

Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets

# AGGIE EAGLE PROGRAM

BE PREPARED



Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets & Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scouts ... Two Groups, Same Character



## Preparing to "Answer the Call"

The Aggie Eagle Program provides a unique opportunity for Scouts to visit a world-class university. Texas A&M is home to the Corps of Cadets, an organization whose values align with the fundamental attributes upheld by many Scouts.



**TEXAS A&M**  
UNIVERSITY  
CORPS of CADETS

# FALL 2009 AGGIE EAGLE PROGRAM



An AEP participant sets off the "The Spirit of '02" cannon at Fiddler's Green, the 65-acre Parsons Mounted Cavalry headquarters and training facility.

## Who is Eligible?

All attending scouts must be either a junior or senior in high school. As mentioned in the previous section, all participants must hold the honor of Eagle Scout, the Gold Award or the American Heritage Girls Stars and Stripes Award. Active participation in scouting will be deemed sufficient if they have not yet received the honor of Eagle Scout or Gold Award.

For any Spring AEP, seniors must have a completed application on file in the Texas A&M Office of Admissions no later than the January 15 cutoff in order to attend the Spring program. Those wishing to participate in the program should apply early.

## What Happens During AEP?

Participants of the AEP have the opportunity to watch and participate in the Rudder's Rangers and Recon Company special units and watch a Fish Drill Team performance. During the Fall, Scouts will attend Midnight Yell Practice and observe the Corps of Cadets march-in followed by a Texas A&M football game. At the Spring session, Scouts will attend a Texas A&M basketball game. In all sessions, attendees will have an opportunity to participate

## What is the Aggie Eagle Program?

The Aggie Eagle Program (AEP) is a recruiting program for the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M University. The program began in the Fall of 2004.

Typically, the Corps has over 300 members who hold the BSA Eagle or GSUSA Gold Award. The Program recognizes that the same traits that motivate a young person to join Scouts also encourages them, as collegians, to join the Corps of Cadets.



Physical training at the Leadership Development Course allows AEP participants the chance to work together to complete an objective.



in specific exercises at the Corps' Obstacle, Leadership Development and Stamina Courses. In the event of bad weather, Scouts will tour the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum. Parents will have their own session highlighting the Admissions process, scholarships, the Leadership Program and a presentation on Cadet life. Parents are also invited to be our guests at the Awards Banquet.

Cover Photo: Fall session Aggie Eagle participants salute the flag during The Star Spangled Banner at the Texas A&M vs. Utah State football game on September 26, 2009. Photo by Stuart Villanueva/The Eagle.

# The Corps Way of Life

If you decide to attend the Aggie Eagle Program, you will meet Scouts from around the nation. You will also learn about the Aggie Code of Honor, Aggie Spirit and have a unique experience that allows you and your parents to make an honest assessment of what it means to be an Aggie and a member of the Corps of Cadets.

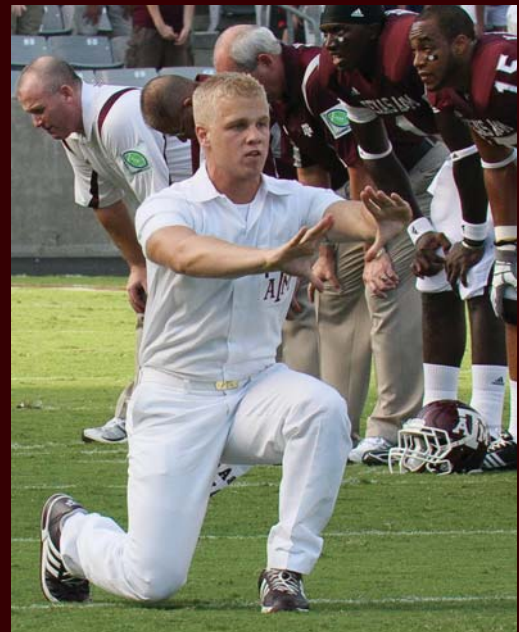


Above: Two AEP participants lead the group through part of the Corps' Obstacle Course.

Below: Two members of the Corps of Cadets Fish Drill Team talk to scouts prior to demonstrating a precision rifle drill.



An AEP participant begins one of the challenges at the Confidence Course while other scouts await their turn.



Cadet John Busch '11, Company E-2, attended the Fall of 2006 Aggie Eagle Program. His sophomore year he served as the Mascot Corporal for Reveille VIII and currently serves as a junior Yell Leader. John is an Eagle Scout from the Three Rivers Council in Beaumont, Texas.

# Council Photos of the Fall 2009 Aggie Eagle Program



Alamo Area (San Antonio)



Sam Houston (Houston)



Circle Ten (Dallas)



Longhorn (Fort Worth)



Capital Area (Austin)



Out of State



Bay Area (Galveston)



East Texas (Nacagdoches)



Buffalo Trails (Midland)



Golden Spread (Amarillo)



South Texas (Corpus Christi)



San Jacinto (Cypress)



Rio Grande Valley  
(McAllen)



Texas (Abilene)



Three Rivers  
(Beaumont)



Girl Scouts of Central Texas  
and Eastern Oklahoma

## Should a scout who is not interested in a military career attend the Aggie Eagle Program?

**YES!** The Corps of Cadets has a rich military history remaining one of the largest uniformed body of students in the nation, and, consistently produces more officers for the Armed Forces than any other Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) source outside the military academies. However, the Corps does not carry any military obligation.

Nearly 56% of our current cadets have elected not to pursue a military commission. Cadets who want to pursue non-military careers — whether in the private sector or in public service — can declare themselves Academic Certificate in Leadership candidates after their second year in the Corps of Cadets.

Cadets in the Academic Certificate in Leadership Studies Program stay with their units through their entire time in the Corps, share the personal growth and fellowship that only the Corps of Cadets can offer, and enroll in a curriculum of leadership study and practice available exclusively to members of the Corps of Cadets.

The Corps of Cadets guides students through four stages of leadership — from followership, to direct leadership of self and others, to indirect leadership of other leaders, to executive leadership of entire organizations. Combined with the immersion experience of the Corps of Cadets, the Academic Certificate in Leadership Studies program gives every cadet the most complete personal and professional development experience available.

Past recipients are employed by Fortune 500 companies, various non-profit organizations and in all military branches.

# Fall 2009 Participants by Council

## **Alamo Area (San Antonio)**

William Beason – Diamond Back  
Taylor Biggs – Two Rivers  
Lloyd Cunningham – Diamond Back  
Eric Johnston – Victory  
Michael Krause – Broken Arrow  
Eric Losensky – Diamond Back  
Joseph McDonough – Victory  
Daniel Ogier – Armadillo  
Benjamin Rath – Sioux/Two Rivers  
Robert Scaletti – Keystone  
Peter Schneider – Sioux/Two Rivers

## **Bay Area (Galveston)**

Ethan Gann – Cradle of Texas  
Henry Lewis – Mustang  
Anderson Morrow – Northern Star

## **Buffalo Trails (Midland)**

Andrew Abbott – Chaparral  
Glendon Minor – Chaparral

## **Capital Area (Austin)**

Memphis DiAngelis – North Shore  
Luke Lossau – Sacred Springs  
Nicholas Rudkin – Bee Cave  
Jonathan VanHoorebeke –  
Sacred Springs  
Brad Weber – Sacred Springs  
Kyle Yates – Blackland Prairie

## **Central North Carolina (North Carolina)**

Andrew Glisson – Cabarrus

## **Circle Ten (Dallas)**

Joshua Bellew – Gray Owl  
Hunter Bertles – Texoma Valley  
Samuel Blount – Tomahawk  
Colin Brasher – Tomahawk  
Brian Bruck – North Trail  
Garrett Crowe – Great Plains  
Drew Davis – North Trail  
Steven Hankins – Southern Sky  
Luke Midkiff – North  
William Sickler – Great Plains  
Spencer Weber – Texoma Valley  
Sean Williams – Texoma Valley  
Eric Womboldt – Southern Sky  
Joshua Womboldt – Southern Sky  
Walker Youngblood – Great Plains

## **Denver Area (Colorado)**

Alexander Besancon – Timberline

## **East Texas (Nacogdoches)**

Peter Fearing – Naconiche  
Joshua Jones – Naconiche  
Kory Lee – Cherokee Trace

## **Golden Spread (Amarillo)**

Michael Ripperger – Golden Eagle  
Tyler Stephens – Golden Eagle

## **Girl Scouts of Central Texas (College Station)**

Sarah Bowman – Bryan/College Station

## **Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma (Oklahoma)**

Mary Matulewicz – Oklahoma

## **Inland Empire (California)**

William Davis – High Desert

## **Istrouma (Louisiana)**

Andrew Jones – Chappelleela

## **Knox-Trail (Massachusetts)**

David Harvey – Tri-River

## **Longhorn (Fort Worth)**

Austin Aguirre – Chisholm Trail  
Chase Brooke – Lakeview  
Stephen Cain – Mustang  
Quinton Dean – Three Rivers  
Elliott Grass – Lakeview  
Alexander Mott – Leon Valley  
Eric Rice – Frontier Trails  
Joel Shillingburg – Chisholm Trail  
Chad Smith – Lakeview  
Bryan Walker – Chisholm Trail  
Adam Warren – Tejas

## **National Capital (Harker Heights)**

James Goode – Patriot

## **Occoneechee (North Carolina)**

William Smith – Falls

## **ORE-IDA (Idaho)**

Christian Duplessie – Capital

## **Rio Grande Valley (McAllen)**

Jonathan Jones – Arroyo

## **Sam Houston (Houston)**

Zachary Bennett – Arrow Moon  
Matthew Blanchard –  
Copperhead  
Ryan Boothe – Flaming Arrow  
Stuart Carley – Texas Sky  
Brett Casserly – Brazos  
Matthew Denney – Copperhead  
Michael Garske – Bayshore

Michael Germain – Tomahawk  
Brock Hammock – Brazos  
Heath Hammock – Brazos  
Kyle Hansen – Texas Sky  
Tyler Hubert – Tomahawk  
Sami Khan – Golden Arrow  
Trent Kirkpatrick – Polaris  
Luke Koenig – Phoenix  
William Krell – Mustang  
Zachariah Kump – Tomahawk  
Tyler Mays – Bayshore  
Sean McDonald – Arrow Moon  
Karl Meeks – Phoenix  
David Minero – Mustang  
Christopher Moore – Raven  
Kevin Moss – Bay Shore  
William Prince – Soaring Eagle  
Michael Richards – Tall Timbers  
Blake Rutledge – Mustang  
Blake Sestak – Phoenix  
Lewis Sherer – Copperhead  
Christopher Story – Tomahawk  
William Strain – Polaris  
John Streckfuss – Phoenix  
Adam Taylor – Skyline  
Andrew Tonini – Copperhead  
Justin Valentine – Brazos  
Thompson Ware – Copperhead  
Jay Welkey – Mustang  
Palmer Wilson – Golden Arrow  
Alex Wolf – Tomahawk  
Jonathan Ybarra – Tomahawk  
Nicholas Yeary – Copperhead

## **San Jacinto (Cypress)**

Victoria Myers – Hummingbird Way

## **Shenandoah Area (Virginia)**

Austin Burdick – Shenrapawa  
Tyler Burdick – Shenrapawa

## **South Texas (Corpus Christi)**

Reno Bradicich – DeLeon  
Frank McMillan – Gulf Breeze

## **Southern Sierra (California)**

Phillip Radon – Meridian  
DJ Taylor – Pathfinder

## **Suffolk County (New York)**

Tyler Krell – Benjamin Tallmadge

## **Texas (Abilene)**

Sean Butler – White Buffalo

## **Three Rivers (Beaumont)**

Gatlin Moncla – Spindletop

# AEP Banquet

LTG (USA, Ret) John Van Alstyne '66, Commandant of the Corps of Cadets, presents scholarships to Eagle Scouts during the Awards Banquet.



If a Corps Scholarship is awarded to a scout who is not a resident of Texas, the recipient may qualify for in-state tuition. This is a tuition reduction of approximately \$30,000 over four years. These scholarships are contingent on the scout being admitted to Texas A&M and joining the Corps of Cadets.

The Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets Association sponsors the AEP Awards Banquet for scouts, family members, cadets and special guests on the Friday evening of the program.

All qualified scouts attending the Aggie Eagle Program will receive a place holder Corps of Cadets scholarship. This scholarship is worth a minimum of \$1,200.00 per year for the first two years, renewable. A much more significant amount could be awarded as we review each Scouts Corps scholarship application. These scholarships do not require military service and they may be used in conjunction with other scholarships.



AEP participants and family members enjoy the Awards Banquet held in their honor.

## DID YOU MISS THE FALL AGGIE EAGLE PROGRAM?

The next Aggie Eagle Program weekend is February 26–27, 2010.

Qualified Scouts may register online at [www.aggiecorps.org](http://www.aggiecorps.org). Click the Aggie Eagle box on the left navigation bar.

If you have any questions you may call Theresa Becka, Ms. Erin Steffey or Mr. Sean Cuevas at **1-800-TAMU-AGS**.



At the conclusion of Friday evening's Awards Banquet, the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band plays *The Aggie War Hymn*.

# Farewell to Mr. Joe G. Bax



Joe has stepped down as Program Director of the Aggie Eagle Program. Joe has been an instrumental part of the program since its inception, and much of the structure of the program is directly related to his efforts. Particularly noteworthy has been his outreach to Councils, and his assistance in establishing the Aggie Eagle Post (composed of Eagle and Gold Award recipients) within the Corps of Cadets. We wish Joe well in his future endeavors, and offer a well earned **THANK YOU** for a job exceedingly well done. You may direct future requests for information on the Aggie Eagle Program to Col. Jon Hall or Mrs. Theresa Becka at 1-800-TAMU-AGS or email [aggiecorps@tamu.edu](mailto:aggiecorps@tamu.edu).

## DID YOU KNOW ...



- ★ Membership in the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets is voluntary.
- ★ Texas A&M University had more graduates recruited by the CIA than any other university in 2007.
- ★ Membership in the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets does not require military service.
- ★ As a member of the Corps you may participate in the Academic Certificate in Leadership Studies Program, which in turn, may be added to your official university transcript.
- ★ Approximately 44% of cadets pursue a military commission while 56% join for the leadership training, academic benefits and camaraderie.
- ★ Texas A&M is the only university west of the Mississippi where you can choose to be commissioned in the Army, Navy, Air Force or Marine Corps.
- ★ The Corps has produced over 250 Flag Officers and one NASA astronaut, Mike Fossum '80
- ★ The Corps has over 1,600 scholarships to offer.
- ★ All freshmen and sophomore cadets are required to study 3 hour per night, Sunday through Thursday during "call to quarters".
- ★ The Corps provides free tutoring through the General O.R. Simpson Corps Honor Society.

The Aggie Eagle Program Newsletter is printed with funding provided by:



**TEXAS AGGIE  
CORPS of CADETS  
ASSOCIATION**

Photographs provided by the Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets Association, SFC Tracy Simpson, Randall Sasaki and Dr. Wayne Smith.

The Boy Scouts of America logo is used with permission by the Sam Houston Area Council.

To become a member of the Corps of Cadets Association, go to [www.corpsofcadets.org](http://www.corpsofcadets.org) or call 1-877-892-4222