

# Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club



NETCAMC cordially invites you to join us for

## ***2017 Aggie Muster***

*featuring speaker*

**General Mark A. Welsh III**

Dean of the Bush School

Former Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force

**Friday, April 21, 2017 • 6:00 p.m.**

**White's Chapel United Methodist Church**

185 S White Chapel Blvd, Southlake

Ticket sales & info: [www.netcaggies.com](http://www.netcaggies.com)

Pre-registration online: \$30 before April 18<sup>th</sup>

Pay at the Door: \$40

Discounts available for Members of NETCAMC

Children 6-18: \$15 • Children 5 & under: Free

Childcare available

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*For more information, please contact Muster Chair Tracy L. Miller '88 at  
817-992-5031 or [miller.crew@yahoo.com](mailto:miller.crew@yahoo.com)*

## ***2017 Muster Speaker***

### ***General Mark A. Welsch III***

General Mark A. Welsh III became Dean of the Bush School on August 15, 2016, after retiring from the United States Air Force. Welsh, who was born in San Antonio, earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the U.S. Air Force Academy, a Master of Science degree in computer resource management from Webster University, and graduated from the Army Command and General Staff College, the Air War College, and the National War College. He was a fellow of Seminar XXI at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a fellow of the National Security Studies Program of Syracuse University and Johns Hopkins University, a fellow of Ukrainian Security

Studies at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, a fellow of the Pinnacle Course of the National Defense University, and a graduate of the General Manager Program at the Harvard Business School. During his long military career, he received numerous awards and decorations, including the Defense Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Defense Superior Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, and the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster.

Welsh became the 20th Chief of Staff of the Air Force in August 2012, serving as the senior uniformed Air Force officer responsible for the organization, training and equipping of 664,000 active-duty, Guard, Reserve, and civilian forces serving in the United States and overseas. As a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he and other service chiefs functioned as military advisers to the Secretary of Defense, National Security Council, and the President. His most recent previous post was Commander of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Commander of NATO's Air Command, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. He also served as Associate Director of Military Affairs at the Central Intelligence Agency, and as Commandant of the United States Air Force Academy.



## History of the Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club



### Payton Mayes '98

Co-Founder, Board  
Member and Former  
President of NETCAMC

It was during the Christmas season in 2011 that several families started having discussions about the lack of involvement they had in any local organized A&M activities. Of the four married couples, seven individuals were Aggies and all were extremely involved either at the university or post graduation – former Yell Leader (Jimbo Cross '97), Corps Commander (John Huffman '04), Student Government (Brian Minyard '99 and Laura Baggett Minyard '00), and New York A&M Club President (Payton Mayes '98).

We found that our schedules were already full and focused on families and careers so when an A&M club in the greater DFW Metroplex was having an event, it was too easy to “pass” because of the distance involved of getting to that event. And we knew that if we felt that way, many others had to as well.

We drove down to College Station in January 2012 to meet with the Association of Former Students leadership to discuss our ideas. While they graciously listened, we knew that they had heard similar stories in the past. We decided to form a 501(c)(3) and call it the Gig 'Em Club in order to establish a presence in Northeast Tarrant County and attempt to demonstrate the viability of a club. The Gig 'Em Club held its first Muster on April 21, 2012 at Stampede Sports in Southlake with Southlake Carroll Superintendent David Faltys '86 as our Muster Speaker. We had a tremendous amount of positive feedback at that event and thankfully expanded the leadership ranks with Ags willing to serve.

2017 will mark our sixth Muster and each one continues to get better. We've given over \$10,000 in scholarships to graduating high school students entering A&M and hope to grow that figure substantially.

We have been working with the Association of Former Students for the last three years in order to be recognized as an official chartered A&M Club and that designation was awarded on December 13, 2016 and the Gig 'Em Club is now known as the Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club.

There are over 7,000 former students living in Northeast Tarrant County and with the area's rapid growth, that number will no doubt steadily rise.

We have been blessed by former students learning of our organization and seeking to pitch in and get involved. We would love to expand the leadership team so please email any of the officers with your interest and/or ideas on future events.

Looking back over the two years, it has been challenging and exciting. We started down a road from becoming a rogue club to a chartered club. What began as an idea amongst four Aggie families, has blossomed into reality.

We have had great turnouts at our last two Musters with Stephen McGee and Coach Jackie Sherrill as our speakers at White's Chapel United Methodist Church.

We held a 42 Dominoes Tournament and hosted our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trunk or Treat with a chili cook-off and petting zoo added this year. We have been hosting monthly networking breakfasts in our area and moved our Game Watching Parties to a new venue at Wise Guys Pizza in Grapevine.

We have co-hosted our third Texas A&M Entrepreneurship Receptions with the Center for New Ventures and Entrepreneurship, a part of Mays Business School's Department of Management.

I would like to thank the 2016 Officer Team for their hard work and support in getting these new events up and running, and making them a success.

Your 2017 Officer Team is excited for the upcoming year and wants to keep up the momentum from the past two years. We have begun planning events for the year that cater to different interests.

If you have a suggestion or would like to help organize an event, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the officers. We welcome new ideas and new faces. If you are new to the area or to the Club in general, we welcome you.

I encourage you to attend Muster. In addition, any event is a great opportunity to check us out. A huge thank you goes out to Ags that have helped us during our charter process. Membership is not required, but it's a great way to give back to your community by supporting the Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club scholarship fund.

See the membership section for more details on how to sign up. The Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club has offered me many opportunities to reconnect with former students, get involved in the community, participate in a variety of activities, and network with other Ags in the area. I look forward to serving you in 2017!

Gig 'Em!

## Letter from the President



### Chris Williams '95

President, Northeast  
Tarrant County A&M Club

[president@netcaggies.com](mailto:president@netcaggies.com)

## Meet Your 2017 Officers



### **Chris Williams '95, President**

Chris grew up in Austin and received a Bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems. While at A&M, Chris was a member of the Corps of Cadets, Aggie Gents, and an Executive Council Member for the Association of Baptist Students. Chris has been active with the Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club since the first Aggie Muster held at Stampede Sports Arena in Southlake. Professionally, Chris has put his degree to good use and worked in various industries and technologies. He is currently a Software Development Manager. Chris has contributed to numerous community and business organizations and is on the Board of Directors for the Dallas-Fort Worth Quality Assurance Association. Chris and his wife Regina have two children that keep them busy with school extra curricular activities.



### **Joel Bittick '91, President Elect**

Joel is originally from Katy, and is a '91 graduate of A&M with an Economics degree. He served in the Ross Volunteers, Corps of Cadets, and was a Student Senator. Upon graduation, he served 4 years in the United State Air Force as a Missile Combat Crew Officer and earned his Finance & Accounting MBA from Denver, CO based Regis University, leaving the service with the rank of Captain. Joel then transitioned to Corporate America with ascending Corporate/Operational Finance roles before moving into IT Consulting. He currently provides Sales leadership with IBM Corporation. Joel is married to former Michelle Pope, '92, and they have 4 beautiful daughters, Jenna ('19), Macy, Lainie, and Kyra. They attend The Village Church Southlake and both Michelle and Joel and serve in leadership at Bible Study Fellowship.



### **Houston Richards '10, Immediate Past President**

Houston attended Texas A&M University where he was a member of the Corps of Cadets, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Economics and a minor in Business Administration. He was also the Past President of the Ross Volunteer Association and serves on its Board of Directors. Houston became an active member of the Gig 'Em Club at the first muster in 2012 and served as the VP - Game Watching, Muster Chair and as President. He works in the Global Wealth Management group at Merrill Lynch and lives with his wife Hannah and newborn son Knox and enjoys running, biking, and an occasional triathlon.



### **Tracy Miller '88, VP Finance and Muster Chair**

Tracy graduated from Texas A&M in 1988 with a BBA in Accounting and a BBA in Finance/Real Estate. She currently serves as Managing Director of Meridian Realty Partners. Tracy and her husband, Kris (Class of '88), have lived in Southlake since 1996. They have four children: Abby '15, Hope '17, Macy '21 and Sloan. Tracy is very involved in her community through various civic, school district and volunteer areas. She loves being a part of the Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club as it combines two of her passions - her community and Texas A&M University. Whoop!

# Meet Your 2017 Officers



### Rachael Abell '01, VP Activities

Originally from Houston, Rachael (Howe) graduated from Texas A&M with a degree in Agricultural Development. After spending several years in the corporate world, Rachael became a stay at home mom and now volunteers heavily in school and community organizations. Rachael and family have spent the past decade in Texas, Florida, and California. She has been involved in the South Florida A&M Club in Florida, the Bay Area A&M Club in California, and now serves as the VP of Activities for the newly chartered Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club. Rachael also serves as a Class Agent for the class of 2001. Residing in Grapevine, Rachael is married to Chris Abell and has 4 children: Lauren, 12, Nathan, 9, Ryan, 4, Allison, 2.



### Catherine Smith '90, VP Membership

A proud native of San Antonio, Catherine has been in the Grapevine area since graduating in 1990. She has a BS in Construction Science. She has applied her Construction Science degree since graduating and is currently a Senior Account Manager with Polk Mechanical. Catherine is married to Chris, '90, and they have two daughters, Cheyenne, 21, and Chandler, 19. Catherine is involved in her daughters' activities and continues to volunteer with her church youth, as well as two industry scholarship programs. She is looking forward to helping the Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club grow!



### Carol Smith '82, VP Scholarship

Carol (Stevens) Smith earned her BBA in Management in 1982. She has worked in both the insurance and mortgage industries since graduation, however, Carol put her management degree to best use as an independent business owner for 19 years while also being a stay-at-home mom and community volunteer. Carol married her college sweetheart, J. Terry Smith '82. They have three wonderful adult sons; one is an Aggie, Kyle Smith '11, who married an Aggie, Morgan (Cleveland) Smith '14. Carol was recently blessed with early retirement and enjoys continuing volunteer work.



We would **LOVE** for you to get involved and join the leadership in taking the Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club to the next level.

We are specifically seeking help with our website/social media, future Muster chair, and fundraising chair for scholarships. Whether you have a lot of time or a little, we can use your help. Please let our officers know you are interesting in serving.

## *Meet Your 2017 Board Members*

### **Jimbo Cross '97**

Jimbo is originally from Belton and graduated from A&M in 1997, with a degree in Agricultural Development. He was very active in student government, various MSC organizations and class council and served as a Senior Yell Leader in '96-'97. Jimbo is currently the Chief Development Officer for a national long-term acute hospital company based in the DFW area. He has spent the past 20 years in various health care M&A and business development roles. Jimbo met Jennifer ('99), his wife of 18 years at Fish Camp over 20 years ago. They have a beautiful 10 year old daughter Taylor who is eager to attend A&M one day. Jimbo & Jennifer live in Southlake where Jimbo is active in volunteering and serving on the school board of Taylor's Christian school. Last summer, Jimbo was honored to be the namesake of Camp Cross at Fish Camp.



### **Payton Mayes '98**

Payton graduated from Texas A&M in 1998 with a BS in Agribusiness and in 2000 with a MBA with a concentration in Finance. Payton served as Muster Chair and President of the New York A&M Club from 2002-2005. He has also served as an advisory board member of the Mays Department of Finance and Master of Real Estate Program. Payton is a partner at Cephas Partners, an investor and advisor in the real estate private equity industry. He is very involved at his church, White's Chapel United Methodist and founded the DFW Christian Business Summit - dfwcbsummit.org. Payton moved back to Texas in 2009 and lives in Westlake with his wife Andrea and three children: Merritt (10); Channing, (9) and Stella (7).



### **John Huffman '05**

John is a small business owner, attorney, and real estate investor. At Texas A&M, he majored in finance at the Mays Business School. He was active in the Corps of Cadets, the Ross Volunteers, MSC Hospitality, and other organizations. In 2008, he earned his JD at Georgetown University Law Center and moved to Southlake where he and his wife Elizabeth '04 raise their three children - Caroline (10), Andrew (8), and Anna (6). John and Elizabeth founded a residential construction, design and real estate investment company in early 2016 called Black Door Home Co. which has been blessed with solid growth. John also serves on City Council in Southlake.



# 2016 Year in Review

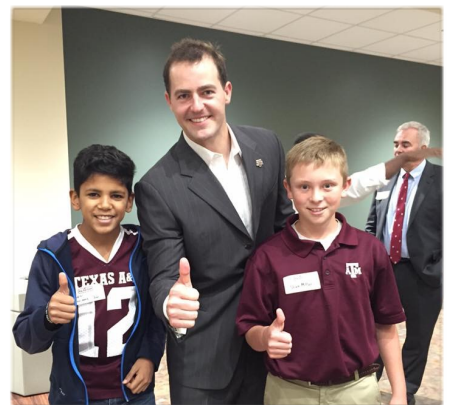


## Aggie Muster

Over 200 Aggies gathered on April 21, 2016 at White's Chapel in Southlake for our annual Aggie Muster. Our featured speaker was **Stephen McGee '08**, former A&M quarterback. A BBQ dinner was enjoyed by all and Gig 'Em Club Scholarship winners were honored.

## Friday Networking Breakfast

Aggies met at 7am at Meat U Anywhere BBQ in Trophy Club on the 3rd Friday of each month. Despite getting up extra early, those Aggies enjoyed good friendship and kept up with everything A&M and community related.



## Football Watching Parties

Football game watching parties were held at a new location this year! Wise Guys Pizza in Grapevine hosted our club each week with great food and craft beer on their outdoor patio. With up to 50 Aggies in attendance, we cheered on our beloved team each week.



## 2016 Year in Review



### 42 Scholarship Tournament

The **Mayes family** hosted our first annual 42 Scholarship Tournament in September at their home. Aggies young and old came out to play bones and watch A&M BTHOauburn. Congratulations to our first place winners, **Rob Perdue '91** and **Kerry Balthrop**.

### Chili Cook Off & Trunk or Treat

The **Miller Family** hosted our club on an unseasonably warm October evening for a fabulous Chili Cook Off and Trunk or Treat. Families enjoyed taste testing chili, meeting the animals on the Miller's farm, and gathering lots of candy at the Trunk or Treat. With 9 Chili Cook Off entires and 10 Trunk or Treat participants, we had a hard time naming the winners. But after the votes were cast, **Payton '98 and Andrea Mayes** won our Chili Cook Off and **Wayne '01 and Rachel '01 Hamilton** won our Trunk or Treat Contest. Congratulations!



# 2017 Upcoming Events

## Aggie Muster

Join us on Friday, April 21. Information included in this newsletter; additional details can be found on the website, netcaggies.com.

## Happy Hour

Our club is looking to set up a monthly Happy Hour. Great locations may be Chuis in Southlake, Dave & Busters in Euless, Grapevine Craft Brewery in Grapevine. If this is something you are interested in coordinating, please message rachael.abell@gmail.com.

## Networking Breakfast

The Friday Networking Breakfast will continue in 2017 on the 3rd Friday of each month and hosted by our club president, Chris Williams. Reference the website, netcaggies.com, for the latest details.














## Wine Tasting

Look for our first club wine tasting on Main Street in Grapevine towards the end of March. Details can be found on the website, netcaggies.com.

## Family Picnic

May 7th at Lake Grapevine. Bring the family out for a picnic and to play horseshoes, corn-hole, dominos, volleyball, basketball, and more! Details can be found at netcaggies.com.

## Football Game Watching Parties

Saturday Sep. 2		<b>at UCLA Bruins</b> Rose Bowl, Pasadena, CA	Saturday Oct. 28		<b>Mississippi State Bulldogs</b> Kyle Field, College Station, TX
Saturday Sep. 9		<b>Nicholls State Colonels</b> Kyle Field, College Station, TX	Saturday Nov. 4		<b>Auburn Tigers</b> Kyle Field, College Station, TX
Saturday Sep. 16		<b>UL Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns</b> Kyle Field, College Station, TX	Saturday Nov. 11		<b>New Mexico Lobos</b> Kyle Field, College Station, TX
Saturday Sep. 23		<b>at Arkansas Razorbacks</b> AT&T Stadium, Arlington, TX	Saturday Nov. 18		<b>at Ole Miss Rebels</b> Vaught-Hemingway Stadium, Oxford, MS
Saturday Sep. 30		<b>South Carolina Gamecocks</b> Kyle Field, College Station, TX	Saturday Nov. 25		<b>at LSU Tigers</b> Tiger Stadium, Baton Rouge, LA
Saturday Oct. 7		<b>Alabama Crimson Tide</b> Kyle Field, College Station, TX	Saturday Dec. 2		<b>SEC Championship Game</b> Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta, GA
Saturday Oct. 14		<b>at Florida Gators</b> Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, Gainesville, FL			

**Find NETCAMC on the web  
and social media to stay in the  
know of upcoming events**



netcaggies.com



Northeast Tarrant  
County A&M Club



@NETCAggies



Northeast Tarrant  
County A&M Club

## Why Join the NETCAMC?

The Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club provides networking and social opportunities for Aggies in our area. Membership includes discounts and benefits at Aggie functions.

Your membership enables us to continue supporting deserving students entering Texas A&M University with academic scholarships.

We invite you to become a part of our local Aggie family and enjoy the fun and fellowship found at our events. Texas A&M has enriched our lives, and your participation ensures that this legacy continues.

To become a new member or renew your membership, visit our website at netcaggies.com or mail in the membership form found on below. If you have questions about membership in the NETCAMC, please contact Catherine Smith, VP Membership at ccottersmith@gmail.com.

### Membership Form

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Information:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Couple Membership: Y/N

Membership Level:

Individual / \$25 per year       Couple / \$40 per year       Lifetime / \$1,000

I am interested in serving in the following capacity:

Muster Committee    Scholarship Committee    Events Committee    Fundraising

*Please mail form and payment to:*

Catherine Smith '90  
VP, Membership  
2719 Newcastle Dr,  
Grapevine, TX 76051

## Scholarship Sponsorship Form

The Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club (NETCAMC) provides Former Students of Texas A&M an opportunity to reconnect in our local community. Each year, the club awards scholarships to graduating seniors in Northeast Tarrant County who plan on attending Texas A&M University. Scholarships awarded are based on academic performance, extracurricular involvement, community service, and leadership contributions.

Scholarships are presented April 21st of each year at our annual Muster Ceremony. Please consider becoming a NETCAMC Scholarship Sponsor. This is a wonderful way to promote your business, honor or remember a loved one, etc. Your donation directly benefits our local future Aggies! Whoop!

### ***Contribute to the 2017 NETCAMC Scholarship Fund:***

#### **\_\_\_\_\_ Gold Sponsor: (\$1,000+)**

- 6 Tickets to the Muster Ceremony with reserved seating
- Logo/Name prominently displayed at the event, on social media, club website, email blasts, & newsletters
- Special Recognition at Muster ceremony
- Full page ad in Muster program

#### **\_\_\_\_\_ Silver Sponsor: (\$500+)**

- 4 Tickets to the Muster Ceremony with reserved seating
- Logo/Name prominently displayed at the event, on social media, club website, email blasts, & newsletters
- Special Recognition at Muster ceremony
- Half page ad in Muster program

#### **\_\_\_\_\_ Bronze Sponsor: (\$250+)**

- 2 Tickets to the Muster Ceremony with reserved seating
- Logo/Name prominently displayed at the event, on social media, club website, email blasts, & newsletters
- Special Recognition at Muster ceremony
- Business card ad in Muster program

Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Contact, Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) to Display at Muster: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, St, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

The Northeast Tarrant County A&M Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible.  
Contact Tracy Miller '88 at 817-992-5031 or miller.crew@yahoo.com with any questions.

# Family Picnic at Lake Grapevine Sunday, May 7th



Trawick Pavillion  
2700 Darren G. Medlin Trail  
Grapevine

Bring your picnic  
lunch and join us for:

- Horseshoes
- Corn-hole
- Sand Volleyball
- Basketball
- Kite Flying
- Dominoes



More details: [www.netcaggies.com](http://www.netcaggies.com)



505 George Bush Dr  
College Station, TX 77840-2918

### Don't forget-



- Register for Muster today
- Join or renew your NETCAMC membership
- Support our scholarship fund

