THE HILLTOP

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

Volume XVII : Issue I SPRING 2017



Message from THE PRESIDENT



I'm having a hard time believing that it has been winter for the last three months. With the temperature hitting the 80-degree mark weekly, it feels like we have been experiencing the longest spring on record. Speaking of records, Weatherford College just demolished our previous spring enrollment record by more than 300 students, with a 6.5 percent year-overyear increase in enrollments. We surpassed the 5,600 student mark for the first time in a spring

semester. Moreover, the Weatherford College Board voted to hold in-district tuition at \$80 per hour for the fourth consecutive year.

Our cover story this issue features Roy Joe Grogan, who's foresight as a Weatherford College board member in the 1960s led to the purchase of the 90 acres of land and the construction of the campus that Weatherford College calls home today. Likewise, Mr. Grogan's vision and philanthropy were instrumental in the development and funding of the Project Opportunity Scholarship program that has underwritten the dream of higher education for hundreds of Weatherford High School students to attend Weatherford College.

In this issue of The Hilltop, you'll also find information on the generosity of Harold M. Jacklin, Jr. and Cumile Pope Jacklin who established a family trust benefiting the WC Foundation as well as great news from former Coyote athlete Ryan Braiser and his deal with a Japanese baseball team.

In closing, I continue to invite those interested in visiting WC to come tour our beautiful campus. This is your college, and we look forward to the opportunity to share our accomplishments with you.

Kevin J. Eaton, Ed.D.

Sevin ! Caton

President

Hilltop Staff

Weatherford College President

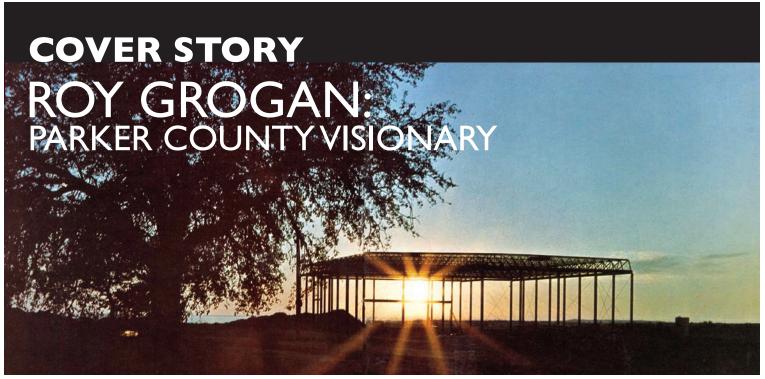
Board of Trustees

WC Foundation, Inc.

Readers may send comments, story ideas or letters to: THE HILLTOP

225 College Park Drive Weatherford, TX 76086 817-598-6275 817-598-6210 fax kedwards@wc.edu

© 2017 Weatherford College



by Crystal Brown

At Weatherford College, the name Roy Joe Grogan is often associated with the generosity of the Project Opportunity scholarship program, or the visionary decision to relocate the college campus in the 1960s. But Grogan's roots extend far deeper into the history of Parker County.

"I'm related to practically everybody in Parker County," Grogan said in a 2010 interview for the University of North Texas Oral History Program.

The Grogan family rode into Parker County via covered wagon in 1861, eight years before Weatherford College was established. Seven generations later, the family still maintains a presence in the community.

Grogan, 90, grew up during the Great Depression and witnessed his father transition through several jobs as the economy fluctuated and the United States entered World War II.

"We were all poor, but we didn't know it and everyone was happy," he said.

Following his graduation from high school in 1943, Grogan attended one semester at North Texas Agricultural College, now the University of Texas at Arlington, and one semester at Weatherford College before enlisting in the military shortly after his 18th birthday.

Grogan trained at several bases from Tennessee to Oklahoma and was accepted into a special program geared toward shooting down kamikazes. Just when his crew was about ready to start their mission, the atomic bomb was dropped in Japan and their plans were scrapped.

While his brother, Douglas Reid Grogan, saw action during WWII, Grogan spent the remainder of his war days in Hawaii.

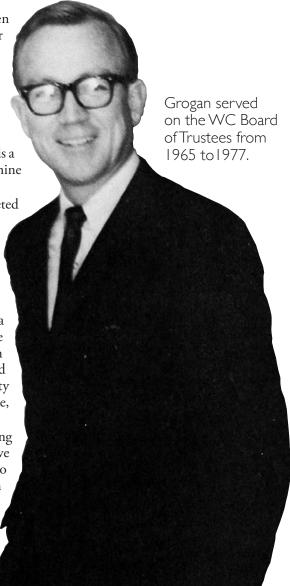
"I had to spend...," he laughed, "this is a real sacrifice...I had to spend eight or nine months over on Maui. Beautiful."

Grogan returned to WC and completed his associate's degree. He applied to and was accepted to Harvard University, but due to a waiting list caused by the influx of returning students from the war, Grogan decided to study law at Duke University instead.

At the same time, he remained a reservist in the military. When he graduated from law school the Korean War was picking up pace, and, concerned he may be called back to active duty before he could start up his law practice, Grogan joined the FBI.

He blew back into Weatherford following his training, married his girlfriend of five years, Jeanne, and whisked her away to California where Roy began his job with the FBI's Communist Squad. His job was to locate small, splinter groups of communists and knock on their doors to talk with them.

continues with Visionary on page 11.





LAST ISSUE'S DO YOU KNOW...

These are the Miss WC 1975 finalists, from left to right: Pam Peeples, third runner-up; Dana Birdwell, first runner-up; Molly Middleton, Miss Weatherford College; Tena Lee, second runner-up; and Cathey McDougal, fourth runner-up. This photo was featured in The WC Collegian, A Super Gold Publication Vol. I, No. 4.



FRIENDS WE'LL MISS

Bill Bennett, 86, of Mineral Wells, passed away Jan. 23.

Carrie Bridges, 96, passed away Oct. 17, 2016.

Ila Mae Cooper, 88, of Weatherford, passed away Feb. 4.

Vaughn R. Heady, Sr., 97, of Dallas, passed away Jan. 27.

Evelyn "Fern" Jones, 88, of Weatherford, passed away Feb. 14.

JoAnn Mikkelson, 87, of San Marcos, Calif., passed away Sept. 23, 2016.

Nina Grace Miller Carson, 88, of Springtown, passed away Jan. 3.

Martha Rhome, 96, passed away April 15, 2016.

Edward John Roseler, Jr. 69, of Richardson, passed away Nov. 8, 2016.

Evelyn Sullivan, 96, of Weatherford, class of 1939, passed away Dec. 5, 2016.

Jewell Elaine Vandagriff, 93, of Weatherford, passed away Feb. 16.

Kenneth Walker, 87, of Weatherford, passed away Jan. 17.

Flo Williams, 89, of Weatherford, class of 1948, passed away Dec. 9, 2016.

Wanda Gail Williams Ratliff, 69, of Conway, Ark., passed away on Sept. 17, 2016.

WC FOUNDATION RECEIVES \$255,000 ESTATE GIFT

The Weatherford College Foundation recently announced a \$255,000 estate gift establishing a new endowed scholarship fund for WC students.

The Harold M. Jacklin, Jr. and Cumile Pope Jacklin Trust was established in 1978 by the Jacklin family in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The gift to the WC Foundation will create the Nannie McCall Pope and Florence Hayes Jacklin Scholarship, named in honor of the Jacklins' mothers.

The scholarship is earmarked for students entering the field of economics and/or finance, "fostering the private and free enterprise system envisioned by the Constitution."

"We are so thankful for donors like Harold and Cumile Jacklin," said Bob Glenn, WC Foundation President. "Our largest gifts come from estate planning, and we're very glad the Jacklins had the foresight to include a scholarship for Weatherford College students when they set up their family trust."

Cumile Pope grew up in the Millsap area and attended Weatherford College in the late 1920s. She married Harold in 1948 – a marriage that lasted 44 years until her death in 1992.

"The generosity of the Jacklin family will help students for decades to come."

- BRENT BAKER

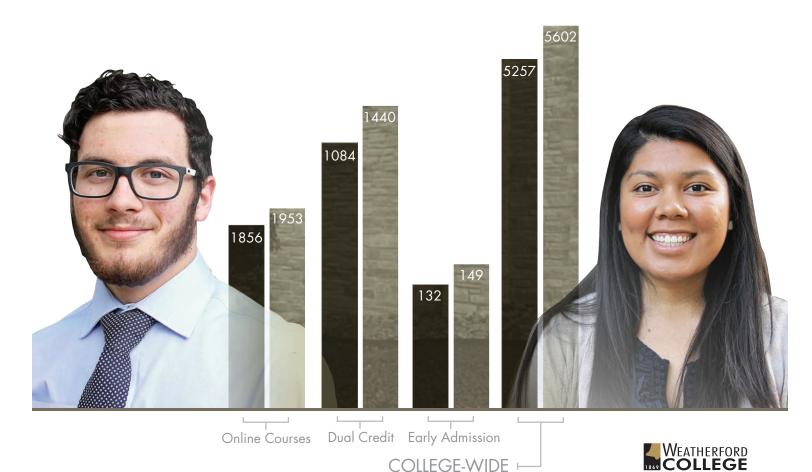
Mr. Jacklin was born in Wisconsin and grew up in West Lafayette, Indiana. He spent his career as a top executive in the marine and automotive industries. He also served in the U.S. Department of Transportation as Deputy Director of the Motor Vehicle Safety Performance Service.

He passed away in April 2016 at the age of 98.

"The generosity of the Jacklin family will help students for decades to come," said Brent Baker, WC's Vice President of Institutional Advancement. "They are leaving quite a legacy here in the lives of our students."

The Weatherford College Foundation has awarded more than \$1.5 million in scholarships to WC students over the past 10 years.

WC BY THE NUMBERS • SPRING 2016 2017

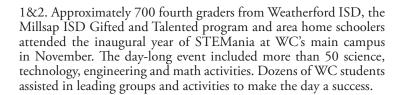


THE HILLTOP • Spring 2017 •

WEATHERFORD COLLEGE AROUND CAMPUS







- 3. Fourteen area high schools participated in the 15th annual Coyote Area Math Championship on Feb. 3. Students competed as teams and individuals in pre-calculus and calculus tests. Pictured are Math Department Chair Shirley Brown and Bob Glenn, Executive Vice President of Plains Capital Bank, the event sponsor.
- 4. Derek Peterson was announced as the 2016 Staff Member of the Year during the annual Employee Awards Dinner held in December. Peterson, a four-year employee of WC, is the Shipping, Inventory Control and Mail Manager.



- 5. The Social Science Department hosted a panel discussion to discuss the results of the 2016 election. Political Science faculty members who served on the discussion panel are: Assistant Professor Darrell Castillo, Associate Professor Christi Dayley, Assistant Professor Dr. Eddie Feng, Professor Dr. John Flanagan and Professor Dr. Cathy Johnson.
- 6. WC President Dr. Kevin Eaton with Weatherford ISD Superintendent Dr. Jeffrey Hanks at a dual credit information session held at WC.
- 7. WC jazz instructor Ric Flauding released his CD "The Journey Collection" in February. The CD features seven of his own songs and three additional songs of the "Suite for Guitar."
- 8. Weatherford College recognized 31 of the finest teachers from across the region at the annual Jack Harvey Academy of Exemplary Teachers celebration Feb. 3 at the Doss Heritage and Culture Center. Celebrating its 21st year, the Harvey Academy honors exemplary teachers in the memory of Professor Emeritus Jack Harvey, who taught at WC for 23 years and was considered among his peers as a "master teacher."













1 p.m. 1 p.m.

BASEBALL (Roger Williams Ballpark) | SOFTBALL (Stuart Field)

*Conference games

2 p.m.

CLASS NOTES

APRIL

5

Hill*

McLennan*

Several WC alumni were honored in the annual Jack Harvey Academy of Exemplary Teachers event in February: Kay Alexander (Springtown ISD), Holly Harrison (Decatur ISD), Michelle Herndon (Poolville ISD), Kayli Morris (Granbury ISD) and Amy Norwood (Paradise ISD). Also honored was Dr. Alex Ibe of WC.

Snarky Puppy, the jazz group that includes WC alumni **Shaun Martin** and **Robert "Sput" Searight**, won their third Grammy award in February. Their latest release, "Culcha Vulcha," won Best Pop Instrumental Album, the

band's second Grammy in as many years in that category. Martin also won another Grammy award as a producer for gospel artist Kirk Franklin—Best Gospel Album for "Losing My Religion."

 Temple^*

Tracy "Rocco" Davidson earned his bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Dallas Baptist University in December. Rocco is a former infantry soldier for the U.S. Army.

Brooke Hughes ('14) received a first place award for student research at the National Association of Social Workers Conference in Washington, D.C. in June. She is now

a fully licensed chemical dependency counselor with H.O.P.E. (Helping Open People's Eyes) in Cleburne.

Kaitlyn Williams ('14) is a graduate research assistant at Sul Ross State University's Borderlands Research Institute working on a thesis entitled, "Grassland Birds and Indicators of Chihuahuan Desert Grassland Ecosystem Health." The study will be used to create management plans for quail and grassland birds as well as to educate landowners and ranch managers on ideal grazing approaches.



THANK YOU DONORS OF 2016

Benefactors (\$10,000 and above)

Imperial Construction, Jacklin Charitable Remainder Unitrust, Jerry Durant Auto Group, Earl and Ann Morris Family Foundation, Plains Capital Bank, Sammie Gay and Robert Williams, Anonymous

Patrons (\$2,500 to \$9,999)

Film Alley/Schulman Theatres, First Financial Bank, Marjorie Kimbrough Dome, Dr. Sumant and Sheela A. Kumar, Dr. Barbara and Jim McGregor, Libby Poston, Snow Garrett Williams Employees, Thompson & Horton, LLP, Weatherford Regional Medical Center, Gail Wright

Associates (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Brent and Elizabeth Baker, Ben E. Keith Company, David and Becky Daniel, First National Bank of Weatherford, Bob and Carolyn Glenn, Hahnfeld Hoffer Stanford, Pat and Sharon Hamilton, Herring Bank, Dennis Hooks, HUB International Insurance Services, Dr. and Mrs. Bill and Shirlene Knight, Derek and Lonna Leach, Lone Star Coaches, Inc., Mike's Westside Rental, Jerry and Dr. Janie Neighbors, Jerry Reynolds, Gary and Linda Snow, Southwest Auto Group, Steele & Freeman, Inc., Dr. James H. Tatum, Texas Hospital Insurance Exchange, Walter G. Tibbitts, III, Mary Zielinski Estate

Partners (\$500 to \$999)

Marvin and Amy Adams, Randall Anderson, Associate Degree Nursing Students, Dr. Richard and Pat Bowers, Dr. Veleda Boyd and Don Coan, Daniel Callahan, Sam Coody, Dr. Andra Cantrell, Sue Coody, Tonya Edwards, Carol Eppright, First Financial Trust and Management Co., Wayne and Sharon Garrett, Brent and Meredith Gough, Roy and Jeanne Grogan, Pediatric Rehab, Arnold Pitchford, Pulliam Pools, Texas Bank Financial, Texas Book Company, Waste Connections, Dr. Mike and Avalon White

Continued on next page



FRIDAY, APRIL DOSS STUDENT CENTER \$20 TICKETS IN ADVANCE, \$25 AT THE DOOR

HONORING ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR WARREN CREASON AND DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI JAKE ARRIETA, JENNY LEWALLEN AND DAVID NICKLAS

For tickets, call 817-598-6273 or email epayne@wc.edu.





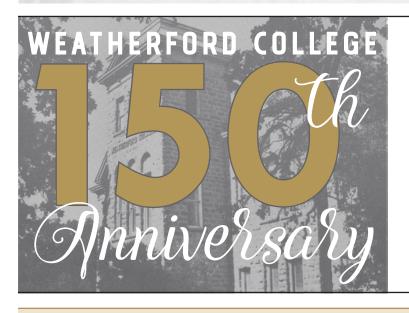
THANK YOU CONTINUED

Affiliates (\$100 to \$499)

Glen and Doris Arey, Wanda J. Baker, Barbara Baker-Morrison, Kathy Bassham, Brannin Beal, Mike and Bettye Beard, Karen Benson, Riley and Carolyn Binford, Madelon L. Bradshaw, Christel Brenner, Ellie Broughton, Duane and DeEnna Brown, Vernon and Nancy Bryant, Merle and Peggy Bull, Patricia Buzbee, Dr. Shirley and Edwin Chenault, The Honorable Don and Melinda Chrestman, Colonial Country Club, Decatur Lions Club, Jim and Myrlan Coleman, Warren Creason, Drs. Deborah and Bill Cron, Kay Crumley, DATCU Credit Union, David Ford Insurance Agency, Inc., Jim and Susan Duncan, Judd Duncan, Duane and Anita Durrett, Dr. Kevin and Sheila Eaton, John and Myrna Fields, First State Bank, Tim and Marsella Fults, Joy George, Jay and Beverly Gibbs, Bud and Betty Jo Graber, Roger and Jeanine Grizzard, John and Cathy E. Gurica, Jacy and Charles Guynes, Dr. Rickey and Judy Harman, Gary and Jeanie Hobbs, Carl and Sherry Holmes, Mrs. Darlyne Hughes, Ruth Huse, Theresa Hutchison, Isom Family Trust, James Wood Motors, Rep. Phil and Terry King, Sandra Krause, Janetta Kruse, Marnita Langford, Sharron Lawrence, Legend Bank, Cheryl Livengood, Nina Maniotis, Sandra Marckmann, Michael McGough, Gaylyn Mendoza, Jenny Miller, Casey Mitchell, Robert and Susan Montalvo, Lela and Butch Morris, Dr. Lisa R. Nash, Paschall Insurance Group, LLC, Phoenix Transmission Products, Tom and Jane Pritchard, Prosperity Bank, Mark and Debby Riebe, Carol and Bob Ritter, Dr. William and Paula Roddy, Richard E. Sloan, Angela Smith, Kathy Smith, Rev. Bart and Ann Smith, Sharon B. Smith, PC, Marilyn St. Clair, Stanley Stough, WC Respiratory Care Students, Martha Tandy, Teague, Nall and Perkins, Texas Butane Co., Inc., Jack and Evelyn Thompson, Dr. Don and Allison Tomas, Rhonda and Leonard Torres, Frances Trussell, Staci Tyler, Cynthia Vaszauskas, WC Basketball Booster Club, Weatherford Evening Lions Club, Weatherford High School Class of 1953, Weatherford Optimist Club, Jo Ellen Welborn, Tom Wells, White's Funeral Home, Laura and Bruce Wiggs, Joe and Karen Wilkinson, Kathy and Jeff Williams, Ralph Willingham, James Wilson, Dinah Wren

Supporters (up to \$99)

Gerald and Jackie Anderson, Dr. Arleen Atkins, Crystal Brown, Judy Campbell, LJ and Sue Childs, Gloria Chitwood, Central Christian Church, Stephen Coffee, Don and Bernadean Connell, Pat Cook, Carl B. and Sue Cox, Ron and Kathy Crabtree, Teresa Davis, Department of Public Safety, Rocky and Carmen Drew, Louretta Evans, The Weldon Cranford Family, Melody Fleming, Michelle Gist, John and Cheryl Good, Anna C. Gordon, Kory and Stephanie Hooks, Joy Hudson, Connie Huse Nightingale, Suzanne Jary, Marsha Johnson, Kelsey Jones, Phil and Kathryn Jordan, David McCrary, Ronnie and Linda McWilliams, Daniel and Mariana Meaders, Patricia Nielsen, Parker County Hospital District, Carol Patak, Evelyn Payne, Brenda Ridge, Linda Robinson, Ron and Karen Romberg, Charlsta Smith, Rosalinda Strickland, Janice Sutton, Terry and Karen Taylor, Jon and Dottie Vandagriff, Peeranut Visetsuth, Martin & Jamie Wilbanks, Mack and Gloria Young



THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF WEATHERFORD COLLEGE IS COMING IN 2019. WE WOULD LOVE YOUR INPUT ON HOW TO BEST CELEBRATE THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF OUR COLLEGE DURING THIS IMPORTANT YEAR.

PLEASE GO ONLINE TO WC.EDU/150 AND COMPLETE OUR SURVEY.





VISIONARY from page 3.

"I have been cussed out in a lot of different languages," Grogan exclaimed.

Fellow lawyer and FBI employee Jack Borden convinced Grogan to return to Weatherford and go into practice with him. In addition to his career as a lawyer, Grogan was elected Parker County District Attorney, Weatherford City Council member and a member of the WC Board of Trustees.

Grogan also found success in commercial real estate. In 1959, he built the first shopping center in Weatherford, located on South Main Street, as well as other shopping centers, an apartment complex, and other projects around Weatherford.

During his 12 years on the Weatherford College board, Grogan played an instrumental role in the college's move from South Main to its current location.

"We were overrun with students," Grogan recalled. "That old building was meant to accommodate about maybe 250, and we had about 600 kids and they were parking everywhere."

To construct the nine buildings that made up the new campus, the board decided to sell the old campus, including the iconic building nicknamed "Old Main."

"A lot of people didn't like that," Grogan said, "but we needed the money to build the new campus."

In a dedication ceremony for the Roy and Jeanne Grogan Historic Plaza on the WC campus held in the fall of 2016, Jeanne recalled: "I asked him, 'Why would you want to move Weatherford College from South Main to that way out there place?' We got some very interesting phone calls, by the way, that weren't too appealing. But he weathered that storm."

Even with selling the old campus, the college had to hold a bond election. The City of Weatherford had just lost a bond issue, but the college's passed by a 7-to-1 ratio, Grogan recalled.

"We had support from a lot of people," he said. "Some people didn't particularly want us to go out there, but others saw it in much the same way we did and supported us and the process. It turned out great. We

were very proud of that and still are."

The Grogans have contributed more than \$120,000 in scholarship funds to the WC Foundation over the years, and Roy was the driving force in establishing the Project Opportunity program in 1991, which pays the tuition of deserving Weatherford High School graduates to attend WC.

"I saw an article, and I think it was even on TV, a deal about this fellow in Louisiana in the oil business," Grogan said. "And he started a program much like that for the underprivileged kiddos in Louisiana to get a college education, and it struck me that was a very great thing and we needed something like that."

He found several others who were interested in the idea and the rest is history. Hundreds of WHS students have attended college through Project Opportunity.

"He is the most generous, competent, person of integrity that I have ever known in my life," Jeanne said of her husband of 65 years. "And people who know him say the same thing. He is remarkable in many ways."

FORMER COYOTE SIGNS \$475K DEAL WITH JAPANESE TEAM



Former Weatherford College pitcher Ryan Brasier has reached an agreement to play with the Hiroshima Toyo Carp of the Nippon Professional Baseball League in Japan. Brasier signed a one-year deal worth an estimated \$475,000 (U.S.) plus incentives and a \$50,000 signing bonus.

Brasier is the first former Coyote to play professionally in Japan.

The Wichita Falls native is a former member of the Los Angeles Angels, called up to the majors for seven games in 2013 after seven years in the Angels organization. He was most recently with the Oakland A's Triple-A affiliate in Nashville.

Brasier played for WC in 2006-07 and was selected by the Angels in the sixth round of the 2007 draft.



225 College Park Drive Weatherford, Texas 76086 NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WEATHERFORD, TX 76086
PERMIT NO. 115

