

A Collection of Good Works by Pensacola State College Foundation

# COMPENDIUM

Winter  
2012



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# Foundation President's Message



Margaret Stopp  
Foundation President

Recently the U.S. Department of Education listed Pensacola State College as one of the best values in public education. The college ranked in the top one percent in the DOE's College Affordability and Transparency annual report. Of more than 5,000 colleges surveyed, Pensacola State ranked 11<sup>th</sup> in lowest public tuition.

Affordability is certainly important, but "best value" more accurately portrays the college's role in the community. Small classes, professors who know their students by name, top-notch programs that lead to competitive jobs, classrooms outfitted with the latest technology — these are just a few things that add value to an education at Pensacola State.

When we invest our resources in Pensacola State College, we become shareholders in keeping it a "best value."

Our gifts can establish scholarships that open the door to a college education for students who may have had the door slammed shut by the nation's stressed economy and high unemployment. Scholarships give students the opportunity to pursue their dreams — a value that can't be measured in dollars.

Our generosity can bring nationally acclaimed artists, musicians and speakers to campus, providing experiences these students might never have otherwise. Giving students a window to the world provides a level of learning that surpasses the boundaries of tuition.

I am honored to take the helm of the Foundation Board of Governors and continue the vision of keeping Pensacola State a "best value" for Northwest Florida. All of us who support Pensacola State are indebted to immediate past president Pam Caddell and outgoing board members for their years of dedication and leadership which helped increase the Foundation's ability to provide educational opportunities that enrich our community.

In the coming year, I look forward to engaging the talents of all of the Board of Governors — past and present — in supporting the college. As you consider year-end giving, please join us in our efforts to keep Pensacola State the "best value" for our community.

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**On the cover:** "Giant Egg Omelet #6" by Mark Alan Francis was featured in "Rituals," a photo exhibition at the Switzer Gallery.

## COMPENDIUM

The award-winning Compendium is published for alumni and friends of Pensacola State College.

### NEED INFORMATION? PLEASE CALL!

College Development and Foundation staff are here to assist you. You may reach us at 850-484-1560.

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*The Pensacola State College Foundation Inc. is a private, non-profit corporation that has been established to encourage, solicit, receive and administer gifts and bequests of property and funds for benefit of the college and college activities. The Foundation is administered by a board of governors made up of members of the community who have an interest in the college.*

*The Foundation promotes the annual giving program of the college and solicits funds for various projects which the college cannot otherwise fund. In addition, donations are sought for scholarships and other worthwhile projects which assist Pensacola State College and its students. As a tax-assisted institution, Pensacola State College cannot meet all needs with state and student support. The Foundation assists in obtaining private support to supplement college budgets. The Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax deductible non-profit corporation and a direct support organization chartered by the state of Florida to provide private support to the college.*



# Capturing Life's Rituals

Fifty-one stunning, color-saturated prints turned the Anna Lamar Switzer Center for Visual Arts Gallery into a visually rollicking festival Aug. 20–Oct. 5.

“Rituals,” the gallery’s opening show this season, featured the newest work by Mark Alan Francis, associate professor of photography at Pensacola State College. Francis completed his three-year project as the recipient of the Switzer Endowed Teaching Chair established by the Switzer and Reilly families.

Francis traveled the United States on weekends to eclectic community festivals to capture the eye-grabbing images that compose “Rituals.”

“I targeted events with unique characters, colors and performers at heart,” Francis said.

Pensacola’s own “Blue Angels Homecoming Show,” San Francisco’s “Bring Your Own Big Wheel Race” and the “5,000 Egg Giant Omelet Celebration” in Abbeville, La. are among the events he photographed.

Vivian Spencer, Switzer Gallery director, describes “Rituals” as “an exciting and visionary project.”

“The Switzer Endowed Teaching Chair not only helps teachers expand as artists, it impacts the classroom experience for the students, which is the whole idea behind the endowments,” Spencer said.

From top: Dragon \*Con #2, Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta  
5,000 Egg Giant Omelet Celebration, Abbeville, La.  
Mark Francis at work, *Photo by Todd Bertolaot*  
Holi, Festival of Colors #3, Spanish Fork, UT



# Scholarship Spotlight

## Scholarships and Pizza

Pensacola State students receiving Universal/Cox Scholarships and Universal/Sansing Scholarships were welcomed to the fall semester with pizza parties in September. Mellow Mushroom donated pizza, salad and drinks for both events.

At each event, scholarship recipients enjoyed meeting their benefactors and sharing how the Universal scholarships play a crucial role in their ability to afford a college education.

Although their circumstances are different, the students agreed that Universal scholarships often make the difference in going to college — or not. Universal scholarships can go to students who fall through the gaps of traditional financial aid.

“Universal scholarships are our greatest needs scholarships. They benefit students beginning college, returning to college, studying in any field,” said Sherry Halford, Foundation development specialist. “Universal scholarships are good for the students and good for the community.”



Cox Communications pizza lunch, from left: Keith Gregory, Cox Communications vice president and general manager; Danny Tran; Jimmy Pham; Student Affairs Vice President Tom Gilliam; Brett Minor; Emily Bickerstaff; Jeff deGroot; Samantha Fowler; Julia Giles; Beverly Simpson; David Bradley; Kristina Bradley; President Ed Meadows; David Deliman, Cox Communications representative; and Patrice Whitten, executive director, Alumni Affairs and Special Assistant to the President.

Right: Cox Communications reps, Keith Gregory and David Deliman get to know the students benefiting from Universal scholarships.

*Photos by Bill White*



Top photo: Universal/Sansing Scholarship recipients (from back) Heaven Emerich, David Truong, Kristine Pham and Alcuin Alexander.

Bottom: Keith Simmons, scholarship recipient, chats with Sandy Sansing.



## Florida College System Foundation Benefits Students

Pensacola State received \$23,365 from three scholarship programs: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship, Dream Makers Scholarship, and Helios Education Foundation First Generation Scholars. All three are endowments established through the Florida College System Foundation.

Florida Blue presented \$10,600 to fund student scholarships in the areas of Nursing and Allied Health.

The Dream Maker Scholarship, established by Bank of America, donated \$3,887 for first generation students to cover tuition, books, fees and child care.

The Helios Education Foundation contributed \$8,878 for first generation students who are preparing to become teachers in Florida.

In 2011-2012, 63 Pensacola State students received scholarships through these programs.



From left, President Ed Meadows, Board of Trustees Chair Ed Moore, Foundation President Margaret Stopp, Florida College System Foundation Chair Catherine Kelly, and Florida College System Chancellor Randall Hanna.

*Photo by Michelle Dycus*

# Go Pirates! Be a Booster!

Ahoy, me Hearties!

Pensacola State Pirates — athletes, coaches and fans — jumped ship at Seville Quarter in September for a bounty of food, fun and discovering the revamped Pirate Booster Club.

Joining the Pirate Booster Club is an exciting way to support Pensacola State athletics.

“Your participation in this special group will ensure that our student athletes and coaches have the needed funds for everything from tournament travel to a cheering squad to rally them to success, on and off the field,” notes Athletic Director Bill Hamilton.

For a donation of \$100 or more, Pirate Club members receive benefits including a t-shirt, free preferred seating access to all sporting events for the member and a guest, great food and more.

“Your contribution will help current Pirates reach their goals, build the pride that former Pirates have for our college and most importantly, assist us greatly in attracting those Pirates of the future,” Hamilton said.

For more information, call Hamilton at 850-484-1304.

Top: Mascot Pirate Pete with cheerleaders Harley Harvell (left) and Tori Reed

Taylor Linton, volleyball, and Roy Moulder, baseball

*Photos by Michelle Dycus*

Basketball players (from left) Milton Geddes, Kent Langham and Kristen Dickerson

Athletic trainer Deb Lee

Coaches Dewayne Kelley, Doug Rogers and Jacob Knoth

Women’s basketball Coach Leah Drury, Pirate fan Dona Usry, and Athletic Director Bill Hamilton



# South Baldwin Health Foundation has Rx for Alabama Students

When Becky Brooks' husband had a liver transplant a few years ago, she saw the excellent health care he received and was motivated to begin a career in nursing.

"I started the pre-requisite classes for nursing on Pensacola State's Warrington campus," Brooks says. "However, I was struggling with finances and did not qualify for most financial aid because I am an Alabama resident. I was afraid I could not finish my degree."

Thanks to South Baldwin Health Foundation's scholarship program that specifically helps students living in Baldwin County, Alabama, Brooks did not give up her dream of becoming a nurse.

"I am so thrilled to have this scholarship," says Brooks, who lives in Lillian. "It has inspired me to eventually get my BSN and master's degree so that I can be a transplant coordinator or work with children."

"I just want to help others like I have been helped."

South Baldwin Health Foundation Board member, Dr. Gaylon McCollough, says the scholarship program was created in part to alleviate the shortage of health care professionals in Baldwin County.

*"This scholarship has helped tremendously by letting me concentrate on making A's rather than worrying about finances."*

— Kevin Geri, Nursing student

"We want to improve health care by encouraging local students to get the education and training needed and then work in Baldwin County," says Dr. McCollough.

The SBHF scholarship covers two years and averages \$7,800 for each Alabama student who qualifies at Pensacola State. Scholarship recipients agree to work in Baldwin for two years following graduation.

Marla Magaha, a Lillian resident, will graduate next August and is already contacting potential employers in Baldwin County.

"I am excited about working and being able to give back to the community," Magaha says. "I love the medical field and want to work in labor and delivery. But, I fell through the cracks for scholarships because I'm not a Florida resident."

"I am so grateful for this scholarship."

Lillian resident Kevin Geri agrees.

"This scholarship has helped tremendously by letting me concentrate on making A's rather than worrying about finances," Geri says. "I look forward to working in Baldwin after graduation."

According to SBHF board member Charlotte Henderson, the scholarships originally were available only for colleges in Alabama, but the board wanted to broaden the opportunities for students.

"We recognized that Pensacola State College was also important to us and we wanted to offer this scholarship to Alabama students going there," Henderson says. "It is important to provide scholarships for those who work hard to go to college."

Dr. McCollough, an internationally renowned plastic surgeon, has worked with Pensacola State students for several years at the McCollough Institute in Gulf Shores, Ala.

"The Pensacola State students who have come for externships and clinicals have been exceptional," he says. "They come well prepared and I have been impressed with their skills and level of learning."

SBHF board member Arthur Holk sees the scholarship program as a long-term investment in quality health care for Baldwin County.

"We are proud that this is contributing to the betterment of our community," Holk says. "When you help someone in your community, it comes back to help others in the community as well."



Nursing students, from left, Becky Brooks and Marla Magaha



SBHF board members, from left, Arthur Holk and Dr. Gaylon McCollough

Photo by Michelle Dycus



SBHF board member Charlotte Henderson

# Tasting Success

More than 100 President's Circle members and guests celebrated another successful year of supporting the Annual Fund for Excellence with mouth-watering morsels catered by students in Pensacola State College's Culinary and Hospitality programs.

Sumptuous appetizers, stir-fry, pasta and desserts highlighted the menu at the annual Garde Manger in August.

The event also coincided with the retirement of Chef Travis Herr, head of the Culinary program for more than a decade. With cheers throughout the room, Chef Herr was recognized for his role in establishing the Garde Manger event at the college and for his years of service.



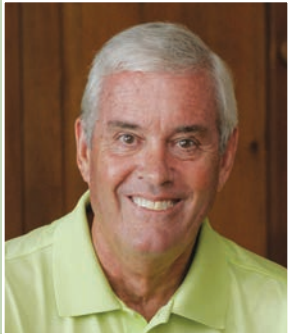
Culinary creations

Chef Travis Herr, far left, with Culinary and Hospitality program students

Photos by Bill White



## Leading the Way



Mike Wiggins  
Annual Fund for Excellence Chair

In this season of giving and celebration, a contribution in your special person's honor to the Pensacola State College Annual Fund for Excellence is the perfect gift. Your generosity allows PSC to celebrate the New Year with much needed philanthropic funds to help students with financial aid, support faculty development and help our Foundation grow.

We on the Board of Governors thank you for your support this year and wish you a happy, prosperous and healthy New Year as we all work together to provide opportunities for our college and students to succeed.

*"Garde Manger is a fun event for students. We plan the menu, prepare everything, show off our skills and do something nice for those who support the college."*

— John Navas, Culinary student



Susan Osburn and Rishy Studer



Mike Wiggins,  
Emily Lullo,  
Malcolm Ballinger,  
John Hutchinson

# College Memories are a Family Affair

Family gatherings often evoke shared memories of good times during vacations and holidays. When the Asmar family gathers, many of their happy memories likely include Pensacola Junior College, now Pensacola State College.

The late Dr. Elias Asmar, a beloved counselor at the college from 1967 to 1985, and his wife Amelia instilled a love of learning — and a love for PJC — in their four sons: Philip, John, Joel and Chris.

“PJC was part of our family,” John said. “As kids, my brothers and I often visited my father on campus. I learned how to play pool in the student center and we often ate in the cafeteria.”

Watching the Pirates play basketball was another family favorite that began early.

“When we were kids, we would go on the court after the game and get sweatbands from the players,” Joel recalled.

The college’s indoor pool prompted more lively memories of four active young men.

“The late Dr. Don Stone taught me how to swim in the PJC pool. He threw me in and I learned quickly!” John quipped. “Later, my brothers and I became competitive swimmers with GPAC, practicing at the PJC pool with Coach Steve Bultman.”

After high school, PJC was a natural transition for the Asmar brothers.

“PJC helped us round out their lives,” Amelia said. “With its nurturing environment, we felt they could become individuals there. They would not be lost in a crowd.”

Her sons agree that PJC provided the educational foundation they needed for later success. Each one recalled the benefits of PJC’s high academic standards and small classes.

“When I transferred to the University of Texas, I was very prepared to pursue my chemical engineering degree, but it took me a few months to get a handle on the large classes,” Philip said.

Joel added that PJC’s smaller classes provided more interaction with the instructors, an element he missed at the university level.

Favorite PJC professors were easily remembered.

“Dr. Elizabeth Cauley and Dr. Joseph Zayas were instrumental in giving me a strong math and science base for my engineering degree at UT,” Philip said.

English professors Rick Shannon and Tom Bailey topped the list for Joel and Chris respectively.

John admitted that he didn’t have a favorite teacher because they all reported his attendance (or lack thereof) to his father.

“My dad often came looking for me,” he said, in jest.

By far, the most cherished memories for each Asmar son revolved around their father.

Joel and Chris both recalled the good times they had when their dad took them to basketball games and swim practice over the years.

Philip remembered stopping by Dr. Asmar’s office between classes.

“He always had a way to keep me focused and make my worst days better,” Philip said. “I also enjoyed carpooling with him after school. It gave us private time together to catch up on things.”

According to John, their father bled blue, green and white.

“He loved PJC and all that it offered,” John said. “He thoroughly enjoyed teaching and helping others. My father counseled all in need and readily placed them before himself.”

Below: The Asmar family, from left, Philip, John, Amelia, Joel and Chris

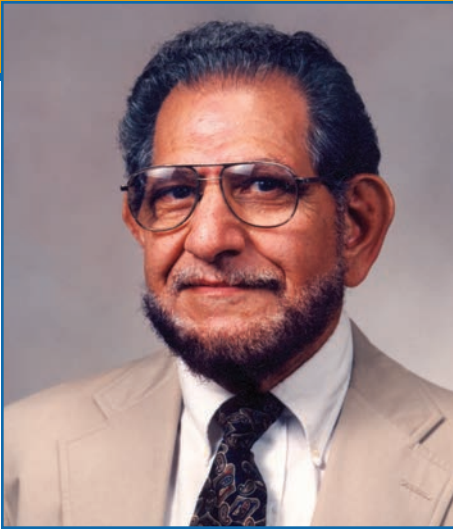
Bottom: Elias and Amelia Asmar with their sons, standing, John, Philip, Chris and Joel seated.



*“PJC wasn’t just a college to our family, it provided recreational activities (pool, tennis), educational opportunities (library, planetarium, classes) and social activities creating a community culture.”*

— Joel Asmar





Dr. Elias Asmar

Indeed, Dr. Asmar was a sought-after teacher and counselor at the college who was recognized with numerous honors and was featured several times in the student newspaper, *The Corsair*.

A 1977 *Corsair* article includes a quote that sums up Dr. Asmar's mission at PJC. "I want to help students reach their highest potential," Dr. Asmar said.

"There isn't a day that goes by that I don't meet someone influenced by my father in a positive way at PJC," John said.

Amelia pointed out that her husband's influence reached far beyond the world of education. He loved music and was a gifted first tenor, singing solos at weddings, with the Choral Society and Gulf Coast Chorale, and with the St. Paul Catholic Church choir.

Proud of being a first-generation Lebanese, Dr. Asmar was founder and president of *The Cedars*, a Lebanese-American club, and helped initiate a community-wide international celebration.

Besides being chief organizer and nurturer of her busy brood, Amelia found her own niche at the college taking classes and becoming an early member of the PJC Faculty Wives Club. A few years later, the club was opened to all women staffers and became the PJC Women's Club.

"We continue to meet monthly and have about 30 regular members," Amelia said. "Many are retired now but we still enjoy our ties to the college through our interest groups."

Although her sons completed their PJC studies years ago and have moved on with successful careers, Amelia said her family's affection for the college remains.

"PJC, now Pensacola State College, is an extension of our family," she said.



### Philip Asmar

**Family:**

Wife, Guerry; daughter, Abigail

**Education:**

Pensacola Junior College, AA, 1983  
University of Texas, BS, 1986  
Emory University School of Medicine, MMSc, 1992  
Medical College of Georgia, MD, 1996

**Occupation:**

Anesthesiologist,  
North Florida Surgery Center



### John Asmar

**Family:**

Single

**Education:**

Pensacola Junior College, AA, 1984  
Florida State University, BS, 1986  
University of West Florida, MPA, 1990  
University of Florida, JD, 2005

**Occupation:**

Attorney  
Chief of Staff and Special Legal Counsel  
to the Mayor, City of Pensacola



### Joel Asmar

**Family:**

Wife, Meri; twins, Sawyer and Lily

**Education:**

Pensacola Junior College, AA, 1986  
Florida State University, BS, 1988

**Occupation:**

Real Estate Appraiser, MAI



### Chris Asmar

**Family:**

Wife, Heather; son, Heath; daughter, Laney

**Education:**

Pensacola Junior College, AA, 1987  
University of West Florida, BS, 1993  
Emory University School of Medicine, MMSc, 1996

**Occupation:**

Anesthetist

## Unsung Hero



Michelle Horton

Taking the helm of the new Pensacola State College South Santa Rosa Center could be a daunting task for anyone. But, Michelle Horton eagerly embraced the opportunity to serve as the center's first director, undergirded by the experience she gained from years working in the college's Dual Enrollment and Recruiting departments.

"My experience with the enrollment process really came in handy," Horton says. "We were starting from scratch with new processes and new employees. Department heads that I had worked with for years gave me advice and helped me develop course schedules that meet the needs of students."

The stunning, high-tech Center is an exciting place to work but Horton says the best part of being SSRC director is interacting with a mix of people.

"People often comment that my office has a revolving door, but I love it," Horton says. "Every day, I have the opportunity to meet with students, staff, faculty and community members."

Enrollment has almost doubled since the Center opened in January and Horton is busy adding new services for students such as tutoring and more testing options.

"Students tell us they like being here and want more courses and activities," she says.

Horton attributes much of the Center's success to the staff and faculty.

"The support I've received at the college and within the community is amazing. There is truly an effort at all levels to do what it takes to make this Center successful. I'm honored to be a part of it."

## Honoring Leadership

Congratulations to PSC alum and Foundation Governor Emeritus Tommy Tait on being named chairman of the prestigious Florida Bankers Association. In the last 100 years, only three Pensacola bankers have been chosen to lead the association. Tait is currently City Market President of Summit Bank NA in Pensacola.

Congratulations to long-time Foundation supporters John and Susan O'Connor and Grover Robinson IV on their induction in the Northwest Florida Junior Achievement Hall of Fame.

They were recognized for their community involvement and support for education. Among their many accomplishments is a commitment to Pensacola State College. The O'Connors have awarded scholarships for 250 students at Pensacola State. Robinson and his wife Jill established the Sandra and Grover Robinson III Honors Program that has enhanced learning and travel for Pensacola State students for more than a decade.

Top: Tommy Tait

Right: John and Susan O'Connor and Grover Robinson IV



## Sprucing Up

Landscape and Horticulture Management students recently brightened the Foundation's entrance. As part of this real-world experience, the students submitted landscape designs, constructed a bid and contract, and installed the plants. Greg Boyd submitted the winning design and project participants were Sharon Bohannon, Reid Hester, Danny Wilson, Alex Woody (at right) and Jackson Wood.

*Photo by Michelle Dycus*



## Shining Students

Camille Nettles, a graphic design May graduate, won a silver ADDY® Award for her project “Persona,” a creation of retail bag and clothing tag designs. She is the first-ever person – student or professional – representing the American Advertising Federation/Pensacola to win a national ADDY Award.

Katherine Zahnd, a veterinary technology student, won a gold medal in national competition for Health Occupations Students of America and Michael Barrow, a practical nursing student, won a silver medal in national competition for SkillsUSA.



Camille Nettles



Michael Barrow



Katherine Zahnd

Photos by Michelle Dycus

## Volunteer Corner



Ann Woll

As an artist and graphic designer, Ann Woll has long enjoyed the excellent exhibits at the Anna Lamar Switzer Center for Visual Arts. Soon after her husband Herb was appointed a Pensacola State College Trustee, he became the liaison to the Foundation and Ann wanted to support the Foundation’s efforts to raise student scholarship funds.

“When I first volunteered at the annual Big Break golf tournament, Dr. Meadows, the college trustees, Patrice Whitten, the Foundation staff and the other volunteers were enthusiastic and dedicated to raising scholarship funds,” Ann says.

“They made the tournament a thoroughly enjoyable and satisfying day for the volunteers as well as the participants. I’ve met wonderful people and developed lasting friendships through volunteering for the Big Break, as well as the annual Clay Shoot.”

Ann cites the variety of Foundation events as another reason to be involved.

“The Lamar di Gras event at Lamar Outdoor was amazing in creativity and artistic scope,” Ann says. “The annual Holiday Grande Gala is a sparkly, exciting evening of fundraising. I look forward to further involvement with these and other Foundation events.”

Without doubt, students are Ann’s greatest incentive for supporting the Foundation.

“The ability to assist students in achieving an education that might not otherwise be within their reach is a flat-out thrill. Who knew it could be so much fun!” she says.

# Remembering Friends

*The Pensacola State College family mourns the passing of three individuals who inspired our college, community and far beyond — Alan Poindexter, Daisy Jackson and Jack Kichler.*

## Alan Poindexter

PSC alum (1983) and former astronaut Alan Poindexter, 50, died in a personal watercraft accident July 1, 2012. Poindexter is survived by his wife Lisa and their two sons, Samuel and Zachary.

Poindexter piloted the Atlantis Shuttle in 2008 and commanded the Discovery Shuttle in 2010. A retired Navy Captain, he was dean of students and executive director of programs at the Naval Postgraduate School at the time of his death.

Poindexter invited Pensacola State's student newspaper staff to cover — with full press credentials — his shuttle launches. Corsair staffer Danica Spears covered the Atlantis launch at the Kennedy Space Center.

"The first time I saw him during the astronaut walk, he had the biggest smile," Spears recalls. "You could tell he loved what he was doing. He was a go-getter who lived his life to the fullest; yet he was so down to earth, a great guy all around. I will never forget him."

On his first shuttle mission, Poindexter carried the college's gold medallion that he personally returned in a special ceremony at the Pensacola campus.

"Alan Poindexter was very important to our college," says President Ed Meadows. "He was one of the most successful graduates of our college and we mourn for him and his family."

"I was able to spend a good bit of time with Alan. I can say he had a true heart for the mission of NASA, a true heart for being helpful to our students, and he was a true gentleman in every regard."

Astronomy professor Wayne Wooten and the Escambia Amateur Astronomers worked with Poindexter in helping Warrington Middle School promote science education.

"Alan encouraged all students to excel," Wooten remembers. "His love of space exploration and science was evident to students and teachers when he visited the middle school and when he visited his alma mater, then Pensacola Junior College."

"We were all thrilled that he was so willing to share the excitement of space exploration with us."

President Ed Meadows and PSC District Board members welcome Alan Poindexter to campus in 2008. From left, Meadows, Carol Carlan, Margie Moore, Poindexter, John O'Connor, Vincent Andry.

Alan Poindexter and President Ed Meadows unveil the gold college medallion that traveled to space on the Atlantis Shuttle.

*Photos by Zeke Hazewinkle*



Alan Poindexter, front left, on the astronaut walk before his first shuttle launch in 2008.

*Photo by Danica Spears*



## Jack Kichler

Longtime Pensacola State College Visual Arts supporter and Pensacola physician, Jack Kichler, 79, passed away July 11, 2012. He is survived by his wife, Cookie.

A retired U.S. Army Colonel in the Medical Corps, Dr. Kichler served his country and community. He had a free dermatology clinic

at St. Joseph's in Attucks Court at the height of the Cuban refugee exodus.

In retirement, Dr. Kichler continued to benefit others. An avid traveler, he had been to 128 countries and was active in several organizations that promoted international good will and education. He was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow in Rotary International.

Among his many interests was the Anna Lamar Switzer Center for Visual Arts at Pensacola State. He played a key role in establishing the Anna Society and was the featured speaker at the inaugural Anna Society Founders Forum in 2006.

Visual Arts Department Head Krist Lien says Dr. Kichler had a positive influence on faculty and students.

"Jack would always greet me with a big hug and a smile, wanting to know how I was doing. I think that's how he greeted most people," Lien says. "Once you met Jack you couldn't help but love him. He and Cookie were at every event we had at the Switzer Center.

"They were two of the founders of the Anna Society and always two of our biggest supporters. He will truly be missed."



Jack and Cookie Kichler at the Switzer Gallery

Connie Crosby, founding chair of the Anna Society, recalls the enthusiasm Dr. Kichler brought to the art community.

"Jack had a zest for living and learning, bar none! He was truly committed to the arts, the community and the college. Always eager to share his knowledge, he was a true gentleman, smiling, caring and never critical."



## Daisy Jackson

PSC alum (1970) and internationally celebrated soprano, Daisy Jackson, 62, passed away July 15, 2012 following a brief illness.

After Pensacola State, Jackson earned a bachelor's degree at the University of West Florida and completed graduate degrees at the renowned Peabody Conservatory of Music and Curtis Institute of Music.

She had an illustrious career with the U.S. Air Force Singing Sergeants and retired as Chief Master Sergeant in 2002. Jackson's stunning virtuosity was a hallmark in performances before presidents, statesmen and military leaders from almost every nation.

Perhaps her most memorable moment was her 2001 performance on CNN's "Larry King Live" when she sang "America the Beautiful" as a tribute to the fallen heroes and victims of the Sept. 11 tragedy.

Retired Pensacola State voice teacher Trudie Sherwood remembers Jackson's talent well.

"Daisy asked for guidance and voice lessons," Sherwood says. "I encouraged her to train for the Metropolitan Opera district auditions. She won not only that competition but also the Mme. Rose-Palmal Tenser scholarship.

"Her untimely death saddens us all."

Performing Arts Department Head Don Snowden says Jackson's passing was a shock.

"Daisy performed several years ago with the Pensacola Civic Band," Snowden adds. "While she was in Pensacola, she generously gave of her time to talk to our music theory students about the importance of their education and perseverance.

"She was very proud to be from Pensacola and from the number of people at her memorial service, was very beloved."

Jackson's memory will be honored with a piano recital by Mark Markham next February at the Ashmore Fine Arts Auditorium on the Pensacola campus. Proceeds will go toward a PSC scholarship to perpetuate her memory.



Daisy Jackson (left) and Pat Odom at a Foundation event in 2003.

# Aiming for Scholarships



Cade Connally,  
Gulf Power Co.  
team member

From left, Vincent Andry,  
Bob Richburg, Terry Cole,  
President Ed Meadows



Lady Pirates softball volunteers, from left,  
Becca Calloway, Elise Richardson, Jaden Ruling

The fourth annual Day of Clays Sporting Clay Fun Shoot bagged more than \$20,000 for Universal Scholarships Oct. 6. The largest clay shoot yet drew 24 teams with 96 participants to the Shoal River Shooting Center in Crestview. For the second year, Trane was the \$2,500 Tournament Sponsor.

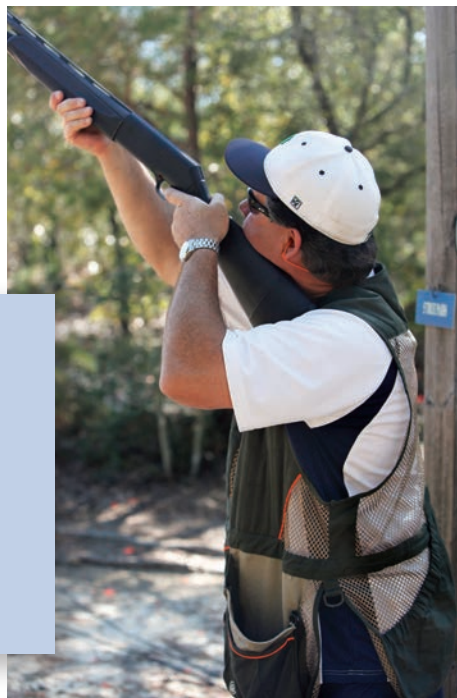
“We expect the event to get even bigger next year when we move to a local venue, the Santa Rosa Shooting Center in Pace,” says Angie McGhee, donor relations manager.

## Save the Date!

Day of Clays • Saturday, Oct. 5, 2013

### New Location

Santa Rosa Shooting Center  
6950 Quintette Road  
Pace, FL 32571



Bill Hamilton takes aim

## Thank-you sponsors!

### Tournament

Trane

### Event

ACS Coatings Inc.  
AECO Interiors Inc. of Alabama  
Ajax Building Corporation  
Arcadia ICR Group  
BBVA Compass  
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Ed Meadows  
Edwards Roofing  
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Wayne Lowery

# Question for the President



## Is Higher Education Still a High Value?

According to the most current U.S. Department of Education's ranking, Pensacola State College is ranked in the top one percent of the best values in public education. In a survey of more than 5,000 colleges, Pensacola State

ranked 11th in lowest public tuition and 27th in lowest net cost — which is less than half the national average.

Pensacola State College is the best value for higher education for our community. Not only is affordable tuition an important factor, but there are also other important cost-saving considerations for many students, such as being able to live at home without the burden of overwhelming debt.

There is also high academic value when choosing Pensacola State. Traditional and non-traditional students have many options for furthering their education whether they pursue a two or four-year degree.

The growth and success of Pensacola State depends on the ability of the college to consistently provide the best value for its students. Not only is it important to provide the best economic value, it is also imperative to add value by investing in leadership and academic excellence.

Providing scholarships for deserving students and ensuring academic excellence is largely dependent upon our generous donors.

Thank you for contributing to the great value of Pensacola State College and for investing in the future of our students and this community.



## President's Leadership Institute Graduates First Class

The President's Leadership Institute at Pensacola State celebrated the graduation of its inaugural class in June.

The Institute is a rigorous, year-long program that provides faculty and staff training in leadership and college procedures. Featuring guest speakers and trips, it covers a variety of in-depth issues critical to Pensacola State. PSC staff Pat Crews, Nan James and Larry Bracken assisted with the training sessions.

Inaugural graduates are Anthea Amos, Thom Botsford, Wallace Carter, Monique Collins, Frances Duncan, Jennifer

Ehrhardt, Thor Garber, Rob Gregg, Samantha Hill, Michelle Horton, Brenda Kelly, Joseph Kyle, Linda Lambert, Tom Leonard, Angela McGhee, Ruth McKinon, Jennifer Ponson, Kathryn Quillen, Sandy Ray, Christa Ruber, Dusti Sluder, Damarcus Smith, Debbie Taylor, Blaine Wall and Frances Yeo.



### Save the Date!

**Big Break Classic**

Friday, March 15, 2013

Marcus Pointe Golf Club

Benefits Universal Scholarship Fund

For details, call 850-484-1564



*"The Universal Scholarship has helped pay my tuition, making college possible for me. It has eased the financial burden on my family tremendously and is very much appreciated."*

— Jeff deGroot, military veteran majoring in Hospitality and Tourism Management



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## First Pensacola Pledge Scholars

Thanks to a \$1 million scholarship program established by Quint and Rishy Studer, 11 Pensacola State College students and 24 University of West Florida students began their freshman year with scholarships.

The Pensacola Pledge Scholars program awards Pensacola State students \$1,200 per academic year.

Pensacola State students in the inaugural class of Pensacola Pledge Scholars are Kelli Brock, Javante Butler, Molly Funck, Kata Kuch, Kendall Lee, Chelsea Mason, Emma McBride-Taylor, Christian McCants, Christopher Pahalek, Kayla Parazine and Anna Talamo.



## Celebrating the Century Center

Pensacola State College celebrated the newly renovated Century Center with a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony Sept. 18. Community members joined the college family for refreshments and a tour of the facility.

Housed in the former Carver/Century K-8 Middle School, the Center opened Jan. 6, 2012 with an array of classes and is welcoming steady growth.

*Photos by Michelle Dycus*



Snip! PSC Trustees Deidre Young, John O'Connor, Dona Usry, Herb Woll, Carol Carlan; and Escambia County School District Assistant Superintendent Steve Marcanio

Mayors Dewey Bondurant, Flomaton Kurvin Keith Qualls, Jay Freddie McCall Sr., Century

Northview High School NJROTC Color Guard