

A PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2016

Around^{THE}Oval

| This is **our** time.



Colorado State University
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2015-2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- PRESIDENT
Ross Thompson ('78)
Life Member

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Thad Smith ('74)
Life Member

VICE PRESIDENT
Jack Capp (B.S., '65; M.S., '67)
Life Member

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Joe Bohling ('90)
Life Member

MEMBERS

Karen Bordner (M.B.A., '04)
Life Member

Kathleen Henry ('70), Ex Officio
Life Member

Kevin Keefe ('81)
Life Member

Nancy Kittridge ('87)
Life Member

Gary Langlie ('80)
Life Member

Constance O'Brien
(B.S., '00; M.B.A., '13)
Life Member

David Paton ('78)
Life Member

Lon Saavedra ('76)
Life Member

Eulanda Sanders (B.S., '90; M.A., '94)
Life Member

Hyoseop Woo (Ph.D. '85)
Life Member

Jessica Wright ('04)
Life Member

RAM HANDLERS
Back row, left to right:
Tyler Threw, MBA, graduating Spring 2016
Sarah Dideriksen, Senior, Comm. Studies
Greg Hecker, Junior, Business Admin.
Kace Peel, Freshman, Animal Science
Kendal Peter, Senior, Sociology
Carissa Pickard, Freshman, Animal Science
Eeland Stribling, Sophomore, Fish, Wildlife, Conservation Biology

Front row, left to right:
Cody Poos, Senior, Animal Science
Brenna Klauer, Senior, Agricultural Business
Kate Alexander, Senior, Animal Science
CAM the Ram
McKenzie Hallemann, Sophomore, Animal Science
Hannah Vance, Senior, Animal Science
Clarissa Carver, Senior, Animal Science
Amber Hodges, Senior, Music

Not pictured: Kathleen Heupel, Senior, Animal Science



Greetings from your University!

The process of selecting a theme for each issue of *Around the Oval* is often organic. After reviewing a vast number of inspiring member stories, we also look around Colorado State University to identify the broader community stories that are begging to be told. Common trends rise to the surface, and possible themes begin to emerge.

That is why this issue's theme, This is Our Time, is so fitting. Both CSU and the Alumni Association are in a time of great change that will result in greater impact for students, alumni, and our Rams community. To help ensure that CSU's land-grant mission thrives for generations to come, CSU recently launched a new fundraising campaign with a goal of raising \$1 billion by 2020. As part of this campaign, we discovered Alumni Association members of all ages who were impacted by donors' generosity and, because of that, have chosen to continue the invaluable giving cycle for the well-being of others. You will read these remarkable stories throughout the publication.

We are also making great progress on the new Alumni Center, which is slated to open in the fall of 2017, and preparations are underway to welcome alumni back home like never before. New and enhanced Alumni Association programming that will support alumni throughout their lives is also in development through the Alumni Association's new Academy. This truly is our time.

Your membership in the CSU Alumni Association makes an impact on Ram pride and helps keep our traditions and programs strong. We are incredibly grateful for your support. To learn about all the ways you can support your Alumni Association, today and in the future, please visit our newly redesigned website at www.alumni.colostate.edu.



Ram proud,
Kristi Bohlender
Kristi Bohlender, B.S. '93; M.B.A. '95
and Life Member

Cover: CSU Alumni Association members: Joslyn McGriff (MS, '07), Amy Hoeven ('95), and Adam Nieto ('13).
Top: A recent graduate with CAM the Ram in front of Ammons Hall.

CSU PHOTOGRAPHY

Membership Matters.

Your Alumni Association membership is an investment in the past, present, and future of Colorado State University. You make it possible for us to connect more than 200,000 alumni, to CSU in meaningful ways. **THANK YOU!**

Around ^{THE} Oval

SPRING 2016

Mission of *Around the Oval*: To build relationships and conduct conversations with members of the CSU Alumni Association.

EDITOR
Angie Dixon ('94)

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Ben Fogelberg (B.A., '94; M.A., '98)
Ann Gill ('76)

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Vance Sherwood ('99)

PHOTOGRAPHY
CSU Creative Services

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Kristi Bohlender
Executive Director (B.S. '93; M.B.A. '95)

Around the Oval is published twice a year by the CSU Alumni Association as a benefit of membership.

Colorado State University
7114 Campus Delivery
Fort Collins, CO 80523-7114
(800) 286-2586
(970) 491-6533 (phone)
(970) 491-0798 (fax)
CSUAlumni@colostate.edu
alumni.colostate.edu

© 2016 by Colorado State University.
All rights reserved

An equal-access and equal-opportunity University

STATE YOUR PURPOSE
• THE CAMPAIGN FOR COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY •



We're on Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, Flickr, and Twitter.

CSU Alumni Association members like you make this publication possible.



Communicators with a Purpose

In February, after completing a successful pilot program in the Fall, Colorado State University launched YOU@CSU, a groundbreaking online mental health tool created to help students successfully cope with, and manage, their college life stressors. After all, transitioning to college

for students is life-changing and, for many, surprisingly overwhelming. While there is great anticipation from students to experience the newfound freedoms of life away from their families – many for the first time, and in new cities, states, and even countries – this anticipation can also lead to unexpected emotions and stress. Learning new academic schedules, competing with themselves and hundreds of students for those top grades, balancing jobs, meeting new friends, and having a meaningful social life can seem too much for any student to handle. And sadly, there are times when students believe it is.

Today, college campuses across Colorado and the country, including CSU, are dealing with the growing epidemic of suicide among college students. According to the Suicide Prevention and Resource Center, suicide is the leading cause of death among college and university students in the United States. Nearly 1,100 suicides happen across college campuses annually, with many other students having suicidal thoughts and attempting suicide.

Increased education and breaking down the stigmas of the mental health issues that lead to suicide – depression, anxiety, loneliness, feelings of confusion or inadequacy, and stress – are key to preventing suicide and suicidal thoughts in students. Suicide.org, a nonprofit organization focused on suicide prevention, awareness, and support, reports that one in five college students believes that their depression level is higher than it should be, yet only 6 percent say they would seek help. Others don't even see their struggles as mental health issues; they just see it as life.

That's where YOU@CSU comes in. As the first technology of its kind, meaningful and personal communication is at the core of YOU@CSU. It helps students gain a better understanding of their mental health and of the hundreds of resources available, many through CSU, to support their overall health and well-being. The more students communicate and share with YOU@CSU, the more personalized information and resources the tool shares back with them. Currently, more than 947 students and nearly 271 faculty and staff have registered accounts on YOU@CSU, and 1,169 reality checks, or



JOSEPH CONRAD ('87), FOUNDER AND CEO OF CACTUS COMMUNICATIONS AND GRIT DIGITAL HEALTH, AND EMPLOYEE KYLE THORNBURG ('15).

health assessments, have been completed. The average time spent on the site is more than five minutes.

This type of purposeful communication is no stranger to Joe Conrad ('87), the CSU alumnus and Alumni Association member, whose brainchild is YOU@CSU.

Conrad is the owner of Cactus Communications, a full-service marketing agency that he founded in 1990 with the mission to grow brands that help people thrive. With 55 full-time employees, Cactus has earned a national reputation for delivering innovative, creative campaigns. Because Conrad is a firm believer that any problem can be solved through innovative, creative, and good communications, in 2015, he formed Grit Digital Health LLC, a human-centric business that combines specialists in behavioral health, wellness, and technology with marketing communications. Conrad brought this expertise, and experience from his work on the Colorado Office of Suicide and Prevention's Mantherapy.org project, to create the YOU@CSU portal in partnership with Anne Hudgens and her team at the CSU Health Network.

Originally from northwest Denver and the youngest of five children, Conrad is the first from his family to graduate from high school. His eyes were always set on CSU, and he worked hard to get there. He always knew he wanted to go to a great school with a great reputation.

At CSU, he wrote for the *Rocky Mountain*

.....

According to the Suicide

Prevention and Resource

**Center, suicide is the leading
cause of death among college
and university students in the
United States.**



Collegian and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in technical journalism. He believes that his education paved the way for his future, and he holds a very special place in his heart for CSU.

"I feel I owe much of my success to all that I learned at CSU," said Conrad, "so it seems only appropriate for me to give back."

And give back he does. Conrad makes it a regular practice to hire CSU graduates and, in 2011, he and his wife, Erin, established the Joseph and Erin Conrad Social Impact Scholarship fund with the founding principle that you can apply good communications and marketing to make an impact on the world. While their fund receives generous contributions from a variety of donors, there is one donor in particular who stands out.

Kyle Thornburg ('15) was entering his senior year at CSU and was actively preparing for his future. He was graduating from the journalism and media communication program, a member of CSU's Presidential Ambassadors Program, and working in the College of Liberal Arts' development office as a work-study student. Not only was he applying his education to real-world situ-

ations, but he was building his portfolio of work and his list of contacts. He was also gaining a new appreciation for the importance of donors and giving back.

"I never anticipated how my work in the development office would affect me," Thornburg said.

"What started out as just a job, turned into a passion of mine, which was working closely with donors. I got to see, firsthand, scholarship recipients meeting their donors and the impact donors were making on students. That was very special to me."

Thornburg turned that passion into action. The Presidential Ambassadors Program encouraged graduating seniors to find a fund they could give to and support the giving cycle. Thornburg's communications background, coupled with his belief in making a positive impact on people, led him to the perfect fund for him – the Joseph and Erin Conrad Social Impact Scholarship.

From that moment on, it seems as if Conrad and Thornburg were destined to meet. Upon graduation, Thornburg expressed his desire to stay in the communications field to his College of Liberal Arts development supervisors and Dr. Ann Gill. With their support, he was introduced to Cactus Communications and Conrad. Today, Thornburg works for Conrad, at both Cactus Communications and Grit Digital Health LLC, managing content for YOU@CSU. It was only after Conrad hired Thornburg that he learned about Thornburg's donation to his scholarship.

Conrad's and Thornburg's relationship is rooted in their joint belief of fostering success through philanthropy, collaboration, and creativity. That belief is reflected in YOU@CSU, which Conrad and Thornburg hope becomes the portal that generations of Rams use to lead thriving college lives.

If you would like to make a donation to the Joseph and Erin Conrad Social Impact Scholarship or any other CSU fund, please visit www.giving.colostate.edu.

by Angie Dixon ('94)

As the first technology of its kind, meaningful and personal communication is at the core of YOU@CSU.



I'M A MEMBER BECAUSE



"Being an Alumni Association member gives me the opportunity to maintain a connection to CSU, and that is very important to me". – Kyle Thornburg ('15)

YOU@CSU helps students gain a better understanding of their mental health and the hundreds of resources available, many through CSU, to support their overall health and well-being.



Multi-Generational Ram Pays It Forward

A number of generous alumni support Colorado State University, but Madeleine Sheahan (B.S., '15) is special. She started a scholarship for undergraduates while still an undergraduate herself. She credits speeches Tony Frank gave at a Green and Gold Gala and to the presidential ambassadors for inspiring her philanthropy, along with the “paying-it-forward” values her family instilled in her.

Sheahan recalls President Frank speaking about the importance of philanthropic support for the University. He explained that organizations like the Red Cross receive significant public support because their mission is to make a positive difference in the world. He went on to point out that Colorado State faculty and alumni also make a significant difference in the lives of their fellow humans. He spoke about the hope CSU represents to many people throughout the world because of our discoveries and innovations, work on behalf of those less fortunate, and generosity of spirit.

Buoyed by that inspiration, Sheahan funded a scholarship during her junior year to be awarded to an undergraduate student. She named it the Esperanza scholarship, which means “hope” in Spanish. One recipient of the scholarship is Jason Sydoriak, who has a double major in political science and economics and was elected student body president for this current year. Sydoriak, a veteran, wrote in his thank-you letter for the scholarship, “I want to emphasize how much I appreciate receiving this scholarship. It will help me continue my lifelong passion in serving the community. Nothing brings me more joy than helping veterans gain the crucial services they deserve or helping a neighboring town recover from a devastating flood.” It appears the Esperanza scholarship is creating a ripple effect of inspiration and continuing the Colorado State tradition of making a difference.



MADELEINE SHEAHAN, ('15) AND HER FAMILY PICTURED AT GRADUATION.

Born in Denver, Sheahan spent her early days in Dallas and then moved to Phoenix, where she attended Sandra Day O'Connor High School. But it is when she talks about Colorado State, which she does frequently, that energy just radiates from Sheahan. She says Colorado State is in her blood.

Both her parents and one grandmother are alumni, her grandfather was on the faculty, and her paternal grandmother worked at CSU. Sheahan's younger sister hopes to become a Ram. Sheahan says Colorado State was the place “where I hit my stride” and notes that she felt empowered while she was a student here. She praises mentors who encouraged her to pursue her interests, not just share theirs, and who taught her many life lessons.

Sheahan graduated cum laude in 2015 with a Bachelor of Science in business administration and a Bachelor of Arts in languages, literatures, and cultures, with a Spanish concentration. While at CSU, she served two years as a presidential ambassador and was a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and a Legacy Scholar. She currently is in her

second semester of law school at the University of Denver.

Her love for CSU still burns strong. When she writes an e-mail to a CSU faculty or staff member, the complimentary close, “Loyally,” goes above her name. She reports going to every home football game this year and says her family discovered that both her parents and her grandparents independently purchased bricks for the new stadium as holiday gifts, learning only later that their bricks will have nearly identical messages about the love this family has for their University.

If you ask her what sort of law she hopes to practice, Sheahan will tell you she would love to work at a university or a business that is engaged in making changes and solving problems. She could see herself as in-house counsel who helps create proactive policies for an organization with an important mission, one she could be passionate about. Her dream job? Being in the Office of General Counsel for the University she loves most – Colorado State University.

by Ann Gill ('76)

What's Brewing?

New Belgium Brewing Company CEO Christine Perich (business administration, '91) knows what goes into a good pour. It's not about holding the pint glass at a perfect 45-degree angle. And it's not about adjusting that angle when you reach the halfway point. It's about the beer and the people who pour their heart and expertise into its creation.

Perich took over as CEO last fall and oversees the company's short-term strategy, executive team, and day-to-day operations. In her prior role as chief operating officer, she helped transition New Belgium into a 100 percent employee-owned brewery. Today, she's looking forward to operating the company's new brewery in Asheville, N.C. “It will give us 50 percent more capacity and allows us to sell beer in all 50 states and become a truly national brand. It's an incredible honor to be at the helm during such an exciting time.”

There's high demand for jobs at the Asheville facility, just as there always has been at the company's home in Fort Collins. This enduring fact brings the story back to providing educational opportunities for the people who are passionate about crafting beer and potentially being part of the New Belgium team.

Colorado State University established its fermentation science and technology program, the first of its kind in the region and just the third of its kind in the country, in 2013. “The fact that the curriculum broadened enough to include fermentation science studies excites me from a craft brewer's perspective very much,” says Perich.

Last year, New Belgium and its co-founder, Kim Jordan, donated \$1 million to update and renovate facilities now known as the New Belgium Fermentation Science and Technology Laboratory. Perich helped make the transformational gift happen.

“That was one of the most rewarding projects I've worked on, because it allowed me to give back to my alma mater,” says Perich. “CSU is helping to



CHRISTINE PERICH ON LOCATION AT NEW BELGIUM BREWING COMPANY.

grow the next generation of brewers and giving them the tools to be creative and contribute in meaningful ways. That's impactful for the individual and for the community as well.”

On a more personal level, Perich gives back by serving on the College of Business Global Leadership Council. Made up of executives and business leaders from Colorado and around the world, the GLC serves as the dean's advisory board, expanding opportunities for students and faculty through program development, advocating for the College in the business community, and fundraising. Asked what excites her most about CSU right now, Perich doesn't bring up the University's astonishing growth illustrated by the busy multitude of construction cranes punctuating the campus skyline. Nor does she mention athletics facilities, though she's an avowed football, volleyball, and women's basketball fan. Instead, she focuses on students.

“I'm at a point in my career where I am really enjoying working with students, when I have the opportunity, and attending sporting events. There's a lot of pride and energy among the CSU student

body; you can feel it when you walk through campus or go to a game. It's fun and rewarding to be a part of that, and it makes me think back fondly on my days here.”

by Ben Fogelberg (B.A. '94, M.A. '98)

I'M A MEMBER BECAUSE



“I want to support my University and feel fortunate to have found a great career path in Fort Collins. I'd like to repay that in some small way. At New Belgium, one of our Core Values and Beliefs is to commit to the highest standards—to be a business role model. By staying engaged with the University at every opportunity and sharing that story, I want to encourage young students to do the same.” To give to a CSU fund visit giving.colostate.edu

Scholarship Power

As part of the 2015 Distinguished Alumni Awards program, construction management graduate Terrance Unrein (B.S., '10) was honored with the Graduate of the Last Decade award. Recipients of this award are recognized by Colorado State University's Alumni Association for their accomplishments in career, service, and/or volunteer efforts that have brought honor to the individual and to Colorado State University.

This recognition aptly fits Unrein. A fourth-generation CSU student (he thanks his great-grandparents for starting this family tradition), Unrein works as an economics, regulatory, and technical consultant for the power and renewable energy markets locally and around the world. He is a volunteer member of the Dean's Emerging Leaders Council for the College of Health and Human Sciences, and participates often as a guest lecturer.

Before graduation, Unrein was busy. Really busy. He volunteered in several leadership positions across CSU. He served as president of the Construction Management Student Board of Directors and as team captain for the construction management competition, and was a member of the college Dean's Leadership Council. He also excelled at his schoolwork. He didn't get one B in college, only A's.

One might say that Unrein is self-motivated. Unrein, though, might say that his motivation was fostered from a purposeful gamble he made on himself during his second year at school.

As a student supporting himself to get through school, Unrein worked at the CSU recreation center to help pay the bills. But as his schoolwork became more demanding, he kept reducing his work hours, which made it tough to make ends meet. And then he had an epiphany. What role could scholarships play in his college experience?

"I decided I had to shift my thinking on how I was going to work to get through school," said Unrein. "If I shifted my



UNREIN RECEIVING HIS 2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD FROM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD PRESIDENT, ROSS THOMPSON.

efforts and worked toward being more of a student leader, I could try to earn scholarships to help pay for school and learn a lot more along the way. This became my new strategy."

It also became the new strategy for two of Unrein's fellow classmates, Jeb Bair (B.S., '10) and Brady Babitt (B.S., '10). Together, they researched and applied for scholarships, and as their scholarship support grew, so did their involvement in their course work and in CSU. By Unrein's senior year, the only job he worried about was maintaining his good grades and learning how to start his career.

"Without scholarship support, I wouldn't have been able to do that," said Unrein.

Upon graduation in 2010, Unrein, Bair, and Babitt decided to start a scholarship for construction management students that they still fund today. In addition to maintaining good grades, qualifications include being active in extracurricular activities. To donate to their scholarship, or to any other CSU scholarship, including those offered by the Alumni Association, please visit www.giving.colostate.edu.

"I feel so lucky to have had such active professors and other resources available to help me through school," Unrein said. "From helping us discover leadership positions within CSU, to showing us how to look for and interview for jobs, the College of Health and Human Sciences gave us so many opportunities. That is why we started our scholarship: to be able to create the same opportunity for other students that CSU gave to us."

by Angie Dixon ('94)

I'M A MEMBER BECAUSE



"My wife and I enjoy being members of the CSU Alumni Association because it is a simple and easy way to stay connected with the University while not being in Fort Collins. From the Around the Oval magazine, occasional Denver and Fort Collins events, and e-mail updates, the organization does a great job of helping you maintain a sense of pride in the Rams family."

Support **CAM** forever. Give now at alumni.colostate.edu

Colorado State University ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Proud sponsor of CAM the Ram

Be covered wherever life takes you.

The Alumni Insurance Program®

Through The Alumni Insurance Program®, Rams can take advantage of insurance plans that stay with you when you need them most, unlike many employer plans. Call **1-800-922-1245** today or visit www.TheAIP.com/rams for a full list of products including Life, Health, Travel, Auto, Home and Renter's.

An Official Program of:
Colorado State University
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

6P3

TURNING PRIDE INTO PURPOSE

One. Billion. Dollars. This is our time ... time for us to rise to the heights to which we are called. Colorado State University is on a quest for greatness, and to get there we need your help.

Colorado State University officially launched its one billion dollar comprehensive fundraising campaign on Saturday, February 13 at its annual donor celebration event on the CSU Campus. State Your Purpose – The Campaign for Colorado State University has a target completion date in 2020 to mark the 150th birthday of the University.

In 2012, Colorado State University celebrated the early and successful conclusion of its first comprehensive campaign. Now, less than four years later, we are embarking on a far more ambitious quest, looking to raise \$1 billion dollars to invest in the never-ending pursuit of across-the-board excellence.

“We’re incredibly proud of this campaign – the goals it embodies, the promise it holds, and its symbolism,” CSU President, Dr. Tony Frank, said. “This isn’t a campaign that quietly questions our thinking about the future. This is a campaign that demands a declaration: State Your Purpose. That theme embodies the character of a university that is committed to continuous improvement, that rolls up its sleeves and redoubles its efforts, and that leaves no one behind as we move forward.”

Brett Anderson, vice president of University Advancement, shepherded the first campaign to a successful conclusion. He announced that the new campaign has already raised more money – nearly \$540 million – in just over three years, than the previous campaign raised in seven full years.

THE PRIMARY GOALS OF THE CAMPAIGN INCLUDE:

- Dramatically increase the number of scholarships so CSU can continue to recruit outstanding students throughout the state, the country, and the world.
- Invest in world-class infrastructure – classrooms, labs, residence halls and events facilities – so CSU can achieve across-the-board excellence.
- Provide resources to its exceptional programs so CSU can continue to attract the leading minds in the world to further research and teaching.
- Significantly increase CSU’s endowment for the long-term financial health of the University.

“Raising a billion dollars would put us in an exclusive club – only a small number of universities have completed billion-dollar campaigns,” Anderson said. “It’s a monumental and meaningful task, and it’s also the ideal target when we looked at the needs of the institution to continue on our path toward excellence. If we want to continue on our journey to become the greatest land-grant university in the country, we need to successfully complete this campaign.”

“We will succeed in reaching our goal, and when we do, we will have ensured that greater numbers of our graduates leave with a diploma and not a crippling debt load,” said Dr. Frank. “We will have given our faculty the resources to continue to make groundbreaking discoveries that transform our world. We will have expanded opportunities for student veterans. And we will have demonstrated that excellence is built with the leadership of people who have both a sense of purpose and the vision to lead us forward.”

Learn more about the campaign at giving.colostate.edu. Explore purpose-driven opportunities for giving and connecting with CSU programs and people who are changing our world.

Purpose is what gives life definition and direction. It’s what ignites that flame and passion burning deep inside. It’s what compels you to give and drives you to do more. Join us.

State Your Purpose – The Campaign for Colorado State University.

“This isn’t a campaign that quietly questions our thinking about the future. This is a campaign that demands a declaration: State Your Purpose. That theme embodies the character of a university that is committed to continuous improvement, that rolls up its sleeves and redoubles its efforts, and that leaves no one behind as we move forward.”

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT AND SYSTEM CHANCELLOR TONY FRANK

STATE YOUR PURPOSE

• THE CAMPAIGN FOR COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY •



Colorado State University

It’s time. The quest for greatness is ever-present. Since 1870, Colorado State University has been blazing a trail for Rams, for Coloradans, for people across the globe. We are investing in our academics, students, faculty, and campus like never before. Our mission is to help our students realize their dreams and their purpose to impact the world. **We’re rising to the heights to which we are called. Join us.**

alumni.colostate.edu

This is **our** time.



Nearly 20,000 square feet at the northeast corner of the stadium will be dedicated to honoring our alumni—past, present, and future.

The center will feature a Great Hall using the latest in digital technology to tell the story of our alumni and the University.

Additional features include:

- Visitor information desk
- Event hall
- Seminar rooms
- Executive board room
- Alumni Association offices

The center will host gatherings year-round and serve as the first stop for alumni visiting campus.

OPENING FALL 2017

www.alumni.colostate.edu

ALUMNI CENTER



The Colorado State University Alumni Association is excited to embark on the construction of a new Alumni Center to serve as a place of pride and home to more than 200,000 alumni when they return to campus.

The Alumni Center will be funded through private support. For more information about being involved in the project, contact Kristi Bohlender, executive director, at (970) 491-6533 or kristi.bohlender@colostate.edu.



April

- 27 Innovation Symposium, Fort Collins, Colo.
- 30 Green and Gold Gala, Denver, Colo.

May

- 3 Senior candlelight celebration
- 13-15 Spring Commencement
- 19 College and Beyond retreat

ONLINE PROGRAMS

Online Courses (through May)

Career Fit: Comprehensive career exploration

Weight Loss for the Long Term: Explores strategies to achieve and maintain a healthy weight.

Webinar Series On Demand

- The Race to Feed 9.7 Billion People: The Secret is in the Soil
- Smart Village Microgrids:
- Electrification and Development for Rural Villages
- Professional Resilience: How to Navigate Tough Times in Your Job
- CSU Ventures: Guiding Great Innovation to the Marketplace
- Virtual Reality: Opportunities for Business and Beyond

Career Resources

Handshake: A free online job system designed to assist you and your employment needs.

Career Communities: A NEW and FREE service
Industry-related communities of alumni, students, faculty and employers share relevant information with each other.



For a complete list of:
Alumni events, visit alumni.colostate.edu

Athletics events, visit csurams.com

Watch select sports via live stream at csurams.com/videos

Arts events, visit uca.colostate.edu

Dates listed are subject to change.

Be sure to get the latest event updates. A comprehensive list of events and details are sent via e-mail. Send your name, class year, and e-mail address to csualumni@colostate.edu to receive e-updates on CSU events in your area.

Welcome to THE ACADEMY

They say education is the kindling of a flame. If that's true, it may explain why you never lost the feeling that everything's possible – that the best is yet to come. You may have left college last year or long ago, but you never stopped learning. You kept the fire going.

Introducing The Academy, a suite of alumni programs, services, and opportunities designed to enhance your personal and professional journey.

- Webinars and online courses bringing Colorado State University to you
- CSU and Beyond retreats for career and life
- Career counseling consultations, mock interviews, resume critiques, and more
- Handshake job system
- Career Communities online networking
- Volunteer opportunities connecting alumni to students

Go ahead; pile on the kindling. Never stop learning.

alumni.colostate.edu/academy



Free shipping on all orders.



Hewlett Packard and CSU have partnered to bring you special pricing on HP Business Class Products and Services.

EVERY PURCHASE SUPPORTS COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Homecoming & Family Weekend



homecoming.colostate.edu

Oct. 6-8, 2016

Alumni, families, community members, and visitors are invited to Homecoming & Family Weekend, the time of year where we all come together to celebrate the past, present, and future of Colorado State University.

Sonny Lubick Field Lives On At New On-Campus Stadium

Colorado State University announced in March that, thanks to an anonymous donation, the name "Sonny Lubick Field" will continue at the University's new on-campus stadium when it opens for the 2017 season.

"We are thrilled to continue to honor the legacy of one of the true greats in Colorado State history," said Colorado State President and CSU System Chancellor Tony Frank. "Coach Sonny Lubick showed CSU how to win and be competitive at the highest levels – and in doing so, he helped set a trajectory that continues to this day. Sonny means so much to our community; it's wonderful to honor him in this way."



Sustaining Life Members

Following are Life Members who made an annual Sustaining Life contribution, July 1, 2015 – February 25, 2016.

\$1,870 and above

Ronald C., '89 and Michele J. Stettner

\$1,000-\$1,869

Benjamin F., III, '73 and Margaret Kitchen Thomas G., '71 and Linda A. Kundert Daniel P., '88 and Marla Tweit

\$500-\$999

William O., Jr., '53 and Charlotte L. Evans Richard W. Fuller, '63 Judith E. Gustafson, '62, '68 Gary R., '80 and Elizabeth G. Langlie Constance L. O'Brien, '00, '13 Dennis M., '73 and Joan A. O'Brien Gayle R. Treber, '71, '87 Robert L. Warner, '58, '59 Barbara J. Winter, '72

\$100-\$499

Robert E., '58 and Vonnice E. Allen Gerald E., '55 and Mary Anne Anderson Eugene A., '62 and Diane W., '64 Bauerle Jerry M. Befus, '76 Jerald W. Bisterfeldt, '63 Anne K. Broholm, '86 Richard T. Callan, '84, '93 Ronald L. Carlson, '90 and Kristina S., '89, '94 Binard Grant R., '81 and Alicia L. Cates Jerry H., '61 and Barbara K. Cheesman Keith E. Cooley, '79 Chalmers A. Cromer, '43, '51 John, Jr., '57 and JoAnn E. Dekleva Matthew C., '04 and Kathrine A., '05 Denman Cheryl C. Dotten, '75 L. G. Earl, '63 and Cynthia A., '65 Duncan Robert W., '68, '92 and Anita C. Eatman Wayne E. Eberhard, '70 Conrad D. Eriksen, '50

Paul S. Fedec, '77 Gerald B., '65 and JoVonne A., '64, '66 Fitzgerald Robert T., '95 and Stephanie L., '95 Foster Jerry D. Frydendall, '51 Carlton E., '80 and Michelle L. Gayles Kenneth L. Goldsberry, '54, '62 John T., '59 and Dolores A., '58 Goodier Linda L. Granberg, '68 Roger T., '63 and Joan D. Grimes Bonnie G. Guggenheim, '77 Jerome M., '70 and Wendy Hause Kathleen Henry, '70 Linda J. Henry, '66, '93 Kenneth L. Hillsten, '58 Steven B., '58, '65 and Susan Holzman Mary E. Jacobs, '73 H. Gordon Johnson, '48 Stephen A. Johnson, '68 Robert W., '72 and Shawn A., '81 Kinney Narayanaswamy Krishnamurthi, '75 Donald P., '69 and Judy A. Kundert Steven M., '73 and Diane A., '73 Luwe Darwin G. and Betty J., '65 Mainwaring John P., '60 and Carol A. Mari John K. Matsushima, '43, '45 Loren R. Maxey Wilbur H., '78, '80, '92 and Ruth McCormick Stephen L., '58 and Maxine A. Miller Arvin R., '67, '68, '74 and Susan M., '67 Mosier Maryam Niamir-Fuller Russel W., '64 and Barbara A., '64 Nun Donald A., Sr., '55, '57 and Jo Ann, '58 Ostwald Rene L. Parish, '78, '80 Dean A., '66 and Janiece K., '67 Pigman Narasipur S. Raj, '67 Raoul F., II, '00 and Donna L. Reiser Vernon E. Rettig, '55 Anna K. Robinette, '62 Alvie W., '57, '64 and Janet S. Rothe Jeffrey S. and Alison L., '93 Salerno

Vernon E., III, '80 and Margaret L., '80 Shoup Vern R., '55, '57 and Mary R. Smith Carl S. Sorensen, '54 Marion E., '54 and Viola M. Stanley Gregory R., '72 and Susan M., '73 Super Richard G., Sr., '78 and Lorraine M. Tanaka Charles M., '67, '71 and Shelby E. Thimmig Stafford T. Thomas and Carol L., '69 Berg Charles L., '70 and Lana Van Cleave Kristin D. Victry, '90, '95 Glenn P. Violette, '82 Edward A. Wallace, '60 Jason and Megan G. Weber Norman J., Jr., '70 and Ann E. Wells Ralph A., '63 and Janice L. Williams Glen C. Young, '61 Edward L., '69 and Mary E., '68, '70 Zorn

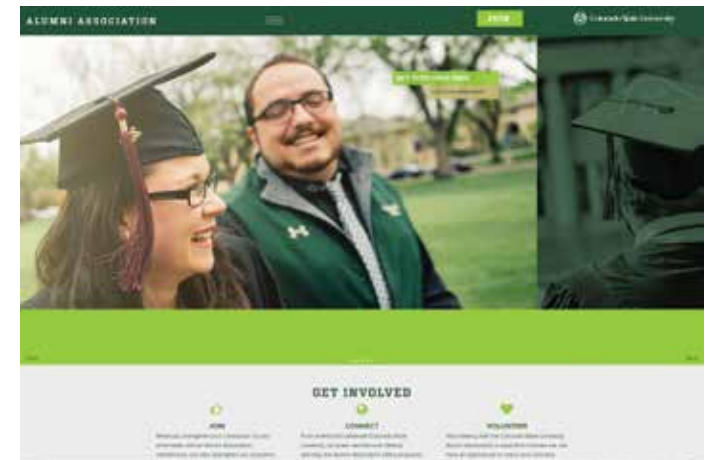
\$50-\$99

Gary P., '68 and Annemieke D., '69 Ambrosier Harry R. and Georgette K., '72 Boeselager Jimmie L., '61 and Billie J. Colvin Gerald D., Jr., '52, '60 and Karlene H. Ferguson Patrick E., III and Marilyn A., '61, '63 Fontane Robert L. and Martha E., '60 Gustafson Warren D., '69 and Margaret M. Housinger Kevin P. Keefe, '81 Duane A. Newman, '54, '56 Lincoln J. Parkes, '54, '57 James G., '57, '59 and Marilyn Y., '57 Savoini Kenneth S. Sek, '73 David L., '70 and Miriam M., '71 Stout Brad Victry Donald E., '63, '65 and Patricia E., '59, '61 White Dale L., '74 and Judith A. Wilken

New Alumni Website

The Colorado State University Alumni Association is proud to announce the launch of its brand-new, mobile-friendly website. Our previous website launched in 2008, less than a year after Apple sold its first iPhone and two years before Apple unveiled the iPad. Since then, the world – as they say – has changed.

For those who like facts and figures, here are two: Traffic on the alumni website from mobile devices went from 0% in 2008 to 26% in 2015. That means 21,060 visitors who accessed the website on their phone may have felt frustrated by pinching and zooming. A website that adapts to every user's screen size, whether it's on a desktop, tablet, or mobile device, not only maximizes our ability to inform you, it also allows you to get the information you want quickly and easily. Our goal has always been to connect CSU alumni to the University and each other. We hope the new site will make your online experience easier and more engaging than ever.



CHECK OUT THE NEW SITE AND LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK. ALUMNI.COLOSTATE.EDU



NorthAmerican Van Lines offers a **60% discount** for interstate moves and free replacement cost insurance.

Contact Gordon Taylor at **(800) 987-3608** and mention CSU.

Ramblin' Rams Travel Program

For more information, visit www.alumni.colostate.edu

IBERIAN INSPIRATION - A CAVALCADE OF CULTURES
October 4-15, 2016

IMPRESSIONS OF HAVANA
October 27-November 1, 2016

CUBAN DISCOVERY
January 21-29, 2017

PALMS IN PARADISE
April 24-May 10, 2017

BALTIC AND SCANDINAVIAN TREASURES
August 17-28, 2017

MEDIEVAL MASTERPIECE
November 5-14, 2017

HAVANA, CUBA

Life members can continue their investment in the Alumni Association by making annual contributions to the Sustaining Life Member program.

Not a Life Member? Upgrade today and get your new Ram Flag!



BECAUSE IT'S
HOME

At last count, nearly 50,000 Colorado State University alumni call the Denver metro area home. Ross Thompson ('78) sees that number and imagines 50,000 reasons to give back to his alma mater by donating his time and talents during one of the University's most exciting eras of growth and change.

Born in Minnesota, Thompson moved to Colorado with his family in 1973. He attended Fort Collins High School and then transferred to the just-built Rocky Mountain High School and was among the students in its first graduating class.

Proximity and affordability made CSU his "natural choice" for college, but he still put in 60-plus hours a week at the Fox Theater and Century Triplex to make it work. Pell Grants helped too. "I wasn't that involved in college life," he admits, remembering a desire to move on to a career as quickly as possible. "When I earned my degree in '78, I wanted to work hard and help make a difference." His chance to get involved would come later.

Thompson had two good job prospects after graduation: one with the state of Colorado Office of the Comptroller and the other with Shell Oil Company in Louisiana as a financial accountant. He chose the latter. "I had no idea what I was getting myself into taking a job in Louisiana," he says. Though Shell wasn't a perfect fit for him, there was a silver lining: He met his wife, Sue, there.

Thompson kept his eyes open for a chance to realign his profession and passions. "What I liked most about my finance degree from Colorado State was that it was forward-looking. Banking was where I needed to be."

Banking turned out to be not only his calling, but a roundabout path leading back to Colorado and re-engagement with CSU. He took a job with First National Bank of Commerce in New Orleans, where he worked in trust operations before a mentor moved him



ROSS THOMPSON CELEBRATING AG DAY WITH (FROM LEFT) HIS NEPHEW, MATT HOPPAL; SISTER, DONNA HOPPAL; HIS WIFE, SUE; SON, ANDREW; AND DAUGHTER, STEPHANIE.

into corporate trust. Later, when Shell transferred Sue to Houston, he interviewed at Texas Commerce Bank and was offered a job in its personal trust department. Everything was going well, and then a corporate headhunter contacted Thompson. "I told him I wasn't interested in making a move unless it was in Colorado," he recalls. It was something of a joke: Everyone wanted to move to Colorado and opportunities were few and far between.

Thompson flew to Denver for an interview and was offered a job with First Interstate Bank. Today, he is a senior manager in the personal trust group at MidFirst Bank of Colorado located in Cherry Creek and looks back on 26 years of his career in Colorado not as jobs with financial institutions, but as a long list of individual relationships with wonderful people and organizations. "I never had to push a product on any client," he says. "I am able to listen to them and do what's in their best interest."

Living in Denver gave Thompson a chance to put those relationship-building skills to work for CSU. "Athletics got us re-engaged," he says. "We purchased season football tickets and joined the Ram Club when Sonny Lubick was hired as the head football coach and have missed only five home games since 1993." Wanting to do more for the school than cheer, he volunteered to serve on an advisory board for planned giving to help people "make the right choice" with their accumulated wealth and how to support their lifelong charitable interests.

That experience led to involvement with the Alumni Association. In 2008,

he accepted an invitation to oversee the Denver Ram Network, a volunteer group dedicated to engaging those 50,000 metro-area alumni. "It was wild; really fun," he recalls. "We had six committees and organized 50 to 60 events a year. The support we received from the CSU staff was phenomenal."

Thompson joined the Alumni Association's board of directors in 2010 and serves as its current president. He considers himself lucky to be involved while the new on-campus stadium takes shape. Nearly 20,000 square feet at the northeast corner of the stadium will be dedicated to a new Alumni Center. The center will host gatherings year-round and serve as the first stop for alumni visiting campus.

"It's a game-changer," he says. "Coming home is what it's all about to me. Before, when we'd come up to Fort Collins for football games, we didn't set foot on campus. In the rare moments we did make it to campus and would walk through the Oval or the Lory Student Center, I'd get teary-eyed because it's home."

When alumni come home for games after the stadium and Alumni Center open in 2017, they'll be able to share their CSU experiences, traditions, and Ram pride with family and friends through events and interactive exhibits that will tell a story they played a part in creating. And that's a crucial point, asserts Thompson. "We will increase the awareness of the University and the Alumni Association through the new Alumni Center. People will want to be part of it because they will be proud of it."

by Ben Fogelberg (B.A. '94, M.A. '98)



Basketball 101

Each spring, Basketball 101 brings CSU's international students into the heart of campus life and American culture through an inside look at CSU athletics, and specifically, basketball. Ross Thompson, a current men's and women's basketball season ticketholder and believer in the idea that sports can be a starting point for lifetime engagement with the University, is proud of the program's heritage. Sponsored by the CSU Office of International Programs, the Department of Athletics, and the Alumni Association, it was modeled on Football 101, which demystified the sport for international students and was started by Darshan Shah (B.S., '92; M.E., '01), a past Alumni Association board of directors president. This year's event – which took place prior to the CSU women's Border War game vs. Wyoming – was extra special because nine of the 15 players on the Rams roster are international students from Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Romania, and Brazil. "International students are an important part of CSU's story," Thompson says. "They're part of our Rams family."



If you're going to buy office products, shop where you can support **Colorado State.**



Visit alumni.colostate.edu for details, or call the Alumni Association at (800) 286-2586.



YOUR LEGACY
COLORADO STATE
UNIVERSITY'S FUTURE

Have you considered leaving CSU in your will or trust?

When you make a gift to the CSU Alumni Association, you help the organization deliver programs and services that make lasting, positive impacts on graduates and foster lifetime CSU connections.

WITH A BEQUEST TO THE CSU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION YOU:

- keep control of your assets throughout your lifetime
- meet your philanthropic goals while supporting your passion
- reduce (or possibly eliminate) estate taxes
- become a member of the Frontier Legacy Society

The legacy you create today empowers future generations and allows CSU to remain a world-class institution. For more information about charitable estate planning, please call or email us at (970) 491-3414 or giftplanning@colostate.edu

Have you already included CSU in your estate plans? Let us know. We'd love to thank you with a small token of our appreciation.



Stories From a Retiring Dean

When I retire at the end of June, my favorite keepsakes from 36 years spent at Colorado State University will be the stories I’ve collected about this special place and its wonderful people. First and foremost, we are a family, and a relatively functional one at that. At a men’s basketball game a year or so ago, when Tony Frank walked into Moby Arena, the student section started chanting, “Tony, Tony, Tony.” I am certain no other student body in the country chants their president’s name, at least unaccompanied by profanity. As my mobility has waned, I found heartwarming the number of students who rush to hold the door for an old lady with a cane. Several decades ago, a student-athlete marched into my office after his first class of the semester, unsettled that the professor had been open about his sexual orientation. After some discussion, he decided to remain in the class. Toward the end of the semester, this young man was back in my office to report that the professor had come to class that day very distraught because a group of young men hassled him on his way to campus. “So,” he proudly announced: “I gave him my cellphone number and told him, ‘You run into trouble, you call me! The brothers and I got your back.’” This inspiring diversity of Colorado State extends beyond differences in human identity. Before the name and use of the building changed, I had fun giving directions to the parking lot near Clark by saying, “Turn right just after the Potato Virus building.” A woman with an engineering degree enrolled in one of my courses and was very quiet throughout the semester. One day, however, she suddenly burst out, “I finally figured it out!” When asked to elaborate, she said, “I figured out why you all talk so much.

Engineers do not talk until they know the answer. You liberal arts people work toward an answer out loud.” Students and their youthful exuberance are the source of many stories. I recall opening the *Collegian* to find a full-page remake of a Robert Mapplethorpe photograph from his The Perfect Moment show, which created enormous public controversy. This particular photo featured two nude and completely shaved males facing the camera. Recognizing one of the young men in the CSU re-creation of that photo as my student, I could only sputter, “Well, hello John!” (A number of you will be relieved to know I intentionally forgot every College Days story I ever heard.) One thing I love about Colorado State people is their can-do spirit. I came to campus the morning after the 1997 flood and, as I walked toward Eddy, I could see computer monitors and personal items bobbing in water just inches below the ceiling in the basement offices. Later, I ran into a theater professor outside Johnson Hall, where the entire costume collection had been ruined by the water. I asked her how she was doing, prepared for tears. Instead she kicked a foot in the air and announced, “The show must go on!” And indeed it did, all over campus. When the football team qualified for a bowl game that was played on the day of fall commencement, the Marching Band went, too, leaving us short a number of musicians for the commencement ensemble. Local musicians with the Fort Collins Symphony agreed to fill in the vacant spots, but they had a performance scheduled just before commencement would begin. No problem – staff members in Motor Pool vans, motors running, were parked behind the Lincoln Center. The moment that performance was over, the musicians shoved their instruments in cases and jumped into the vans, which raced to Moby. The musicians then ran inside, pulled out their instruments, and the ensemble launched into “Pomp and Circumstance” just as the graduates arrived for the procession. The game? Our Rams scored 20 points in the last quarter to beat Fresno State 40-35.

I have learned many lessons from alumni. Over the years, several have said to me, “I will never forget what you said ...,” and sometimes I had no memory of saying it. That taught me to be very careful about every word that came out of my mouth, knowing it might take root and grow in someone else. Years ago, I attended the wedding rehearsal dinner for an alumnus. He was part of an African American family from Detroit; the bride came from a Caucasian Nebraska farm family. When the two



DR. ANN GILL WITH STUDENT ATHLETES FROM THE CSU FOOTBALL TEAM AT THE 2012 LIBERAL ARTS COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY IN MOBY ARENA. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DOMINIQUE VINSON, MARQUISE LAW, MOMO THOMAS, DR. ANN GILL, MARK WOODBURY, DAVIS BURL.

family groups came into the event hall for the dinner, they migrated to different sides of the room, talking quietly among themselves. But when enormous platters of home-cooked food arrived, the volume increased noticeably. Then, a tiny Nebraska grandma went up to a large Detroit groomsman and exclaimed, “I do not believe you have hugged me yet,” whereupon he delivered a huge one. With that, “sides” of the room dissolved and hugs and raucous conversation ensued, which convinced me that good food and a hug can solve a number of life’s issues. As I walk out of my office for the last time, I will be reminded of the thousands of students who have crossed the platform at commencement ceremonies over the years and will find inspiration in the grace they displayed when facing a life transition. My next stop will be as a volunteer at the Alumni Association. I hope to be a small part of a great new era in our association, encouraging alumni to return to campus for a visit and welcoming them to the new center when it opens in Fall 2017 in the northeast corner of the new stadium. Please visit the Alumni Center when you are in Fort Collins. I would love to share a cup of tea and hear your stories.

by Ann Gill ('76)

As an alumni of Colorado State University, you could receive exclusive savings on auto and home insurance from Liberty Mutual.¹



Join thousands of satisfied customers with Liberty Mutual Insurance.²



Discounted Rates—You could save up to \$519.52 a year³ on auto insurance and receive additional discounts on home insurance.



Exceptional Service—Whether you’re in an accident or just need some advice, know we’ll always be on call for you.



Superior Benefits—Enjoy a number of superior benefits, such as 24-Hour Claims Assistance, Accident Forgiveness⁴, Roadside Assistance⁵ and Better Car Replacement.^{TM6}

For a free quote, call 888-964-2146 or visit libertymutual.com/colostate Client # 101163



Liberty Mutual
INSURANCE



Colorado State University
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

This organization receives financial support for offering this auto and home benefits program.

¹ Discounts and savings are available where state laws and regulations allow, and may vary by state. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify. ² Based on Liberty Mutual Insurance Company’s 2014 Customer Satisfaction Survey in which more than 81% of policyholders reported their interaction with Liberty Mutual service representatives to be “among the best experiences” and “better than average.” ³ Average annual savings based on countrywide survey of new customers from 01/27/2014 to 01/16/2015 who reported their prior insurers’ premiums when they switched to Liberty Mutual’s group auto and home program. Savings do not apply in MA. ⁴ For qualifying customers only. Accident Forgiveness is subject to terms and conditions of Liberty Mutual’s underwriting guidelines. Not available in CA and may vary by state. ⁵ With the purchase of optional Towing & Labor coverage. Applies to mechanical breakdowns and disablements only. Towing related to accidents would be covered under your Collision or Other Than Collision coverage. ⁶ Optional coverage. Applies to a covered total loss. Deductible applies. Does not apply to leased vehicles and motorcycles. Not available in NC.

Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116.

©2016 Liberty Mutual Insurance

Valid through June 16, 2016.



Colorado State University
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni Association
7114 Campus Delivery
Fort Collins, CO 80523-7114

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FORT COLLINS CO 80523
PERMIT NUMBER 19

14TH ANNUAL
GREEN & GOLD
GALA

APRIL 30, 2016

SHAPING OUR FUTURE

Register now at alumni.colostate.edu/gala



Colorado State University
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION