

Ethics ♦ Values ♦ Service ♦ Family



MSC ABBOTT FAMILY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



Houston, Texas
March 20th-24th, 2019

HOWDY!

You are invited to join us as we explore together a new adventure into the world of values, morals, ethics, and service. This could be the beginning for an entirely different and dynamic approach to each of our lives. For some, perhaps, this conference will have a dramatic effect on all that we encounter in our lifelong journey. During the past few years, we have witnessed the meltdown that occurs when people with little or no concern for others rise to the top. They have destroyed their companies, their friends, their families, and themselves. Essentially, they appeared to be devoid of a strong ethical value system, and therefore, created chaos in the world.

The overall theme of the MSC Abbott Leadership Conference centers on concepts of morals, values, ethics, and service. The ultimate goal is to help you gain a personal sense of direction, an exciting insight in relationships with others, a greater ability to fulfill your real ambitions, and a greater understanding of what life can be at its very best. When each of us are true to ourselves, we support our value system as it is shared with others, through our own examples. This includes our immediate family, our extended families, our Aggie family, our business and corporate family, and even those people whose lives we touch but may not know.

One of the earliest traditions of Texas A&M is the Aggie Code of Honor: "Aggies do not lie, cheat or steal, nor tolerate those who do." Our personal values will change as we travel the road of life, but it is very important to put the current ones in place, in each and every decision that is made. At the opening of the George Bush Library, former President George Bush reminded everyone to "Remember our values, preserve our integrity, and give our best to all we achieve..." He also told graduates during a graduation ceremony, "There can be no definition of success that does not include serving others... Find a way to get involved..." When now former President George W. Bush was commencement speaker in 2008, he echoed his Dad's words by encouraging graduates to develop a set of principles to live by, to give back to their communities, and to pursue the path of service. United States Secretary of Defense and former Texas A&M President, Robert Gates, who has been a leader by example, stated again in a speech at A&M that a higher level of excellence could be achieved only when we re-kindle a foundation built on ethical behavior and personal integrity. Then again in a commencement speech, he admonished those present with this quote: "No matter what you do achieve, no matter how far you run, your life will be neither truly successful nor complete until it includes significant service to others including public service." When President Barack Obama was on campus he reminded each of us that "Service binds us to each other, to each of our communities, and to our country in a way that nothing else can." Let us remember the challenging words and advice of these American statesmen.

When your values become a focused part of your life, it is easier to defend your decisions and your actions. When your personal sense of direction is based on well-founded values, it then becomes possible to lead others effectively. It gives a freedom of expression and acceptance of others that can lead to personal, family, and employment success. One of our family's favorite definitions of leadership is "the ability to establish and manage a creative climate where people are self-motivated toward the successful achievement of long term constructive goals, in an environment of mutual respect, compatible with personal values."

General Joseph Weber, former Vice President for Student Affairs at Texas A&M, once said, "Always give your very best. When you give all that you have, you demonstrate leadership that is contagious." These words are applicable as you lead at Texas A&M, and each of you should remember this advice as you become the community leaders of tomorrow. When we can focus on truly making personal values our top priority, the impact will be multiplied over and over again. We look forward to your participation in the MSC Abbott Family Leadership Conference and to becoming a part of the Abbott Conference family, as we visit, learn, and share together our ideas and hope for our future. It is our hope that each of you participating in this conference will become exemplary Aggies in leadership positions at Texas A&M. You will be empowered to lead by example and live by your personal values. Your experiences as leaders at Texas A&M University will enable you to carry lifetime leadership skills and values into your roles of leadership in communities, to better equip you to handle family and personal relationships, and to enable you to be supportive of your immediate and extended families.

In the Aggie Spirit,
The Abbott Family

MSC Abbott Family Leadership Conference

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Conference Schedule

Wednesday, March 20th

Attire: Abbott Casual

6:00 PM - Phillips Event Center
6:30 PM - Conference Introduction
6:45 PM - Dinner
7:30 PM - Speaker: Dr. Nathan Harness
8:45 PM - Announcements
9:00 PM - Family Time

Thursday, March 21st

Attire: Abbott Casual

8:00 AM - Family Time
10:15 AM - George Bush Library
10:30 AM - Depart for Houston
1:00 PM - Arrive at Taste of Texas
1:15 PM - Tour
1:45 PM - Lunch
2:40 PM - Speaker: Edd & Nina Hendee
4:00 PM - Arrive at Houston's First Baptist
4:30 PM - Family Roundtables

- The Culverhouse Family
- The Diaz Family
- The Klein Family

6:30 PM - Dinner with Local Families
7:15 PM - Speaker: Warren Barhorst
8:15 PM - Local Family Time
9:50 PM - Arrive at Hotel: Family Time
11:30 PM - Lights Out

Friday, March 22nd

*Attire: Abbott T-Shirt, Jeans,
& Closed Toed Shoes*

6:45 AM - Report Downstairs
7:50 AM - Houston Food Bank
11:00 AM - Lunch
11:45 PM - Arrive at Hotel
Attire: Abbott Casual
12:15 PM - Lunch at Omni Hotel
1:40 PM - Speaker: Dr. Sanghamitra Misra
2:50 PM - Speaker: Andrew Frazelle

4:10 PM - Speaker: Ginger Kerrick
5:15 PM - Depart for Local Family Homes
6:00 PM - Local Family Night
8:30 PM - Bus begins Pick Up
10:00 PM - Arrive at Hotel: Family Time
11:30 PM - Lights Out

Saturday, March 23rd

Attire: Abbott Casual

7:10 AM - Report Downstairs
8:00 AM - Arrive at River Oaks Country Club
8:10 AM - Breakfast
9:05 AM - Speaker: Frank Abbott, Sr.
10:00 AM - Young Professionals Panel #1

- Andrew Abbott
- Kelsey Hammond
- David Lawless

11:00 AM - Young Professionals Panel #2

- Audrey Shakra
- Natasha Paradeshi
- Michael Vaughn

12:05 PM - Lunch
1:30 PM - Arrive at the Forge for Families
1:35 PM - Tour the Fifth Ward
2:45 PM - Speaker: Antoine & Chantel Mack
4:00 PM - Guy/Girl Time
4:45 PM - Depart for Pipkins
5:45 PM - Dinner
6:40 PM - Abbott Family Roundtables
8:30 PM - Arrive at Hotel: Family Time
11:30 PM - Lights Out

Sunday, March 24th

Attire: Abbott Casual

8:15 AM - Breakfast
9:00 AM - Speaker: David Alders
10:00 AM - Speaker: Mary Beth Abbott
10:25 AM - Speaker: Megan (Greer) Tilton
11:00 PM - Depart for College Station
12:45 PM - Arrive at George Bush Library

Our Speakers





Andrew Abbott '14

Andrew strives to live by 12 values: Adventure, Courage, Discipline, Excellence, Faith, Family, Health, Humility, Humor, Integrity, Kindness, and Wisdom.

He loves playing sports (basketball, golf, tennis) when he wins, running when it's short distances, skiing when it's not freezing, traveling when it's not by himself, fishing when the fish are biting, attending NBA games when tickets are free, and reading when it's not Harry Potter. He hates waiting in slow lines, leftovers, and getting speeding tickets.

Andrew is currently a reservoir engineer for EOG Resources, an oil and gas E&P Company and the largest oil producer in the lower 48 states. He attended Texas A&M University where he earned a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering in 2015. His senior year, he was both the Deputy Corps Commander for the Corps of Cadets and was the founding CEO of BUILD. During his 5th year, he won the Gulf Coast Region Student Paper Contest for introducing a new equation into the industry that determines the location of drilling inefficiencies. He spent a month in China and five months in Qatar studying Petroleum Engineering during this time.

After school, Andrew started full time with EOG Resources. He spent a full year doing production engineering in the Texas Panhandle before he was transferred to Eastern Wyoming to be a field completions engineer. He then moved to Denver where he finished his time in completions. He spent the next 4 months living on a drilling rig in Oklahoma before transferring to the OKC office as a Reservoir Engineer. While at EOG, he has spent time working reservoirs in the Mid-Continent and Rocky Mountains. He was the lead reservoir engineer over the Marmaton joint venture program with The Carlyle Group, a D.C. based private equity firm, until January 2019. He now is a reservoir engineer focused on the Woodford asset, EOG's 4th largest play.

He hopes to tell dad jokes to his kids one day.

David R. Alders '85

David Alders graduated with honors in 1985 from Texas A&M University, earning a degree in Agricultural Economics. During his tenure at A&M, he served as Speaker of the Student Senate, the first student representative to the Faculty Senate, a member of the MSC Council, and as Student Body President. Upon his graduation in May 1985, he received the University's highest student award, the Brown Foundation/Earl Rudder Memorial Outstanding Student Award. Upon graduation, David accepted a position with Trammell Crow Company in Dallas where he worked for three years as a leasing agent for the Dallas/Fort Worth retail development partnership. In 1988, he returned to his hometown of Nacogdoches, where he began managing his family's cattle and timberland operations. In 1989, David and his wife Nicole established Carrizo Creek Corporation, a poultry production business. He also owns managing interests in several other businesses in Nacogdoches including Dagwood Timber Company, LP; Principatus Properties, LLC; and Buck Bay Timber, Ltd. David's civic involvement includes serving on the Board of Regents of Stephen F. Austin State University, as a director on the boards of Citizens 1st Bank, New Saint Andrews College, Texas Forestry Association, Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce, Heartbeat Pregnancy Center and Nacogdoches County Farm Bureau, as Vice President of the Pineywoods Groundwater Conservation District, as a member of the Executive Committee of the East Texas Regional Water Planning Group, as a Trustee of the Texas Center for Legal Ethics and as Vice Chairman of the board of Regents Academy, a Classical Christian school in Nacogdoches. He's a former chairman of the board of directors of the Nacogdoches Economic Development Corporation and of Heritage Land Bank Association, was a member of the board of the State Bar of Texas and was a chairman



of the governing board of the Texas Department of Rural Affairs (now part of Texas Department of Agriculture). He was a former member of the boards of directors of the Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Poultry Federation and is a past President of the Texas Broiler Council. David helped found Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in 1998 and serves as an elder. David and his wife, Nicole ('84), have ten children and four grandchildren. His interests include travel and reading, particularly theology, economics and history.



Warren Barhorst '88

CEO, Iscential (*pronounced "ESSENTIAL"*)

Warren Barhorst is the founder and CEO of Iscential, a Texas-based risk management, insurance and financial services firm, as well as the founding partner of Renovo Partners, LLC, a business consulting firm. In addition to his work Warren is the author of *"Game Plan... The Definitive Playbook for Starting or Growing Your Business"*. His second book in the series: *"Game Plan... The Definitive Playbook for Selling in the Connection Culture"* was released in January of 2016. Warren has a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Distribution from Texas A&M University and holds the LUTFC designation. He is a licensed Risk Manager, licensed General Lines Property Casualty Agent, licensed General Lines

Life and Health Agent and a FINRA Series 6, 7, 24, 63 and 65 Registered Representative. Warren is a 19 Year Qualifying Lifetime Member of the prestigious Million Dollar Round Table.

Since 1993, Warren has developed Iscential from a scratch business with no employees, clients or sales to having 100 associates and \$120 million in sales today. It has grown from one location in Jersey Village, Texas to over 20 across the country. Iscential is nationally recognized with the highest accolades from industry and various associations, including the honor of being listed as one of the "Best Places to Work" by *Texas Monthly* magazine and the *Houston Business Journal* as well as one of the "Best and Brightest Companies to Work For" by the National Association for Business Resources. The company is frequently featured on *Inc. Magazine's* 5000 fastest growing private companies list and Warren was honored to receive Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year award for the Houston Gulf Coast area in Business Services. Iscential was featured on the cover of the June 2012 issue of *Smart Business* magazine with an article titled "E is for Enthusiasm" on how the firm's core values have driven its success. Wonderlic, an employment assessment company had Warren at the top of their 2014 Most Engaging Leader list. In late 2013, the University of Houston presented Warren an honorary diploma for Excellence in Mentoring.

"Renovo" is Latin for Renew or Revitalize. The firm specializes in helping entities realign their strategic end game by getting clients to focus on their customers and employees. Renovo helps companies define their purpose and deliver on their promise, creating a passion for the company's performance. Renovo's approach, utilizing research, validation, feedback and implementation in a continuous cycle with insight from universities, business and associations has created a successful, field tested process. Renovo is a trusted advisor to several Fortune 500 companies, banks, state governments, business owners and entrepreneurs across the United States.

Warren is involved in supporting the community through non-profits and education. He volunteers his time to Texas A&M University by serving as a Past President and Past Chairman of Jackie Sherrill's 12th Man Kickoff Team Foundation, a Member of the Texas A&M Foundation Legacy Society, a member of the Texas A&M Medical School's Rapport Society, as well as a past 10-year member of the University's Industrial Distribution Degree Industry Advisory Board and current member of Texas A&M University's May Business School Advisory Board. He also serves as a Mentor for the University of Houston's Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship. Warren's passion for financial literacy and business success often has him presenting from coast to coast, in 4th-grade classrooms and executive boardrooms. He is driven to educate others on how to make wise choices that will positively impact their personal and business financial future.

Jason & Jennifer Culverhouse

Jason and Jennifer met at Burger King in Lindale, TX in 1992. It was the end of Jason's senior year and love at first sight! They were inseparable Winona High School sweethearts from that point on and were married in 1994. Jason began college and served at a couple of small churches as a student minister while Jennifer started beauty school. Just when things settled in the two found themselves with a baby due in September of 1995. Starting a family young was never a regret. Even at 19 and 21 years old, with very little income and an unclear direction for the future, life was beautiful. Jennifer's career launched after graduating from beauty school. She had always been driven, disciplined and business minded.



After 10 years in ministry Jason found himself burned out and directionless. The career juggle began: ministry, cable installer, professional painter, lawn care, sous chef at a country club, and finally a drilling fluids engineer for Baker Hughes Inteq. By this point Jason found himself continuously on the road in the oil field away from his family. Jennifer had a successful salon business in her salon career and suggested that Jason go to beauty school and the two launch a salon together as a family. What sounded crazy at first began to make sense and in 2006 Jason graduated from beauty school and the two opened UrbanEve the Salon in Lake Jackson, TX. Two more kids and 12 years later Jason and Jennifer own 4 companies: UrbanEve the Salon, BleuRoots Salon, MicahBleuBeth Property Group, and BK92 a Salon holding company (BK92 is short for Burger King 1992). In 2014, after 7 years of international mission work, Jason and Jennifer formed FreeRoots. FreeRoots is a non-profit organization that trains girls rescued from sex trafficking in the skill of hair styling so that they might escape slavery, find dignity and create a life for themselves. FreeRoots work began in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and currently operates in Mumbai, India and Houston, TX. Needless to say, the time spent internationally has been some of the most meaningful life experience for them to date. Employing 70+ amazing staff, traveling to work with victims of sex trafficking internationally, and loving life with their now 17 and 19-year-old sons, and 23-year-old daughter is truly an undeserved blessing. Jason and Jennifer agree on the main method of operation for living out a 25 year marriage, owning a company or being on a mission. Hold your "stuff" loosely in your hands, pour into others, and if God is in it...jump then trust that He will give you wings on the way down.



Ed & Diana Diaz

While neither was born in Houston, he in Havana, Cuba and she in the even more exotic Franklin, Louisiana, both their families moved to Houston, and Ed and Diana met in 1979 as Juniors at Houston's Westchester High School. They've been together ever since.

After attending THE University of Texas in Austin together where she graduated as President of her class with a degree in Accounting and he with Highest Honors in Zoology on the Premed track, they moved back to Houston and were married in the summer of 1985. He started medical school at Baylor College of Medicine, and she was hired by what was then one of the "Big Eight" accounting firms, Deloitte Haskins & Sells.

Diana passed her CPA and, after working at that firm for 12 years, was hired by a large local energy company. She decided to return to school to get her MBA which she completed in 2004 at Rice's Jones School of Business. With her experience and education, she was hired first by Memorial Hermann and is now the CFO of Sharps Compliance. Sharps is a Houston-based public micro-cap company specializing in innovative ways to handle medical waste.

After completing medical school, Ed completed his residency in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at The University of Texas Health Sciences Center in Houston, and then a Fellowship in Head and Neck Surgical Oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Center. While it had always been his plan to join his father in private practice in Houston, he was offered a position at MD Anderson upon completion of his Fellowship in 1995, and Dr. Diaz is now a Professor and Surgeon of Head and

Neck Surgical Oncology. In addition to maintaining a busy clinical practice, Ed has also assumed numerous administrative roles within MD Anderson including Vice President of Clinical Development of MD Anderson's Cancer Network through which he was instrumental in developing numerous affiliate programs in the United States and throughout the world. However, having spent a significant amount of time over a ten year period travelling throughout the world in his capacity as Vice President of Development, Ed chose to curtail his time away from home and spend more time in his first true vocation, head and neck surgical oncology. He thus stepped down as Vice President in 2015 in order to focus on his practice and expand the Houston network. Dr. Diaz is the author of several important papers and book chapters in several areas within the field of head and neck surgical oncology, and has contributed several important insights into the conservation management of laryngeal cancer. He's also served in numerous leadership capacities for the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. Dr. Diaz has been consistently recognized as one of the Best Doctors in America, an America's Top Doctor, Top Doctor for Cancer, and a Texas Super Doctor. Ed and Diana remain anchored in Houston close to an extensive network of family and friends. Together, they've raised two children. Melanie Mac, a graduate of THE University of Texas' Business Honors Program, currently works for the Boston Consulting Group but will start her MBA at Harvard Business School in the fall. Edward Michael, "Boomer," recently graduated from Texas A&M and is now completing his first year at McGovern Medical School in Houston where he is also pursuing an MBA. Boomer married Hannah Catherine in August of 2018. They met at TAMU as undergraduates, and Hannah is now a critical care nurse at MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Andrew Frazelle '80

Andy Frazelle grew up in San Antonio, graduated from Highlands High School in 1975, attended San Antonio Jr College for two years and then went on to Texas A&M and graduated in 1980 with a degree in Petroleum Engineering. He has been married to Monika for +25 years and have two great daughters, Emily (24) and Suzy (21), both of whom are Aggies. Andrew started his career with Kerr McGee in Morgan City, La and after 3 years went to work for Amoco International, that then merged with BP. He spent over 20 years of his career working internationally; living in Indonesia, China, Norway, Colombian, Azerbaijan and rotated to 11 other countries around the world. Probably his most unique experience was drilling a well on the island of Madagascar.



He started his career as a Drilling Engineer and enjoyed the challenges of working at the wellsite so much that he continued working offshore as a Wellsite Leader for 10 years before moving into onshore leadership roles that included Wells Superintendent and Wells Operations Manager. Andy was heavily involved in the Deepwater Horizon accident response and spent the last 8 years working in a central role, primarily accountable for BP's Well Control teams and Operations. He enjoys all outdoor activities, including golf, fishing, hunting and walking the family yellow lab, Barley. He recently retired after more than 35 years with BP.



Kelsey Hammond '15

Kelsey was born in Houston, Texas and graduated from Texas A&M in 2015 with degrees in Business Honors and Finance and minors in International Business and Spanish. While at A&M Kelsey was heavily involved in student organizations, predominantly in the business school, and spent her summers studying abroad in Spain and Chile. Following graduation, Kelsey spent three months at KIPP Houston, a national non-profit charter school, in the Strategy and Innovations group where she focused on school growth strategy, data analytics/visualization, and test score target setting. After a quick but enlightening stint at KIPP Houston, Kelsey started full-time in PwC's Management Consulting group.

Kelsey's first year of consulting was spent in Houston as she supported oil and gas clients through a difficult downturn. Kelsey then switched industries to focus on Technology and Media companies where she has invested her time for the past 3 years. Kelsey is specifically focused on customer engagement, user experience and consumer marketing for clients like AT&T, Verizon, Apple, Sprint, Comcast and Google. Kelsey has recently received internal funding from PwC to pursue a startup idea regarding the next generation of streaming. Her team is currently road-showing the concept with clients and Kelsey is presenting 'The Millennial Perspective on Advertising'. Kelsey is also pursuing an independent app idea related to Travel and Social Media.

Kelsey's hobbies include hiking, traveling, scuba diving, reading, enjoying great meals, and learning about world religions. She is actively involved in her church, Bayou City Fellowship, and Houston Welcomes Refugees, an organization that helps assimilate and welcome refugee families settling in Houston.

Dr. Nathan Harness

Dr. Nathan Harness currently serves as the Director of Financial Planning at Texas A&M University. He manages the financial planning program and teaches a multitude of courses. He has lectured both nationally and internationally on global financial risk, international investing, gender-based asset preferences, and next generation planning. He holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Central Arkansas, a master's degree in finance from Texas Tech University, and a Ph.D. in personal financial planning from Texas Tech University. He was most recently recognized by Investment News as a top 40 Under 40 financial planner and Young Guns award winner from Texas Tech University.



Dr. Harness has a passion for students and personal development that extends beyond the scope of the classroom. Outside of his work at the university, the primary passion for Dr. Harness is his family. He has three kids, Harrison (5), Sophia (3), and Thatcher (1). His beautiful wife Caitlin is the definition of nurturing, as she spends her time invested with the kids. Dr. Harness learned early on that empathy is often earned rather than learned. A series of events through his formative years have helped him to see purpose in pain throughout a journey of self-awareness.



Edd & Nina Hendee

Nina Hendee is a native Texan with a passion for the history of our great state. She was born in Dallas, and developed her love of Texas history at a young age. Edd attended the University of Houston and grew up in the Bellaire area. His restaurant career began at a young age. Edd was a manager with the Steak 'n Ale restaurant chain where he met and married Nina. Declining a move with Steak 'n Ale away from Texas, they made the jump as independent restaurant owners.

Edd Hendee and his wife, Nina, own and operate the Taste of Texas in Houston, which they began in 1977. The restaurant has gained local and national acclaim for exceptional food and impeccable service. In 1984, with America's corporate downsizing and the fall in the oil industry, the restaurant needed a new concept for survival. The Hendees embraced the Certified Angus Beef ® brand and doubled sales in three years. In 1991, they constructed their own building, leading to a 300-seat hotspot and fame as the top volume independent restaurant for Certified Angus Beef ® middle meats in the world. The Taste of Texas employs over 200 young people and values the development of their leadership skills. Students are encouraged in their academic endeavors by flexible scheduling; grade bonuses of up to \$400 a semester, and a strong commitment to excellence.

Nina started her speaking career with area school children sharing her love of Texas and its rich history. Approximately 13,000 Houston area students look forward to the Taste of Texas field trip each school year where they hear great tales of our Texas forefathers, tour the restaurant, and enjoy a lunch, compliments of the owners. Nina is now sharing her love of Texas history with 2nd generation students whose parents came as 4th graders! An active member of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's Speakers Committee, Nina has won the coveted "Mega-Mouth" Award. She has been involved with the HLSR for over 20 years. She and her husband Edd enjoy traveling and cycling. While staying very active in politics, the restaurant business, numerous charities and Second Baptist Church of Houston, Nina and her husband Edd find their greatest joy in their children, Lisa and husband Chris Blackard and granddaughters Hannah and Elizabeth, Kristin and husband Corbin Blackford, and their daughter in law, Claudine and her husband David Hartland, grandchildren, Campbell, Hudson, and Reagan and Sam & Conrad Hartland.

Natasha Paradeshi

Natasha Paradeshi serves as the Executive Director/Co-founder of The Landing, Houston's first drop-in center for survivors of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. She believes that this model helps increase trust with survivors, giving them greater access and hope for freedom. She is responsible for strategy direction, development implementation, program oversight, and community engagement. Over the past 8 years, she has been passionate about creatively filling needs and forming strategic partnerships so that more survivors can get access to the services they need. She and her husband also have a company, Solace Media, which specializes in graphic design, videography, photography and animation. Natasha graduated from the University of Southern California with a Masters of Public Policy degree and from the University of Texas with a Bachelor of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Liberal Arts. She enjoys spending time with her husband, Sunny, and baby boy.



Ginger Kerrick

Ginger Kerrick was born and raised in El Paso, Texas. Ginger attended Texas Tech University. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in physics in 1991 and a Master's Degree in physics in 1993. In 2004, she was named a distinguished alumna by Texas Tech University, was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame in 2016 by Governor Abbott, and was appointed by Governor Abbott to serve on the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents in 2019.

Ginger began working for NASA as a summer intern in 1991, and started her first permanent assignment at Johnson Space Center in May of 1994 as a Materials Research Engineer. In September 1995, she was reassigned to the Mission Operations Directorate as an instructor for the International Space Station Environmental and Life

Support System. Her responsibilities included training development, simulator development, and training conduct for both crew and flight controllers.

Through many years of dedicated service and various positions at NASA, Ginger was selected as a Flight Director in February 2005. This selection made her the first female Hispanic Flight Director in the history of NASA. After leading numerous International Space Station (ISS) and Shuttle missions, Ginger ended her Flight Director career in 2012 and transitioned into a management role as Assistant Director for the ISS for the Flight Operations Directorate (FOD). In August of 2016, after 4 years as Assistant Director, Ginger was named as the Division Chief of the Flight Integration Division in FOD.

In her personal time, she is an avid runner, completing numerous full and half marathons. She also decorates cakes and works as a volunteer coordinator for Triumphant Tails, Inc., an all-breed dog rescue organization that helps find homes for the homeless dogs in the Houston area.

Steve & Mary Klein

Steve and Mary met at a church in Houston and have been married for 29 years. Steve is a native Houstonian, and Mary is originally from Lafayette, Louisiana. Steve and Mary have been blessed with four children - David, Anna, Catherine, and Kaylynn. Steve attended Stephen F. Austin and now owns and runs a family business his father started in 1959 in the automotive industry. Mary is a graduate of Baylor (B.S) and worked as a registered dietitian prior to having their first child. Mary has been a homemaker for twenty-eight years and believes it's a privilege to be able to stay home and be actively involved in her children's lives.



The Klein's had their first two children biologically, and then, after several years of secondary infertility, they felt the Lord's leading to adoption. Catherine, their third child, is from an orphanage in St. Petersburg, Russia, and Kaylynn, their youngest, is from an orphanage in Guangdong, China. The Klein's are passionate about adoption and helping families walk the adoption journey. They were blessed to help start and lead the adoption and foster ministry at Houston's First Baptist called Legacy685 based on Psalms 68:5-6 – "A father to the fatherless, a protector of the widow, is God in His Holy habitation. God sets the lonely in families." On November 2, 2016, their lives were suddenly changed forever when their oldest daughter, Anna, went home to be with the Lord after a tragic horse riding accident. Even as they navigate the difficult waters of grieving their daughter's death, they are incredibly grateful for the twenty-four years that they were able to have with Anna. Since Anna's passing and a decision that was made at her bedside to donate her organs and corneas, the Klein's have experienced many open doors and are reminded of what Anna used to always tell them, "Our disappointments are God's divine appointments."



David Lawless '13

David was born in Brownsville, Texas and spent most of his childhood in McAllen, Texas. He is the child of a banker and a non-profit grant writer and because of this, the values of financial wisdom and serving others were deeply ingrained in him from a young age. He followed his older sister, Katie, to Texas A&M where he received his Bachelors and Masters degrees and CPA certification through the Professional Program in Accounting. At Texas A&M, he participated in Fish Camp and Business Student Council but spent much of

his time working outside of College Station at Laity Lodge, a Christian youth camp in Leakey, Texas. Over three summers, he served first as a counselor then as the camp director for the younger children's camp. It was through working at this camp that he met his beautiful wife, Morgan, and were blessed with their first child, Olivia, in January 2019.

After graduating from Texas A&M in 2013, he moved to Dallas to work with KPMG in their auditing division. He worked in their financial services group on real estate firms, sports teams, and investment banks. After two years at KPMG, he accepted a financial planning position at Ronald Blue Trust in Houston. Ronald Blue Trust provides wealth management strategies and trust services based on Biblical principles with one goal: to empower their clients to make wise financial decisions, live generously, and leave a lasting legacy. He now works in their Private Wealth division. Through Ronald Blue, David also helps teach a financial literacy course to single mothers at Gracewood, a local Houston non-profit serving single mothers in crisis, and spends time counseling young professionals on starting off their career with a healthy set of good financial principles.

In Houston, David has become involved with HOPE International, a Christian microfinance organization, where he serves on their Houston Board. HOPE provides discipleship opportunities, training, a safe place to save money, and loans for low-income families. Through these four avenues, HOPE helps families use their God-given talents and skills to provide for their families. David's hobbies currently include playing basketball, reading, cooking, and spending time with his wife. His hobbies also now include staring at his baby, changing diapers, carrying his baby, and spending time with his wife.

Chantel & Antoine Mack

Antoine and Chantel Mack met 18 years ago at Kids Across America, a Christian sports camp for inner city youth. While there, they led several teams of college students and created fun programs in a safe environment for over 200 kids per week. As Directors of KAA 1, Antoine and Chantel developed staff training manuals, measurable core values and organizational structures that made their staff more effective in serving youth from across the U.S.

Antoine and Chantel are proud parents to Asa (age 8), Avery (age 7). In 2013, the Mack family moved to Houston, Texas and have enjoyed navigating the city. Antoine is the founder of Maono Concepts, a non-profit that offers anti-bullying, and self-awareness assemblies/seminars for public schools. He is also a contracted data scientist.

Chantel serves as the After-School Director at The Forge for Families. The Mack family also works with Apartment Life hosting events and building community. More than anything else they do, Antoine and Chantel seek to raise children that can be launched into the world as leaders, game changers and heroes. The Mack family enjoys playing instruments, participating in sports and relaxing together as a family. When mom and dad get a rare moment alone they enjoy reading, developing personal skills and watching old episodes of Martin or Family Matters. Their motto in life is "No jerks allowed! You can't lead if no one wants to follow you!"



Dr. Sanghamitra Misra

Dr. Sanghamitra Misra is a pediatrician with a focus in underserved care and integrative medicine. She completed her undergraduate education from the University of Texas at Austin and received her medical degree from the Texas A&M Health Sciences Center College of Medicine. She completed her pediatrics residency from Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital. Dr. Misra is board certified in pediatrics and integrative and holistic medicine.

She is the medical director of the Texas Children's Mobile Clinic Program which provides comprehensive healthcare to underserved children all over the Houston area. The four mobile clinics provide children with comprehensive medical and behavioral health care. Dr. Misra engages in community outreach and research related to immunizations and refugee healthcare. She is the chair of the Texas chapter of the Mobile Healthcare Association. Dr. Misra is also the medical director of the Integrative Medicine Program at Texas Children's Hospital. Through this program, she coordinates therapies such as acupuncture, clinical hypnotherapy and music therapy to help hospitalized children with pain, discomfort and nausea.

Dr. Misra performs research and has created curricula on integrative medicine education for medical students and residents at Baylor College of Medicine. She is an elected member of the executive committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Integrative Medicine and the Co-chair of the Academic Pediatric Association Section on Integrative Pediatrics. She is a published author including a book, book chapter, and numerous research articles. She has spoken at regional and national conferences on topics such as mobile clinics, special diets and supplements, and integrative

and holistic medicine. Her training in integrative medicine has prepared her to create workshops on physician and trainee wellness which she enjoys leading at BCM, regionally, and nationally. In 2018, Dr. Misra was selected to participate in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars leadership development program. The prestigious three year program is designed to equip leaders across the country—in every sector and field—to collaborate, break down silos, and use their influence to make communities healthier and more equitable. Through this program, Dr. Misra received grant funding for a project titled: "BRIDGE UM! Bridging Borders in Houston: Strengthening community partnerships to support mental health needs among vulnerable immigrant children." Dr. Misra is the immediate past chair of the Board of Directors of a grassroots advocacy organization known as Doctors for Change. She is a daughter, wife, and mother of three. She loves singing, dancing, chanting, cycling, and playing with her kids.



Audrey Shakra

Audrey Shakra is a native Houstonian who spent much of her childhood overseas. She is a graduate of the University of Texas and former YoungLife leader and Laity Lodge Youth Camp counselor. Subsequently, she graduated from Texas Tech University School of Law and moved to Washington, DC to start her legal career. In a land of lobbying, government employees, and public policy she was one of few attorneys who practiced traditional corporate law. Since relocating back to Houston, she's ironically now one of few attorneys focused on education law. Most recently, Audrey's practice has been focused on education policy implementation and development. Outside of work, Audrey is actively involved in her church. If she wasn't practicing law,

she would likely be a comedy writer and improv performer.

Michael Vaughan '17

Michael was born in Houston, joining his two older brothers, Matt and Blake. The Vaughan family spent 4 years in London from 1998–2002 thanks to the energy industry, and they have been based back in Houston since. Despite growing up with a lot of burnt orange and a love for Vince Young, he followed his brothers to College Station and became an Aggie in 2013. At A&M, he studied Business while minoring in History and Religious Studies. He much preferred his time on main campus to his time at Wehner High. He was a member of the Brotherhood of Christian Aggies for 3 years, and was involved at Declaration Church. His greatest achievement of college was undoubtedly convincing such high caliber people to be his friends.



Upon graduating in May 2017, Michael shifted his plans and began working towards becoming a teacher. In December 2017, he completed an ESL (English as a Second Language) teaching certification in Oxford, England (it's a long story). Currently, he teaches World Geography and World History to ESL students at Stratford High School in Houston. His students represent 10 countries and 6 languages, and are all immigrants or refugees. He loves learning alongside them, and is grateful to be around people with such diverse experiences from his own.

Outside of school, he enjoys engaging with the international community in Houston, being a member of Grace Bible Church, hanging out with his brothers, getting mostly let down by Houston sports teams (thank you Astros), reading, learning about other cultures, and competing with Blake to be the best uncle to Matt's dog, Myles. Among his more important passions are reconciliation – the restoring of broken relationships – and seeing all peoples have an opportunity to hear the truth about Jesus.

Pages not available in the online edition.

Our Delegates



Houston Delegates 2018-2019



Abigail Hardy '20
Brandon Legband '20
Brooks Ragsdale '20
Catherine Heldenfels '20
Chadwick Gonsalvez '20
Claire Green '20
Collin McGovern '21
Dannie Hoving '21
David Brookins '21
Elizabeth Kraft '21
Emily Jackson '20
Erin Hoelscher '21
Haley Mearns '21
Hannah McQueen '21
Hayden Laukoter '20
Jacob Page '21
Jake Traylor '21
Jimmie Fields '21
John Bryson McLaughlin '21
John Clayton '20

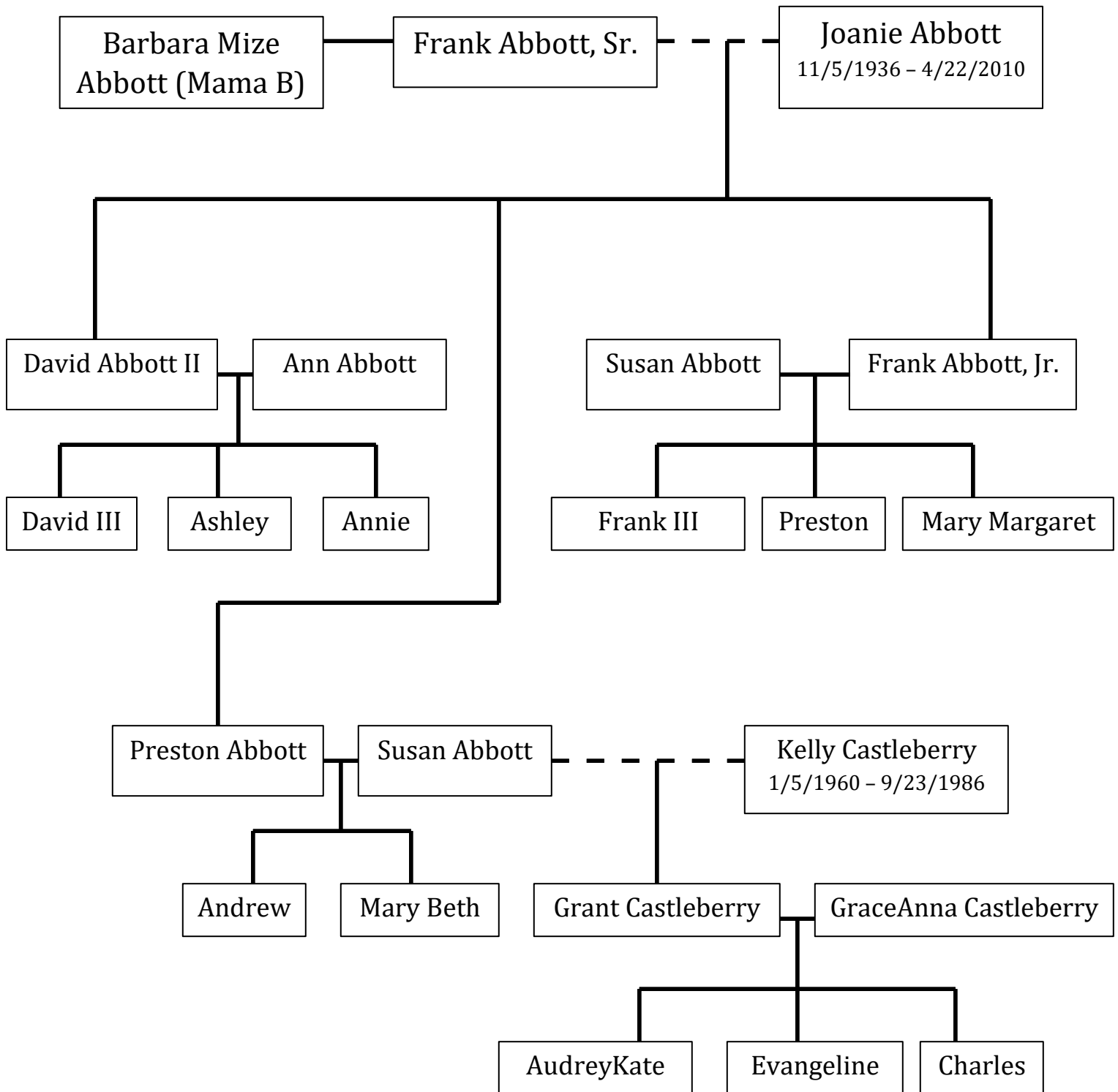
John Gressett '20
Josh Mathew '20
Juan Cardenas '20
Karissa VanCleave '21
Katie Morris '21
Kendall Goss '20
Kimberly Cobb '20
Kyle Barton '20
Kylie Harris '21
Lauren Hancock '20
Lauren Skrobarczyk '20
Lauren Steines '20
MacKenzie Cruse '20
Mallory Kappel '21
Megan Lott '20
Michael Sporkin '21
Noah Vaughn '21
Rebecca Davidson '21
Ryan Storch '21
Trey Watson '20

Pages not available in the online edition.

The Abbotts



ABBOTT FAMILY TREE



Honoring Joanie Abbott

November 5, 1936 – April 22, 2010



Just a few days before Joanie died she wrote a note to one of her closest friends and at the end of that note she included a quote from Mother Theresa, “We do not do great things, only small things with great love.” It is with this spirit that Joanie lived her life and left the legacy that continues to this day.

In 1994, Joanie and Frank Abbott endowed and committed to personally participate in a conference that would meet the needs of sophomores and juniors at Texas A&M, helping them to think about their ethics and values as they relate to their community and family. For those who were fortunate to have known Joanie, they would certainly remember her infectious smile and those glistening eyes as she lovingly shared encouragement and wisdom. They would remember that she was often seen delivering beautiful bouquets of her roses to loved ones. They would remember her timely and heartfelt handwritten notes of gratitude. They would remember that at the end of each conference she would always tell

the directors and delegates that they had become a part of her family, and indeed they had. Through the Abbott Family Leadership Conference, Joanie and Frank have been able to help countless students affirm or establish their value system and make wise choices based on it.

Joanie was born in Speedway, Indiana and spent her childhood there. She attended Purdue University and studied Textile Chemistry. She excelled in her studies and was elected to Mortar Board. She was an active member of Pi Beta Phi sorority and was a member of one of the first synchronized swimming teams. Frank and Joanie met in June of 1956 and were married in June of 1957. They shared 54 wonderful years of marriage together. Through easy and difficult times, they remained devoted to each other, which became a legacy to be passed down to their children and grandchildren.

Although she could have pursued a very successful career as a textile chemist, she chose instead to become what she affectionately called a “domestic engineer.” In 1960, David was her first born, followed by Preston in 1962 and Frank Jr. in 1963. They would be carefully and lovingly guided through their formative years as Joanie would stay involved in their education, church, scouting and extra-curricular activities. She made it her mission to always “be there” for them.

As the boys pursued their college educations, Joanie actively supported their dreams and aspirations at Trinity University and then at Texas A&M. While not a former student, she was a tried and true Aggie. Her joyful dedication to the students and university, in partnership with Frank, was recognized when Texas A&M selected them as the 1987-1988 Parents of the Year. She and Frank treasured the countless opportunities they had to interact with their new Aggie family. It was through this appreciation for what had been given to them that they desired to give something back to Texas A&M...and this is when the seed for the Abbott Family Leadership conference was planted.

Joanie lived her life to the fullest and anticipated each new day and the opportunities it held to...”do small things with great love.”

Frank and Barbara Abbott



First, let us welcome you to the conference. As many of you know, both of us lost our first spouse after long bouts with cancer. In May of 2011, we were married, surrounded by close friends and family—That made it a fairly good size affair. You need to know that you can feel free to ask either or both of us anything you wish about our past or present. Our former spouses are an integral part of who we are.

Frank was born and raised (as an only child) in Indianapolis, Indiana. All of his schooling was in his hometown - including Butler University. Immediately after graduation, Joanie and he were married and moved to

Houston, Texas. After six years there, we came to the Piney Woods of East Texas. We were only supposed to be here 6 months. That was over 50 years ago.

Mama B, on the other hand, was born in East Texas as the second youngest of nine children. Her circumstances prevented her from continuing her education beyond high school. She married K.T. Mize, and they had three sons. Later, they adopted a daughter from Korea. In turn, their daughter Jennifer and her husband Dave adopted their son from Korea. K.T. lost his battle with an awful cancer in 2008. Joanie died in 2010 after a valiant struggle with ovarian cancer.

We were married on May 21, 2011. While we come from entirely different backgrounds, we have a common faith and a desire to have a “Significant” life. Neither time nor space, will allow an extended resume of our lives. With seven children, twenty grandchildren, two great granddaughters, and a great grandson, you really don’t want to hear it all anyway. Susan and Preston will gladly talk about their grandchildren.

We both love God’s creation, are very active in our church, love to travel, love to cook, enjoy entertaining, and working in our yard. Mama B retired in November of last year from the Longview Lawn and Garden Equipment company she and KT founded—that’s where we met. Frank is RETIRED ---when he gets the urge to work, he lays down until the urge goes away.

Let it suffice to say, we both know God has greatly blessed our lives. We hope that maybe some of you will glean something from this conference that will enrich your life. You will definitely enrich ours.

Frank and Mama B

David and Ann Abbott

David Abbott is the oldest son of Frank and Joanie. David graduated from Trinity University in 1982 with a BS degree in Business and is a CPA. After living in Denver, Phoenix and Los Angeles, David and Ann now reside in Frisco, TX. David has been in the homebuilding business for over twenty-five years and is the Chief Financial Officer for Grand Homes, a Dallas based semi-custom homebuilder. He is married to Ann Abbott.

Ann graduated from Colorado State University in 1988 and received a Masters Degree from the University of Denver in 1992. She also is credentialed to work with developmentally disabled children and is a substitute teacher for Frisco Independent School district working in elementary, middle school, and special needs classes. Prior to moving to Texas, Ann also worked as a substitute teacher in California, Colorado and Arizona.

David and Ann have three children: David, Ashley, and Annie. David is a senior at The University of Texas, is a saxophone section leader for the Longhorn Marching Band, and is the Vice President of Finance for Kappa Kappa Psi, which is a band service organization. He will complete his degree in chemical engineering in December of 2018 and has committed to working for Texas Instruments upon graduation. David is an avid sports enthusiast, and if you follow him on Twitter you will find his many posts about football, basketball and hockey. Ashley is a junior at Baylor, studying business, finance, and accounting. Annie is a senior at Wakeland High School and is exploring her college options, potentially in the field of nursing. David and Ann participate in numerous activities to support their local school programs. In addition to their support of the MSC Abbott Family Leadership Conference, they actively support Sky Ranch and scholarship programs at Trinity University, Colorado State University, and the University of Texas.



Preston '84 and Susan '83 Abbott



Preston, Class of 1984, graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in Petroleum Engineering. He was a member of the Corps of Cadets and served as Corps Commander. Upon graduation, he was commissioned to active duty in the United States Marine Corps as an artillery officer for four years. Since then, he has been employed as a petroleum engineer. After working twelve years in Dallas for an independent oil and gas company, he moved the family to Houston to work as a production engineer for BP America. In July 2005 he transferred to Midland to be the Field Engineering Manager for BP's Permian Asset. BP transferred him back to Houston in 2010 to lead a team of subsurface engineers who work special projects in all of the various North America assets. In June

2013 he took on a Production Manager role overseeing the technical staff that support onshore US production, and in 2014 became the General Manager for BP's interest in East Texas. He retired from BP in December 2014, and now works for EP Energy as a Production Manager.

Preston is married to the former Susan Myers Castleberry. Susan, Class of 1983, graduated from Texas A&M University with an Elementary Education degree. While at A&M, she was a charter member and officer of the Tri Delta sorority. Her first husband, Kelly Castleberry, Class of 1982 and also a Corps Commander at A&M, was killed in 1986 while serving on active duty in the United States Marine Corps. Preston and Susan have been married for 27 years. They serve as a mentor couple for a Young Married class at Houston's First Baptist Church, work 2-on-2 with couples who are enrolled in the church's pre-marriage counseling program, and are certified Prepare/Enrich counselors. Susan loves her roles as wife, mom, and Grandma Lulu. She also enjoys cooking, reading, and spending time with friends and extended family.

Preston and Susan have three children, Grant, Andrew, and Mary Beth. Grant Castleberry, Class of 2007, majored in Agricultural Leadership and Development, was a proud member of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets, and served as the Head Yell Leader his senior year. In May 2007, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. His first tour of duty was in Iwakuni, Japan as an Air Traffic Control Officer, with numerous deployments across the Pacific. In August 2009 Grant married the former GraceAnna Broggi of Beaufort, South Carolina. He finished his tour in the Marine Corps as a Series Commander in Parris Island, South Carolina, where he supervised the Drill Instructors who trained new Marine recruits. After a year serving as a pastoral intern for his father-in-law in Beaufort, he enrolled in Southern Baptist Seminary to prepare for his pastoral ministry and is working on a Doctorate in Theology. In July 2018, Grant accepted a position as Pastor of Discipleship at Providence Church in Frisco, Texas. Grant and GraceAnna have three children, AudreyKate, Evangeline, and Charles. Andrew, Class of 2014, was in Squadron 17 in the Fightin' Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets, served on Corps Staff as the Deputy Corps Commander, was a member of Aggie Men's Club, served as a Maroon Coat and was the first leader of "BUILD" in 2013. He graduated with a degree in Petroleum Engineering and is working for EOG Resources in Oklahoma City. Prior to attending Texas A&M, he was involved in Scouts and like Grant earned the rank of Eagle Scout, completing four generations of Eagle Scouts in the family. Mary Beth, Class of 2019 is majoring in Communication with a minor in Horticulture. She is a member of Tri Delta, served as a Fish Aide on Muster Committee, and attended Gilbert Leadership Conference. She worked part time at The Association of Former Students for a year, and attends Grace Creekside Bible Church where she enjoys working in their nursery twice a month. She spent several summers doing mission work with orphans in China and Zambia, and most recently worked for Calloway's Nursery in Frisco last summer.

Name: Preston Abbott '84
Hometown: Houston, Texas
Degree: BSc in Petroleum Engineering

What is your favorite childhood memory?

Our family hunting trip to the Preston G. Northrup Ranch in Pipe Creek, Texas every year between Christmas and New Year. It's still my favorite place on the face of the earth and an amazing part of God's creation.

What have you learned about yourself while at A&M?

I'm trained to be and think like an engineer, but what I really love is leading people, helping them to realize their potential and accomplish things beyond what they previously thought possible.

If you could travel a foreign country by rail, river, or highway, which country and mode of transportation would you choose and why?

I've been to lots of great places across most of the United States and around the world, but I most enjoy being home in Texas. It's the best of the best.

In a dozen words or less, what is your chief goal in life?

To glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

What is an interesting fact about you that no one would suspect?

My son's father was my grandpa.

If you could be any item in your refrigerator, what would you be and why?

The light, because it lets us see some of the good things in life. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

In your opinion, what is the best invention ever?

The wheel, with electricity being a close second.

If you could have lunch with a famous person (living or dead) who would it be and why?

Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior, ... and I really do believe that I will get to dine with Him in Heaven someday. I'm looking forward to that, which gives me lots of reason to live this life well. He'll hold me to account.

What is the most beautiful or meaningful gift you have ever received?

My wedding band from Susan, which symbolizes our covenant with each other and the permanency of our relationship for as long as we both shall live. And, it reminds me that Susan is a gift from God to me to take care of for Him.

In your opinion, what is the most important quality for a leader to possess?

Integrity and Loyalty are commonly thought most important, but it's actually these character traits along with 12 others plus 11 principles of how to treat people that enable a person to be an effective leader. These are codified in the United States Marine Corps Leadership Traits and Principles.

What do you want to be doing by the age of thirty?

Fortunately I'm already way past that age, but I can tell you that everything is better after fifty.

What are you involved in?

Marriage to Susan, ~~Raising children~~ Advising our sons and daughter, Working in the oil and gas industry, Mentoring young married couples at Houston's First Baptist, Leading two-on-two pre-marriage counseling with young engaged couples, Helping with the family tree farm, AFLC, ... anything that has an opportunity to impact the next two generations.

Name: Susan Abbott '83
Hometown: Katy, TX
Major: Elementary Education

What is your favorite childhood memory?

Vacationing with family in Northern Wisconsin and Central Louisiana.

What have you learned about yourself while at A&M?

I learned that diligent application of time and effort produces positive results.

If you could travel a foreign country by rail, river, or highway, which country and mode of transportation would you choose and why?

I would travel by highway through England/Scotland. I love the history and the scenery. I would want the freedom to stop or take side trips if I saw something that peaked my interest.

In a dozen words or less, what is your chief goal in life?

To live my life in a way that glorifies Jesus Christ.

What is an interesting fact about you that no one would suspect?

I still hold the 80 yd. low hurdle record at my high school. My name is still up in the gym. Another unknown fact is that they stopped running the race right after I graduated.

If you could be any item in your refrigerator, what would you be and why?

Butter. It is a support and enhancer of food and usually has its own special place in the refrigerator. I like to think that I am a compliment to others and encourage them to be better than they would be on their own. And I like being readily available at a moments notice to assist others. I also like having my own space.

In your opinion, what is the best invention ever?

The Gutenberg Press. Mass production of the written word has exponentially expanded knowledge and learning beyond anything we could ever measure.

If you could have lunch with a famous person (living or dead) who would it be and why?

Elisabeth Elliott. I have read several of her books and her story was a comfort to me during a very difficult time in my life and I would like to tell her that.

What is the most beautiful or meaningful gift you have ever received?

Preston wrote a love poem and gave it to me on our engagement night. I still keep it in a frame on my dresser in my bedroom. Here is a snippet – “Devoted, committed, my all I will give. Together, forever, each day we will live.”

In your opinion, what is the most important quality for a leader to possess?

Humbleness that leads to selfless service and genuine care and loyalty to others.

What do you want to be doing by the age of thirty?

Be a wife and mom.

What are you involved in?

Wife to Preston, Mom to Grant, GraceAnna, Andrew, and Mary Beth, Grandma Lulu to AudreyKate, Evangeline, and Charles, Mentor Couple for Young Married Couple's Life Bible Study Class at Houston's First Baptist Church, AFLC, Aggie Mom's Club

Name: Andrew Abbott '14
Hometown: Midland, TX
Major: Petroleum Engineering

What is your favorite childhood memory?

Going to the family lake house on Lake Namekagon in the north woods of Wisconsin. Fishing, Family, Food, Mosquitos, and Lumberjacks.

What have you learned about yourself while at A&M?

I am really small, God is really big. Time is a valuable resource...don't waste it on things that don't add value.

If you could travel a foreign country by any means, where would you go and how would you do it?

As long as friends or family are with me the place doesn't matter. I'm all in for anywhere by any means.

In a dozen words or less, what is your chief goal in life?

To glorify God and lead others to do the same.

What is an interesting fact about you that no one would suspect?

I am currently not allowed in the country of Oman due to excessive outstanding traffic violations.

In your opinion, what is the best invention ever?

Deodorant

If you could have lunch with a famous person (living or dead) who would it be and why?

I've always hated this question because biographies are my favorite books but I'd have to go with a tie between George Washington and the Apostle Paul because they were both incredibly crucial to shaping the world we live in today.

What is the most beautiful or meaningful gift you have ever received?

Grace

In your opinion, what are three important qualities for a leader to possess?

Humility, Courage, Wisdom

What do you want to be doing by the age of thirty?

Husband, Father, Leader, and Business Owner.

What is your all-time favorite song, the one that you would make the soundtrack to your life?

Amazing Grace (with bagpipes)

What were you involved in?

Texas A&M Corps of Cadets, BUILD, Ross Volunteers, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Aggie Men's Club, Gilbert Leadership Conference, Maroon Coats

Frank '86 and Susan Abbott



Frank Abbott Jr. is the youngest son of Frank and Joanie Abbott. Frank, Class of '86, graduated in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. He, like his brother, Preston, was a member of Company D-1 of the Aggie Corps of Cadets and served as Corps Operations Officer in 1986. He also served on the Muster Committee at A&M. Frank is a Senior Vice-President for the civil engineering firm, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

He works in the land development division of their Frisco, TX operation and does community work in the Frisco area. Frank currently serves on the executive board as Chaplain for North Dallas K-Life Ministries.

Susan Abbott graduated from Baylor University in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education. She was active in Welcome Week and Baylor Student Education Association while at Baylor. After graduating from Baylor, she taught school for two years in Waco; one year in Carrollton-Farmers Branch and eighteen months at the Park Cities YMCA Preschool for children. While the Abbott children keep her busy, she finds time to volunteer at Wakeland High School with the band parents, the Children's choir at Stonebriar Community Church, serve as the secretary on the executive board for North Dallas KLIFE Ministries, go to Bible Study, Zumba class, and work out at the gym.

Frank and Susan have three children: Frank Gaines, Preston and Mary Margaret. Frank Gaines is the oldest child of Frank and Susan. He is 23 and a 5th year senior in the Fightin' Texas Aggie class of 2018 studying hard to be an architect. After attending Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas for freshmen year, Frank Gaines transferred to Aggieland. He has fully embraced being an Aggie. Frank spent his summer in College Station going to summer classes, working for the Former Students Association and was called to be a counselor at one of the IMPACT sessions this summer. When he isn't drawing in the architecture studio, Frank is an active member of BYX fraternity, goes to Breakaway on Tuesday nights, midnight yell practices, Aggie football games and teaches Sunday school to 5th and 6th grade boys on Sunday morning. He is an Eagle Scout and enjoys playing basketball and hunting with his dad, brother, uncle and cousins.

Preston is 21 and a junior in the Fightin' Texas Aggie class of 2020. After attending Texas A&M Galveston his freshmen year, he changed his major from marine engineering technology to sports management and transferred to College Station. He loves being in College Station. Preston is an active member of BYX fraternity, volunteers in the college ministry at Grace Southwood Church, leads a Bible Study with friends on Wednesday nights and was an IMPACT counselor this summer. In his spare time, Preston works for the 12th Man. Preston is a HUGE Aggie fan and knows lots of stats of his favorite Aggie players. Preston is also an Eagle Scout and enjoys hunting with his dad, brother, uncle and cousins.

Mary Margaret is Frank and Susan's youngest child. She is 17 and in the 12th grade at Wakeland High School in Frisco ISD. Mary Margaret loves to sing and play the flute. She is in the Wakeland high school band, varsity choir and the Wakeland Show Choir. She wasn't busy enough with band and choir so she decided to audition for the school musical. She is in the voice and dance ensemble for Hello Dolly. When Mary Margaret isn't busy with band or choir, she is busy studying. She is hoping to follow in her brothers' footsteps and be a Fightin' Texas Aggie Too!

Name: Frank G. Abbott, Jr. '86
Hometown: Frisco, Texas
Major: Professional Civil Engineer

What is your favorite childhood memory?

There are so many to choose from but I would have to say Christmas time with my family ranks pretty high on the list along with going to the Northrup Ranch the week following Christmas every year.

What have you learned about yourself while at A&M?

I learned a whole lot about leadership through my experiences in the Corps of Cadets (my strengths and my weaknesses). I learned that I can find success in life even when I did not achieve every goal that I thought was important at that time as long as I learned from the experience and channeled my efforts in the right direction.

If you could travel a foreign country by any means, where would you go and how?

I would love to go to Israel with my wife on a trip sponsored by Insight for Living and Chuck Swindoll. It would be fantastic to learn about the Christian history from one of the greatest teachers of the Bible. I would want to go by Highway (once I got there by plane) because you get to see so much more of the area and make impromptu stops along the way.

In a dozen words or less, what is your chief goal in life?

To find true Joy in Life thru an authentic relationship with Christ.

What is an interesting fact about you that no one would suspect?

I had the opportunity to introduce a few speakers at Muster (at A&M) my senior year.

In your opinion, what is the best invention ever?

Light, both Godly and human made.

If you could have lunch with a famous person (living or dead) who would it be and why?

She may not be famous in other's eyes (maybe just infamous!), but I would love to have lunch again with my Mom (Joanie Abbott) and our whole family. It would be a time of laughter and joy and great to see her infectious smile and mischievousness in full action!

What is the most beautiful or meaningful gift you have ever received?

Forgiveness of my sins from my Savior, Jesus Christ. The next best thing would be my Family!

In your opinion, what are three important qualities for a leader to possess?

Wisdom, Integrity, and Loyalty. A leader with these qualities can accomplish so many things and impact so many people along the way.

What do you want to be doing by the age of thirty? I sure hope it is being a civil engineer since I am well over thirty and I have been involved in the profession for almost 30 years.

What is your all-time favorite song, the one that you would make the soundtrack to your life?

The Spirit of Aggieland. It represents the essence of being an Aggie which is really important to me!

What are you involved in?

I am a professional civil engineer working with Kimley-Horn and Associates the last 23 years. I also actively participate in the various activities of my three children. I am on the Board of North Dallas KLife. I am a member of Stonebriar Community Church.

Name: Susan Kay Teegerstrom Abbott
Hometown: Frisco, Texas
Major: Elementary Education at Baylor University – graduated 1989

What is one thing you were raised to appreciate?

That I had a mom who was a stay at home mom.

There are two types of people in this world. What are the two types and which are you?

The selfless servant and the selfish/self-absorbed. I'm working hard to be a selfless servant to others.

What have you learned about yourself while at A&M (or while you were in school)?

While I was a student at Baylor University I learned that I love to work with children.

In a dozen words or less, what is your chief goal in life?

To be an example for my children to follow of what it looks like to serve my Lord and Savior, my family and other people.

When you were 10 years old, what did you want to be when you grew up? What about now?

I wanted to be a mom and a teacher. I got to become both and I would still like to be a teacher.

What is the most meaningful gift you have ever received?

Each year at Christmas, Frank gives me a heart ornament to remind me of the love he has for me and also my first Bible.

If you were any color in the crayon box, what color would you be and why?

Pink because it's a bright, happy color.

What is an interesting fact about you that no one would ever suspect?

I am uncoordinated and lack rhythm.

How has your all-time favorite movie influenced who you are as a person?

My favorite movie is The Wizard of Oz. It has taught me the importance of having a family that cares for you no matter what.

In your opinion, what are three important qualities for a leader to possess?

Authenticity, honesty and loyalty.

Where would you go if you could visit any fictional place?

Oz to visit the wizard.

What are some causes you are passionate about and what are you involved in?

I don't really have any causes I'm passionate about. I'm a conservative person in my thinking and political views. I volunteer with the children's choir at my church. I attend Bible study. I work out regularly at the gym and go to my Zumba class. Frank and I serve together on the North Dallas KLIFE Ministry board of directors.

Name: Frank Gaines Abbott III '18
Hometown: Frisco, TX
Major: Environmental Design

What is your favorite childhood memory?

It would have to be Christmases spent at my grandparent's houses when the entire family's together.

What have you learned about yourself while at A&M?

The Lord has taught me so much over 3 years and finding identity in Jesus Christ in college has been the most liberating experience. I learned that I struggle giving control of my future to the Lord, but by relying completely on God for my future, I gained my greatest spiritual gift, faith. I learned that while deep down I am an introvert, I have an undying energy for people and love spending time with others. I also discovered I am a fighter, It takes a lot to get me down and I will push to achieve my goals. I'm also good at leveling with people and meeting them where they are at. The final and most important thing I learned about myself while at A&M is the desire to be a servant of the Lord.

If you could travel a foreign country by any means, where would you go and how?

I would travel to Israel to see where Jesus taught and lived. I would fly there in a F22 fighter jet.

In a dozen words or less, what is your chief goal in life?

To glorify God in all I do and love others like Christ.

What is an interesting fact about you that no one would suspect?

I spent my first year of college at Tarleton State University. At the end of my time at TSU, I could have gone D2 for basketball there.

In your opinion, what is the best invention ever?

Running water is by far one of the greatest inventions created because without it the world would be a completely different place and society today could not function.

If you could have lunch with a famous person (living or dead) who would it be and why?

I would want to get lunch with J. R. R. Tolkien to hear his side of the story of how he came to meet and bring C. S. Lewis to Christ as well as here about his inspiration behind creating The Lord of the Rings. I would also would love to hear Tolkien tell/read The Lord of the Rings, because it was originally created as bedtime stories told to his kids.

What is the most beautiful or meaningful gift you have ever received?

The meaningful gift I have ever received is the one I am receiving right now, my college education. In no way were my parents required to pay for my college education but I cannot express just how grateful I am that they chose to do so.

In your opinion, what are three important qualities for a leader to possess?

Leadership, Integrity, and a Servant's Heart

What do you want to be doing by the age of thirty?

I want to be successfully working at an architecture firm and overseeing and designing projects for the company.

What is your all-time favorite song, the one that you would make the soundtrack to your life?

Believe It by Derek Mino

What are you involved in? Beta Upsilon Chi, also known as Brothers Under Christ, as well as an Impact Counselor. This school year I served on staff for After Dark 2016.

Name: Preston John Abbott '20
Hometown: Frisco, Texas
Major: Sports Management

What is one thing you were raised to appreciate?

One thing that I was raised to appreciate is family. My family has been a cornerstone of my life since I can remember and has always been there for me when I needed them the most.

There are two types of people in the world. What are the two types and which are you?

There are two types of people in this world, the civilized who enjoy their pizza without pineapple and the barbarians who defile it. As an Aggie who believes in the importance of upholding the traditions handed down to us, I choose to enjoy my pizza the way it was intended, without pineapple.

What have you learned about yourself while at A&M (or while you were in school)?

While at A&M, I have learned that I love serving others. Getting to serve with BYX, Grace Southwood, and Impact Retreat have brought a lot of joy and purpose to my life over the past year.

In a dozen words or less, what is your chief goal in life?

To follow Christ and help others find and follow Him.

When you were 10 years old, what did you want to be when you grew up? What about now?

When I was 10, I wanted to be a professional football player. Currently, I still want to work in sports, but more towards the business side, either in sponsorship or ticket sales.

What is the most meaningful gift you have received?

The most meaningful gift that I have ever received had to be a slideshow of my Grammie's life and legacy given to me by my Papa the Christmas after she passed away.

If you were any color in the crayon box, what color would you be and why?

I would be the maroon crayon because I'm an Aggie and I love Texas A&M.

What is an interesting fact about you that no one would ever suspect?

The summer before my freshman year of college I had a job moving crosses. I was a CIT at Kanakuk Kamps and part of my job was to set up and take down the massive crosses we used for Cross Talk.

How has your all-time favorite movie influenced who you are as a person?

My all-time favorite movie is Remember the Titans; it has taught me that your leadership is reflected in your followers' attitudes toward a task and that your attitude directly affects the way you lead.

In your opinion, what are the three most important qualities for a leader to possess?

In my opinion, three important leadership qualities are leadership, humility, and confidence.

Where would you go if you could visit any fictional place?

Not quite sure, but I'd like to visit Narnia.

What are you involved in?

I am currently involved TAMUG Check-in Crew, TAMUG Traditions Council, TAMUG SALT Camp, and Coastal College.

Name: Mary Margaret Abbott
Hometown: Frisco, Texas
Major: High School Student

What is your favorite childhood memory?

Having tea parties with my Grammie in my grandparent's gazebo next to my Grammie's rose garden.

What have you learned about yourself while at A&M?

Everyone is capable to be a leader, however some lead in different ways.

If you could travel a foreign country by any means, where would you go and how would you do it?

I would travel to England by air because it is across the ocean and I have always wanted to tour and be there.

In a dozen words or less, what is your chief goal in life?

To live a life pleasing to God and pursue every opportunity given.

What is an interesting fact about you that no one would suspect?

I have an extra bone in my foot.

In your opinion, what is the best invention ever?

Soap, no matter what it works for everyone.

If you could have lunch with a famous person (living or dead) who would it be and why?

Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton because she lived an amazing life before and after her husband died. I would love to ask her about all of her ambitions and if she pictured herself ever achieving and accomplishing so many things.

What is the most beautiful or meaningful gift you have ever received?

A letter from my Grammie on our first Christmas without her. It brought me to tears and always will when I read it.

In your opinion, what are three important qualities for a leader to possess?

Unwavering belief, confidence, and compassion

What do you want to be doing by the age of thirty?

I want to be married to a loving, godly man with a stable career.

What is your all-time favorite song, the one that you would make the soundtrack to your life?

Sunday from *Sundays in the Park with George* by Steven Sondheim

What are you involved in?

I am involved in the Wakeland High School Band, Wakeland high school Varsity Choir, Wakeland high school Show Choir, and North Dallas KLife.

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Houston Sights and Bites



Phillips Event Center at Briarcrest

Newly renovated in 2014, the Phillips Event Center at Briarcrest is centrally located between Bryan and College Station. Whether it is a casual golf outing, a night out with friends in the Quarry Bar & Grill to the most memorable day of your life, your wedding day, our passion is providing an exceptional experience in every way

Taste of Texas

The Taste of Texas Restaurant sets the standard in steakhouse excellence, serving only perfectly aged Certified Angus Beef, the finest steaks and prime rib available. Owners Nina and Edd Hindee opened the restaurant in 1977 which has become a Houston landmark steakhouse. The Taste of Texas is known for its great service and Texas hospitality. The restaurant's award winning wine offerings complete both corporate and family gatherings and is a favorite for steak enthusiasts

Houston's First Baptist Church

Houston's First is a thriving and diverse community of real people experiencing real life together. Sundays are a time where we gather together to grow and give of what we have, but our lives consist of much more than attending church on Sunday. We want to be the church every day of the week.

Guadalajara

Guadalajara Hacienda is Houston's home for fine Mexican food. They pride themselves in providing a welcoming and fun environment for their customers. They are proud to offer every classic Mexican dish along with those unique to their own kitchen. Everything they prepare is promised to be of mouth-watering quality. Guadalajara is committed to catering to their guests every need – whatever that may mean.

Omni Houston Hotel at Westside

It's a new year at Omni Houston Hotel at Westside, and with the new year comes a fresh start and opportunity to welcome you. Come in from the cold and experience our luxurious guestrooms, delicious locally sourced cuisine and tranquil Atrium lobby, which features our winding Koi ponds and peaceful gardens. Located in the heart of Energy Corridor, the Four Diamond Omni Houston Hotel at Westside offers a relaxed yet elegant atmosphere with exciting nightlife a short drive away. The hotel is minutes from Houston's City Centre, which is the city's largest upscale entertainment complex offering dining, shopping, movies and more.

Houston Food Bank

A food bank is a non-profit organization that collects and distributes food to hunger relief charities. Food usually comes from various sources in the food industry, like grocery stores and wholesalers, which have thousands of pounds of food to give away. They warehouse the food, and with help from volunteers, sort, pack and re-distribute it to the community.

The Forge for Families

OUR MISSION - To holistically equip families to fulfill their GOD-Given potential

OUR VISION - To equip participants to embrace Christ-centered responsibilities as servant-leaders in their families, schools, churches and beyond

OUR IMPACT - To foster a fun Christ-centered environment through strategic investment and collaboration to inspire and empower participants' spiritual, education and economic growth. Strategically located in one of the most disadvantaged sections of Houston, Texas, the Greater

Third Ward. The FORGE is a Christ-centered Community Center that works with the whole family in a holistic way.

Our programs provide platforms to build relationships to encourage, challenge, teach, inspire, celebrate and grow with the families we serve. The common thread running through all our programs is the Law of Christ- “to love your neighbor as yourself.” So be it in after school, athletics, parent enrichment, or mentoring we work to ensure child and parent alike know they are loved by God and by us

OUR FACILITY - The FORGE for families operates in a new, 28,000+ square foot facility situated on two acres. With two gyms, locker rooms, dining hall, kitchen and meeting room our activity center provides a wide array of uses. The education building boast 5 classrooms & a computer lab that is wireless ready and connects to enclosed playground.

The Pipkins

Greg and Liz Pipkin have been happily married for 20+ years. They have five kids (Gregory, William, Austin, Maggie, and Olivia) who all went to Memorial High School. They are actively involved in the community through Second Baptist Church, YoungLife, and Family Legacy Missions International. They enjoy traveling to the Dominican Republic and to Zambia where they have many wonderful family memories. They grew up attending Pine Cove Family Camp and have had kids work at Camp Ozark. Throughout the year the Pipkins have been generous in hosting their kids’ sports teams, YoungLife, and multiple get-togethers at their home. They were more than excited to help out with the first Houston AFLC in 2015, and are very excited to host us for a fourth year.

Goode Co. Barbeque

Food that’s as genuine as we are- and as satisfying as the 40+ years we’ve spent curating the tastiest blend of Texan food and culture around. As a family-owned and operated business, we take the craft of serving the finest Texan food like pralines, pecan pie and smoked meats very seriously. In fact, our barbeque pits haven’t stopped smoking since we first opened our doors in 1977 – because we figure when you’re in it for the long haul, no shortcut is worth taking. Which is why barbeque’s only the tips of the tongs when it comes to Goode grub. Our fresh Gulf seafood, taqueria joint, and live music palace are also unique culminations of our family traditions – ones we’ve been heartily dishing out for decades. You can also order some of our favorite homemade Texan food online to enjoy at home with friends and family. So come on in and stay awhile or get something tasty delivered to you. We’re so glad you made it.