Greetings from Clemson

In the spirit of Valentine’s Day, I am reminded of how much our wonderful donors do for our beloved Clemson! We are amazed and humbled by your generosity each and every day.

That spirit began early for young alums Thomas ‘10 and Lauren Cleveland ‘10, who will always consider Clemson their home away from home. Read more about the cherished memories of campus life that inspired the Cleveland’s to begin paying it forward right after graduation and to continue to consecutive giving, making them “ever-loyal” alumni donors.

Class of 1963 alums and trustees Joseph O. and Swann certainly have a heart for giving back to Clemson. He and his wife Barbara Ave “Bobbie” Swann recently provided a Cornerstone Gift of $3.3 million to Clemson Athletics. The Swann’s generous donation will go towards the Littlejohn Coliseum renovations — providing a new addition for the basketball practice court, locker room and coaches’ offices — which will be named Swann Pavilion. See photos from the gift announcement and renditions of Swann Pavilion and watch video from the announcement luncheon.

Last week the Clemson University Board of Trustees held their first quarterly meeting for 2016, and heard positive reports on admissions, capital projects, academic restructuring, and athletics. It was a time to reflect and acknowledge Clemson’s past, present and future. President Clements presented the new strategic plan, Clemson Forward, which builds upon the 2013 Read Map and will move the University into the future with even higher expectations for success. The plan is built on four key foundations: Research, Engagement, Academics and Living — creating a REAL vision for Clemson’s future.

While the board is looking toward the future, it is also important to remember our past. Last week the trustees adopted recommendations made by the Task force on the history of Clemson. This task force was appointed to develop guidelines for how we can better tell the University’s history.

In leadership news, President Clements has named Lee A. (10, 13) to serve as Clemson’s chief diversity officer (CDO) and special assistant to the president for inclusive excellence. Dr. most recently served as associate vice president for inclusion and equity, and CDO at the University of Akron. We are excited that Dr. will bring his new position on April 13.

Additionally, Brian D’Ouweil was named Clemson’s vice president for development and alumni relations and will serve in the executive leadership team reporting to President Clements. Our vice president of Institutional Advancement, Nell Cameron, has stepped aside after many years of loyal service, to focus on two critical areas for the next few months as she plans for retirement: to provide leadership to help us finish our record-breaking Will to Lead campaign by making sure we exceed the goal of $1 billion and, second, to work closely with President Clements and others to implement the restructuring and transition of the Advancement Division, Read more.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you on campus this spring. We celebrated Anna Calhoun Clement’s 25th birthday on February 13th by giving away coffee and donuts to students at the Watt Family Innovation Center. Please see photos and video of the event. We should always remember it was their land and their plan to create a high-quality learning, which is now Clemson University.

Please let us know if we can ever be of assistance to you and your family. You may visit our website, call us at 864-256-1185 or write to us at giftplanning@clemson.edu. We always enjoy hearing from you. Clemson is a very special place that is making a difference in the lives of our students, faculty, alumni and staff. We value and appreciate your continued loyalty and generosity for Clemson.

Gratefully yours,

Thank you for your interest in planned giving. To access any of our resources, please go to our website.