

ALUMNI ANCHOR

PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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PSC Launches New Alumni Affairs Office

Just a few years after Pensacola State College was established as Pensacola Junior College in 1948, students began seeking ways to continue their ties with the college after graduation. In January 1955, the Alumni Association was chartered and Joe Frosio, a 1950 graduate, served as the first president.

For more than half a century, Pensacola State alumni have played a vital role, supporting the college with their time and resources, cheering the Pirates at sporting events, applauding student efforts at concerts and plays, serving on PSC boards and giving valuable input to move the college forward.

Many PSC alum have returned as professors, teaching in classrooms where they once were students. Many more have encouraged their children and grandchildren to begin their college journey at Pensacola State.

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Alumni Association Welcomes New Leaders

January 2014 marks the 59th anniversary of the PSC Alumni Association. While celebrating its rich history, the Alumni Association is moving forward with a new Alumni Affairs Office headed by Executive Director Patrice Whitten (Class of 1975) and a new slate of officers and board members.

Leading the PSC Alumni Association into its sixth decade are President Jerry Maygarden (Class of 1972), Vice President Ted Kirchharr (Class of 1973), Secretary Lane Harper (Class of 1982) and Treasurer Deryl Hargett (Class of 1984).

New Alumni Association Board members are David Collins, Zeke Hazewinkel, Joseph Herring, W.A. "Buck" Lee, Susan Nelms, Charlie Switzer and Mike Thomas.

Jerry Maygarden, Chief Executive Officer of the Pensacola Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, says connecting with the PSC Alumni Association is important because of the college's influence in the surrounding area.

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Join the Alumni Association Today!



www.alumni.pensacolastate.edu

New Alumni Affairs Office cont.

In recognition of the importance of PSC alumni to the college and community, Pres. Edward Meadows recently revitalized the Alumni Affairs Office with PSC alum Patrice Whitten serving as Executive Director.

Dr. Meadows pointed out that Pensacola State – the oldest college in this area – celebrated its 65th anniversary last September, and it was the perfect time to expand the college's vision for alumni.

"We are moving forward in many areas and strengthening our alumni connection is an important area," Dr. Meadows said. "Part of an institution's responsibility to its students is to offer them opportunities to stay connected after graduation.

"Our college is proud of our grads. We are interested in them, and we want them to participate in the life of the college through our outreach in areas like the arts, athletics, continuing education,

professional development, and of course, the Alumni Association."

While alumni activities on campus are on the horizon, Dr. Meadows said the college is currently making the most of technology to bring alumni together.

"Because technology allows us to connect so easily, now is a great time to ramp up our efforts to reconnect with our alumni through the web and social media," he said.

"We have no doubt that we have alumni who love this college and want to stay connected and committed to it. Our new Alumni Affairs Office is working diligently to broaden that connection."

When she was asked to take the helm of the revamped Alumni Affairs Office, Patrice Whitten needed no introduction to her new position. It was like coming home for Whitten, who was a PSC student in the 1970s and also headed the PSC Foundation/Alumni Affairs for nearly two decades.

"The Alumni Association is reaching out to our alumni. We want to hear from each one," Whitten said. "Share your success story and upload a photo, create your profile, get email notifications of upcoming events and news or nominate a distinguished alumnus and join in the conversation.

"We invite you to visit our new website <http://alumni.pensacolastate.edu>. While there, sign in and join our online community and the Alumni Association."



Patrice Whitten,
Executive Director,
Alumni Affairs

Alumni Association Welcomes New Leaders cont.



Jerry Maygarden, President

"PSC has enhanced the quality of life for countless graduates, and they have gone on to shape the character of the entire region," Maygarden said. "PSC alumni have helped to make Northwest Florida a great place to live, work and play."

Ted Kirchharr, Chief Operating Officer at Landrum Professional Employer Services, says his support for the Alumni Association took root while he was a student.

"I had a great experience at Pensacola State," Kirchharr said. "Friends that I made at that time



Ted Kirchharr, Vice President

are still close friends. The Alumni Association helps us expand that circle of friends and reconnects us with friends that we might have lost contact with over the years."

Lane Harper, Vice President of Gulf Coast Office Products, sees involvement in the Alumni Association as a way of giving back to the community.

"Pensacola State gave me the foundation that I needed to go on to get a degree from the University of West Florida and then go into business," Harper said. "Through the



Lane Harper, Secretary

Alumni Association, I want to connect with the community and help others in ways that Pensacola State helped me when I was getting started."

Deryl Hargett, Account Manager at Gulf Power Company, sees the Alumni Association as a winning team effort, much like the Pirates baseball team where he played short stop and second baseman years ago.

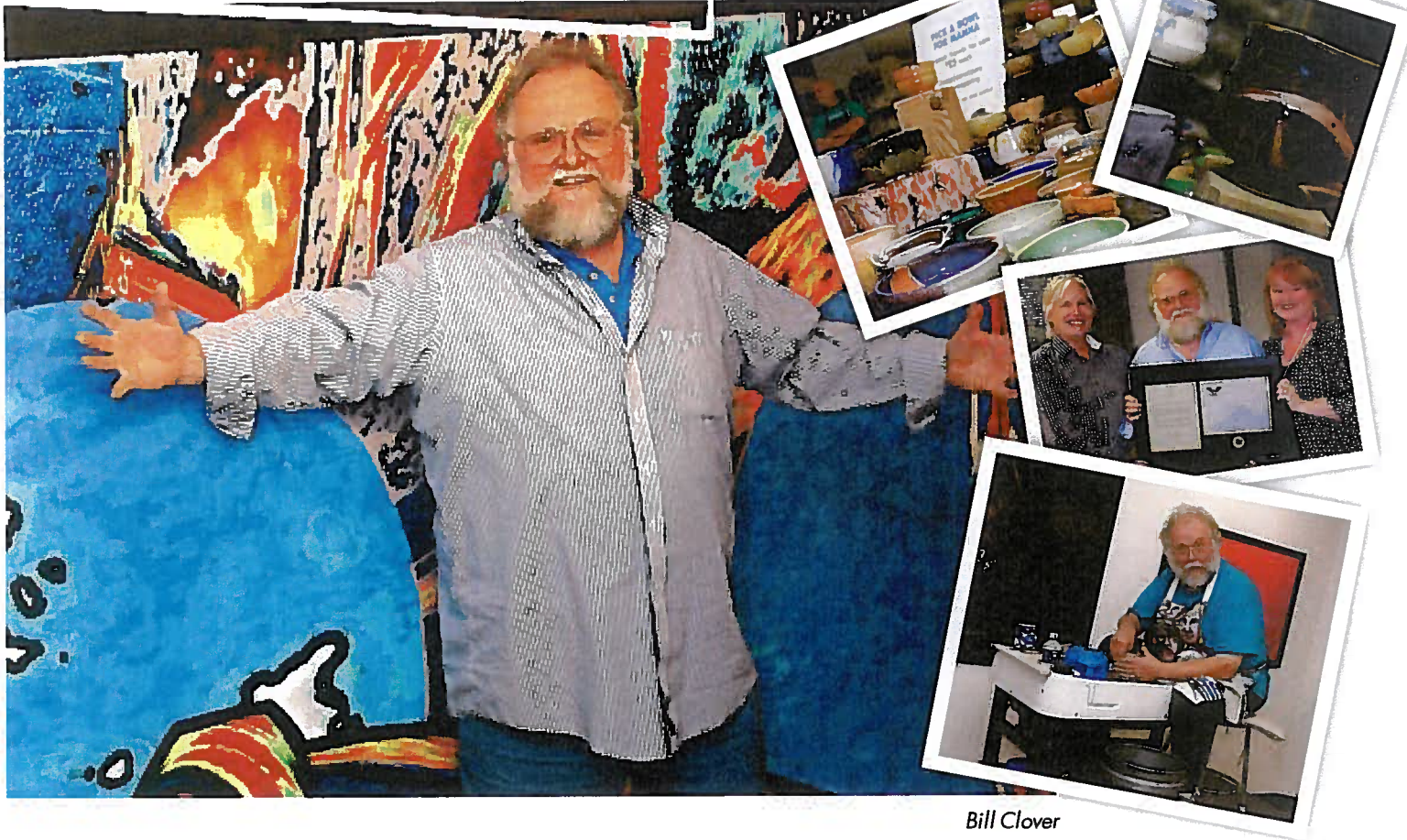
"Our team was a virtual melting pot of players from all over the country," Hargett recalled. "Our accents all sounded different but we were close-



Deryl Hargett, Treasurer

knit and we supported each other. PSC gave me the opportunity to play on a talented team (six players went pro after two years at PSC) and go places and do things that I might not have done otherwise. It was a great place to learn to make the most of my opportunities."

Go to <http://alumni.pensacolastate.edu> to find out more about the PSC Alumni Association and make the most of your opportunity to be a part of an exciting team.



Bill Clover

Colorful Art Professor Receives National Volunteer Service Award

Anyone who knows PSC Visual Arts Professor **Bill Clover** will tell you that he is just as colorful, unique, non-traditional and captivating as the art he creates.

The PSC alumni who have been in his classes will tell you Clover molds minds and future artists at Pensacola State with the same unconventional zest and individual attention that he uses on his award winning pottery.

For almost half a century, "Clover" as he is affectionately called by colleagues and students alike, has been as integral to the Visual Arts Department as the paints, canvases and sacks of clay.

Delightfully embedded in the generations of his former students are favorite "Clover stories" that recount his outrageous sense of humor, his inclination for wearing shorts in winter, his office that is so packed it literally overflows into the hallway... the list goes on.

The stories vary but they always include Clover's genuine concern for his students. Often cited are the popular "Clover mugs" that he crafts

and sells for the sole purpose of raising scholarship funds for PSC art students.

Over the years, his altruistic art has grown to also benefit the area's neediest citizens.

Clover recently received the U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award for contributing more than 7,000 hours of volunteer service to Manna Food Pantries.

Clover was recognized for his work in creating about 6,500 hand-crafted bowls over the last seven years for Manna's fundraising events at PSC — Pick a Bowl held each November and Fill a Bowl held each January. He also donates all the clay used to make the bowls.

Signed by President Barak Obama, the award inscription states in part: "Thank you for your devotion to service and for doing all you can to shape a better tomorrow for our great nation."

Manna Executive Director DeDe Flounlacker surprised Clover with a presentation of the award at a PSC Board of Trustees meeting.

"I had no idea this award was coming. I was at the board meeting to thank the trustees for providing funds for two new kilns for our pottery classes," said Clover, who began his teaching career at PSC in 1966.

"I was completely caught off guard when DeDe presented the award.

"This award is a great honor. It's very humbling to get this attention for making the bowls. I'm just doing something that I enjoy doing and it's for a cause that is important to me."

Known across the country for his art and pottery, Clover produces more than 900 sought-after bowls each year that are earmarked for the Manna events. He works year-round on the bowls, often arriving at 5 a.m. to fire the kilns at the PSC Visual Arts Department before classes begin.

"When I make each bowl, I'm concerned with how it affects people visually, how it is used, and how it feels in your hands," Clover said.

The attention he pours into his bowls is indicative of the commitment Clover has for helping Manna feed the community's hungry.

"Manna is working to fill a huge need in this area," Clover said. "In the past, I had contributed goods, especially baby food, to Manna. With the Pick a Bowl and Fill a Bowl events, I can help them raise funds to purchase needed items, often in bulk at a reduced price. It is very humbling to play a part in this."

For instance, last November's Pick a Bowl event at PSC's Anna Lamar Switzer Center for Visual Arts raised more than \$12,000 through the sale of Clover's bowls along with those also produced by PSC students and faculty. January's Fill a Bowl event at the Jean and Paul Amos Performance Studio added another \$16,000 for Manna.

Clover quickly gives credit for the fundraising success to Manna's "Bowl" committee made up of college, community and Manna members.

"The Manna committee is the best in the world," he said. "They do all the work for the events and I do what I enjoy — making bowls."

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Alumni Association
1000 College Blvd
Pensacola, FL 32504



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Edward Meadows, President

President Meadows Becomes First Lifetime Charter Member

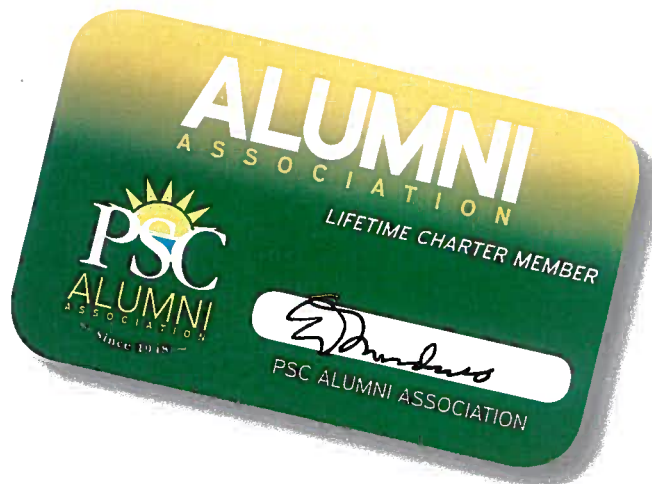
One of the new offerings from the PSC Alumni Association is the Lifetime Charter Membership, open to friends of the college as well as alumni.

Dr. Edward Meadows recently took advantage of this opportunity, becoming the first Lifetime Charter Member of the Alumni Association. "As PSC president, I decided that although I am not an alumnus of the college, I have a commitment to the college and want to stay connected with it," he said. "There is no better way for me to stay connected to the college than

with a Lifetime Membership in the Alumni Association.

"In a sense, this is a challenge to all PSC alumni and friends to stay connected and committed to the college with a Lifetime Membership."

Becoming a member in the PSC Alumni Association is quick and easy. For more information on the Lifetime Charter Membership or Annual Membership in the Alumni Association, go to <http://alumni.pensacolastate.edu>.



www.alumni.pensacolastate.edu

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