Annual Report to Donors

A Celebration of Giving

Charlie Amato and Gary Dudley
Nearly every day, I am reminded of the overwhelming generosity of Sam Houston State University’s donors. I have heard countless, heartfelt stories from our students who have attributed their ability to attend college and achieve success solely on the scholarships provided by our alumni and friends.

I have witnessed the awestruck looks of thousands of visitors as they walk through our beautiful campus with its new and renovated facilities that were built, in part, through donor support. I have had the privilege to speak publicly about the accomplishments of the university and the quality of our academic programs, which would not have been possible without philanthropy.

Each of you, who are listed within the pages of this 2013-2014 Annual Report to Donors, has made a meaningful difference for Sam Houston State and its nearly 20,000 students. Your support positively impacts enrollment growth, the quality of academic programs, the strength of athletic teams, and so many other things that enhance the university’s national stature. Simply put, you have invested in changing the lives of tomorrow’s leaders, which will have a profound impact on the future of our region, state, and nation for generations to come.

Over the past 300 years, higher education has been the primary source for all significant innovation and change, fueling momentous leaps in scientific and societal advancements. Knowing that Sam Houston has an extraordinary cadre of loyal and dependable support, I am confident this grand old university will continue to honor and uphold longstanding traditions and values, while embracing change and nurturing intellectual inquiry in order to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

Thank you for caring. Thank you for your involvement and thoughtful support. We could not be successful without you.

Dana G. Hoyt
President, Sam Houston State University
The Annual Report to Donors celebrates and recognizes the people who through their generosity and support have made a commitment to the future of our university and our students. Gifts made between September 1, 2013, and August 31, 2014, are reflected in this publication.

Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this report is accurate. We apologize for any errors or omissions and ask that you bring them to our attention.

Please report any corrections to:
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936.294.3625
shsu.edu/giving
Like steak and potatoes, peanut butter and jelly, or Ben and Jerry’s, the combination of Charlie Amato and Gary Dudley just makes sense.

modest dream of making a living by providing insurance to financial institutions, while also ensuring top-notch customer service.

Nearly 40 years later, SWBC

At a recent commencement at SHSU's fellow Texas State University System institution Lamar University, Amato told graduates, “We didn’t build our company with home runs; we did it by hitting singles. We just keep it as simple as we can.”

They say it’s because “simple” is what they know. Both men come from humble beginnings, growing up in small refinery towns in Texas.

“My mother and father got to the eighth grade and my grandparents were immigrants,” Amato said.

“My daddy went through the sixth grade; my mom graduated high school but didn’t go any further,” Dudley added. “I was the first one in my family, as Charlie was, to get a degree, and it’s a life-changing event.”

Before even enrolling at Sam Houston State University, Dudley’s and Amato’s paths had already crossed—they were just starting the sixth grade when they met in junior high in LaPorte.

Their initial friendship would be short-lived, when Amato’s father decided to move his family to Texas City. The two lost track of each other until they each enrolled at Sam Houston in the mid-1960s and pledged the same fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon.

“I believe the fraternity life binds you,” Dudley said. “You make so many friends that it encourages you to make good grades and stay in

**Charlie Amato and Gary Dudley at the AT&T Center in San Antonio.**
school. We still have lifelong friends through the fraternity."

Each graduated from SHSU with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. Following graduation, Dudley began coaching in the Houston school district until he enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves, serving for six years before taking a job selling insurance to credit unions and banks.

By that time, Amato had spent five years working in the banking industry.

The two fraternity brothers met again in 1972 at a party in Houston, where Dudley recruited Amato to start working for his employer.

But not long after the two began working together, they decided that being with the Michigan-based insurance company wasn’t in their best interest.

“They weren’t servicing our clients well enough,” Amato said. “We were doing the best we could in Texas and they were in Michigan, so it was long distance and we felt our clients deserved better treatment.”

“We left at the same time and found an insurance company that had enough faith in us to allow us to use them as our provider for the same product we had been selling,” Dudley said. “We started SWBC by selling just one product to financial institutions.”

As they began making a name for SWBC, their clients began asking for additional services.

“Most of the divisions (within our company) we started were a result of us responding to what our current customers wanted us to do,” Dudley said. “Things they didn’t
want to go out and hire people to do, we hired and placed them in these institutions.”

Today, SWBC is a multi-faceted, privately held financial services firm with more than 2,100 employees. The 18 companies under the name of SWBC do business in all 50 states, as well as in Bermuda, London and India. SWBC also was named one of the ‘Best Companies to Work for in Texas’ by Texas Monthly the past three years.

“I think our customer service is second to none, and we have a tremendous team here at SWBC,” Amato said.

SWBC is not the only “team” Dudley and Amato can call their own.

In 1992, when then-San Antonio Spurs owner wanted to sell the team in order to purchase the Minnesota Vikings, the pair was among a group of 20 San Antonio large-business owners approached to purchase the team. Amato, Dudley and the newly formed ownership group bought the team to ensure it stayed in San Antonio.

“A few years later, we won the first championship, which helped us get the votes we needed in the community to build this basketball facility,” said Amato, from the SWBC Suite at the AT&T Center.

Amato’s and Dudley’s success, however, does not end on the basketball court.

They also own five automobile dealerships in San Antonio and Cuero, as well as a Dallas-based real estate company that builds multi-family housing complexes and is currently constructing projects worth $120 million.

Their hard work has not gone unrecognized by the San Antonio community or SHSU.

They have been inducted in to the Texas and San Antonio Business Halls of Fame, were awarded the Beta Gamma Sigma Medallion for Entrepreneurship, are recipients of the SHSU Distinguished Alumni Award, and were named to the College of Business Administration’s Hall of Honor. They also are members of the President’s Circle and serve on the COBA Advisory Council.

Amato also is the first person to ever be appointed to a second full, six-year term on the Texas State University System’s Board of Regents and served as chairman in 2012.

“I enjoy it. I have a great working relationship with the governor and the legislature,” said Amato, who went on to say his time as a regent has shown him the importance of giving back to his alma mater.

“Being a regent, I’ve learned higher education is a very expensive process, and there’s not a way we can get enough revenue from the state to accomplish all of the goals our universities want to accomplish. Tuition keeps going up because our money is being cut on a continuous basis,” Amato said. “We used to get a lot of money from Washington, D.C., but we don’t anymore.”

In 2011, Amato and Dudley established an endowed academic chair at SHSU, reserved for the College of Business Administration dean. The $1 million gift enables the university to attract and retain a scholar and academic administrator to lead the college.

“I feel we are morally obligated to give back,” Dudley said. “A lot of the reason we are successful is because of what we learned at Sam Houston.”

“We figure if Sam Houston had the academics and energy level to help make us successful, we want to give back to help provide a quality education, especially to first-generation college students, as both of us were,” Amato said.

Dudley and Amato continue to give back to the San Antonio community, as well. They recently committed to a $2 million gift to the Children’s Hospital of San Antonio.

They hope to continue growing their business by “hitting singles.”

“We are going to take it one day at a time and continue to deliver world-class service to our clients,” Amato said, “and take care of the people who work at SWBC.”
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Linda and Cliff West

Linda West, ‘72, and her husband, Cliff, established an endowment in memory of Linda’s mother, Marie Middleton, who passed away in April 2014 at the age of 90.

Linda, who earned a degree in English and Spanish from Sam Houston before obtaining a law degree, followed in her mother’s footsteps when choosing where she wanted to further her education.

Marie Middleton graduated from Huntsville High School in 1942 and attended Sam Houston Teachers College, majoring in music and English.

While in college, she sang in the women’s quartet that performed at one of Billy Graham’s first crusades in San Antonio. She was a gifted coloratura soprano and sang in the choir of the First Baptist Church in Huntsville for more than 50 years.


In 2007, Marie moved to Houston, where she lived until her passing in 2014.

The Marie Coley Atkinson Middleton Memorial Music Endowment and Scholarship will benefit full-time undergraduate students majoring in voice.

Marie’s daughter hopes the annual scholarship will help students earn a degree doing what they love, as singing truly brought joy to the long life of her mother.
THE OLD MAIN SOCIETY
The society commemorates the historic significance of the building that was completed in 1890 and destroyed by fire in 1982. Revered as a traditional symbol of the university, its foundation footprint is maintained.

Nathan Partain
It was America’s favorite pastime that brought Nathan Partain to Sam Houston State University. Nathan, who grew up in La Marque, received a scholarship to play baseball at SHSU and earned a degree in biology in 1979 and a Master of Business Administration degree in 1981.

Upon graduating, he spent six years working in Beaumont at Gulf States Utilities before moving to Chicago to begin a career with Duff & Phelps Investment Management Company, where today he is president and chief investment officer.

Nathan and his wife, Kristine, just celebrated 30 years of marriage and have three grown children.

Nathan has been a donor to SHSU since 1983. He supports Baseball Enrichment, College of Business Administration Enrichment, Friends of Advancement, Office of Alumni Relations, University Scholarships, and the Bearkat Champions General Fund.

“I was fortunate to attend SHSU on a baseball scholarship. Because of that scholarship, I was able to get an undergraduate education and have enough money to be able to go to graduate school,” Nathan said. “I feel the need to give something back to SHSU because scholarships made my education possible and gave me a spring board for a successful business career.”

Nathan has many fond memories of his time at Sam Houston, including being a charter member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity.

“I feel the need to give something back to SHSU because scholarships made my education possible.”
Stacey Michalik

Stacey Michalik earned an accounting degree from Sam Houston State University in 1993 and immediately began her career with The Dow Chemical Company.

She started as an exchange accountant and progressed through a variety of other accounting roles before moving into business finance.

Stacey credits her education from SHSU for making her a favorable candidate for her first position at Dow Chemical.

“Sam provided me with not only a great education but with the asset of having a university on my resume that is well-known in the accounting field,” Stacey said. “Dow has a long history of hiring accounting majors from Sam.”

Stacey donates to The Dow Chemical Alumni Accounting Scholarship.

“I hope it can help a student who is interested in accounting and wants that great Sam Houston education but with the asset of having a university on my resume that is well-known in the accounting field,” she said.

When Stacey is not hard at work as an associate finance director for Dow Chemical, she is spending time with her husband of 10 years, Brian, and her young children, Riley, 7, and Von, 4.

She also spends time “running the roads,” having taken up running in 2009. She has completed one marathon and 12 half-marathons.

*Denotes Deceased
THE AUSTIN HALL SOCIETY
The society commemorates the oldest building on campus, dedicated in 1851 for Austin College with Gen. Sam Houston in attendance. A group of Huntsville citizens acquired the building and donated it to the state in 1879 to open Sam Houston Normal Institute.
Ryan Lee Lewis

Ryan Lee Lewis transferred to Sam Houston State University in 2007 from the University of Houston because he wanted to experience smaller class sizes and one-on-one interactions with professors. As a geology major, the teaching and “learning through research” philosophy at SHSU was also an important factor in his decision to make the move to Huntsville.

In the summer of 2010, following his graduation, Ryan took a field geology teaching assistant position with the University of Buffalo SUNY, which took place across the western United States.

After completing the assignment, he moved to London, England, and started working on a master’s program at Imperial College London. There, he earned a master’s degree in petroleum geoscience and began working for a small petroleum company on projects in Nigeria and Kurdistan, Iraq.

In 2011, he moved back to Houston and started a career with BHP Billiton Petroleum, working exploration and production in the Gulf of Mexico.

Ryan decided to establish the Baldwin Field Camp Scholarship for the SHSU Department of Geography and Geology, within the College of Sciences, in honor of former sedimentology and stratigraphy professor Chris Baldwin, who retired in 2012 after 18 years of service at SHSU.

“I wanted to start this scholarship due to the increasing costs of the field geology courses that are taken by junior- and senior-level students at various universities across the U.S. and abroad,” Ryan said. “It’s a requirement to graduate and one of the most rewarding experiences for a geoscientist.”

The gift will go toward the cost of field camp in the form of field fees, travel expenses or tuition at the particular university in which the student attends field camp.

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SHERRIE WATERS
PATTY A. AND
JEFF D. AND T. JOELLE BERLAT
JACK AND SUSAN BECKHAM, JR.
JOE AND JENNA BEAVER
JAMES MURPHY AND
LINDA K. WARD
PAMELA J. AND
DEBRA J. AND JOHN A. YOUNES
PAMELA J. AND
CHARLES M. ZELBST
JEFFREY G. AND
MELISSA ZEMENSKY
* Denotes Deceased
Jeff Berlat

Jeff Berlat transferred to Sam Houston State University from the University of Texas when he decided to pursue a degree in photography.

“I realized I might have a talent for photography and SHSU had the second-best program in the country at the time,” Jeff said.

“The professors in the program were great, and I enjoyed the creative process of taking photographs and doing all the manual lab work to produce photographs.”

He earned a degree in photography from SHSU in 1989 but later decided to continue his education at the University of Houston and obtained a degree in finance.

Jeff has spent the past 20 years in the treasury field and is now the assistant banking administrator for Harris County.

While he did not make a career out of photography, it is still very much a passion. Since 2005, Jeff has given to the photography program at SHSU because he knows how expensive the equipment and materials are to become a photographer.

“I enjoy being able to give back to the community, and I think it’s important to keep connected to your university,” Jeff said.

“I spent three years in Huntsville, and it felt like a small family at Sam.”

Jeff also gives to the Annual Fund for Excellence and the Bearkats in Business Fund in order to help more students afford college.

THE HARRY F. ESTILL SOCIETY

The society commemorates the university leader who served as president for 29 years, longer than anyone in Sam Houston State history. Among his many achievements, the curriculum was expanded and the first baccalaureate degree was awarded in 1919.
Nellie Yarotsky

Nellie Yarotsky’s decision to attend Sam Houston State University was an easy one—one of her daughters was already attending and her other daughter was making plans to attend the following year. Although she lived in the FM 1960 area of Houston, she was familiar with Huntsville, since she grew up not too far away, in Livingston.

“I felt it was more practical to travel to Huntsville than to go into downtown Houston with all the morning traffic,” Nellie said.

So she made the drive until she earned an art degree in 1977 at the age of 47.

Since graduation, Nellie has continued with classes with National Garden Club, Inc., and for a few years had a business with a friend creating floral designs.

She is now a master judge for National Chrysanthemum Society; and the Men’s Garden Club of America, an organization that now allows women to join.

Nellie supports the art and theatre programs at SHSU, because those are the programs her family had been involved in during their time at Sam Houston.

“We (my husband, Marvin, and I) give to Sam Houston because not only did our daughters and I attend Sam, five of our seven grandchildren also attended or are currently attending,” Nellie said.
classes began on October 10, 1879. Hildreth H. Smith, the first president, died 11 days after establishing Sam Houston State Normal Institute. The society commemorates the dedication and sacrifices of establishing Sam Houston State Normal Institute.
“There is an old proverb that says if your name is repeated and never forgotten, you will live forever. We felt the endowment would mean that our daughter, Erica, would live forever and her name would be repeated forever.”—Mike Czerwinski
THE ANNIVERSARY SOCIETY

The society recognizes donors who contribute at least one dollar for each year of the university’s existence during the past academic year. On September 1, 2013, the minimum gift requirement for society listing increased one dollar to $134 for the university’s 134 years of service.
Vicki Owen

Vicki Owen, ’75, earned a degree in journalism at SHSU, where she worked on the Houstonian staff.

After taking a couple of reporting jobs at different Houston-area newspapers, Vicki decided to make a career change.

She began working in the accounting field and got her first job at Brown & Root doing bank reconciliations. She later took the CPA exam and now is senior accountant with Schlumberger.

“I want to give other students the same opportunities my daughter received. No matter what part of agricultural studies anyone pursues, Sam’s agriculture department is worthy of my donation.”

“I wouldn’t be where I am today without the education I received from SHSU,” Vicki said. “Granted, I’m no longer in my original career field, but my college education opened doors for me that otherwise would have been closed.”

Vicki supported the journalism department for a number of years but now gives to the agriculture department, where her daughter is attending.

“I want to give other students the same opportunities my daughter received,” she said. “No matter what part of agricultural studies anyone pursues, Sam’s agriculture department is worthy of my donation.

“The journalism folks meant a lot to me, but I am equally impressed with the Ag folks,” she added.

Vicki said she is happy to give back to a university that allowed her to make lifelong friends.
More than half of SHSU's graduates are the first in their families to obtain a degree.
WHERE DO CONTRIBUTIONS GO?

Current and Future Construction: 43.1%
Scholarships: 22.7%
Division Support: 20%
Academic Program Support: 9.4%
Other: 4.8%
The society commemorates the university’s founding and recognizes individuals who make planned gifts. Gift planning enables donors to make lasting contributions that are often larger than their ability to make an outright cash gift. Planned gifts include appreciated assets, bequests, gift annuities, trusts, life insurance and real estate.

H. SCOTT APLEY
JONATHAN T. BARNES
JERRY ALAN BIRKES
ROLAND E. BLACK
WILLIAM M. BRENEMAN
RUTH M. CANDY
ANITA CHEEK
ANN LINDSEY CLOUD
A.M. JOY A. AND STEVEN W. COALSON
EDWARD C. COFFEY
JAMES E. COX
MICHAEL J. CZERWINSKI
ROLANDO V. DEL CARMEN
KIM E. DETLEFSEN
DENNIS R. DEVOE
SHELLEY A. FITZE
YVONNE M. FOWLER
BRYAN D. FOX
J. ANDREW FRALEY
THOMAS J. FRANK AND PATSY P. FRANK
JAMES H. AND SYLVIA D. FRITSCH
JAMES F. AND NANCY C. GAERTNER
JOYCELYN GRIGSON
MARY E. GUTERMUTH
H. TED HAMBLIN III
CARL L. AND GLORIA R. HARRIS
CHARLES W. JONES III
ESTELLA KORYCIAK
PAMELA G. LAUGHLIN
GIBSON D. LEWIS
NAN M. MCRAVEN
TOMMY METCALF
CHARLOTTE M. AND BILLY PARKS
GLENN M. PAYNE
WALTER E. AND PHYLLIS A. PINEGAR
GARRY L. AND MARJORIE F. PRINCE
PATRICIA K. AND JAMES PUCKETT
PAUL D. RUFFIN
GENEVIEVE W. SANDHOP
BARNEY F. SLAYTON USA (RET)
RICHARD D. AND AMY SMITH
JACK S. STAGGS
W. LEE AND JOAN STRINGER
C. LYNNE WERNER

Joan and Lee Stringer on Planned Giving

Lee Stringer’s father, Leo, grew up in a rural area of western Louisiana, where only seven years of school were offered. Leo’s life became difficult when he came of age as the Great Depression settled across the country. Knowing how his lack of education affected his life, he always wanted more for his son.

Lee Stringer grew up in Jasper and later attended Sam Houston, earning a business degree in 1968 and a Master of Business Administration degree in 1971. He later earned his CPA certificate and worked in accounting until his retirement from Valero Energy in 2002. He credits the scholarships he received for allowing him to complete his education.

“At my graduation from Jasper High School, it was announced that I had been awarded two scholarships for college, one of which was from the Ex-Students Association at Sam Houston State,” he said. “These scholarships were critical to my affording college.

“The Sam Houston scholarship greatly influenced my choice of schools, and for that, I have been grateful over the years,” he said.

Lee’s wife, Joan Stringer, grew up on a farm in Ohio and earned a nursing degree before entering the Peace Corps. After completing her Peace Corps service, she moved to Huntsville to further her education at Sam Houston.

Both Joan and Lee believe education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty.

Over the years, they have given to the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund and have now established the Leo Stringer Memorial Scholarship Endowment in hopes of helping first-generation college students from Lee’s hometown of Jasper better themselves with a college education.

“I feel that I was blessed by attending Sam Houston; I also have always been grateful that there were people that had the kindness to fund scholarships for me when I needed it the most,” Lee said. “Over the years, I have contributed to the Alumni Association scholarship fund but always wanted to do more than that to pass along the good that was done for me. That desire was a major factor in the decision to establish this endowment.”
SHSV Military Science Alumni Club

The Sam Houston State University Military Science Alumni Club has established the Capt. Rowdy J. Inman Memorial Scholarship to provide financial assistance to full-time undergraduate students who are cadets in the Reserve Officer Training Corps program.

The group provides two, $1,000 scholarships each year to qualified cadets, who must exhibit high academic achievement and exemplify the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

Inman, a 38-year-old officer with the U.S. 3rd Armored Calvary Regiment, was killed in action in Iraq on Dec. 26, 2007. He was the first SHSU ROTC graduate to die in combat.

Inman graduated in 2000 from SHSU with a Bachelor of Science degree in military science and was commissioned in the U.S. Army that same year. He married his wife, Shannon, in 1999. They have two daughters, Kecley and Casey, and one son, Gary.

As a career military officer, Inman participated in multiple deployments: Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Just Cause. He received numerous awards for his service, including the Bronze Star Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Purple Heart.

The Military Science Alumni Club was formed by the SHSU Alumni Association in 2013. Previously, many SHSU alumni associated with military science formed a non-affiliated club supported by members on their own.

Membership now includes current members of the Alumni Association who are now or have been associated with the SHSU Department of Military Science. Members also must have completed at least one semester of military science or be the spouse of someone who has done so.


“Second, we remember what it was like when we were at Sam Houston. Times can get a little tough when money is tight and we hope to help a few deserving cadets,” he said. “Finally, we want to help support the ROTC program, which made such a significant impact on our future. “It was this program at Sam Houston State that set us on a course to success in our lives. It is our hope that the scholarships and supporting the ROTC program will have the same positive impact on current and future cadets.”

From left to right: Kitty McCaig, Albert “Buddy” McCaig, Dana G. Hoyt, Claudette Stone, Tommy Stone

Alumni Donors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Honored Persons</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>Fay (Morris) Stewart</td>
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<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>Cecil O. Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>Vernon (Cleveland) Schudel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>Lena (Gilbert) Orr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Geraldine (Polansky) Laier, Margaret (Mckinney) Phillips, Virginia (Davis) Richmond, Minnie (Poteet) Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>Gene (Porter) Russell, Julia (Oliphint Willhoite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>Bryan H. and Martha Ferrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>Gloria (Kocurek) Albright, Ouida E. Carroll, Marguerite G. Diorio, Joy (Collier) and Claude Lemasters, Eloise (Robinson) Powell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>Josephine (Patrick) Campbell, Ernest C. and Georgia O. Clark, Laverne (Wallfingford) Etheredge, Charlcie (Cobb) Utley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>Horace H. and Euline W. Brock, H. Dale Brown, Jacqueline (Smith) Casal, Thompson W. and Sue Keeland, Evelyn (Kelly) Radford, IMO (MULTIPOST) Richardson, Dorothy (Robinson) Thomasson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>Elmer and Helen L. Berryhill, Robert W. and Nancy Cooper, Howard B. Davis, Wilfred O. Dietrich, James E. Fitts, Marilyn Joyce (Brown) Freeman, Winifred (Corely) Givich, Gwen (Steinby) Harpy, Murray C. Mitchell*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Thomas J. and Dorothy L. Mitchell, Mary (Collier) and Billy M. Moore, Maggie (Farris) and George E. Parker, John W. Smith, Betty (Risinger) Spencer, Richard M. and Flora A. Traylor, Melva (Harvey) and Bill G. Turner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I “think this [scholarship] is a nice heritage to leave for Joe’s parents. They would be pleased with it. One thing that Joe’s dad said was that he’d like to give his parents a present.” —Winnie and Joe Sandel
SHSU administrators, SHSU alumni and special guests show off their Bearkat Spirit during the 2014 Bearkats in Business event, hosted and underwritten by Randy Roden, ’71, and his Listo Drywall Company, Inc., at Tony Mandola’s in Houston. The exclusive event was created as a convenient and fun networking environment for SHSU alumni that has, over the last two years, raised more than $500,000 in support of SHSU Athletics. “Great leaders have that ‘can do, get it done’ attitude and for Sam Houston alumni, this attitude is not the exception, it’s the rule,” said SHSU President Dana G. Hoyt during last year’s event. Pictured above (from left) are: Athletics Director Bobby Williams, college football hall of famer Don Trull, Sammy Bearkat, major league manager Larry Dierker, former NFL player Gerald Irons, Roden, pro football hall of famer Elvin Bethea, and Hoyt.
2013–2014 Alumni
Cheryl Gaydosik Peschke-Benton, ’77 BBA
Senior vice president of investments at Raymond James in Houston

“My education and Sam Houston State University really made a difference in my life because the friendly, safe environment made me feel comfortable; the personable attention the professors gave you; and I have had no problem getting a job anywhere, anytime because I graduated from SHSU. In establishing the Nathan Scott Peschke Memorial Scholarship, I wanted to help others. I had to borrow money to go to school. Now that I have an excellent job, I want to help others. The recipient was Trey Taylor, a student who graduated from Royal High School in Brookshire and wanted to go to SHSU but needed financial assistance. He is a hard-working and smart student.”

Trey Taylor
Recipient of the Nathan Scott Peschke Memorial Scholarship

“I applied for the Nathan Scott Peschke Memorial Scholarship because I felt that it would give me a great opportunity to go to school. Since my dad passed away, I haven’t had the money to get by, so receiving this scholarship has changed my life. I would like to say thanks to Ms. Peschke for giving me a chance to be successful in my future at Sam Houston State University.”
Norma and Gene Belschner

Norma and Gene Belschner are always proud to support programs at SHSU, as the university provided numerous fond memories for them and their son.

While attending Sam Houston, Norma became a member of Zeta Tau Alpha, serving one year as treasurer and one year as president. She began dating Gene, whom she met on campus, in 1959; the couple married the following year.

“I am grateful to Sam Houston for giving me the opportunity to meet and marry such a kind, intelligent man,” Norma said.

She earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 1961 and a master's degree in 1974.

After serving four years in the Air Force, Gene attended Sam Houston with the aid of the G.I. Bill.

“I chose Sam Houston because it was a small, four-year college in a small town, and it had a baseball program,” he said.

In 1959, Gene earned a BBA, with an emphasis in accounting. He then enjoyed a 28-year career as an Internal Revenue Service agent.

The couple's oldest son, Brent, also attended SHSU and was involved in the baseball program as a player and then as a student assistant coach for Coach John Skeeters. Brent graduated in 1988 and is now a high school math teacher. He also coached baseball for several years.

The Belschners contribute to the baseball program because of their many memories and ties to the program. They also donate to the Ron Mafrige Basketball Challenge, the Annual Fund, the College of Business Administration, the basketball programs, and are Joint Life members of the Alumni Association.
Charles Cox

Charles “Charlie” Cox, ’73 and ’76, has worked in banking his entire career and is now executive vice president of Community Bank in Beaumont. Charlie credits his education at Sam Houston for setting the path to his success.

“I feel I did not get a very good high school education, so when I came to Sam, I was determined to make a go of it,” Charlie said. “J.A. Chandler took me under his wing and mentored me all the way. I still use what I learned from many of the courses today, and the foundation I got at Sam carries on in my everyday life.

“But most of all, it made me a well-rounded citizen, capable of doing many things and working with people from all walks of life,” he said.

Charlie earned a bachelor’s degree in agriculture and a master’s degree in business.

He gives back to Sam Houston by supporting the President’s Circle and the agricultural and industrial sciences department in hopes of helping students receive the same education he did.

“I hope that my small contribution can help some young person make a difference,” Charlie said.
Why did you choose Sam Houston for your education?

My high school clarinet teacher, Richard Pickar, was teaching at Sam and I wanted to continue studying with him. I also received a small scholarship and at the time, my parents had two of us in college, so that was very appealing to my parents.

What program/scholarship do you give to, and why that particular cause?

I give to SHSU because I am proud of my education. I want to see all those first-generation college students get their degrees, reach their full potential and be productive members of our ever-changing society.

What are some of your hobbies?

I have been doing triathlons for the past 20 years, participating in more than 100 races. I was president of the Houston Racing Triathlon club in 2000, the year that triathlon was added as an Olympic sport. When I am not racing or raising money for higher education, I can be found in my very small sewing studio making quilts and other useable art objects.

Any comments you would like to add?

I would like to thank Ralph Mills for making me a better musician and always keeping me on my toes. One of my fondest memories was auditioning and being chosen to play in the wind ensemble my freshman year. There were only three freshmen who made it that year. When I attended the first rehearsal, I was blown away by the quality of musicians and the amazing sound that came out of the group. They definitely made me up my game.

Ellen Happe Phillips, ’82 BME
Chief advancement officer for the University of Houston's College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Gay Albritton, ’75 BA and ’79 MEd, and Kay Albritton, ’75 BA

Q: What have you done since graduation?

KA: I worked for the Texas Life Insurance Company for four years and then as an executive assistant for an independent financial planner for 25 years. Currently, I am a senior administrative manager with United Capital Financial Advisers in Houston.

GA: I taught school for 30 years. Most of those years, I taught eighth grade mathematics, including Algebra I—Honors, at an intermediate school in Klein ISD in Houston. I retired from teaching in 2005.

Q: How did your education at Sam Houston State make a difference in your life?

KA: My education at Sam Houston State made me a more structured and disciplined person, with better coping and communication skills to handle the challenges to come.

GA: We were fortunate to have parents who valued a college education and saw to it that all three of their girls got one. A college savings account was started for us at an early age. Not everyone has such an opportunity, so we want to help. We give to the College of Education because we believe that education is the key to everyone’s future. Our hope is that our gift is used to help others accomplish their dream of a higher education.

Q: Why do you give to Sam Houston State University?

GA: We were fortunate to have parents who valued a college education and saw to it that all three of their girls got one. A college savings account was started for us at an early age. Not everyone has such an opportunity, so we want to help. We give to the College of Education because we believe that education is the key to everyone’s future. Our hope is that our gift is used to help others accomplish their dream of a higher education.
Sbauna Fabelry, master's student in reading, recipient of the Jessie A. Lewis Reading Endowed Scholarship, established by Dr. Jack Stagg

"When I first decided to go back and get my master’s degree in reading, my biggest fear was being able to pay for it, so I searched and searched for reasonably priced master’s programs. I did find a few, but my heart was pulling for Sam Houston. I got my undergraduate degree in early childhood education in 2011, and I truly believe that it is because of SHSU that I am the teacher I am today. Now, if I feel as if a weight has been lifted off my shoulders and I could not be more excited. I hope to someday follow in the footsteps of Dr. Jack Stagg and Jessie Lewis and to set the meaningful impression that they both have in the field of education."
“My Sam Houston education prepared me for the real-world; my professors gave me their real-world experiences, which is always welcomed and appreciated. Now, I give back to Sam Houston because it’s the place that helped me get to where I am today. My giving is usually directed to SHSU’s ‘greatest need’ for two reasons: first, I hope my gift provides students and instructors.”
Brian Keith Hall

Brian Hall, ’88, believes he finds the most personal success when he splits his time between career and community service.

Brian recently completed 22 years with Shell Oil Company, which has included leadership assignments across the U.S. in chemical plants, refineries, terminals, and, now, in the Houston corporate offices.

While working, Brian founded the non-profit organization Friday Harbour, which offers assistance to families facing cancer in the Houston area. He is also an active member in his church, a committeeman for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and served his fraternity, Theta Chi, as a national board member for more than 13 years.

Brian gives back to the Bearkat athletics program, the College of Business Administration and to the Alumni Association as a Life Member.

“I give to athletics because of the impact that (former baseball) Coach John Skeeters and (former football) Coach Ron Randleman had on me,” Brian said. “They were straight shooters and made sure you got a chance to be part of something special at Sam Houston.”

“I give to COBA because there are too many distractions nowadays that make it easy to forget where you first got that spark that energized your passion.”

Brian hopes his gift will continue to help the leaders, alumni and faculty of SHSU create unique, life-changing experiences in the students they meet.
“Education is the most powerful weapon which we can use to change the world.”

—Nelson Mandela
## 2013-2014 Allocation Of Contributions By Donors

### SCHOLARSHIPS

<table>
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<th>Program</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
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<tr>
<td>University Annual Scholarships</td>
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<td>College/Department Annual Scholarships</td>
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### ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUPPORT

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<th>College/Department</th>
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<tr>
<td>College of Business Administration</td>
<td>$362,605.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Criminal Justice</td>
<td>$184,664.82</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Education</td>
<td>$32,627.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Fine Arts &amp; Mass Communications</td>
<td>$101,938.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Health Sciences</td>
<td>$7,373.00</td>
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<td>College of Humanities &amp; Social Sciences</td>
<td>$52,312.50</td>
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<td>College of Sciences</td>
<td>$389,385.15</td>
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<td>Honors College</td>
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### DIVISION SUPPORT

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<td>Finance and Operations</td>
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<td>Newton Gresham Library</td>
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<td>Sam Houston Memorial Museum</td>
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<td>Student Services</td>
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<td>University Advancement</td>
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<td>University President’s Office</td>
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### CURRENT AND FUTURE CONSTRUCTION

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### UNRESTRICTED FOR UNIVERSITY USE

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### SHARE THE VISION CAMPAIGN; UNDESIGNATED

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### SAM HOUSTON UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

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| **TOTAL**                                     | **$13,004,859.27** |

## External Giving

Restricted funding received through The Office of Research Administration for which there is an expectation on the part of the sponsor for performance, deliverable or outcome.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose of Funds</th>
<th>SUM of Revenue Total</th>
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<td>Total Federal Sponsored Program/Grant Revenues for Instruction, Research, Public Service, Academic Support</td>
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<td>Total State Sponsored Program/Grant Revenues for Instruction, Research, Public Service, Academic Support</td>
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<td>Total Foreign Sponsored Program/Grant Revenues for Instruction</td>
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<td>Total Foundation Sponsored Program/Grant Revenues for Research, Public Service</td>
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<td>Total Non-Profit Sponsored Program/Grant Revenues for Instruction, Research, Public Service, Academic Support</td>
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<td>Total Private Sponsored Program/Grant Revenues for Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Other Sponsored Program/Grant Revenues for Research, Public Service, Academic Support</td>
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“For me, not only does this scholarship mean that I am able to continue pursuing my passions through my education, but it also gives me strength knowing that there are so many individuals in the community who have faith in the progress of my generation and wish to see us continue to make awesome things out of this earth that all of us live upon.”—Jami Horne, 2013 Senior Class Legacy Scholarship recipient

“Receiving this scholarship has taken my mind off my finances so that I can focus on pursuing my goals. I couldn’t be more grateful that so many donors have shown an interest in my education.”

—Olivia Ross, 2013 Senior Class Legacy Scholarship recipient

“It is a satisfying feeling to see the financial gift and support I received as a Smith-Hutson Scholar come full circle. I hope to continue supporting my Bearkat family to help them achieve their goals. I know the kindness and generosity I received was for me to share with others.”—Maria Hernandez, Class of ’13, Senior Class Legacy Campaign committee member

**Student Donors**

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SHSU seniors have devoted the past year to promoting giving among their peers as part of the Senior Class Legacy Campaign. Initiated through the office of Annual Giving in 2011, the goal is to increase awareness of philanthropy and cultivate a culture of giving among students. This year’s committee was made up of members of the classes of 2013 and 2014. The committee members promoted giving among their classmates for the purpose of funding their respective Senior Class Legacy Scholarships.

In the first year of the program enough funds were raised to award one scholarship, and now multiple $1,000 scholarships are awarded. The class of 2013 finished their campaign raising more than $4,000, with more than 300 seniors participating and the class of 2014 raised more than $6,700 from 525 of their fellow classmates.

The committee includes (front row, from left): Isaías Machuca, Synamynn Miller, Kristen Dougherty, Cyd-Cherise Reed, Sarah Waldo, Nikki Absher, and Maria Hernandez; back row: Kathy Perla, Brittney Hubert, Krista Huff, Keldon Shepherd, Coby Steele, Heather Davis, Kayla Foster, and Velichka Trayanova. Not Pictured is Melva Gomez.
John Ruhberg started an endowment in memory of his ballroom dance partner, Allene Susie Holman, a career school teacher who earned a master’s degree in library science from Sam Houston in 1974. Allene taught school for 27 years and was a member and president of the Texas City chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma. Her hobbies included reading, gardening, music, travel, and ballroom dancing.

John came into Holman’s life in 1984, just three years before her retirement from teaching. The two became ballroom dance partners and instant friends, often traveling and enjoying the simple things of life.

The only thing the two didn’t have in common was their age. John was 36 years Allene’s junior. Their time ended in 2012 when Allene passed away at the age of 89.

John continues to dance with a new partner and is getting close to retirement, himself. He works at a Texas City refinery as a QC lab technician.

The endowment established in Holman’s honor will provide annual scholarships within the Sam Houston State University Department of Library Science to a full-time or part-time graduate student.

“Allene knew the value of an education, not only as a tool to earn a successful living, but also as a means of enjoying life more fully, through reading, the arts or anything that interested her. A better education meant a better understanding of everything in life,” John said. “Allene loved to prepare her students for life by teaching them. It is my hope that this scholarship will help other students so that they, too, will enjoy life more through education.”
“Financial success means very little unless you can share it with others who may need a little help along the way. I donated this gift in a manner that it may continue to help young people who, in turn, can make a positive difference in the world.”—John R. Ragsdale, ’59
Scholarship. The Davises have established two endowed scholarships. From left, Tommy and Patty Sue Davis with Brian Bell, former Bearkat Quarterback and recipient of the Thomas F. Davis Scholarship.
I have taught at SHSU since 1976. Having taught at several other universities both in and out of state, my family and I did not plan on remaining more than two or three years. To our surprise, we found both the town and university to be something special. Regardless of background on arrival at SHSU, the students were really here to better their lives. Their attitude was exceptional and so were they.

**Q.** How long have you worked at Sam Houston State University?

SHSU is not just a job. There is a reason it has been named one of the best places to work for five consecutive years—faculty, staff, and the administration work together to provide the best opportunities for our student body. I regularly donate to the department and Noman scholarships in computer science, which includes digital forensics and information assurance. Dr. John McCoy and I founded the department scholarship fund. The Noman scholarship was founded by a student, Samira Noman, in memory of her father. Samaria was both a student and employee of the university. Her brother still works at SHSU.

**Q.** Why do you give to Sam Houston State University?

I know the gifts from faculty, staff and administrators help a lot of students complete their education who might not have been able to do so without the help. The scholarships also help them graduate without crushing debt.

**Q.** Why do you give to, and why that particular cause or area?

I regularly donate to the department and Noman scholarships in computer science, which includes digital forensics and information assurance. Dr. John McCoy and I founded the department scholarship fund. The Noman scholarship was founded by a student, Samira Noman, in memory of her father. Samaria was both a student and employee of the university. Her brother still works at SHSU.

**Q.** What program or scholarship do you give to, and why that particular cause or area?

I regularly donate to the department and Noman scholarships in computer science, which includes digital forensics and information assurance. Dr. John McCoy and I founded the department scholarship fund. The Noman scholarship was founded by a student, Samira Noman, in memory of her father. Samaria was both a student and employee of the university. Her brother still works at SHSU.

**Q.** How do you hope your gift is used?

I know the gifts from faculty, staff and administrators help a lot of students complete their education who might not have been able to do so without the help. The scholarships also help them graduate without crushing debt.

**Q.** How do you hope your gift is used?
There will never be too many Bearkats provide students with an education and the tools they need to have a successful career. Clay was a good friend who graduated from SHSU and went on to be successful in the criminal justice world before his passing in 1995. Giving to this scholarship allows me to give back to the university so that a current Sam Houston student has the opportunity to receive the education they need to have a successful career like Clay.

I would like to encourage everyone to become a donor. It does not matter how big or small your gift is; being a donor to SHSU allows the university to continue to grow and provide students with an education and the tools they need to have successful careers. There will never be too many Bearkats in the world!”
Eighty percent of current first-generation students work while attending SHSU so that they can afford their education.
Two decades ago, SHSU received nearly seventy percent of its budget from state appropriations; now it receives less than a third, which means students must absorb more of the costs of their education.
Tribute Gifts
Tribute gifts honor those who made a lasting impact on others.
In Memory of Nelson Reed Clark

Friends and family of Nelson Reed Clark have established an endowment in memory of the young Sam Houston State University graduate who passed away unexpectedly at the age of 24.

Reed, a 2013 graduate with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in marketing, grew up in Kingwood, where he learned to play golf at a very young age.

He qualified for the Houston Junior Golf Association in the summer of 2003 at the age of 12 and became a member of the varsity golf team at Kingwood High School during his freshman year.

While he did not play collegiately, he played many rounds with friends at Raven Nest Golf Club.

Golf was always an important part of Reed's life, and when he wasn't working or going to school, you could usually find him on the links.

The N. Reed Clark Memorial Scholarship Endowment will provide scholarships to full-time undergraduate students majoring in general business administration with a concentration in PGA Golf Management.

“We wanted to establish an endowment in Reed’s memory to show his parents how much we care about them,” said Hugh Heslep, of Pyramid Tubular Products, on behalf of the businesses in the donor group, all of whom Reed’s father has a professional relationship with.

“He was a great young man and golfing was his passion; it was a passion he shared with his family as well.”

Other businesses in the donor group include Bourland & Leverich Supply Co., Champions Pipe and Supply, Dixie Pipe Sales, Pipelife Services, Premier Pipe, Sim-Tex, Sumitomo Corporation of Americas, and Vallourec USA Corp.

While Reed will be dearly missed by his family and friends, they hope his love for golf will live on through a scholarship bearing his name and help other golf enthusiasts complete their education at Sam Houston.
In Honor of Michael Schultz

Gaynelle and Miles Schulze, from Dallas: parents of Michael Schulze, ’86 BS

The Schulzes established the Michael Schulze Scholarship in honor of their son, who received his Bachelor of Science degree in law enforcement and political science in August 1986, as well as in honor of SHSU President Elliott T. Bowers, Dean William Powell, Kathy Bowman, and Dr. Pauline Loveless.

The scholarship provides two annual awards at a maximum of $500 per academic year to a law enforcement major who exhibits a high quality of character, personality and spirit of service.

Q: Why did Mike choose SHSU?

MS: Mike had wanted to be a police officer ever since he was 4 years old and never wavered from that choice. As a result of my work, I had gotten to know President Bowers and his assistant, Dr. Rex Isham. Through my periodic contacts with them, I became aware of the outstanding CJ program at Sam. Mike came down for a visit and was immediately sold.

One of the things that most impressed us was the personal interest that the faculty and staff showed in the welfare of the students. We were aware that many of the students at Sam were the first in their family to participate in higher education and the efforts that the school made to assist them were particularly heartwarming.

Q: What program/scholarship do you give to, and why that particular cause?

G&M: We were very grateful for all the assistance Mike received at Sam and, particularly, the personal interest that so many people showed in him. We realized that the most tangible way to show our appreciation was to establish an endowment fund in Mike’s name, honoring four individuals who had played such a significant role in his campus life. Those people were President Bowers, Dean of Students William Powell, Assistant Dean of Students Kathy Bowman, and Dr. Pauline Loveless, Mike’s CJ counselor. We established the endowment in 1986 and have tried to add to it through the years.

Q: How do you hope your gift is used?

MS: Each year, two CJ students receive $500 scholarships from the endowment based on need, academic achievement and other criteria established by the college. We believe it is very important to support the current CJ students, particularly those experiencing difficult financial times. These students are the lifeblood of our law enforcement system regardless of which specific profession they enter. Both they, and the school that trains them, deserve our support and that of the public.

We hope to continue to add to Mike’s endowment fund so that, in a small way, we can contribute to the education of achieving students who have financial needs. The endowment is simply an investment in the future of Sam and its deserving students.
Ensuring the Future of SHSU

Giving Opportunities

Your gift to Sam Houston State supports a growing and vibrant university that is rich in tradition, has academic programs recognized for excellence, and prepares students for success. You may earmark your contribution to one or more areas of the university, including a specific college, school, department, program, approved project or scholarships. Unrestricted gifts are important and are applied to areas of greatest need and to address opportunities that may arise. Our development team works diligently with each donor to provide personal assistance that meets their goals.

Tribute Gifts

Your gift can be a personal tribute honoring or memorializing a family member, friend, faculty member or administrator who may have made a difference in your life. Notifications are sent to honorees or, as may be appropriate, to the families of those being memorialized.

Scholarships

In its 153rd year of educational service, Sam Houston State remains committed to accessibility, with a majority of its enrollment being first generation college students. Scholarship gifts help to attract and retain talented and deserving students. For many of these students, scholarships and financial aid make the difference in whether they are able to afford a university education.

How to Contribute

Cash, Check, or Credit Cards

You may make your gifts using a check or credit card. A contribution is tax deductible in the year in which it is given. Secure gifts may be made online at shsu.edu/giving. Giving by cash is discouraged but such gifts can be accepted and will be receipted.

Securities

Gifts to the university may be made using stocks and bonds. Donors may have greater tax incentives to make their contributions using highly appreciated securities. It is the normal policy for Sam Houston State to sell securities as quickly as possible to ensure the value of the original gift.

Personal Property

In certain circumstances, donors may find it advantageous to give artwork, rare books, jewelry, antiques, and other collectibles to the university. It is the donor’s responsibility to secure an independent appraisal for items with a value of more than $5,000. Please consult your tax advisor when contemplating such gifts.

Real Estate

A gift of real estate may provide an attractive option to make a large gift with a home or land that is no longer needed and to receive an income tax deduction. An independent appraisal of the property is required and the university must be able to either use or sell it.

Gift-in-Kind

Gifts-in-kind are typically non-cash contributions that can be utilized by the university in support of its educational mission. Generally, the tax-deductible portion of the gift-in-kind is its established fair market value. However, the rules in some cases can be complex, so donors should consult with their tax advisors. Gifts of vacation homes, time shares, and use of recreational equipment given to fund-raising auctions are not tax deductible. Businesses making gifts-in-kind can only deduct the cost of the inventory – not the retail value.

Matching Gifts

Many companies or their foundations will encourage their employees to make gifts to universities through a matching gift program. This is an excellent opportunity for donors to double or triple their support for Sam Houston State University. Usually, a donor secures a matching gift form from the company and sends it to SHSU with a gift for us to certify receipt of the contribution. If you are not certain whether your company has a matching gift program, please contact your human resources department.

Named Annual Scholarships

Donors may create an annual scholarship in their own name or in the name of another person to honor or memorialize them. Named scholarships can be established with a gift of $1,000 and more.

Endowments

An endowment is a permanent fund established at the university through one or more contributions totaling $25,000 and more. The endowment fund is invested with only its earnings being expended to support one or more purposes for which it was created. You may contribute to an existing endowment fund or create a new one by either making a one-time gift or making annual installments of $5,000 or more.

Sam Houston University Foundation

In addition to gifts to the university, donors may make their contributions payable to the Sam Houston University Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation. In many cases, gifts may be advantageous to donors to provide greater flexibility and confidentiality. The foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees and has the approval of Sam Houston State University and The Texas State University System Board of Regents.

Planned Gift

Most donors can increase their support of the university through estate gift planning. The easiest method for making a planned gift is through bequest provisions in your will. It can be in the form of a specific amount or a percentage of your estate. Other donors may find it advantageous to make a sizeable gift, receive a federal tax deduction, and receive guaranteed income for life through a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust. This method of giving is most attractive to donors age 65 and older.

Contact Information

Sam Houston State University provides a broad range of giving opportunities to fit the needs of donors as well as the university. Our development staff stands ready to work closely with you to determine your needs and how they might best benefit the university. Please call the University Advancement Office at 936.294.3625 and ask to speak with a development officer. Thank you.
He's Not Just Standing on the Sidelines

Mickey Tiner, president of Texas Barge and Boat, Inc., in Freeport, is known for taking action, not just standing on the sidelines and hoping someone else will step up.

Mickey has taken numerous opportunities to support SHSU and this year was no exception. He was the first to step up at the 2014 Sam Houston Football Dinner and Auction with a generous $50,000 donation, helping to make the event the most successful in its 26-year history.

“Mickey understands what it means to be a football student-athlete due to his successful playing career in our program. When you combine that experience with his success in the business world, our department benefits from a caring donor who wants to make a positive difference in the lives of student-athletes,” said Bobby Williams, director of athletics.

Mickey was a football player and a letterman while attending Sam Houston State University in the late ’60s, where he met his future wife, Catherine Smith Tiner, also a student at Sam Houston.

“The education that I received at Sam Houston helped me to explore business opportunities allowing me to give back to the university. Being a part of the football program gave me the discipline to succeed in the business world. I enjoy coming back to the university to watch football and I wanted to share some of my success with Sam Houston State University athletics. Go ‘Kats!” Mickey said.

These days, Mickey and Cathy are involved with their grandchildren and keeping up with them.