

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



August 2025 Edition

FEATURED EVENTS



We welcomed several alumni and friends to our lunch bunch series in

UPCOMING EVENTS



Fall is on the horizon, and we've created some exciting opportunities

Montgomery and Cartersville, GA. We visited SaZa's Serious Italian Food in Montgomery on July 23 and alumni-owned Swheat Market Deli in Cartersville, GA, on July 24. Alumni enjoyed meeting and networking with other Gamecocks in their cities and meeting Jax State alumni team members, as well as a few special guests. The gatherings served as a reminder of the lasting bonds and connections shared among Jax State's alumni. If you haven't joined us, we hope to see you at other events we have scheduled for the fall. **See more photos from the luncheons here.**

The Cocky Travelers are headed to Alaska aboard the Norwegian Bliss! Join us and bring your friends aboard a 7-day cruise as we set sail from Seattle. Come and enjoy the camaraderie and the breathtaking views of Sitka, Juneau, Endicott Arm & Dawes Glacier, Icy Straight Point, Ketchikan, and Victoria, British Columbia. Visit www.funvacationstravel.com to learn more about the trip and to book your room for only \$125/person. All payments are due by January 30, 2026. We're already counting down to Alaska and hope you'll sail away with us!

for you! Whether you're looking to reconnect, network, support our athletes, or learn of campus updates at our upcoming State of the University Presidential Addresses, there's something planned for every Gamecock.

Gamecock Gatherings - Orlando, FL
Kick off football season with Jax State alumni and friends in Orlando as the Gamecocks take on UCF! Join us on Wednesday for a casual Lunch Bunch at The Porch South Orange and a "cool" evening at ICEBAR—fur coats provided! Then, on Thursday, don't miss the pregame tailgate before the 6:00 PM kickoff. Be sure to RSVP so we know you're coming!
August 27–28 | Orlando, FL | [RSVP today!](#)

Homecoming - Jax State
Mark your calendar as we gear up for a memorable Homecoming with engagement opportunities taking place on Friday and Saturday. Enjoy the parade, come tailgate with us, meander down memory lane as you view mementos we've revived from storage, and cheer on the Gamecocks as we look for a win against Murray State.
September 19-20 | Jax State | [RSVP Here!](#)

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

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Mike Sandefer's ('74) legacy at Jax State doesn't just echo through the campus—it broadcasts. As the founding voice behind WLJS, Jax State's beloved campus radio station, Mike helped lay the foundation for a program that continues to inform, entertain, and inspire over five decades later. "My passion since an early age was always radio, so it made sense to feed that passion by building a station at my college," he shared. **[Read more about his legacy heard throughout campus.](#)**

COCKY BUSINESS



Dalton Goode ('17), founder of Ron's Goode BBQ in Alexandria and Cutter's Pizzeria in Oxford and Alexandria, was inspired by a lifelong dream of entrepreneurship rooted in his family's legacy of business ownership—from steel construction and car sales to farming. Witnessing both the successes and struggles, especially during the 2008 recession, motivated him to pursue that dream. Today, he runs these businesses alongside his father. **[Read more about](#)**

Dalton and his passion for
entrepreneurship and community.

Submit your own **Cocky Business** to be
featured in one of our upcoming newsletters
here!

ALUMNI CONNECTION



Jax State has kept our alumni busy, hosting 26 engagement opportunities since January. Did you snap a few photos you'd like to share with your alumni family? Would you like to review photos of different events? We encourage you to upload your event photos into our **Jax State Alumni Connection** - this platform makes it easy. Sign up using your non-JSU email or social media, verify with a quick code, and start uploading and exploring those alumni event photos today! **Click here** to get started.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Show your Gamecock spirit by becoming a member of the **Jax State Alumni Association**! We offer lifetime and annual memberships. If you are a lifetime member, our membership cards are getting a facelift - a new card will be mailed to you within the next few weeks. All annual members will receive a new card upon membership renewal. Additionally, in the fall semester, we are excited to offer an alumni member discount at The Caf. - Enjoy a delicious lunch for \$9.00 with your membership card. Support the University while enjoying exclusive benefits. **Join today and celebrate your connection to Jax State!**

GROWING GAMECOCKS



Growing Gamecocks is open to children of alumni, family, retirees, and friends. This special program celebrates future Jax State students with annual gifts or birthday cards delivered around their special day each year.

AROUND CAMPUS



Curious about Artificial Intelligence? Jax State is offering a **FREE** course on AI Literacy in Fall 2025 and Spring 2026! Explore what AI is, how it's used in everyday

And, high school students who are enrolled in the program and admitted to Jax State are eligible for a one-year, non-renewable Growing Gamecock Scholarship! **Now through August 31**, use BACK2SCHOOL to receive 10% off your registration. Start your child's connection to Jax State now and instill in them a love for Jax State at an early age!

[Learn more about the program and how to enroll a child.](#)

life, and the ethical questions it raises. Whether you're thinking about going back to school or just want to gain valuable insight into the technology of tomorrow, this course is the perfect, risk-free way to "Try It" (available to non-degree seeking students). No commitment, no cost. **Learn more here.**

There has never been a better time for high school students to get a jump start on their college education at Jax State! All in-state students and out-of-state online Dual Enrollment students will now pay just \$33 per credit hour, or \$99 for a standard 3-hour course. That's a savings of over 80% compared to the previous rate! Applications are still open for the Fall 2025 semester! **Click here** for more information and share the info with all the future Gamecocks in your life.

COMING TO THE ROC



Making it Happen - When the university acquired the former First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, several of the spaces were identified as accommodating back-of-house needs for the new concert hall, but the 50,957 square foot facility also provided the opportunity to expand additional programs, class offerings, and services. Each space in the education wing of the ROC includes a naming opportunity and a way to leave a legacy impacting many generations to come. For more information, visit jsu.edu/philanthropy/naming/roc.

GAMECOCKS GIVE BACK



At Jax State, we're proud of the values that unite our community - resilience, leadership, and care for others. That's why, this **National Make-A-Will Month**, we're sharing a resource to help you protect the people and causes that matter most to you. We've partnered with FreeWill, a free online platform that helps you create or update your legal will in just 20 minutes. It's fast, secure, and easy to use - no legal knowledge or financial commitment required. Your will is your voice when it matters most. It ensures your family, pets, and loved ones are protected and that your wishes are clearly documented, bringing peace of mind to everyone involved. Make-A-Will Month is the perfect time to take that step. Visit jsu.edu/plannedgiving to get started!

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