

The
COLUMN
ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY

PLANTING SEEDS
for Success

WINTER 2019

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A MESSAGE FROM INTERIM PRESIDENT INGLE



Dear alumni and friends of Athens State University:

It is good to be back at Athens State University and to see new faces mingled with familiar ones.

As you are aware, I am serving as interim president while the search for a new president takes place. The search consultants were recently on campus to speak with various groups from Athens State University and the Athens community in order to create a profile of a new president for Athens State. In the meantime, I will focus on providing leadership for the unique legacy that defines Athens State.

We are growing and changing - willing to tackle the challenges of higher education, working diligently to keep up with the demands and promises of technology, practicing authenticity of what it means to educate, and always making students our first priority.

As the University nears our bicentennial anniversary in 2022, this ability to adapt, paired with our dedication to student success, will be instrumental in paving the way to another 200 years of serving our mission. As we plan celebrations leading up to 2022, we encourage you to get involved and be a part of this momentous occasion. We are working to gather stories from our University family to better tell the history of Athens State, along with what this special place means to so many.

This is a significant time at Athens State University, with changes in leadership that will help lead the institution into the future, all while celebrating 200 years of memories. I'm honored to be a part of it. And I hope you are, too.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Ronald R. Ingle".

Ronald R. Ingle

OUR VISION

Athens State University will be the premier destination for transfer students seeking the highest quality education and cutting-edge delivery at the most affordable cost. As the upper division university in Alabama, building on a tradition that began in 1822, Athens State University will be the catalyst for positive change in the lives of its students.

OUR MISSION

The University advances the best interests of its students and the State of Alabama through teaching, service, research, and other creative activities to empower students to make valuable contributions in their professional, civic, educational, and economic endeavors. Through innovative communication and course delivery for high-quality undergraduate and select graduate programs, Athens State University provides a supporting environment for each student, demonstrating the importance of the diverse and interdependent nature of our state and society. Athens State University changes the face of Alabama by changing the lives of its students.

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CONNECT WITH US



ACADEMIC SEARCH, INC. TO ASSIST WITH PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

ACADEMIC SEARCH

The Athens State University Board of Trustees has retained Academic Search, Inc., to assist with the upcoming Presidential search. With a mission of providing the highest level of service to clients and assisting in enriching the pipeline of potential leaders for higher education, Academic Search has worked exclusively for nearly 40 years in searches for presidents and senior administrators in higher education.

Senior Consultants of Academic Search, Mr. John Garland and Dr. Eric Richtmyer, visited campus on November 14 & 15 to meet with members of the campus community and the Search Committee. The role of the consultants is not to select the next President but rather to support the Search Committee and to help ensure that the search and selection process is managed effectively. This will be beneficial in ensuring the best leader possible is secured for the future of Athens State University.

The Athens State University Board of Trustees has appointed Interim President Dr. Ron Ingle as the Chair of the Presidential search committee. Other committee members were both elected and appointed from various University and community constituencies. The search committee membership includes representatives from the local community, the faculty, staff, and students of the University, as well as representatives from the Alumni and Foundation Boards.

Academic Search, Inc. will begin advertising the position in early December with a deadline of early February 2019 for full consideration of applications. Semi-finalists' interviews are anticipated to occur in late February 2019. Campus visits for finalists are expected to occur late March, with the appointment announced mid-April.

The Board of Trustees welcomes presidential nominations by all members of the Athens State University community.

Confidential nominations can be made by forwarding the name(s) and contact information to the consultants from Academic Search:

Mr. John Garland
Dr. Eric Richtmyer

jwg@academic-search.com
ewr@academic-search.com

The success of our search depends on the involvement, support, and interest of all members of our campus community.



"The Board of Trustees is excited to select Academic Search to lead the recruitment process for Athens State University's next president. Academic Search specializes in recruiting executive personnel in higher education by providing continual guidance, insight, and perspective as the search moves toward a successful hiring decision. Athens State is a unique institution serving a niche market, so we knew we needed a firm who has a proven track record of providing personalized service and one that is committed to meeting the needs of all University constituents. We are confident that Academic Search can be of assistance as we begin a new chapter in Athens State's history."

Mr. Ronnie Chronister - Chair, Athens State University Board of Trustees

Stay updated on the presidential search process:

ATHENS.EDU/PRESIDENTIALSEARCH



STAFF SENATE RAISES MONEY FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

The Athens State University Staff Senate raised almost \$900 during the annual Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraiser. All of the money collected was donated to the Athens-Limestone Hospital Foundation to be used for mammogram scholarships and women's health machines.

For this year's fundraiser, the Staff Senate sold Pink Ribbon cards. On these cards, the donor could include a name and denote whether the tribute was "in honor of" or "in memory of" the individual. These cards were put on display during the month of October at the Sandridge Student Union Building's north entrance.

This is the second consecutive year that Athens State University's Staff Senate has worked with the Athens-Limestone Hospital Foundation for this cause.

Additionally, the Staff Senate lit the front of historic Founders Hall in pink to further bring awareness of this cause and to honor those touched by the disease.

The staff as a whole was delighted to assist with mammogram scholarships for the Hospital Foundation. "The entire staff here at Athens State has always been very generous with the Staff Senate's fundraising activities," said Chris Moss, Athens State University Staff Senate presiding officer. "I am extremely happy to be associated with a staff that is so giving to those in need."

Pictured to the right are University staff members donating the funds to the Hospital Foundation staff.





WE'VE BEEN PROGRESSIVE & RESILIENT FROM DAY ONE

As we approach our bicentennial, we are reminded of our rich history and the many inspiring people who have passed through these historic columns. Despite epidemics, wars, and economic downturns, Athens State has not only endured, but it has grown into a highly respected university.

**Our commitment to serve the community
as well as our students is stronger than ever.**

HONORING THE PAST · CELEBRATING THE PRESENT
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HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

1 VISIT ATHENSFOREVER.ORG

Visit ATHENSFOREVER.ORG to learn more about our Bicentennial Celebration and the capital campaign that is building the next chapter of Athens State University. Read stories from alumni, students, donors, faculty, and staff who all have one thing in common - a great love for this historic institution we call home!

2 FOLLOW "ATHENS FOREVER" ON FACEBOOK

Follow us on Facebook (@AthensForeverBicentennial) to learn about Bicentennial news and events, and see even more stories from the Athens State family. You can also reconnect with classmates, faculty, and staff from years gone by!

3 SUBMIT YOUR STORY

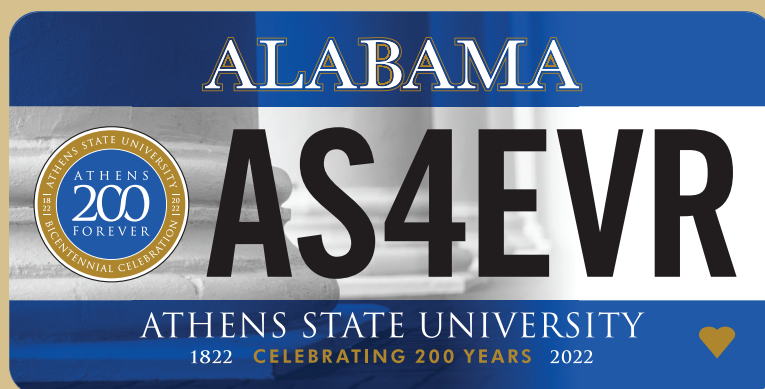
Help us celebrate our history by sharing YOUR Athens State story. Tell us about your experience, about your friends who enriched your time here, about the staff or faculty member you will never forget. Send your story to: Athens State University | Attn: Dr. Robert Burkhardt | 300 N. Beaty Street | Athens, AL 35611

4 ORDER YOUR "ATHENS FOREVER" SWAG

Show your Athens State pride and help us spread the word about our upcoming Bicentennial Celebration - all while helping support student success! Order your "Athens Forever" bicentennial merchandise online at athens.edu/alumni/fundraisers or call us to place your order by phone at (256) 233-8185.

5 RIDE WITH PRIDE - GET THE ATHENS STATE LICENSE PLATE

Another way to show your Athens State pride while helping fund student scholarships is to purchase an Athens State University collegiate license plate! This special edition is a commemorative tag for the "Athens Forever" Bicentennial. For just \$50 added to your annual registration fee, you will receive an Athens State license plate with free personalization. Out of the \$50 fee, \$48.75 is returned to the University, so your support is directly impacting students and their quest for success!





PLANTING SEEDS *for Success*

AN INTERVIEW WITH MR. JERRY NEWBY

“

I believe that I received a good education when I was at Athens. All of my family feels that way. Athens State University means a whole lot to the Newby family. It has helped us to grow and be successful.

”

Growing cotton is second nature to long-time farmer and Limestone County native Jerry Newby. His family has a long and storied history in Athens, dating back to the 1800s. Farming runs deep in the Newby family – seven generations deep, to be exact.

Jerry has had a successful career focused around farming; he served as the president of the Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance from 1998 until 2012. Once part owner of Newby Farms and a long-time farmer, he has seen firsthand the impact of technological advancements and innovations that have revolutionized the farming industry. From planting and picking cotton by hand to operating equipment that can plant and harvest multiple rows at a time, farming has changed a lot over the years.

As Jerry looks back at his life and his career, he is thankful for the opportunities that have come his way and also for the people who have helped make it all happen. A focus on education has been apparent throughout the Newby family, especially when skills can be directly applied in real-world work environments. Jerry's family has a rich history in earning an education while working their way through school, particularly at Athens College, now Athens State University. However, Jerry's connection to Athens State goes even deeper, as his parents met and fell in love during their time on the historic campus, and Jerry, along with many other members of the Newby family, have followed in the tradition of attending the institution.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Jerry's father, James M. Newby, completed high school in 1939. Unable to pay college tuition, he worked on the family farm the first year he was out of high school to save enough money to enroll at Athens College. His college career began in the winter quarter of 1940. During that time, the Methodist Church (who operated Athens College at the time) had purchased a hosiery mill in Decatur to allow students to work their way through school and pay their tuition, which James took advantage of.

Jerry's aunt, Mary, was also enrolled at Athens College during this time, and his mother, Martha, (Mary's sister) enrolled in the fall of 1940, both from Columbia, Tennessee. They both chose to attend Athens College because it was a

Methodist institution. During her time on campus, Martha worked her way through school as the on-campus mailer, distributing mail to the campus offices and dormitories and delivering the mail to and from the local post office. She graduated with a degree in education in 1944.

James M. and Martha got married at First Baptist Church, the home of the current First Baptist Church Family Life Center. "They were both 22, and Daddy had been away with the Army. He arrived in town, they got married, had dinner at the old Ross Hotel where they were staying, and at 4:00 AM the next morning, the newlyweds were headed to Texas where he was stationed with the Army. He was stationed in California prior to his deployment in the European Theater," says Jerry.

Once James shipped out to Europe, Martha returned to Columbia, Tennessee. Jimmy, Jerry's brother, was born in 1945; once James successfully completed his deployment, they moved to Athens. Jerry was born in 1947, and his mother began teaching in Limestone County. His father completed his business degree from Athens College in 1948. He built a country store that he operated in Sardis Springs. "Daddy was a farmer, a business owner, and a family man. He eventually became a public servant and served on the Limestone County Board of Education. Later he was elected tax assessor and probate judge of Limestone County," says Jerry.



Jerry's love for farming began at an early age. As Jerry and his brother Jimmy matured and grew, they worked on the dairy farm and then they started "working a little cotton." His father gifted a percentage of the crops to each son to encourage them to have a vested interest in the farm. At this time, the farm was operated by Jerry's grandfather, father, brother, and himself. In 1963, they purchased their first one-row cotton picker, and after graduating high school in 1966, Jerry, along with his father and brother, formed James Newby and Sons Farm.

The belief that a college education was beneficial was instilled early on by his parents, and they strongly encouraged them to go to college. They spoke frequently about their love for Athens College, the memories they had together there, and how an education helps make sound decisions in business dealings and in life. After graduating high school, Jerry started taking basic education courses

at Calhoun Community College; having a stake in the farm, Jerry knew he wanted to stay close to home when completing his education. He enrolled at Athens College and began studying business, as farming is a business that requires the same knowledge, processes, and considerations as any other retail operation.

Jerry graduated from Athens College in 1972 with his business degree. He later became very involved in the Alabama Farmers Federation. His leadership began with an innocent conversation with the man who was in charge of the Young Farmers who felt that Limestone County needed to have a division of the Alabama Farmers Federation, so a meeting was held to discuss. "Five couples and myself were in attendance. All the men there had a wife but me, and they wanted us to make a decision whether we wanted to have a division there. The County President of the Federation said that the County would support it. A vote was taken, and it was agreed that Limestone County would participate. They needed a chairman, and since everyone had a wife except me, they nominated me; and that's how I became chairman."

Jerry is quick to point out that while he has found success in his life and business dealings, it was not solely due to his own efforts; it takes a lot of hard work by many different people. "The only way to be successful is to work together," says Jerry. "This is especially true in a farming operation. I've been very fortunate to have people surrounding me that have helped me get to where I am today. I feel very blessed."

GENERATIONS OF ATHENIANS

In all, eight members of Jerry's family have graduated from Athens State (Jerry; his wife, Dianne; his parents, James M. and Martha; his aunt, Mary; his brother, Jimmy; his nephew, John; and his daughter, Elizabeth). "I believe that I received a good education when I was at Athens," says Jerry. "All of my family feels that way. Athens State University means a whole lot to the Newby family. It has

helped us to grow and be successful." He also said that Athens State University means a great deal to the city of Athens and surrounding areas. "I think Athens State University can give a person a new lease in a career, in life in general. Athens State University has the programs that people need, and they can get a good education here at an affordable cost - the lowest in the state of Alabama and one of the lowest in the country. Athens State University has the ability to touch people's lives to make their lives better." Jerry continues, "I have had friends that have come to Athens and have graduated at 55 or 60 years old, and it changed their lives for the better. I think one of the things that a college education does for you is that it gives you confidence. You had to work to get that degree; it gives you confidence that you can be successful." As the top university in the state of Alabama for non-traditional students, Athens State focuses on providing educational opportunities to learners of any age.

PLANTING SEEDS

Any good farmer knows that before you can step back and admire your crop, you have to plant the seeds. You have to put a lot of work into nurturing the crop, protecting it along the way and providing the resources needed to allow it to reach its full potential. Much is the same for young students, aiming for the stars but needing a bit of guidance along the way. That's why the Newby family feels strongly about giving back to the community, especially students pursuing a quality education. The family has endowed six scholarships that provide opportunities for Athens State students each year, directly impacting student success.

Jerry and his wife, Dianne, have three children, Elizabeth, Mary Anna, and Jerry Allen. They all grew up on the Newby farm, and Elizabeth is a 2007 graduate of Athens State. Jerry no longer has a hand in the business operations of Newby Farms, but farming will forever be in his blood. "I really liked farming. I loved farming. And I still do," he says.

ATHENS STATE RANKED #1 IN ALABAMA FOR NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS

Athens State University has been named one of the best colleges and universities for non-traditional students in the state of Alabama by College Factual's 2019 rankings. Ranked #1 out of 21 schools in Alabama, Athens State was recognized as "the best college in the state for returning adults and other non-traditional students." The University has upheld this ranking for the past two years.

Non-traditional students are those who fall outside the "norm" of typical student parameters; they are classified as those who attend school part-time, are over the age of 25, and/or are either attending school for the first time or returning after an absence. As the number of

non-traditional students continues to grow in college populations across the country, Athens State University is an ideal school to cater to these students' unique needs by providing affordability, quality, and a large selection of online courses.

On a larger scale, Athens State University was also ranked #37 out of 1,159 colleges and universities nationwide for non-traditional students. This puts Athens State in the top 5% of schools in the nation for returning adults and other non-traditional students seeking a valuable option for continuing studies that fit their individual ways of life.



JONES NAMED ALABAMA STATE FIDDLE CHAMPION



Mr. Bill Jones, from Covington, Georgia, was named “Alabama State Fiddle Champion” at the 52nd annual Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention held at Athens State University October 4-6.

Jones won the title by winning the “fiddle off,” which pits the top fiddlers from the junior, intermediate, and senior divisions, earning the Convention’s top prize of \$1,200. Tyler Andal, from Nashville, Tennessee, finished runner-up.

The 2018 Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention was presented by Huntsville International Airport, with stage sponsorships by Alabama Farmers Cooperative and Aetos Systems, Inc. Other sponsors included Athens State University Foundation and the Greater Limestone County Chamber of Commerce. The Convention contributes to Athens State by funding student scholarships and University projects.

Above L-R: Rick Mould, Fiddlers Committee; Bill Jones, 2018 Alabama State Fiddle Champion; and Gayle Davis, Fiddlers Committee

For a list of all winners, please visit TVOTFC.ORG



See more pictures of this year’s Convention online at TVOTFC.ORG/GALLERY



Athenian LETTERS

In response to the Office of University Advancement mailing CDs to members of the Class of 1968 that were a copy of an Athens Chorale record:

You cannot imagine the surprise of opening the mailing envelope and finding a CD of a record of which I have played the grooves off! I was a member of that choral group, under the direction of Harry Moon. In fact, I sang in the Athens Chorale almost the whole time I was a student at the College/University. Our rehearsal room was on the top floor of McCandless, and it was a wonderful space – skylights, etc.

Harry was a fantastic director! He pushed us to do really great music. Hard music. He expected perfection, and although that was often not attained, we came close, often.

A bit of “behind the scenes” behind the record of this body of work: I was a senior when this record was made. It was early May, 1968. We had to make the recording before several of our best singers returned “north.” I would imagine some of those students, who had really wonderful voices, would not return to Athens. Some would. So, we had to get the recording done. We set our risers up in the middle of the gym, because of the acoustics. I don’t know where Harry got the recording equipment, but Harry had to manage it before/after each song – that’s why some of the endings of the songs were cut short. If you listen carefully you can hear birds in the background, chirping away. They could care less that we were making a recording. When we ended performing a song, we had to stand perfectly still so Harry could halt the tape recorder. Of course, we had to repeat some of the songs to get them up to Harry’s standards. Some of the selections on the album/CD were recorded on site when we sang at First Baptist in Huntsville earlier in the spring term [trimester? . . . whatever it was that year . . . Admin couldn’t make up its mind as to what we called the ‘times’ within the academic year . . . it WAS a mess!!] . . . Those selections sung at FBC were less ‘alive’ in my opinion. When the choir got through singing all the music Harry had chosen for the record, and we were leaving the hot gym, it was like a funeral. Those of us who were seniors would not be coming back that next fall. We would probably never see some of our fellow choir members again. We even thought we would never see Harry again, as he was migrating to Atlanta to direct the music program at Oglethorpe College. Some would never return to the campus. It was like a death.

It was a while before the actual 33 1/3 record was delivered to the choir members. It was like Christmas getting

the record [at least for me]. For a long time, I literally cried when I played the record; it was actually painful in some instances. Like I said, I’ve played the grooves off my record. “Cry Out and Shout,” the first piece on the record is still, for me, THE most exciting piece of Christian musical literature I’ve ever sung. All the choir folks loved it. Each selection had a special meaning. “Madame Jeanette” was special to me because Jeanette Osterheld (Schuster) was a member of the choir and such a wonderful young lady. The group, The Jesus Mafia, we called it, I ran around with nick-named Jeanette “Mother Superior.” We were, in those days, a lightly irreverent group!! So, to sing about our Jeanette was special.

So, all of those wonderful memories, and more, are wrapped up in this recording/CD. A real piece of Athens history!!

I have kept up with Jeanette through the years. We’ve been to several funerals of Athens College alumni. Jeanette and her sister, Kay, were at my wife’s graveside funeral two years ago.

I was fortunate enough to reconnect with Harry that following fall in Atlanta. While I was attending Emory’s Candler School of Theology, I volunteered to sing in the Oglethorpe College Chorale, which Harry directed. Then, he assumed the position of director of the Candler Choraliers, at Emory; a group of 20 select male voices, responsible for providing choral music for worship services in the chapel on Tuesdays and Thursdays. So, for the rest of my seminary career, I had the high honor to sing under Harry’s direction.

And it all started at Athens College.

And I still love the record and play it often. Such wonderful, wistful, memories! So, I thank you, and the University, for sending this prized CD, which is such a part of my life and history.

Jeff Bayne, Class of 1968

**Email your “Athenian Letters” to the
Office of Marketing & Communications at
communications@athens.edu**

MOSSHOLDER APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF MAJOR GIFTS



Athens State is pleased to announce the appointment of Erica Mossholder as Director of Major Gifts. Mossholder holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from the University of Alabama and a Master of Business Administration from University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Mossholder has twelve years of experience in higher education, nonprofit, and business combined, working most recently as the Executive Director for the national nonprofit, Children's Craniofacial Association (CCA)

in Dallas, Texas. She helped CCA navigate through a period of executive transition and ignited rapid growth, doubling their revenues in a three year period. During this time, she also partnered with the production of the film "Wonder" to bring national awareness to CCA kids. Mossholder has also worked at the University of Alabama in Huntsville and the University of Alabama where she helped develop and support new programs and initiatives.

As the University prepares to celebrate its bicentennial, Mossholder will be invaluable in securing funds to insure bright futures for students. For more information about the Athens Forever bicentennial celebration and capital campaign, please visit ATHENSFOREVER.ORG.

ATHENS STATE RANKED TOP 20 IN NATION FOR MOST AFFORDABLE ONLINE ACCOUNTING PROGRAM

Athens State University has been named one of the most affordable online options for students to obtain a bachelor's degree in accounting. The University's online program was ranked #19 in the nation by SR Education Group in their 2019 Most Affordable Online Colleges for Accounting list and included in College Cliff's top 20 list of the best higher education institutions offering online bachelor's degrees in accounting.

Each college featured in the lists offers degree options that can be completed entirely online. The rankings represent "online schools across the nation that are

committed to providing affordable, economical options for students." Tuition rates for each college were manually researched to determine the most affordable choices. Academic program features such as courses offered and financial aid options were also factored in.

Athens State University focuses on providing affordable, flexible, and high-quality options for all learners. Whether a student is full-time or part-time, Athens State offers a wide variety of online, in class, or blended course options to conveniently fit into any schedule.



Pictured are members of the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Student Chapter Accounting Club, along with advisors Dr. Diann Hammon and Professor Emily Corzine, receiving their award on stage at the leadership conference in St. Louis, Missouri. This award recognizes the group as one of the top 5% of student chapters in the nation.

IMA ACCOUNTING CLUB WINS AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

The Athens State University Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Student Chapter Accounting Club recently attended a Student Leadership Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. Over 400 students, representing over 100 IMA student chapters, attended. At the conference, Athens State was awarded the IMA Award of Excellence in Gold and the Award of Excellence – Outstanding Student Chapter.

Many of the attending chapters compete for the IMA Award of Excellence in Gold, Silver and/or Bronze. Of those who win gold, only up to five are awarded the Award of Excellence – Outstanding Student Chapter. A monetary award of \$1,000 accompanied the Outstanding Chapter Award, and the club was recognized on stage during the event's luncheon.

While at the conference, Athens State's IMA Chapter also won a t-shirt design contest. Designs had to meet specific criteria, such as focusing on the Certified Management Certification (CMA). The prize included a monetary gift of \$500 for the club.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION & ALUMNI AWARDS CEREMONY

APRIL 6

On April 6, 2019, the Athens State University Foundation, in conjunction with the Athens State University Alumni Association, will host a Scholarship Reception and Alumni Awards Ceremony in Carter Gymnasium.

This event offers an opportunity to recognize our supporters, honor successful Athens State alumni, and serve as a mentoring opportunity for our new scholarship recipients.

The Alumni Association is seeking nominations for the Annual Alumni Awards. The nomination packet must include a completed nomination form, a cover letter from the nominator, at least one additional letter of recommendation, and a resume, vitae, bio and/or supporting article. All completed packets must be submitted online, delivered to the Office of Advancement, or postmarked no later than Friday, February 1, 2019.

Visit athens.edu/alumni/alumni-awards for more information.

MAY 16



28TH ANNUAL ALUMNI GOLF CLASSIC

The 28th annual Athens State University Alumni Golf Classic will be held Thursday, May 16, 2019, at Canebrake Club in Athens. All proceeds from the tournament fund scholarships for the following academic year.

The Golf Classic was established by JJ and Dottie Donahue. Scholarship awards have steadily increased from \$9,000 in 2010-2011 to more than \$26,000 in 2018-2019. Each scholarship recipient volunteers at alumni events throughout their award year and is considered for a renewal based on their service to the Alumni Association. Scholarship funds are raised through sponsorships, team entries, and donations.

SAVE THE DATE FOR HOMECOMING 2019!

**JULY
26-27**

Join us on Friday, July 26, 2019, beginning at 6:00 PM, for food, fun, and fellowship on the green in front of Founders Hall. This year's Homecoming will honor the Class of 1969. At the commencement ceremony scheduled for Saturday, July 27, the Class of 1969 will march with the Class of 2019 and will receive special certificates commemorating their joining the 50 Year Club. We hope you will make plans to join us for this special occasion!



ARE YOU A MEMBER? JOIN THE ATHENS STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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“My Athens State experience allowed me to complete my Bachelor of Science degree in education with the help of a foundation scholarship.”

READ MORE:
[ATHENSFOREVER.ORG](https://athensforever.org)

DR. FRED ABERNATHY
Assistant Principal
Decatur High School

