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WOFFORD

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# REMEMBERING WOFFORD

A newsletter about gift planning | Spring 2017

## THE BENJAMIN WOFFORD SOCIETY: IT'S AS SIMPLE AS A CHECKED BOX.

When you notify us that you've included a gift to the college in your estate — by filling out the enclosed response card, telling a gift officer or providing a written statement — it is known as a bequest intention. This action qualifies you for membership in the Benjamin Wofford Society and the donor recognition events and opportunities this honor entails. Some people hesitate to disclose their intent because of changing circumstance; however, a notification of a gift plan is not a binding pledge, and providing gift estimates is always optional.

Return the enclosed response card to indicate the inclusion of Wofford in your estate plans or to request further information about gift planning options.

Become a member today. To learn more, visit [www.wofford.edu/supportwofford/benjaminwoffordsociety/](http://www.wofford.edu/supportwofford/benjaminwoffordsociety/).

*If you previously have returned this response card to the Office of Gift Planning, you've already done your part, and we thank you!*



THE  
*Benjamin Wofford*  
SOCIETY

## DONOR STORY:

# ANN & PEPE '72 PERRON

## QUIET PHILANTHROPISTS



When Pepe Perron graduated from Wofford College in 1972 with a degree in history, he never imagined that more than 40 years later he would be running a camp for girls. “And yet, I was prepared to do just that because of my past experiences with my father’s business and my Wofford education,” he says.

Perron and his wife, Ann, a graduate of Converse College, Class of 1972, married shortly after graduation and moved back to Perron’s hometown of Gainesville, Ga., where Perron worked for his family’s poultry business for a short time. In 1981, Ann’s aunt, ready for retirement, offered the Perrons the opportunity to take over as owners and directors of Camp Nakanawa in Crossville, Tenn. Since then, the Perrons have called the 1,000 acres of forest, fields and a private lake of the camp their home.

Perron often draws inspiration from his days at Wofford as he works to create an environment that supports and empowers the young women who come to camp each summer.

“Every professor at Wofford knew me,” says Perron. “My fraternity started a faculty oyster roast, which was important because it gave us all the chance to get to know each other.” Now the Perrons create that kind of family environment at camp.

“My Wofford liberal arts education prepared me to think critically. Thinking plus learning equals knowledge. Knowledge opens doors and builds self-confidence,” says Perron. “These are the lessons I seek to teach the girls — confidence, imagination, exploration, vision, contentment and self-confidence, among other things.”

The Perrons have given generously to the college through both planned and outright gifts, not only

putting Wofford in their will through a bequest, but also establishing two charitable gift annuities, in addition to an endowed scholarship fund.

The Perrons have invested wisely over the years and have made it a priority to support Wofford financially through these funds — just one more way that they are providing opportunities for young people to grow.

For the Perrons, the two charitable gift annuities established through Wofford are not only an investment in the college for the future, but also a financially savvy investment for their family. “Not only do we get tax benefits, but we are able to leave another lasting legacy, as the residuum from the annuities are then applied to our endowed scholarship fund to help build that up,” says Perron.

The Perrons established the Ann and Pepe Perron Endowed Scholarship Fund in 2016 through the Trustee Matching Fund program. This scholarship, which will be awarded for the 2017-2018 academic year, gives preference to first-generation college students, a group of young people Perron is passionate about supporting.

“[First-generation college students] have so many more obstacles to overcome.... Ann and I were both fortunate in that our parents were able to help us pay tuition, but with the rising cost of higher education today, we wanted to help someone who needs it the most,” says Perron. “We want to provide every opportunity for the college to expose young adults to the power of knowledge so that they may grow into lifetime learners.... We give because we believe in what Wofford is doing. We believe in the mission of the college and the dedication of the good people at Wofford to carry on what was started by Benjamin Wofford in 1854.”

## A FEW GIFT PLANNING TERMS TO KNOW:

**Charitable gift annuity:** Involves a contract between a donor and a charity in which the donor transfers cash or property in exchange for a partial tax deduction and a lifetime stream of annual income from the charity.

**Annuitant:** An individual who receives payments from a charitable gift annuity for the duration of his or her lifetime.

**Payout rate:** The rate paid on a charitable gift annuity, suggested by the American Council on Gift Annuities.

**Bequest:** The act of giving personal property through the provisions of a will or estate plan.

IMPACT STORY:

# JENNINGS BRACKETT '20

Jennings Brackett '20 is a familiar face in the Wofford Office of Admission. As a Bell Ringer Scholar, she regularly gives tours to groups of prospective students, works admission events on the weekends and has plans to intern in the office this summer. Her work in admission has piqued her interest in pursuing a career in higher education after graduation.

Brackett is the first in her family to go to college.

“Coming into a college as highly esteemed as Wofford can be intimidating,” Brackett says. “I want to be able to provide support for students who, like I was, may not be sure whether college is feasible for their family. I’ve been there.”

Brackett is able to attend Wofford thanks in part to her scholarship assistance. When the Ann and Pepe Perron Endowed Scholarship Fund is awarded for the 2017-2018 academic year, it will support a first-generation student with needs much like Brackett’s.

“My parents always encouraged me and made it very clear that if I worked hard, we would do what we needed to in order to make college work. My main concern during the application process was making my dream of college work for my entire family. I have two other siblings at home who will be in college at the same time. Knowing that I worked hard enough for my parents to send me to school without financial worry means a lot to me. I am grateful that I can make the most of my time at Wofford and not worry about leaving with mounds of student debt, thanks to my scholarship support,” says Brackett.

“Even the most sincere ‘thank you’ doesn’t really seem to cover it for gifts of such magnitude,” says Brackett about the Perrons’ support of first-generation students through their outright and deferred gifts. “It’s a humbling experience to recognize that it took my own hard work to get here, but that I am able to realize my dream of college thanks to the selfless support of others.”



## IN MEMORIAM



*The Office of Gift Planning recognizes the following individuals who made significant contributions to the college through planned gifts in 2016. Their legacies of generosity and commitment to academic excellence live on through the programs they supported.*

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**Don Ferguson Sr. '57** directed the proceeds of a charitable remainder trust to benefit the Wofford men's tennis program.

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**Dr. James A. Keller**, professor of philosophy emeritus, created an endowed faculty fund for the Department of Philosophy by naming Wofford as a beneficiary of his retirement assets.

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**Zerno Martin**, a friend of Wofford, left a bequest to create the Elsie R. Wright and Zerno E. Martin Jr. Endowed Scholarship Fund.

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**George E. Tate '41** directed proceeds from a trust to support the George and Carol Tate Endowed Scholarship Fund.

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**Nancy Walsh**, the spouse of a Wofford alumnus and a Wofford parent, left a bequest to benefit the W. Carl Walsh Jr. 1962 Endowed Scholarship Fund.

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# CONTACT US!



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