



Connecting Yesterday's Students  
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## Alumni Newsletter - Connected

### Features



#### Scholarship Application Available Now

The 2009-2010 academic year scholarship application period is October 1, 2008 through December 15, 2008. Students must complete the financial aid scholarship application to be eligible for an Alumni Association scholarship.

[Full story...](#)



#### Len Whitegon Receives "Sixth Man Seat" Award

Len Whitegon (class of 1951), has been awarded the "Sixth Man Seat" by the Chico State Athletics department in recognition of his 25 years of continuous attendance and loyal support of Chico State athletics.

[Full story...](#)



#### Upcoming Reunions

Communication Studies, the College of Agriculture, the Department of Recreation and Parks Management, Track and Field, and much more. What do they have in common? They are all holding reunions!

[Full story...](#)

### What's Inside



#### AS Bookstore Discount

Alumni Association members get 10 percent off AS Bookstore merchandise!

[Full story...](#)



#### Travel to Anastasia's Russia

June 8-21, 2009, with the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

[Full story...](#)

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### What's Inside

#### Associated Students Bookstore Discount — Another Great Benefit of Membership!



Did you know that one of the benefits of membership in the Alumni Association is a 10 percent discount on [AS Bookstore](#) merchandise? The discount does not apply to text book, AS Computerworks, or services-related purchases. The Bookstore does carry a wide selection of alumni gear including sweatshirts, t-shirts, and hats.

The [AS Bookstore](#) is in the process of establishing a database of books written by alumni. If you know of an author who attended Chico State, or if you are an alumni author, please send book buyer [Mark Mooradian](#) an e-mail, and tell him about the book.

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#### Travel to Anastasia's Russia: June 8-21, 2009

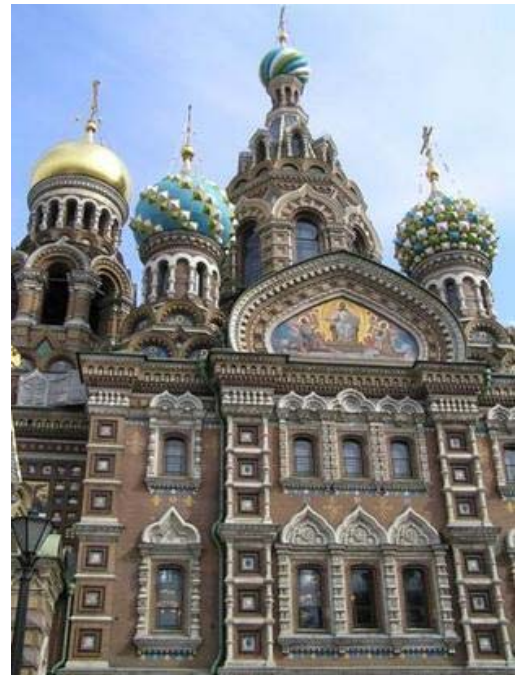
The tour will include three nights in Moscow, two in Suzdal, one in Kostroma, one in Pereslavl Zalessky, and four in St. Petersburg plus one overnight flight and one overnight train ride.

The faculty-in-residence is history professor Dr. Kate Transchel, who earned her PhD from the University of North Carolina. She has traveled extensively in Russia during the past two decades and published prolifically on various contemporary Russian issues.

It is possible for CSU, Chico students to earn 1-3 units through History. The package includes round-trip airfare from San Francisco (including airport fees and transfers); comfortable, well-located hotels with private baths (including hotel service charges and tips, baggage handling, and local taxes); buffet breakfast daily and three dinners; guided sightseeing tours led by expert local guides; and the full-time services of a professional tour director. (Note: the single supplement costs \$725.) A tax-deductible portion of the cost goes to college scholarships and programs. Limited space remains.

Make your deposit today of \$450 to hold your place. Last day to sign up unless the tour fills earlier: February 8, 2009. Contact group coordinator Ms. Thomasin Saxe at [tsaxe@csuchico.edu](mailto:tsaxe@csuchico.edu), or by phone at 530-898-4642, for more information.

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#### Scholarship Application is Now Available: October 1-December 15, 2008!

The 2009-2010 academic year scholarship application period is October 1, 2008 through December 15, 2008. Students must complete the financial aid scholarship application to be eligible for an Alumni Association scholarship. The scholarship application is available October 1 through December 15 on the financial aid Website at <http://fa.csuchico.edu/fa/>.

The Alumni Association offers four scholarships worth \$1,000 each (\$500 awarded each semester). The scholarships are awarded based on the following criteria:

- Recipient must be the dependent of an Alumni Association member
- Minimum 2.0 GPA
- Must have a minimum of two semesters left for degree completion
- Must complete the CSU, Chico Scholarship Application Form (applications for the 2009-2010 academic year are due by December 15, 2008)
- Must complete the [Alumni Association Supplemental Scholarship Application](#) by February 1, 2009.



The Chico Chapter sponsors the Wayne Harder Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is for \$2,000 (\$1,000 awarded each semester) and is awarded to a new or returning Chico State Student from the prefaced 959 or 960 zip codes (essentially from Redding to Marysville) who is the dependent of a Chico Chapter Alumni Association member. This scholarship requires a minimum GPA of 3.0 and is funded by the proceeds from the annual Chico Chapter Spring Tri-Tip Barbecue.

This scholarship is named for founding Chico Chapter board member Wayne Harder who passed away on November 25, 2007. Wayne was committed to the alumni and students of Chico State, and to making the University better.

Applicants must complete the CSU, Chico Scholarship Application on the [Financial Aid Web site](#) (by December 15, 2008), and must complete the [Alumni Association Supplemental Scholarship Application](#) (by February 1, 2009).

Any questions about this process, please contact the alumni office.

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#### Len Whitegon Receives "Sixth Man Seat" Award

Len Whitegon (class of 1951), has been awarded the "Sixth Man Seat" by the Chico State Athletics department in recognition of his 25 years of continuous attendance and loyal support of Chico State athletics. Whitegon has achieved Chico State fame as being "the man who makes everyone stand up during the playing of the Chico State Fight Song." Whitegon doesn't just support basketball, either, he is there for every Chico State baseball game, too.

Because of his dedication and deep commitment to the University, Whitegon was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Service Award in 2006. He is credited with saving the fight song from total extinction. When the music could be found, but no lyrics, Whitegon was able to recite the words from memory.



An educator by trade - Whitegon served as a teacher and elementary school principal for more than 33 years - he is best known for his volunteer service. Whitegon has been an ardent supporter and 24-year volunteer for Chico Meals on Wheels, delivering meals to the disabled and infirmed. He is a member of the Kiwanis Club, SIRs (Sons in Retirement), California Retired Teacher's Association, and the Chico State Athletic Hall of Fame Committee.

Anita Barker, Chico State Athletic Director, is quoted on Whitegon's plaque, "Len is such a loyal Chico State alum. He's a diehard Wildcat follower, which is just incredible with all the things he does for the community."

Here's to Whitegon's many continued years as a volunteer and dedicated fan.

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## Upcoming Reunions

### Communication Studies Reunion

Friday and Saturday, October 3-4, 2008

Friday, October 3 alumni will gather 7-9:30 p.m. at Monks Wine Lounge for a social and then attend a student/alumni barbeque at noon on Saturday, October 4.

Call 530-898-5751 for reservations and cost information.

### College of Agriculture Fall Festival at the University Farm

Saturday, October 11, 2008

Contact Sarah DeForest at [sdeforest@csuchico.edu](mailto:sdeforest@csuchico.edu) or 530-898-3737 for more information

### Department of Recreation and Parks Management Alumni Reunion Dinner

Sunday, October 19, 2008

At Maria Maria La Cantina in Walnut Creek

No-host social kicks off at 4:30 p.m. and dinner is served at 5:30 p.m.

For more information and to register [click here](#). The user name is: alum. The password is: recr.

Cost is \$30 per person and must be reserved in advance.

### Track and Field Alumni and Friends Banquet

January 31, 2009, Bell Memorial Union

No-host cocktails: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Tickets cost \$40 each and must be purchased in advance.

Call 530-898-5735 for more information

### College of Agriculture Alumni Reunion at the Red Bluff Bull and Gelding Sale

Friday, January 30, 2009

4:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Tehama District Fairgrounds in Red Bluff

Contact Sarah DeForest at [sdeforest@csuchico.edu](mailto:sdeforest@csuchico.edu) or 530-898-3737 for more information

### College of Agriculture Alumni Breakfast at the Colusa Farm Show

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

7a.m., Colusa Fairgrounds

Contact Sarah DeForest at [sdeforest@csuchico.edu](mailto:sdeforest@csuchico.edu) or 530-898-3737 for more information

### Physics 50th Anniversary and Reunion

Friday and Saturday, May 1-2, 2009

Many activities are scheduled, including Show & Tell, Contributed and invited talks, Banquet and Graduates' Gala, and the Floyd English Scholarship Reception. See our web site at [www.phys.csuchico.edu](http://www.phys.csuchico.edu) or call 530-898-6259 (ask for Chris Gaffney or Lisa Washburn) for more information.

### Computer Science 40th Anniversary and Reunion

Scheduled for Spring, 2009

If you are interested in helping with the planning or sponsoring the event, please contact Moaty Fayek, department chair at [cscialumni@csuchico.edu](mailto:cscialumni@csuchico.edu) or call 530-898-6442.

### Calling all Centurions!

Are you an alumnus who is 100 or more years young? Or do you know of a Chico State grad who has reached the century mark? If so, please contact the alumni office at [alumni@csuchico.edu](mailto:alumni@csuchico.edu) or 530-898-6472 with details.

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### Braggin' Rights

September 19, 2008

#### More "Green" Honors for Chico State

*Kiwi Magazine*, a New York based bi-monthly print and online publication focusing on families and health, has for the second straight year profiled CSU, Chico among other U.S. colleges and universities. "Kiwi's 2008 Green College Report" features schools pioneering the way in campus sustainability, excelling in environmental stewardship, and making great strides toward going eco," the article states.

*Kiwi Magazine* profiled 50 schools in its 2007 report, and 75 in the 2008 report. In the report's introduction, the magazine attributed the higher number of schools to a tremendous surge in collegiate interest in sustainability. It pointed to the fact that from 2007 to 2008 the number of schools signing the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) has increased from 206 to 560. In December 2006, CSU, Chico President Paul Zingg was one of the first seven signatories of the ACUPCC, which pledges to reduce and ultimately neutralize campus greenhouse-gas emissions.

September 12, 2008

#### Independent Film Selected for Toronto Film Festival

"The Pressman Negatives," a film by Jason Tannen, Department of Art and Art History, has been selected for screening at the Moving Image Film Festival in Toronto, Ontario. "Pressman" was selected to be shown in the Darkness Looms category. This international film festival takes place November 5–9, 2008 in Toronto, Ontario.

Tannen is an artist, gallery curator and instructor. Since 1998, he has been curator at the CSU, Chico University Art Gallery and teaches Film as Visual Art and the History of Photography. His personal art, which incorporates photography, film, and installation, has been exhibited widely. Recent exhibitions have included shows in England, California, Georgia, Switzerland, and Wales.

September 11, 2008

#### CSU, Chico Alumni Earnings Rate High in National Study

Chico State has been rated highly by Forbes Magazine in a ranking of earnings by alumni of U.S. colleges and universities. Forbes reported on a study by PayScale.com, which looked at the earnings of college graduates with 10–20 years of work experience. CSU, Chico ranks 24th in the nation among all public universities for the median salaries of its graduates. The mid-career median salary of CSU, Chico's alumni was \$88,100. The starting salary for those CSU, Chico alumni was \$47,400.

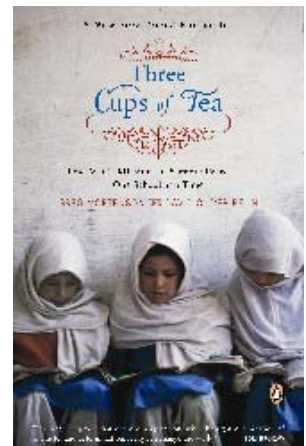
September 11, 2008

#### 10th Anniversary of Book in Common Program Brings Widespread Community Interest

The Book in Common program, now in its 10th year, has greatly expanded for 2008–2009 with community partnerships, local reading groups, book-related lectures and films and other activities.

Started in 1998, the Book in Common program provides one book for the campus community to read. It is especially used in courses for freshmen, with the goal of engaging them in a shared, intellectual activity that will enhance their first year experience at CSU, Chico.

This year's Book in Common selection, *Three Cups of Tea*, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, is an award-winning nonfiction bestseller that describes Mortenson's remarkable adventures building schools in remote areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan. *Three Cups of Tea* has been adopted as a Book in Common not only by CSU, Chico, but also by Butte College, the City of Chico, Butte County Public Libraries, the *Chico Enterprise Record*, and the Chico Unified School District for use in reading groups, classes and other events. Other Book in Common partners include Enloe Medical Center, Lyon's Books, and Barnes and Noble.



September 11, 2008

#### Electromagnetics Students See Double in Design Competition

Students in the Department of Electrical Engineering won two top awards at the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) student design

competition. They were honored at the annual IEEE conference held in Detroit in August. In a rare double win, Friedrich Kirk won the EMC (Electromagnetic Compatibility) Student Design contest and received a \$900 cash prize and a travel grant to attend the award symposium. Wilfred Ghonsalves and Tian He together won the Leo L. Beranek Student Travel Award. All three are graduate students in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. This is the fourth consecutive year that CSU, Chico has won this competition.

September 10, 2008

**'Dr. Mark' Honored for Sustainability Contributions**

Mark Stemen, professor of Geography and Planning, was named Sustainability Champion at the Seventh Annual UC/CSU/CCC Sustainability Conference held at the beginning of August. Stemen, known to his students as 'Dr. Mark,' is well known on the Chico State campus for his inspiring and tireless work with students and the community on issues of sustainability.

His dedication is such that he joined 17 students from CSU, Chico on the "Wheeled Migration," a nine-day bicycle ride from Chico to the conference in San Luis Obispo .

Elvyra San Juan, assistant vice chancellor for the CSU, said in her introductory remarks, "This CSU faculty member has more energy than seems humanly possible. He is a tireless advocate for sustainability, incorporating the concept into every fabric of his campus as he champions sustainability with his students, fellow faculty, campus staff, and the local community."

Source: CSU, Chico Public Affairs and Publications

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### Perspectives

#### Alumni Association Launches Online Career and Social Networking Sites

Want to stay connected to other alums and the university, but are short on time or live outside of the Chico-area? The Chico State Alumni Association has recently launched several new social and career-networking opportunities for our alumni, including Facebook, MySpace, and LinkedIn. For a complete list of all our social networking web sites, visit <http://www.csuchico.edu/alumni/networks.php>



The official "[Chico State Alumni Association](#)" group is thriving with more than 800 members. Post pictures, learn about chapter activities, college, and university events, and meet old friends online. Chico State Facebook Fan Pages include [Chico State Associated Students Alumni](#), [Chico State Parents](#), and the [CSU, Chico Book in Common](#).



The [Chico State Alumni Association](#) is brand new and needs members! If MySpace is your preference, please join and help us build this group.



Join the official [Chico State Alumni Association](#) LinkedIn network and build your personal professional network.

Coming Soon! The Chico State Alumni Association is pleased to announce the launch of Affinity Circles in first quarter, 2009. Affinity Circles is an online networking platform used primarily for career networking. With this powerful new tool, Chico State grads will be able to post positions, apply for jobs, and connect with other alumni at companies they are interested in knowing more about. Stay tuned for details on the launch of this exciting new tool in early 2009.

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### Chapter Chatter

#### Chico Chapter:

The Chico Chapter will be holding their annual Fall Mixer on **Thursday, October 9** at the Warrens Reception Center from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Don't miss this opportunity to mingle with fellow alumni and meet new women's basketball coach Brian Fogel, new men's basketball coach Greg Clink, and new soccer coach Felipe Restrepo. Players will also be available to meet and greet alumni and get everyone excited about the upcoming season.

Please RSVP to this event by calling the alumni office at 530-898-6472. See the [Alumni Association calendar](#) for a full schedule of events.

#### Sacramento Chapter:



The annual Alumni Day at AT&T Park was held on **Sunday, August 10, 2008** at the San Francisco Giants v. Los Angeles Dodgers baseball game. Over 130 Chico State alumni and friends attended this chapter event. Thank you to Sierra Nevada for their generous donation of beverages for our event. This event did sell out, so make sure to watch for next year's date, and order your tickets early!

**On Saturday, November 8**, the Sacramento Chapter will be hosting a pre-game event in conjunction with the Chico State Men's basketball vs. UOP in Stockton. Join fellow alumni at the Valley Brewing Company in Stockton (157 West Adams St.) for a pre-game gathering at 5:30 pm. You can cheer on the Chico State men's basketball team starting at 7:30 pm at the Alex G. Spanos Center at UOP.

#### Bay Area Chapter:

Join the Bay Area Chapter for a mixer at the Sports Basement in San Francisco (610 Mason St., The Presidio) on **Thursday, December 4** from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Appetizers and refreshments provided by The Sports Basement. There is no cost to attend, but please RSVP to the Alumni Office by November 26. Alumni will also receive a discount on apparel at the Sports Basement.

On **February 27, 2009**, the Bay Area Chapter will host an alumni pre-game event in conjunction with the Warriors vs. Charlotte Bobcats basketball game at Oracle arena in Oakland. Last season, over 100 alumni attended this event. Bring your friends and join other alums for a pre-game mixer at 5:30 pm. Game time is 7:30 pm.



#### S. California Chapter:

If you are interested in getting involved with the Orange County or San Diego Chico State Alumni Club, please contact Shari Maurseth in the alumni office at [smaurseth@csuchico.edu](mailto:smaurseth@csuchico.edu).

#### African

The Black Alumni Reunion will be held October 17 through 19. Events include a family barbecue at One-Mile Recreation Area in

**American  
Club:**

Bidwell Park, an elegant dinner-dance in the Bell Memorial Union Auditorium, and brunch in the Warrens Reception Center (the former President's Mansion). For more information, please contact Tray Robinson by e-mail at [trobinson@csuchico.edu](mailto:trobinson@csuchico.edu), or by phone at 530-898-5396.

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## Alumni Newsletter - Connected, CSU, Chico

### Alumni Profile

#### Alumni Update - Candy Solari

Candy Solari (Class of 1967) was a mass communications major with a journalism core at Chico State. Originally from San Carlos, California, Solari made her journey to Chico as that was where her two best friends were headed. Well that, and she also fell in love with the Chico State campus.

"I was accepted at the University of Santa Clara," says Solari, "in the second year women were admitted. My friends Doreen and Donna were heading to Chico, though, so I begged my father to take me on a campus visit. My father was from Boston, and when he saw campus, it reminded him of an Ivy League school. He was all for my decision to attend Chico."

Some of Solari's favorite memories of Chico include classes with Dr. Hutchinson (Old Hutch), and how he was so interesting he would have to tell students that class was over, it was time to go to the next class.

"He was so mesmerizing," says Solari. "He had so many wonderful experiences; he made history come alive."

While at Chico State, Solari served as co-editor of the yearbook. When Ronald Reagan was running for Governor of California, Solari was sent to interview him when the *Wildcat* reporter scheduled to conduct the interview was a no-show.

"My advisor sent me to do the interview, and I was nervous since I did not have any time to prepare my questions," explains Solari. "When I got to the head of the line, Ronald Reagan could tell I was really nervous. He told me, 'Dear, I am nervous too, but between the two of us we'll get through this.' What an experience!"

Following college, Solari went to work as a social worker representing the welfare of children in San Mateo County, specifically in East Palo Alto. It was during this time that Solari's real commitment to volunteering took root.

"My parents were very much into volunteerism," says Solari, "so that is where I really got my start. But while working as a social worker, we would all work many volunteer hours - especially during the holiday season - to make our programs successful."

Solari and her former husband made the move back to Chico in 1974, to raise their family (sons RC, now 37, and Matt, 33). They opened Spirits of America on Nord Avenue in 1976, which they sold in 1989 to start a brokerage firm. Solari continued to make volunteering a priority. She volunteered with the Children's Home Society, has participated in the Enloe Foundation Playhouse Project, and joined the Alumni Association Board of Directors in 2004.

"Sheryl Lange (former Alumni Association president) gave me the board application and told me to fill it out," explains Solari. "She saw something in me that she thought would be a good fit with the Alumni Association. I like to be hands on, and I am very interested in construction. I would love to see the renovation of Alumni Glen up and running before I end my time on the board. I'll be the person out there with flats of plants, digging in the dirt."

It was during a presentation to the Alumni Association board of directors, that Solari's interest in the Northern California Natural History Museum was sparked. She told College of Natural Sciences Dean James Houppis after the presentation she would be willing to help with the effort to get the museum open. Solari is now on the Natural History Museum board of directors. Ground has been broken, and the Northern California Natural History Museum is slated to open in 2009.



As a breast cancer survivor, Solari also volunteers for Relay for Life, but considers her best method of helping cancer patients is to lend one-on-one support.

"When given a diagnosis of cancer," says Solari, "it is important to surround yourself with positive people. I want to be there for people who are going through treatments and testing to help them with moral support. Cancer helps you prioritize on a personal level, and makes you realize you have to do something for yourself every day."

We are all very grateful that Candy considers volunteering something she does for herself. Her positive attitude and her ability to motivate others makes her an invaluable support to all who are fortunate enough to know her.

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### President's Column

by Alumni Association President, **Tim Colbie**

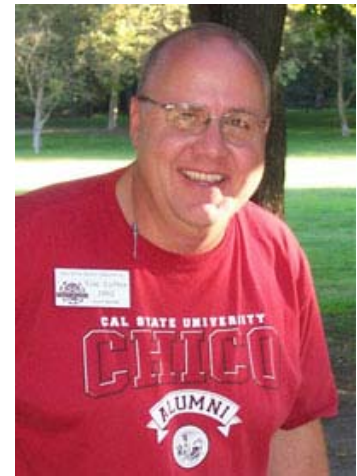
#### Alumni Association Board of Directors Accepting Applications

The Alumni Association Board of Directors' elections for new board members will be held at the January, 2009 board meeting and the Association is currently accepting applications. All applicants must be dues-paying members of the Chico State Alumni Association. Board meetings are held three times per year—January, June, and September, with a two-day retreat held every March. We seek applicants from diverse backgrounds as well as from different geographic locations.

The Association's three strategic goals are to

- 1) Enhance the physical beauty of the campus
- 2) Focus on alumni engagement, outreach, and communication
- 3) Continue to build the alumni association membership program

Interested applicants please contact executive director Susan Anderson at [sanderson@csuchico.edu](mailto:sanderson@csuchico.edu) or 530-898-6472. Board applications are due to the alumni office no later than December 1, 2008.



The Alumni Association's chapter boards in Chico, Sacramento, and the Bay Area are also looking for new board members. Contact Shari Maurseth at [smaurseth@csuchico.edu](mailto:smaurseth@csuchico.edu) or 530-898-6472 if you are interested in participating on a chapter board.

#### Distinguished Alumni Service Award Nominations Due November 14

The Alumni Association is currently accepting nominations for the annual Distinguished Alumni Service Award, to be presented at the sixteenth annual Distinguished Alumni Recognition Dinner on April 24, 2009.

The California State University, Chico Alumni Association recognizes that many alumni have given their time, energy and resources to enhance their alma mater. This program recognizes an exceptional alumnus volunteer of the University who has clearly demonstrated loyalty and service to California State University, Chico and/or the CSU, Chico Alumni Association. This is the Association's award for consistent and significant volunteer service.

Previous recipients include Sheryl Lange (2008), Judy Sitton (2007), Len Whitegon (2006), and Mackay Martin (posthumous, 2005).

For more information on the nomination process please contact Susan Anderson at [sanderson@csuchico.edu](mailto:sanderson@csuchico.edu) or 530-898-6472.

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### Upcoming Events and Important Dates

[October](#)  
[November](#)  
[December](#)  
[January](#)  
[February](#)

#### October

**October 1** – University Scholarship Application Available October 1 through December 15  
**October 9** – Chico Chapter Fall Reception  
**October 10-12** – [Family Weekend](#)  
**October 17-19** – Black Alumni Reunion

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#### November

**November 8** – Chico State Men's Basketball vs. UOP Tigers

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#### December

**December 4** – Bay Area Event at the San Francisco Sports Basement  
**December 4** – Annual Lifetime Member Recognition and Scholarship Reception  
**December 15** – University Scholarship Application Period Closes

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#### January

**January 15** – Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Breakfast  
**January 17** – Alumni Association Board of Directors Annual Meeting  
**January 30** – Chico Chapter Homecoming Reception - Class of 1959 Halftime Recognition  
**January 31** – Golden Graduate Luncheon and 1959 Time Capsule Opening

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#### February

**February 1** – Deadline for Completing the [Alumni Association Supplemental Scholarship Application](#)

**February 27** –Bay Area Chapter Event at the Golden State Warriors vs. Charlotte Bobcats

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