

/ lewsletter

May 2020 • Working Hard to Serve You

Celebration raises EGSC Alumni Scholarship funds

Homecoming Week 2020 was celebrated by East Georgia State College alumni and friends with a big party that raised money for EGSC Alumni Association Scholarships. Our Roaring into the Twenties Alumni and Friends Celebration was the first alumni fundraiser of its kind at EGSC, and it will make a difference to our scholarship recipients.

Held at the Sudie A Fulford Center on our Swainsboro campus on Saturday, February 22, 2020, the last night of Homecoming Week 2020 at EGSC, the Roaring into the Twenties theme of the party brought out many guests in their 1920's outfits. Vintage Prohibition Era cocktails were offered such



as The Bees Knees and The Last Word, and non-alcoholic drinks were offered, as well. Pictures from the event can be viewed at the link: https://www.flickr.com/photos/egcpr/albums/72157713238702521

Food was plentiful, and the music was live and played by EGSC alumni and current faculty, staff, and students. There was a photobooth, a scavenger hunt, and the part of the party that made a real difference: the silent auction.

Many businesses, alumni, and friends of EGSC donated items for the silent auction, and we thank them so much for it. A list of donations will be included at the end of this article.

In the end, all the food, drinks, decorations, musicians, and staff to serve the food and drinks were paid for by selling tickets to the event for \$25 each, and the silent auction items raised the money for the Alumni Association Scholarships. Our goal was to raise \$1000. We raised over \$1100.

It is something to be proud of, alumni. Many of you came to the event or bought tickets even if you could not come that night. Those EGSC Alumni Association Scholarships only go to family members of our alumni, and it was a beautiful thing to see our alumni helping our current students who have now become part of our EGSC family themselves.

This is the first year we were able to have the scholarships, which were started by the generosity of our EGSC Alumni Association president, Matt Donaldson, and our EGSC Alumni Association vice-president, Lisa Bertoch. There were 24 applicants for the first two scholarships. As you can see, there is a need to raise this money.

The hope for this party was two-fold. One, get our alumni together for something fun during Homecoming. Two, raise some money for the EGSC Alumni Association Scholarships. It was fun, well attended, and we raised our goal to support our scholarships. I am so proud of you, alumni! THANK YOU!

JAM Center addition almost complete, grand opening delayed

The student center at East Georgia State College, named for our tremendous benefactor Jean A. Morgan and affectionately known at the JAM Center, has undergone an extensive addition that includes updated and expanded dining areas and bookstore, space for student government, meeting and study space, and areas for recreation and socializing.

Construction was delayed by a few weeks as a large generator was added to the plan, which will allow dining services and other essential operations to continue to take place in case of widespread electrical outages, such as during hurricanes.

The grand opening has been postponed until construction is completed, and now it will be delayed until the college is back open to regular activities, which have had to be curtailed as classes go online and most of the college staff and faculty work from home due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

A new date for the grand opening will be scheduled as soon as possible, and all alumni are invited to come and see our new addition when we do.

COVID-19 causes changes at EGSC

In an effort to protect all students, faculty and staff from the potential threat of the COVID-19 virus, all classes for the remainder of the spring and summer 2020 semesters will be continued online. Business at the college is continuing, and support for our school community is plentiful. Faculty, staff and students are being given the assistance they need to continue to thrive in these unusual circumstances.

The school is not shut down, but entrance to the campuses is extremely limited at this time. Most faculty and staff are working from home, and most students are moving out of the dorms. As much as we normally welcome our alumni onto campus, please do not

come to campus at this time.

While there have so far been no reported cases of anyone associated with East Georgia State College having the illness, the school is following the recommendations of the University System of Georgia, the body which governs all public Georgia colleges.

Spring graduation is cancelled at this time. We are already thinking of ways to honor our graduates, but we cannot risk the health and safety of anyone, no matter how much we wish we could hold the celebration as anticipated.

All EGSC alumni events are cancelled for the foreseeable future. All EGSC sporting events are cancelled until further notice. The gym and Fitness Center are closed, as is the Sudie A. Fulford Center.

For the few students who are still in dorms and the essential staff that need to be on campus to make the college run, meals are still being delivered, and health services are still available to students on campus. Our police are still on campus and are carefully monitoring who comes onto the campus.

Our school leadership is strong. Getting our college, our community and our students through this unprecedented and challenging time is our number one priority. We will all adapt, and we will carry on.

Stay safe, alumni!

Thank you to our donors!

Silent Auction donors for Alumni & Friends Celebration 2020

The EGSC Alumni Association would like to thank these people and businesses for their support.

Many of them are alumni or have ties to alumni!

- 1. TC Outdoors in Statesboro donated a \$25 gift card and a t-shirt
- 2. Mitch Hall of Kwik Shop in Swainsboro donated a \$40 gift certificate
- 3. Shaye Davis of Gifts Galore in Swainsboro donated a Charles River rain jacket
- 4. Jodi Farrow Jarvis of Golden Girls Spray Tanning in Swainsboro donated two spray tans
- 5. Bernie's in Swainsboro donated two \$50 gift cards, total \$100 gift cards
- 6. Barb Moore donated a case of wine from Watermelon Creek Vineyards
- 7. Karen Guthrie, EGSC Alumni and Development Coordinator, donated 4 glazed flower pots
- 8. Zrinka Dunn of ZD Artisan Jewelry donated a handmade silver and moonstone necklace
- 9. Anderson's in Statesboro donated a June Marie necklace and a Southern Fried Cotton baseball cap
- Dr. Robert Boehmer, EGSC President, donated 10 bags of coffee he personally roasted for the occasion

- 11. Mark Williams Studio in Swainsboro donated a portrait and mini photography session
- 12. RJ Pope of Statesboro donaed a Vineyard Vines polo shirt
- 13. Happy's of Swainsboro donated a \$50 gift certificate
- 14. Coleman House Inn of Swainsboro donated a gift certificate for 2 Sunday buffets
- 15. Dr. John Derden, EGSC professor, donated a handmade boomerang and a signed book he wrote about Camp Lawton
- 16. Dr. David Chevalier, EGSC professor, donated a swamp chestnut tree with metal sign to be planted on the EGSC campus
- 17. Whitney Farmer of Wrens Boutique in Swainsboro donated a candle, earrings, and a gift certificate
- 18. Swainsboro Supply donated a Blackstone Griddle
- 19. Marshilla Oliver donated two hand dipped cups
- 20. Olive Garden in Statesboro donated a \$25 gift certificate
- 21. Eagle Creek Brewery in Statesboro donated a \$30 gift certificate

- 22. Cracker Barrell in Statesboro donated dinner for two
- 23. Tillman, Brannen & Minick in Statesboro donated a bird house
- 24. Michael Womack and Missy Douglas of Main Street Styles in Swainsboro donated a basket of beauty products
- 25. Ann Rogers of Initials, Inc. in Swainsboro donated a make up travel bag and purse
- 26. Elizabeth Gilmer, EGSC Institutional Advancement Vice President, donated a Vera Bradley throw blanket
- 27. Sara Young, EGSC Communication Specialist and alumna, donated handmade jewelry and a hand decorated ink pen
- 28. Jim Roberts of Southern Traditions Floral and Gifts in Swainsboro donated a wreath
- 29. Kristie Irvin and Beverly Lawson of Southern Sisters in Swainsboro donated a Swig cup
- 30. The honey bees of Bobcat Apiary on the Swainsboro campus donated two jars of honey
- 31. Dori Johnson of Dot's

- Boutique in Swainsboro donated a purse
- 32. Brandi Jukes of Changes Salon in Swainsboro donated a basket of Aveda salon products
- 33. Missy Mills of RAW Rare Finds and Designs in Swainsboro donated a refinished table
- 34. Ashley Dunmire of Shop Rite Pharmacy and Gift in Swainsboro donated a decorative picture
- 35. Adam and Angel Lane of Lane Brothers Auctions in Swainsboro donated a gas powered leaf blower
- 36. Jesse Meadows of The George's Flower Shop in Swainsboro donated a pheasant platter with a stand
- 37. The EGSC Department of Institutional Advancement and the EGSC Alumni Association donated a gift bag full of great EGSC swag that included a EGSC clock, flag, t-shirts, handmade EGSC coffee mug, and Bobcat Fuel coffee by Jittery Joe's.

We truly, deeply, sincerely thank you each one of you. You made a difference!

