Matthews Foundation Donates Historic $1 Million Donation

Panola College received the largest donation in its 67 year history. The Charles C. Matthews Foundation has generously awarded $1 million dollars to Panola College to equip fully the new Student Center currently in the construction phase. The Matthews Foundation has previously shown its support of Panola College through the creation of the Charles C. Matthews Endowed Scholarship in 2010 to assist eligible Panola County students with tuition and fees. The Trustees of the Charles C. Matthews Foundation believe this historic gift will benefit and impact the lives of students and the community for the present and future. “We are pleased this opportunity is available for us to take part in the improvement of Panola College,” said the Trustees.

The announcement was made during a reception at the college to recognize and honor the Matthews Foundation for their substantial donation to Panola College. Members of the Board of Trustees, Faculty, and Staff of the college, and Panola College Foundation members were present to extend their appreciation and gratitude. “This is an extraordinary commitment from the Charles C. Matthews Foundation. This latest gift is truly magnificent and we are deeply grateful. It sets a marvelous standard of generosity” said Dr. Powell.

“The Panola College Board of Trustees greatly appreciates the Charles C. Matthews Foundation. The confidence that their donations demonstrate in the college is invaluable,” said Board Chair, William Goolsby.

Chevron Donates $70,000 to Petroleum Technology Program

January 22, 2015, Mike Milliorn, Chevron Operations Supervisor, and Kim Smith, Operations Assistant, presented Dr. Joe Shannon, Vice President of Instruction, and Dean Natalie Oswalt with a $70,000 donation for Panola College’s petroleum technology department. “We appreciate Chevron for their continuing financial support. This generous donation will greatly benefit the growing need in our expanding program,” said Dr. Shannon.
Panola College Receives $63,500 from Chevron

On August 6, 2015, Mike Milliorn, Chevron Operations Supervisor, Kim Smith, Operations Assistant, and Carlie Smith, Panola College student, presented Panola College’s Petroleum Technology program with a $63,500 donation. “We are greatly appreciative for Chevron’s continued support and generosity. It is only with the support of companies, like Chevron, that we are able to continue to grow our Petroleum Technology Program,” said Dean Natalie Oswalt, Dean of Professional and Technical Programs.

Fundraising

Gatsby Gala Fundraising Success

On January 31st, Panola College Foundation hosted its first annual gala fundraiser with a Gatsby inspired theme. The Gatsby Gala brought in almost 100 Panola College supporters dressed in their best 1920’s attire for the event and raised over $20,000. The goal of the evening, which took place in the M.P. Baker Library at Panola College, was to help raise funds for the Foundation’s Floating Granite Fountain campaign, which will mark the memorable occasion of the new Health and Natural Sciences building currently being constructed.
With more than 250 participants, the fifth annual Panola College 5K Run was a blast of fun. As the first ever color run, run organizer and sponsor of the Student Government Association (SGA), Government Professor Brian Naples reported that donations to this year’s run surpassed $12,000.
The Sustainers Group was established in 2008. The 2014 Sustainers Group was comprised of 40 citizens and businesses who want to ensure that Panola College remains an affordable institution offering quality courses and training to the citizens of East Texas.

AEP-Southwestern Electric Power Company
Richard & Barbara Ballenger
Tate & Kathryn Barber
Brett & Melissa Biggs
Guy & Jean Bunyard
Carthage Lions Club
Carthage Rotary Club
David & Deborah Chadwick
Citizens Bank
Don & Amy Clinton
John & Walta Cooke
Robert L. Davis
Farmers State Bank
Gene & Brenda Giles
Guy & Cindy Griffin
Phillip & Cynthia Grimes
Becky Gullette
W. H. Gullette
Cassity Jones Family
Luminant

Foster & Mary Payne Murphy
Jim & Sandra Payne
Bobby & JoNell Phillips
Lewis H. Pool Foundation
Gregory & Joann Powell
Progressive Waste Solutions
Joe & Jodie Reed
Carolyn Reid
Jackie & Susan Robinson
Raymond & Susan Schieffer
Dr. Joe Shannon
Robert & Mary Ella Sherman
Laura Shivers
Don & Patricia Smith
Ruth Stephens
Charles & Linda Thomas
Lynn & Carol Vincent
Fannie Watson
Steve & Rhonda Williams
Charles (Bud) Worley

Panola College Scholarships

There are currently 135 endowed scholarships with one new scholarship established and an additional $66,512 added to existing scholarships in 2014-2015. A total of 67 students were awarded for a total of $43,350 received scholarships.
Dave Gorrie Memorial Baseball Scholarship Established

Panola College is proud to announce the establishment of the Dave Gorrie Memorial Baseball Scholarship. The scholarship was established by family and friends in memory of Dave Gorrie.

David Franklin Gorrie was born to Franklin and Virginia (Woolley) Gorrie on October 15, 1930 in Olney, Texas. He grew up in Pasadena, California attending Pasadena City College and Santa Barbara College before joining the US Navy in 1953. Dave completed his college education in 1958, attaining a Master of Science degree in education at the University of Southern California.

Dave began a professional baseball career in 1953 when he signed with the New York Giants and was briefly assigned to the Phoenix, Arizona farm team prior to joining the Navy. He resumed his pro baseball career in 1956, signing with the Kansas City Athletics organization. He played in Seminole, OK; Crowley, LA; Columbia, SC; Rochester, MN and finally with Winona, MN before moving into the coaching ranks.

It was 1958 when Dave met and married the love of his life, Linda. The following year, he began his coaching career as an assistant football coach at UC Santa Barbara. In 1960, he became the Head Baseball Coach at UC Santa Barbara, leading teams there for 18 years, compiling a record 343-370-1. In 1979, he was hired as Head Coach of the Pepperdine Waves baseball team, taking them to the College World Series that very year. He retired from coaching at Pepperdine in 1988 with a record of 409-202-11.

Dave continued as a volunteer coach at Panola College and was a private hitting instructor in the community until 2009. Coach Gorrie is inducted into three Halls of Fame including UC Santa Barbara, Pepperdine University and the American Baseball Coaches Association. He was a member of Airport Freeway Church of Christ in Euless, TX.

The Dave Gorrie Memorial Baseball Scholarship will be awarded annually to a Panola College baseball student. The scholarship will be awarded based on academic merit. The selection of the recipient will be made in the spring each year.
Panola College Foundation Awarded $27,216.20 in Faculty/Staff Grants

Grant recipients included:

- Amy Calhoun in the Chemistry Department received $4,500 for hot plate, stirrers and digital thermometers.
- Ann Boland in the Art Department received 41,500 to help fund trip to a major Art Museum in Dallas, Houston or the Fort Worth area.
- Cheri Lambert with the Occupational Therapy Assistant Department received $1,400.00 for iPad Airs, therapeutic apps, and accessories.
- Annissa Jackson with the Associate Degree Nursing Department received $7,500.00 for AD Nursing and LV Nursing instructors 15 iPad minis.
- Becky Gullette in the Biology Department received $2,683.20 for a skeleton, dissection trays, dissecting pans, and a unit system slide cabinet.
- Melissa Walters with the Associate Degree Nursing Department received $8,500.00 for a SecureRx Mobile cart to simulate mobile charting system.
- Kevin Rutherford with the Biology Department received $1,133 to purchase head and neck models for Anatomy and Physiology 1 and Intro Anatomy and Physiology courses on the Carthage campus.

Alumni Affairs
Patricia Smith Named 2014 Alumnus of the Year

The Panola College Alumni Association is proud to announce the selection of Mrs. Patricia King Smith as the 2014 Panola College Alumna of the Year. Mrs. Patricia King Smith is a 1966 graduate of Beckville High School. Following graduation she attended Panola College and graduated in 1968 with an associate of arts degree.

Since 2001, Patricia has served several terms as a member of the Panola College Foundation Board. She has served in many capacities on the Board including secretary six times, vice chair, and chair of the Board in 2003 through 2005. Mrs. Smith was selected as Panola College’s Alumna of the Year because of her dedication to Panola College and Panola County. She has spent many hours working to better the College and to truly make a difference in the lives of students at Panola College. Under her leadership and continued efforts, money was raised to allow grants to be awarded for faculty to improve instruction and the education experience.

Patricia has been the owner of Beauty Sense by Patricia since 1985. She has been actively involved in the Panola County Chamber of Commerce having served as president and member. She has served as an active member of the Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors and also president. She served on the ETMC Carthage board of directors. She is a Panola Heritage Foundation member on the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame board. She is a member of First United Methodist Church of Carthage and a member of Beta Sigma Phi Service Sorority.