

This is copy of our Alumni Newsletter that is sent monthly to our Alumni.

If you wish to receive these emails, please let us know at alumni@jsu.edu



April 2025 Edition

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FEATURED EVENTS



March was a thrilling month for Gamecock basketball, featuring the CUSA Championship game, an exciting National Invitation Tournament (NIT) victory over Georgia Tech, and more action-packed moments keeping fans on the edge of their seats.

We enjoyed **a fun alumni Gamecock Gathering on the rooftop at Rhythm on Monroe** before watching the Gamecocks compete in the CUSA Championship game against Liberty.

Just a few days later, the Gamecock family **gathered at The Varsity for a pregame event prior to Jax State's inaugural appearance in the National Invitational Tournament**. The win over Georgia Tech marked the first NIT victory in the school's history and the 600th career win for head coach Ray Harper.

UPCOMING EVENTS



If you love baseball, connecting with other Gamecocks, and celebrating, April is the month you've been waiting for. Mark your calendars and join us for these exciting opportunities to stay connected with Jax State alumni and friends!

- **Grand Slam Series:** Come spend several nights at the ballpark as we watch the Chattanooga Lookouts, Nashville Sounds, Rome Emperors, and wrap up the series with the Atlanta Braves! **Find out when we will be close to you, and register to join us.**

- **Nash Bash, April 12:** Meet fellow Gamecocks in Music City! Kick off the day with a rooftop brunch at the Twelve Thirty Club, then continue the fun with a stop at the Gamecock Grand Slam Series tour featuring the Nashville Sounds. **Don't miss out! Register here.**

- **Alumni Shrimp Boil and Football Spring Game, April 17:** The Alumni Association and Calhoun County Alumni Network will host the 19th Annual Alumni Shrimp Boil at the JSU Ticket Plaza from 4:30-6 PM. After the event, head over to AmFirst Stadium for Jax State Football's Spring Game at 6 PM. **The first 300 people to register will receive our coveted Shrimp Boil t-shirts.**

- **Graduate Toast, April 30:** Graduates, along with their friends and family, are invited to join us in celebrating the Spring Class of 2025's upcoming graduation! **Register for the Graduate Toast**, which will be held at the University Recreation and Fitness Center's outdoor patio from 4:30 - 5:45 PM, with a champagne toast by Jax State Administration at 5:15 PM

[Click here](#) to learn more and register for future events as they become available.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



April is Donate Life Month, and in our upcoming *GEM of the Hills Alumni Magazine*, you'll read the story of two alumni who reconnected at just the right time for life to go on.

Jimmy Carder and Dan Jagoe's friendship goes back to the early 1980s when both were members of Sigma Nu Fraternity at Jax State. They kept track of each other after graduation, but an unexpected reunion in the potato chip aisle of their local Kroger revealed that they were nearly neighbors, with both now living in Cumming, Ga.

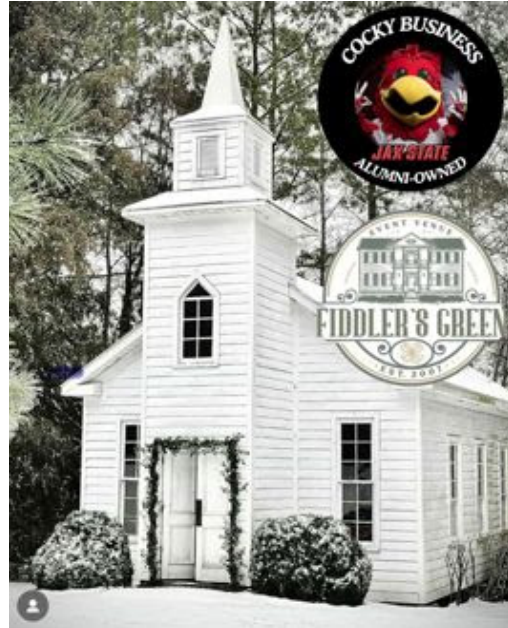
Pretty soon, they started getting together every month for breakfast, or as they called it, "Biscuit with a Brother," at Fagan's Biscuit Barn, where they talked about family, football, work, and Sigma Nu. These meetings started with "How's it goin'?" and answered with a "Fine." The way old friends do.

That was until one day in 2022 when the tone of their casual conversation changed. Dan wasn't doing fine. "I need to talk to you about something that's going on in my life," he said. Dan was in kidney failure. So far, the only person Dan told was his wife, and now Jimmy.

"My kidneys were failing, and my biggest fear was going on dialysis," Dan said. "I wasn't feeling good. I was fighting, but the only thing that could help me was if someone donated a kidney. I needed a miracle."

Learn more about that miracle in the upcoming *GEM of the Hills Alumni Magazine*.

COCKY BUSINESS



Chris and Heather Dempsey's love for Jax State runs as deep as the roots of the hundred-plus-year-old trees scattered throughout Fiddler's Green. Established in 2007, Fiddler's Green consists of eight venues situated on 40 acres in northern Calhoun County, Alabama, and it would be difficult to pinpoint the best part of what the Dempseys have built. From our vantage point, however, it's that they are both alumni of Jax State. **Read their *Cocky Business* story here** and **submit your own *Cocky Business* to be featured** in one of our upcoming newsletters here!

ALUMNI CONNECTION



DID YOU KNOW...?

The Jax State Alumni Connection is **the way** you stay connected to us! We have many incredible engagement opportunities for our alumni this spring, and we don't want you to miss a thing. When you update your information in our alumni connection portal, we'll know the best ways to share information about events you'll enjoy being a part of. **Simply click here** to get started and connect with your fellow Jax State alumni in one convenient location. You're just a few clicks away from reconnecting and reminiscing about your days on the Friendliest Campus in the South!

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



The deadline for Alumni of the Year Awards is here! You have just three short weeks remaining to nominate Alumnus, Alumna, Young Alum, and Military Alumnus/Alumna of the Year.

If you know a Jax State graduate who has experienced outstanding achievement in their profession, community service, and/or civic activities, please nominate them for this prestigious award. **For details on nomination requirements for Alumnus, Alumna and Young Alum awards, click here.**

Please visit the **ROTC Network website for nomination criteria for the Military Alumnus/Alumna of the Year.**

Nominations should be sent to the Network VP or any Network Officer/Director as listed on website.

GROWING GAMECOCKS



Spring is here, the sun is shining, and the future is bright for our Growing Gamecocks!

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



In addition to all the action-packed **basketball matchups**, March was filled with many deserving **alumni spotlights** on our social media. We are in the final stages of establishing a **Men's Basketball Alumni**

Once your Growing Gamecock has been admitted to Jax State, they are eligible for a one-year, non-renewable Growing Gamecock Scholarship. **Click here** to get the details and enroll the Growing Gamecocks in your life. All Growing Gamecocks are encouraged to enroll, from ages 0 to 18!

Network, and in the beginning stages of establishing an **Ambassador Alumni Network** as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the program.

Be sure to visit our **Facebook page** and **Instagram** to catch up on anything you missed, and don't forget to follow us while you're there!

COMING TO THE ROC



Jax State has long been recognized as a birthplace of outstanding musicians and performers, chief among them Mr. Randy Owen. This month, the roof goes on the ROC.

From concert hall seats to classrooms and offices, there are multiple ways to give and leave your mark on this state-of-the-art facility.

GAMECOCKS GIVE BACK



Follow the **Jax State Office for Philanthropy** to see how generosity transforms lives! From student scholarships to groundbreaking programs, philanthropy is shaping the future at Jax State, and YOU can be part of it.

Stay updated on donor stories, giving opportunities, and the incredible impact of giving back **on their Facebook page.**

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