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!

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 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!
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 Statesboro donated a $40 gift certificate
3. Shaye Davis of Gifts Galore in Statesboro donated a $50 gift certificate
5. Bernie’s in Statesboro donated $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
10. Dr. Robert Boehmer, EGSC President, donated coffee he personally roasted for the occasion
11. Mark Williams Studio in Statesboro donated a portrait and mini photography session
12. RJ Pope of Statesboro donated a Vineyard Vines polo shirt
13. Happy’s of Statesboro donated a $50 gift certificate
14. Coleman House Inn of Statesboro 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 Statesboro donated a candle, earrings, and a gift certificate
18. Swainsboro Supply donated a Blackstone Griddle
19. Merry Marshall of East Georgia donated hand-decorated mugs and a gift certificate
20. Olive Garden in Statesboro donated a $25 gift certificate
21. Eagle Creek Brewery in Statesboro donated a $30 gift certificate
22. Cracker Barrel in Statesboro donated dinner for two
23. Tillman, Brannten & Minick in Statesboro donated a bird house
24. Michael Womack and Missy Douglas of Main Street Styles in Statesboro donated a basket of beauty products
25. Ann Rogers of Initials, Inc. in Statesboro 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 Statesboro donated a wreath
29. Kristie Irvin and Beverly Lawson of Southern Sisters in Statesboro donated a Swig cup
30. The honey bees of Bobcat Apiary on the Statesboro campus donated two jars of honey
31. Dori Johnson of Dot’s Boutique in Statesboro donated a purse
32. Brandi Jukes of Changes Salon in Statesboro donated a basket of Aveda salon products
33. Missy Mills of RAW Rare Finds and Designs in Statesboro donated a decorative picture
34. Ashley Dunmire of Shop Rite Pharmacy and Gift in Statesboro donated a decorative picture
35. Adam and Angel Lane of Lane Brothers Auctions in Statesboro donated a gas powered leaf blower
36. Jesse Meadows of The George’s Flower Shop in Statesboro 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 an 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!