

# Drawing Energy From His Fellow YPOers

*From Willard Garvey: An Epic Life by Maura McEnaney.*

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**A**LTHOUGH HE LOVED THE BOHEMIAN CLUB and other fraternal organizations, Willard Garvey admitted that some of his and [his wife] Jean's happiest memories involved their participation in the Young Presidents Organization (YPO).

Today an international organization of 16,000 members in more than a hundred countries around the world, YPO got its start in 1950 when Rochester, N.Y., belt maker Ray Hickock invited 50 executives for lunch at New York City's Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Hickock, a free enterprise advocate who took over the reins of his father's belt-making business at age 27, admitted he was often too embarrassed to ask basic questions of his senior executives and sought guidance from others in the same predicament.

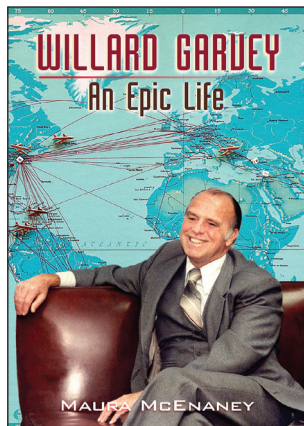
The YPOers, Willard said, were men and women "of principle and in intellect, moral fiber and performance far superior to the presidents I have known." Willard drew energy from the success of his fellow YPO members. Friends from the group included investment financier and philanthropist John Templeton, textile heir

and former Secretary of Defense Bo Callaway, Motorola President Bob Galvin, Duke University School of Business benefactor J.B. Fuqua, Tulsa oilman and philanthropist Walter Helmerich, convenience store owner Dillard Munford, and publisher John Hartman.

For more than 30 years, the men stayed connected, aging out of YPO and moving on together to become members of the Chief Executives Organization, or meeting every few years for a hunting excursion at Garvey's sprawling ranch north of Winnemucca, Nevada.

Being among some of the wealthiest and most powerful businessmen in the country gave Willard great comfort in knowing he was not alone; there were other men like

him who wanted success beyond what their fathers could provide. Through them, he would be introduced to new business prospects, new friends, and even once, a new country.



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**Maura McEnaney** has been a business writer and editor at Bloomberg News and regional daily and weekly newspapers and trade publications over a more than 30-year career in journalism.