Seven honored with 2011 Service Awards

Seven individuals who have displayed outstanding commitment not only to Sam Houston State University but to their respective communities were selected as the 2011 SHSU Alumni Association Service Award recipients.

Doris Hebert Gimpel, Karen Bain Gray, John and Nancy Hoyt, Scott McCarey, Cindy Pierce, and Billy A. Smith, Sr., were honored at a luncheon on April 15, in the Lowman Student Center Ballroom, for their fulfillment of the university’s motto, “The measure of a Life is its Service.”

Doris Hebert Gimpel, a 1959 graduate of Sam Houston State University, was a Texas educator for more than 30 years, teaching pre-school, first, second and third grades at Fort Neches – Geese, in the Beaumont ISD, in Houston at the Chapelleau Day School, and in the Richardson ISD. Among her accomplishments and honors are the Richardson Outstanding Teacher Award, an Honorary Life Member of the National PTA, and the Distinguished Service Award from the Richardson Optimist Club. In 1996, she was named Outstanding Elementary Teacher of Year for the State of Texas.

Since moving to Huntsville, she has been active with the Walker County Chamber of Commerce. She has been honored with the chamber’s Ambassador of the Year Award in 2009 and the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2010.

Gimpel has been active through involvement and leadership as a past board member and current volunteer with the Wynne Home Arts Council and a board member of the Friends of the Huntsville Public Library. She is also a member of First United Methodist Church of Huntsville, a past board member of the Sam Houston Memorial Museum board of directors, and a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority. She has been a loyal volunteer and supporter of Sam Houston State University and an active participant with the SHSU Alumni Association. She is a Life Member and has served as a member of the board of directors.

Karen Bain Gray earned a Bachelor of Science degree in teaching in 1980, a Master of Education degree in administration in 1986, and mid-management certification in 1991, all from SHSU. She served as an elementary and middle school teacher at the Geese, Creekville Creek and Huntsville Independent School Districts; a pre-K through sixth grade campus administrator in the Willis and Huntsville school districts; and an education leadership coordinator at Region VI Education Service Center.

She was the director of the SHSU Office of Alumni Relations during 2005 and 2006. Under her leadership, the Alumni Association grew in membership, increased events, introduced the online community and alumni directory, and established the first alumni chapter. After her retirement, Gray continued to work with the Alumni Association, serving as a board member and, along with her husband Bobby, supporting events and making contributions to SHSU. The Gray are Alumni Association Life Members.

Through the years, Gray has been involved with such community endeavors as the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Lamb Committee and the PTO and PTA, both as a parent and educator. She has also been a member of University Women and the Walker County Helen Sellar Sammam办学 and a supporter of the Walker County Go Texan Scholarship Committee and CASA of Walker and San Jacinto Counties. She is a member of Northside Baptist Church.

A former member of the Alumni Association board of directors, Scott McCarey earned a Bachelor of Science degree in environmental science and chemistry in 1973 and a Master of Business Administration degree in 1975. He has been actively involved in local alumni initiatives as the Alumni Association membership committee; the board of directors; membership and phone drives; and the Alumni Association canned food drive for the SHSU Tree of Light ceremony.

In addition to being a Life Member of the SHSU Alumni Association, McCarey has served as a member of the Sam Houston Redes Alumni board of directors and has been the Sam Houston Southern Region Redes announcer for seven years. He and his wife, Mary, have established four endowed scholarships at SHSU for students in business, environmental science, the performing arts, and to recognize community service.

McCarey is a member of The Mixed Review, a local band that has played for and participated in benefits, raising over $500,000 in the past 10 years for such organizations as the Good Shepherd Mission, Christmas Cheer Club, M. D. Andersen; SAFAE House; Huntsville firefighters; and Relay for Life. He has been involved in the Fair on the Square, Sam Houston Folk Festival, 4-H Horse Club, the Audubon Society, Huntsville Community Theatre, Texas Outlaw Music Festival, Main Street Huntsville Advisory Board, Walker County Fair Association, and the Airing of the Quilts.

Born and raised in Walker County, Cindy Pierce is the owner/operator of Heartfield Hotdog in Huntsville.

She has been a loyal supporter of and activist for SHSU and the community for many years. Through her business, she has provided hours of planning and decorating for numerous university events.

A Century Club member of the Alumni Association, Pierce supports Bearkat athletics and the agriculture department, as well as the university as a whole through her participation in SHSU activities and programs. To provide financial assistance for deserving students, she and her husband, Danny, established the Danny and Cindy Pierce Family Scholarship Endowment for agriculture and industrial sciences.

Her community involvement includes serving as past president and current board member of the Walker County Fair Association; current vice president of Walker County Special Utility District; past president of the Junior Service League; and current board member of the Walker County Chamber of Commerce. She is a graduate of the Huntsville Leadership Institute, and she supports many local organizations including the Pregnancy Care Center and SAFAE House.

Nancy and John, of Hewitt, met at SHSU in 1974 when John was a senior majoring in political science and Nancy was a freshman.

They married in 1977 and moved to Nacogdoches when John was hired by Hensley Farms. After several years, Hensley Farms hired John as vice president of sales and marketing, and the Hoyts moved to Rogers, Ark., then a short time later, to Huntsville. In 1988, the Hoyts returned to Texas, where they had the opportunity to reconnect with their alma mater.

Following the tragic death of Nancy’s brother in a skating accident, the Hoyts established the Greg Lundgren Athletic Scholarship in his memory at SHSU. They became life endowed members of the Alumni Association and have sponsored numerous association events statewide through the years.

John served as a member of the association’s board of directors for seven years. During the past two years of his term, he served as vice president and in 2009 served as board president.

Nancy has served on the board of directors of Planned Parenthood of Central Texas and numerous committees for the United Methodist Church.

John served as a member of the Executive Leadership Council for SHSU’s recent “Share the Vision” capital campaign and has been a member of the President’s Circle for five years.

He has also served as a member of the championship athletic committee, the Sam Houston Memorial Museum board of directors, and the most recent SHSU presidential search committee.

Billy A. Smith, Sr., a 1979 graduate, founded Midway Oilfield Constructors, Inc., in 1981. With the help of his wife Kathy, four children and many loyal and long-time employees, MOCCI has grown with offices now in four states and approximately 250 employees.

The Smiths have given back to SHSU through scholarships in athletics, the College of Business Administration, and the College of Education. They have funded many events at Sam Houston including Let’s Talk, Letterman’s golf tournaments, football auctions, and other events. Smith is a former Bearkat letterman in football, has been on the Hall of Honor Selection Committee, and is an endowed member of the Letterman’s Association.

Smith has been instrumental in helping out in area communities through supporting numerous county 4-H fairs and auctions in Madison, Walker, Leon and Robertson counties. The Smiths have also been avid supporters of Madisonville ISD athletic programs and school projects for over 20 years. The Smiths are members of the First Baptist Church of Madisonville and have been active in the church supporting numerous building projects and the Pathway of Light project each year.
The Alumni Association kicked off the 2nd annual Spring Membership Campaign on April 1st, running through April 30th. Attracting vital new members and maintaining current membership are essential to the Alumni Association’s continued well-being and development.

How can you as a current member help the association grow? We would greatly appreciate your assistance in reaching out to fellow Bearkats that you know and encourage them to join the already 8,200 plus Bearkats that are supporting the Alumni Association through the gift of membership.

To learn more about how you can support this campaign, please contact Donna Gilbert at 936-294-3924 or dgilbert@shsu.edu

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of Life Membership plaques to those in attendance who had joined since Sept. 1, 2010. Serving as sponsors for the event were (Corporate) Liberty Mutual and (Platinum) John ‘78 and Donna ‘82 ’90 Gilbert; Roland ‘80 and Jean ‘82 Hendricks; Ron ’60 and Chrissy Matrige; Law Office of Bennie D. Rush, P.C.; and Gary ‘72 and Pam ‘72 Whitlock. Also (Gold) Roland Black ’61; R.H. ’60 and Kelley Bond; Bill ’88 and Kerri Byler; Ronny Carroll ’65-Ronny Carroll Homes; Glyn Gilliam ’56; Leonard Keeling ’63; Ron ’61 and Donna Koska; Tommy Metcalf ’71; Edgar ’56 and Carolyn Reeves; David Rex ’82 M-D-Huntsville Radiology Consultants P.A.; Buddy and Larue ’62 Smith; and Dan ’65, ’67 and Marian Spence.

For more information about Life Membership and other membership levels in the SHSU Alumni Association contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 936.294.1840 or 800.283.7478.
Alumni and friends from the Houston area gathered on January 13th at the Hobby Center for an “Evening on Broadway.” The evening concluded with a performance of West Side Story.

(Right) SHSU Alumni Association Director Charlie Vienne addresses alumni and friends at the Hobby Center in downtown Houston.

Fort Worth & Dallas Alumni & Friends

The Alumni Association made its biannual trip in January to the Metroplex for a luncheon in Fort Worth at Joe T. Garcia’s and a dinner in Dallas at the Park City Club.

Fort Worth Alumni & Friends Luncheon

The Alumni Association gratefully acknowledges the generous and ongoing support of the following sponsors:

Charles “Chuck” ’81 and Lina Jones
James ’61 and Sally ’61,’66 Kelly
Gib ’62 and Sandra Lewis
Allen ’56,’62 and Joann Triplett

SHSU President Dana Gibson with Chuck Jones ’81 at the Ft. Worth luncheon.

Ed ’71 and Carla Reyna with Jolene ’71 and Gregg ’72 Hill at the Park City Club.

Dallas Alumni & Friends Dinner

January 27, 2011

The alumni association gratefully acknowledges the generous and ongoing support of the following sponsors:

Roland Black ’61
Lee Drain ’60
Gregg ’72 & Jolene ’71 Hill
Charles “Chuck” ’81 & Lina Jones
Ed ’71 & Carla Reyna
Larry ’75 & Donna ’75 Zacharias

SHSU President Dana Gibson (left) with Chuck Jones (right) at the Ft. Worth luncheon.
President Dana L. Gibson and the Alumni Association gratefully acknowledge the generous and ongoing support of the following sponsors:

**Platinum Sponsors**
- Community Bank of San Antonio
- (Jane) "G" & Josephine "89 Garrett"
- #2 "J" & Virginia Williams
- #3 "A" & Norma Johnson
- "8" & "N" & "H" "T" & "U" "H" "E" "B" "O"

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- Roland Beck & Texas Bank
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- #4 "Y" & "Z" & "A" & "B" & "C" & "D"

**Silver Sponsors**
- Terry & "J" & "M" & "N" & "O" "P" & "Q"
- "R" & "S" & "T" & "U" & "V" & "W"
- "X" & "Y" & "Z" & "A" & "B" & "C"

Alumni and friends, members of the Texas Legislature, and staff from the Texas State University System came together to celebrate Sam Houston’s birthday at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin.

President Dana Gibson with State Representative Lois Kolkhorst and State Representative Borris Miles ’89.

(Top) Former Texas State University System Chancellor Lamar Urbanowsky with wife Darlene and current TSUS Chancellor Brian McCall. (Below) John McManners ’62, TSUS Regent Ron Mitchell, Ronda Ellisor ’87 and TSUS Regent Trisha Pollard ’74.

John ’97 and Jennifer’ 99 Garrett.
Alumni Events

Houston Area Alumni and Friends at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo

Eighth Annual Ring Ceremony

Hosted by the Sam Houston State University Alumni Association, Office of the Vice President for Student Services and Balfour

(Left) The Eighth Annual Ring Ceremony took place on the Austin Hall grounds on April 7th. More than 450 rings were passed out at the ceremony. (Below left) Alumni Association Board President Alan Tinsley passes out scrolls detailing the university's ring to the recipients. (Right) Distinguished Alumnus Tolbert Chisum '67 and (below) many of the participants were more than happy to show off their new rings.
The SHSU Student Alumni Association was formed to network the future leaders of tomorrow with the leaders of today by providing a means for interaction among students, alumni, and the community.

The SAA has exemplified the SHSU motto “The measure of a Life is its Service” this year through a number of community outreach endeavors, according to SAA vice president Justin Haynes.

“This motto is not just a quote for Bearkats; it is a way of life,” Haynes said. “We take a lot from the Huntsville community, so any chance we have to give back, you can bet that the SAA will be the tip of the spear.”

In the fall semester the group “Trick or Treated” for canned goods on Halloween and collected nearly 500 cans for Huntsville’s Good Shepherd Mission. The club has also adopted a local nursing home, and in February they held a “Carnations for Seniors” Valentine’s Day event, in which they handed out and visited with 56 senior citizens. This month they will return to the nursing home, where several of the music majors in the club will lead a sing-along and perform for the residents.

They also sponsored a booth during the Huntsville CASA benefit carnival, where they made “Bearkat hats for children.”

The SAA also will participate as a team on April 29th for this year’s SHSU Relay for Life.

“Cancer affects many people worldwide and even some Bearkats,” said SAA president Brittiany Avery. “Relay for Life gives students the opportunity to contribute towards the fight against cancer.”

Anyone wishing to sponsor the SAA team during the Relay for Life may do so by contacting the Alumni Relations Office at 800.283.7478.

New York Alumni & Friends Event
Sam Houston State University Alumni Association
December 1st - 4th

★ Round Trip Airfare from Houston Intercontinental
★ Lodging at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers
(811 7th Ave. & 53rd St.)
★ Friday Night Alumni Dinner Event

Reserve Now!
A $250 deposit per person is due by September 1, 2011

For more information, or to pay your deposit, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 800.283.7478 or visit alumni.shsu.edu

FOOTBALL
THE EXCITEMENT CONTINUES
seven huge games in your 2011 football season ticket purchase
(936) 294-1729
WWW.GOBEARKATS.COM
Scott Jeffress ‘80 is the Executive Producer for the hit reality show “Jersey Shore”. In addition to “Jersey Shore,” he’s worked for years on high-profile reality television shows, including ABC’s smash hits “The Bachelor”, “The Bachelorette”, and HGTV’s “Design Star”.

Ken Ross ‘81 Gov. Rick Perry has reappointed Kenneth Ross of Houston to the Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority for terms to expire Feb. 1, 2017. Ross is an insurance agent with State Farm Insurance. He is a life member and board director of the SHSU Alumni Association.

Scott Kana ‘86 was recently named Superintendent of Sealy Independent School District.

Conley, Cheryl ‘94 was named as one of four finalists by The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) for the 2011 National Teacher of the Year. Conley is a fourth grade teacher at Osceola Magnet Elementary School in Vero Beach, Florida. The finalist were chosen from the 2011 state teachers of the year in all 50 states. President Barack Obama is expected to recognize the national honoree and the state representatives in May 2011.

Christie McWilliams ‘95 ‘00 moved in 2009 to Michigan, got married, and currently serves as the Director of Programs and Student Admissions at the Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts. She will finish her doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction focusing on Gifted Education within the next year.

Erika Douglas Gloyd ‘01 and husband Roosevelt welcomed their second daughter, Aubrey Marie Gloyd, on December 18, 2010. She was 6 lbs. 13 oz. Mom, Dad, and big sister Riya are very excited.

Mark Gilbert ‘06 and wife Lindsey became parents to a beautiful baby girl, Kennedy Grace Gilbert, on April 1. Mark is the son of SHSU alumni John ‘78 & Donna ‘82, ’90 Gilbert and Cutty

Daron Peschel ‘08 recently promoted to vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas’ Houston Branch. Peschel serves on the boards of Junior Achievement of Southeast Texas and Buffalo Bayou Partnership. He also serves on the advisory board for the Chair of Banking at Sam Houston State University.
Sam Houston State University is a Member of The Texas State University System.

Board of Regents
Charlie Amato             Donna N. Williams      Trisha S. Pollard
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Beaumont   Houston Horseshoe Bay
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Beaumont
San Antonio Austin

SHSU Alumni Association
Box 2022
Huntsville, TX 77341-2022

http://alumni.shsu.edu

Connecting Alumni Serving SHSU

Spring/Summer 2011 Event List
Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 800.283.7478 for information and details of all alumni events.

April 28
Austin/Washington County Event
The Welcome Hall, Welcome, TX

April 29
Student Alumni Association - Relay For Life
Bowers Stadium

May 3
Tyler Area Alumni and Friends
Holly Tree Country Club - Tyler, TX

May 21
Fifth Annual Alumni Golf Tournament
High Meadow Ranch Golf Club - Magnolia, TX

June 28
SHSU Night at Minute Maid Park
Astros vs. Rangers - Houston, TX

For a complete list of alumni events and activities, visit the alumni website at alumni.shsu.edu

Save The Date
Homecoming 2011
Distinguished Alumni Gala
October 14th
LSC Ballroom - 7 pm

SHSU vs. Nicholls State
October 15th
Bowers Stadium - 2 pm

Sam Houston State University is a Member of The Texas State University System.

Board of Regents

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Do You Have What It Takes To Be A Director?

The SHSU Alumni Association Nomination Committee is seeking individuals willing to serve on the Board of Directors.

To be considered as an applicant for an Alumni Association Director, the candidate shall meet the following criteria:

🌟 Current alumni membership of Century Club or Life Member
🌟 Shall be a graduate of SHSU at least two years prior to consideration

Download and complete an application (http://alumni.shsu.edu) or call the Alumni Office at 800-283-7478 for an application. Submit application to Alumni Office, along with two letters of recommendation from Alumni Association members in good standing or one letter of recommendation from a current Alumni Association Director or Officer by July 1, 2011.

The Alumni Association Nomination Committee will review all applications and determine the nominees for the ballot.