearden</b>	<b>2/22/20</b>
<b>Stephen Holditch</b>	<b>8/9/19</b>	<b>Jerry Pierce</b>	<b>3/8/20</b>
<b>Howard Bose</b>	<b>8/25/19</b>	<b>Tommy Clark</b>	<b>3/23/20</b>

We stood a little taller,  
and a little prouder then  
When we heard the call of Muster  
and the Roll Call just begin.  
We stood there all together  
and wiped away the tears  
When our names were called out softly  
and answered with a "Here!"

... and so we've joined together  
with our brothers of the past.  
To make our final resting place at  
Aggieland our last.  
We take a toast to our brotherhood  
wherever they may roam,  
For us the trek is over  
Aggieland we're coming home.

*by Lt. Col. David Harrigan '68*

# THE LAST CORPS TRIP

It was Judgment Day in Aggieland  
And tenseness filled the air;  
All knew there was a trip at hand,  
But not a soul knew where.

Assembled on the drill field  
Was the world-renowned Twelfth Man,  
The entire fighting Aggie team  
And the famous Aggie Band.

And out in front with Royal Guard  
The reviewing party stood;  
St. Peter and his angel staff  
Were choosing bad from good.

First he surveyed the Aggie team  
And in terms of an angel swore,  
“By Jove, I do believe I’ve seen  
This gallant group before.

I’ve seen them play since way back when,  
And they’ve always had the grit;  
I’ve seen ‘em lose and I’ve seen ‘em win,  
But I’ve never seen ‘em quit.

No need for us to tarry here  
Deciding upon their fates;  
Tis plain as the halo on my head  
That they’ve opened Heaven’s gates.”

And when the Twelfth Man heard this,  
They let out a mighty yell  
That echoed clear to Heaven  
and shook the gates of Hell.

“And what group is this upon the side,”  
St. Peter asked his aide,  
“That swelled as if to burst with pride

When we our judgment made?”

“Why, sir, that’s the Cadet Corps  
That’s known both far and wide  
For backing up their fighting team  
Whether they won, lost or tied.”

“Well, then,” said St. Peter,  
“It’s very plain to me  
That within the realms of Heaven  
They should spend eternity.

And have the Texas Aggie Band  
At once commence to play  
For their fates too we must decide  
Upon this crucial day.”

And the drum major so hearing  
Slowly raised his hand  
And said, “Boys, let’s play The Spirit  
For the last time in Aggieland.”

And the band poured forth the anthem  
In notes both bright and clear  
And ten thousand Aggie voices  
Sang the song they hold so dear.

And when the band had finished,  
St. Peter wiped his eyes  
And said, “It’s not so hard to see  
They’re meant for Paradise.”

And the colonel of the Cadet Corps said  
As he stiffly took his stand,  
“It’s just another Corps Trip, boys,  
We’ll march in behind the band.”

by P.H. DuVal, Jr. '51

# HISTORY OF THE LAST CORPS TRIP

*"The Last Corps Trip" by Philo H. Duval, Jr. '51 is a poem held close by the Aggie family. Read at Muster ceremonies across the globe and engraved on the walls of the Bonfire Memorial, the majority of Aggies have heard it at least once. What you might not have heard, however, is how the author came to write this treasured and unifying poem. Happy Muster day, Aggies.*

It wasn't the first time Buddy DuVal '51 used poetry as a way to process through things he couldn't quite talk about. So, as he sat in the classroom listening to a professor criticize members of the Corps of Cadets for being out of class for a Corps trip, he knew he needed a pencil.

The professor, "a man who didn't wear a uniform like the rest of us," told the class that if the Corps were given a one-way trip to hell, they'd leave a week early, DuVal said.

The professor's words packed a wallop; his tone unkind. DuVal sat down in his dorm room to write his rebuttal.

"I got to thinking about it," he said, "and Corps trips, they were something that the school okayed," DuVal said. "We didn't go unless we were supposed to." The dates for Corps trips were set far in advance. It wasn't a surprise that the cadets were out of class.

"So, I just wrote what I thought would happen if the whole school took off on a Corps trip," he said. It certainly wouldn't be to hell, as the professor had suggested.

That day, there were some representatives from a church on campus. He saw them earlier in the day watching cadets march. So he started.

*It was Judgment Day in Aggieland...*

"I had a lot of thoughts form in my head," DuVal said.

*And tenseness filled the air;  
All knew there was a trip at hand,  
But not a soul knew where*

He purposefully brought in all the different student groups on campus. "I mentioned what they'd be doing when visitors would come to look us over," he said.

*Assembled on the drill field  
Was the world-renowned Twelfth Man,  
The entire fighting Aggie team  
And the famous Aggie Band.*

Over the years, not all of his poems hit the mark, DuVal said. Many were crumpled and thrown away, but this one was different. "I started asking people to read it," he said. "I didn't have one person say, 'Why don't you get rid of this?'"

When his roommate, Joseph Bravenec '50, took it to a group of seniors, it suddenly grew legs. Head yell leader Red Duke '50—if his memory serves correctly—read it at the next yell practice.

That was the first time the poem was read publicly, but now more than 60 years later, there's no way to know how many times it's been spoken. On April 21, it will be read at Aggie Musters around the world.

Through time and generations, "it holds its own," he said.

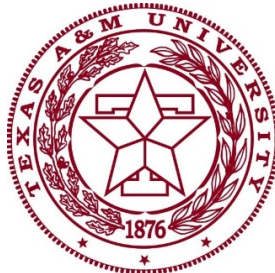
"I've just been lucky in that I've written quite a few things in my life, and a lot of it has been about the school. I generally do it in a way that says the truth. That's about all I can tell you."



## ***THE SPIRIT OF AGGIELAND***

**Some may boast of prowess bold  
Of the school they think so grand  
But there is a Spirit can ne'er be told  
It's the Spirit of Aggieland  
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  
Then they will come and join the best  
For we are the Aggies, the Aggies are we  
We are from Texas A. M. C.**

The Spirit of Aggieland is the alma mater of the Texas A&M University. It was originally written as a poem by Marvin H. Mimms while he was a student at Texas A&M. Richard J. Dunn, the director of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band at the time, composed the music. Students, faculty, and former students of the A&M sing the song at Aggie sporting events, Muster, and other events.



# **Special Thanks!**

## **BOOZIN B FIRING SQUAD**

<b>Wick McKean,</b>	<b>Brazos County</b>
<b>Roy Childers,</b>	<b>Burleson County</b>
<b>Jud McNeill,</b>	<b>Brazoria County</b>
<b>Gene Raska,</b>	<b>Brazoria County</b>
<b>Hugh Hamilton,</b>	<b>Jasper County</b>
<b>Gary Allison,</b>	<b>Kimble County</b>
<b>Charlie Brown,</b>	<b>San Patricio County</b>

## **TAPS BUGLER**

<b>John Poe,</b>	<b>Florida</b>
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## **TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

<b>Larry Lippke,</b>	<b>College Station</b>
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## **PARTICIPANTS**

<b>Bill Maddox,</b>	<b>Bryan</b>
<b>Bill Youngkin,</b>	<b>Bryan</b>
<b>Clifford Fry,</b>	<b>College Station</b>
<b>Bob Segner</b>	<b>College Station</b>
<b>Don &amp; Paula House,</b>	<b>College Station</b>
<b>Steve Beachy,</b>	<b>College Station</b>



Roy Childers



Jud McNeill



Hugh Hamilton



Gene Raska



Wick McKean  
Squad Leader



Gary Allison



Charlie Brown

**Boozin' B  
Firing Squad  
&  
'69 Bugler**

**Class of '69  
Aggie Muster  
In Place  
21 April 2020**



John Poe  
FTAB