SGA Replant is a one day environmental service organization that occurs annually in October. This year we look forward to serving ten community families and three community parks on October 27th planting about 300 trees. We will also be inviting several of the SGA environmental service organizations to join our kick off in hopes to inform our volunteers of other opportunities to serve the community and ways to give back to the environment!

Yearly planning for Replant Day allows our committee to participate in numerous environmental events. Bastrop's Lonely Pines have recently been devastated by the September fires of 2011, and commissioned to help is Texas A&M ready to jumpstart a reforestation relief. Back in College Station, Replant's volunteer efforts have recently promoted Texas A&M to a Tree Campus USA connecting our grounds foresters, community foresters, and students in an effort to improve and increase campus trees.

These are just a few of the many service projects our committee works to serve our environment. Rooted in Tradition, Texas A&M SGA Replant Learn more about Replant and how you can get involved today at Replant.tamu.edu!
Meet Your Student Body President

Howdy!

Welcome back to College Station! After a great summer spent here in town, I know I was ready to have students back again. From study abroad, to internships, to being camp counselors, all of us had unique experiences that are worthy of being shared. I hope we all learned lessons that we can bring back to Student Government and make our groups better this year.

From the Executive branch that I have the pleasure of leading, we could not be more excited for an amazing year ahead of us. I firmly believe that there is no better organization on campus than Student Government Association and it is truly our honor as Executive Cabinet to work alongside each of you.

SGA committee members, I hope you've had the chance to meet our Internal Vice President, Cole Burdette ‘13. He is thrilled about the opportunity to work with you this year. It’s his hope to ask thought provoking questions and support your committees in whatever way you need. We could not have found a more outstanding person for this position!

Senators might know our token SGA veteran and Executive Vice President, Mark Womack ‘11. He will be working very closely with you on all policy issues and hopes to build on the close working relationships already in place between our groups. It's our hope that we can align our visions and move forward powerfully to maximize the positive experience at Texas A&M for every Aggie.

Shelbi Sturgess ‘14 is managing our cabinet as Chief of Staff and has done an excellent job of coordinating our vision for the year as well as all communication efforts. She will also be overseeing finances and university committees. If we can ever help with any communication to the student body via campus wide emails, blog posts, or other forms of publicity.

We are very much looking forward to an amazing year of serving students now and setting up our Student Government Association for success in the future.

Traditions Council is a Student Government Association Committee whose mission is to preserve and promote the Traditions of Texas A&M through education and awareness. Traditions Council was founded in 1975, exactly 99 years after Texas A&M first opened its doors to students.

Our committee is organized into four subcommittees, each lead by an exec: Campus Relations, Public Relations, Outreach/Awareness, and Service/Bonfire. Each of these committees works to further the mission of the organization in a distinct area.

Campus Relations is primarily involved with Silver Taps. Members of Campus Relations are responsible with spreading awareness of Silver Taps on campus and hosting the families of Silver Taps in the Stark Galleries before they make their way to Academic Plaza.

Public Relations maintains Traditions Council’s ever-growing social media presence. Additionally, they plan the Texas A&M Birthday celebration (to be celebrated on Oct. 4th this year) and other similar events to promote Traditions Council and Aggie Traditions on campus in Bryan/College Station.

Outreach/awareness is responsible for organizing speaking engagements, the heart and soul of the mission of Traditions Council. So far, Traditions Council 2012-2013 has spoken to over 8,000 people about our beloved Aggie Traditions. Additionally, Outreach/awareness plans “Traditions Week” which will be happening in the fall.

Finally, Service/Bonfire (SB) is responsible for organizing the service arm of Traditions Council to serve Texas A&M and Bryan/College Station. Public Relations maintains Traditions Council’s ever-growing social media presence. Additionally, plan the Texas A&M Birthday celebration (to be celebrated on Oct. 4th this year) and other similar events to promote Traditions Council and Aggie Traditions on campus in Bryan/College Station.

Guide: Tour Guide Days Kicks Off Year

GUIDE held it’s 3rd Annual Tour Guide Day the first two days of classes this semester. This event would not of been possible without the support from SGA and the rest of the Aggie community. With 80 volunteers and 6 stations, we were able to help numerous students find their way. By passing out over 1000 water bottles, we were able to keep students hydrated in the extreme temperatures. We look forward to continuing Tour Guide Day in the future and making an impact at Texas A&M.
Meet Your Advisor

Name: Mandi Schweitzer
Organizations you Advise: Gilbert Leadership Conference
How long have you been at TAMU?: Undergraduate student for 4 years; Graduate student for almost 2 years.
Favorite Aggie Tradition: Muster—nothing exemplifies the concept of the Aggie Family more!
Favorite part of your job: My favorite part would be interacting with students and watching them realize the leadership impact they have on their communities.
Favorite Local Restaurant: La Bodega
Where are you from?: Dallas, Texas
Favorite vacation spot: Anywhere tropical….I always love a cruise!
Something we wouldn’t know about you by looking at you: I have a newfound passion for the outdoors-hiking, kayaking, etc.
Other things you are involved in: Emerging Leaders program, Social Justice Week, Intern for Extended Orientation
Favorite quote: “Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. It makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.” – Melody Beattie

EIC Continues Making Impact

Kyle Field Stadium seats more than 80,000 people and generates an equally great magnitude of waste. In the fall of 2004, the Environmental Issues Committee of SGA began a recycling program at the stadium. Each Sunday morning following a home game, EIC members and other student organizations collect plastic bottles from the stands to be recycled. Every season, these efforts divert more than 150,000 plastic bottles from the landfills and save the university thousands of dollars in removal costs. Brazos Valley Recycling has been instrumental in supporting the recycling initiative at Texas A&M and recently donated 100 dark green bins now placed around the stadium to encourage fans to recycle.

If your student organization is interested in helping with Kyle Field Recycling, please contact Michael Brown at yossarian0220@gmail.com. Breakfast is provided for volunteers.

Kyle Field Recycling will occur on the following dates:
Sept. 30
Oct. 21
Nov. 18
The Development Commission exists to serve you! This commission strives to build our SGA endowment in order use the collected funds to appropriate to the committees, thus relieving us of our dependency on student fees. The Commission currently is working on two main projects:

PATH TO SUCCESS BRICK CAMPAIGN: This campaign was initiated to ensure the longevity of organizations by providing additional finances for current programs, traditions, and new initiatives. The bricks, ranging in size from 4x8 to 8x8, make excellent gifts for graduation, birthdays, holidays, or even as a way to commemorate achievements and legacies! The Path to Success is prominently located on the plaza in front of the Koldus Student Services Building next to Kyle Field. To purchase a brick with your own customized inscription, please visit bricks.tamu.edu.

TEE UP WITH SGA GOLF TOURNAMENT: This will be SGA’s second golf tournament! We are inviting old Ags and current students and staff to come play a round of golf and learn about what makes SGA special. To sign up for the tournament or for more information, please visit: http://sgadevelopment.tamu.edu/golftournament.

A&M Give Us Room!

Host high school seniors in your dorm room for Aggie Recruitment Committee’s S.E.A.L. Conference weekend, November 16-18!

Apply online at arc.tamu.edu

Applications due October 26th

Stay Connected:

Facebook: TAMU Student Government Association
Twitter: tamu_SGA
http://sga.tamu.edu

The Texas A&M Student Government Association Presents

The 2012 Tee Up With SGA Golf Tournament

Don’t golf? No problem!

$15 Entry Ticket
Includes: Catered lunch, event t-shirt, one hour to socialize with members of Student Government Association!

To register, please visit http://sgadevelopment.tamu.edu/golftournament

For more information or questions about the event, contact Jackie Murad at ExecDevelopment@stuact.tamu.edu

SGA In Action

Content Written and Collected by: Kelli Forde & Michelle Gardner
Design and Layout by: Michelle Gardner

If you would like to contribute photos or content to “SGA In Action” please contact Kelli Forde (kforde@stuact.tamu.edu) or Michelle Gardner (mgardner@stuact.tamu.edu). This newsletter will be distributed monthly to SGA committees, commissions, branches and advisors

Please submit comments or questions to Michelle Gardner (mgardner@stuact.tamu.edu).