

# Great Basin College Foundation Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 1

Summer/Fall 2010

## Great Basin College Foundation

### News from The Director

By John Patrick Rice, PhD

It has been a busy several months at Great Basin College Foundation. In September, we dedicated the Paul and Gwen Leonard Center for Student Life. Regent William Cobb was unable to attend the opening, but sent a lovely letter (pages 7 and 8) that pays tribute to the Leonard's. Take a few minutes to learn about the rich and generous lives of the Leonard family.

We have great respect for their daughter, Jackie who, unfortunately, was unable to attend the dedication of the Leonard Center. Jackie continues the family's commitment to philanthropy in education, deepening our admiration for her con-

tributions to the lives of citizens of Nevada. I was particularly moved by something she wrote in Silver and Blue about what she has learned, and I thought I might



share a little of it with you.

"What I've learned is that kindness is the cardinal virtue of life and that life is endlessly diverting." How simple, how utterly true, and how much the state-

ment supports what we do in any of our chosen pursuits, but in particular what we do here at Great Basin College Foundation.

"Kindness is the cardinal virtue of life." As people dedicated to education, how often are we presented with the opportunity kindness provides, either as one who acts kindly or as one who graciously receives a kindness. "Life is endlessly diverting." How often, again, as those dedicated to learning, are our lives diverted by an opportunity provided by our experience in higher education. How lucky we are that our lives can be so often diverted and that what we learn can help us to capitalize

(cont'd on page 2)

### Also, inside this issue:

This is Why We Do What We Do...	2
Elko Police Officers Support Our Students...	2
Professional Development and a Clambake!	3
Student Nurses Appreciate Our Help	3
SNO Supports GBCF!	3
Leonard Center for Student Life-Grand Opening Event!	4 & 5
Battle of the Beef...	6
A Letter from Regent Cobb...	7 & 8
Seasons of Change	9

### Over \$77,000 distributed to our students!!

We are proud to announce that the Foundation distributed over \$77,000 to students through scholarships this fall. We would not have been able to do this without the generosity of our faithful donors. Through many different scholarships, our donors help to educate our students and help us to achieve our mission to bring student-centered,

post-secondary education to rural Nevada. We are proud to be a part of this exciting adventure and hope that you and others like you would consider donating to this worthy cause. Keeping GBC strong helps produce a better community and a better way of life throughout our service area.



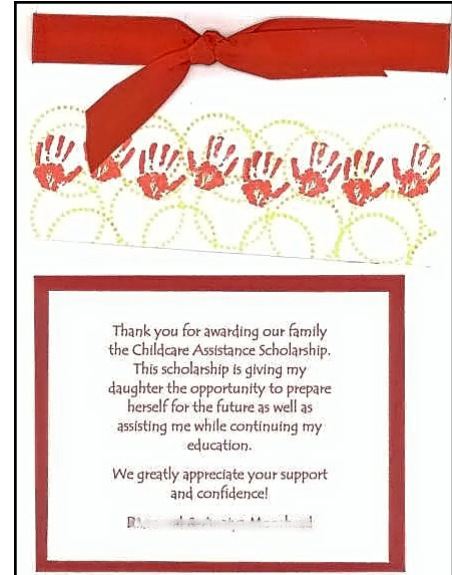
### This is Why We Do What We Do...

GBC Foundation's Student Childcare Assistance Subsidy was established in 2002 by GBC Foundation as part of its commitment to assisting students with their childcare expenses at all GBC Campuses.

We are proud to be able to offer this assistance to our students and realize we are not only helping them but their families as well.

Along with Wells Fargo and Elko Federal Credit

Union, we hope to be able to continue this support and provide a chance for our parents/students to succeed.



### Elko Police Officers Support Our Students...

Detective Dennis Price of the Elko Police Department and Treasurer of the Elko Police Officers Protective Association presented Great Basin College Foundation with a \$1500 check for their 2010/2011 scholarship at GBC. The scholarship provides much needed funding to an exemplary freshman student from Elko County studying Criminal Justice at Great Basin College. As Price explained, the Elko Police Department wishes to encourage outstanding students to pursue a career in the field of criminal justice, be it law enforcement, prosecution, corrections or other fields which promote and

protect our citizens. The EPD raises funds for their scholarship through the annual Demolition Derby they stage in Elko. Patty Jones, Annual & Planned Giving Manager of Great Basin College Foundation added that scholarships are vital to student success, and GBC offers two Associate degrees in Criminal Justice; one with a Law Enforcement Emphasis and one with a Corrections Emphasis. Any one wishing to establish a scholarship at GBC can contact Patty Jones at 775.753.2236 or [pattyj@gwmail.gbcnv.edu](mailto:pattyj@gwmail.gbcnv.edu).

### News from The Director

(cont'd from page 1)

on or simply to cope with those diversions. How luckier still, are we, that those diversions can help us to develop the skills to treat people with kindness.

Now we have the chance to pay forward the kindness of the Leonard's. Higher education in Nevada faces enormous challenges. Challenges always provide opportunity. In the case of

Great Basin College Foundation, we have the opportunity to provide Great Basin College with substantial resources for advancement in the coming decade.

Funding for scholarships, programs and facilities will be vital to the future of young students across rural Nevada. Courage and commitment by our Trustees, the faculty, staff and

students of GBC, and, indeed the entire rural Nevada community will assure the future of higher education in Nevada, and thereby the sustainable future of the State.

**Kindness**  
*Life*

**Professional Development and a Clambake!** by Carolyn Trainor

This summer I was given the opportunity to attend a conference at historical Dartmouth College. CASE (Council for the Advancement and Support of Education) hosted this very informative conference teaching almost 300 attendees from all over the world the fine art of fundraising and all that is involved in this exciting arena. I was pleased to represent Great Basin College and all of rural Nevada. I

learned the value of what our team here at the Foundation does and has done since this institution was started over 40 years ago. I am excited to begin implementation of the skills I learned and to become a key participant in the field of donor relations and annual fundraising. I thank my colleagues and the Board of Trustees for providing this opportunity for growth.

I also experienced an authentic New England Clambake, walked the historic campus of Dartmouth and enjoyed the hospitality of Hanover.



Dartmouth College, founded in 1769

**Student Nurses Appreciate Our Help**

Recently, a group of GBC nursing students stopped by our office to express their appreciation for the Foundation's funding which provides them with their nursing starter kits. Foundation staff explained that through a bequest from Thelma Trescartes who so appreciated the help she received from GBC nursing students, the Foundation established a fund to provide these kits to our new nursing students. In ad-

dition, for the past few years the Student Nursing Organization (SNO) has voted to add funds to this account so that future students can enjoy this benefit. Hats off to our students as they practice the art of philanthropy and paying it forward!



Pictured from left to right are GBC Student Nurses: Christy Gillespie, Brittany Klekas, Erin Heise, and Kayla Spence

**SNO Supports GBCF!**

Ashley Olpin of the GBC Student Nurses Organization (2009/2010) presents Patty Jones of GBC Foundation with a check for \$1,000 for the Foundation's Nursing Starter Kit Fund.



# Leonard Center for Student Life-Grand Opening Event!



Family, friends and Foundation Legacy society members celebrated the grand opening of The Paul and Gwen Leonard Center September 15 on the Elko Campus. The Leonard Center for Student Life blends trendy design, innovative technology and an amazing setting for students and community members to experience Great Basin College. Made possible by a \$2.3M bequest from the Leonard estate,

Nate Turner of Lombard Conrad Architects created a vision for the building which Jackie Leonard, the couple's daughter vetted. Unfortunately, Jackie was unable to join us for the festivities and Rich Barrows spoke on her behalf.



Patty Jones, Planned Giving Manager and Sophia Kane, long time GBC supporter.

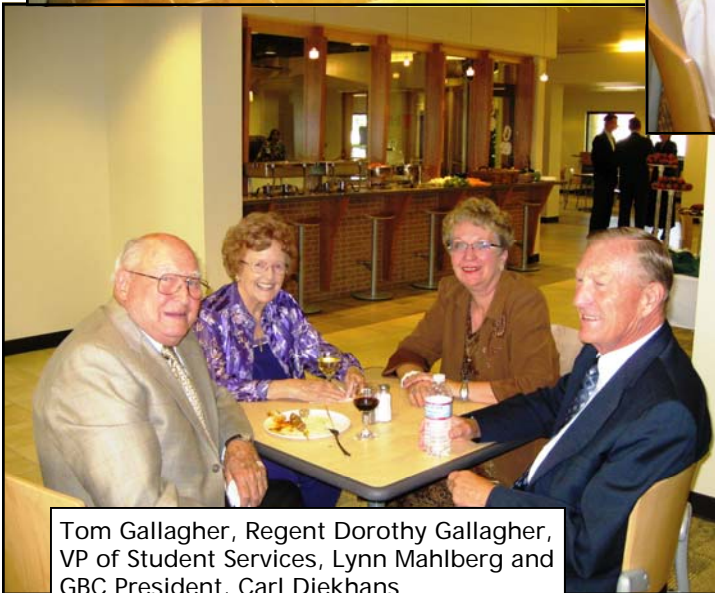


Julie Smith, Director of Student Life with SGA officers: Paulette Batayola, President; Crystal Morgan, Secretary; Elko Senator, Erica Netcher and Ely Senator, Janae Johnson.





Betty Vaughan, Sophia Kane, and Paul Sawyer (one of the original founders of GBC)



Tom Gallagher, Regent Dorothy Gallagher, VP of Student Services, Lynn Mahlberg and GBC President, Carl Diekhans



# Battle of the Beef...



# Café X



# The Flying Fish

What could be better than a beautiful evening and wonderful food, amidst the gorgeous backdrop of our campus? Well, how about the smell of beef slowly roasting filling the air accented by Big Country's FM music? Our first annual Battle of the Beef BBQ Cook off was a huge success thanks to all who participated. Blach Distributing provided a selection of Budweiser beers while volunteers from P.A.C.E. Coalition checked the IDs of attendees with welcoming smiles. Over 150 people enjoyed the delicious samples from both Café X and The

Flying Fish. Deciding who they thought was the winner was the toughest part of their job. However, ballots were cast and by the end of the evening, we had a winner, The Flying Fish. They prepared a brisket in an apricot, bourbon marinade and then slow-smoked it all day! This delicious entrée will be available on their lunch menu for a month! The Nevada Beef Council sponsored the \$500 grand prize, and another \$250 prize for serving the entrée on their menu. In addition, the winning recipe will go forward to compete

for the best beef dish in the state Beef Backer Award.

Along with savory dishes, Let Them Eat Cake... Bakery provided luscious desserts and coffee. The GBC Aggies were on hand to give away information and recipes on beef to inspire everyone to go home and create their own winning beef dish! We are already scheduling this event for next fall---plan on attending!



Let Them Eat Cake...Bakery supplied the goodies for our sweet tooth.



Heather Weatherford with GBC Aggies



## A Letter from Regent Cobb...



### Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents

System Administration:  
2601 Enterprise Road  
Reno, Nevada 89512  
(775) 784-4901  
FAX (775) 327-5049

September 8, 2010

**William G. Cobb**  
P.O. Box 3559  
Reno, Nevada 89505  
Office: (775) 786-3930  
FAX (775) 786-4160  
william\_cobb@nshe.nevada.edu

GREAT BASIN COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Attn: Brandy Nielsen  
1500 College Parkway  
Elko, Nevada 89801

Re: Grand Opening, Leonard Center for Student Life  
Great Basin College

Dear Ms. Nielsen:

I am disappointed that I will not be able to be present for the grand opening of Great Basin College's Leonard Center for Student Life but prior commitments prevent me from attending. I do appreciate the opportunity, however, to submit a few written comments about the Leonard family.

Paul and Gwen Leonard were long time friends of not only my parents, Ty & Olga Cobb, but my wife's parents as well, Ray & Ruth Armstrong. Jackie and I were classmates at Reno High School and the University of Nevada, Reno, so there is an extended connection with the Leonard and Cobb families.

As most everyone probably knows, Paul graduated from the University of Nevada in 1936, one year ahead of my father. Paul and my dad were fraternity brothers (Sigma Nus) at Nevada and both were in the journalism program when it was still housed in the English department. Paul's journalism career started with the *Elko Daily Free Press* in 1936. Gwen graduated in 1937 and accepted a teaching position in Ely. She and Paul were married in 1938. They resided in Elko until 1942 when Paul entered the army, serving in the signal corps in New Guinea, the Philippines and Japan. During Paul's service in the military, Gwen worked for the legendary Nevada Senator, Pat McCarran.

## A Letter from Regent Cobb...(Cont'd from page 7)

After the war, the Leonards moved to Ely where Paul ran the *Ely Daily Times* as editor for then Governor Vail Pittman. When Pittman lost his re-election bid, the Leonards moved back to Elko. In 1954, they moved to Reno where Paul had accepted a position at the *Reno Evening Gazette* and later with the *Nevada State Journal* where my father Ty was sports editor. Paul became editor of the *Journal*, a position he held until his retirement in 1972. Paul received many journalism awards, too numerous to list here. In 1971, he was named a Distinguished Nevada by the Board of Regents. Paul and my dad shared a love of golf and were frequent companions on the course, sometimes with me tagging along.

Gwen was active in many civic groups, including the Assistance League and AAUW. Coincidentally, she was also in my mother-in-law's bridge club which met frequently. For those who knew Gwen, you remember that she bore a striking resemblance in appearance and mannerism to Carol Channing.

Paul and Gwen had two children, my classmate Jackie and her brother Guy who was tragically killed by a drunken driver in 1977, just a few months after his graduation. Jackie graduated from Nevada in 1971 and later attended the San Francisco Theological Seminary. She was pastor for many years at St. John's Presbyterian Church in Reno and also served as chaplain for numerous law enforcement agencies.

All of the Leonard family has been extremely generous to education in Nevada. Gwen established the Paul Leonard Memorial Scholarship after Paul passed away in 1987. The family supported the James Hulse Scholarship in History and funded a student reading room in the Knowledge Center. The Leonard's estate, under Jackie's leadership, established an endowed chair, the Paul A. Leonard Chair for Ethics and Writing in Journalism.

The Leonard Center for Student Life is yet another example of the generosity of the Leonard family and their continued support for education. I think Paul and Gwen would be honored and proud of the progress Great Basin College has made and the positive impact it has had on so many students, which will be furthered even more by the Leonard Center.

Best regards -

Bill Cobb

WILLIAM G. COBB  
Member, Board of Regents  
Nevada System of Higher Education



## Great Basin College Foundation

P.O. Box 2056  
Elko, NV 89803  
Phone: 775-753-2446  
Fax: 775-738-9321  
E-mail: gbcfoundation@gbcnv.edu

## Our Mission

The Foundation's mission is to provide private sources of funding for the scholarships, programs, and facilities of Great Basin College (the "College"). This is achieved primarily through cultivation and management of fiscal resources and promotion of the College's image throughout the region. GBC Foundation has a Governing Board of Trustees consisting of a maximum of 35 trustees who provide oversight for the activities of the Foundation.

"We put the fun in fundraising!"



Now follow  
us on  
Facebook!

We're on the Web!  
[www.gbcnv.edu/foundation/](http://www.gbcnv.edu/foundation/)



### Seasons of Change by Our Controller, Lisa Heise

Remember your first day at a new school? Your first job? Or the moment you laid eyes on your new child? Somewhere after the thrill, it's possible you experienced another wave of emotion. Oh no! I've never done this before! What do I do! Where are the instructions?

And so it goes in the Foundation office. We are the proud owners of a new accounting software package: Microsoft Great Plains Dynamics. The accounting software package we implemented in 2000 in conjunction with the acquisition of our donor database software is meeting its demise. The

message that brings terror to the heart of users came last spring: "We will no longer be providing support for your software!" As is common, the notice came with a one-time offer to acquire new accounting software and convert our data at a very reasonable price.

Effective July 1 of this year, we began using the new software. Although we declined full-blown training with a price tag of several thousands of dollars, we have purchased a bit of targeted training. This follows hours of on-line training modules and scouring hundreds of pages of users' manuals. (I'm one of seven people

in the country who actually reads users' manuals!)

Our debits and credits are being entered as usual. Bills are being paid, and receipts are being deposited. Bank and investment statements are being reconciled. Some of the reports are a work-in-progress. But rest assured, by the time our next meeting rolls around, the reports you are accustomed to will be ready!