



***February 2025 Edition***

DR. WENDY CASH  
DIRECTOR,  
ALUMNI  
ENGAGEMENT  
256-782-5405  
WCASH@JSU.EDU



BRITTANY WHITE  
ASST. DIRECTOR,  
ALUMNI  
ENGAGEMENT  
256-782-8256  
BHWHITE@JSU.EDU



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**FEATURED EVENTS**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**



Legends returned to campus on Saturday, January 18, as we welcomed back basketball alumni from prior decades, culminating in a halftime recognition of all teams, with special acknowledgement of the the 1985 Div. II National Champions, honoring their 40th anniversary of winning the title. **Check out photos from the reunion [here](#).**

The **Jax State Softball reunion** was held on Saturday, February 1, with more than 175 softball alumni, former coaches and staff, and their families in attendance. The reunion, which happens every 5 years, offered an opportunity to reconnect with former players and coaches. Special to the program this year was the announcement of the Jana McGinnis Endowed Scholarship, honoring long-time award-winning Coach Jana McGinnis, who retired this past fall. **Keep an eye out for the details in our March newsletter, arriving in your inboxes on March 4.**



The cold of January is behind us, and we are welcoming February and the opportunities it will bring for us to love on our Gamecock family! Be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming events.

- The **Women's Basketball Reunion** is **February 15**. You're invited to celebrate the teams of the past and cheer on our current Lady Gamecocks as they take on the Louisiana Tech Bulldogs at 2:30 pm.
- Our **Jax State Softball team will be taking on the University of Alabama** at the **Rocket City Softball Showcase** on **Wednesday, February 19, at 6:30 pm**. If you are near Madison, Alabama, we encourage you to get your **showcase tickets** and join us for a **Gamecock Gathering from 5:30-6:30 pm at the Rock Porch at Toyota Field**. Food and beverage/concessions will be on your own, but we will cheer our Gamecocks on to victory together!
- **Save the date for the CUSA Basketball Championship, March 11-15 at Propst Arena in Huntsville, Alabama**. We are looking forward to a **Gamecock Gathering at Rhythm on Monroe prior to this exciting event!** More information to follow once gametimes have been released.

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

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**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

**COCKY BUSINESS**



"I love them like they're my own." That is a sentiment we hear often from educators, but rarely does one get the opportunity to support that claim in the ways Hilary Hadley ('21, '23) has. **Read what this two-time graduate of Jax State has contributed to Coosa Valley Elementary School in just four short years of teaching.**



Mary-Julia (MJ) Stephens ('92) attributes her business success to the roots and habits she established at Jax State, especially when it comes to getting out of her comfort zone, and she offers advice to current students in light of her success. **Read how she and her team are raising the bar and inspiring confidence, one tuxedo at a time.**

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## ALUMNI CONNECTION



**DID YOU KNOW...?** You can search Jax State Alumni Connection by your year of graduation. **Simply click the Alumni Connection bar at the top of this page** to get started and connect to 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



**Nominations are now open for our 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. ROTC nominations should be sent to the Network VP or any Network Officer/Director as listed on the website.

## GROWING GAMECOCKS



Let Cockey send your Growing Gamecock a gift each year on their birthday. Alumni, family, and friends can enroll their child in the program to receive annual gifts or birthday cards on or around the child's birthday each year. [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!

## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



In January, we began **social media spotlights to recognize alumni** who have received special awards, honors and achievements recognized by media outlets locally, nationally and internationally. We also enjoyed a **snow day** on campus for the first time in quite a while. Visit our [Facebook page](#) and [Instagram](#) to catch up on anything you missed, and be sure to follow us, too.

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## COMING TO THE ROC



The bones of the balcony have been put into place, and there are still opportunities to name seats in the concert hall or pews in the recital hall in memory or honor of someone.

For more information, visit <https://www.jsu.edu/roc/give/seats-bricks.html> or call **Joseph Munster** at 256.782.8261.

## GAMECOCKS GIVE BACK



The countdown is on! Jax State's Day of Giving is coming up on **February 22nd!** In honor of our founding in 1883, we're calling on alumni to support the colleges, programs, and scholarships that shape our students' futures.

For 141 years, Jax State alumni have paved the way for future generations—now it's your turn to continue that legacy. You can designate your gift to the area that means the most to you or contribute to the **1883 Fund**, which supports the university's greatest needs. Every donation, no matter the size, helps create opportunities and ensures the success of future Gamecocks.

Mark your calendar and get ready to make a difference! Give at [jsu.edu/givejsu](https://jsu.edu/givejsu).  
#WhyWeAsk #WhyYouGive

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