

SPIRIT *of* SHARING

TAKING THE GUESSWORK OUT OF...

Giving



SPRING 2015 · *Gift & Tax Strategies for Friends of Texas A&M*

Gift Options to Meet Your Needs

As we look toward the future, we know that Texas A&M's success depends on the generosity of those who invest in this institution. By giving through the Texas A&M Foundation, you can benefit from your investment as well. The best giving plans make a difference in the lives of others and can improve your own financial and/or tax situation—often right away. We want to ensure that when you support Texas A&M, both you and the university benefit, so we recommend the following giving techniques. These planned gifts will allow you to give more than you ever thought possible at less cost to you.

1.

Make the Gift That Costs Nothing During Your Lifetime.

You can make a generous commitment for the future of Texas A&M without reducing your savings or cash flow. A charitable bequest in your will or living trust will not take effect until after your death. Plus, it's revocable, so it can be amended if your or your family's needs change over time.



Susan '74 & Bill Ouren '74

You can make a bequest of:

- A fixed amount, such as \$25,000
- A specific asset, such as a vacation home
- A percentage, such as 20% of your assets
- What is left of your estate after specific bequests have been made

Making a bequest is easy, and you don't have to alter your current will. It can be as simple as adding a codicil to your existing arrangements.

As part of their estate plans Susan '74 and Bill Ouren '74 included a bequest to the Texas A&M Foundation that in the future will benefit Cushing Memorial Library and Archives and continue to support scholarships they have already established.

"One thing I would say to anyone is that if you want to give back to the university, you can do so in many different ways, large and small," said Bill Ouren. "It's less about how much you give and more about being committed to giving something.

"The needs are so broad that if you just work with the experts at the Foundation, you can fashion a way to feel proud about what you do. Once you start giving, the rewards you receive in return are priceless," he added.

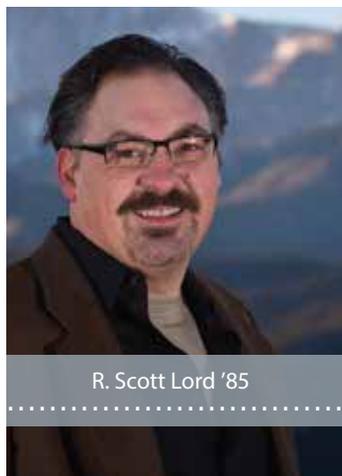
2.

Give the Gift That's Hiding in the Back of Your Desk Drawer.

Life insurance can be a versatile asset in your portfolio and it can also be a very versatile gift. There are three ways you can give insurance:

Give the Texas A&M Foundation a paid-up life insurance policy. You'll receive a charitable deduction for the value of the policy, simplify your portfolio and make a substantial gift to us without affecting your cash flow. Remember that you must make us the irrevocable owner as well as beneficiary of the policy in order for your gift to be tax deductible.

Transfer ownership of a policy that you still owe premiums on. In most cases, you can make deductible annual gifts to us offset the premium payments that we will pay.



R. Scott Lord '85

Make the Foundation beneficiary of a life insurance policy. R. Scott Lord '85 deeply appreciates the time he spent on the Fish Drill Team. He wanted to do something to ensure that future Aggies will forever benefit from the life-changing experiences that this Corps of Cadets program offers. As the owner of three life insurance policies, Lord decided he could use one to benefit Texas A&M. He called Glenn Pittsford '72, the Texas A&M Foundation's vice president for gift planning, to discuss a life insurance gift. Lord then made the Foundation the beneficiary of the policy and designated the funds for the Fish Drill Team. "The giving process was incredibly easy," he said. "I sat down with my insurance agent, and we talked about what I wanted to do. I simply filled out a change of beneficiary form, and then Glenn put together the gift agreement."

3.

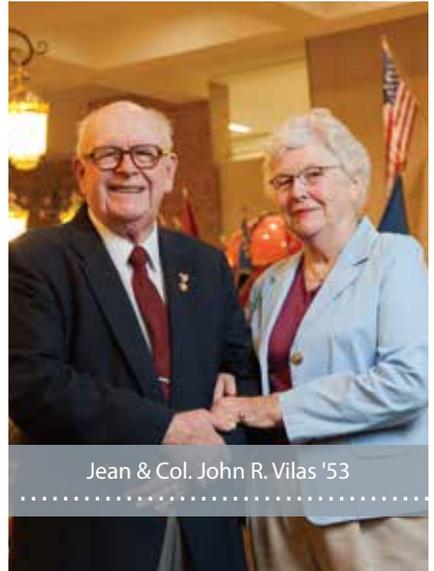
Make the Gift That Gets You Off the Stock Market Roller Coaster.

Not only does a charitable gift annuity offer you a tax deduction and fixed payments for life, it also freezes the current value of the stock you contribute. That's because your annuity will be based on the value of the stock at the time you donate it. Your payments from the gift annuity will usually be higher than any dividends the stock might be paying you now.

Jean and Col. John R. Vilas '53 created a charitable gift annuity with shares of Apple stock. "We bought Apple stock in 1995 and 1997," said John Vilas.

"Over the years, the stock split several times and our small investment grew. Apple didn't pay dividends, so by

donating the stock to create a charitable gift annuity, we are receiving fixed payments for our lifetimes and rather significant benefits."



Jean & Col. John R. Vilas '53

4.

Make the Most Tax-Advantaged Gift

Did you know that your retirement plan (IRA) can be the most heavily taxed asset in your estate? If you pass it on to your heirs, it can lose more than 60% of its value to income and estate taxes. But if you give it to charity, there is no taxation at all. By making such a gift to the Texas A&M

Foundation, you avoid high tax penalties and ensure that your heirs receive more by leaving them favorably-taxed property.

- Designating the Texas A&M Foundation as the beneficiary of your retirement plan is easily accomplished by using the plan's beneficiary designation form.
- It's a good idea to consult with your plan's administrator and a financial adviser before making any changes in plan distribution.

Joyce & Bill Roach '55 found themselves with a wonderful dilemma: they had more retirement funds than needed. Knowing their three children and four granddaughters would be taken care of through other assets, the Roaches found a tax-friendly and simple way to help future Aggies.



Joyce & Bill Roach '55

"We're going to give both of our IRAs to the Texas A&M Foundation after our lifetimes," said Roach, who noted that the IRAs would have been subject to income and estate taxes if they were passed to family members. "When I give them to the Foundation or any charity, they're not taxed. Texas A&M will fully benefit. The gift plan was extremely simple to accomplish, requiring just a change in beneficiary form."

Planned giving is smarter giving. We want to help you find the gift plan that's right for you, so you benefit from it as much as we do.

Contact us today to learn how you can make a bigger, more transformational difference at Texas A&M.



CONTACT US TODAY!

To discuss how a planned gift to the Texas A&M Foundation might benefit you, your family and Texas A&M University, please contact:

Mark Browning '88

Gift Planning Officer

mbrowning@txamfoundation.com

(800) 392-3310



From small
things...



...grow big things!

Just as a few “Maroon Bonnet” seeds can bloom into a field of blossoms, an estate gift can make Texas A&M even greater, and bring potential financial and tax benefits to you for years to come.

Find out how by contacting the Office of Gift Planning for a free Estate and Gift Planning Kit. With each kit, we’ll also send you a packet of Maroon Bonnets so that you can start planning and planting together.

**Texas A&M Foundation
Office of Gift Planning**

giftplanning@txamfoundation.com
(800) 392-3310

To request your kit
and seeds online visit:

txamfoundation.com/plan



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