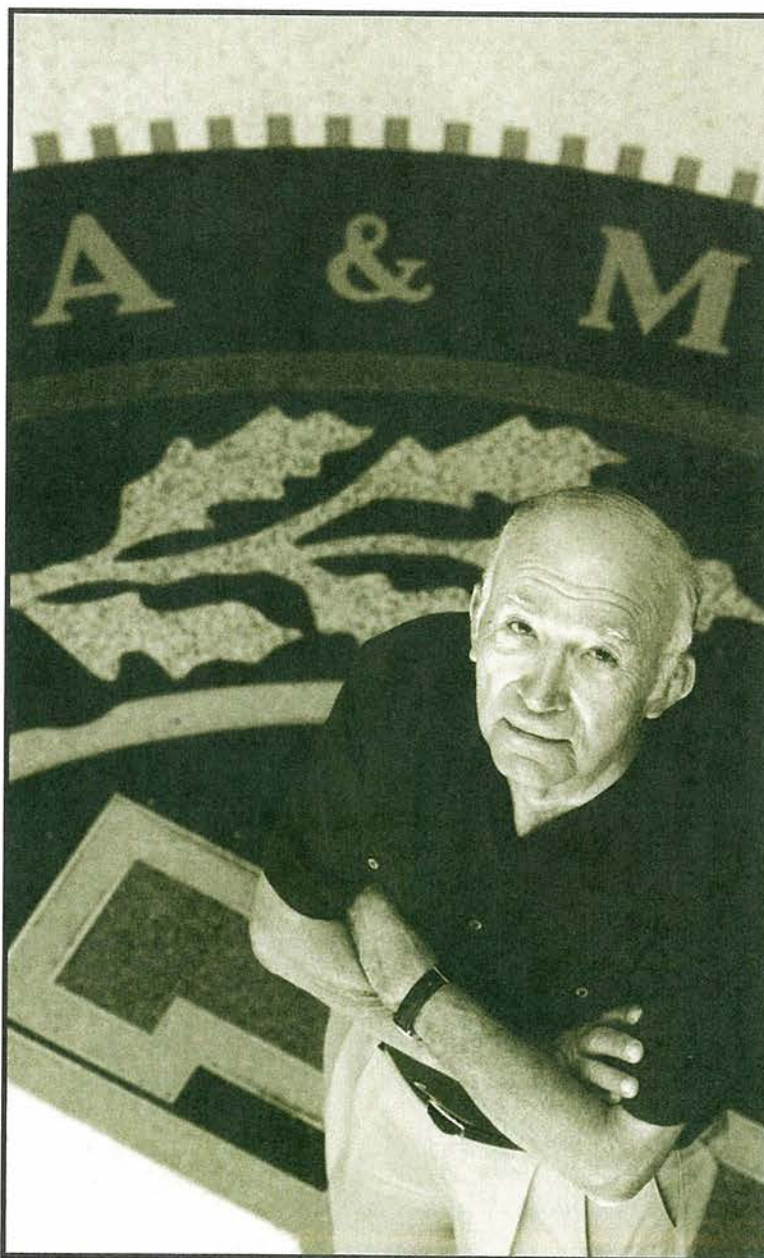


# SPIRIT



If you are one of the thousands of students who was fortunate enough to encounter Dr. John J. Koldus during his 20-year tenure at Texas A&M University, it's likely that you've not forgotten the characteristic smile and good nature of this former vice president of student affairs. And there is almost no doubt that he remembers you! Koldus is enjoying his retirement in Aggieland, and his legacy lives on in the John J. Koldus Quality of Student Life Endowment.



## *Create a Legacy for Someone Special*

Each story you are about to read honors the life and memory of a special member of the Aggie family who touched others in a remarkable way. In tribute to their accomplishments, a gift was made in their name to benefit Texas A&M University.

Some, like Dr. Howard Hesby, are remembered for extraordinary teaching. Others, like Dr. John J. Koldus, we honor for years of service and dedication to students. We also pay homage to Aggies whose lives were unduly cut short, such as Nancy Anne Powell. She was never given the chance to walk across the stage at graduation, but thanks to a scholarship created by a close friend and her family, another Aggie education major will have the chance to graduate and change the lives of young people through teaching.

A memorial gift ensures that the name of another person is connected to a donation in perpetuity. You can name just about any type of gift for another person, whether it is a scholarship, faculty chair or student leadership fund. The minimum amount of a memorial gift is tied to the type of contribution you make. For example, if you create a President's Endowed Scholarship you can name it for yourself or another person, but you must make an \$80,000 commitment. You can also increase the principal of an existing memorial account, such as the Koldus Quality of Student Life Endowment, for as little as \$1,000 or less.

We dedicate this issue of *Spirit* magazine to all who have made a lasting impact or impression on the people around them at Texas A&M. Their names and memories will forever be part of the spirit and mind of this university.

Gig 'em.



JOHN R. STROPP '66  
INTERIM PRESIDENT  
TEXAS A&M FOUNDATION

- 2 PROJECT HOUSE PAPA  
How one Texas A&M professor made the impossible dream possible for 5,000 Depression-era farm boys
- 8 STILL SERVING STUDENT AFFAIRS  
Endowment keeps Aggie leadership and service alive
- 12 SAGE OF KLEBERG  
Former students support an animal science scholarship in Dr. Howard "H2" Hesby's name
- 14 BOOK PRIZE ENDOWMENT HARVESTS HISTORY  
Calvert Book Prize inspires better historical manuscripts
- 16 FORECAST: SUNNY  
Family of late weatherman ensures success of future Aggies
- 18 CREATE TO THEIR HEARTS' CONTENT  
Alan Stacell Student Creativity Fund pushes architectural boundaries
- 22 GROOMING THE FUTURE FOR AGGIE VETS  
LuAnn Ervin '84 honors her life's teachers
- 24 REMEMBERING A HERO  
Nelson gift to petroleum engineering celebrates mentor
- 26 DOW AGGIES SALUTE MARTELL  
Chemistry students keep professor's memory alive
- 28 HONORING VETERAN FAMILIES  
Potthoff scholarship funds Aggie children of veterans
- 30 TWO NAMES ON MY DIPLOMA  
Class of '10 scholarship recipient to earn diploma for fallen former student
- 32 BUSH SCHOOL STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM WILLIAMS' ENDOWMENT  
Class of '37 Aggie funds internships and scholarships in tribute to his wife
- 34 FOUNDATION NEWS

JULY

- 10 College of Science External Advisory & Development Council—Cultivation Event in McKinney, Texas

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Academic Convocation
- 15 Texas A&M Foundation 54th Birthday Tailgate
- 28 College of Education & Human Development Advisory Council Meeting, Donor Appreciation Luncheon and College Awards Celebration
- 29 Foundation Excellence Award (FEA) Tailgate

OCTOBER

- 5 College of Science External Advisory & Development Council Meeting
- 6 President's Endowed Scholarship (PES) Reception
- 6 College of Science Fall Barbecue
- 13-14 Division of Student Affairs AGGIE SPIRIT Development Council Meeting
- 18 Terry Foundation Scholar Reception & Dinner
- 25 Outstanding Senior Engineer Awards and Endowed Scholarship Appreciation Dinner
- 26 College of Architecture Dean's Advisory Council Meeting and Alumni Awards Banquet
- 26 Engineering Advisory Council Fall Meeting

VOLUME VIII NO. 2

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# P R O J E C T H

## How one Texas A&M professor made the impossible

They called it a “haunted house.” Located off of F&B Road on the outer edges of College Station, the Suber House was a dilapidated, abandoned two-story structure free from such luxuries as sanitary accommodations, plumbing or water connections. It was also cheap.

And for 12 young men from Moody desperate for a Texas A&M College education in 1932, the crumbling house was their only ticket to what would have otherwise been financially impossible. The owner of the house agreed to supply building materials, and the boys and their fathers renovated the old house, installing a hand pump to get water to the bathroom and kitchen and a pit-type toilet.

Despite all of their efforts, though, the first of what eventually would become 51 cooperative living residences for young Aggies would have never taken off had it not been for

the tremendous efforts of Texas A&M sociology professor Dr. Dan Russell.

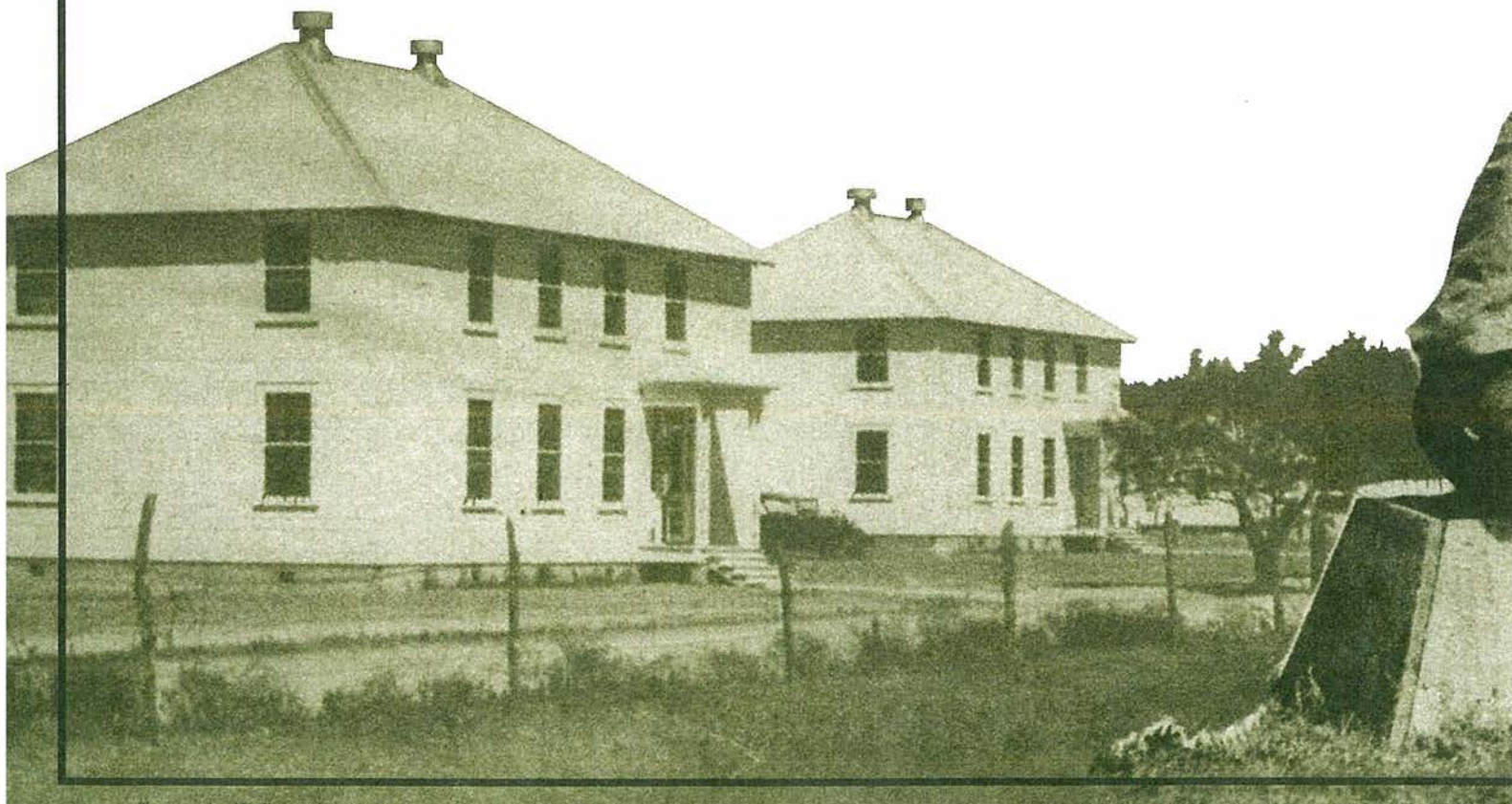


Through Texas A&M’s project-house system, roughly 5,000—up to 6,000, according to some accounts—Depression-era students who had no way to afford dormitory costs were allowed a shot at a Texas A&M education. These farm boys graduated, fought in World II and went on to become military generals, business leaders, teachers and agriculture experts.

During a project house reunion of 63 former residents in the late 1980s, the idea was put forth to endow a scholarship in Russell’s memory.

The result was a \$20,000 gift to the Texas A&M Foundation to create the Dr. Dan Russell Endowed Opportunity Award.

According to a press release prepared by the project house group, the memorial gift was meant to recognize Russell’s “fore-



# HOUSE PAPA

## Dream possible for 5,000 Depression-era farm boys

sight and tireless efforts on behalf of the Project House students.”

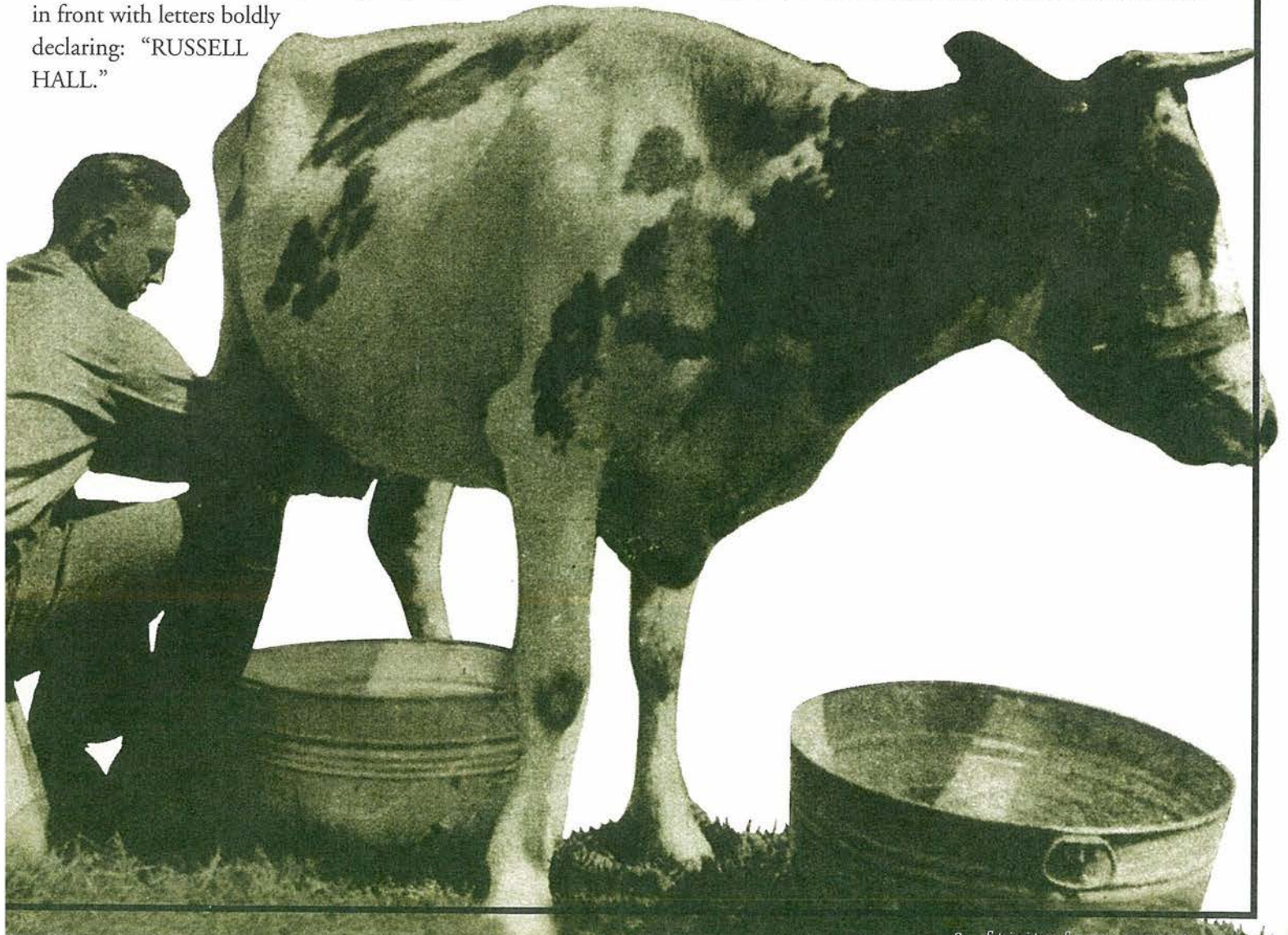
“We hope that the recipients of this scholarship will take advantage of the opportunity to attend Texas A&M University with as much enthusiasm and determination as we did,” the press release read.

This wasn't the first time, though, that project house residents realized the tremendous impact Russell had on their lives. While the Suber House was officially renamed “Moody House” in 1932, the young occupants knew better. Several months after school started, a large sign appeared in front with letters boldly declaring: “RUSSELL HALL.”

### PROJECT HOUSE BEGINNINGS

It was Norbert A. McNiel '35 and his father who first approached Texas A&M officials about allowing a cooperative living arrangement for him and the other Moody boys. At the time, students were required to live on campus, which included the former housing arrangement of the younger McNiel: working and living at Texas A&M's poultry farm.

When McNiel changed his major from poultry science to dairy science, though, he lost his room and couldn't afford to move to a dormitory. But he had several friends in



ONE SPIRIT  
**A&M**  
 ONE VISION

The honor roll lists donors who have made gifts or commitments of \$25,000 or more through the Texas A&M Foundation. This issue recognizes gifts made from January 1 - December 31, 2005. Donors are grouped into two alphabetical lists: "Individuals" and "Corporations & Organizations."

Individuals

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Moody itching to come to Texas A&M and thought of the students already sharing space at the campus dairy, poultry and horticulture farms.

"That's why the idea came to me," Dr. McNeil, now 92, recalled.

Facing declining enrollment numbers, the administrators agreed with two stipulations: the group must have a housemother for cooking and supervision purposes, and must have a faculty sponsor.

Russell had spoken at the Moody High commencement and, during his remarks, offered his help if ever needed. The McNiels took him up on his offer. Before Russell knew it, he was the first project house sponsor. The aunt of one of the boys agreed to be housemother.

Russell found the Suber House for McNeil and his friends, and the cooperative living system at Texas A&M quickly mushroomed. In 1933, roughly one-sixth of Texas A&M students were said to have been living in project houses located throughout the Brazos Valley. Project houses consisted of everything from space above the Bryan Café in Downtown Bryan to the Hoyle Hotel in Navasota to old Army barracks near campus, where, at one point, a reported 90 students slept and 125 ate.

"They rented and lived in every kind of house... sometimes five, sometimes 10 or 20," the late Dr. Reagan Brown '43 told a *Houston Post* reporter in 1968. "Many of the project houses were sponsored by county groups and some by individuals, such as county agents. The American Legion built one, while others were supported by various groups."

"Before it was over with, 5,000 students had lived in project houses at A&M, and 4,000 had gotten degrees," McNeil said.

Not only did the students graduate, but many went on to make tremendous contributions in their fields—particularly in agriculture. McNeil, for instance, retired from Texas A&M in 1979 as a professor emeritus of plant sciences and received the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Out-



standing Alumni Award in 1994. He now lives in his hometown of Moody. Brown went on to become Texas commissioner of agriculture.

PROJECT HOUSE LIVING

Dr. Charles Lewis '39 of Bryan grew up on a farm near the Navarro County town of Blooming Grove. Like many farm families, his was self-sufficient, so cash was rarely an issue. That is, until Lewis decided he would attend Texas A&M.

“When I got ready to come to A&M, Daddy borrowed \$100 from somebody and sent me down here,” recalled Lewis, now 89. “I was pretty much on my own from there. Tuition was practically nothing in those days, but room and board was a lot.”

Lewis immediately joined his friend from Blooming Grove, John “Rut” Stough ’38, in a project house on Sterling Street near Downtown Bryan. Project house residents brought meat, canned goods and even laying hens from their family farms, and then generally paid between \$10 and \$15 for room and board. They pooled these funds to buy other goods—like day-old bread and peanut butter—at wholesale prices.

Lewis and Stough brought dairy cows and rented a nearby pasture. The 25 cents per hour Lewis made working at the col-

lege’s horticulture farm helped pay for cow feed. “I did that for three years,” Lewis said, “but my senior year, I was named manager of the project house. As manager, you got your room and board paid for.”

**W**hen I got ready to come to A&M, daddy borrowed \$100 from somebody and sent me down here. I was pretty much on my own from there. Tuition was practically nothing in those days, but room and board was a lot.”

— DR. CHARLES LEWIS ’39

lege’s horticulture farm helped pay for cow feed. “I did that for three years,” Lewis said, “but my senior year, I was named manager of the project house. As manager, you got your room and board paid for.”

Even though early project house residents lived off campus, they were still required to participate in the Corps of Cadets. Dormitory residents often used the term “day dodgers” to taunt the project house students. But Lewis has fond memories of Corps trips to Dallas

and Houston and of ushering at Texas Aggie football games—a free way to see the action.

Since very few students owned cars at the time, getting to and from campus could be a real challenge. Lewis was fortunate enough to have a truck owner living at his house who transported the entire crew to campus in the morning and back home in the afternoon.

After two years in the Sterling Street project house and another two in new project houses on campus, Lewis had attained the Texas A&M bachelor’s degree in agronomy he so desperately wanted. And with the help of a \$35-per-month job with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (TAES), he stayed on to earn a master’s degree in genetics. Lewis served as a Naval aviator in World War II, earned a doctorate from the University of California at Berkeley, and made a career as

a cotton geneticist first for TAES, then for the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Maryland.

Stough, who died in 2005, worked for the Soil Conservation Service, then in land management for the U.S. Army.

“I couldn’t have gone to college if it hadn’t had been for the project houses,” Lewis said. “I probably would have stayed on our little farm and scratched out a meager living.”

Evelyn D. & Lloyd Bailey Jr. ’44  
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Boyd ’45 Scholarship—  
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Conrad '58  
*Ann & Harold Conrad '58, Christy  
& Mark A. Conrad '90, Lisa '92 &  
Dr. Stephen C. Watson '91 Sul Ross  
Scholarship*

Retired Air Force Lt. Col. Kirk Parker '43 of Fort Worth spent a short time living in one of Texas A&M's project houses. His older brother, the late Paul D. Parker '42, was already living in a project house when he followed him from the East Texas town of Jacksonville to College Station. But during his freshman year, the younger Parker got a job that helped pay for a dorm room.

Despite his short time in a project house, the 85-year-old Parker said he continues to admire those whose determination to go to Texas A&M outweighed their lack of finances. "I enjoyed the project house," Parker said. "Those were the finest people in the world. They had no money, but high motivation."

## Memorializing an Era

Jon Rek '07 missed visiting with Dr. Dial F. Martin '39 during the Texas A&M Parents' Weekend scholarship luncheon in April. Dial Martin died that same month, but the Texas A&M Foundation scholarship he and other former project house residents endowed in memory of Dr. Dan Russell will be helping students like Rek afford a Texas A&M education for generations to come.

"It's hard enough paying for a school like A&M," Rek said, "but being in the Corps and in the band, I don't really have time to work outside of school. This scholarship really alleviates that burden."

Like the project house residents 70 years before him, Rek grew up on a farm and raised cattle, hens and market lambs. His mother, Josephine Charanza Rek '77, is an Aggie, and Jon always planned to follow in her footsteps.

The Rockdale native plays saxophone in the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band and this year was a member of the Bugle Rank. With the Dr. Dan Russell Endowed Opportunity Award, Rek receives \$1,250 per year for four years—an award that has greatly helped him achieve a Texas A&M education.

The Texas A&M Foundation's Endowed Opportunity Awards are designed to provide scholarships for freshmen with outstanding secondary school records. Selection also is based on an applicant's character, activities, leadership ability, SAT or ACT scores and financial need. The endowment created in Russell's name is worth \$25,000 and has so far funded three students.

Scholarship recipients attend an annual luncheon where they have the chance to visit with scholarship donors. It was at past luncheons that Rek particularly enjoyed visiting with Dial, a Texas A&M professor emeritus of entomology, and hearing stories about Texas A&M in the 1930s: Corps life, the national championship football season, the onset of World War II.

Rek is graduating in May and is waiting to hear back from the medical schools to which he's applied. His hope is to go into family medicine and perhaps practice in a rural area. But, like so many of the project house residents of the '30s and '40s, a love of the land also is in his blood—a passion reflected by his decision to major in animal science.

"One day, I hope to have a ranch and run cattle and have a little more knowledge about that," he said. ♦

## PROJECT HOUSE CULTIVATION

Russell came to Texas A&M from Baylor University in 1926 and, a year later, became head of Texas A&M's Department of Rural Sociology. Born in Mississippi in 1899 and raised in Crockett, Texas, Russell's adventures in such faraway places as Chicago—where he attended graduate school—were a source of wonderment for a lot of wide-eyed Texas boys who lived and breathed farming.

And while many students enrolled in Russell's rural sociology class for an "easy A," 87-year-old Roy Bucek '42 of Schulenburg—who lived free for one year in a campus project house for student athletes—recalled that class discussion covered everything from careers to marriage.

"Dr. Russell was a wonderful teacher," Bucek said. "His course was really just about living life. Everybody loved him—everybody learned a lot from him."

On-campus project houses came along in 1937 after Russell gained approval from the Texas A&M Board of Directors to establish a large-scale cooperative housing program as part of the actual college. About a dozen or so project houses became part of the Texas A&M campus. The rural sociology department supervised the accounts of each project house and Russell served as the houses' purchasing agent, screened resident and house-mother applications, maintained files and grades of the residents, helped project house graduates obtain jobs, counseled the students and publicized the cooperative project.

The innovative cooperative living concept that Russell and fellow sociology professor Dan Davis fostered at Texas A&M soon spread to the University of Texas and then across the country. Reporters from national

newspapers and magazines flocked to the Texas A&M campus, and the story of the college's project-house system appeared in such renowned publications as *The Reader's Digest* and *The New York Times*.

As years passed, the Texas A&M Board of Directors ruled that while students could continue to live in project houses, they must be the ones located on campus. In 1947 the project house system dissolved completely. The remaining campus structures were used to house returning war veterans and their wives, as well as other married students and graduate students. In 1988, the last of the 50-year-old dilapidated houses were dismantled. Eleven years later, the Texas A&M Foundation's Jon L. Hagler Center was dedicated on the lot where several houses once stood.

Long after the project houses ceased operation, Russell was still hard at work. His time in the classroom was augmented by leaves of absence to work as a special U.S. Agency for International Development consultant in Central America, concentrating his efforts in Haiti. During the 1950s, he also spent time lending his expertise to the Field Program Office of the International Voluntary Services to Free Countries of Asia.

Russell retired from Texas A&M in 1964 and died five years later. Upon his retirement, he gave some insight into what drove him to make sure these 5,000 boys received the Texas A&M education they so adamantly desired: "Every man is basically selfish," he told the *Bryan Daily Eagle*. "Even so, there is no satisfaction like that of helping others. This is what I've tried to do."

"Unless we teach the next generation to be better," he continued, "we've failed." ♦

—by Kara Bounds Socol

Barbara A. & Ralph F. Cox '53  
*Barbara & Ralph Cox '53 Faculty  
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*Bequest—E. Harvey Craig & Carrie  
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Program—Liberal Arts/E. Harvey &  
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*G. Steven '80 & Deanna Dawson  
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Denny Jr. '71  
*Bonnie B. & Otway B. Denny Jr. '71  
Sul Ross Scholarship*

Tracey L. & William E.  
Deupree '83  
*Deupree Foundation Scholarship  
Fund—Nelson Scholars Program in  
Petroleum Engineering*

# Still SERVING

THE JOHN J. KOLDUS QUALITY OF STUDENT LIFE ENDOWMENT ENSURES THAT STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE REMAIN VITAL TO AGGIE CULTURE.

With a warm sparkle in his eye, the former vice president for student services recalls attending an Aggie athletic event during which he met three members of Texas A&M's women's softball team. At the end of the visit, he scheduled a lunch date with the students so he could hear about what was going on in their lives as well as their college experiences.

Using mealtimes to build relationships and developing an extensive card file list of individual students' interests were trademarks of Koldus' 20-year tenure; these tools remain key to many of his interactions to this day. More important, these

The Koldus Endowment is an unrestricted account used by the vice president for student affairs to benefit students, their families, student organizations, various departments within the division, and other needs related to the quality of student life at Texas A&M University. The endowment is managed by the Texas A&M Foundation, and The Association of Former Students supplements its income stream with contributions from the annual fund. The endowment continues to be augmented by a diverse group of individual donors, corporations, foundations and organizations with pledges ranging from \$25 to many thousands of dollars.

# STUDENT

building blocks helped establish his legacy as one of the primary architects of Texas A&M's unique culture, which provides students with extensive leadership responsibilities for organizations and events.

Because of his tremendous influence on the university's student services, the John J. Koldus Quality of Student Life Endowment was created in 1993 at the request of Dr. J. Malon Southerland '65, who was serving as associate vice president for student services at the time. "John came to Texas A&M in the 1970s when the institution was changing. New services and new ideas were generated during this time, and his strength was being open to these," Southerland said. "John's philosophy was that every student should have access to us. This type of endowment was a way to provide funds to the vice president to react to an immediate situation."

Robert W. Harvey '77 donated to the endowment to honor Koldus for his tremendous contributions. "He meant so much to the university," Harvey said. "This university is the sum of people like John." Harvey, who held multiple student leadership roles during Koldus' early tenure at Texas A&M, also wanted to provide funds to enhance "the other education" provided by the student activities and student services, "which is what John supported and stood for."

When he retired in 1993, the Student Services Building was renamed the John J. Koldus Building. Besides this visible tribute, Koldus' influence at Texas A&M continues to permeate the opportunities provided to Aggies today.

"Dr. Koldus' goal when he arrived in 1973 was to develop the finest student affairs program

# AFFAIRS



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*Dr. Lawrence A. DuBose '42  
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*Anne & David Dunlap '83  
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*E. Patricia Duplissey Sul Ross  
Scholarship*

**Margaret D. & Sebastian J.**

**"Jack" Durr Jr. '45**

*Gift Annuities—Margaret &  
Sebastian J. "Jack" Durr '45  
Distinguished Scholarship in Civil  
Engineering/Texas A&M Foundation*

**Brian P. Ehni '74**

*Brian Paul Ehni '74 General Rudder  
Corps Scholarship*

*Dr. George & Velaire Ehni*

*President's Endowed Scholarship*

**Joy & J. Ralph Ellis Jr. '52**

*James Earl Rudder Biography*

**Julia A. & Mark E. Ellis '79**

*Mark & Julia Ellis Scholarship in  
Petroleum Engineering*

**Marijo & James R.**

**English Jr. '46**

*Marijo & James R. "Bob"*

*English Jr. '46 General Rudder  
Corps Scholarship*

**Clifford A. Falkenau**

*Planned Gift—Falkenau Family  
Foundation Excellence Award—  
Mays Business School*

**Donna & Henry W. Finck Jr. '84**

*Life Insurance—College of  
Agriculture & Life Sciences*

**Teresa L. & Jerry W.**

**Fitzgerald '90**

*Living Trust—Jerry & Teresa Lynn  
Fitzgerald Scholarship Endowed  
Fund—Corps of Cadets*

Elizabeth D. & Peter C.

Forster '63

*Civil Engineering Enrichment Fund*

Alice Ann & James H. Foster '49

*Alice & James H. Foster '49 General  
Rudder Corps Scholarship*

Jo Ann G. Fowler

*Jo Ann Fowler Fund—Stevenson  
Companion Animal Life-Care  
Center*

Betty Anne & Theodore K.  
Franke '39

*LTC T. K. Franke '39 General  
Rudder Corps Scholarship*

Claudia Curran Freels '82  
& Bradley R. Freels '81

*James A. Moran Real Estate  
Excellence Fund*

Donna P. & James E. Furber '64

*Robert F. & Joyce Schmid Penick Sr.  
President's Endowed Scholarship*

Marie M. Galloway

*Marie M. & James H. Galloway Jr.  
'29 Endowed Scholarship in  
Mechanical Engineering*

Dorothy B. & Raymond E.  
Galvin '53

*Coastal Engineering Laboratory  
Charitable Remainder Unitrust—  
Ray & Dorothy Galvin  
Undergraduate Student Fund—  
Engineering*

Berta & Eduardo L. Garcia '70

*Life Insurance—Berta & Eduardo L.  
Garcia '70 Endowed Foundation  
Excellence Award*

Tina Smith Gardner & Paul  
Frost Gardner '66

*Planned Gift—Tina & Paul Gardner  
'66 Corps Leadership Program  
Fund/Tina & Paul Gardner '66  
Endowment for Texas A&M  
Athletics/Tina & Paul Gardner '66  
Sul Ross Scholarship*

Molly C. '85 & George B.  
Georgiades '83

*College of Agriculture Development  
Council/George B. '83 & Molly C.  
'85 Georgiades Endowed Scholarship*

Mary Ann & Gordon F.  
Gibson '55

*Glenn G. Gibson & Sharon L.  
Gibson '86 Scholarship—  
Interdisciplinary Studies*

*Mary Ann & Gordon F. Gibson '55  
Scholarship—Aerospace Engineering*

in the nation, thereby providing a rich educational experience for all Aggies,” said Dr. Dean Bresciani, Texas A&M’s vice president for student affairs. “The students who attended Texas A&M during this 20-year tenure never doubted Dr. Koldus’ sincere devotion and interest in them. And today’s students continue to benefit from his success in achieving his goal—by sharing in the many out-of-class student life programs and services they experience through the Division of Student Affairs.”

Fittingly, the endowment supports the continuation of the student opportunities for which Koldus is known. “The Koldus Endowment has proven to be invaluable to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, as we frequently are approached by various students and student organizations who are working diligently to plan an event or program and are in need of supplemental funding,” explained Bresciani. For instance, the endowment enabled Texas A&M student organizations and departments to plan programs to enhance cultural and diversity awareness across campus as part of the university’s Year of the International Student celebration in 2006. The Koldus Endowment also contributed to a universitywide effort in 2005 to send students and administrators on recruiting trips to high schools in underrepresented areas of Texas.

Koldus’ philosophy of student affairs was forged by a belief that students should have caring educators in their life, but also should have the responsibility to plan and orchestrate major events related to their interests instead of only following the directions of educators.

When Koldus came to College Station in 1973 as the first vice president of student services, the university’s culture was firmly

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DR. KOLDUS' GOAL WHEN  
HE ARRIVED IN 1973 WAS  
TO DEVELOP THE FINEST

S T U D E N T  
A F F A I R S  
P R O G R A M

IN THE NATION, THEREBY  
PROVIDING A RICH EDU-  
CATIONAL EXPERIENCE  
FOR ALL AGGIES.

---

*Dr. Dean Bresciani  
Texas A&M's vice president for student affairs*

---

rooted in military tradition. At the time, the Corps of Cadets was becoming a smaller percentage of the student population, so Texas A&M President Jack Williams asked Koldus to develop increased leadership opportunities for civilian students. During his 20-year tenure, Koldus worked with students to almost double the number of student organizations and to create enhanced opportunities for student leaders. By the time he retired in 1993, Texas A&M students had a choice of approximately 700 student organizations in which to become involved. As Corps commander and student body president, Harvey had numerous opportunities to interact closely with Koldus. Harvey described Koldus as “a man with a lot of grace, style and sophistication that you wanted to emulate, but with small-town quality.”

Koldus’ parents also provided an important lesson for his future career in student affairs—using the time spent around the dinner table to build relationships. “I’m from

a Hungarian family,” the Arkansas native said. “So much was done with the family around food. People relax around food. When you take the young out to eat, they relax around food rather than when I visit with them and sit behind a desk.”

As a Texas A&M administrator, Koldus hosted weekly student lunches. In addition, leaders from student government and other student organizations joined Koldus for dinner every Thursday. “The whole idea was for us to communicate and to discuss any problems or concerns that they had or I had,” Koldus said, adding that he used the dinners as a “leadership lab” so students could learn about the university’s politics as well as those of their student organization.

His amazing ability to remember the names and interests of individual students was reinforced during Koldus’ tenure at East Texas State University (now Texas A&M University-Commerce). Koldus recalled a student who asked him to write a letter of recommendation, noting that Koldus was the only person on that campus who knew his name. “After that, I made an effort to know every student’s name,” he said.

Upon his arrival at Texas A&M, Koldus developed what has become his trademark: an extensive note card system that helps him remember the names and something special about the 18,000 students who were enrolled at that time. He kept blank note cards with him at all times so that he could quickly jot down observations about students he met while walking around campus. He filed these cards in a drawer, and would study them at random to ensure he could remember these students the next time they met.

That original card file is now located at his home, and he still uses it when he receives

correspondence from a former student. When he was diagnosed with cancer in 2000, Koldus started a new card file with addresses of former students who sent get well wishes. He uses that card file, which holds about 400 updated cards, during the Christmas season when he handwrites a holiday message to each person.

Health issues such as cancer and diabetes haven’t slowed Koldus since his retirement in 1993. In fact, he worked with his doctor to determine the placement of his pacemaker so that it wouldn’t mar his golf swing during his daily round with a group of Aggies. Koldus and his wife also have been traveling throughout the United States and internationally.

Koldus’ children, who grew up on the Texas A&M campus and were well known by Aggies, now call Dallas, Houston and Lake Jackson home. And the family tree still has branches that extend into Aggieland. A grandson is a junior at Texas A&M while a granddaughter will enroll in Fall 2007 with a soccer scholarship. Koldus foresees that the other eight grandchildren will eventually follow the family path to College Station.

Throughout Koldus’ storied career as well as his retirement, his devotion to Texas A&M has remained constant. “I really love the university and what it stands for and what it’s all about for young people,” he said. “My life has been about helping and giving to others.” He described being overwhelmed that what he took for granted as being his professional responsibility resulted in numerous tributes from the university (such as the creation of Koldus Endowment and naming of the Koldus Student Services Building in his honor). In awe, he said, “When it happens, it’s like fireworks going off on the Fourth of July.” ♦

—by Dorian Martin '07

Charlotte M. & Zay W. Gilbreath '62  
*College of Agriculture Development Council/Gilbreath Family Endowed Scholarship*

Rhonda & Frosty Gilliam Jr. '80  
*Aghorn Energy Professorship in Petroleum Engineering in memory of Forrest "Frosty" Gilliam Sr.*

Jim & Ann Ginnings '55  
*Ginnings-Whiting Scholarship Fund—Petroleum Engineering*

Heather S. '99 & Sean M. Golden '01  
*Sean M. Golden '01 & Heather Sustman Golden '99 Southerland Aggie Leader Scholarship*

Deaun R. & Robert Golding  
*Robert M. Golding Jr. '88 Endowed Scholarship—Geology & Geophysics*

John Kevin Graham '85  
*Kevin Graham '85 Endowed Opportunity Award*

Marianne W. & Willard R. Green '53  
*Marianne W. & Willard R. Green '53 Endowed Scholarship—Geosciences*

Marilyn Sue & Leon Greenblum '45  
*Sue & Leo Greenblum '45 Endowed Opportunity Award*

M. Joan Griffiths  
*Planned Gift—Joan & John F. Griffiths Endowed Scholarship—Atmospheric Sciences*

Joann & George E. Grobowsky  
*Joann & George E. Grobowsky Endowed Opportunity Award*

Michel T. Halbouty '30  
*University Special Gifts*

Ollabelle & Gary L. Hall '71  
*William R. Bryant Endowed Chair in Oceanography*

John R. Hanson II  
*Planned Gift—John R. Hanson II Scholarship Endowed Fund—Liberal Arts*

Norma & Kenneth A. Harlan '55  
*Norma & Kenneth Harlan '55 Endowed Scholarship—Geosciences*

Laurie L. Hartman  
*Texas Agricultural Experiment Station*

# Sage

As a professor in Texas A&M's Department of Animal Science from 1971 until his death in 2005, Hesby provided more than a positive learning experience to the students he encountered. His senior seminar, fondly called the "BBQ Class," helped to prepare more than 10,000 students for interviews, work and life. He organized annual agribusiness field trips so students could experience the working world firsthand, and his classroom lectures are the stuff of "Old Army" legend, with visitors ranging from corporate executives to a multitude of barnyard animals.

Kristen Clancy '00, a health inspector for the City of Austin, says Hesby's approach to teaching was unforgettable. "Dr. Hesby not only made animal science interesting, he was interesting in and of himself. He could be discussing the proper handling of chickens—which he was all too happy to demonstrate—by passing several live chickens from student to student in a classroom of about 300 students, all the while sharing a lesson about trusting one another or the importance of keeping your focus when finding yourself in chaotic situations."

Hesby's teaching was not limited to his coursework. As an academic advisor in the department as well as to a group of cadets, his office door was open to students even in early morning hours for anyone who needed help or someone to listen.

Whether you worked alongside him for decades, enjoyed a class he taught or only met him once, Dr. Howard Hesby made a lasting impression. His distinctive yet classic "buzz" haircut allowed many to identify him in a crowd, but it was his uncanny abilities as an educator, leader and mentor that truly engraved "H2" in the memory banks of more than two generations of Aggies.

# of Kleberg

It's not surprising, given this legendary rapport with students, that shortly after his death, numerous former students, colleagues and friends contributed funds to establish the Howard "H2" Hesby Scholarship in the Department of Animal Science. Managed by the Texas A&M Foundation, this endowment will exist in perpetuity and annually provide a stipend for a selected student.

The inaugural recipient of the scholarship, Wade Fisher '07, cites numerous Hesby experiences. "Dr. Hesby always seemed to be there for each of his students," Fisher said, "either in his office, calling you at home if you missed his class, or traveling across the country for former students' weddings or to visit their families."

Amazingly, Fisher's family received a timely Hesby house call many years before the Killeen native came to Texas A&M. John & Sheena Fisher, both 1979 Texas A&M graduates and students of Hesby, tragically lost their oldest son in a drowning accident. In that moment of sadness, John Fisher recalls seeing a familiar and comforting face. "Howard just sort of showed up unexpectedly at the house, which was hundreds of miles away, and said, 'I figured you might need someone to talk to about now.' It meant the world to us."

Hesby's sense of duty to the department was unlimited—he considered maintenance of the Kleberg Center an obligation, including painting classrooms, mopping the floors or even trimming the hedges at night by flashlight.

The Kleberg Animal & Food Sciences Center has been the home of the Department of Animal Science since 1978, but it was Hesby

who put out the welcome mat. As the assigned proctor for the building, he took his responsibility seriously. "Howard cared for Kleberg more than some care for their home," said Dr. Larry Boleman, assistant deputy vice chancellor for agriculture and long-time colleague. "It was his home and—more important to him—a home for students. He wanted every kid to feel at home in Kleberg."

Prior to Hesby's passing in 2005, a Kleberg remodeling project gave him one more cause to embrace. Building on Hesby's wishes, several agriculture departments have embarked on a campaign to renovate the Kleberg lobby area into a "student-centric space" named in his honor.

"He and I stepped off the dimensions of that atrium no less than five different times together," recalls Dr. Gary Acuff, professor and department head for animal science. "He was adamant that we shouldn't be growing decorative greenery when we could be growing better students."

Kay Hesby, his wife of 39 years, knows all too well his passion for his second home. She envisions the planned Howard Hesby Student Atrium as a den for students. "Howard always said the best legacy to leave is one that someone else can use." ♦

—by Chad Wootton '96 and Mike Downey

*The Texas A&M Foundation is accepting contributions in support of the Hesby Atrium project. For more information, contact Lee Ann Knox at 979/847-9314 or l-knox@tamu.edu.*

Harley R. Haussman '73  
Bequest—Sam Haussman Endowed  
Corps of Cadets Fund/Sam  
Haussman Corps of Cadets Endowed  
Scholarship

Mary E. Herring '81  
Planned Gift—The Association of  
Former Students/L. E. Martin MD  
& G. H. Martin Endowed Fund—  
Medicine/Parsons Mounted Cavalry  
Endowed Fund

Diane & George K.  
Hickox Jr. '80  
George K. Hickox Jr. Professorship  
in Petroleum Engineering

Robert C. Holmes '49  
Charitable Remainder Unitrust—  
12th Man Foundation/The  
Association of Former  
Students/Robert C. Holmes General  
Rudder Corps Scholarship

Lillian L. '85 & Mark A.  
Houser '83  
Mark & Lou Houser Scholarship in  
Petroleum Engineering

G. Philip Huey '52  
G. Philip Huey '52 Foundation  
Excellence Award

Betty L. & Benjamin F. Huss '46  
Evans Library Mutual Endowed Fund

Amy L. Ibbotson '87 & William  
H. Ibbotson '77  
Bequests—Sul Ross Scholarship in  
memory of Helen Ibbotson/Texas  
A&M Foundation—Unrestricted

Margaret Brown Ingram '97  
Peggy B. Ingram '97 Endowed  
Opportunity Award

Emma Jane & Robert W.  
Ivey '44  
Corps of Cadets Enrichment Fund

Jean P. & Orville E. "Skip"  
Johnson Jr. '52  
Jean & Skip Johnson Jr. '52  
Foundation Excellence Awards

Billie & Robert L. Johnson '44  
Charitable Remainder Trust—Robert  
L. Johnson Scholarship

James Johnstone  
Private Enterprise Research Center

Doris W. '70 & Robert H.  
Kensing '46  
Gift Annuities—Doris W. '70 &  
Robert H. Kensing '46  
Endowment—Horticultural  
Sciences/Doris W. '70 & Robert H.  
Kensing '46 Endowment—  
Agricultural Economics/Texas A&M  
Foundation—Unrestricted





ROBERT A. CALVERT, PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, DIED ON NOV. 30, 2000, AFTER A LONG BATTLE WITH PANCREATIC CANCER. IN MARCH, A WORTHY SCHOLAR RECEIVED THE INAUGURAL ROBERT A. CALVERT BOOK PRIZE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION IN SAN ANTONIO.

The Calvert Prize will provide a cash award and recognize the best book manuscript accepted the preceding year by the Texas A&M University Press on the history of the American South, West, or Southwest.

The Calvert Prize was created through a \$25,000 endowment to the Texas A&M Foundation during the *One Spirit One Vision Campaign*. It reflects the admiration many felt for this beloved professor and will provide a lasting and unique award to honor Calvert's contribution in this broadly conceived field.

Paul Cool, a social security administrator, was awarded the inaugural Calvert Book Prize. Cool's manuscript, titled "Salt Warriors: Insurgency on the Rio Grande," recounts the El Paso Salt War, an 1877 conflict that pitted local Pasenos (Mexican Americans in the region) against Anglo entrepreneurs and the Texas Rangers. The Texas A&M University Press will publish Cool's book in 2008.

"Bob Calvert was interested in a different kind of history. As a scholar, he wanted folks to consider Texas in a larger context," said Walter Buenger, professor and head of the Department of History. "He studied

20th century history and was interested in developing a more inclusive history that looked at race, women, and gender."

His popular Texas history text, *The History of Texas*, co-authored with Arnoldo DeLeon, did just that. The publisher lauded it for considering "the different cultures within the state as well as the unique heritage shared by all Texans, [and it] remains the most inclusive, relevant, and up-to-date account of all those who call the Lone Star State home."

Calvert also was passionate about improving the quality of scholarship about the Southwest. To that end, he served as a member on the Texas A&M University Press' Faculty Advisory Committee and as a founding co-editor of its Southwestern Studies series.

"When I began doing acquisition work in Texas and regional history, Bob met with me almost weekly to discuss projects, authors, and directions the Press's list should take," said Mary Lenn Dixon, editor-in-chief at the Texas A&M University Press. "His advice and support were crucial in maintaining and extending the importance of the Press's publishing in this area."

"Bob was the soul of the history department," said Buenger. "He had a knack of making you feel like you were the most important person in his life."

James Rosenheim, professor of history and director of the Melburn G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research, recalls Calvert's influence in his decision to come to Texas A&M. "I had interviewed for a job at A&M and stayed an extra day. Bob was in his car, running errands. I was standing on the corner of University and Houston streets. He saw me, pulled over and we spent the afternoon together, driving around town and talking. Meeting Bob Calvert convinced me I could thrive here."

It was no surprise then that when Calvert became ill, Press officials and history faculty alike began to openly discuss honoring him.

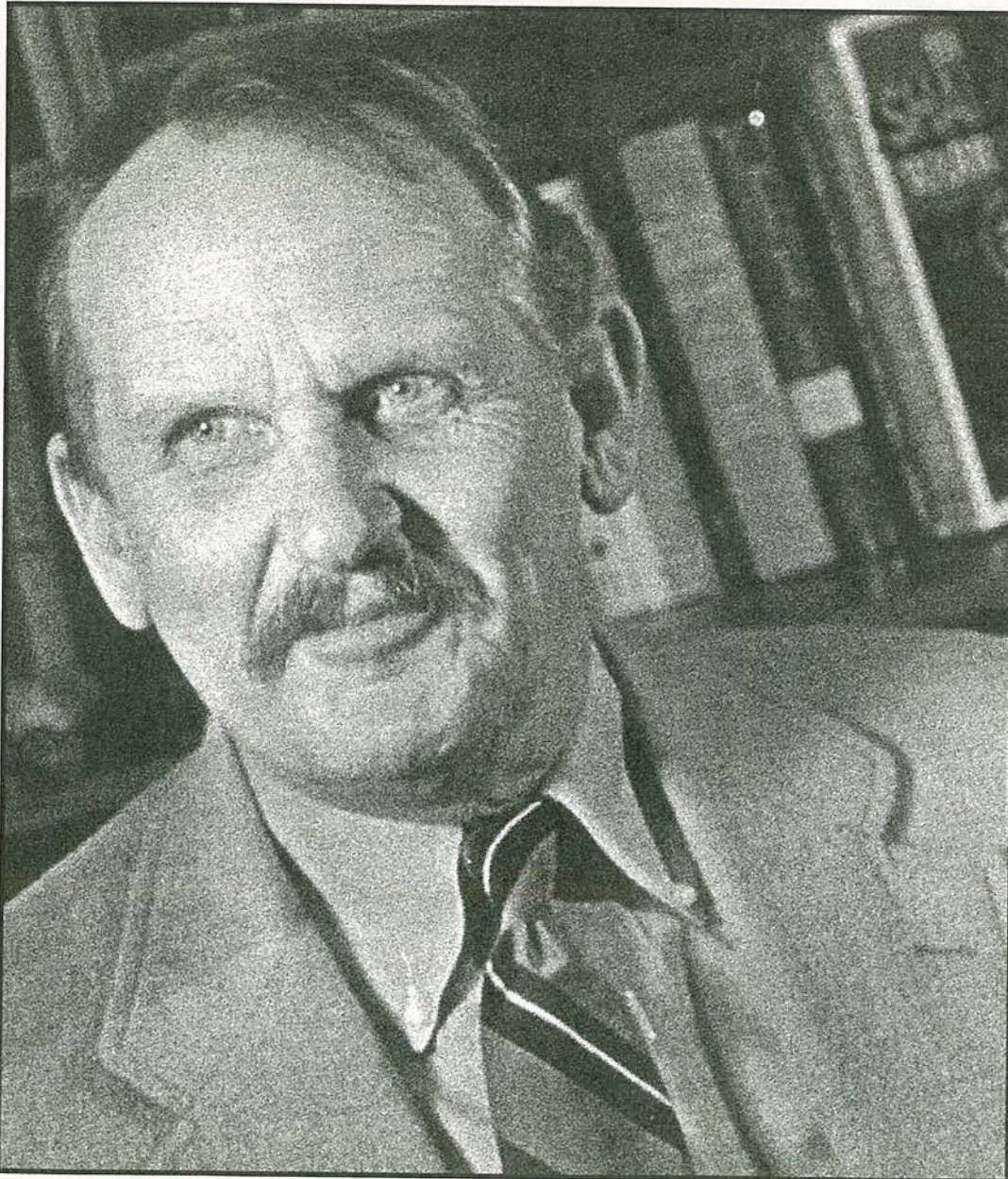
"As a trusted advisor and committed participant in the Press's program, he left a legacy here that we believed should be not only recognized, but also perpetuated," said Dixon. "An endowed prize that would help the Press continue to attract manuscripts of the sort he supported seemed an ideal way to do that."

The history department undertook the task of raising support for the endowment. Buenger notes there was widespread giving, but reaching the \$25,000 goal took longer than anticipated. He and the staff cast a wide net within the department, across campus and through the Texas State Historical Association (an organization in which Calvert had served as president). The fund had reached a plateau and stalled until two large gifts completed the endowment.

Buenger believes the Calvert Prize will encourage the submission of better manuscripts as well as improve the quality of books about the Southwest.

"This prize will put Bob's name on particular scholarly products that were important to him," said Rosenheim. "And even more striking is the unique nature of this award. Not too many university presses have memorial prizes such as this." ♦

—by Leanne South



Robert A. Calvert

Betty Jane & Van Knight Jr. '73  
Bequests—Betty & Van Knight Jr.  
'73 Aggie Band Corps Scholarships

William E. Koss  
Dr. Walter E. Koss Endowed  
Scholarship in Mathematics

Erin B. & James B. Kracht  
Bequest - Scholarships for Teacher  
Education Students

Betty L. Kyle  
Charitable Remainder Unitrust—  
Betty L. Kyle Fund—Stevenson  
Companion Animal Life-Care Center

Judy Lankford  
Bequest—College of Veterinary  
Medicine & Biomedical Science

Joel Lenamon  
Tomi & Joe T. Lenamon '51 General  
Rudder Corps Scholarship

Katey E. '91 & Mark W.  
Lenox '90  
Lenox President's Endowed Scholarship

Dora Rose & Leonard Leon '45  
Gift Annuities—Petroleum  
Engineering Endowed Fund/Texas  
A&M Foundation—Unrestricted

Paula & Ronald S. Letbetter '70  
Paula & Steve Letbetter '70  
Leadership Chair in Business

Klayre Simon Lewis '00  
& Jeffrey C. Lewis  
Life Insurance—Texas A&M  
Foundation—Unrestricted

Diane C. & John R. Lister '60  
Aggie Muster Endowment  
Diane & John R. Lister '60  
Southerland Aggie Leader  
Scholarship  
Diane & John R. Lister '60  
Sul Ross Scholarship

Lenora K. & Robert R. Locke '49  
Gift Annuity—Lenora K. & Robert  
R. Locke '49 Endowed Opportunity  
Award—Engineering/Lenora K. &  
Robert R. Locke '49 Endowed  
Scholarship—Engineering Scholars  
Program/Texas A&M Foundation—  
Unrestricted

Mary T. & Albert M. Loudon '57  
Mary T. & Albert M. Loudon '57  
Scholarship in Electrical &  
Computer Engineering

May A. & Ervin L. Luedke '62  
Ervin L. & May A. Luedke Endowed  
Opportunity Award

John W. Lyons Jr. '59  
John W. "Bill" Lyons Jr. '59  
Chair in Biology

Elizabeth & Raymond  
Marlow '53  
*Elizabeth & Raymond Marlow '53  
Endowed Scholarship—Mechanical  
Engineering*

Mildred H. & Charles A.  
Mast '51  
*Mast-Childs Professorship in  
Mechanical Engineering*

Natalie N. '82 & James D.  
McGehee '81  
*Natalie '82 & Doug McGehee '81  
Endowed Scholarship*

Dena R. McGowan DVM '74  
*Life Insurance—Dr. Dena  
McGowan Endowed Scholarship—  
Veterinary Medicine/Veterinary  
Medicine Class of '75 Endowed  
Scholarship*

COL (RET) James G. '59  
& Barbara B. '73 McKnight  
*Academic Support Fund*

Craig R. McMahan '90  
*Craig R. McMahan Fund for  
Excellence in Teaching & Research  
in Finance*

Helen Newman McWhorter  
*Charitable Remainder Unitrust—  
Helen McWhorter Chair in Small  
Animal Medicine/Helen McWhorter  
Endowed Scholarship in Small  
Animal Medicine*

Rhonda L. & Gregory L. Meier  
*Bequest—Peter F. Meier Endowed  
Veterinary Class of 2011 Memorial  
Scholarship—Veterinary Medicine  
& Biomedical Science*

Julie & Balous T. Miller  
*Center for New Ventures &  
Entrepreneurship Excellence Fund—  
Mays Business School*

Marion B. '78 & Marc G.  
Miller '78  
*Living Trust—Texas A&M  
Foundation—Unrestricted*

Sallie & John L. Minter '47  
*Gift Annuity—Texas A&M  
Foundation—Unrestricted*

Sandra K. & Bryan N.  
Mitchell '70  
*Sandy K. & Bryan N. Mitchell '70  
Master Builder Endowed Chair—  
Architecture*

# Forecast: Sunny

Family of late  
weatherman  
ensures success  
for future Aggies

**T**he weather, like life, is unpredictable and can take a person in many directions. Lt. Col. Lee Fritze '60 loved meteorology and life, and this inspired his wife of 31 years, Joan, to create the Lt. Col. Lee Victor Fritze '60 Memorial Scholarship. The \$60,000 endowment, established through the Texas A&M Foundation, will support students in the College of Geosciences.

Fritze was born in Uvalde, Texas, and raised in San Antonio. It was no surprise that he decided to attend Texas A&M following his father, Victor Fritze '31, and his uncle Hilmar A. L. Fritze '29. At Texas A&M he majored in math and discovered a love for science. Following graduation, Fritze attended the Air Force's six-month basic training and married Joan. The Air Force had a need for meteorology experts and sent Fritze and his wife back to College Station for a one-year meteorology program, now known as atmospheric sciences. He thoroughly enjoyed the meteorology program and flourished in the scientific coursework. Joan says her husband had a technical mind and the meteorology field was a perfect match for his interests and intellect. His now 97-year-old father recently accompanied

Joan back to his alma mater to complete the memorial scholarship gift agreement. Victor Fritze said being on Texas A&M's campus produced "good feelings." He added that his son's time in the meteorology program was his favorite time as a student at Texas A&M.

Fritze was a meteorologist in the Air Force for 20 years and enjoyed assignments in Alaska, California, New York, Oklahoma, Germany and Thailand. During this time, computer simulation was non-existent in weather forecasting. As a weather station commander, he used charts to forecast. It was his job to brief pilots before missions in extreme weather regions such as tornado-prone Oklahoma and snow-covered Alaska. He also provided weather support in Thailand during the Vietnam War.

Joan is thrilled that the scholarship will support students who have an interest in meteorology. She chose to give an endowed scholarship because the money will "continue on" and will be there as long as Texas A&M exists. The \$60,000 contribution will never be touched but the income accrued will be used for student scholarships—\$3,000 each and every year. This year, the atmospheric sciences department has decided to award \$1,000 scholarships to three students. One of the recipients, senior Stephen Cathey, expressed his appreciation for the Fritze scholarship. "I have always been fascinated by weather, and I am proud to be attending Texas A&M University to pursue a field that I have loved my whole life," he said.

Fritze was a perpetual learner. Following retirement from the Air Force in 1981, he obtained an accounting degree and worked as an accountant for 15 years. However, his love for meteorology endured. Joan says he would get excited with each thunderstorm and could be found on the porch watching the clouds, lightening and rain. She hopes her contribution will inspire other Aggies to discover their love of weather. ♦

—by Carrie Paxton-Lamke

*With a generous donation of \$60,000, Joan Fritze created an endowed scholarship through the Texas A&M Foundation in honor of her late husband (below), Lt. Col. Lee Victor Fritze '60.*



**Cynthia W. & George P. Mitchell '40**

*Bill Merrell Marine Science  
Endowed Chair*

*George P. Mitchell '40 Astronomy  
Colloquium Series Fund*

*George P. Mitchell '40 Chair in  
Statistics*

*George P. Mitchell '40 Lecture in  
Astronomy*

*George P. Mitchell '40 Salary  
Enhancement Endowment—Physics  
Mitchell/Heep/Munnerlyn Endowed  
Career Enhancement Professorship  
in Physics*

*Mitchell/Heep/Munnerlyn Endowed  
Chair in Observational Astronomy  
Rachal/Mitchell/Heep Endowed  
Professorship in Physics*

*H. J. Vance Scholarship for  
Excellence in Petroleum Engineering  
Robert L. Whiting Technology Fund*

**Merry T. & George C. Molteni '49**

*Gift Annuity—Merry T. & George  
C. Molteni Aggie Band Endowment*

**Karen E. & David L. Moore '72**  
*Bequest—James R. "Randy" Matson  
'67 Foundation Excellence Award/  
James R. "Randy" Matson '67  
Foundation Excellence Award II/  
Elizabeth & Lee Moore '00 Endowed  
Fund—Parks & Recreation/Karen  
E. & David L. Moore '72 Endowed  
Fund—Mays Business School/Dr.  
William A. Moore '41 & L. Sue  
Moore General Rudder Corps  
Scholarship/Dr. William A. Moore  
'41 & L. Sue Moore General Rudder  
Scholarship II*

**Betty Jane & Joseph T. Moore Jr. '49**

*Planned Gift—Betty Jane & J. T.  
Moore Jr. '49 Endowed  
Scholarship—Liberal Arts*

**Margo L. & Royston W. Moore Jr. '76 DVM**

*Lenora Mae Smith Hodges Endowed  
Scholarship—Veterinary Medicine*

**Lizette V. & Victor R. Moran '02**  
*Daniel P. Moran '03 General  
Rudder Corps Scholarship*

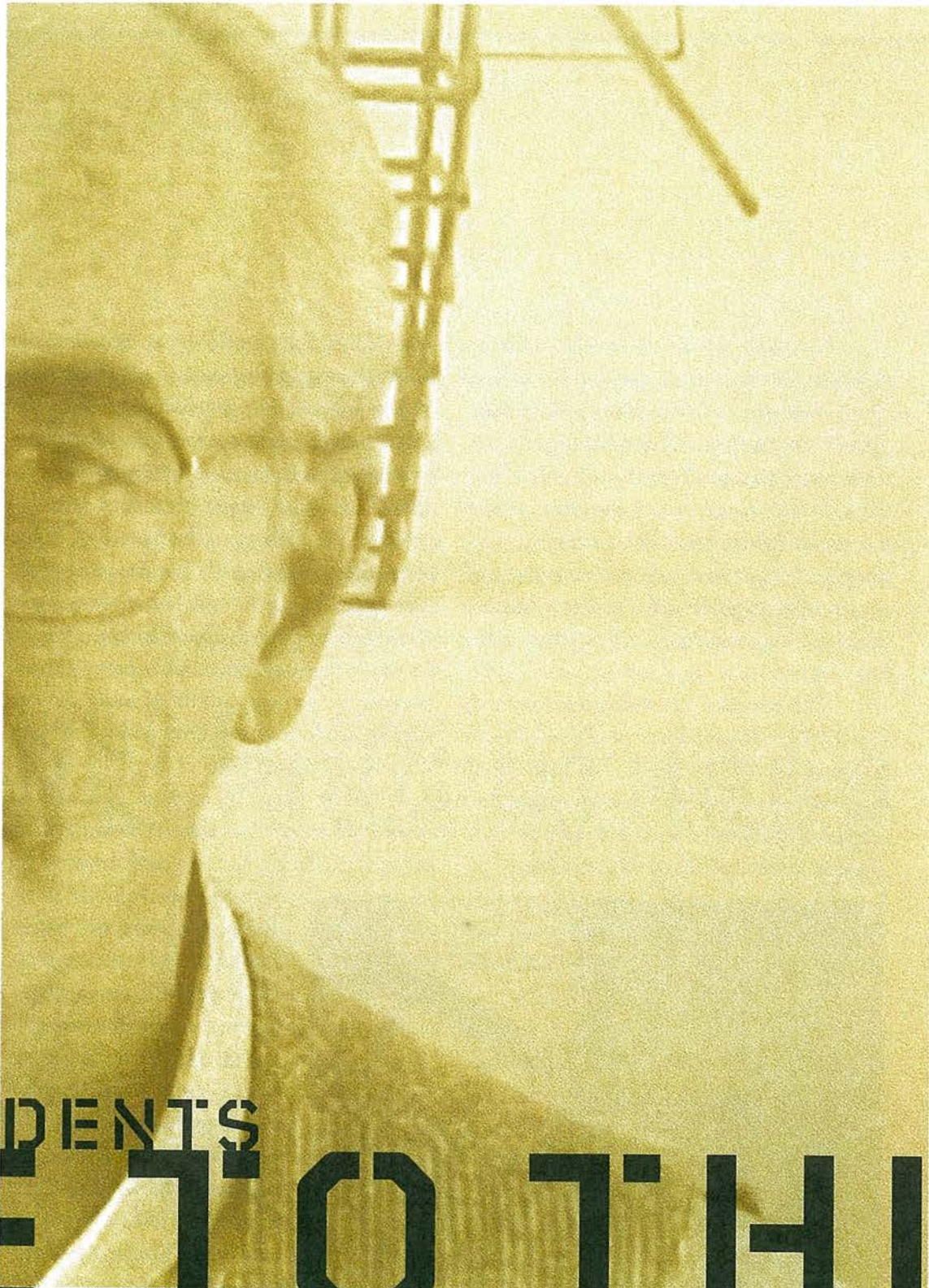
*David A. Moran '05 General  
Rudder Corps Scholarship*

**Christine & Sealy Morris '82**  
*Bequest—Texas A&M University—  
Unrestricted*

**Valerie A. & Glenn A. Mueller**  
*University Special Gifts*



# ALAN STACELL INSPIRED HIS S **TO ACROSS**



DENTS

# CONTEMPORARY

BOTH DURING HIS 40-YEAR STINT AS AN ARCHITECTURE PROFESSOR AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AND THROUGH HIS LIFE AS AN ARTIST.



Lauren D. Murphy '85 &  
Michael J. Baker '85  
*Lauren D. Murphy '85 & Michael J.  
Baker '85 Foundation Excellence  
Award*

Patricia & L. C. "Chaz"  
Neely Jr. '62  
*T. Elliot '89 & Alison Neely Brown  
'90 Sul Ross Scholarship*

Noelle & Bradford Kyle Neely '94  
*Sul Ross Scholarship*  
*Trisha & L. C. "Chaz" Neely '62  
Sul Ross Scholarship*

William R. Nelson '41  
*William R. Nelson '41 Scholarship  
Fund—C. D. Holland Scholars  
Program—Chemical Engineering*

Rebecca U. '74 & William S.  
Nichols III '74  
*Rebecca U. '74 & William S.  
Nichols III '74 Endowed  
Professorship—Mays Business School*

Lynda P. & C. Craig Noonan '66  
*Lynda & C. Craig Noonan '66  
General Rudder Corps Scholarship*

Sharee & David R. Norcom '73  
*David R. Norcom '73 Endowed  
Professorship—Mays Business School*

Edith J. Norman  
*Bequest—John B. & Edith J.  
Norman Stevenson Companion  
Animal Life-Care Center Endowed  
Fund*

Alice A. & Erle A. Nye '59  
*President's Special Discretionary  
Account*

Emily & Oliver Osborn '38  
*Oliver & Emily Osborn Scholarship  
Fund—C. D. Holland Scholars  
Program—Chemical Engineering*

Jane C. Oswald  
*Planned Gift—Stevenson Companion  
Animal Life-Care Center*

Robert J. Overly '48  
*Robert J. Overly '48 General  
Rudder Corps Scholarship II*

Linda K. '86 & Phillip Z.  
Pace '85  
*Phil & Linda Pace Excellence Fund—  
Mays Business School*

Genevieve & John H. Parker '43  
*Genevieve & John H. Parker '43  
Corps of Cadets Leadership  
Excellence Program Endowment*

Carl M. Peary Jr. '55  
*Carl M. Peary Jr. '55/Heep  
Endowed Graduate Fellowship in  
Mathematics*

*In 2001, eight students created a 43-foot, suspended  
tensile tower (below) in Alan Stacell's memory in the  
atrium of the Langford Architecture Center.*

He inspired each student to reach his own creative potential, and he didn't limit those endeavors to school hours and activities. Stacell, who also served as head of the Environmental Design Department, didn't keep formal office hours, opting instead to stretch his availability to his students to evening coffee-shop congregations at the Ramada Inn and impromptu stopovers at his home. In keeping with that informality, many students called him "Alan."

That openness and willingness to give his life to his students led several of them to start a unique fund in his honor. The Alan Stacell Student Creativity Fund encourages students to pursue innovative endeavors outside their regular studio and classroom activities.

"Once fully funded as an endowment, it will be a permanent source of support for student projects, exhibitions, displays and other activities that inspire, engage and challenge the creative spirit," said Larry Zuber, the Texas A&M Foundation's senior director of development for the College of Architecture. "This memorial spontaneously happened about a year after his death, and I think it's something he would have supported even though he was a modest and humble man. It's not about a monument to him as much as it is keeping his spirit alive at Texas A&M, and that's what it will do for years to come."

Robert Riggs '71 created the fund to honor his former professor. "Many of us, because of Stacell, had the confidence to go

out and accomplish great things that were not necessarily related to architecture," said Riggs, an investigative reporter with TV station KTVT (CBS Channel 11) in Dallas. "It didn't matter much to him how we used what we learned, just that we did. I'm in broadcasting and I know of several other paths that were taken—one of the guys designs sets on Broadway!"

Riggs donated a total of \$10,000 and another 13 donors have contributed in increments of \$100 and up. The fund has grown to about three-fourths of its endowment level of \$25,000.



Stacell led his students in hands-on exploration of structural designs that included large model building studies for cranes, bridges, floating structures and futuristic cities. Stacell's own inspirations included structural innovators like engineer G. Robert LeRicolais, artist Kenneth Snelson, and R. Buckminster Fuller, inventor of the geodesic dome whose concept of tensegrity—a push-pull form of structural tensile integrity—guided many of Stacell's structural experiments.

# HIS GIFT WAS HELPING OTHERS RECOGNIZE THEIR OWN CREATIVE POTENTIAL.

When Stacell died of cancer in 2001, shortly after retiring, eight students created a 43-foot self-suspended, tensile tower in his memory in the atrium of the Langford Architecture Center. They worked for about 11 hours to install the sculpture, then unveiled it at a memorial reception a year after Stacell's death.

At that reception, Riggs decided to honor his former professor and mentor by starting the student creativity fund. "When they told stories of him they sounded like a broken record of myself," he said. "I realized his influence lived on, 30 years later, and I wanted to honor that."

John Stropp '66, interim president of the Texas A&M Foundation, was Stacell's friend and neighbor. "He was one of the finest professors I've met—the most professional but also a great teacher and artist," Stropp said. "He was incredibly brilliant yet he made everyone feel comfortable. His gift was helping others to recognize their own creative

potential. And for those of us fortunate enough to have his art, we will always have a piece of him with us."

Riggs said architecture professor Rodney Hill's interdisciplinary creativity class exemplifies his standing as "a junior Alan Stacell."

"Those are the seeds of Stacell, aimed at turning on students' creativity," Riggs said. "Today, the Alan Stacell legacy lives on in him. Both of them had these great qualities: They were enthusiastic and excited and

encouraging. I told someone that Alan Stacell was our Obi-Wan Kenobi and we were all wannabe Jedi Knights."

Hill feels honored by the comparison, and said Stacell emphasized critical thinking and creativity. "He was totally caught up in helping students find themselves," Hill said. "He told them, 'I don't care what you do with your life as long as you do your best and are happy.' Those aren't the typical words students hear from their professors, and it had a profound effect on them."

Riggs said he suspects Hill's classes are received similarly to Stacell's. "If you ever had one class with [Stacell], you'd do everything in your power to get back in there with him," he said. "We were all hoping our projects would meet the exacting Alan Stacell standards and wow him, and I think we all carry a little of that aspiration with us still today." ♦

—by Kelli Levey

Patsy & Charles L. Pence '51  
*Patsy & Charles L. Pence '51 Corps  
of Cadets Leadership Excellence  
Program Endowment*

John Petteway '52  
*Bequest—John C. Petteway Jr. '52  
Scholarship—Engineering*

Grace A. & Carroll W.  
Phillips '54  
*Grace A. & Carroll W. Phillips '54  
President's Endowed Scholarship*

Carol Wood Phillips & Richard  
F. Phillips Jr. '76  
*Corps of Cadets Enrichment Fund*

Sarah Findlay Philpy '84  
& Mark A. Philpy '77  
*Bequest—Mark A. Philpy '77 &  
Sarah Findlay Philpy '84 Endowed  
Scholarships—Engineering/Mark A.  
Philpy '77 & Sarah Findlay Philpy  
'84 Endowed Scholarships—  
Geosciences/Mark Alan Philpy '77 &  
Sarah Findlay Philpy '84 Endowed  
Fund—Texas A&M Foundation*

Sharon & Edward R. Pollard  
*Charitable Trust—Texas A&M  
Foundation*

Anne D. & Thomas E.  
Potthoff '72  
*John & Betty Potthoff Endowed  
Scholarship in Business*

Paula & Jim Prewitt  
*College of Agriculture Development  
Council/Jim Prewitt Endowed  
Congressional Internship Fund*

Carl F. Raba Jr. '59  
*Bunny Jean & Dr. Carl F. Raba Jr.  
'59 General Rudder Corps  
Scholarship*

Patricia H. & Glendale B.  
Rand '57  
*Jimmy Tyree '54 & Richard Biondi '60  
Former Yell Leaders Endowment*

Ginger H. '76 & Terry W.  
Rathert '75  
*Harold M. Hoffmeister '32  
Fellowship in Petroleum Engineering*

Linda C. & Lowell G.  
Raun Jr. '76  
*Bequest—Linda & L. G. Raun Rice  
Research Program—Eagle Lake  
Rice Research Station—Texas  
Agricultural Experiment Station/  
Linda & L. G. Raun Scholarship—  
Agriculture & Life Sciences*



Susan M. & Revedy C.

Ray III '61

*Gift Annuity—Susan M. & Revedy C. Ray III '61 President's Endowed Scholarship/Texas A&M Foundation—Unrestricted*

Joan C. Read

*Dean of Veterinary Medicine Priority Fund*

*Thomas A. Read Center Activities Fund*

*Thomas & Joan Read Fund for Disadvantaged Youth*

Linda E. & Gerald L. Rhyne

*Living Trust—Gerald L. Rhyne & Linda E. Rhyne Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center Endowed Fund*

Warren Rice '46

*Gift Annuity—Mechanical Engineering—Unrestricted*

Susan Dixon Richardson

& Joe C. Richardson Jr. '49  
*Dr. Doug Von Gonten Scholarship in Petroleum Engineering*

James W. '47 & Lee Gardner Roach

*James W. '47 & Lee Gardner Roach Sul Ross Scholarship II*

Carol Sue & Forrest E. Roberts Jr. '59

*Ida Olivia & Henry Oscar Roberts General Rudder Corps Scholarship*

Cynthia & Randall A.

Roessler '84

*Randall A. Roessler '84 Endowed Scholarship—Agriculture & Life Sciences*

Marita & Earl E. Rossman Jr. '54

*Marita & Earl E. Rossman Jr. '54 Endowed Scholarship—Petroleum Engineering*

Marita & Earl E. Rossman Jr. '54

*Sul Ross Scholarship*

Donna J. '80 & Patrick B.

Ryan '80

*William James Grenan '49 Endowed Scholarship—Science*

Genevieve D. & Edwin G.

Sandhop Jr.

*President's Endowed Scholarship*

Linda & Ralph A. Schmidt '68

*Linda & Ralph A. Schmidt '68*

*President's Endowed Scholarship*

*Linda & Ralph Schmidt '68*

*President's Endowed Scholarship II*

*Linda & Ralph Schmidt '68*

*Scholarship in Mechanical*

*Engineering*

## LUANN ERVIN '84 CREATES SCHOLARSHIPS TO HONOR HER LIFE'S MENTORS

While touring the construction site of her planned animal medical center, LuAnn Ervin, DVM '84 realized a serious situation had arisen—the building's studs were painted orange. She immediately contacted the builder to request that the wooden boards be repainted maroon prior to the hospital's completion in order to reflect her wholehearted commitment to Texas A&M University.

This attention to detail, combined with the strong medical foundation provided by Texas A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine and the critical support of important mentors during her life, have helped Ervin succeed professionally. In turn, the Waco resident wants to provide a foundation on which future Aggies can build similar opportunities. To do

The three veterinary medicine scholarship recognize other people who influenced her childhood and adolescent years: Al Schewecke her pastor; M.D. Richardson, her high school principal; and Donald Moore, her high school counselor. Ervin hopes to fund additional scholarships in the future that will be named for other people who have influenced her life.

"LuAnn Ervin is one of the College of Veterinary Medicine's most generous alumni and is also a vital member of our College Development Advisory Board," said Dr. Oscar Woytek Jr., senior development officer for the Texas A&M Foundation. "LuAnn is someone who the college can always count on to be there when we need help. She epit



# GROOMING THE FUTURE FOR AGGIE VETS

this, she is funding a President's Endowed Scholarship and three endowed scholarships in veterinary medicine. She also contributed to the Class of '84 Endowed Scholarship, which benefits the college. Ervin also named the Foundation executor of her will and beneficiary of one of her life insurance policies.

Each scholarship is a salute to a person who supported Ervin in her life-long dream of being a veterinarian. The President's Endowed Scholarship that she created is named for Dr. Charlie Fox '52, a pioneering small-animal veterinarian who lived next door to Ervin.

omizes the true 'Aggie Spirit' for the College of Veterinary Medicine."

Ervin's dream of becoming a veterinarian began in second grade when tasked with caring for the family's pets. By third grade she had drawn the plans for her first animal clinic that year also was a milestone in that she set her sights on attending Texas A&M. Ervin devoted herself to academics, knowing that she would need good grades to be accepted at the university. The hard work paid off when Ervin was named valedictorian of Waco's LaVega High School.

“Texas A&M was more than I ever thought it would be,” Ervin said. “You learned that your future is your own, and that you have the opportunity to study and make something of yourself.”

She hopes her contributions will enable students to learn a similar lesson, and encourages others to help maintain the educational quality at Texas A&M. “It’s becoming more and more important to donate,” said Ervin, whose son is in the Class of 2009. “Funds from the State of Texas are getting tighter and tighter, so Texas A&M must become more self-sufficient. To me, giving back to Texas A&M is just like tithing. You can look at these students and know that you personally helped some of them achieve a dream.” ♦

—by Dorian Martin '07



**Linda Schmuck**

*Bequest—William, Hazel & Linda Schmuck Chair—Small Animal Clinic*

**Rick Seeker '75**

*University Special Gifts—Animal Science*

**Debbie & Dennis L. Segers '75**

*Analog Mixed Signal Center—Segers Fellowships*

**Martha Sellers, Ken Sellers II, & Vincent Shea Sellers**

*Kenneth K. Sellers Memorial President's Endowed Scholarship*

**Martha & Don Sharp**

*University Special Gifts—Texas A&M Equestrian Team*

**Shan Shi**

*Texas Engineering Experiment Station*

**Clara L. & Hugh P. Shovlin '45**

*Gift Annuity—Clara & Hugh P. Shovlin '45 Scholarship—Liberal Arts/Texas A&M Foundation—Unrestricted*

**Nancy L. Simpson**

*Havanese Genetic Research*

**Patricia & Steven L. Sisney '83**

*Steven & Patricia Sisney President's Endowed Scholarship*

**Jean G. & Charles B. Smith Jr.**

*Charles B. & Jean G. Smith Endowed Scholarship for Agricultural Leadership*

**Alexei V. Sokolov**

*Stephen E. Harris Professorship in Quantum Optics*

**J. Malon Southerland '65**

*COL Calvin Reese '49 Memorial Southerland Aggie Leader Scholarship*

**Millie & Jay H. Stafford '48**

*Jay H. Stafford '48 Scholarship in Mechanical Engineering*

**Robin C. '76 & Robert D. Starnes '72**

*Robin '76 & Bob Starnes '72 Learning Endowment—Mays Business School*

**Jocelyn L. & Joseph R. Straus Jr. '50**

*Charitable Trust—Jocelyn L. & Joe R. Straus Jr. '50 Professorship in Equine Business Studies*

**Johnson D. Strickel '49**

*Bequest—J. D. Strickel '49 General Rudder Corps Scholarship*

Sadie & William P.  
Stromberg '51  
*Charitable Remainder Unitrust—  
William P. Stromberg '51 Student  
Enrichment Fund—Soil & Crop  
Sciences*

Charles R. Tapley  
*John T. Tapley '52 Library  
Endowment for World History*

Debra & W. Roberts Taylor Jr.  
*Bequest—Debra & Rob Taylor  
Endowed Fund—Stevenson Companion  
Animal Life-Care Center*

Donna & Norman J. Tetlow '66  
*Charitable Remainder Unitrust—  
Norman & Donna Tetlow Fellowship  
in Chemical Engineering*

Rebecca & Neal T.  
Thompson '66  
*Bequest—Neal T. Thompson '66  
& Rebecca Thompson Scholarship  
in Business*

James Truchard  
*Electrical Engineering Development  
Fund*

Jean W. & John R. Vilas '53  
*COL & Mrs. John R. Vilas '53  
Sul Ross Scholarship #4*

Kelly L. '87 & William D.  
Von Gonten '87  
*Charlie Davis '60 Endowed  
Scholarship*

Morna R. & C. Kenneth Wall '54  
*Charitable Trust—Morna & Ken  
Wall Endowed Fund—Veterinary  
Medicine*

Doris May & Charles C.  
Wang '55  
*Gift Annuity—Texas A&M  
Foundation—Unrestricted*

Mary J. & Ronald G. Ward '73  
*Udo & Marie Pooch Fellowship in  
Computer Science*

Shannon D. '77 & Don A.  
Webb '74  
*Don & Shannon Webb President's  
Endowed Scholarship*

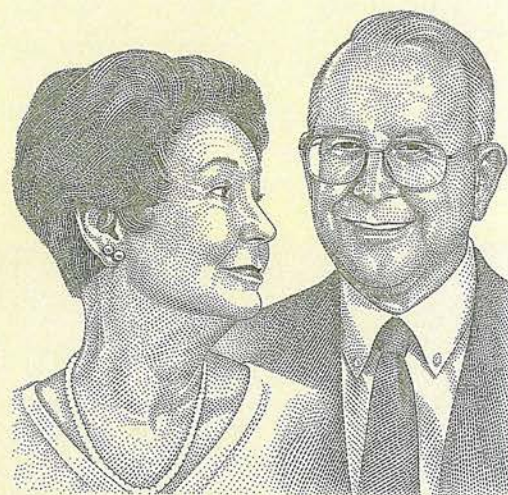
Alta Jean & James H.  
Weyland '48  
*Weyland Family General Rudder  
Corps Scholarship*

Linda & Donald R. Willis '58  
*Life Insurance—Texas A&M  
Foundation—Unrestricted*

Janeen Holland Wood '90  
& Don W. Wood '74  
*Life Insurance—Janeen H. Wood  
'90 Endowed Scholarship—  
Education & Human Development*

## REMEMBERING

*Nelson Gift to Petroleum Engineering  
Department Memorializes Mentor  
and Friend*



AUDREY and JAMES K.B. NELSON

Before 1997, to most Aggie students, Harold Vance was simply a name in the long history of Texas A&M University. But thanks to a gift given by James "Jim" K.B. Nelson '49, Vance's name and ideals will be almost as familiar to future Aggies as they were to Nelson himself.

In an effort to honor his mentor and friend, Nelson recently fulfilled a \$10 million commitment made in 1997 to the Texas A&M Foundation to benefit the Department of Petroleum Engineering at Texas A&M. Among

# A HERO

many provisions, the gift established the department as the Harold Vance Department of Petroleum Engineering. It also created the Albert B. Stevens and Robert Whiting chairs in petroleum engineering (named for two other petroleum engineering professors who taught Nelson), endowed a premier scholarship program for the department, and founded an endowed fund to support petroleum engineering faculty and programs at Texas A&M in perpetuity.

"The Nelsons generous gift is a fitting tribute to those who have made our department what it is today," said Dr. Steve Holditch, head of the Harold Vance Department of Petroleum Engineering. "Their support has enabled us to continue to attract excellent faculty members and maintain our position as one of the top petroleum engineering schools in the nation."

A former professor of petroleum engineering and head of the department from 1934 to 1953, Vance is credited with setting the department on its course to the top. After only two years under his leadership, during a time when the petroleum industry was booming, the department was rated as one of the largest and best in the country. He oversaw the hiring of 11 highly competent faculty members, broadened the curriculum to include more interdisciplinary degree paths, and established the department's first distinguished professorship. Most important, Nelson attests, was what Vance brought to the classroom.

"He had an aura about him," Nelson remembers. "He was an astute oil man, so by the time he came to Texas A&M he was a pretty wealthy individual. He taught petroleum engineering because he loved it and because he thought it was a good thing to do."

But Vance's influence on Nelson extended beyond the classroom. As a personal friend, Vance kept up with Nelson after graduation and continued to follow his career. It was Vance who recommended him to Roger Wolf, founder of Grey Wolf Drilling Co., in 1958, a move that proved to be the springboard for his career. After working for Grey Wolf for 20 years, Nelson bought the company and owned and operated it until his retirement in 1997. Almost 50 years after the gesture, Nelson is still grateful.

"It made all the difference," Nelson says of Vance's recommendation. "He was my friend all my life."

With his gift, Nelson hopes to ensure that future Aggie petroleum engineers will enjoy the same quality of education that he received at Texas A&M. And with Harold Vance as the namesake of the department, he also hopes to keep the memory of the man and his ideals alive for years to come.

"Being in a class with a teacher like that was a wonderful experience," Nelson said. "We learned so much—and we definitely never forgot it." ♦

—by Rebekah Carter

Martha Wood  
Planned Gift—Terrell D. Windham  
'64 Scholarship—Mechanical  
Engineering

Melwese & Raymond A.  
Young '46  
Raymond A. Young '46 Scholarship

Margaret Ann Zipp  
LTC Charles W. Zipp USA (Ret.)  
General Rudder Corps Scholarship I  
LTC Charles W. Zipp USA (Ret.)  
General Rudder Corps Scholarship II  
LTC Charles W. Zipp USA (Ret.)  
General Rudder Corps Scholarship III  
LTC Charles W. Zipp USA (Ret.)  
General Rudder Corps Scholarship IV  
Charles & Margaret Ann Zipp  
Sul Ross Scholarship

## Corporations & Organizations

Agere Systems  
Allentown, Pennsylvania  
Department Improvement Fund -  
Electrical Engineering

Aghorn Energy Inc.  
Odessa, Texas  
Aghorn Energy Professorship -  
Petroleum Engineering

AgroFresh Inc.  
Spring House, Pennsylvania  
Texas Agricultural Experiment  
Station

American Concrete Institute  
Houston, Texas  
Houston Chapter American Concrete  
Institute/Dr. Shondeep Sarkar  
Memorial Scholarship - Civil  
Engineering

Nina Heard Astin  
Charitable Trust  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Nina Heard Astin Trust Fund  
Scholarship

Battlecat Oil & Gas  
Midland, Texas  
Battlecat Oil & Gas Scholarship—  
Petroleum Engineering

Baumberger Endowment  
Scholarship Funds  
San Antonio, Texas  
Baumberger Endowment  
Scholarships

Bay Area Veterinary Specialists  
San Leandro, California  
Small Animal Research Grant

**Behmann Brothers Foundation**  
Corpus Christi, Texas  
Texas Cooperative Extension

**Bluebonnet Electric  
Cooperative Inc.**  
Giddings, Texas  
Business Related Scholarship

**The Boeing Company**  
Seattle, Washington  
Boeing Company Foundation  
Excellence Award

**Boeing Engineering/Business  
Interdisciplinary Curriculum  
Development**

**Boeing Interdisciplinary Scholarship**

**BovaGen**  
San Antonio, Texas  
Texas Agricultural Experiment  
Station

**BP America Production  
Company**  
Tulsa, Oklahoma  
Deepwater Archeological  
Oceanography Nonendowed Fund

**Bray International Inc.**  
Houston, Texas  
Andrea Grace Gent '07 President's  
Endowed Scholarship

**Brazos County A&M Club**  
College Station, Texas  
Brazos County A&M Club  
Foundation Excellence Award

**Craig C. Brown Foundation**  
Houston, Texas  
College of Engineering Scholarship

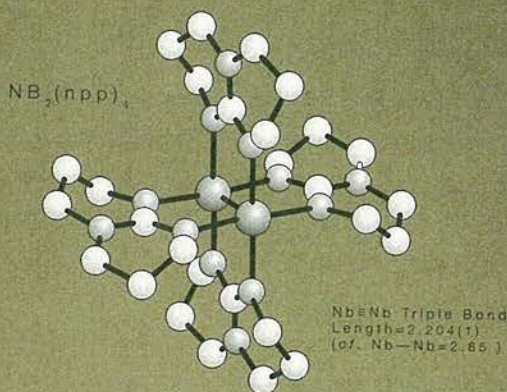
**Robert C. Byrd Scholarship**  
Austin, Texas  
Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarships

**Capital City A&M Club  
Foundation**  
Austin, Texas  
Capital City A&M Club Scholarships

**ChevronTexaco**  
Concord, California  
ChevronTexaco Fellowship—Geology  
& Geophysics

**The Clark Construction  
Group Inc.**  
Bethesda, Maryland  
Peter C. Forster Professorship—  
Civil Engineering Fund


## Dow Aggies Salute Martell



The Arthur Martell Endowed Chair in Chemistry was launched through the Texas A&M Foundation by the Dow Aggies, former students who are employees or retirees of Dow Chemical Company. The endowment will allow the Department of Chemistry to attract a nationally recognized faculty member, strengthening the department's research and educational programs, which in turn will benefit the students who become chemists and leaders of tomorrow.

"I believe that investing in Texas A&M is one of the most important contributions that I can make, particularly since I had the opportunity to leverage the strength of Dow Chemical's matching grant program," said Bill Howell '69. "Many of the Dow Aggies were undergraduates during Dr. Martell's time at Texas A&M, and they credit his leadership for advancing the chemistry department to be ranked among the top in the nation."

Martell joined the Texas A&M faculty in 1966, and served as head of the Department of Chemistry from 1966 to 1980. Through his foresight, determination and hard work, he convinced some of the most distinguished chemists in the world to move to College Station and lay the foundation for what has



become one of the top 15 chemistry programs in the United States. Martell received the American Chemical Society's Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Inorganic Chemistry. He was also a Guggenheim Fellow, a National Science Foundation Senior Postdoctoral Fellow and a National Institute of Health Special Fellow.

"Dr. Martell understood the importance of a world-class faculty, and we feel that this is an extremely fitting way to honor his vast achievements and contributions to Texas A&M," said Don Birkelbach '70, the Texas A&M Foundation's director of development for the College of Science. "This is the first chemistry chair to be named after a faculty member."

"The Dow Aggies are a wonderful example of what makes our former students special," said Dr. David H. Russell, head of the chemistry department. "Not only are they excellent leaders and experts in their field, they generously give credit to their Texas A&M experience and are providing the funds to ensure that our faculty have an opportunity to progress here as well."

The chair was created with matching funds provided by Dow Chemical Company and Texas A&M's Bright Chair Program. Endowed faculty positions are essential to attracting and retaining nationally recognized scholars with expertise and leadership in teaching, research and service. Proceeds from these endowments are used as a salary supplement and for work-related expenses such as staff and student support, professional development, equipment and travel.

—by Lacey Barlen '05

Through his foresight, determination and hard work, Dr. Arthur E. Martell convinced some of the most distinguished chemists in the world to move to College Station and lay the foundation for what has become one of the top 15 chemistry programs in the United States.

ConocoPhillips  
Houston, Texas  
Chemical Engineering Endowed Fund  
ConocoPhillips Foundation  
Excellence Award  
ConocoPhillips Spirit Scholars  
Petroleum Engineering Department  
Fund  
Phillips Fellowship—Geophysics  
Crawley Family Foundation  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Sterling C. Evans Library Employee  
Scholarship  
Texas A&M University Mexican  
Colonial Imprint Collection  
The Raymond Dickson  
Foundation  
Hallettsville, Texas  
Raymond Dickson Foundation  
Scholarship  
The M. S. Doss Foundation Inc.  
Seminole, Texas  
M. S. & Meek Lane Doss Endowed  
Opportunity Award Scholarship  
Dow AgroSciences LLC  
The Woodlands, Texas  
Texas Cooperative Extension  
Jesse L. Easterwood '09  
Scholarship Trust  
Dallas, Texas  
Jesse L. Easterwood Scholarship  
Trust Fund  
Ernst & Young Foundation  
Lyndhurst, New Jersey  
Accounting Awareness Program  
Exxon Mobil Corporation  
Houston, Texas  
Department Improvement Fund—  
Chemical Engineering  
Ford Motor Company Fund  
Dearborn, Michigan  
Center for New Ventures &  
Entrepreneurship Excellence Fund  
College of Business Development  
Fund  
Placement Center Support Fund  
Charles A. Frueauff  
Foundation Inc.  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
Frueauff Scholars Program  
Garrett Transfer & Storage Inc.  
Bryan, Texas  
University Special Gifts  
Eddie V. Gray Investments  
Baytown, Texas  
Faye & Eddie V. Gray '57 Endowed  
Scholarship

Microsoft Corporation  
Redmond, Washington  
Department Improvement Fund—  
Computer Science  
Microsoft Research Support  
Software Systems Lab Support

The Roy F. & Joann Cole  
Mitte Foundation  
Austin, Texas  
Mitte Scholars & Fellows Scholarship

Nash-Robertson Trust  
Bryan, Texas  
William E. Nash '36 & the Bryan  
Noon Lion's Club General Rudder  
Corps Scholarship

National Academy of Nuclear  
Training  
Iowa City, Iowa  
Graduate Institute of Nuclear Power  
Operators Fellowship

National Instruments  
Austin, Texas  
Department Improvement Fund—  
Electrical Engineering

Nelson Family Trust  
Boerne, Texas  
Frances Nelson Endowed Opportunity  
Award Scholarship

Neuralog Inc.  
Stafford, Texas  
University Special Gifts

Nueces County A&M Club  
Corpus Christi, Texas  
Nueces County A&M Club Scholarship

Charles R. Parencia Jr. Trust  
Port Lavaca, Texas  
Charles R. Parencia Jr. Endowed  
Chair—Entomology

Paso del Norte Health  
Foundation  
El Paso, Texas  
Center for Housing & Urban  
Development Paso Del Norte

PeopleSoft Inc.  
Waltham, Massachusetts  
University Special Gifts

Pfeuffer Properties  
New Braunfels, Texas  
Judge Robert T. Pfeuffer & Jean Hillje  
Pfeuffer General Rudder Corps  
Scholarship

Pfizer Inc. Animal Health  
Exton, Pennsylvania  
University Special Gifts

Pfizer Inc.  
New York, New York  
Chemistry Department Research

# Diploma

## Two Names on My

—by Lauren Rouse '06 and Patrick Connor '07

Nancy Anne Powell, Class of '83, was on her way to becoming a teacher until her life was cut short in 1981. In an effort to remember her commitment to children and education, Don Hinton, Class of '90, established a \$50,000 endowed scholarship in her memory 25 years after her death.

“Nancy was a wonderful person who loved children and wanted to become a teacher,” Hinton said. “She never got that chance, and as the 25th anniversary of her death approached this summer, I wanted to do something for her.”

The Nancy Anne Powell '83 Memorial Scholarship Fund is a four-year scholarship based on financial need and designed for Texas residents who graduated from public high school and are enrolled in the College of Education and Human Development at



*Nancy Anne Powell (right) and Bethany Graves (left) are joined 25 years apart by a scholarship established in Nancy Powell's name.*



Texas A&M University pursuing certification in elementary education.

"Unfortunately, our society doesn't support teachers or public education the way it should," Hinton said. "I can't do much to change that, but hopefully setting up this scholarship will set an example. If nothing else, maybe it will show the recipients how much people care."

Hinton and Powell met in 1979 when he was a sophomore and she was a freshman at Texas A&M. They began dating shortly afterward. Two years later she was killed in an automobile accident while attending summer school. Hinton then left Texas A&M to pursue active duty in the Marine Corps, but returned to Texas A&M in 1987 to finish his degree in history. He is now a senior staff engineer with the Institute for Software Integrated Systems at Vanderbilt University.

In addition to endowing the scholarship through the Texas A&M Foundation, one of the largest in the college, Hinton gave an additional \$4000 so that the first award could begin immediately to help fund the scholarship's first recipient—Bethany Graves, a freshman interdisciplinary studies major. Powell's family has also contributed \$5,000 to the scholarship.

"It was a great surprise and honor to be selected for the scholarship," Graves said. "I thought it was simply an academic award, but then I realized that it represented so much more."

Graves was touched by the gift and realizes that she is not only a part of the Aggie family but part of the Powell family, as well. Both the Powells and Hinton had the opportunity to meet Graves at the college's annual scholarship luncheon.

Nancy Powell and Bethany Graves are remarkably similar. Both came to Texas A&M hoping to become elementary school teachers. They both share attitudes of service and an outgoing persona. And both neglected to join a sorority so they could spend more time with their Corps of Cadet boyfriends.

"The Powell's and Mr. Hinton told me how similar I am to Nancy," Graves said. "I have heard so many great things about her, so that really makes the scholarship even more special."

**"Had Nancy lived, she would have helped shape the lives of thousands of children. She never got that chance, but perhaps this scholarship can help others do what she so wanted to do—teach children."**

—DON HINTON '90

"Had Nancy lived, she would have become a teacher, and would have helped shape the lives of thousands of children," Hinton said. "She never got that chance, but perhaps this scholarship can help others take her place and do what she so wanted to do—teach children."

Graves has four years to enjoy the scholarship in memory of Nancy Powell. Entering college, she assumed she simply needed to graduate one person: herself. Graves believes she is working to earn a diploma for two.

"In four years I will finish my time at Texas A&M, but I know that when I graduate so will Nancy Powell. That is truly an honor." ♦

Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation  
San Antonio, Texas  
Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation Scholarships

Powell Educational Trust  
Houston, Texas  
Bernice E. Powell Maritime Education Scholarship

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Tampa, Florida  
PricewaterhouseCoopers Accounting Excellence Fund

Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals Inc.  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Chemistry Department

QuantumResources  
Richmond, Virginia  
Microfluidics Program Support

Ed Rachal Foundation  
Corpus Christi, Texas  
Aggie Band Travel  
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Stephen E. Harris Professorship—  
Quantum Optics

Joe H. & Sue S. Reynolds Foundation Inc.  
Houston, Texas  
Parsons Mounted Cavalry Endowed Fund

Sid W. Richardson Foundation  
Fort Worth, Texas  
Math & Science Scholars Program  
Teachers Networking with Technology Fund

Rio Grande Valley Sugar Growers Inc.  
Santa Rosa, Texas  
Texas Agricultural Experiment Station

Rock Well Petroleum US Inc.  
Sheridan, Wyoming  
Petroleum Engineering Faculty Gifts

Rockwell Collins Charitable Corporation  
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Department Improvement Fund—  
Aerospace Engineering

Rowan Companies Inc.  
Houston, Texas  
Rowan Companies Inc. Scholarship

Royce Homes Inc.  
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Freshman Business Initiative



SABIC Americas Inc.  
Houston, Texas  
Nanostructure Material Development  
Support

San Antonio Area Foundation  
San Antonio, Texas  
San Antonio Area Foundation  
Scholarships

San Antonio Livestock  
Exposition Inc.  
San Antonio, Texas  
San Antonio Livestock Exposition  
Scholarships

Schlumberger  
Sugar Land, Texas  
Texas Engineering Experiment  
Station

Schlumberger Stichting Fund  
Cambridge, Massachusetts  
Electrical Engineering Scholarship

Semiconductor Research  
Corporation  
Research Triangle Park, North  
Carolina  
Texas Engineering Experiment Station

The Sequor Foundation  
San Antonio, Texas  
Elda K. Bradberry Chair for Youth  
Development

Jane Long After-School Program  
in Recreation, Parks, & Tourism  
Science

Shell Oil Co.  
Houston, Texas  
Petroleum Engineering Department  
Fund

Silicon Laboratories Inc.  
Austin, Texas  
Silicon Laboratories—Analog Mixed  
Signal Center Support

South Texas Academic Rising  
Scholars  
McAllen, Texas  
Aggie Stars Scholarships

South Texas Higher Education  
Foundation  
Edinburg, Texas  
South Texas Higher Education  
Foundation Scholarships

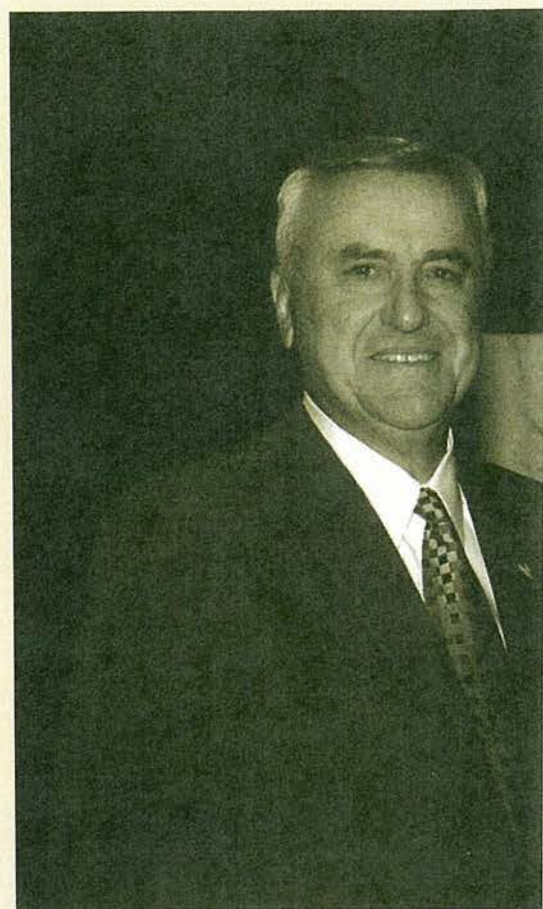
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Company Inc.  
Dallas, Texas  
Joseph V. & Holly O. Hughes Jr.  
Presidential Studies Series

St. Mary Land & Exploration Co.  
Denver, Colorado  
St. Mary Land & Exploration  
Company Scholarship Fund

**L**t. Colonel Charles Williams '37 decided that tennis wasn't a "sissy sport" after losing countless matches to his wife, Martha. He prided himself on representing the United States on center court at Wimbledon, not as a professional tennis player, but rather as a member of President Dwight Eisenhower's People-to-People Program. Williams applied his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering to a career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. After 20 years of service, he and his wife traveled the world, building international relationships on the tennis court.

Like Eisenhower, Williams believed that ordinary citizens of different nations could solve their differences and find a way to live in peace by communicating directly. Williams admired the character of Texas A&M graduates and knew that they would be great ambassadors for our country. He funded the Martha Williams Endowed Internship and the Charles Williams Scholarship through the Texas A&M Foundation because he wanted to help Aggies spread their values and beliefs throughout the public sector.

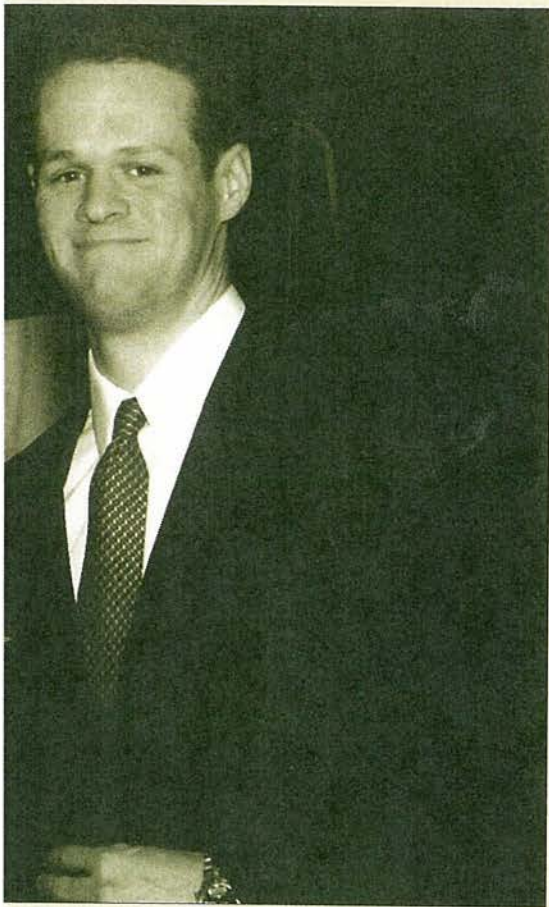
Williams visited the George Bush School of Government and Public Service and knew it was the right place to leave a lasting impact. Only nine years after its opening in 1995, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked the Bush School 35th of 260 similar national programs. Leadership, research and public service are central to the Bush School's



masters programs in Public Service and Administration and International Affairs.

"The two-year programs require students to take a summer internship with a federal, state or local agency," said Jerome Rektorik, director of development for the Bush School with the Texas A&M Foundation. "The best internships are unpaid and located in Washington, D.C., New York or out of the country, where living expenses increase dramatically."

**BUSH**  
**STUDENT**  
**WILLIAMS**



dream to become a lobbyist at the national or international level.”

Bush School Dean Dick Chilcoat says Williams’ generous donations will impact the lives of many Texas A&M students in the future. “He made a decision to devote his life to improving the well-being of others through public service and civic action and we applaud him for that.”

In addition to the Bush School endowments, Williams left one of the single largest donations to the President’s Endowed Scholarship program when he passed away last year. His gift will fund at least 40 of Texas A&M’s most prestigious academic scholarships, which are awarded to high school seniors with outstanding scholastic and extracurricular records. Scholars receive the award for eight semesters of undergraduate study, provided they maintain a 3.0 grade point ratio.

By making a memorial gift, a current gift and a planned gift through the Texas A&M Foundation, Williams took advantage of many opportunities to support his alma mater. He hoped that his gifts would help make Texas A&M a world-class institution and assist Aggies who could go on to become leaders and change the world. ♦

—by Lacey Barlen '05

*Dean Dick Chilcoat and Ryan Stroud '07 at the Bush School graduation celebration on May 11, 2007.*

The Martha Williams Internship enables Bush School students to compete for its internships without worrying about costs. Each summer, the endowment supplements the housing, food and transportation expenses for three students during their 10-week internship.

“Without individuals like Mr. Williams, I could not have interned for a member of Parliament in London,” said Ryan Stroud. “The relationships I built and experiences I gained are giant steps toward achieving my

The Starr Foundation  
New York, New York  
International Affairs—China  
Conference

Storage Technology  
Corporation  
Austin, Texas  
University Special Gifts

Sunoco Inc.  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Polymer Technology Center—  
Mechanical Engineering

Terracon  
Lenexa, Kansas  
Terracon Fellowship—Civil  
Engineering

The Terry Foundation  
Houston, Texas  
The Terry Foundation Scholarships

Texas A&M Invitational  
Dallas, Texas  
Texas Turfgrass Research Education  
& Extension Endowment

Texas A&M Medical & Dental  
Society  
College Station, Texas  
James & Norma Jean Rosborough  
Foundation Endowed Scholarship  
Texas A&M University Medical &  
Dental Society Endowed Scholarship

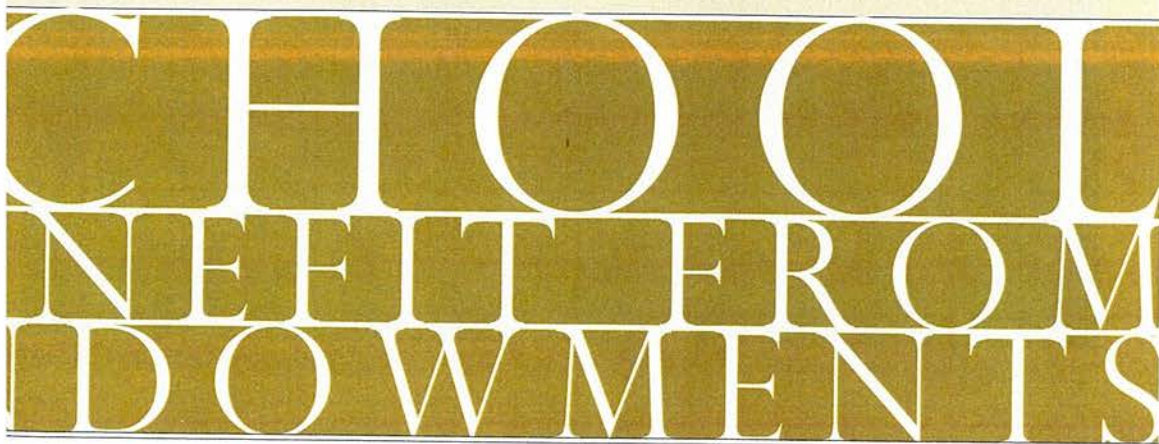
Texas A&M University  
Women’s Club  
College Station, Texas  
Texas A&M University Women’s Club  
Endowed Opportunity Award  
Scholarship #2

Texas Chapter American  
Society of Landscape  
Architects  
Lubbock, Texas  
Texas American Society of Landscape  
Architects Endowed Scholarship

Texas Department of  
Transportation  
Austin, Texas  
Texas Department of Transportation  
Scholarships

Texas Interscholastic League  
Foundation  
Austin, Texas  
Texas Interscholastic League  
Foundation Scholarships

Texas Old Missions & Forts  
Restoration Association  
Mount Vernon, Texas  
Texas Old Missions & Forts  
Restoration Association/Raiford  
Stripling Memorial Award for the  
Advancement of Preservation



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Station

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Dermatology Research on Infectious  
Animal Diseases

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TTI/Trinity Industries Research  
Champion Program

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Scholarship Fund  
Alexandria, Virginia  
Military-Related Scholarships

Prehlad S. Vachher Charitable  
Remainder Unitrust  
Ashburn, Virginia  
College of Business Administration  
General Scholarship-Graduate

Valero Energy Corporation  
San Antonio, Texas  
Valero Management Company  
Scholarships

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Andover, Massachusetts  
Brighter Horizons  
Verizon ESL On-Line Literacy

Wagner Resources Ltd.  
Houston, Texas  
Ruby D. & Alfred "Al" Wagner Jr.  
'49 General Rudder Corps Scholarship

G. Rollie White Trust  
Dallas, Texas  
G. Rollie White Memorial Student  
Loan Fund

Gus & Ethel Wolters  
Foundation Trust  
San Antonio, Texas  
Gus & Ethel Wolters Foundation  
Scholarship Fund

### A TRIUMPHANT END TO A LONG CAMPAIGN

The *One Spirit One Vision Campaign* concluded on Dec. 31, 2006, with a total of more than \$1.5 billion (\$1,502,843,961.31). Texas A&M University commemorated the conclusion of the seven-year capital campaign on March 30, 2006.

The Texas A&M Foundation, which directed the campaign with its fundraising partners, hosted a luncheon at the Bernard C. Richardson Zone. Donors to the campaign were joined at the event by Texas A&M faculty, staff and students who were directly affected by the campaign. Afterward, about 500 donors formed a parade across campus to the landmark Williams Administration Building for a group photo. The day concluded with a dinner and gala at Reed Arena featuring remarks by Texas A&M's Interim President Ed Davis, a video message by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, and some unforgettable Aggie entertainment, including a special dance routine performed by Davis and the Aggie Dance Team.

Donors—both corporate and individual—created nearly 1,900 new scholarships, fellowships, professorships and chairs during the campaign.



### CHEVRON CORPORATION EXECUTIVE JOINS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John D. Bethancourt '74, executive vice president of technology and service for Chevron Corporation, has been appointed to the Texas A&M Foundation Board of Trustees. Bethancourt, a Dallas native, was a Southern California regional chair for Texas A&M's seven-year *One Spirit One Vision Campaign*. At Chevron Corporation, he ensures employee and environmental health and safety, as well as the development of new and innovative technologies.

Bethancourt brings to the board a long association with the university and has been an active figure at Texas A&M since his graduation in 1974. He was a 2007 Dwight Look College of Engineering



Texas A&M University commemorated the conclusion of the *One Spirit One Vision Campaign* on March 30, 2006.

Outstanding Alumnus and serves on the advisory board of Texas A&M's Harold Vance Department of Petroleum Engineering and the university's International Board. He also is a member of A&M Legacy Society.

Bethancourt graduated with a bachelor's degree in petroleum engineering from Texas A&M. He serves on the board of directors for the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering Inc. and is a former director of the Society of Petroleum Engineers.

"I'm excited to be joining such a distinguished group of trustees," says Bethancourt. "I'm ready for the responsibility and look forward to expanding the Foundation's endowment portfolio."

Bethancourt replaces outgoing trustee Roderick Stepp '59, whose term ended on June 30. His appointment was effective July 1. The new chairman of the board is Bob Surovik '58 and the chairman-elect is Melbern G. Glasscock '59.

#### FOUNTAIN SPRINGS TO LIFE

In 2006 Rae and H.J. "Hank" Gruy '37 wanted to contribute to the beautification of Texas A&M University by establishing a tangible landmark that Aggies could enjoy for years to come, and one that bears their family name. Around the same time, the Texas A&M Foundation was considering plans for a fountain at the front of its headquarters, the Jon L. Hagler Center, located at George Bush Drive and Houston Street. A collaboration between the Gruys and the Foundation will come to fruition during the next few months. With an expected completion in fall of 2007, the Gruy Fountain will feature a lighted perimeter, animated water jets and seating for the Aggie community to enjoy.

#### FOND FAREWELLS

Randy Matson '67—long-time fundraiser for Texas A&M University—retired from the Texas A&M Foundation in January 2007.



As senior philanthropic officer, Matson's efforts centered on major gift fundraising and helping former students and friends fulfill their charitable giving goals. Matson helped guide the recently completed *One Spirit One Vision Campaign* to its successful end.

"His reputation and his stature within the A&M family allowed us to get to talk to a wider audience about supporting the institution," said Jim Palincsar, senior vice president for development at the Texas A&M Foundation. "He's going to be missed, but he's still here in town, still part of the Texas A&M legend."

Matson graduated from Texas A&M with a bachelor's degree in marketing. As a Texas A&M student, he broke four world records in the shot put. He won a silver medal in the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo and a gold medal in the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City.

Matson began his Texas A&M fundraising career in 1972 as director of the annual fund for The Association of Former Students. He served as its executive director from 1980 to 2000.



The Texas A&M Foundation appreciates and acknowledges the service and example of Marie J. Fredericksen, who retired in March 2007 after 26 years of combined service with The Texas A&M Foundation and the Texas A&M University Development Office.

Marie was the administrative assistant to the vice president and general counsel, and also provided support to the Foundation president.

"Marie had two traits that are almost non-existent today," says friend and coworker, Mary Beeson. "She was a meticulous employee; nothing drove her crazier than for someone to use improper grammar. Marie kept her Reference Guide at her

The Zachry Foundation  
 San Antonio, Texas  
 Civil Engineering Enrichment Fund  
 Survey Camp Endowment in Civil Engineering Fund  
 H. B. Zachry Jr. '54 Challenge Gift Fund—Civil Engineering  
 Zachry Chair Construction Integration Fund  
 Zachry Distinguished Scholarship Fund—Civil Engineering  
 Zachry Fellowship Fund—Engineering  
 Zachry Professorship for Career Development I  
 Zachry Professorship for Career Development II  
 Zachry Professorship in Design & Construction Integration I  
 Zachry Professorship in Design & Construction Integration II  
 Zachry Scholarship Fund—Civil Engineering  
 Zachry Student Advising & Services Fund  
 James Zimmerhanzel Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 La Grange, Texas  
 Jimmy Zimmerhanzel Memorial Scholarship

desk and used it religiously. Best of all, she is a good friend who always kept us laughing.”

**WILKINSON, WOOTON PROMOTED**



David Wilkinson '87 is now director of major gifts at the Texas A&M Foundation. His responsibilities will include campus-wide development projects and national major gift initiatives. Wilkinson, who joined the Foundation in 1999, worked at The Association of Former Students for six years prior to joining the Foundation and previously as the director of development in the College of Agriculture. He earned his bachelor's degree in agriculture and life sciences from Texas A&M. He and his wife, Lori '87, have three children: Luke (17), Brooke (14) and Blake (10).



Chad Wootton '96 was promoted to senior director of development. As such, he is responsible for fundraising efforts in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and its affiliated programs. Wootton earned his degree in agricultural economics and worked for the Texas Cooperative Extension Service prior to joining the Texas A&M Foundation in 2000. He has previously held positions in the Dwight Look College of Engineering and was regional director of major gifts for South Texas during the *One Spirit One Vision Campaign*. He resides in Houston with his wife, Chrissie '92.



**NEW FOUNDATION FACES**

Jennifer Hester '98 joined the Texas A&M Foundation in September 2006 as director of development for the Mays Business School. Hester received her bachelor's degree in sociology from Texas A&M in 1998 and her master's from the University of North Texas. Prior to joining the Foundation, she worked for Ketchum, which pro-

vided consulting to organizations developing capital campaigns.



Diane Barron '81 joined the Texas A&M Foundation in October 2006 as the director of development for the College of Geosciences. Barron earned a mechanical engineering degree from Texas A&M in 1981 and a master's degree in metallurgy from Colorado School of Mines. Before joining the Foundation she worked for Dow Chemical.

Eric Herbst joined the Foundation in April as the brand manager.



Herbst is responsible for the development and analysis of brand communications for the Texas A&M Foundation. He received his bachelor's degree in economics from Union College in 1974 and his master's degree in public administration from State University of New York-Albany in 1975. Before joining the Foundation, Herbst was the media director at Nokia North America, managing U.S. media planning and global product placement and integration.



Cindy Munson '99 joined the Foundation in April as the assistant director of development for Student Affairs. She is responsible for cultivating gifts on behalf of the division. Munson earned both her bachelor's degree in liberal arts and her master's degree in student affairs administration from Texas A&M. Prior to joining the Foundation, Munson served as campus programs coordinator for The Association of Former Students.

## Frequently Asked Questions

How can I recognize others through a gift to the Texas A&M Foundation?

A gift in memory or in honor of a teacher, student, relative or friend is a generous and thoughtful way to recognize a person's life and accomplishments.

You can name any type of gift in honor or in memory of another person, including cash gifts, such as scholarships, faculty professorships or chairs, and graduate fellowships. You can also name planned gifts, such as trusts, IRAs, life insurance and real estate, for an individual you wish to remember.

When you make an honorary or memorial gift to the Texas A&M Foundation, we notify the honoree or next of kin, and the gift is used as you specified. To make an honorary or memorial gift, send your gift with a note specifying the honoree's name and the address of the honoree or next of kin.

For more information on honorary memorials, contact:

Ann Lovett  
Manager of Gift Processing  
Phone: 979-845-8161  
E-mail: a-lovett@tamu.edu

## Tell Us What You Think

The Texas A&M Foundation would like to know what you think about *Spirit* magazine.

Please take a few minutes to participate in our reader survey at the following website:

<http://giving.tamu.edu/TAMFsurvey/>

The website will guide you through some quick and easy-to-answer questions that will give us a better idea of what you want from the Texas A&M Foundation's magazine.

The Foundation has asked the Center for Survey Research & Analysis (CSRA)—a non-profit, non-partisan, independent survey research center at the University of Connecticut—to conduct this confidential survey.

As part of this study, CSRA is also sending e-mail messages to randomly selected former students inviting them to participate in the survey. Keep an eye out for the e-mail, or just log onto the survey link above to contribute to this important study. We value your opinion and look forward to implementing some of your ideas in the Foundation's communications.

*Thank you.*

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## Requests & Comments: Summer 2007

*Spirit* is published to keep you informed about Texas A&M fundraising efforts. If you have a comment or question, take a moment to fill out this form and mail it postage-free, or send it via e-mail to [amfoundation@tam.u.edu](mailto:amfoundation@tam.u.edu). Thank you.

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- TAMU Galveston

### PROGRAMS

- Assoc. of Former Students
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- Faculty Support
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- International Programs
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- Medicine
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- Student Life
- University Press

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You can contact the Texas A&M Foundation at the following:

postal:      401 George Bush Drive  
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voice:        979-845-8161 or 1-800-392-3310  
e-mail:       [amfoundation@tam.u.edu](mailto:amfoundation@tam.u.edu)  
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