

Lumberjack Link

A weekly newsletter for the newest members of the Lumberjack family

October 19,
2009

Issue 9

Class of
2013



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Editor

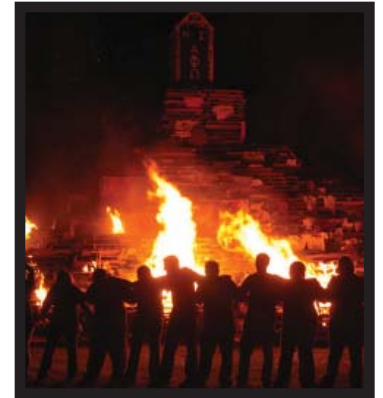
SFA 101

Stephen F.
Austin
State
University

HOMECOMING EXTRAVAGANZA!!!

In case you haven't noticed, this weekend is Homecoming! Homecoming features the best of what SFA is all about. For over 80 years SFA has welcomed their alumni, friends and students with an annual Homecoming celebration. Held every fall, Homecoming is not just one tradition but a series of traditions that brings Lumberjacks one and all together to celebrate how great it is to be a Lumberjack and how special SFA is.

"A Texas-Sized Homecoming," this year's theme, has been developed as a celebration of SFA's 81st Homecoming! Our theme has been developed as a celebration of SFA's Texas connection and Texas Pride. SFA is big on Texas and big on our future while retaining our unique culture.



This year you have the opportunity to participate in over two dozen events that will make Homecoming 2009 an unforgettable week! Attend Lumberjack Bash and meet alumni from years past, bid on the silent auction and network for that next great job, vote in the homecoming elections, cheer on the Jacks at the Bonfire and Pep Rally, and attend the football game on Saturday to complete your winning weekend. Be sure to get your Homecoming t-shirt to commemorate all of the fun! They are for sale at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore for \$10. Don't be left out- be a part of the tradition!



For more Homecoming information, call the Traditions Council at the Involvement Center at 468-6721, or email at sfainvolvement@gmail.com. You can also go by the Involvement Center located on the first floor of the Baker Pattillo Student Center.



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HOME COMING WEEK SCHEDULE

Monday, October 19

Canned Food Drive - 8 AM - 5 PM (all week)

Bring non-perishable food items by the Involvement Center in BPSC to help East Texas families. All dry goods and canned items will be accepted and donated to local food pantries.

Bleed Purple Blood Drive - 10 AM - 6 PM

The Blood Drive will be in the Commons Room on the 3rd floor of BPSC.

SAA Burnshirts - 10 AM (all week)

Trade in another university's shirt for a free SFA Homecoming Burn Shirt. Half of the shirts will be burned in the bonfire, and the rest will be donated to those in need.

Homecoming Kick-Off - 7:00 PM

Kick-off Homecoming at Homer Bryce Stadium where there will be an organization cheer competition, Texas Lumberjacks "Live United" Chain Sale, and ballot homecoming elections.

Tuesday, October 20

Bleed Purple Blood Drive-10:30 AM-4 PM

The Blood Drive will be in the Commons Room on the 3rd floor of BPSC.

Ballot Homecoming Elections

Take a few minutes to vote for your favorite Homecoming candidates. Voting is easy! Come up to the BPSC Plaza from 10 am - 5 pm Tuesday through Thursday. On Thursday, October 22nd from 8 am - 8 pm, you can also log onto MySFA, click on the MyEvent tab and follow the page down to the elections section.

Lil' Buck-a-Roo Fair -2:30 PM - 5:30 PM

This year, the Traditions Council is teaming up with SFA Volunteer Programs to host a miniature fair for elementary-age children. Organizations can provide a game, service, or activity. It will be held around the Ag Pond

Wednesday, October 21

Canned Food Drive - 8AM-5PM

Campus Rec Tye-Dye Giveaway - 3-5PM

Visit the Campus Rec Center courtyard (sand volleyball courts/outdoor basketball courts) for a free tye-dye t-shirt to support SFA. There will be all the materials and supplies provided to tye-dye your own t-shirt. You pick the design & colors, too! Get there early, though. There is a limited number of shirts! - F -

Bernie McGrenahan - 7PM

Comedian Bernie McGrenahan's "Happy Hour"

Tour has students rolling in the aisles with laughter. He shares all his 'inside tips' when a party stops being a party. A stand-up comedy show first, followed by a powerful and inspirational message on how to achieve all your goals as a student. It's held in the Grand Ballroom in the BPSC. -- F --

Parade Sign-Ups End - 5 PM

Thursday, October 22

Day of Judgment!

The Homecoming Committee will have faculty, staff, community leaders and students out all day helping judge the school spirit and creativity of each office, business or window entry.

Office Decoration Judging - 9 AM;

Downtown Decoration Judging-10 AM;

Window Decorating Judging - 1 PM

College Bowl - 4 PM

This is a question and answer game played between 2 teams of 4 players each. Teams consist of up to 5 players. Visit www.collegebowl.com for more information.

Friday, October 23

Sylvans Lumberjack Day-1PM

The Sylvans Professional Forestry Club is a student organization at the Arthur Temple College of Forestry. They compete in an annual competition with the Southern Division Forestry School. Lumberjack Day is a day to let SFA students and the community try out some of the events they compete in, and to prove who is the REAL Lumberjack at SFA. Lumberjack Day is going to be held at the Ag Pond. It is a competition open to anyone and will include Cross Cut Saw, Axe Throw, Log Roll, & Pole Toss.

Lumberjack Bash-6 PM--Grand Ballroom

This event brings generations of alumni, family and friends together to relive the past and look forward to the future. There will be presentations, food and a silent auction. Proceeds from the auction benefit scholarships at SFA. For more info call the Alumni Association at 936-468-3407. -I -

Torchlight Kick-Off Party-8:30 PM

2008 Bonfire and Pep Rally will begin at the Student Center Plaza near the Starbucks balcony. There will be music playing by local artists! - F -

Torchlight Parade - 9 PM

The 2009 Torchlight Parade will start at the Student Center Plaza. With the winner of the Cheer Competition in the lead, the torchlight

parade will feature the SFA Spirit Teams, Marching Band and the SFA Mascot. The parade will end at the Bonfire site on the Intramural Fields. - F -

Bonfire and Pep Rally & Fireworks - 9:30 PM

Enjoy all of the pageantry of this annual event! Check out the announcement of the Homecoming King and Queen, the SFA football team, fireworks, and music. There is something for everyone! Held on the SFA Intramural Fields, this event draws thousands of Lumberjacks to come out to cheer on the team and have a great time. Entertainment will feature the Spirit Teams, special guests, Marching Band and much more! This year, SAA will present a Texas country cover band, Cheyenne, playing covers of all your favorite country legends! - F -

Homecoming Court Results- 10:00 p.m.

Come out to the intramural fields and hear all of the winners of the 2009 Homecoming Election.

Saturday, October 24

Downtown Parade - 10 AM

The annual Homecoming Parade is the highlight of the Homecoming weekend. Held on the streets of downtown Nacogdoches, this annual event features Homecoming Royalty, student organizations, marching bands and over 100 parade entries. - F -

Alumni Picnic - 11:30 AM

Join the Alumni Association for some picnic food and a little shade under the massive tent set up in Lumberjack Alley. Tickets are \$10 with proceeds benefitting the Alumni Association. Fried chicken, ham, potato salad, coleslaw and brownies are on the list of offerings. For more info, or to purchase tickets, call 936-468-3407. - T -

Duck Dash - Noon

Lumberjack Alley is the setting for the annual running of the ducks. The dash offers folks a chance to race rubber ducks for fantastic prizes. Ducks are \$5. If you are interested in buying a duck, please contact the Alumni Association at 936-468-3407. - T -

Football: SFA v. Sam Houston. - 2 PM

All Lumberjacks are summoned to Homer Bryce Stadium for a clash with the Bearcats. SFA will be ready for this showdown for Southland Conference bragging rights. At half-time the Homecoming Court will be presented. Come cheer on our Lumberjack Football Team! Go Jacks!-T-



Spotlight on:

To Drop or Not to Drop a Class???

Most college freshmen never expect to have to drop a class. But sometimes, dropping a class can be the wisest choice. If you are in danger of failing a class, it is important to understand SFA's repeat policy on failed classes. If you drop a class on or before the last day to drop, you will not receive a grade for that course. You can then choose to take it again at a later date, or take it at a junior college, or (if it is an elective) not at all. If you persist to the end of the semester, and then receive an F, that grade is factored into your GPA. In order to remove that F from your GPA, you must repeat the course at SFA. You have one opportunity to repeat the course at SFA. The new grade will take the place of the failed grade in your GPA calculation, although the F will remain printed on your transcript. But if you fail the course a second time, you have two choices: if you repeat the course a third time at SFA, all three grades (including the 2 F's) will be factored into your GPA. If you take the course elsewhere and transfer the credit to SFA, your GPA will not be improved, and you will have fulfilled the course requirement. If you know by mid-semester that you are likely to fail a class, the best choice may be to drop that class and try again later.

Since 2007, new freshmen can only drop a maximum of six courses during their college career. This applies to classes dropped after the 12th class day.

If you are debating, read these scenarios to see how they apply to you. A good strategy regardless of your situation is to visit with an academic advisor who can discuss the situation with you and help you make the best decision.

Question 1) Are you passing the course with at least a C or better and can realistically maintain that grade to the end of the semester?

If you answer **yes**...Consider using all resources to help maintain your current status by visiting with your professor, seeking tutoring or study skills advising, etc. - Refer to paragraph B

If you answer **no**...Refer to paragraph A

Question 2) Is your current situation due to extenuating circumstances for which you had no control?

(Ex. Medical illness, illness with immediate family, recent

death of immediate family member, personal problems for which you have no control)

If you answer **yes**...Refer to paragraph C

If you answer **no**...Refer to paragraph A

A) Have you exhausted all methods of getting help or used all available resources at SFA? Tutoring or SI sessions at the AARC? Office visits with your professor? Study skills help from the Counseling Center? Joined a study group? Visited your academic advisor?

Yes: But still doing poorly and not earning a C or better, and chances of raising the current grade is not possible - Refer to paragraph C.

No: But at this point it is too little too late to make an impact to realistically raise my grade to a C or higher - Refer to paragraph C.

B) You are currently earning at least a solid C or better in the course and it is very likely you can raise or maintain your current grade status by the end of the term.

If this is true, it is recommended you keep the course. There is no point in repeating a course for which you will receive a passing grade. It will take up additional time, especially if it is a course that is part of a sequence.

C) You are currently earning a grade of less than a C and it is not realistic or it is not mathematically possible to raise your grade to a C or higher by the end of the term.

If this is true, it is recommended that you drop the course.

If you decide to drop a course, you will need to visit Room 201 of the Rusk building by **Wednesday, October 22**. No exceptions will be made after this date! Call or stop by the Registrar's Office if you have additional questions.

Hours: M-F 8am-5pm

Phone: (936) 468-2501

Emial: registrar@sfasu.edu

Our Namesake: Stephen Fuller Austin (1793-1836)

Stephen Fuller Austin was born in Virginia and raised in southeastern Missouri, but is known as “The Father of Texas” for establishing the first Anglo-American colony in the Tejas province of Mexico which grew into an independent republic. At the age of eleven years, he attended school in Connecticut and later graduated with distinction from Transylvania University in Kentucky. It was Austin’s father, Moses Austin, who took the first steps toward establishing an American colony in Mexican Tejas. In 1820, he traveled to San Antonio to petition for a land grant, and in 1821 received approval to settle 300 American families on 200,000 acres. Moses Austin died before completing his plans but bequeathed his grant to Stephen with instructions to establish the colony. Accordingly, after many delays and frustrations with the Mexican government, Stephen Austin introduced a large number of colonists from the United



States. An unassuming man with a kindly presence, he was deeply respected by all, and achieved unparalleled influence over the often unruly settlers in Anglo Texas.



Austin is remembered in Texas history for his many efforts on behalf of Texas before, during, and immediately after Texas’ Revolution with Mexico. His contributions to Texas included: long and perilous pilgrimages to Mexico on behalf of Texas; his unwillingness to counsel his people to take up arms against the Mexican government as long as any hope for peace remained; his firm and decided voice, speaking words of encouragement and hope during the darkest days of the revolution; and his laborious travels in the United States to obtain needed support for his struggling countrymen.

After devoting the best years of his life to the cause of Texas, Austin was overcome by disease and on December 27, 1836 died an untimely death at the age of forty-three years.

Upcoming Events:

Monday, October 19th - Saturday, October 24th

- Homecoming Activities begin; see Page 2 for detailed schedule of events.

Tuesday, October 20th

- Wind Symphony/Symphonic Band Concert, 7:30 p.m., Turner

Thursday, October 22nd

- Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, 7:30 p.m., Turner

Saturday, October 24th

- Homecoming Game!
- SAA @ Lumberjack Alley!
- SFA Lumberjacks vs. Sam Houston, 2:00 p.m., Homer Bryce Stadium