

The Campus 'Living Room'

Center Of Activity For A&M Students

Dedicated to the memory of the men of Aggie land who gave their lives during World Wars I and II, the Memorial Student Center houses social, recreational and cultural activities for student, staff and faculty.

With its many varied facilities, the MSC has become the center of student life at A&M. The incoming freshman will soon find it lives up to the title, "living room of the campus."

The sprawling structure was completed in 1950 at a cost of \$2 million. Since then even more money and work has contributed to the facilities.

It came about through the efforts of the Association of Former Students.

IN ADDITION the hotel portion and numerous meeting rooms, the MSC has varied recreation facilities.

For the athletically inclined there are bowling and table tennis areas in one wing of the building.

Record rooms are found in the

east wing, with a complete collection of all types of music.

The browsing library, where records are checked out, has magazines and books. The materials are not for checking out and remain on shelves for the student who wishes to spend a short while reading.

Next to the library is the game room where facilities for playing cards, chess, dominoes and other table games are available.

Another favorite place is the piano room, where an instrument is available for students to play or listen to.

...IN THE MAIN lobby are many couches and chairs. This is a favorite place for visitors to meet students.

Full meals are served in the cafeteria three times a day. A fountain room is also provided where students may eat breakfast or grab a sandwich all day long.

The Ballroom on the second floor is the site of many dances and banquets.



THE MEMORIAL STUDENT CENTER . . . center of life at A&M University.

A&M's Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA) and Great Issues program gives students opportunities to debate national problems and broaden their education by hearing leading politicians and statesmen.

SCONA's objective is to provide an informal atmosphere for student delegates from across the nation and nearby countries to debate, hear and reject discussion on topics of major importance.

THE CONFERENCE is student planned, financed and operated. From the start of the idea for the next year's conference, the students take over and engineer the complete meeting.

This year's chairman for SCONA X is Gary Tisdale of Tyler. He announced earlier this summer that the topic for the Dec. 9-12 conference will be "Challenges To The Americas—Pan American Trends: Promise or Threat?"

Committees have been working for months attempting to attract top speakers for the affair. Last year's theme was "U. S. Monetary and Fiscal Policy—A Taxpayers View."

Such men as Edwin P. Neilan, President of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and Philip S. High, assistant director for legislative reference, Bureau of the Budget, spoke to the students.

Other committees work at raising money, sending invitations to other schools for delegates, arranging transportation and lodging for guests, and planning agendas.

The goal of the Great Issues program is to bring speakers to the campus who will broaden students' knowledge. Featured in previous years have been authors, statesmen, diplomats and people in other fields who can give student knowledge he may not receive from books.

MSC Operates Own Ham Radio Station

Ham radio enthusiasts will find a home at A&M, too, as the Memorial Student Center Radio Committee has its own station, W4AUA, in the area above the bowling lanes.

Amateur enthusiasts across the United States and even in many foreign countries have traded identification cards with members of the committee.

Dean Advises 'Come To Learn'

Freshmen entering A&M receive all sorts of instructions in the form of booklets, advertising matter, and official memos before they arrive on the A&M campus to begin their education.

However, smaller items, sometimes not covered in these official guides, can do even more toward preparing a freshman for life at A&M.

Dean of Students James P. Hanigan was asked to compile a brief summary of suggestions, based on his experience, to help the freshman off to a better start.

"Don't try to show how much you know at first. Better to realize how little you know and to add to that as much as possible in a short time.

"A&M University has a goal of Excellence toward which all of our efforts are directed. This means excellence in studies, research, athletics, military training, morals and spiritual attitudes. Get in the stream and start working for this excellence at once.

"Grades are a measure of how

much you are the master of the skills and subjects which you study. As you approach graduation the importance of grades will be obvious. Accept this fact now and work hard so that you will not have to catch up later.

"Most of our new and renovated dormitories will be ready by the start of school and will add a new dimension (air conditioning) to housing here. A few may not be ready for a few weeks and we may be crowded temporarily if this proves true. Just bear with us for that short period. Remember there were times when all rooms on the campus held three students and there were even times when most students lived in tents.

"If you budget your time carefully you will have adequate time for sports and extracurricular activities. The Memorial Student Center, the YMCA, service groups like the scouting service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega, all offer fine opportunities for you to serve the community and to work with other students for worthwhile purposes. Participate.

"Texas A&M produces MEN but we have no magic formula for "instant men." It takes four years to build men. We receive mostly teen-agers as freshmen. We graduate only men.

College Performers Show Ability Twice During Year

Twice during the school year college talent gets a chance to show its ability in two separate shows presented by the Memorial Student Center Talent Committee.

Coming first on the calendar, the Aggie Talent Show gives students at A&M a chance to perform, with the winner going to the Intercollegiate Talent Show later.

MSC Music Director Robert L. Boone said he believed there was more talent on the A&M campus than ever showed up for auditions.

"I HAVE HEARD, and heard of, singers, dancers and instrumentalists on campus who are as good as any college talent in this area. But they just will not show up for the Aggies show," Boone said.

He urged entering freshmen who possess ability to sing or play some instrument to audition for the Aggie Talent Show this year.

Soon after the local show, the MSC Talent Committee begins a tour of campuses in the Southwest to bring A&M a variety show seldom equaled elsewhere.

The best talent from many schools were at last year's Intercollegiate Talent Show, and the packed house was thrilled.

Each year the talent committee brings a big-name master of ceremonies for the ITS. The Intercollegiate Talent Show is usually

held in March.

Acts featured at last year's ITS included The Kings Three from Baylor, The Four Naturals from Oklahoma State, Betsy Hurn from Southwestern, the Original New Orleans Jug Symphonette from Tulane, The Briarwoods from University of Southern Louisiana, the Apache Bells from Tyler Junior College and Jules d'Henecourt from LSU. There was also Tomie Coleman from U. of Arkansas.

Each year a group from the MSC Talent Committee tours several colleges and universities and auditions the best acts that institutions can offer. A wide representative choice of talent is made for the ITS show at A&M.

The coming ITS will be held March 5.

Town Hall Shows Bring Well-Known Performers Here

The Town Hall Series, sponsored by the Memorial Student Center, brings nationally-known entertainers to the campus each year.

Bearded, jovial Al Hert and his trumpet, the Four Preps, Cleland Strings and Leon Bibb are part of the 1964-65 Town Hall attractions planned for A&M University audiences, Robert L. Boone announced.

For the first time, Town Hall also will feature a dramatic production. "Spoon River," a current Broadway hit, will be presented Feb. 22.

"The new Town Hall series offers the broadest scope in entertainment than any in recent years," Boone said. "The series promises to be one of our best."

The Four Preps, one of the top vocal groups, will begin the series Oct. 2, followed by the Cleland Strings Oct. 16 and a repeat performance by Leon Bibb Oct. 20.

Bibb, a folk singer, will be at the campus for the third straight year.

Al Hert will perform Feb. 5.

The other show will feature the Ballet Folklorico of Mexico April 13, a company of 75 dancers who have won attention at the World Fair, among other places.

Season ticket sales will begin in early September and continue through Oct. 2.

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