

# Leading the Way

## PLNU SUPPORTERS TARGET NEW SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND CHRISTIAN MINISTRY WITH \$1.3 MILLION IN GIFTS

Last March the Board of Trustees adopted a motion to work with the university to implement plans to raise the funds needed toward the construction of a new facility for the School of Theology and Christian Ministry and the Center for Pastoral Leadership. President Bob Brower announced in late April that the university has received two lead gifts amounting to \$1.3 million for the new building.

Gary and Debbie Smee of Porterville, Calif. have pledged \$1 million as a lead gift for the new building. And Carol Entner Maddux, her husband Jack Maddux, and her brother John Entner Jr. kicked off the campaign with a generous gift of \$308,000.

Point Loma Nazarene University and Pasadena College. Gary and Debbie Smee, who own Smee Builders Inc., a construction and development company in the Porterville area, met while students at Pasadena College. They have been very active in their church, Porterville Church of the Nazarene.

"I am grateful for their leadership gift on this project and look forward to honoring them and the long history of involvement this family has with the university. Their leadership gift will be a significant help in challenging others toward this project," said Brower.

Gary Smee said that because "the focus of the campus is on spiritual matters...the religion department needs an up-to-date functioning building." He said the gift was in honor of the entire Smee family, but with a special emphasis on his grandfather and uncle.

"I was thinking of my grandfather, Roy F. Smee, who as a



**"I AM GRATEFUL FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP GIFT ON THIS PROJECT AND LOOK FORWARD TO HONORING THEM AND THE LONG HISTORY OF INVOLVEMENT THIS FAMILY HAS WITH THE UNIVERSITY. THEIR LEADERSHIP GIFT WILL BE A SIGNIFICANT HELP IN CHALLENGING OTHERS TOWARD THIS PROJECT."**

The Entner-Maddux contribution was given in memory of Carol and John's parents, John and Linnea Entner, and their aunt, John Entner Sr.'s sister Hilda Buttress. It honors the senior Entners' desire to advance the kingdom of Christ through the training of missionaries as well as to enhance the mission and ministry of Point Loma Nazarene University.

John Entner, who died in 2004 at the age of 98, was throughout his life a man of compassion as well as generosity. With a strong interest in world missions and Christian Ministry, he and Linnea, his wife of 66 years, not only supported their church but shared a desire to assist young people preparing for Christian ministry.

The couple were successful business people who valued education. John was born in 1906 of German and Austrian parents. Although he dropped out of school in the ninth grade, he believed in the value of a good education. Linnea, who preceded him in death by four years, likewise valued Christian education leading to a lifetime of Christian service.

John also encouraged his sister, Hilda Buttress, to support the university. Mrs. Buttress, who died in 2002, left her Hollywood home to PLNU through a Reserved Life Estate. Both the Entners and Mrs. Buttress left sizeable endowed scholarships by way of their wills.

Carol Entner Maddox graduated from Pasadena College in 1966. She is a retired teacher and lives in Newport, Ore. John Jr. attended Pasadena College for a year before marrying and transferring to the University of Southern California. He is a retired dentist living in Mexico.

The Smees' families go back four generations with ties to

D.S. [district superintendent] started many churches." Roy F. Smee also was behind the historic caravans of food from California's Central Valley that helped Pasadena College get through lean years during the 1930s.

Gary Smee also wanted to acknowledge his uncle, Frances L. Smee, an attorney who served the Church of the Nazarene and the university with great commitment for many years.

The Smees also were influenced by knowing that their daughter, Melinda, graduated from PLNU in 2001, and their son, Michael, a junior, plans to go into youth ministry.

Said Smee, regarding the \$1 million gift, "The Lord made it happen."

"Thank God for these generous families and their love for PLNU," said Brower. "I'm grateful for the vision they share with the university and its future." ■



Gary and Debbie Smee