

# Planned Giving

Create a legacy through  
the TROY Shield Society

*By Dr. Fred Davis*



Throughout the evolution of Troy University from Normal School to Teachers College and eventually to its current status as a major force in global education, many individuals have elevated the University to the level of family through their bequests – both large and small – through wills, life insurance policies, or family trusts. The University remains exceedingly grateful for these special contributions and is honored to be remembered in such a special and intimate manner. However, few of these donors gave the University the opportunity to know them personally or to know of their intentions during their lifetimes. With the chartering of the TROY Shield Society, Troy University offers an attractive remedy to its donors.

The TROY Shield Society represents a group of members who have chosen to support the work of the University through bequests, trusts or other deferred gifts. In gratitude for their generosity, the University bestows special consideration, including, among many other attractive benefits, an annual induction ceremony and gala in their honor, along with a specially designed ornamental pin which is a miniature replica of the Trojan Shield adorning the statue in the Bibb Graves Quadrangle. The inaugural gala for Charter members is scheduled for the spring of 2009.

In the coming months, alumni and friends will begin to see notices in University publications about the TROY Shield Society. You may also begin to receive correspondence or telephone messages from our Office

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## What is planned giving?

A planned gift can be defined as one legally awarded to a charitable organization during a donor's lifetime, but whose principal benefits are not received until some future time.

of Planned Giving or from fellow society members, volunteers or representatives. Meanwhile, we ask that you take a moment to make known your intentions via e-mail or letter if you desire to become a member of this distinguished group of patrons and philanthropists. Also, the University's Web site will soon feature a section devoted to information about planned giving and the TROY Shield Society.

Individuals and families who have designated the University in their estate plans should inform us so that we may recognize them as a member of this special group.

In order to be inducted into the TROY Shield Society, honorees simply complete a standard letter of intent form and return it to the Office of Planned Giving. A confirmed intention of a contribution of \$10,000 or more qualifies one for the benefits of membership. Your generous contribu-

tion provides a legacy to help the University continue its pursuit of excellence in teaching, scholarship and services by empowering future generations of outstanding students and future leaders.

To receive more information, along with a personalized illustration to demonstrate how establishing a tax-ad-

vantaged gift may provide a guaranteed income for you and/or a loved one beginning immediately and continuing throughout the remainder of your lifetime(s), contact Ward Sullivan, director of planned giving, 256 Adams Administration, Troy University, Troy, Alabama, 36082, or via e-mail at [troyshield@troy.edu](mailto:troyshield@troy.edu).

## Types of planned gifts

Planned gifts include: Gift by Will, Testamentary Trust, Unfunded Living Trust with "Pour-over" Will, Charitable Remainder Unitrust, Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust, Tax-Exempt Income Trust, Charitable Gift Annuity, Charitable Q-Tip Trust, Pooled Income Fund, Charitable Lead Trust and Life Estate in Personal Residence or Farm.



**Planned Giving Council** – Members of Troy University's Planned Giving Council are front row from left: Dr. Jean Laliberte, associate vice chancellor for development; Dr. Melvin Lucas; Greer Polansky, consultant, Corporate DevelopmentMint; Roy Drinkard, TROY trustee; Earl Johnson; Dr. Fred Davis; Dr. Cameron Martindale, senior vice chancellor for advancement and external relations; and Ward Sullivan, director of planned giving. Back row, from left, are: Ann Williams, Dr. Harold Collins, Barbara Everett, Dr. Angela Roling, Dr. Nolan Hatcher, Lamona Lucas, Lynda Floyd and Betty Lott. Council members not pictured are Sammy Carr, Nick Cervera and Doug Reaves.

# Earl and Sylvia Johnson make testamentary gift

Earl Johnson smiles when he talks about the impact that Troy University has had on his life.

The 1970 graduate and his wife Sylvia have shown their appreciation for that impact through gifts to TROY through the years, but they hope their latest gift will have a lasting impact on the University and its students. The couple recently decided to leave a portion of their estate to the University through a testamentary gift, thus becoming founding members of the new TROY Shield Society.

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“You hope that any gift will continue to provide benefits to Troy University and its students,” said Mr. Johnson, co-chairman of the University’s Planned Giving Council

and president of the TROY Shield Society. “Through a testamentary gift such as ours or any other of the numerous types of planned gifts, the giver can make a significant and lasting imprint on students who attend this University.

“We want to see everyone participate in the University’s

## What is a testamentary gift?

Cash, securities, real estate or property of any description may be bequeathed to Troy University by a clause in the donor’s will or by a codicil added to the will.

The donor using this method retains full control and use of the property during his/her lifetime. At the time of the donor’s death, the bequest qualifies as a charitable deduction for estate tax purposes. It does not provide the donor with any tax advantages during his/her lifetime, nor does it provide any assured income for donors or beneficiaries.



Earl and Sylvia Johnson sign a letter of intent to make a testamentary gift, leaving a portion of their estate to Troy University as Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr., watches.

planned giving program,” Mr. Johnson said. “Planned giving allows anyone the opportunity to make a long lasting impact on the University because the giver doesn’t have to write a check today. No matter what the size of the estate, anyone can make a gift.”

Mr. Johnson said he and his wife still intend to make other types of gifts, but that the testamentary gift served as a good example of how anyone can make a significant impact.

“A planned gift is something that anyone can make because it won’t affect them during their lifetime,” he said. “There are many different types of planned gifts from which to choose and we’ve put together advisors who can sit down with interested individuals to see what options might best suit them.”



**Bequest given to University** – Jeanette Warchol proudly displays her Trojan Shield Society certificate after giving a bequest to Troy University. A luncheon was held in her honor at the Capitol City Club in Montgomery. Joining Ms. Warchol is Roy Drinkard, Troy University trustee and member of the University’s Planned Giving Council, and Dr. Cameron Martindale, senior vice chancellor for advancement and external relations. Pictured back row, from left, are: Dr. Jean Laliberte, associate vice chancellor for development; Julia Wilson, director of special events and special projects; Lutrell Smith, cousin of Ms. Warchol; Sandi Gouge, cousin of Ms. Warchol and associate vice chancellor for marketing and communication.

## Trust provides benefit to future students, peace of mind to Bailey

Selden Bailey came to Dothan in 1948 and decided the Wiregrass city was where he wanted to stay to raise his family.

Today, it's the commitment that he feels to the community and Troy University's dedication to molding young minds that led him to establish a charitable remainder trust through the University's planned giving program.

That trust will benefit the University by providing scholarships for deserving students; but until that time, it will also provide a stream of income for the Baileys.

Through a charitable remainder trust, the donor or their designated beneficiaries receive a specified fixed percentage of the full market value of the trust's assets, as determined annually.

"My wife is automatically the trustee. She is my primary responsibility," Bailey said. "At her demise, as much as \$200,000 will go to scholarships supporting TROY and advanced education."

The funds have been designated for students who take part in the University's ROTC program.

"I am interested in the discipline that the military offers to young people," Bailey said. "It is my hope that



Frances and Selden Bailey established a charitable remainder trust through Troy University.

these scholarships will encourage young people to get a broader understanding of the world and further their educations through an advanced degree."

Bailey said the fact that his wife, Francis, won't have to face decisions concerning the financial matters is another benefit of a charitable annuity trust.

"It is a tremendous relief to have the strength and integrity of Troy University managing this trust and knowing that Frances will not have to worry about making those decisions," Bailey said. "I also feel a commitment to the community. I have had a good life, and I am glad to have the opportunity to give back to an area that has been good to me."

### What is a charitable remainder trust?

Cash, securities, real estate and other property may be used to establish a charitable remainder trust. Donors or their designated income beneficiaries receive a fixed percentage of the full market value of the trust's assets, as determined annually.

The donor receives a charitable deduction for income tax purposes in the year of the gift.



### Sullivan excited about role as director of planned giving

Troy University alumnus Ward Sullivan has been named director of planned giving for the University. He joined the University's development staff in August.

Sullivan, who received a bachelor's degree in anthropology from TROY in 1998, is also a graduate of the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law at Faulkner University in 2002. Prior to joining the Troy University staff, he practiced law in Montgomery in both the public and private sectors.

While attending TROY, the Merid-

ian, MS, native served as the manager/student assistant coach for the men's basketball program. He also was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Sullivan said he is excited about his new role and the University's planned giving program.

"This area of private fundraising will allow individuals of virtually all backgrounds and incomes to have the opportunity to participate in making financial contributions to TROY," he said. "The University will not have access to the gift until potentially well into the future. The TROY Shield Society is a way for donors to become a part of the most prestigious membership organization associated with Troy University."