This year’s Traditions Rally was easily the most successful and celebrated Traditions Rally that Baylor has ever seen. Being only the second year that Chamber has had to opportunity to put on this event, this is very indicative of the resourcefulness and strength of the Chamber.
Traditions Rally was hosted at the brand new McLane Stadium and was the first event to ever be held there. Between the opportunity to explore our new stadium, the exciting pep rally that included help from the Baylor Spirit Squads, the Baylor Golden Wave Band, and some of our very own football players, the electrifying concert by American Idol winner Phillip Phillips, and a truly amazing fireworks show over the Brazos, Traditions Rally attracted over 20,000 fans. Traditions Rally 2014 was truly incredible and a great example of the success that Chamber is capable of.

-Traditions Rally Chairman, Laurin Engle
From sailgating, to statue unveilings, to honored dignitaries and guests such as Robert Griffin III, Texas Governor Rick Perry, and former President George W. Bush and wife Laura, the opening of McLane Stadium, in a shutout win against SMU, was an event for the record books. The Baylor Line Committee, comprised of 10 members of The Chamber, have been planning for the opening of McLane Stadium for months, in order to ensure the best possible Baylor Line experience for all first year students. Our goal was to be the standard, this
year, in order to set the standard for all future years in McLane Stadium.

This year, Baylor welcomed in the largest incoming class of students, which also meant the largest Baylor Line in the 44-year history of The Line. While we wanted the tradition of the Baylor Line to remain the tradition that we all know and love, there were many changes that took place, thanks to the new stadium. First, there is a new, student-only tailgating section, located on the campus side of the river, behind the Mayborn Museum and the Governor Bill and Vara Daniel Historic Village. The Baylor Chamber still hosts the tailgate for all Baylor Line students, serving up hot & fresh food, cold drinks, with music and games to play until game time.

The “running of the Line” still looks, aesthetically, very similar to what we have seen at Floyd Casey Stadium. First, the Line makes their way to field level down the Jones Family Baylor Line Tunnel, which is much wider than the tunnel at Floyd Casey Stadium. The tunnel is located in the southwest corner of the stadium, giving a direct line across the field to create the human tunnel. After the entire team has made their way through the human tunnel, the students then enter the service level of the stadium, through the same tunnel that the
coaches and players came out of. They are then guided around the stadium to two entrances, located on each 25-yard line, opening up into the stadium. Another new aspect of the Baylor Line is that their seats span the entire east side of the stadium, and are 13 rows deep. This allows the Line section to help better lead the entire Baylor family in all of our chants and cheers throughout the game. Needless to say, it is an exciting game-day atmosphere.

If you’re ever in Waco for a home football game, be sure to stop by our Baylor Line tailgate, watch The Line run across the field, and experience a game-day atmosphere unlike any other in the nation. We hope to see you on game-day!

Sic’em Bears,

Andrew Bowles
Chairman
Baylor Line
Family Weekend 2014: Ushering in a New Era

This year’s Family Weekend consisted of several firsts, such as Parent-Faculty Coffee moving to Fountain mall and not having a football game. The most eye-opening of these changes was the lack of a football game at this year’s Family Weekend. However, this year’s event was a great success.

The new major event added to this year’s Family Weekend was the Dinner at McLane Stadium, which featured a guided stadium tour, a dinner in the Baylor Club, and a presentation by Baylor Head Men’s Basketball Coach Scott Drew and former star Isaiah Austin. For those not able to attend the dinner but still wanting to see the stadium, self-guided stadium tours were offered.

One of the smaller changes of the weekend was the move of Parent-Faculty Coffee from Burleson Quadrangle to Fountain Mall. This move allowed for more space for the faculty and families to engage. While the loss of a football game at this year’s event was alarming at first, Chamber responded well and truly did a Chamber Job.

- Family Weekend Chairman, Alex Aills
With Homecoming quickly approaching, the Chamber is getting excited for another great Homecoming! Between work days and fulfilling committee positions, the season of Homecoming is definitely in the air.

Homecoming week will begin on Tuesday, October 28th, with a Homecoming themed Dr Pepper Hour. We will have several booths for new students to learn about the different activities of the week and find out how to participate. On Wednesday, we will have a special Homecoming Chapel, where the freshmen class can learn more about the history of Homecoming and what it signifies to the Baylor Family. Dr. Alan Lefever will address students and the Baylor Religious Hour Choir will lead in worship.
Thursday, new students will hear the story of the Immortal 10 at Freshmen Mass Meeting. At the conclusion of the program, students will walk out to Fountain Mall to begin building the bonfire. On Friday, we will kick up the spirit and tradition with Extravaganza, featuring a pep rally, fireworks, and of course the bonfire lighting.

Then, on Saturday morning will be the parade. Students from all organizations have been working extremely hard on floats, and we cannot wait to see the finished products! It will be an exciting morning as we get to recognize Baylor Dignitaries and various organizations on campus and off. We want to invite all Chamber alumni and family to the corner of 5th and Dutton where we will provide a tent and food for the parade! Join us at McLane Stadium to cheer on our Baylor Bears as they take on Kansas. Halftime entertainment will include presentation of the 2014 Homecoming Queen and her court.

We hope that you will be able to attend and take part as we welcome the Baylor Family home!

- Homecoming Chairman, Brandon Mosley
The fall 2014 bear program is alive and kicking as the semester has begun. Joy and Lady are doing just fine and have recently had their annual veterinary visit. The committee has about 15 members who help out with the bears, along with 3 members on Lead Team. Nolan Bay, Ross Jackson, and Rachel Stevenson are the lead team members for the year and have kept busy thus far. Last spring the bear program revamped their education program and teamed up with the education department to form a more formal style of presentations to teach people of all ages. We now use TEKS that school districts use to help children learn from all different ways. There is a new “Bear Box” that the committee shows off during presentations that includes a bear skull replica, a tooth, a claw, and even a bear felt to show just about everything a bear is made of. The girls go out to their training facility every week for enrichment and trainings. Overall the program is doing well as the entire Bear Committee continues to do a Chamber Job.

- Bear Program Lead Team
2014 marked another great Diadeloso this past April! The Chamber once again worked tirelessly to put on the beloved festival. We had a great turnout to see all sorts of attractions and activities. These included a plethora of animals including a kinkajou and a micro mini-pig, a roller rink inside the Bill Daniel Student Center, many tournaments including the always popular tug-of-war, and finally a show stopping performance by national headliner NEEDTOBREATHE which over 7,000 students came to enjoy!

Dia was made entirely possible by the hard work of the Chamber especially the Chairman Kelcie Evans and the entire Committee.
Although Dia 2015 is still over seven months away, the Chamber is already starting to prepare. It is sure to be another great Dia so we would love to see Chamber Alumni on April 14th!

- Diadeloso Chairman, Taylor Dupre

Betsy Willis Endowed Scholarship

It is our sincere pleasure to inform you of the newly created Betsy Willis Endowed Scholarship within the Department of Accounting at Baylor University. This will be a permanent legacy to honor her as an outstanding teacher and advisor, and to establish a means by which her name will always be remembered for the contributions she makes every day to enrich the lives of Baylor University’s students.

As a Chamberman, you probably recognize this is such a deserving tribute for someone who has served alongside you and over 1000 other campus leaders like yourself. Since becoming a Baylor University Chamber
of Commerce sponsor in 1997, Mrs. Willis has walked miles of Homecoming parade routes, hosted countless club dinners and receptions, and stood linked in faithful service with our membership. A steadfast advocate for humble servants and Baylor history, she became an Honorary Chamberman in 2002. Mrs. Willis consistently embraces “Anything for Baylor” by her personal investment in students and Baylor University.

We now invite you to join us in celebrating such a remarkable honor for Mrs. Betsy Willis and such an opportunity for future Baylor students. The funding goal for the scholarship is $250,000. There are already received gifts and pledges in excess of $102,000 toward that amount. We can think of no better way to recognize Mrs. Willis for her 17 years (and still counting) of service to Chamber than to contribute to the scholarship that has been created in her name. Don’t forget you can use a company/employer match for your gift, and you can also make a multi-year pledge. You may make an online gift at: www.Baylor.edu/give

Pledge Process Update - Fall 2014

Fall 2014 Pledge Committee

Chad May - Vice President
Taylor Dupre - Elected Official
Rachel Stevenson - Appointed Official
Joel Baxter - Ex Officio
List of Fall 2014 Pledges

P. Braden Appel
P. Joy Dafoe
P. Marcus Franklin
P. Caleb Mann
P. Tyler Matjeka
P. Elizabeth Sherman

Contact us at...
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    One Bear Place #85588
    Waco, TX 76798
Phone: (254) 710-3322
Email: baylorchamberofcommerce@baylor.edu
Office Location: Bill Daniel Student Union Building
    1st floor, Room 108

The task is before us . . .
Let’s do a Chamber Job.