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# Grandparents add new dimension

By DONNA SCHLABACH  
When you think of grandparents, do you think of grey hair, bi-focals and walking canes?

If so, you'd better add the word "students" to your list because two of your fellow Aggie students are also grandparents.

Billy and Betty Boyer, who are in their mid-40s, are full-time students, full-time parents and part-time workers. They have lived in College Station since January.

The Boyers have 3 children and 2 grandchildren. They live in the Texas A&M University married student apartments with their daughter Sara. They have another daughter who is a sophomore in college at Texas Southmost, and a son in the Air Force who is stationed in Iceland.

Billy is a graduate student majoring in industrial education. He teaches two freshman English classes at A&M.

Betty is a sophomore in liberal

arts. She has not declared a major yet, but said she will probably choose a health-related field. She also works at Whataburger in College Station.

Before coming here, the Boyers lived in Brownsville, where Billy went to school through the A&M Extension Service and Betty attended college at Texas Southmost.

"It was a very traumatic experience coming from such a small school to one as big as A&M," Betty said. "But everyone was so helpful and friendly that it didn't take long to adjust."

The thing that amazed us was the friendliness of the people in this area," Billy agreed. "We love it here and would like to stay."

Billy said he loves going to school and would like to go for a doctorate when he finishes graduate school. He would also like to teach at A&M, he said.

"I thoroughly enjoy teaching here," he said. "There's a rapport

between the student and teacher here that I've never seen anywhere else."

Billy said he had started college after he got out of high school, but had to quit when his father died. He then joined the Air Force.

"In those days you had to have money to go to college. There weren't any scholarships or grants-in-aid back then," Betty explained.

Billy retired from the Air Force after 21 years and went to work for General Dynamics. A few years later he quit that job and became a high school teacher in Brownsville. He taught there for more than 2 years.

Betty said she had planned to go to nursing school after she finished high school.

"But I interrupted her education," Billy said.

He said they met on a blind date. He proposed to Betty the second night and she accepted the third night.

"And then we spent 6 months getting up the nerve to tell our parents," Betty said. The Boyers were married in 1950.

Twenty six years later, when Betty sent her youngest daughter to college, she decided it was her turn to go to school.

"I think a lot of people think it's foolish for the middle-aged to go back to school," Billy said, "but I have enjoyed it tremendously. I've enjoyed associating with the people, particularly at this school."

Billy is vice president of the Brazos Valley Association for Re-



Battalion photo by Gal...

Betty and Billy Boyer may be full time students and full time parents, but they still must make time to hit the books.

tarded Citizens and the Boyers spend most of their spare time with the organization.

The Boyers said the Students Older Than Average (SOTA) organization at A&M has been a big help to them in meeting new people. Students 25 years and older are eligible to join SOTA.

"Being around young people keeps you young," Billy said, "but

sometimes it's nice to be people your own age."

You can talk out your frustrations with people who understand you're feeling," Betty agreed.

When you think of grandparents do you still think of grey hair, focals and walking canes?

## Prof named consultant

Texas A&M biology professor W. R. Klemm has been appointed scientific consultant to the Surgeon General of the U. S. Air Force.

A lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve, Klemm has appointments to the School of Aerospace Medicine and the Air Force Academy.

The appointment for fiscal year 1978 was announced by Col. D. Ragan, chief, Office of the Surgeon General.

Klemm has taught on the Texas A&M biology faculty since 1964. His degrees are from Auburn University and Notre Dame.



Dr. W. R. Klemm, a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve and a Texas A&M biology professor, has been appointed a consultant to the Surgeon General.

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Tuesday, October 18, 1977 8:15 p.m.  
Rudder Auditorium

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## Moebius-Makers Needed

Moebius literary magazine needs people to help put it together. This includes a prose editor, a poetry editor and staff for: prose, poetry, arts, business and layout.

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