

LEGACY

YOUR GUIDE TO GIVING TO OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE

FALL 2016

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To learn more about gift planning at Oxy, visit oxy.edu/giftplanning

Beating the Drum for Retirement Planning

When asked why he robbed banks, the late Willie Sutton famously replied, “Because that’s where the money is.” If Sutton were alive today, surely he would have found that “the money” is in retirement vehicles.

Indeed, Americans hold trillions of dollars in retirement accounts. Much of your accumulated wealth is probably in some form of retirement plan—an employer’s pension or profit-sharing plan, or perhaps a salary deferral plan such as a 401(k) or 403(b) plan. This is because pension plans and IRAs offer tremendous opportunities for growth as contributions are deductible or excludable from income and earnings are not currently taxed! The downside comes when you or your heirs take distributions from your retirement account; these distributions are heavily taxed. The good news is that your retirement plan can



include strategies that help you make a difference by using retirement assets to make a gift. Below is a description of one of many ways to do so.

The IRA Charitable Rollover: A Unique Giving Option

IRA owners aged 70½ and over that wish to support Occidental College can make a gift through a direct tax-free transfer from your IRA to us. The amount transferred counts toward your required minimum distribution. It’s easy to do. Simply instruct your IRA custodian to make a distribution directly to

the College. Although there is no tax deduction, you receive several benefits:

- Your IRA withdrawal is not subject to federal income tax—no tax is due!
- Up to \$100,000 of your gift qualifies for this favorable tax treatment.
- Your gift makes an immediate impact.

If you own an IRA and must take required minimum distributions, the IRA Charitable Rollover is a smart giving option that avoids tax on the distribution and helps Oxy today. Please contact your Gift Planning team for additional information.

For Betsy and Ralph Perry, An Oxy Endowed Scholarship Is “A Big Positive All Around”

During Betsy Perry’s 19 years as an adjunct professor of history at Oxy, she loved the opportunity to design new courses that would be most impactful for students. In the wake of 9/11, she expanded the focus of history courses to be more inclusive of other identities and backgrounds. She designed the course Medieval Mediterranean—World Conflict in Coexistence, which allowed students to explore the impact of this period in history and our world today. She loved the opportunity to be involved with collaborative interdisciplinary teaching and treasured mutual learning from students and faculty alike.

In her classes, Betsy incorporated visits to mosques, museums, and a particular Franciscan monk who supports homeless Latino men in East L.A. “History is not dead,” she says, “and many of our legacies for the next generation can help in life and getting through college.” Her academic history is testament to her commitment to providing the unique experience of an Occidental education to students.

Betsy and her husband, Ralph, both attended school with the aid of scholarship and acknowledge the great educations they received. The Perrys understand the importance of affording students that same opportunity. Although neither attended Occidental, Betsy explains, it was Ralph who suggested setting up an endowed scholarship at the College following her retirement to honor her time at Oxy. The Perrys have continued to add to the scholarship, in addition to designating a gift to Oxy through their retirement plan.

Betsy attended Washington State University for her undergraduate degree and took a year off while applying to graduate studies at Stanford University. In that year, she worked as an airline attendant, an experience she remembers fondly. At Stanford studying history, she met her husband Ralph, a student of Harvard University and then Stanford Law School, where they fell in love. They were married and had two children. Betsy delayed finishing her master’s degree to raise her children and support Ralph while he finished his law degree. Betsy completed her Ph.D. in history at UCLA when their children were teenagers.

When setting up their scholarship, the Perrys decided to give preference to those who were first-generation college students, with an additional preference for history majors. Betsy values lunches with the scholarship recipients to grasp the extent of the impact of their philanthropy. One senior she met studied women in Nazi internment camps for her thesis.



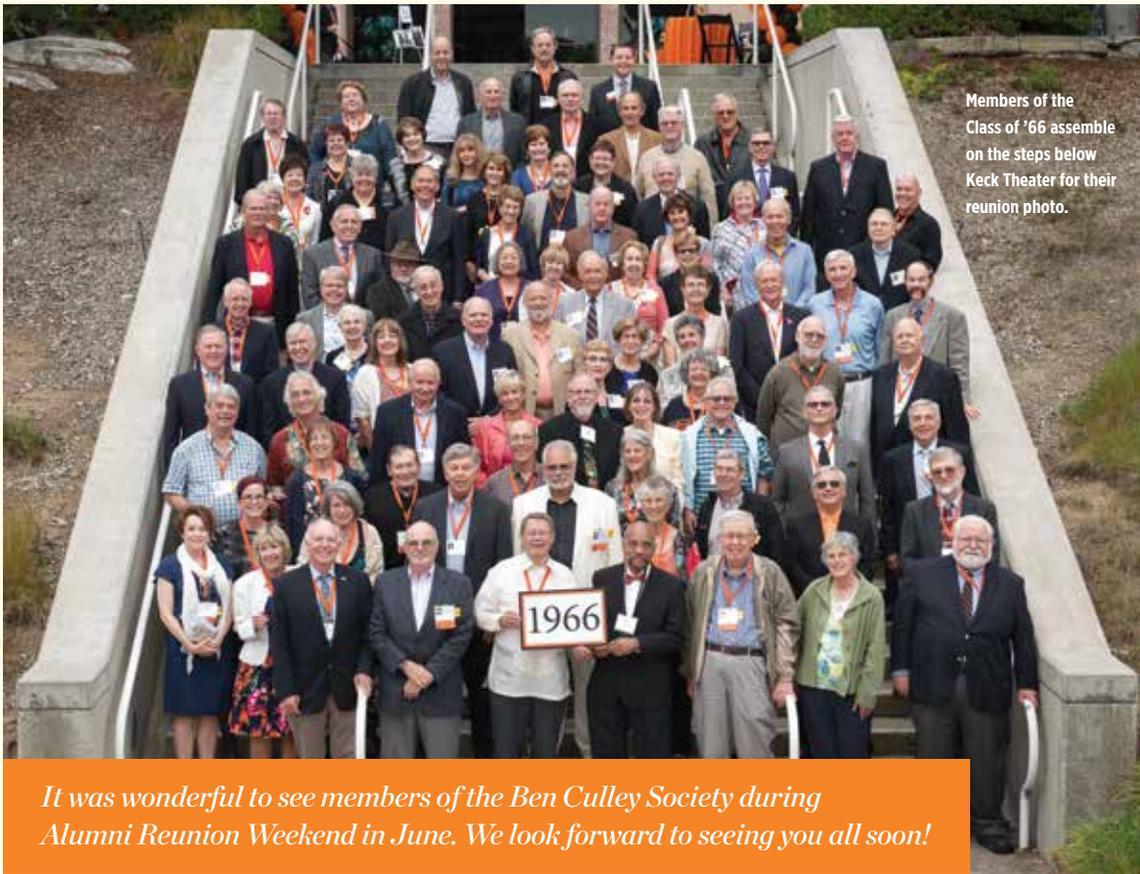
Scholarship recipient Erica Martin '10, a history major from El Paso, Texas, is flanked by Ralph and Betsy Perry at an Oxy scholarship luncheon in February 2010.

“One of the best things about history is getting in touch with the people who lived at that time,” she adds.

The author of six books and numerous articles and essays on women’s history and marginality in early modern Spain, Betsy is currently writing a novel about some of the characters that she has met through reading and research as a historian. She tries “to give them flesh and blood, and it’s really a lot of fun.” Betsy loves “digging up people who are rarely mentioned” that she refers to as “the forgotten people,” to provide a more complete picture of the time. She especially loves the underworld of Seville, where she studied as a Fulbright Scholar for a year. She brought her two children that same year to Spain—a tumultuous time for the country, during which dictator Francisco Franco died—and Ralph visited often.

The Perrys are incredibly excited for the recipients of the scholarship. “In giving, we receive,” Ralph says. Although neither Betsy nor Ralph are alumni, they are in the position to financially support the College, knowing that it is a good cause. “It’s a big positive all the way around. It is a truly wonderful feeling that you have young people who are going to get to college and stay in college and learn a whole lot about the world, and then make a contribution,” Ralph says. “Our parents didn’t have the wherewithal to afford the schools we attended, and it just simply is a wonderful feeling to be able to give back.”

Celebration



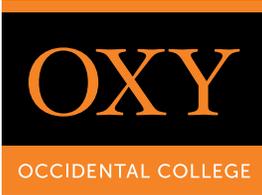
Members of the Class of '66 assemble on the steps below Keck Theater for their reunion photo.

It was wonderful to see members of the Ben Culley Society during Alumni Reunion Weekend in June. We look forward to seeing you all soon!



Clockwise from lower right: Pete Palermo '59 and wife Catherine at the Fifty Year Club luncheon; Dave Berkus '62, Doreen (Peden) Siodmak '56, and Gene Grigsby '66 prior to the luncheon; the Fifty Year Club luncheon under the big tent outside Herrick; and Oswald and Bernice (Livingston) Youtz '46, who traveled all the way from Tacoma, Wash., to represent her classmates on the occasion of their 70th reunion.

DETACH HERE



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Meet Your Gift Planning Team



Oxy's Office of Gift Planning has grown, with some new additions to the team. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any of your gift planning questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you!

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New BCS Members

It is our pleasure to welcome the newest members to the Ben Culley Society:

Susan L. Christopher '80
 Virginia A. Grogan '73
 Cynthia A. Haynes '13
 Donald F. Yokaitis '54
 Anonymous (6)

IN MEMORIAM:

Roy A. Anderson P'99
 Madeline Bayless
 John J. Barkman '60
 Joan Recklies Como '47
 Louis H. Evans '50
 Clara B. Heer '52
 & Ray W. Heer P'86
 Jean A. Hough '52
 Marcia G. O'Brien '76



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Are you on Facebook? "Like" our page, The Ben Culley Society of Occidental College. You will find photos from past BCS gatherings, updates on coming events, news articles, gift planning options, legislative updates, and more!

Questions about gift planning? Contact us: 323-259-2644 | EMAIL: giftplanning@oxy.edu | ONLINE: oxy.edu/giftplanning