

## Lockhart takes leadership role in energy field

By DEBRA BAKER BECK, ALUMNEWS Editor

In the rapidly changing world of public utilities, 1997 distinguished alumnus Tom Lockhart (BS '57) is taking an active leadership role on the road to the 21st century.

Lockhart is PacifiCorp vice president for Wyoming, plus engineering and dispatching. He represents the company in the regulatory and legislative arenas and provides a policy-level Wyoming presence for PacifiCorp, a company he first joined in 1960. In addition, Lockhart oversees more than 400 engineers and its energy "dispatch" activities, all from his Casper, Wyo., office.

Open access dispatching is one of the bigger changes facing the energy industry today. Dispatch involves using transmission and distribution systems currently owned by companies like PacifiCorp as common carriers. Making the transition has not been accomplished before in this country, and Lockhart is charged with identifying and implementing a process to achieve this goal.

Lockhart began his engineering career, following graduation from UW in 1957, as an instrumentation engineer for Marquart Aircraft in Los Angeles. He then entered the military and served in Korea. When his father died and his mother had a stroke while he was home for the funeral, Lockhart left the military and joined Pacific Power and Light. He started as a distribution engineer in Casper and quickly rose up the ranks, filling positions ranging from manager at Thermopolis, Wyo.; to rate and policy administrator at Portland, Oregon; to district manager at Sandpoint, Idaho, and Laramie. He left PP&L for seven years (1978-1985) and worked as vice president of engineering and operations at Black Hills Power and Light in Rapid City.

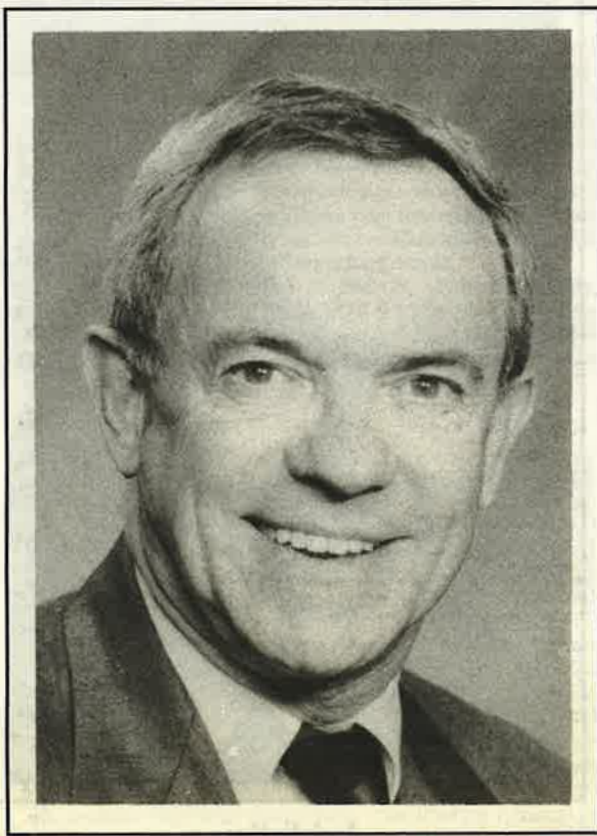
Lockhart returned to PP&L in 1985 as director of power planning in Portland. He then moved on to the position of assistant vice president in Salt Lake City, then vice president for power systems at PacifiCorp Electric Operations in Portland, vice president and Wyoming regional manager in Casper and vice president, strategic customer segments, and to his current position in March 1997.

Pacific Power & Light started out as a moderate-sized company in Wyoming and four other states. Lockhart was present during a period in the corporation's history that was marked by a series of acquisitions, primarily small companies. He also took part in one of Pacific Power's largest moves, combining with Utah Power and Light. That was considered to be the first successful merger of its type in the United States in 50 years. Lockhart worked in Salt Lake City at the time, helping to lay the groundwork for that historic merger.

Lockhart is involved with the company at another interesting time, as PacifiCorp takes on an international look. For example, the week before this interview was taped, Lockhart traveled to Australia to check on one of the company's holdings. He notes that utilities worldwide face many of the same challenges found here; they also have the same generally good people to try to resolve those challenges.

Lockhart takes pride in his firm's community focus.

"The company itself has always been interested in the communities and the customers," he says. "It's



Tom Lockhart

fun to be part of a quality corporation."

As a leader of hundreds of employees around the western U.S., Lockhart describes his management philosophy as a "hands-off" approach.

"I put it (the organization) in place," he says. "Then if they run into problems getting the job done, I help them through those problems — a little like a blocker on a football team."

Three of Lockhart's four children are electrical engineers; two of them, and a son-in-law, are graduate electrical engineers at UW. It's also worthy of note that three of the four Lockhart children have master's degrees, and the fourth is working toward one. That most of his offspring followed him into electrical engineering — and that all have gone on to graduate level work — is a tribute to the example he and his wife, Lynn, set.

Tom says the fact that most of his children followed him into electrical engineering is flattering and probably reflective of the fact the younger Lockharts saw the lifestyle their parents led and wanted it for themselves.

That each went on to not only get a bachelor's degree but also a graduate education is attributed by their father to the role modeling both parents set. When Lockhart was in his mid-30s, he returned to school and earned a master's degree from Portland State University. Lynn recently returned to school and earned her master's degree, too.

"When they (the children) were in school, I was also in school," Lockhart says. "They watched me study and thought studying was okay.

"It was by example...They saw that and it just became part of their plans, too."

### Service to UW

Despite assuming assignments that take him around the world, Lockhart has always found time to serve the University of Wyoming. His UW volunteer resume is extensive:

- \* H.T. Person Endowment fund raising committee member, 1993-present;

- \* UW Engineering Steering Committee, 1993-present;

- \* Citizens Advisory Committee member, School of Environment and Natural Resources, 1994-present;

- \* Policy Board member, UW Institute of Environment and Natural Resources, 1992-present;

- \* Life member, UW Alumni Association;

- \* Past member of UWAA Board of Directors, executive committee member;

- \* Cowboy Joe Club member;

- \* UW Foundation President's Council;

- \* UW Scholarship Club;

- \* Founding member, Order of the Engineer.

"The university did so much for me," he says of his contributions of time and talent. "It's kind of payback time."

Lockhart is currently involved in work with the Environment and Natural Resources Institute, which is attempting to deal with "one of the very highest issues in the country — the environment and the development of natural resources.

"Because of that importance to the world, people need to get involved."

Frequently, people and groups who have a vested interest in environmental issues assume polarized positions. UW's program hopes to transcend that.

"This organization is trying to work towards common solutions that balance the values of both," Lockhart says. Achieving that balance would create "a much better system."

Tom Lockhart holds dear his love for his home state and its people.

"I think the people in Wyoming have the same values that my wife and I have," he says. "It's sure fun to be around people who have those values."

"People look you in the eye, and they tell you what they're thinking," Lockhart adds. He calls that quality "fairly unique but prominent in Wyoming."

### Biographical Information

Tom and his wife, Lynn Anselmi Lockhart, have four grown children: Frances Brinkman, Tom Jr., Theodore and Virginia. (Frances; Tom Jr.; Theodore; and Frances' husband, Matthew Brinkman, are electrical engineers.)

His civic and philanthropic activities over the years include: Key Bank board of directors, Wyoming Race for the Cure Casper organizing committee, West Coast Chamber Orchestra board of directors; Black Hills Area Council, Boy Scouts of America; League of Women Voters of Laramie; Thermopolis, Wyo., City Council; Thermopolis Chamber of Commerce; Laramie Area Chamber of Commerce; United Way; Rotary Club; Kiwanis Club; and Jaycees. He currently is vice president of the Casper Community College Board of Trustees.

At UW, he was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.