

# COWBOY LEGACY

SUMMER 2011, VOL. 2, NO. 1

## Georgene LeBar *A Legacy of Toughness*

By TAMARA LINSE

Georgene LeBar believed in helping people to help themselves.

“She wanted people to have the means to make a living,” says Erin Hager, Georgene’s nephew’s wife. “Instead of just giving money directly to anybody, give them a mind, give them an education, and they can do better.”

That’s why Georgene remembered the University of Wyoming with \$1.1 million from her estate—specifically the University of Wyoming College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and its Wyoming Is Our Laboratory program (which offers competitive research grants to address topics of public importance), Athletics to refinish the indoor track, the Cowboy Joe Club, and the Alumni Association.

“She took pride in the fact that Dylan was going to go to school and finish his degree. Education was always very important,” adds Erin. Dylan and Erin Hager (Georgene’s nephew and his wife) helped guide the gift. Dylan and Erin are both UW graduates.

Georgene was raised on the Hager family ranch in eastern Wyoming near Torrington. Georgene’s parents thought she was going to be a boy, so they chose the name George Jean. When a baby girl was born, they named her Georgene, without a middle name. She graduated from Torrington High School, received an education degree at Chadron State College, and then came to UW to work on her master’s. However, she did not have enough funds to complete the degree at that time—something she always regretted.

The Hager family started the Little Moon Lake Supper Club, which was a hot spot for recreation in the 1950s, and that is where Georgene met her future husband George LeBar. George offered Georgene a job on his ranch near Douglas, and later they were married. The couple ranched together for many years, raising cattle and sheep. Georgene credited her success to her hard-working parents and a “razor strap and willow switches” upbringing.

“She was a tough lady,” says Erin.



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## COWBOY LEGACY

*Cowboy Legacy* is published twice a year and sent to friends and donors of the University of Wyoming. We encourage you to share with us your questions or comments regarding this newsletter.

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## Introducing Amanda Brodie

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

It is my great pleasure to introduce the newest member of the University of Wyoming Foundation team and Planned Giving staff. Amanda Brodie recently joined our staff as our new Associate Director of Planned Giving.

Amanda was born and raised in Lander, Wyoming, and attended the University of Wyoming College of Business and the University of Wyoming College of Law. During many summers and for the year before law school, she worked in Jackson Hole at the Jackson State Bank and Trust. After graduating from law school, she served as a prosecutor in Fremont County for a year and had many great experiences but missed Laramie. She returned to Laramie in 2008 and has since been a civil litigator for the past three years. When the opportunity to utilize her interest in finance and estate planning presented itself at the UW Foundation, she took the chance to work with people who share her affinity for the University of Wyoming and her desire to contribute to UW's future success. As the Associate Director of Planned Giving, she will be focusing on building strong relationships locally and nationally with UW's alumni and friends while offering her services as an estate and gift planning resource for our donors and their professional advisors.

Please join me in welcoming her! We feel fortunate to have her, and please don't hesitate to contact her with your questions.

And thank you for all your continued and outstanding support. I welcome a phone call or email at any time and look forward to meeting many more of you in the days and years to come.

All the best,

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## The Charitable IRA Rollover Extended

President Obama has signed legislation extending the charitable IRA rollover for 2011. This charitable rollover allows those who are 70½ or older to make tax-free gifts of up to \$100,000 to qualified charitable organizations such as the University of Wyoming Foundation. The funds must be transferred directly from an IRA. The benefits of utilizing the charitable IRA rollover are that you can meet your charitable giving goals by transferring your required minimum distribution (as well as additional amounts) to the University of Wyoming and avoid the income tax on these funds (if you don't need that income). If you have questions, contact your financial advisor—or feel free to give us a call.



## Supporting Older Populations and Adult Students in Social Work

**D**r. Gordon and Mrs. Charlott Myers generously remembered UW in their estate. With a combination of an IRA, a TIAA-CREF retirement fund, and an insurance policy, they established a scholarship endowment that benefits the UW Division of Social Work. Just this last year, \$32,000 in scholarships were awarded to bachelor's and master's students.

The annual scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each are open to social work students who are interested in social work practice with older adult populations, whether that interest is in health and medical areas, social policy, direct practice, and/or program development. Students must be nontraditional (i.e., 25 years of age or older, returning to college after absence, or single parent).

Gordon was born in Casper in 1925. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II and received his bachelor's in zoology and physiology from the University of Wyoming. He then received a doctorate in dentistry from Washington University in Saint Louis, Missouri, and a doctorate in nutrition from the University of California. He served as an assistant professor at the University of British Columbia and as the director of the dental hygiene department at Sheridan College, helping to establish the program. Gordon passed away in 2003.

Charlott was born in Hamburg, Germany, and came to the United States when she was 18. She became a U.S. citizen and then met and married Gordon in San Francisco. She helped him with his research among the coastal Indians of British Columbia. She received a degree from Sheridan College. She was an avid writer, researcher of the histories of the Basque people near Sheridan, and chronicler of her childhood in war-torn Germany. Charlott passed away in 2008.

Social work courses were first offered through the UW Sociology Department in 1967. Courses were moved from the College of Arts and Sciences to Health Sciences, with the bachelor's (BSW) degree first accredited in 1974 and the "Pioneer Class" of master's students (MSW) in 1997. Each year, approximately 120 undergraduate and 30 graduate students receive with their degrees in social work.

## Realized Estate Gifts FY 2011

**A**lthough the University of Wyoming is always saddened by the loss of alumni and friends, we are eternally grateful for the foresight and generosity of those supporters who have so thoughtfully allocated a portion of their estate to UW. The legacies of these contributors will carry on, and future opportunities for excellence will be provided for countless students, faculty, and programs as a result of these gifts. To be sure, estate gifts come in all shapes and sizes (as further detailed below)—each gift is important and special in its own unique way. It is with great thanks and appreciation that we pay tribute to and recognize our alumni and friends whose planned gifts were realized and properly allocated to their intended use on campus during this past fiscal year. Thank you to the following individuals and their families for their remarkable commitment to UW and our future.

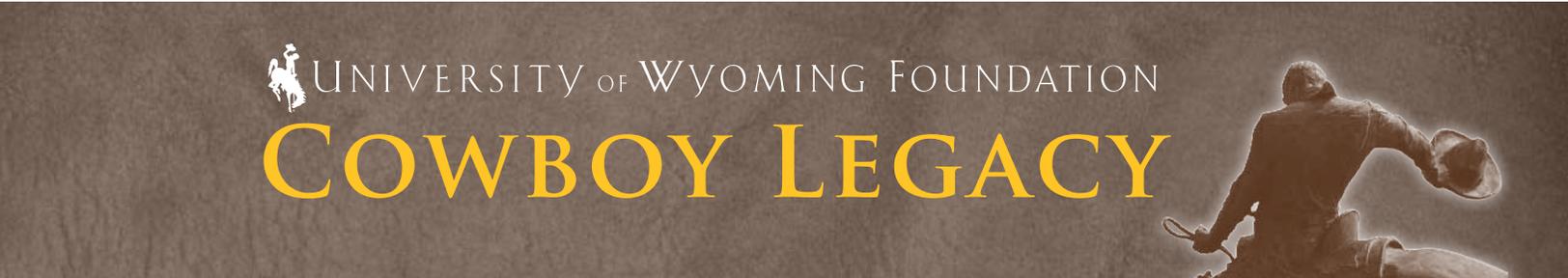
- Jessie B. Barnhill; realized bequest of \$30,000; unrestricted endowment to UW Foundation
- Jack Starr; realized total bequests of \$429,030.68; Student Financial Aid endowment
- Harriet Drake Estate; estate distribution of \$1,505; support of College of Law Student Financial Aid endowment
- Beatrice Beuf; realized bequest of \$100,000; Honor's Program Scholarship endowment
- E.I. Woodbury Estate; estate distribution of \$3,476.74; American Heritage Center Edmund I. Woodbury Memorial Fund
- Preston J. Dunn Estate; estate distribution of \$20,607.30; Preston J. Dunn Scholarship
- Henry E. Jensen; realized bequest of \$9,391; unrestricted UW Foundation endowment
- Sherrill E. Drum; realized bequest of \$1,604,949.65; UW Athletics and the Geology department
- Mayme C. Schoonover; realized bequest of \$50,000; Carroll Schoonover Memorial Student Support Fund for Animal Science
- Hewgley Survivors Trust; realized bequest of \$25,000; C.T. and Wimp Hewgley Memorial Endowed Scholarship for student-athletes
- James L. Hayward; realized total bequest of \$15,745.19; University Fund
- Theodore E. Thormahlen; realized bequest of \$253,248.42; Theodore Thormahlen Scholarship in the College of Business
- Mazie P. Sutton; realized bequest of \$3,705; College of Education quasi-endowment for student support
- Agnes Nair; realized bequest of \$5,000; Agnes May Nair Memorial Scholarship in Agriculture and Wildlife
- Robert J. Boye; realized bequest of \$2,577.38; unrestricted fund for the Music department
- Max Castagne; realized bequest of \$1,250,000; College of Engineering and Applied Science for students pursuing advanced degrees in engineering; for Mechanical Engineering, Petroleum Engineering, and Computer Engineering departments for research and study; and for the promotion of professorships in the fields of Mechanical Engineering, Petroleum Engineering, and Computer Engineering
- Zula Safford; realized bequest of \$200,000; University of Wyoming College of Business; A.D. Safford Fund for Faculty Travel; Zula Safford Scholarship; and College of Business Dean's Excellence Fund.





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## UW Foundation Forms PAC

The University of Wyoming Foundation recently enlisted the help of key legal and financial leaders to form the Professional Advisory Council (PAC). PAC will enhance and bolster the efforts of the Planned Giving group by providing advice, perspective, and expertise in their respective areas. PAC members are the most highly regarded attorneys, CPAs, and investment advisors in the state and region. A key goal of the PAC is to advance philanthropy and estate and charitable planning for the University of Wyoming and the charitable community by providing targeted educational seminars throughout the Wyoming and Front Range. The PAC held its first meeting on May 10-11, 2011, in Laramie at the College of Business and the UW Conference Center. The initial meeting was well attended, highly energetic, and instrumental in further defining the scope and direction of this important leadership group.

### PAC Members

- Dick Davis, Attorney, Davis and Cannon, Sheridan, WY
- Pam Dunnuck, CPA, Dunnuck & Associates, Laramie, WY
- Greg Dyekman, Attorney, Dray, Thomson & Dyekman, Cheyenne, WY
- Clay Geittmann, Attorney, Mullikin, Larson & Swift, LLC, Jackson, WY
- Clayton Hartman, Financial Advisor, UBS Financial Services Inc., Ft. Collins, CO
- Tom Long, Attorney, Long Reimer Winegar Beppler LLP, Cheyenne, WY
- Rick Mason, CPA, Lenhart Mason and Associates, LLC, Casper, WY
- John Maxfield, Attorney, Holland & Hart, Denver, CO
- Jane Moran, CPA, McGee, Hearne and Paiz, Cheyenne, WY
- Chris Muirhead, CPA, Porter Muirhead Cornia & Howard, Casper, WY
- Scott Neu, Financial Advisor, Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., Atlanta, GA
- Don Prehoda, Attorney, Prehoda, Leonard & Edwards, LLC, Laramie, WY

## ABOUT US

The UW Foundation is an independent, nonprofit corporation dedicated to securing, managing, and stewarding private gifts in support of the University of Wyoming's missions in teaching, research, and public service. We are here to help you and your estate planning team. If you have made UW part of your estate plan, we encourage you to contact us so that we can properly document your intentions and to express our sincerest thanks.

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