

Celebrate

CAMPAIGN FOR SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

A Newsletter of the Share The Vision Capital Campaign Vol. 5, Issue 2 SUMMER 10

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

Sam Houston State University Tops \$50 Million Campaign Goal

Sam Houston State University has made history by going beyond its \$50 million goal.

The *Share the Vision* campaign raised nearly \$60 million in commitments from more than 21,500 alumni, friends, parents, corporations, and foundations for scholarships, program endowments, and construction projects.

Vice President for University Advancement Frank Holmes praised those involved for working together and being successful, in spite of the unfriendly financial climate.

"The ability to surpass our campaign's goal and to do it ahead of schedule in today's troubled

Continued on Page 2



Students with the SHSU dance program perform during the opening of the *Celebrate the Vision* event.

Continued from Page 1

economy is a testament to the loyalty and affection that alumni and friends have for Sam Houston State University," he said.

"During a period when most charitable organizations were dealing with reduced contributions, our university had a record-setting year for cash contributions during 2008-09," he said. "I cannot tell you how fortunate I feel to have had the opportunity to work closely with so many supportive and dedicated alumni, friends, faculty, and staff. The amount of commitments received has been the result of genuine teamwork."

The total, which exceeds the comprehensive campaign's goal by nearly \$10 million, was made public during *Celebrate the Vision*, an event recognizing the work of those involved in the successful campaign.

"I am so grateful for the support of our wonderful donors and the very special people who provided the leadership for the *Share the Vision* campaign, especially our chairman, Ron Mafrige (BBA '60), who led the way with his generosity and encouragement," said SHSU President Jim Gaertner.

Mafrige thanked those who have a special place in their hearts for the university.

"If it wasn't for the participation of the many hundreds of people that love Sam Houston, this goal could not have been achieved," he said.

Approximately 350 people attended the event, held at the

Bernard G. Johnson Coliseum on campus.

During the evening, those serving on the Executive Leadership Council were recognized for their commitment and time to the campaign.

They include: Arnold Allemang, Charlie Amato, Jim Bexley, Karey Bresenhan, Ronny Carroll, Kay Deahl, Tim Deahl, Lee Drain, Gary Dudley, Tom Freeman, Eleanor Garrett, Glenda Gordy, Dick Hendee, John Hoyt, Robert Hutson, Preston Johnson and Chuck Jones.

Also, Len Keeling, Ron Koska, Roger Lawrence, Gib Lewis, George Miles, Jane Monday, Jack Parker, Phil Pfeiffer, Becky Rao, Kailas Rao, Joe Sandel, Winnie Sandel, Don Sanders, Ed Sandhop, Randy Stewart, Don Walker and Carol Weller.

The *Share the Vision* campaign was publicly launched four years ago as the university's most ambitious and challenging advancement initiative in Sam Houston State University's 131-year history.

During the campaign, the university received some of its largest gifts ever, including nine gifts of more than \$1 million, with an additional commitment of five deferred gifts of \$1 million or more.

Prior to the campaign, the university received an anonymous gift of \$1 million in 1996 for the College of Business Administration, and two \$500,000 gifts from the Houston Endowment in 1989 for the journalism program.

The campaign also saw a dramatic increase in giving by members of the university community. Approximately \$1.4 million was given or pledged by SHSU faculty and staff.



SHSU Names Teacher Education Center In Honor Of Garretts

The Teacher Education Center has been named in honor of alumna Eleanor Garrett (BS '54, MED '55) and her husband, Charles, in recognition of their lifelong support of elementary, secondary and higher education.

In addition, Mrs. Garrett received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree during Sam Houston State University's spring commencement ceremonies.

It was the first time the university had awarded an honorary doctorate since Bernard G. Johnson received one in 1987, and the only time that the honor has been bestowed during Jim Gaertner's nine-year tenure as president of Sam Houston State University. Only six honorary doctorates have been awarded in the university's 131-year history.

The TSUS regents approved naming the building the Eleanor and Charles Garrett Teacher Education Center in appreciation of a noteworthy gift to the university's *Share the Vision* capital campaign from the Garretts.

"We are so very grateful for the thoughtful and generous support that Eleanor and Charles Garrett have provided for our College of Education and its special education program, thus helping to enhance and solidify our college's position of leadership in instructing and developing outstanding educators and administrators," Gaertner said.

"The focus of their generosity occupies a very



Eleanor Garrett

special place in their hearts, which makes their decision to give to Sam Houston State even more meaningful to those of us who know and value their friendship," he said. "Mr. and Mrs. Garrett are difference makers in their business endeavors, their personal lives, and in their support of education."

Their gift provides funding for two areas within the College of Education — the Eleanor and Charles Garrett Endowed Chair for Special Education and the Eleanor and Charles Garrett Graduate Fellowships in Special Education.

Earnings from the endowed chair will support an individual of national prominence in special education as a faculty member who will teach in SHSU's College of Education, develop and broaden



Eleanor Garrett receives an honorary doctoral degree during the Spring 2010 graduation ceremonies for the College of Education.



Attending the *Celebrate The Vision* event in Johnson Coliseum were (1) Donna & Dan Beto (2) Genevieve & Gordon Brown (3) Faye & Ronny Carroll (4) Dana Gibson, Brian McCall and Gibb Lewis (5) Beverly & Webb Melder (6) Nancy Gaertner, Joe Amato and Jim Gaertner (7) Joann & Allen Triplett (8) Robert & Stella Koryciak.



Celebrate

CAMPAIGN FOR SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

July 10, 2010



(9) Capital Campaign Chair Ron Mafrige, Jim Gaertner, Frank Holmes and Thelma Mooney (10) Liberty Pollard, Louie Payne, Jean Babcock and Bonnie Thorne (11) Ruth Cady, Ron Johnson and Gene & Felicia Myrick (12) Janice Choate, Nancy & Joe Bickley and Ronnie Choate (13) John McManners, Brian McCall, Charles Friel and Jim Gaertner (14) Danya & Rich Kieval and Rhonda Ellisor (15) Len & Marlene Keeling and Nancy Gaertner (16) Bob Wallace, John Ragsdale and Ronny Carroll.





(Left and above) Students from the SHSU Dance Program performed twice during the *Celebrate The Vision* event in Johnson Coliseum. (Below left) President Jim Gaertner talks about the *Share the Vision* Capital Campaign. (Below center) Campaign Chairman Ron Mafrige thanks all the people that made the campaign a success. (Below right) Vice President for University Advancement Frank Holmes talks about the history of the capital campaign and about those who made it possible.



(Left) Frank Holmes presents SHSU Executive Director of Development Thelma Mooney with a gift of appreciation for her work with the capital campaign. (Above) President Gaertner surprises Frank Holmes with the same gift of appreciation. (Right) Staff from SHSU University Advancement at the *Celebrate The Vision* event.



LET'S TALK!

A NIGHT OF CONVERSATION

More than 200 Sam Houston State University alumni and friends joined 23 discussion leaders on April 8 for a night of inspirational conversation at LET'S TALK! 2010 and raised more than \$37,000 for The Elliott T. Bowers Honors College.

This is the third LET'S TALK! and each year its reputation and intrigue has grown. The event has raised more than \$140,000 for the Honors College.

The topics and discussion leaders were varied in subjects and backgrounds. They included American songwriter Allen Shamblin, '82; crime scene investigator and SHSU professor Sarah Kerrigan; baseball great Phil Garner; economy expert Chuck Jones, '81; Cuban journalist, prison survivor and SHSU professor Raphael Saumell-Muñoz; and Huntsville environmentalist Dan Phillips, '69.



Mike Keathley (left) with discussion leader Randy McIlvoy, '89, sportscaster for Houston's KPRC-TV Channel 2. McIlvoy discussed "Everything Sports," including his love of high school sports and those Friday night.



Conversation leaders (from left) Texas Rangers Capt. Cleto Buckaloo, Wells Fargo Dealer Services Senior Vice President/Eastern Production Manager Chuck Jones, '81, and Arizona State University Director of Criminology Scott Decker, with SHSU Dean of the College of Criminal Justice Vincent Webb.



State Representative Lois Kolkhorst (left) discussed how national health care reform will affect Texans with her table guests, which included Walker County Judge Danny Pierce.



Jenna Jackson '97 (left), a producer for CBS's 48-Hours and co-author of the book "Perfectly Executed Murder," and Sarah Kerrigan, SHSU forensics professor, discussed real-world crime scene investigations.

LET'S TALK! 2010

SPONSORS

Gold

The Sam Houston Foundation

Silver

ARAMARK
Classic Fare Catering

CenterPoint Energy

Robert '80 & Erin '80 Steele

Bronze

Mac '70 & Leanne '74 Woodward

Gibbs Brothers & Company, LP

Russell '72 & Glenda '73, '77
Gordy

Ralph & Linda Pease

Law Enforcement
Management Institute
of Texas

Correctional Management
Institute of Texas

SHSU Criminal Justice Center

The Mandola Estate Winery

Mike & Maria McIver



LET'S TALK! Table Hosts Visit Classes, Share Experience

In addition to providing fascinating dinner conversation for LET'S TALK!, which benefits The Elliott T. Bowers Honors College, three of this year's discussion leaders arrived on campus early to share their expertise with students: Allen Shamblin, songwriter; Richard Linklater, independent film producer and Tolbert Chisum, senior vice president at Wayne Hummer Wealth Management.

"The House That Built Me", written by Shamblin and recorded by Miranda Lambert, spent weeks at the top of the country music charts this summer. He taught a music writing workshop to composition and performance majors, as well as other students in the School of Music.

"He drew a terrifically interesting picture of how the music composing and writing profession works and what his work schedule is," said Dr. Mike Bankhead, chair of the School of Music. "He encouraged students to write every day, to exercise their creative talents every day, and to work hard and learn new things every day."

Shamblin received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from SHSU in 1982 and said that it has helped him market himself in the highly competitive music industry.

"Because he is working in the industry and is very successful, students learned about the life of a professional musician," Bankhead said. "Mr. Shamblin lives in the very competitive world of commercial music. He

told students to study, work and take advantage of everything they can get from their formal education because the more they have in their heads and through their experiences, the better chance they will have for success in the music world after college."

Linklater, who spent several semesters at SHSU as a mass communications student, eventually pioneered movie making in Texas. Best known for movies, such as "Dazed and Confused," "Bad News Bears," and his most recent film, "Me and Orson Welles," he founded the Austin Film Society, which

supports independent filmmakers worldwide. Linklater discussed his movie-making career with students enrolled in English Professor Ralph Pease's course on American and foreign films.

While Chisum's extensive knowledge of President Abraham Lincoln earned him an encore appearance for the 2010 LET'S TALK!, students in SHSU's College of Business Administration benefitted from his experience as a leader in the financial advisory industry. He visited with students in COBA's undergraduate course in organizational behavior.



Songwriter and alumnus Allen Shamblin '82 (above left), held a workshop for composition and performance majors. Alumnus Tolbert Chisum '67 (above right), visited with students in SHSU's organizational behavior course. Huntsville native Richard Linklater (below), an independent filmmaker in Texas, discussed his experience with students in a literature and film class.



Continued from Page 3

curriculum, conduct research, and collaborate with other educators through training programs and dissemination of information.

The fellowships will be awarded annually to help finance the education of graduate students whose primary emphasis is special education.

The Garretts, who live in Garland, are generous supporters of Sam Houston State University. In 2003, they established the Eleanor Smith and Charles Lewis Garrett Endowment to provide scholarships for students majoring in elementary education.

Mrs. Garrett served as a member of the SHSU *Share the Vision* campaign's Executive Leadership Council and is a Life Member of the SHSU Alumni Association. She was named a Distinguished Alumna of the university in 2008.

Mrs. Garrett was a visiting teacher in Trinity County and taught at schools in Nederland, Vidor, Port Neches and Garland before she and her husband Charles, an engineering graduate of Lamar



Eleanor Garrett receives a gift of appreciation for her work with the *Share The Vision* ELC from President Gaertner.



Sammy Bearkat with Eleanor Garrett

University, decided to start up the Garrett Metal Detector Company in 1964.

Mr. Garrett had a passion for treasure hunting, and the company was established because of his desire to create a better metal detector. After 15 successful years, the Garretts expanded into the security industry.

The company has grown into the world's largest manufacturer of virtually all types of metal detection equipment including hobby, law enforcement, security, and all-metal detection military devices. It provides walk-through scanners and hand-held detection wands at airports all over the world and has furnished security equipment to all the summer Olympic games and most of the winter Olympics for over 25 years.

The Garretts also maintain a tree farm in East Texas and were honored with the Texas Tree Farmer of the Year Award from the Texas Forestry Association in 2002.

See Sam Houston Light Up the Stage

New Performing Arts Center Opens This Fall

This summer, faculty and staff began moving into Sam Houston State University's new Performing Arts Center (PAC) and preparing for the return of classes in the fall.

The spectacular venue is sure to become a showplace in Southeast Texas and a crowning feature on campus. With improvements to the existing University Theatre Center complementing the new 92,000-square-foot complex, the next generation of performing arts teachers and professionals will train and perform with the finest lighting and acoustics in the industry.

The new center features an 800-seat concert hall, a recital hall and dance theater, as well as outdoor performance arena, studios, rehearsal space, production facilities and a lobby adorned with commissioned artwork.

The PAC will be dedicated on Sept. 30 with a ribbon cutting and opening celebration. The premier season will include music, theatre and dance performances,

culminating on April 30, 2011, with *Encore: See Sam Houston Light Up the Stage*. This event will enrich performing arts education by raising money and establishing an endowment for the future of the facility, faculty and students in

SHSU's performing art programs.

The PAC opening offers opportunities for honoring former faculty, graduates or family members by naming a room, stage, seat or other part of the facility. In addition,

sponsorships are needed for *Encore* to help establish a performing arts endowment.

For more information, contact the development office in University Advancement at 936.294.3625.



(Above & right) Dana Nicolay, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, conducts a tour of the new Performing Arts Center for a group of alumni and supporters of the arts at Sam Houston State. (Below) The main stage at the new PAC.



Sharing Success With A Planned Gift

Tommy and Pat Frank of Beaumont have established the Thomas J. and Patsy P. Frank Industrial Technology Scholarship Endowment with a \$500,000 gift annuity to benefit students in the Department of Agricultural and Industrial Sciences.

"I was the first person in my family to go to college," he said. "I enrolled in Lamar University as the recipient of two scholarships and with a job at Conn's Appliances making \$1 an hour."

After taking classes at Lamar for two years, he decided to transfer to Sam Houston State to prepare for a career in teaching.

"I loved Sam Houston," he said. "I've had the opportunity to be involved with several educational programs, and Sam Houston has always been at the top, because I always felt comfortable there."



Tommy and Pat Frank



With wife Pat looking on, Tommy Frank (center) presents President Gaertner a check establishing an endowment for students in Industrial Technology.

Frank commuted from Conroe and worked three jobs to pay for school. He delivered the Houston Post on weekends, worked at a convenience store, and cut grass at the trailer park where he lived.

With all the demands on his time, he still made good grades, was inducted into Alpha Chi Honor Society, and graduated in 1963 with honors and a degree in industrial arts.

He was offered and accepted a teaching fellowship at Texas A&M University. However, with the arrival of his first child, he had to leave before completing his thesis and getting his master's degree.

He taught in public school for a short time. But when C. W. Conn offered him a job back in Beaumont with a much more lucrative salary than what he was making as a teacher, he decided

to go into the business world.

"Conn's was a small company at the time, and they were interested in growing," Frank said.

He became certified to teach Dale Carnegie Management Seminar classes, and for the next 20 years he taught in Houston and worked at Conn's, holding key positions in all areas of the organization, including distribution, service, credit, information technology, accounting and general operations.

In 1980, he completed Harvard University's Small Company Management Program, which offered graduate work in business for senior executives of small companies. That same year, he was also named to Conn's board of directors.

Frank became Conn's CEO and chairman of the board in 1994,

Continued on next page

Beeson Honors Former Professors Through Scholarships

An endowment fund to provide scholarships for students majoring in industrial technology and business has been established by an alumnus to honor the memory of two of his former professors.

John Beeson has donated funds to create scholarships in memory of Joseph B. Snodgrass and Laurence L. Corley, Sr.

Beeson attended Sam Houston State Teachers College from 1959 until 1962 when he entered law school at South Texas College of Law.

While attending Sam Houston, he took classes in the Department of Industrial Technology taught by Snodgrass and the Department of General Business by Corley.

He developed a great respect for the professors.

"I saw two brilliant people who could have pursued other careers and been very successful," he said. "However, because of their love for teaching

others and their desire to inspire students to rise to their potential, they made sacrifices to do something that was important to them."

Snodgrass began his university career at Sam Houston in 1939 and retired in 1973. His students considered him a gifted and creative teacher.

As a way to teach his students to make the best use of what they had before spending the university's money needlessly,



John Beeson

he and fellow professor Victor Randel initiated a program for their students that would improve their existing equipment and renovate the manual arts shops, which in turn would save the university money.

Corley was a general business professor at Sam Houston for 39 years until his retirement in 1987. He served as the department chair for four years.

The SHSU Student Government Association honored Corley as teacher of the year for 1982-83, recognizing not only his excellence in teaching, but also his positive influence on students as a model of honesty, integrity and work ethic.

The Sam Houston Alumni Association also named Corley a distinguished alumnus in 1987 because of his dedication and faithful service to the field of education at SHSU as well as the impact that he had on other faculty and his many students.

Continued from previous page

and from then until his retirement in 2009, the company grew from 21 stores and \$100 million in annual sales to 72 stores and \$1 billion in annual sales.

Today, he spends his time with his wife, Pat, and family on his ranch outside of Beaumont.

The Franks put much thought into making their generous gift to Sam Houston State University.

"I have been financially successful well beyond my imagination," he said.

"When I was asked about giving to Sam Houston State,

I saw that there was a vehicle in place that met my objectives of making a gift that would be funded after my death, while still having income for my wife and I as long as we are alive," he said.

"It was in line with my beliefs and foundation that came from lessons learned in church and from my parents about success and the value of giving back," he said. "I was glad to know that Sam Houston State University had that kind of a program."

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

Board of Regents

Ron Blatchley Chair <i>Bryan/College Station</i>	Charlie Amato Vice-Chair <i>San Antonio</i>
Kevin J. Lilly <i>Houston</i>	Trisha Pollard <i>Bellaire</i>
Donna N. Williams <i>Arlington</i>	Michael Truncale <i>Beaumont</i>
David Montagne <i>Beaumont</i>	Ron Mitchell <i>Horseshoe Bay</i>
Christopher Covo Student Regent <i>San Marcos</i>	Dr. Brian McCall Chancellor <i>Austin</i>



Sam Houston State University
Office of University Advancement
Box 2537
Huntsville, TX 77341-2537

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 26



Members of the ELC at the *Celebrate The Vision* event.

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY	
Office of University Advancement Box 2537, Huntsville, Texas 77341-2537 936.294.3625 www.shsu.edu	Darlene K. Andrews Director of Donor Relations 936.294.3623
Frank R. Holmes Vice President for University Advancement 936.294.3625	Cindy Truax Director of Annual Giving 936.294.4388
Thelma Mooney Executive Director of Development 936.294.4047	Lorri Vickers Jones Director of Constituent & Special Programs 936.294.2402
Rhonda Ellisor Director of Major Gifts 936.294.4050	Kelsey M. Christian Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations 936.294.2423

Executive Leadership Council		
Ron Mafrige, Chair	Glenda J. Gordy	Jack C. Parker
Arnold A. Allemang	Richard T. Hendee	Philip J. Pfeiffer
Charles E. Amato	John M. Hoyt	Kailas Rao
James B. Bexley	Robert E. Hutson	Becky L. Rao
Karey P. Bresenhan	Preston Johnson, Jr.	Joe B. Sandel
Ronald H. Carroll	Charles W. Jones, III	Winnie F. Sandel
Kay Deahl	Leonard Keeling	Don Sanders
Tim Deahl	Ron P. Koska	Edwin G. Sandhop
Lee Drain	Roger D. Lawrence	Randy Stewart
Gary L. Dudley	Gibson D. Lewis	E. Don Walker, Jr.
Tom Freeman	George D. Miles, Jr.	Carol H. Weller
Eleanor S. Garrett	Jane C. Monday	