In this issue of Spirit, Sterling Evans '21 says, "This school has meant more to me than any other place I know, and it needs to play that same role for generations to come."

John Atterbury '70 says, "'Global marketplace' is an overworked term, but it's true."
Saving by giving

Welcome to the premiere issue of Spirit, the newsletter of the Texas A&M Foundation. Spirit, like its predecessor Capturing the Spirit, plays a special role at Texas A&M. It is a publication that celebrates unique individuals, the joy of giving back and the Aggie can-do spirit all from a perspective that spans the entire campus.

In this issue, we feature three Aggies who have chosen the charitable trust as a tool for giving. The charitable trust is gaining popularity as more people grasp its paradox: You can save a lot of money, but only by giving it away. Establishing a charitable trust can minimize your estate and income taxes, free up highly-appreciated assets without triggering capital gains taxes, and provide you with an income for life.

The Texas A&M Foundation recognized the value of charitable trusts 15 years ago, when it created the Texas A&M Foundation Trust Company. One of just a few college-affiliated trust companies in the nation, it serves as trustee for donors whose trusts benefit Texas A&M. Last year, Trust Company clients created a record 19 new trusts.

While the financial benefits are great, Texas A&M trust donors also have higher motives for giving. We profile several of these generous supporters: Sterling C. Evans ’21 (pg.2), Lula Mae & Dan Lay ’36 (pg.8), and Peggy & Bob Pender ’56 (pg.9).

On the cover: Sterling C. Evans ’21 at his ranch in Bracketville, Texas. Photo by Kirham’s Studio and provided courtesy of Sterling C. Evans Library.
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EVANS SAYS HE'S BELIEVED THAT SINCE HE GRADUATED FROM TEXAS A&M IN 1921, HIS FRIENDS SAY HE'S BEEN TELLING THEM THE SAME THING FOR AS LONG AS THEY CAN REMEMBER. "Evans is totally dedicated to Texas A&M," says long-time friend Clyde Haak. "It's been a sense of purpose throughout his life, especially the library. You don't have to be around him very long to know how important the library is to him." Haak accompanied Evans to campus in October for the football game against Oklahoma State, one of the most exciting Aggie games in recent history. Evans says he returns to campus every year or so "just to see how the place has changed and to get fired up by the students and all the excitement here." He has season football tickets but usually gives them away, "so other folks can come and see what a special place this is, so that they can be captured by the Aggie Spirit." Some of Evans' earliest memories of Texas A&M concern the library and the role it played in turning boys into men. He fondly remembers the Junto Society, which was a literary and oratory society that fostered intellectual discussions among cadets.
"You'd read and study and prepare a paper, and then everyone else in the society would quiz you," Evans says. "It introduced me to a whole new way of looking at the world. And it made me realize how important libraries are."

Evans says his proudest moment as a student was his graduation day in 1921. "I was valedictorian," he says. "I got to deliver an address to everybody. It was in Guion Hall. Boy, did I feel special then."

But Evans has a host of other proud moments involving Texas A&M. These include the admission of women students and the tremendous growth of the campus. Both occurred while he served on the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents, now called the Board of Regents.

He laughs when he tells how he promised then-Texas Governor Price Daniel that, if he was appointed to the board, he wouldn't try to make the university coeducational while Daniel was governor. "But I didn't say anything about later," he says with a grin. "Once he wasn't governor, all bets were off."

When Evans became chairman of the board, the admission of women students was one of his top priorities.

"Some people say it (admitting women) changed this place. If it did, then I'm really happy about it. The school was going out of existence. It needed girls. It was the best thing I ever did; damn right it was."

And Evans did some other things right, too. He initiated a major building program for the university and, always and everywhere, talked about the importance of the library. He told anyone who would listen: presidents, fellow directors, legislators, students and anyone looking for a good cause.

His all-time proudest moment, he says, came when Texas A&M named its library in his honor in 1979. The Sterling C. Evans Library now houses 2.2 million volumes and thousands of periodicals and maps. Computer databases and microfilm offer access to millions of additional pages of information. The university is nearing completion of a new six-floor addition, which will expand the room and resources available to students.

"This school has meant more to me than any other place I know, and it needs to play that same role for generations to come."

Texas A&M is a great school, and a great school deserves a great library. It's a mantra Evans still uses and one that he backs with more than talk.

When his beloved wife, Cathrene, died in 1981, her will left $4 million for the Evans Library. As she directed, the funds are held in trust by the Texas A&M Foundation Trust Company. Income from the trust benefits her husband during his life. Afterward, the trust funds will create an endowment for the library. Sterling Evans plans to establish his own trust by giving his Bracketville ranch. The Evans' gifts will be among the largest library gifts in university history.

"I give my money to Texas A&M because it's a great school and it deserves a great library," Evans says. "This school has meant more to me than any other place I know, and it needs to play the same role for generations to come. That's why I keep giving and keep encouraging other people to give."

The special spirit of Texas A&M also inspires Evans' giving. "No other school has the spirit that A&M has; no other place is like it. We all got something special here, and we all want to pay this place back, in some small way, for everything it did for us."

Evans has been a rancher since 1959, but his Texas A&M education allowed him to pursue many endeavors. Following his valedictory address in 1921, he joined the Texas Agricultural Extension Service as a club leader, later becoming a district agent. That career, he says, "helped me know just how important Texas A&M was to the people of Texas."

Evans left the Extension Service to become president of the Houston Bank for Cooperatives, another organization serving the state's agricultural needs. He then went on to serve as president of the Federal Land Bank in Houston and as general agent of the Farm Credit Bank of Houston. In all those positions, he spread the Texas A&M story and his familiar plug for the library.

Evans' dedication to the library is eclipsed only by his dedication to his alma mater. In addition to serving on Texas A&M's governing board, he was a founding trustee of the Texas A&M Development Foundation (now the Texas A&M Foundation). He was the first president of the Friends of the Library and also served on the President's Council, the "Capturing the Spirit" Campaign Cabinet and the Texas A&M University Press Advisory Council. His exceptional career and service to Texas A&M earned him the title Distinguished Alumnus in 1973.

But Evans says none of those honors are important. "What's important is the library and supporting Texas A&M to make sure it will be as important to other young people as it has been to me. That's the bottom line."
Hundreds of middle and high school students converged on the Texas A&M campus in November. Their goal: Retrieve 13 sticks of unstable dynamite from an abandoned vinyl mine.
No. It's not a liability insurer's worst nightmare. It's the fourth annual Texas BEST championship.

Texas BEST (Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology) is a competition that challenges student teams to design and build remote-controlled robots to accomplish defined tasks in defined time frames. Texas Instruments (TI) and Texas A&M co-sponsor the Texas BEST state championship. TI also supports regional BEST contests in communities where it has plants.

"TI's ability to compete globally depends on our youth using their minds and imaginations to strengthen their science and math skills," says TI Chairman James R. Adams '61. "Texas Instruments has found that a great way to encourage students is through sponsoring the BEST competition."

Two TI engineers, Ted W. Mahler '79 and Steve Marum, founded BEST. Inspired by a competition held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, they wanted to launch a similar program for students in Texas. The idea caught on with TI management, and in 1995 Texas A&M joined TI to co-sponsor the state championship.

The game changes annually, but its foundation remains the same: a technology competition that is like a sports event. Each high school or middle school team receives a box of identical materials, which the students use to design and build a radio-controlled machine. This year's competition attracted teams from 150 middle and high schools; only 26 teams advanced to the state championship.

This year's BEST challenge was to retrieve 13 sticks of unstable "dynamite" from an abandoned "vinyl mine." Robots must first distinguish between 13 unstable, heavy dynamite sticks and 40 stable, lighter dynamite sticks that look exactly the same. Robots must then collect the unstable sticks, carry them up a 4-foot-by-8-foot ramp and dump them in a "blast proof" bucket.

TI gave Texas A&M $40,000 to co-fund this year's Texas BEST championship. In addition to hosting the championship, Texas A&M offers a $2,000 scholarship to any winning team member who later enrolls in the university. Two members of the 1995 winning team accepted scholarships last fall. One is studying business and marketing; the other mechanical engineering.

Ted Mahler deems Texas BEST a success no matter what field its participants enter. "Students participate in a very real engineering experience that starts with the creativity of brainstorming, materializes in the building phase and matures in the testing and design phase," Mahler says. "If they choose a technical path, they leave BEST with experience in that engineering process. If they pursue another profession, students still gain a technique for solving complex problems. That skill is applicable to any discipline."
GIANT AMONG MEN

LINDY MILLENDER '12
ALWAYS DID THINGS IN A BIG WAY. The 6-foot-4-inch Aggie yell leader bedeviled university officials by carrying a six-shooter on campus.

HE LATER TRAVELED THE WORLD
as an engineer,
BUILDING BRIDGES, ROADS AND POWER PLANTS
in times of war and peace.
HIS SKILL AS A DIPLOMAT earned him one of Brazil's highest military honors in 1945.

The influence of a man like Millender never really ends.
EVEN 25 YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH,
Millender stands as a giant among men, this time by leaving an AMAZINGLY LARGE
gift in
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY.
Millender’s story begins in 1907. Joseph E. L. Millender, or “Lindy” as he was called, was just 19; but he already knew the value of a good education. Building railroad tracks and roads in the Rio Grande Valley had shown him that. He was determined to get an education despite an almost empty wallet.

“When he got to Texas A&M, he had only $13 and a railroad pass to his name,” says Jack Millender ’52, Lindy’s nephew. “But he was there to get an education, and he wasn’t going to leave until he did.”

Electrical engineering was Millender’s chosen field of study, but the Dallas native found time for other diversions. He served as head yell leader and spent considerable effort hiding his six-shooter from university officials. The prized weapon was a remnant from Millender’s days as a deputy marshal in the Valley.

“They (university officials) would often inspect his room to try and find his gun and holster,” Jack Millender recounts. “He lived in old Foster Hall, where the windows had iron weights. He would pull the facing off the window and hide his gun inside.”

Even though he caused school officials a few sleepless nights, Lindy went on to graduate and serve his country and the world.

He served as a major during World War I, building roads and bridges in France. During World War II, he lived in Brazil and acted as liaison between that country and the United States. For this service, Millender received one of Brazil’s highest decorations, the Military Order of the Cruzeiro do Sul, in 1945.

Millender spent almost 40 years in Brazil, building hydroelectric plants and administering public utility services. When he died in 1974, he left a bequest of stock and real estate to Texas A&M. After a decades-long paper chase, the Texas A&M Foundation discovered just how generous Lindy Millender had been. The tall Texas boy who had just $13 when he enrolled at Texas A&M had left his alma mater more than $3.5 million. The gift will fund need-based scholarships.

“He was very interested in young people getting an education,” Jack Millender says of his uncle. “Growing up when he did, he saw how very difficult it was to get money for school. He made sure he gave back, so that someone else would have the opportunities that he had.

“He had a deep love for the school. I think he would be very proud of Texas A&M today and proud to think he was a part of it.”

Lindy Millender ’12
Lays' trust to "open doors" for graduate students

Daniel W. Lay '36 came to Texas A&M with little but left with a love that would last a lifetime—a love for nature.

"That was a time of economic hardship," Lay remembers. "Many students were looking for work. The staff at A&M's poultry department gave me a place to work on their farm, and the Former Students Association provided short-term loans."

Lay was approaching graduation when he met Dr. Walter P. Taylor in December 1935. Taylor had just come to College Station to establish the new Texas Cooperative Wildlife Unit, and Lay got the job of helping him move in.

"I happened to be in the right place at the right time," Lay recalls. "I had a background of outdoor experience, but Dr. Taylor opened the door to wildlife as a profession. Soon, I was on his staff and planning to become a wildlife biologist."

Lay completed his bachelor's degree in agriculture and then in 1938 became one of the first two students to receive a master's degree in wildlife management from Texas A&M. Lay's love for the outdoors took him through 43 years of service with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. Retired as a wildlife biologist since 1979, he continues to enjoy the outdoors. Towing a boat to the Texas coast for a little fishing is not beyond the energies of this 84-year-old Aggie.

Keith Arnold, a Texas A&M professor of wildlife & fisheries sciences, is Lay's long-time friend.

"Dan Lay epitomizes the kind of graduate we like to produce," Arnold says. "He loves his work and cares a great deal about natural resources. And he has proven that through his generous donations to Texas A&M."

Lay and his wife, Lula Mae, have given numerous specimens to the university's wildlife collection. The Lays also recently established a $100,000 charitable trust to benefit Texas A&M. Encouraged by William B. Davis, former head of the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences, the couple chose the Texas A&M Foundation Trust Company to manage their trust.

The trust will provide income to the Lays during their lifetimes, and afterward it will fund the Lula Mae & Daniel W. Lay '36 Graduate Student Excellence Fund in Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences.

"We hope this trust will open doors for others and strengthen their recognition of man-earth dependence," says Lay.
Penders among Trust Company’s newest clients

Donors last year funded a record 19 new charitable trusts with the Texas A&M Foundation Trust Company. Peggy and Robert I. “Bob” Pender ‘56 are among these new donors. The Penders’ $216,000 charitable trust will one day benefit the E. L. “Pete” Wehner Endowment for the Lowry Mays College & Graduate School of Business.

The fact that their gift honors another is a clear sign of the Penders’ motive for giving.

“This gift is not about bringing recognition to us,” Bob Pender says. “It is about giving future Aggies a chance to attain their goals and about being true to my commitments.”

Peggy Pender shares her husband’s feelings. “The real joy of giving for us is getting to see students capitalize on their endless possibilities,” she says.

The Penders’ gift is part of a pledge made by certain partners and associates of Arthur Andersen/Andersen Consulting. In 1992, this group set the ambitious goal of giving Texas A&M $3 million over several years in memory of E. L. “Pete” Wehner ’41, a former Arthur Andersen partner and lifelong Texas A&M supporter.

“Pete Wehner was the kind of person you wanted to emulate and not let down,” says Bob Pender, who was an Arthur Andersen partner for 28 years. “Peggy and I wanted to make this gift to demonstrate our respect for Pete and his family and our commitment to the pledge.”

Bob Pender attended high school just 25 miles from Texas A&M in Navasota, Texas, but he nearly missed his chance to become an Aggie. A state teachers’ college had caught his eye with a baseball scholarship, but then a neighbor convinced him to try Texas A&M. That neighbor, Curtis Maynard ’38, helped Pender apply for and win an Opportunity Award Scholarship.

“The Opportunity Award made it all happen,” Pender says. “I think it was about $125 per semester.” Part-time jobs, such as waiting tables in Sbisa Dining Hall, also helped Pender pay his college bills. The first Aggie in his family, he received his bachelor’s degree in accounting in 1956. He went on to a successful career in accounting and auditing, “backed by the valuable lessons learned at A&M.” After 40 years with Arthur Andersen, Pender retired in 1996. He and Peggy now enjoy more time with their family, including sons Robert I. Pender Jr., a Baylor University graduate, and Paul B. Pender ‘82.

The Penders remain involved with Texas A&M. Bob is a member of the Center for Executive Development Advisory Council, Lettman’s Association (baseball ’54) and 12th Man Foundation. The couple has funded a President’s Endowed Scholarship, 12th Man Foundation Scholarship, and fittingly, an Endowed Opportunity Award, the same scholarship that brought Bob Pender to Texas A&M 45 years ago.
Payback time for Aggie doctor

It's payback time for Delma P. Posey '59.

That's how Posey, a physician and director of dermatology at the Scott & White Clinic in Temple, Texas, feels about the $25,000 he and his wife have given to endow a scholarship in Texas A&M's Howard L. Gravett Scholars Program.

"I think that everything I've become has been due to the things that I received at A&M," says Posey. "I just hope that future folks can benefit in the same way."

The Patsy Ruth & Delma P. Posey '59 Scholarship, and others in the Gravett Scholars Program, honor Howard L. Gravett, a member of Texas A&M's biology faculty from 1946 until he retired in 1976. Gravett was a pre-medical and pre-dental advisor, and more than 850 of his students went on to medical or dental school.

"Howard Gravett could get you into med school; or if he thought you wouldn't make a good doctor, he could keep you away from med school," recalls one former student.

The Gravett Scholars program benefits a variety of students: those with high academic and leadership potential, female and minority students, and those with financial need. Posey says the Gravett program was a natural choice for his gift.

"He was always a friend to students, and I wanted to honor him for that," he says. Posey knew Gravett better than many students. He took "three or four" courses from the popular teacher and worked for him as a teaching and laboratory assistant. "His was an open door. You could go just about any time and talk with him about anything that you wanted to."

Posey hopes the scholarship will enable other deserving students to get the same kind of education he got at Texas A&M and later.

"When I was going to Texas A&M, I had just come off the farm; I put myself through school with scholarships and working," he says. "This is just sort of a payback."

Posey graduated with a bachelor's degree in zoology and went to medical school at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. After graduating in 1963, he entered the U.S. Army. He completed an internship at William Beaumont Hospital at Fort Bliss and did a year as a general medical officer in the 1st Armored Division at Fort Hood.

Posey then completed a residency in dermatology at Brooke General Hospital in San Antonio and then spent three years at Army posts in Panama. Posey now serves as director of dermatology at the Scott & White Clinic in Temple and an associate professor in the Texas A&M Health Science Center/College of Medicine.
Bringing the world to Texas A&M

Four American presidents, a British prime minister, a Kuwaiti news team and 40,000 other distinguished visitors came to Texas A&M for the November 6 dedication of the George Bush Presidential Library. Many are calling it the biggest day in Texas A&M history, and it is only a beginning.

Officials expect the Bush Library to attract 300,000 visitors a year, and many of these will be students. For these younger visitors, the new SBC World Room will provide information about the international issues every American must face.

"The goal of the World Room is to provide an interactive classroom that reaches students across Texas," says Sarah Witham Bednarz, assistant professor of geography at Texas A&M. "It is more important than ever that young Texans learn about the world."

The SBC World Room is part of the George Bush Presidential Library International Center. Unlike the Bush Library itself, the International Center is owned, operated and funded by Texas A&M University.

As visitors enter the SBC World Room, they step up to a three-dimensional world map that dominates the floor. Topographical maps, a video library and interactive computer systems provide in-depth information about geographic, cultural, political and economic issues.

SBC Communications Inc. committed $500,000 to fund the World Room. John H. Atterbury III '70, president and CEO of SBC International Operations, believes this was "a natural area" for SBC to support.

"It was an easy decision," Atterbury says. "First, our headquarters are in this state. It also is an opportunity to teach the youth of this great country and state more about the world. This will be of long-term benefit both to SBC and to Texas."

SBC Communications Inc. is a global leader in telecommunications, with more than 32 million access lines and more than five million wireless customers across the United States, as well as investments in telecommunications businesses in nine countries. Under the Southwestern Bell, Pacific Bell, Nevada Bell and Cellular One brands, the company offers a wide range of innovative services. SBC has more than 118,000 employees and ranks as one of the five largest publicly-traded telecommunications companies worldwide.

Atterbury, who received a 1997 Outstanding Alumnus Award from Texas A&M's business college, wants the SBC World Room to be a catalyst for learning.

"Global marketplace" is an overworked term, but it's true," he says. "I think the International Center will be a focal point for visitors to the library. Maybe young people will leave with just a little bit of knowledge, enough to inspire them to learn more during their school and college years."
In it for the kids

Carol and John Heit '43 are in it for the kids. Just ask them.

John will tell you, “Oh man, are we ever!”

Over the years, the Heits have helped some 90 Aggies get an education. Currently, 15 Texas A&M students benefit from scholarships they have set up. And that’s not the whole story. Their desire to help good students in need now keeps 28 young people in attendance at six different colleges around the state.

And they’ve decided to do even more. Recently, the Heits penned an agreement with the Texas A&M Foundation to provide over $1 million for endowed scholarships and programs in several areas. Their gift will support Corps academic and recruitment programs, the Fightin’ Texas Aggie Band, Corps commander activities, the Singing Cadets and Engineering and Corps scholarships.

John Heit holds three degrees in engineering: a bachelor’s degree from Texas A&M, and master’s and doctoral degrees from Southern Methodist University and University of Texas (UT) at Arlington, respectively. His military and industrial experience spans five decades, including 37 years as an aeronautical engineer with General Dynamics.

Carol Heit received her bachelor’s degree from UT-Arlington, but John describes her as “a more staunch Aggie than I am. She’s behind our programs 150 percent.”

Carol adds, “We don’t agree on everything, but Texas A&M is definitely something we agree on. We know A&M is going to turn out a quality product. These kids are going to change the world for the better.”

“They’re so diverse and have brought us so much joy; it’s no sacrifice to us,” she says. “We can hardly wait to get down to A&M and visit with them.”

John recounts, “People say, ‘Oh, we just marvel at what you’re doing,’ but we tell them, ‘You can’t believe how much pleasure we get out of interacting with these kids.’”

The Heits’ interest in their scholarship students has many dimensions. On one occasion, they traveled to the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C, to watch one of their students perform with the Singing Cadets.

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In memoriam

Texas A&M recently lost a dear friend and stalwart supporter, William C. McCord ’49 of Dallas. At Mr. McCord’s memorial service, Texas A&M University System Regent Erle A. Nye ’59 spoke on behalf of the university. Below are excerpts from Mr. Nye’s remarks; we couldn’t say it better.

From time to time we are blessed in this life by coming into contact with a person who makes a positive difference wherever he goes. Bill McCord was such a person.

We know that Bill was a loving husband and father; we know that he was a great friend to so many; we know that he was an exceptional business leader; we know that he was a consummate civic worker; and we know that in all things he served the Lord.

We know also that Bill had an intense loyalty to people and institutions. In particular, I observed Bill’s exceptional loyalty and dedication to Texas A&M University.

Bill brought the same keen intellect, the same dedication and the same intense loyalty to serving Texas A&M that he exhibited in his very successful business career. The list of significant leadership positions that Bill McCord held in serving Texas A&M is literally too lengthy to mention. Of particular significance are his service on the Target 2000 Project, the development councils for engineering and business, and the board of trustees of the Texas A&M Foundation. Bill crowned a lifetime of service to Texas A&M University by leading “Capturing the Spirit,” a campaign to raise $500 million. But typical of Bill, he didn’t raise $500 million; he raised almost $640 million.

Dallas and Texas have lost a great leader, and Texas A&M has lost an exceptional friend and an outstanding former student. Some of you will understand when I say that Bill was an Aggie’s Aggie. He brought great credit to the university, and he represented Texas A&M with pride and dedication wherever he went. We are so blessed that he came our way.

continued from page 12

"He nearly fainted when he saw us sitting in the audience," John says.

Before the holidays each year, Carol mails "care packages" to their scholarship students to help them through finals. Whenever the Heits are in College Station, which is often, they take their students to dinner.

"About the only real requirement we put on them is to stay in touch and let us know how their lives are going," says John. "We also tell them we hope that after they graduate and get to a certain position in life, they’ll lend a hand like we are."

In that regard, John and Carol Heit are making gifts that truly keep on giving.
BOWEN INITIATES VISION 2020

Texas A&M President Ray M. Bowen '58 has initiated a planning project that will "position Texas A&M firmly among the top 10 public universities in the United States by the year 2020."

Vision 2020, Bowen says, will bring together a large group of faculty, staff, former students and other leading citizens of Texas and the nation. These individuals will help "create a plan designed to raise Texas A&M to a higher level of achievement."

"The challenge before us is to avoid becoming satisfied with our accomplishments and to become committed to making this university even greater," Bowen says. He cites several issues the plan must address, including rising costs, increasing demands on students, globalization, technology changes, an aging faculty and enrollment pressures.

Bowen has assembled the Vision 2020 team and begins the multi-year planning process this spring.

FOUNDATION ASSETS SURPASS $400 MILLION

The Texas A&M Foundation ended its 1996-97 fiscal year with assets in excess of $400 million. As of August 31, 1997, foundation assets totaled nearly $402 million, an increase from $338 million the year before.

The increase resulted from a strong fund-raising year as well as high returns on investments, foundation officials report. Gifts made through the foundation totaled $72 million in 1996-97, and the foundation's long-term investment fund achieved a total rate of return of 25.85 percent for the year.

JIM CREEL '69 JOINS FOUNDATION BOARD

Jim Creel '69 joined the Texas A&M Foundation board of trustees on September 1, 1997. The foundation is governed by seven trustees, each appointed by the Association of Former Students for a period of seven years.

Creel is a partner in the Fort Worth law firm McLean & Sanders and a CPA specializing in federal taxation and estate planning. He serves on the 12th Man Foundation board of directors and is a past president of the Association of Former Students and the Fort Worth-Tarrant County A&M Club.

HOUSTON ENDOWMENT INCORPORATED
Houston, Texas
Houston Endowment Inc. Scholarship

HUMANE INFORMATION SERVICES
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
Animal Euthenics Program Fund

J & W SCIENTIFIC
Folsom, California
Liquid Chromatography Grant

KORET FOUNDATION
San Francisco, California
George Bush Presidential Library Center

THE W. P. & BULAH LUSE FOUNDATION
Dallas, Texas
W. P. & Bulah Luse Foundation Endowed Scholarship

MARINER ENERGY, INCORPORATED
Houston, Texas
Gulf of Mexico Project Grant

MCI FOUNDATION
Houston, Texas
College of Science/IBT Rural Interactive Telemedicine Gift

BRUCE MCMILLAN, JR. FOUNDATION, INC.
Overton, Texas
Bruce McMillan, Jr. Foundation Scholarship

MOBIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCING TECHNICAL CENTER
Dallas, Texas
Institute for Scientific Computation Unrestricted Fund

MONSANTO COMPANY
St. Louis, Missouri
Chemistry Grant

MONSANTO COMPANY
St. Louis, Missouri
Chemistry Grant

THE MOODY FOUNDATION
Galveston, Texas
Moody Foundation Scholarship

NEPHROLOGY SERVICES INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Bryan, Texas
Richard G. Morgan Endowed Fund

NOVARTIS CROP PROTECTION, INCORPORATED
Greensboro, North Carolina
Environmental Toxicology Program in Veterinary Medicine Grant

OPERA AND PERFORMING ARTS SOCIETY GUILD
Bryan, Texas
MSC OPAS Excellence Fund
PETROLEUM ENGINEERING

Launches Campaign


Texas A&M's petroleum engineering program has consistently ranked first in national ratings of similar undergraduate programs. As suggested by its name, the "The Leader Today/The Leader Tomorrow" Campaign will help secure the department's status in an era of increasing competition. Campaign priorities focus on three areas: student scholarships and fellowships, faculty chairs and professorships, and technology support.

Aggie Receives National Volunteer Award

Roy Dye '39 recently received a 1997 Volunteer Service Award from the National Alumni & Development Association for his volunteer leadership of the agriculture programs at Texas A&M.

Dye, who earned a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry, is the first Aggie to receive the award. He has served on the university's Agriculture Development Council, the "Capturing the Spirit" Houston Steering Committee, University Academic Enrichment Council, and Research Foundation board of directors. Dye also was instrumental in initiating and endowing Texas A&M's therapeutic horseback riding program.

Matching Program Sparks 132 Scholarship Gifts

A Texas A&M Foundation and Texas A&M University matching gift program generated 132 new scholarships and seven new fellowships in less than three months. The matching program lasted from December 1, 1997, to February 20, 1998, and allowed donors to fund two scholarships for the price of one.

"We are thrilled that the matching gift program generated so many new scholarships for Texas A&M students," said Foundation President Eddie J. Davis '67. "We're amazed by the quick response and very appreciative of the many generous donors who utilized the program."

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A portion of the revenues Texas A&M University receives from the Texas A&M Bookstore provided the $5 million in matching funds. Any donor who made a scholarship commitment of $25,000 or more had his gift matched 1-to-1, creating a second scholarship. In the case of fellowships, donors could endow a fellowship by giving just half of the $100,000 required, and Texas A&M provided the remaining $50,000.

Matching program donors created scholarships in seven different colleges, as well as Endowed Opportunity Awards, Sul Ross Scholarship and President's Endowed Scholarships, according to Durwood Lewis ’60, foundation director of development operations.

"Often when donors consider a scholarship gift to Texas A&M, they are torn between supporting one area of the university or another," Lewis explained. "With this matching program, they didn’t have to choose but could support both areas."

Texas A&M University received $110 million in private support in 1995-96, beating a previous high of $90.2 million in 1993-1994. The $110 million total comprises private gifts to Texas A&M University, the Texas A&M Foundation, Association of Former Students and 12th Man Foundation, as well as private grants for research.

Texas A&M Earns Top Rankings

Survey results released last fall ranked Texas A&M University among the nation’s top universities in terms of private support received. Among all U.S. public universities, Texas A&M ranked 11th in total private support received, fifth for foundation support received and ninth in corporate support received.
Frequently Asked Questions

Who determines the foundation’s fund-raising priorities?

The administration at Texas A&M University works closely with the foundation to communicate the university’s priorities and needs. These become the focus of foundation fund-raising efforts, but ultimately it is donors who designate which programs or colleges their gifts will benefit. A small percentage of donors make unrestricted gifts, which are dispersed where the designated university administrators see the most need.

Correction

Our Fall 1997 newsletter omitted two campaign endowments. The endowment list should include, under the Lowry Mays College & Graduate School of Business, the Marvin J. Girouard ’61 & Felice J. Girouard Endowed International Scholarship in Marketing and the Marvin J. Girouard ’61 & Felice J. Girouard Dean’s Endowed Scholarship in Marketing.
Requests & Comments

Spirit is published to keep you informed about Texas A&M fund-raising efforts. If you have a comment or question, take a moment to fill out this form and mail it postage-free. Thank you

FIRST NAME

LAST NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

HOME PHONE NUMBER

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Check here if:

☐ New home address

☐ New business address

I have a comment/question:


☐ Please contact me about making a gift to Texas A&M.

☐ I’d like to know more about making an estate gift (trusts, life insurance, bequests).

I’d like to know more about giving opportunities in the following area(s):

COLLEGES

☐ Agriculture

☐ Architecture

☐ Business

☐ Education

☐ Engineering

☐ Geosciences

☐ Liberal Arts

☐ Medicine

☐ Science

☐ Veterinary Medicine

PROGRAMS

☐ Association of Former Students

☐ Bush School of Government

☐ Corps of Cadets

☐ Faculty Support

☐ International Programs

☐ Libraries

☐ Scholarships

☐ Student Life

OTHER:

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