

Bearden Banquet Set For Friday

An appreciation banquet honoring Harold D. Bearden, retiring director of A&M's Engineering Extension Service, has been scheduled Aug. 31 in the Krueger-Dunn Dining Hall.

Set for 7:30 p.m., the banquet will feature Reagan Brown as guest speaker. Brown, an Extension sociologist with TAMU's Agricultural Extension Service, is on leave as a special assistant to Gov. Dolph Briscoe.

Associated with A&M for 27 years, Bearden assumed the directorship of the Engineering Extension Service in 1954. The number of staff members has increased substantially and the total of individuals served by the training services offered by the department has more than doubled.

Recognized for his outstanding contributions to Vocational Industrial Education throughout the state, Bearden has received honors and awards from numerous organizations and professional groups.

He first came to A&M in 1943 as an instructor in supervisory training with the Industrial Extension Service, an office which was enlarged and renamed the Engineering Extension Service in

1948. He then served for a time as an area supervisor for the Texas Education Agency before returning in 1947 as assistant director of the Industrial Extension Service.

Before joining the staff at A&M, Bearden taught school in Nocona and served as coordinator of Diversified Occupations in Sweetwater, San Angelo and Midland.

During World War II, he

served as director of War Industries Training, headquartered at Lubbock. He is a graduate of Lamesa High School, Texas Tech University, and the University of Texas.

Born in Avery, Texas, Bearden is one of five sons of Henry G. and Stella Bearden. He is married to the former Doris Parsons. They have one daughter, Mrs. W. J. Merrell of Bryan.

The Texas Engineering Extension

Service, under Bearden's guidance, has grown to supply some 22,000 people each year in extension training courses conducted over the state. A major portion of these people are employed by local governments in public service work.

The service offers training in several areas, including firemen's training, telephone and electrical utilities training, and public utilities technical training.

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Welcome Back Picnic Friday

A&M students, faculty and administrators will mix formally Friday at the Memorial Student Center Council and Directorate "Welcome Back Picnic."

It will be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Wayne Stark in College Station.

The annual event enables new student leaders and members of the MSC Council and Directorate committees to meet MSC staff, faculty advisors of MSC committees and administrators.

Bill Davis, executive vice president for projects, said that in case of rain the supper will be in Hensel Park.

The MSC picnic is one of several events that precede the start of A&M's fall semester classes Monday.

Aggie Players Tryout Tuesday

Aggie Players will organize Tuesday for the 1973-74 theater session.

Tryouts for two major fall productions, "The Devil's Disciple" by Shaw and Moliere's "School for Wives," will begin at the meeting, announced C. K. Esten, director.

The 7:30 p.m. meeting will be in Building "J" on the second day of classes of the fall semester.

The Aggie Players is the production company of the English Department's Theater Arts Section, chaired by Esten. He emphasized that A&M students need not be enrolled in theater arts courses in order to join the Players and take part in productions.

"The Devil's Disciple" will be staged in October; "School for Wives" in December.

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