

Sul Ross Group (SRG) Bulletin Forty-Nine

14 December 2021

Merry Christmas Ags – “Holiday on the Quad” Supported BCS Charities



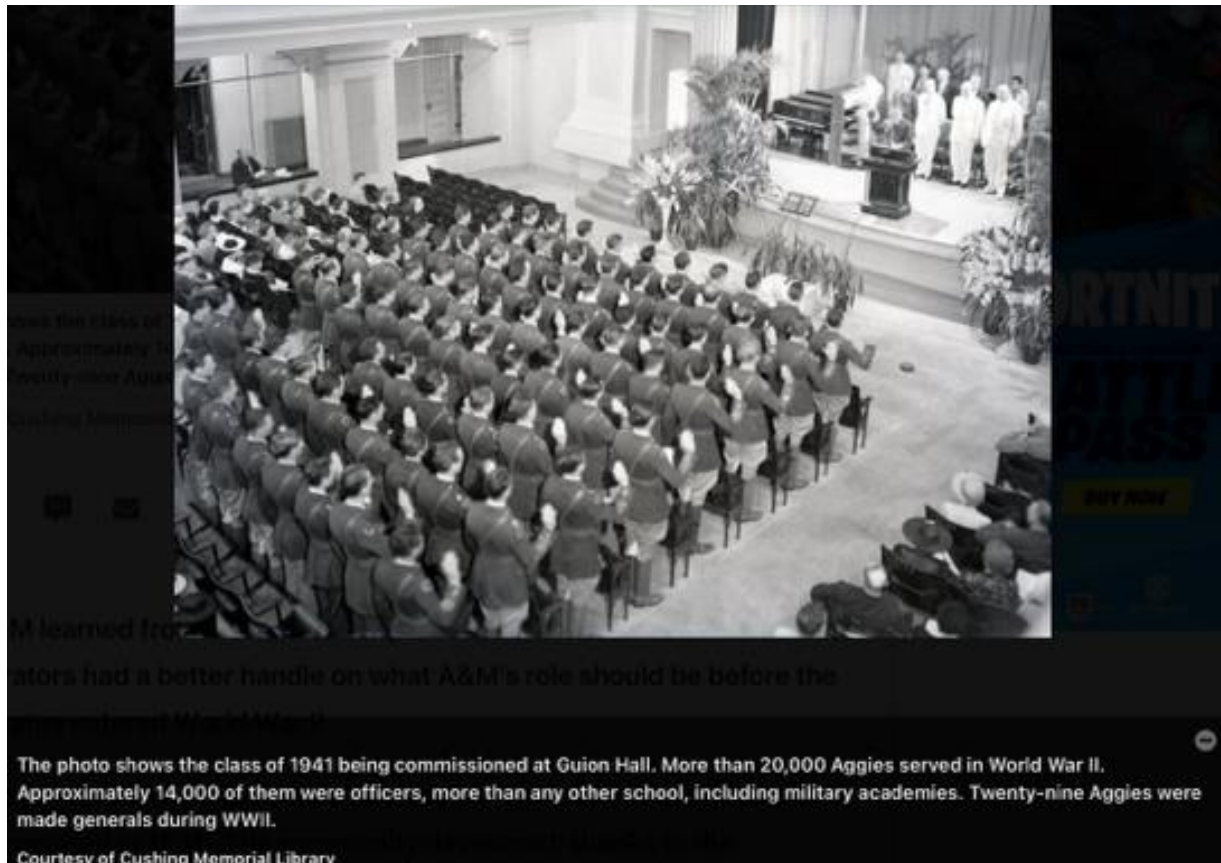
As reported by Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets Communications 1 December 2021, the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets hosted “Holiday on the Quad,” an event open to the Texas A&M and Bryan-College Station communities, on Sunday, Dec. 5. The event began at 5 p.m. on the Quad, home of the Corps of Cadets.

Holiday on the Quad was a free event for the public and a fundraiser for local non-profits. Donations were encouraged, but not required, for most booths at the event. Funds donated during the event will support non-profits in the Bryan-College Station area including Twin City Mission, Habitat for Humanity, Scotty’s House and the Brazos Valley Food Bank. Those attending were encouraged to bring canned food items to donate to The 12th Can food pantry, which serves all students, staff and faculty at Texas A&M. Collection boxes will be set up around the Quad.

The event featured a Christmas light-decorated Quad and a range of booths including food and hot drinks, interactive games and plenty of photo opportunities for families and children. For the first time, several student organizations from across campus joined

Holiday on the Quad; Black Student Alliance Council, Hispanic Presidents' Council, Council for Minority Student Affairs and the Native American and Indigenous Student Organization will have booths at the event. To access the entire article, you can find it on the Web here: [Corps Of Cadets To Host Holiday On The Quad Dec. 5 - Texas A&M Today \(tamuedu\)](https://www.tamuedu.com/2020/12/05/corps-of-cadets-to-host-holiday-on-the-quad-dec-5/)

Lest We Forget 7 December 1941....National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day



The Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets – An Update

T E X A S A & M U N I V E R S I T Y
CORPS OF CADETS

On 8 December at the Sanders Corps Center, The Interim Commandant Colonel Byron Stebbins, with the support of the Cadet Corps Association (CCA), held their traditional “Corps Christmas Coffee” to update a host of invited guests and supporters on “the state of the Corps.” Members of the SRG Board of Directors were privileged to have been included. Here are some of the main points which the Commandant shared:

- Reaffirmed the stated goal to grow and to sustain the Corps to 3000 cadets
- Beginning the fall semester, September 2021, the Corps strength was 2,143 cadets with 679 fish.
- The Covid pandemic obviously took a toll on Corps 2021 recruiting

- The search for a new Commandant will begin in January 2022, with the plan to have a new Commandant in place by June 2022.
- Interim VP for Student Affairs, BG Joe Ramirez, has been successful in working with President Banks to obtain University funds to allow all out of state cadets to enroll at the in-state tuition costs
- Likewise, BG Ramirez has also been successful working with President Banks to obtain University funds to support the Yell Leaders in the many activities in which they engage heretofore not supported with funding
- As previously reported, President Banks announced that the University will provide funds for room and board for all ROTC Scholarship cadets. Their ROTC Scholarship covers tuition and fees, thus giving about 700 cadets the equivalent of a fully paid scholarship
- Over 91% of all cadets graduating in May 2021 either received a commission or had a job secured
- The Corps' overall GPA for the spring 2021 semester was a 3.2 GPA with 55 cadets having a cumulative GPA of a 4.0. All classes posted a term and cumulative GPA above a 3.1
- 37% of the corps students are majoring in engineering and 44% of the entering fish have declared for engineering
- For the fall of 2021, 17% of the Corps is female; 20% of the Corps is Hispanic, 5% is Asian and 2% is African American
- The Corps is continuing to host international students as members
- Positive efforts are still being made with the Registrar's Office to accommodate the admissions of academically qualified students who wish to join the Corps of Cadets. Last year there were over 200 applicants who were in this category, and their admission would be a significant boost to the recruitment goal of 1,000 new fish each year.
- BG Joe Ramirez has received very favorable support for each request made of President Banks, who is also prepared to build additional corps dormitories when the time is right
- The Commandant's Office is initiating a marketing campaign to target young high school students for the Corps (San Antonio marketing firm engaged); and have also engaged the May's Business School to accomplish a similar study regarding the targeting and interests of prospective students

We again appreciated this annual event, and shall monitor the progress of shared initiatives because there is much work to be done to achieve the stated growth and sustainment goals!

Coach Slocum Offers Sage Advice

The Eagle on Sunday 12 December 2021 published an inspiring article by Robert Cessna (robert.cessna@theeagle.com) about the cancer treatment and side effects ordeal which Coach just recently completed. It is flat out inspiring what he offers to us all. At the conclusion of the piece, he said the cancer treatments gave him a new outlook:

Episodes of “Around Texas” with Chancellor John Sharp air Thursday nights on KAMU-TV. If you can't watch the show live, you can record it and watch it at your leisure. Or you can also stream it anytime on SharpAroundTexas.com.

Also, and alternatively, at: video.kamu.tamu.edu/video/around-texas-with-john, and: [www.youtube.com/playlist? List=PLn4ueEbqno...](http://www.youtube.com/playlist?List=PLn4ueEbqno...)

Meeting Greg Hartman, COO and Senior Vice President, TAMU



On 10 December 2021, several of our SRG Board members had the pleasure to meet with Greg Hartman, introduce ourselves and the SRG, find out something about all of his responsibilities, and how we can serve and help him if the needs arise. He was kind to receive us, and we had a very enjoyable and informative exchange!

As Chief Operation Officer (COO), he has a very large set of teams working for him including the police, human resources, transportation, technology, facilities, and several others. He also has responsibilities reporting to the TAMUS Chancellor as a Vice Chancellor.

Last but not least, he is working with leaders at the System office and with the Texas A&M state agencies to improve our efforts when it comes to “Commercialization and Innovation.” As most of you know, TAMU annually performs \$1B “level-of-effort” of research! And besides that, as a Tier One, AAU University, we have a multitude of scholars and researchers who discover “good ideas” and need to turn them into practical solutions and capabilities to sell in the workplace and markets. Although the potential exists for the result of this process to be very high, it is cumbersome and difficult! But if Stanford and MIT can navigate it successfully, then, as Greg said, “so can we and better!” So, this is a high priority task he and others are working on – easing and simplifying the process of “scholar to business” formal submissions. There is some work to do, but given improvements, not only will the State and Nation benefit, also will TAMU’s reputation and “brand!”

Greg shared some other pertinent tidbits with us too. Regarding the MGT reorganization report which President Banks commissioned (and many of you participated in with your inputs), he said he expects a memo soon from the president explaining what she has decided exactly to implement. He mentioned that she had read every input! We again thank all of you who answered that call to duty when she asked you to do so. We will ensure you get access to the memo when released.

He also shared that the president has decided to employ a chief of staff, and selected a retired colonel named Brad Brown who will be joining her staff from the RELLIS Campus.

We look forward to a regular and continuing relationship with Greg. There is no doubt that he is another key leader on President Banks’ team! We again thank him.

Over 5500 Texas Aggies to Graduate after Fall Semester



As reported by Brandon V. Webb, Texas A&M University Office of Provost Communications, December 9, 2021, Texas A&M University will award approximately 5,504 degrees to fall graduates at seven in-person commencement ceremonies. Commencements in College Station and Galveston will be held Dec. 11-18 for undergraduate, master's and doctoral students.

Interim TAMU Provost and Executive Vice President Timothy P. Scott '89 said: *"The upcoming holiday season will be especially meaningful as we congratulate thousands of new Aggie graduates on their well-earned degrees. We celebrate their achievements, even more so in light of the global pandemic. Congratulations to each graduate and their friends and family."*

Coach Elko leaving for Duke to be Head Coach



NOTES

REMINDER - SRG March '22 Reunion Information!!

March 2-4, 2022

College Station, TX

<https://www.aggienetwork.com/events/2022/sulross.aspx>.

SRG Bulletin Sign-Up Reminder: Anyone (Ags and non Ags, SRG Ags and all other Ags too) can “opt in” and sign up by going to: <https://www.aggienetwork.com/theassociation/sulrossgroup.aspx> and simply putting in your name and email address, and then clicking on “submit.” You will then automatically receive all the SRG Bulletins.

If you wish comment to those who decide:

Chancellor Sharp: chancellor@tamus.edu

The Board of Regents: vickie@tamus.edu or jbell@tamus.edu

President Banks: president@tamu.edu

Interim Provost Scott: t-scott@tamu.edu

Athletic Director Bjork: rrabun@athletics.tamu.edu

You can reach us at: SRGpresident@aggienetwork.com. The Sul Ross Group (SRG) Board of Directors (BoD) are responsible for producing and editing these SRG Bulletins, with transparency to and advice from The Association of Former Students, under whose auspices we operate. We do so in keeping with one of our four charged SRG Constitution’s Purposes, which is keeping our represented SRG Membership informed in a timely manner. To access information about us as the elected SRG Board of Directors, and our Constitution, please refer to our new “**SRG Tab**” (Under “**Programs**”) on The Association’s website, at: aggienetwork.com. One can access information about us, including the current 2021-2022 SRG Board of Directors, The SRG’s Constitution and By-Laws, and the SRG’s history and what we’re about.

SRG Bulletin Uniform Resource Locators (URLs)

For every SRG Bulletin topic, when required, we try our best to properly reference the material source. These are highlighted in blue at the end of the topic so that the reader can access the source for further information and clarification if desired. These are called Universal Resource Locators (URLs). The explanation for them is that they are *“the protocol (ex. HTTP, FTP), the domain name (or IP address), and additional path information (folder/file). On the Web, a URL may address a Web page file, image file, or any other file supported by the HTTP protocol.”* For clarification, they are not necessarily “live” in the Bulletin paragraphs, which means that simply clicking on them will bring up the material desired. However, we have done some testing and a lot depends on your device and connection to the Web. Some systems work better than others. If it does not work that way, then simply copy the blue highlighted URL and paste it into your browser’s search window and click – you should then be successful.