

# ALUMNI ANCHOR

PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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## PSC Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship Endowment Honors Ginger McMullen Moore

**G**inger McMullen Moore's commitment to Pensacola State College extends back more than 50 years.

The 1960 Pensacola Junior College graduate has been a supportive alumna serving as a board member, fundraiser chairwoman, volunteer, and a lifelong participant in PSC's Continuing Ed Program.

She can now add another feather to her cap.

Moore is the namesake of the PSC Alumni Association's first endowed scholarship under the organization's Legacy Fund matching program.

With a \$12,500 donation from Moore's husband, Edward Moore, and a \$12,500 match from the PSC Alumni Association and a generous \$25,000 from the law firm of Moore, Hill and Westmoreland, the Ginger Moore Endowed Scholarship Fund was established in March.

With additional contributions from association members and friends of PSC, the scholarship endowment currently has a total of \$55,000 in funds to help first generation college students further their education. Alumni Association officials anticipate the first scholarships will be awarded in Fall 2018.

"I am so grateful to my husband for the scholarship proposal and the Alumni Association's Board of Directors for supporting the idea. It is one of the brightest highlights of my life — the epitome of a lifelong interest and involvement with the college," said Moore who first learned of the endowment during a surprise presentation at the March meeting of the Pensacola State College Board of Trustees.

Helping first-generation college students realize the dream of higher education is very near and dear to Moore. The 1957 Escambia County (Alabama) High School graduate, was the first in her family to attend college.

"I was a first-generation college student and have a great appreciation for what this scholarship can do for students," said Moore, who is the oldest of five children.

"My parents married young, worked very hard and never had a chance to further their education. However, they, along with a supportive family of

aunts and uncles, encouraged me in my efforts to continue my education."

After graduating from PJC, Moore went on to Florida State University where she earned a bachelor's degree from the School of Social Work. Following graduation, she went to California and worked for Trans World Airlines for two years before coming back to Pensacola, marrying her husband of 53 years and beginning a life of family and community involvement.

Those who know Moore say no one is more deserving of the recognition.

"I've known Ginger since 1958 when we met at PJC. To have had this honor bestowed upon her, especially as it pertains to providing funding for scholarships, is a great honor for her," said longtime friend Robert May, a retired California Superior Court Judge and PSC/PJC alumnus and PSC Alumni Association Lifetime Charter Member.

"Ginger has always been a staunch supporter of education and involved in making education available to others."

Pensacola State College President Ed Meadows agreed with May adding he considers Moore as the consummate alumna.

"Ginger has always been one of Pensacola State's biggest cheerleaders. There has never been an instance when we have called upon Ginger or her husband, Ed, and they have not stepped up for the college. They give of themselves unselfishly," Meadows said.

"No one deserves this accolade more than Mrs. Moore. She herself was a first-generation-in-college student, and even though it was a number of years ago, she understands the challenges facing these students.

"Ginger has not forgotten Pensacola Junior College and the Legacy Scholarship Endowment bearing her name is Pensacola State family

showing its appreciation for all that she has done to advance this institution."

Alumni Association officers also praise Moore's commitment to the college.

"During her years serving as a Foundation Board member, Ginger worked closely with us as Annual Fund Chair. Her leadership brought fresh ideas and unique fundraising events and she worked tirelessly to expand our base of annual supporters and scholarship donors. What a wonderful way to honor her," said Patrice S. Whitten, executive director of Alumni Affairs and Special Assistant to the President.



## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

PSC Nursing Graduates Excel

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Gerry Goldstein and Joe Abston

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In the Moore household, giving back to Pensacola State is a lifestyle. Ed Moore also is a 1960 Pensacola Junior College graduate and a member and former chair of the college's District Board of Trustees. He is past president of the Pensacola State College Foundation, a member of the PSC Alumni Association and a PSC Outstanding Alumni Award recipient.

The Moore children grew up participating in PJC swim and gymnastics programs, and recently, a granddaughter completed a Dance Workshop at the college.

Always humble, Moore attributes much of her life's successes to PJC. Along with meeting her husband while a PJC student, she also made lifelong friends.

"Not only my husband and friends, but my educational experiences here at PJC inspired lifelong interests in

natural sciences, history, ecology, etc. Over the years, the opportunities to attend lectures, concerts, art exhibits, theater ...and participation in the GPAC swim program have all contributed to my very blessed life. Community colleges still make an indelible impact on the students they serve," she said.

"However, community colleges need our support—our time and financial support. We must be committed to and give back to these institutions that have had so much influence on our lives."

She noted Pensacola State is a true community college because it contributes so much to Escambia and Santa Rosa counties.

"I can't go into any medical office, dental clinic or professional office around town and not meet a PSC graduate," Moore said. "Many

students can't afford to attend a university right after high school. Pensacola State provides a great start — whether students plan to go on to a university or if they earn a workforce certification. With three campuses and three centers, Pensacola State provides outstanding educational opportunities."

Moore said she would encourage other PSC alumni to get involved.

"Any donation helps—especially at a community college. It is underestimated how far \$100 or \$500 can go at a community college," she said. "Even the smallest contribution adds up and can provide a scholarship in a way you would never guess. It may provide bus fare, books and supplies — there is so much more involved than just getting here and paying the cost of tuition."

## AT A GLANCE

**Name:** Ginger McMullen Moore  
Namesake of PSC Alumni Association's first endowed scholarship under the organization's Legacy Fund matching program

**Pensacola State College connection:** Member of PSC Alumni Association, Pensacola State College Foundation Board of Directors, Chairwoman Annual Fund for Excellence, PJC Guild volunteer

**Education:** 1960 Pensacola Junior College, associate degree; 1982 Florida State University, bachelor's degree in social work

**Family:** Husband, Ed Moore; two daughters, Hayley and Jennifer, son, Robin; six grandchildren

# Board Member FOCUS



## CHRIS JONES

Escambia County Property Appraiser Chris Jones has a long history with Pensacola State College—and so does his family.

Along with serving on the PSC Alumni Association Board of Directors, Jones also is current treasurer for the ARC.

All three of the 1978 Pensacola Junior College grad's children — daughter, Shauna, and sons, John and Corey — have attended Pensacola State. His wife, Angie, worked as the college's purchasing director for eight

years, and his brother, Jamey Jones, is a Pensacola State English and Communications instructor.

"My children attended Pensacola State because I knew it was a great place to start," said Jones who urges current or future Pensacola State students to get their degree.

"It is a key that opens many doors."

**Words of Wisdom:** "Character is doing the right thing even when no one is watching."



## GERALD ADCOX

Pensacola State College has always been near and dear to Gerald W. Adcox Jr.

After earning his associate degree from Pensacola Junior College in 1975 and going on to the University of West Florida for his bachelor's degree in accounting and finance, Adcox returned to PSC—to serve.

"PSC was a stepping stone and a foundation for building a career, small classes and individual focus and guidance when I needed it most," said Adcox, whose mother and two

sisters also graduated from the college and went on to become educators and administrators.

He advises PSC students to remain focused and learn from mistakes.

"Know that what you learn and are taught is the basis for your future," he said.

**Words of Wisdom:** "From fortune to misfortune is but a step, but misfortune to fortune is a long way." —An unknown author



## DAVID SUTTON

Pensacola State College has been a large part of David Sutton's life.

The current director of behavioral services at the Patients Medical School at the University of West Florida has held many positions at PSC—but he first entered the college as a student.

In the late 1960s, Sutton was involved with "Radio PJC" broadcast on WCOA-AM and performed in and worked backstage on several college plays. He now serves as a retiree

advisor for the PSC Chapter of the Association of Florida Colleges, and on the PSC Alumni Association Board of Directors.

When asked what advice he would offer current Pensacola State students, Sutton quotes English historian, Thomas Fuller.

"Education makes a man fit company for himself."

**Words of Wisdom:** "The less young I become, the more I value time."



## WESLEY MEISS

Pensacola State College has all of the resources students need to reach their goals, so says Milton's mayor, Wesley Meiss.

A 2005 Pensacola State graduate, Meiss is proof that dreams can come true—starting at PSC.

"Looking back, the decision to enroll at Pensacola State College set the course for my professional life. The small class sizes and collaborative relationships with fellow students helped build a solid foundation for the

remainder of my academic journey and career," he said.

"The professors at PSC were always student focused and professional."

Meiss remains an active member of the PSC family, and his connections go even deeper. His wife, Lauren Meiss, is a PSC alumna and his father, Mike Meiss, is a PSC Milton LIFE Fitness Center member.

**Words of Wisdom:** "Pensacola State College has a small town feel that produces big town results."



## Pensacola State College's Nursing Program, Graduates Excel

2015 and 2016 were banner years for the Pensacola State College Nursing Program.

The college became the first in the region to earn accreditation from two national agencies for its Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) accreditation took effect in February 2016, with the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) credentials effective retroactive to September 2015.

ACEN and CCNE are two of only three national accrediting bodies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, according to PSC Director of Nursing Dusti Sluder.

The college's Practical Nursing (LPN) and Associate Degree Nursing (RN) programs also hold the distinction of being nationally accredited. In March 2016, the ACEN granted initial accreditation to the practical nursing program following an in-depth two-year evaluation.

Four outstanding BSN program graduates also were recognized during a Nov. 30, 2016, reception hosted by

PSC President Ed Meadows, Dr. Dusti and Kevin Sluder and the PSC Alumni Association.

Monica "Nikki" Dey and Sara Seuzeneau received Model of Excellence designations, while Mary Ann Krebs and Rebecca Ricks were honored with Pace Setter awards.

The Model of Excellence award is presented to students who demonstrate excellence in not only the nursing program but within the community.

Dey graduated with her BSN in summer 2016, with a 4.0 grade point average. While in the program, she completed a leadership project on Shared Governance that has been adopted and implemented by the Sacred Heart Health System.

She now works in Sacred Heart Hospital's cath lab and is in her first semester of nurse practitioner school at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

Seuzeneau earned her BSN in spring 2016 with a 3.9 GPA, and completed a project used in the real world hospital setting to improve cardiac patients and process measures.

She works in management at Sacred Heart Hospital.

The Pace Setter Award is presented to students for dedication to the program by excelling in individual courses.

Krebs graduated with her BSN in fall 2015, with a 4.0 GPA. She completed a leadership project related to mental health nursing.

Currently, she is pursuing a doctorate in family nurse practitioner at the University of South Alabama in Mobile.

Ricks graduated with her BSN in spring 2016 with a 3.9 GPA, and completed a leadership project that focused on quality improvement related to hospital unit management and operations.

Ricks is an adjunct instructor at the Warrington campus.

*Four graduates of Pensacola State College's BSN program were recognized during a Nov. 30 reception hosted by PSC President Ed Meadows, Dr. Dusti and Kevin Sluder and the PSC Alumni Association.*



Monica Dey



Mary Ann Krebs



Rebecca Ricks



## Endowed Teaching Chairs on Warrington Campus Turn Longtime Dreams into Reality

When Barbara Tarwater (Class of 1978) and Donna Mathias (Class of 1987) were students at Pensacola State College, they dreamed of careers in dental hygiene that would make a difference in the lives of others, especially children.

Over the years, they continued to grow as professional dental hygienists, earning multiple academic degrees. About a decade ago, Mathias and Tarwater returned to PSC as dental hygiene faculty and continued to dream of helping children.

Thanks to two endowed teaching chair programs at Pensacola State, their shared dream of giving local school children the opportunity for better dental hygiene and health care is becoming a reality.

Recently, Tarwater was selected for the Mary Ekdahl Smart Endowed Teaching Chair for Health Sciences and Mathias was selected for the Margaret Moore Nickelsen Endowed Teaching Chair for Health Sciences.

During their three-year chair appointments, the two faculty plan to work collaboratively to offer an ongoing school-based program of dental hygiene and nursing services to children who may not otherwise have access to care.

Mathias recalled that as a PSC dental

hygiene student, her first patient was a 13-year-old girl suffering with gum pain and bleeding.

"It was her first experience at any dental clinic and her cleaning took much longer than it had to," Mathias said. "If only she had access to care sooner, it could have prevented her gingivitis."

"I knew then that I wanted to help provide preventative care for children less fortunate."

As a PSC student, Tarwater also was influenced by a young patient.

"A little girl with rampant dental decay had come to our PSC clinic from a foster care home," Tarwater said. "I remember feeling so sad and recognizing the need for places for these children to learn about good oral hygiene."

"This experience influenced me throughout my career and still drives me to do more for underserved children."

Mathias added she is excited about the project's service opportunities for PSC students.

"My PSC colleague Mindy Jay was also my dental hygiene instructor back then, and she really made learning fun," said Mathias. "I knew then I wanted to become an instructor that inspired students to help others through healthcare."

Involving students in their project is especially appropriate since Tarwater and Mathias were nominated by their students for the endowed chair honors.

Remembering her own days as a dental hygiene student, Tarwater said today's technology and research have made an amazing difference in the classroom and in the profession.

She feels the hands-on learning and community outreach of the endowed chair project will broaden her students' learning opportunities even more.

"Watching these aspiring professionals learn, adapt and grow in their new field affirms that the practice of dental hygiene will rest in excellent hands in our future," Tarwater said.



Donna Mathias, Margaret Moore Nickelsen Endowed Teaching Chair recipient.



Barbara Tarwater, Mary Ekdahl Smart Endowed Teaching Chair recipient.

# CONVERSATIONS WITH ...

## Gerry Goldstein

Gerry Goldstein is a man who wears many hats.

As a broker/principal with Salomon-Goldstein Properties, he is the co-owner of a real estate firm, an adjunct professor at the University of West Florida and associate director for Florida Small Business Development Center.

Despite those and other demands, Goldstein also serves as a director on the Pensacola State College Foundation Board of Governors, and he is on the board of the Santa Rosa Hospital, past vice chairman of FDOT Garcon Point Bridge Authority, Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and Rebuild Northwest Florida. His educational background is a BSBA (Finance) UF, MBA-UWF, and a Graduate Entrepreneurship Certificate.

He recently took a few minutes out of a busy day to share some tidbits of wisdom.

**Question:** How did you become involved with Pensacola State College?

**Answer:** My earliest association with Pensacola State dates back to 1972, when I graduated with an AA degree. I became reacquainted with PSC about eight years ago through the Big Break Golf fundraiser.

**Q:** You were instrumental in organizing the PSC Alumni Association Pheasant and Quail Hunts. Why is this fundraiser so important to you?

**A:** One of the first things a company looks for in locating a business in any area is access to workforce for skills required to build a sustainable business. Education is one of those skills necessary to attract economic development to our area.

The Pheasant and the Quail Hunts are fundraisers that provide thousands of dollars in scholarships to students that need help in gaining critical education skills. More important is not what I created, that is only the conduit, it is our partners that provide the funds, such as Gulf Power, Plasmene Technology, the Morette Company, and Trane HVAC. They are the backbone of our fundraising efforts.

The success of the quail hunt could not take place without support staff, especially the PSC Foundation that provide the infrastructure and our well-known President Ed Meadows, an expert in Green Egg preparation.

**Q:** You've worked on Wall Street and Main Street. How did that transition come about?

**A:** Leaving a high-paying career on Wall Street was a difficult decision, and one that I did not take lightly. Returning to Pensacola without a job and interviewing with prospective companies, my salary far exceeded the person who was across the desk. It did not take long to understand that no one was going to hire me — my only option was to start a business, which is exactly what I did.

**Q:** Over your lifetime, you have worn many hats.

What were some of your most memorable careers?

**A:** I must say Wall Street provided the most exciting time of my life.

As a short-term money trader, it just does not get any better in terms of job satisfaction. My recent association with academics — teaching in the MBA program at the University of West Florida also has been the most rewarding. Providing real-world experience to new students has a very powerful effect on the learning curve.

**Q:** Looking back over your lifetime, what would you tell your 7-year-old self?

**A:** You are entirely too young to know everything! This reminds me of an old saying: "When I was 17, my father was the dumbest man I had ever met. By the time I was 21, I was very surprised at how much he had learned."

**Q:** What would I tell another 7-year-old?

**A:** It is not what you know that hurts you, it is what you don't know. Get the best education you can, seek advice from those that can provide leadership, and above all listen more than you talk.

**Q:** What advice would you offer to current Pensacola State students?

**A:** You live in the greatest country in the world — the most freedom, the best health care and the finest education. Take advantage of all that is offered. Remember failure is not an option and mediocrity is unacceptable. When the time comes, find a way to give back, however you interpret the process.

**GERRY GOLDSTEIN HAS CONTRIBUTED HIS TIME, TALENT, TREASURE AND KNOWLEDGE AND WORKED BEHIND THE SCENES TO MAKE GOOD THINGS HAPPEN FOR THOSE THAT ARE TRYING TO BETTER THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES. HE IS A TRUE FRIEND AND ADVOCATE OF PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE."**

— PSC President Ed Meadows

**Q:** Where are you from originally?

**A:** I was born and raised in Pensacola, my family's history goes back more than 100 years.

**Q:** Since you've lived here and returned to the area, what changes have you noticed in Pensacola?

**A:** Pensacola is no longer a sleepy little town. The area is a destination that many wish they could call home. The growth of our education facilities, quality of life, and industry have changed the Pensacola landscape.

Pensacola has always been an exporter of our youth, today they are staying because of job opportunities.

**Q:** What advice do you have for the PSC Alumni Association and PSC alumni?

**A:** The alums are one of Pensacola State's greatest assets. My advice to alums is to get involved in some way that makes a difference in a student's life. There are many opportunities at PSC to help — from fundraising to mentoring a student. You can make a difference!



### AT A GLANCE

**Name:** Gerry Goldstein

**Pensacola State connection:** 1972 Pensacola Junior College alumnus and director of Foundation Board of Governors

**Employment:** University of West Florida and Florida Small Business Development Office HQ

**Education:** BSBA (Finance) UF, Masters Business Administration (MBA) UWF

**Family:** Wife, Mitzi, and two sons, Maury and Joshua



## Joe Abston

Restaurateur, entrepreneur, visionary are only a few of the words that describe Joe Abston, a Pensacola State College Culinary Arts Program graduate.

We spoke with Abston, the owner of Hopjacks Pizza Kitchen and Taproom and The Tin Cow. The Johnson and Wales College of Culinary Arts grad has been cooking for as long as he can remember.

An early downtown revitalization pioneer, Abston has prepared meals for U.S. presidents and European royalty during his culinary career. And despite his community involvement, he still makes time for Pensacola State where he is a member of the PSC Alumni Association.

I really need more time in the kitchen. One of my mentors, Lawrence McFadden, an executive chef at Ritz-Carlton, once told me: "The better you get at something, the less you get to do it."

**Q:** Did you aspire to become an entrepreneur?

**A:** I didn't even know what that was. I was selling cinnamon sticks on the school bus at age 6. At 10 or 12, I charged people to remove mistletoe from their trees. I explained why it was bad and then I sold it at school at Christmastime.

Jim Dwyer, a business mentor, showed me I had entrepreneurial ability beyond the kitchen. I took a break from the kitchen for a while and was working for Starbucks in Philadelphia. Jim was a regular customer. He was also a marching band judge.

One day Jim tells me he's going to Florida to a town I never heard of—of course, it was Pensacola. When he said he'd be going to Tate High School, I told him to give my regards to the band director, Joe Hooten. Told him, Joe would remember me I'm sure as I was the first male flute player at Tate.

**Q:** Can you share the process when opening a new restaurant?

**A:** When we open a new restaurant, we open near the end of a normal day. This allows just a little time for us to work out the kinks. And "no matter how bad it gets, we close" at the end of the evening. This process started with Hopjacks. It allows us to reset for the next day. What did we do right? What did we do wrong? What do we need to do tomorrow?

**Q:** After high school, how did you end up at Pensacola Junior College?

**A:** I was always cooking for fun, helping my mom, etc. Around fourth-grade I started coming up with recipes. When I got to PJC I realized I had talent. I was in the second culinary class under (former director of Culinary Management) Howard Aller. I still consider him a mentor.

Eventually, I became an adjunct instructor. I spent a lot of time at the college helping when I wasn't working. PJC became my second home. I knew I was not going to be an academic. I didn't have the grades to be an architect. I realized cooking was my calling. I was learning all I could.

I left PJC for the islands—went to Johnson and Wales (2000) for another culinary management degree. I had already learned from my PJC education or on-the-job training most of what they were teaching.

I was excited and disappointed by Johnson and Wales, I was on the "Touring Competition Team."

From Johnson and Wales I was noticed by Ritz-Carlton. This is when my career took off.

**Q:** What did you do for the Ritz-Carlton?

**A:** I was a "tournant," French for "turn." I helped in any kitchen that needed help—poolside, pastry, five-star, four-star. Eventually, I helped open new properties in (Ritz-Carlton) Naples golf resort, Sarasota, Amelia Island. I learned to prepare five-star meals. I worked for the Prince of Monaco for a week, and I worked the Bush family reunion.

**Q:** What would you tell your 7-year-old self?

**A:** I wouldn't change anything. I believe in cause and effect—this leads to that.

**Q:** What would I tell another 7-year-old?

**A:** Stay in school! Get an education! Learn all you can, and find something to believe in. For me, it was food.

**Q:** Where are you from originally?

**A:** I was a military brat and grew up in Pensacola. I lived here from the seventh-grade until high school graduation. After I returned to Pensacola I met with Nick (Zangari) of New York Nick's.

**Q:** What changes have you seen in downtown Pensacola?

**A:** Downtown on the Palafox corridor, there were five restaurants and one bar when Hopjacks opened. Now, we have 32 restaurants and five bars within a five-year span with more coming.

**Q:** What advice would you offer current Pensacola State College students?

**A:** Go find someone you admire and then work with them, pick their brain. Do what you think is below you—find your niche, find a mentor. Be humble. Learn from it, and grow into whatever the next thing is.

## JOE IS AN IMPRESSIVE ENTREPRENEUR AND RESPECTED ALUMNUS."

—Patrice Whitten, Executive Director Alumni Affairs

**Q:** What's on the horizon for Joe Abston?

**A:** Our next hurdle is franchising of The Tin Cow.

**Q:** Why The Tin Cow and not Hopjacks?

**A:** The Tin Cow seems to work better, has a wider base of customers. The Pensacola demographic is better suited to a Tin Cow-style restaurant—good food, good atmosphere. The Tin Cow is an establishment people can relate to.

We just received the "Golden Spoon Award" for best new restaurant from Florida Trend magazine. You have to be in business for three years. We did not apply. They don't accept nominations.

**Q:** What advice do you have for the PSC Alumni Association and PSC alumni? How can alumni support the college in a meaningful way?

**A:** Two words—Big Presence. Meet-and-greets are great. This story is a good start. Introduce your students to the alumni in business.



**Question:** Now that you're a successful business owner, how often do you get back in the kitchen?

**Answer:** Not enough, I'm in the kitchen sporadically. I'm back there when someone is missing. I do a lot of menu work—right now, I'm working on a new menu for Pot Roast and Pinot and Hopjacks.

### AT A GLANCE

**Name:** Joe Abston

**Pensacola State connection:** Culinary Arts Program graduate and former adjunct professor

**Employment:** Owner of Hopjacks Pizza Kitchen & Taproom, The Tin Cow (all three locations). Oversees culinary direction of Pot Roast & Pinot and serves as an advisor to Edible Invaders

**Education:** 2001 graduate of Johnson and Wales University's College of Culinary Arts

**Family:** Parents, Bill and Jane Abston; business and life partner, Aimee Wilson.

# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

## A Beaker Half Full for 43 Years at PSC

A sign on his desk reads, "There will be no crisis today. My schedule is already full." But, physical sciences department head Ed Stout says his past 43 years at Pensacola State College have been filled with far more rewards than crises.

Remembering the April spring day in 1974 when he drove in from Illinois to interview for a chemistry teaching position, Dr. Stout said he was immediately drawn to the college.

"The azaleas were blooming and the campus was beautiful," recalled Stout, a New Orleans native.

Stout was considering his career choices, having just completed a year as a postdoctoral research associate in Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in the School of Chemical Sciences at the University of Illinois.

"I had come to a fork in the road. I had to choose between a research career path and an education career path," he said. "I am glad I took the education path and came to Pensacola State. The nice thing is I still got to do a substantial amount of interesting research along the way!"

"My 10 years teaching chemistry full time followed by 33 years as department head have been fun and rewarding — I've learned something new every day."

Making sure that PSC students also have good opportunities to learn has always been a priority for Stout. He is particularly proud of the work he did in the mid-80s to get administrative support for a new science building.

"Originally, all of the science classes were in the old Baars Building, and the labs were very poorly laid out," Stout remembered. "When I became department head in 1984, my first budget included a \$5 million request for a new science building."

"I wasn't sure anything would come of it, but a couple of years later I was asked to write a concept proposal for the new building."

"This time my faculty and I helped design the building so the chemistry labs would be safer and more efficiently placed around the stockroom. In 1990, the Baroco Center opened and included our new state-of-the-art planetarium."

More recently, Stout and chemistry professor Tim Hathway worked to acquire a \$100,000 Anasazi

Eft-60 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance spectrometer, making PSC the first local college to obtain this equipment for use by students in their sophomore year chemistry labs.

"Normally, undergraduate students are not allowed to operate such expensive, sophisticated instruments, but we purchased a student-friendly NMR that every PSC organic chemistry student now uses routinely," Stout explained.

"Part of my drive for many years has been to get more high-quality equipment in our labs to give students greater opportunity to see the depth of information available in science. Having good equipment and quality facilities make a statement that our college cares about our students."

Although Stout avoided listing his own accolades, he readily listed those of his outstanding faculty, many of whom have been inducted into the Academy of Teaching Excellence, and several of whom are dedicated sponsors for student clubs — the Engineering Club, Geology Club and Astronomy Club.

He also praised his fellow administrators and relayed how he enjoyed mentoring new department heads at the college over the years.

"Department heads, like scientists, have to solve problems," Stout said. "Chemistry taught me to be a better problem-solver, and it was rewarding to work with new department heads as they became better problem solvers too."

In early May, more than 100 PSC faculty and staff gathered for a retirement party shared by Stout and his good friend and colleague, astronomy professor Wayne Wooten, who also joined the college family in 1974 and is retiring this summer.

Wooten, Pensacola State's award-winning astronomy professor and prime energy behind the Escambia Amateur Astronomers Association, quickly gave recognition to the important role Stout has maintained in leading the physical sciences department.

"I think as an administrator, Ed listened well, was patient, and like a true scientist, waited until he had the facts, and upon analysis, proceeded with the best possible course for all involved," Wooten pointed out. "This was a great talent that made him widely respected by



*Dr. Stout served as the PSC graduation Grand Marshall in 2014.*

his faculty, and appreciated by the others in the college administration."

As he packed up his office, Stout admitted he won't miss all the paper work, but he will greatly miss the people in the physical sciences department, his fellow department heads, and his right-hand assistant for more than two decades, Kim LaFlamme.

"Kim is always helpful and keeps the office running smoothly. She knows what an academic assistant needs to do and she can also tell you what an academic department head is supposed to do," he quipped.

LaFlamme said her job is easy because she has the best boss anyone could have.

"It is hard to think of just one thing I would say about Dr. Stout. He is the most knowledgeable, caring, honest, smart, even-tempered person that I know. He has been a great asset to PSC over the years and we will all miss him very much," she said.

Echoing the sentiments of many across the college community, LaFlamme summed up: "I am very happy for him. But, working for over 26 years, side-by-side with him, it will be hard to see him go."

So, what is next for Dr. Stout?

Topping his list is sleeping in and enjoying a new-found freedom. He is planning more travels with his wife Donna and perhaps a train ride across Canada that she especially would like.

"I don't have a bucket list," Stout said. "My wife's list is long enough for both of us! I have no regrets."

### AT A GLANCE

**Name:** Dr. Edwin W. Stout Jr.

PSC Physical Sciences Department head, 1984-2017

PSC Chemistry professor, 1974-84

**Education:** Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Illinois, 1973-74, doctorate in Physical Chemistry, Florida State University, 1973; bachelor's degree in Chemistry, University of New Orleans, 1968

**Service:** American Chemical Society, 1975-present, U.S. Army, Vietnam Veteran, 1969-71

**Family:** Wife, Donna; two daughters, Amanda and Amy



# HAPPENINGS



Gerry Goldstein



Ed Meadows

## 2016 Pheasant and Quail Hunt



Gene Valentino



Bob Richburg

Mike Wiggins, Sandy Sansing, Chris Jones, Lane Harper



## Fish House



Buck Lee



Casey Brueske and Lindsey Durre



Robbie Gregg



Charlie Switzer and Sandy Sansing



Knox Parker



Tina Ervin and Susan Nelms



## Pen Air Federal Credit Union \$100K Gift Coincides with Pensacola State Milestone

A \$100,000 gift from Pen Air Federal Credit Union has helped Pensacola State College mark a historic milestone and make higher education a reality for students.

In partnership with Pensacola State College and the PSC Alumni Association Endowed scholarship initiative, the gift has been named Pen Air Federal Credit Union Scholarship Fund.

Established in November 2016, the fund will provide scholarship assistance to area residents who enroll at Pensacola State and meet the qualifications.

The \$100,000 donation also coincided with the college's celebration of surpassing more than 100,000 graduates. Pensacola State reached that milestone during the December 2016 graduation.

To date, more than 105,000 students have earned bachelor's degrees, associate degrees, certificates and diplomas from the college which opened in 1948.

Stu Ramsey, president and CEO of Pen Air, said the donation allowed

the credit union to make a positive impact on the community.

"Dreams can make incredible things happen, and having the education to back those dreams can make them a reality," he said.

The gift also names the Pen Air Federal Credit Union Room in the Edward M. Chadbourne Library. Formerly Room 2051, the Pen Air Federal Credit Union Room will host financial literacy classes and seminars to Pensacola State students, Pen Air members and the community.

Pensacola State College President Ed Meadows was very grateful to Pen Air for the donation.

"This generous gift will help so many of area residents attend college," he said.

"Pen Air's pacesetter gift will help us jump-start the growth of new scholarship funds. Combined with gifts from our past graduates, we can enable the maximum number of area residents to realize their goal of a college education and provide them the essential building blocks to



*In November 2016, Pen Air Federal Credit Union donated \$100,000 to Pensacola State College to establish the Pen Air Federal Credit Union Scholarship Fund. The donation also names the Pen Air Federal Credit Union Room in Chadbourne Library.*

lead productive lives and attain their career goals. We encourage our alumni to join with us and help future students attend college."

[www.alumni.pensacolastate.edu](http://www.alumni.pensacolastate.edu)

Visit our website and join today or update your profile!

