

gila gram

EASTERN ARIZONA COLLEGE

What's Happening at EAC?

(See story on page 2)

Also inside:

- 4 Monster Alumnotes**
- 5 Announcing a New Scholarship Endowment:
Bernstein Brothers Memorial Scholarship**
- 6 Wedding Bells and In Memoriam**
- 7 EAC Donor Recognition**

What's Happening at EAC?

We frequently receive questions about what college life is like now for our students. Campus life is so varied and busy. Here is an overview that shares a look at the many things that are happening at Eastern Arizona College.

Student enrollment is about 4,600 in Graham County with about that many more students involved in our other locations in Greenlee and Gila counties including our prison programs.

Academic programs include 126 degrees, career preparation, and

certificate programs. Our classroom sizes are still small allowing a 20 to 1 student to teacher ratio. This allows for the traditional EAC reputation



and events are spread throughout the school year including Homecoming, Mr. & Mrs. EAC Competition, service projects, blood drives, Homecoming, Fall and Spring Fever Relievers, Survivor, and talent competitions.

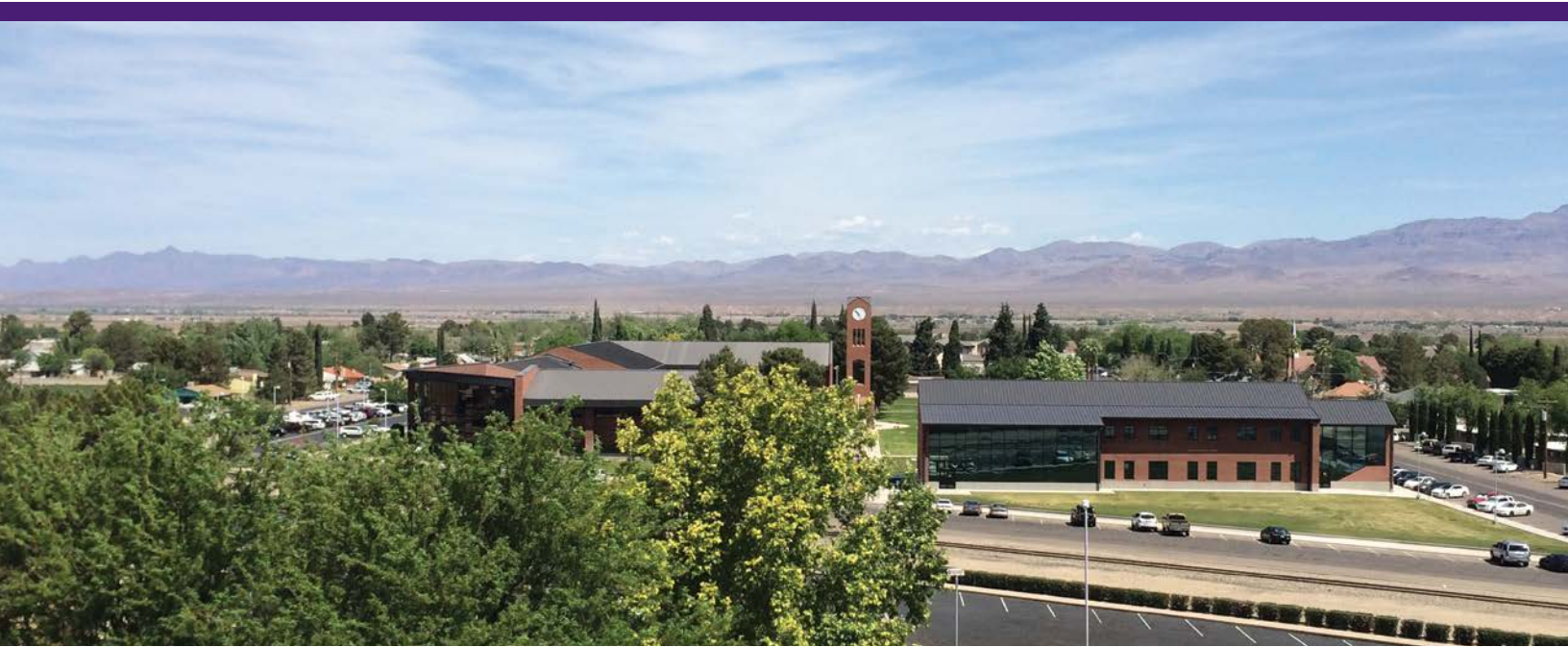


of teachers who know and care about their students.

The Associated Students activities

The Fine Arts Division keeps their three performance venues booked with band, choir, orchestra, drama, and dance productions.

The Industrial Technology Division continues to offer automotive,



welding, machine shop, and AutoCAD, and will be starting a new advanced manufacturing program soon which will include an extensive remodel of the Industrial Technology Building and the addition of an advanced FabLab. A FabLab is a small-scale workshop that can be used for digital fabrication, using an array of flexible, computer-controlled tools that can make “almost anything.”

The Nursing program continues to be recognized as producing some of the best nurses in the country.

Our Math & Science Divisions con-



tinue to have partnerships with government agencies and local businesses allowing them real world experience.

The Discovery Park Campus gives opportunities for outdoor labs. The College is also continuing to breed Chiricahua Leopard frogs for the rebuilding of this endangered species.

Our athletics teams are

frequently ranked in the top 20 in the US. EAC currently competes with volleyball, football, men's and women's basketball, women's tennis, men's golf, baseball, and softball.

A look at www.eac.edu or our Facebook page (facebook.com/gilamonsters) will show so much more.

We're grateful the College is still able to prepare students for a brighter future whether

they are fresh out of high school or returning for new career skills or just some personal enjoyment.

We also wish to thank the many donors to our scholarship funds who have made available the wonderful opportunities here.

Go Monsters!

Photos page 2

Lower left: EAC's Discovery Park Campus in Safford
Middle: Enjoying the homecoming 2014 bonfire
Upper right: Students in the Computer Aided Design and Drafting Lab

Photos page 3

Top: View of EAC's Middle Campus looking north
Middle: Group of graduates prior to Commencement in May 2014
Bottom left: Fall Sing 2013



Monster Alumnnotes

Bessie A. Layton, '36, Thatcher, Arizona, celebrated her 100th birthday last fall with family members. Mrs. Layton was born in Safford, Arizona, and spent most of her years in The Gila Valley. Her life has been filled with service to community and church activity. She was honored by the GFWC Woman's Club of Safford for 70 years as a member. She is also a charter member of the hospital auxiliary. She was married to **Farrel C. Layton, '33**, who passed away at age 94, in 2007. Their two sons and many of their grandchildren have also attended Eastern Arizona College.

Arden Palmer, '50, Thatcher, Arizona, was recognized last November by the Arizona Farm Bureau with its Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award during their 93rd Annual Meeting.

Arden continues to stay close to the College with past service on the EAC Foundation's Board of Directors, speaking at the 2007 Commencement and many years of service on the Gila Hanks Booster Club Board of Directors. Congratulations, Arden!

M. Phil Martin, '55 and **Kay Householder Martin, '55**

Thatcher, Arizona, recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with family and friends with a reception at the LDS Institute in Thatcher, Arizona.

Jan M. Adams Martin '67, Nogales, Arizona, has published her second novel, *Heir of Deceit*, a novel set in the Smoky Mountain backwoods. "Fearing that she carries a family curse, a young woman searches for the secrets of her lineage, at the risk of losing her upcoming marriage." The novel is available at Amazon.com. Jan has also been teaching Early Morning Seminary for 29 years. She retired two years ago from her job as a nutritionist at

Mariposa Community Health Center in Nogales, AZ. She and her husband, **Brent L. Martin '67**, researched in North Carolina for *Heir of Deceit*, where they met with Smoky Mountain backwoods people, moonshiners (including the late Popcorn Sutton), the local Cherokee culture, and a wealth of local traditions, folklore, and ghost stories, all featured in her book. Rated PG, it appeals to teens and adults. Visit her web page at: <http://janmar916.wix.com/janmmartin>

William "Bill" Ellena, '71, Susanville, California, continued his education at Brigham Young University. He married **Julia Merrell Ellena, '70**, and they raised four children who also obtained college degrees. After BYU, they moved back to Bill's hometown where he taught

classes at his old high school, Lassen Union High School, for 22 years. While there he was the head football coach for several years and also coached basketball.

The Ellenas went into the hotel business in 1995 and now operate multiple hotels in Susanville and other Northern California locations.

They share that their time at Eastern encompasses some of their greatest memories, "even better than at BYU!"

Bill was grateful to have Ladd Mullenau as a coach and friend and was glad he was able to speak with him two weeks before



William "Bill" Ellena, '71, and
Julia Merrell Ellena, '70

he passed away. He and many other players attended his funeral services.

Matthew G. Bingham, '00, Tucson, Arizona, was recently named Legal Director for HudBay Minerals Inc.'s Arizona Business Unit. Matthew has an engineering background and comprehensive legal experience in the mining industry, including environmental

and regulatory issues. After graduating at Eastern, he went on to Arizona State University and completed a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He then

graduated at Columbia Law School in New York City. Bingham was honored as a Rising Star in environmental law in the 2012-2014 editions of Southwest Super Lawyers. He was also recognized for his volunteer legal services at the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Community Legal Services.



Matthew G. Bingham, '00



New Scholarship Endowment

Bernstein Brothers Memorial Scholarship

Eastern Arizona College has been a big part of Susan Bernstein's life for about the last forty years. Her two sons participated in the youth theatre programs. Her oldest son, Billy, took courses in the Industrial Technology Education (ITE) field and graduated from EAC in 2000.

In 1998, Susan's younger son, Anthony, passed away unexpectedly and she decided to start a scholarship in his memory to help make something good from the tragedy. Her other son, Billy, later died as a result of multiple bee stings. Consequently, Susan changed this memorial scholarship to the Bernstein Brothers Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship assists students who are pursuing a degree in an ITE field or Environmental Biology.

Ms. Bernstein recently gave a generous donation that will create a scholarship endowment such that interest earnings will fund a one-semester scholarship every year in perpetuity. Her generosity will continue to help students obtain the opportunities of an education that her sons were not fully able to realize. The scholarship also will continue to carry their memory into the future as students are aided year after year.



Susan Bernstein with her two sons, Billy (left) and Tony (right).



Billy Bernstein graduating from EAC in May of 2000.



Billy Bernstein in an EAC machine shop class.



Tony Bernstein

Alumni!

TELL US WHAT'S NEW

Send us your information for Monster Alumnotes—the most read section in the *GilaGram*! We want to know your latest news...jobs, promotions, milestones. Please type or print your information clearly and include a photo (if you'd like) so we can share your news with your fellow classmates and friends.

Send to:
Alumnotes
EAC Alumni Association
615 N. Stadium Ave.
Thatcher, AZ 85552
or by e-mail at: alumni@eac.edu

Wedding Bells Rang

July 25, 2014 — Taylor Altom, '14 & Rex Self, '14

August 1, 2014 — Cassie Scott, '14 & David Wiley, '12

August 2, 2014 — Dawn Michelle Robinson, '14 & Ty Beus, '14

August 8, 2014 — Alexis Kempton, '15 & Cody Junion, '15

Sept 6, 2014 — Lavita Trejo, '14 & Paul Kartchner, '12

Oct. 11, 2014 — Anansa Garcia, '15 & Justin Clifford, '13

Oct. 25, 2014 — Kelsie Vigus, '13 & Cody Gentry, '14

Nov. 15, 2014 — Danielle Evans, '15 & Joe Mulleneaux, '15

Nov. 21, 2014 — Ariel Thatcher, '15 & J. Milo Webb, '15

Dec. 13, 2014 — Ryan Hintze & Tyanne Martindell, '14

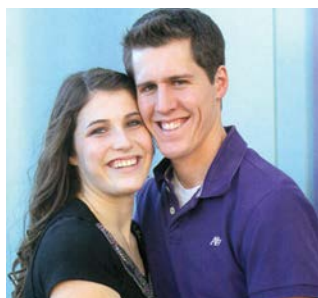
Dec. 19, 2014 — Morgan Matthews, '13 & Derek Aaron, '15

Dec. 20, 2014 — Mohamed Abd El Mottelb & Lori Dugan, '04

Dec. 20, 2014 — Jessica Wakefield, '15 & Sean Ajeman, '15

Dec. 27, 2014 — Kalee Broadhead, '15 & Spencer Udall, '15

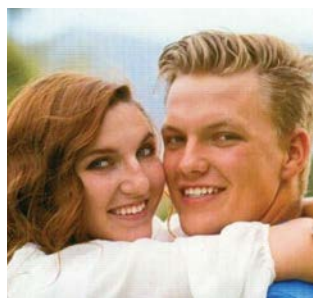
Dec. 27, 2014 — Shalene Allen, '15 & Matthew Hancock, '15



Taylor Altom, '14
& Rex Self, '14



Kalee Broadhead, '15
& Spencer Udall, '15



Danielle Evans, '15
& Joe Mulleneaux, '15



Anansa Garcia, '15
& Justin Clifford, '13

In Memoriam

Ellis Foster, '80 – July 11, 2014

Sylvia Merrill Straub, '52 – July 14, 2014

LaVar Burnett, '52 – July 17, 2014

Bob L. Woods, '94 – July 29, 2014

Frankie McBride Farr, '38 – August 1, 2014

Florene Shurtz, '52 – August 5, 2014

Leanna Trujillo Dean, '99 – August 13, 2014

Cora William Blake, '70 – August 14, 2014

Ladd H. Mulleneaux, '58, Faculty Emeritus – August, 15, 2014

William M. "Bill" Hemphill, '58 – August 15, 2014

Gerald K. Johnson, '49 – August 16, 2014

Kenneth Carpenter, '51 – August 19, 2014

Lamont J. Redford, '70 – August 20, 2014

Kirt L. Maylen, '76 – August 26, 2014

Douglas "Dag" Ax, '96 – September 7, 2014

Mandy L. Sanchez, '05 – September 9, 2014

Dr. James "Ron" Keith, Faculty Emeritus – September 13, 2014

Kathleen Curtis Nicolls, '38 – September 13, 2014

Grant B. Greenhalgh, '40 – September 21, 2014

Gloria Roger McHenry, '42 – September 21, 2014

Tyler J. Spurgeon, '05 – September 23, 2014

William W. Paul, '71 – September 26, 2014

Billy D. Paxton, '53 – September 26, 2014

Francis E. Broadbent, '40 – September 29, 2014

Delia J. Olpin Thiel, '47 – October 9, 2014

Lydia Melendrez Hoskins, '75 – October 17, 2014

Floydele Gardner, '13 – October 23, 2014

Linda S. Morales, '97 – October 30, 2014

Frank D. Waters, '67 – November 8, 2014

Brian K. Larrabee, '12, – November 9, 2014

David M. Smith, '66, – November 29, 2014

Harriet Jane West, Faculty Emeritus – December 7, 2014

Belva Curtis Anglin, '45 – December 9, 2014

John "B" Bryce, '59 – December 11, 2014

Lamar O. Kinnard, '56 – December 12, 2014

Adina Birdno, '31 – December 17, 2014

Max Hancock, '49 – December 17, 2014

Joshua Edward Wade, '14 – December 18, 2014

Cheryl Madrid, '04 – December 29, 2014

EAC Foundation Donors

The individuals and organizations listed below are appreciated greatly for helping us continue making a difference in the lives of more than 100 students each year. The following donations were received between July 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014. Thank You!

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\$20,000 or more

Mr. Max Bennett
Mr. Donald Caldwell

\$15,000 or more

Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Audrey Booth
Estate of Jack Braithwaite

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Sodexho, Inc. And Affiliates
DRG Technologies

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Safford Lions Club
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Sodexho, Inc. And Affiliates
Ms. Mary Kim Titla

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In Memory of


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Karen Bryce
Eleanor Matli
Starr Ann McCollum-Kletzien
Terry D. McCollum
Ladd H. Mullenau
Tyler J. Spurgeon
Carl A. Watson

EAC Foundation
EAC Alumni Association
615 N. Stadium Ave.
Thatcher, Arizona 85552
(800) 678-3808

To be included in the Alumni Association's monthly emails with EAC updates, or to receive your copy of the Gila Gram as a pdf file, send us your email address at alumni@eac.edu.



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What's happening on campus? Lots!
For the story and more photos, see page 2.

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