



Hamilton Plans

...to Benefit You and the College

Providing for Hamilton's Future

Like many alumni couples, Phil Hawkins '78 and Elizabeth Porter Hawkins K'77 share a nostalgic fondness for the College where they met. But it's looking ahead to the future that motivates them to support Hamilton.

"I enjoyed my Hamilton experience very much. Hamilton taught me lessons in learning and getting along in a community. It helped me begin to grow up," Phil recalled. "I may not have agreed with every decision made at the College over the years, but I am encouraged about what Hamilton has become. It's a place that continues to provide very relevant and meaningful opportunities to today's young people."



On the Hill, Phil studied economics and was on the swim team. A French studies major at Kirkland, Liz took most of her courses at Hamilton. During her junior year she participated in the Experiment in International Living where she served as an *assistante* teaching English in a French public school. After earning his M.B.A. at the University of Chicago, Phil began his career in corporate real estate investment. Today he is president of CarrAmerica Realty Corp., a real estate investment trust based outside of Washington, D.C. Liz continues to devote her energies to education as a volunteer and substitute teacher at the Flint Hill School.

Although Phil's career took them to several cities throughout the country over the years, the Hawkins remained connected to their roots on the Hill, serving in a variety of volunteer roles. About five years ago when the couple went through an estate-planning process, their financial advisor asked about their charitable interests. "We both felt strongly that Hamilton belonged on that list," Phil said. "To the extent that we are able, we will continue to offer our support."

Did you know?

Only 30% of U.S. citizens have a Will.

A Planning Pointer for Grandparents...

A recently released IRS private letter ruling ("PLR") stated that multi-year prepayments of tuition would not be considered a gift for tax purposes. A growing number of individuals are choosing to prepay multiple years of tuition for family members — addressing the increasing cost of education and intergenerational transfer of wealth. Please be advised a PLR is not precedent setting.

Estate Planning

One of the most precious legal rights is the opportunity to distribute property in accordance with one's wishes. Regardless of your age, establishing a Will is one of the wisest investments you will ever make in terms of money management and peace of mind.

Under your Will, you can determine exactly who will receive what and make arrangements keyed to the unique needs of each of your heirs. *Particularly for younger individuals, important planning objectives can be accomplished with a carefully drafted Will including:*

Continuing Family Income — It takes time before the family begins to receive income from the estate. You can provide your spouse with monthly income that will commence immediately and continue until other income begins to flow or a distribution is made from the estate.

Guardianship for Minors — When you have minor children, you can name a guardian who has the power to act in the best interests of your children.

Estate Administration — You can designate a qualified executor to collect, manage and distribute your assets in accordance with your wishes. It is usually wise to name an alternate executor as well, one who can serve should your first choice be unavailable.



Joel Bristol Associates of Hamilton College

Hamilton honors planned gift donors or anyone who has made an estate plan provision in favor of the College with membership in the Joel Bristol Associates. Please advise the College if you have included Hamilton in your estate plan or completed a planned gift so you may be recognized as a Joel Bristol Associate.

Estate Preparedness

Major tax legislation enacted in 2001 presents significant challenges (and opportunities) for individuals looking at the tax implications of their estate plans. Increases in the amount exempt from federal estate taxes, reduction in the income and estate tax rates and the scheduled repeal of the estate tax entirely in 2010 *make it imperative that you review your plans with your advisors periodically.* In 2011, the rates and exemptions revert to the 2001 tax law.

If you would like to receive a copy of the Fall 2001 *Hamilton Plans* which addresses estate tax law changes, please return the enclosed reply card.

Gifts Through Your Estate Plan

Each year thousands of individuals designate that a portion of their assets be used for the benefit and support of charitable organizations. Estate plan gifts enable a person to make significant contributions which may not have been possible during one's lifetime. You may exercise your privilege to determine the final distribution of your estate, including a provision for Hamilton and other organizations of importance to you. Philanthropic bequests provide personal satisfaction and associated federal tax benefits.

Estate plan gifts can be tailored to meet your own specific personal and financial objectives. For example, you can express your bequest as a percentage of your estate or a specific dollar amount. A percentage bequest is an excellent method of protecting your intended beneficiaries in the event of a reduction in the size of your estate.

If you would like additional information about providing for Hamilton through your estate plan or are interested in receiving sample Will language, please return the enclosed reply card or contact Ben Madonia '74 or Joni Chizzonite via email at bmadonia@hamilton.edu or jchizzon@hamilton.edu, or by phone at 866-729-0317.

For information about planned gifts, please go to www.hamilton.edu/alumni/plannedgiving/.