



The Anchor

Sailing into our 99th year of sisterhood!

President's Message~ Yo sisters!

It is me again. You are probably used to my words at the start of the annual Anchor for the last decade. We have some news about the house next door, but first let's crank out the nuts and bolts.

The active chapter is busy as usual. The women are on summer vacation, but will be back in August for retreat in Reno. We can't quite convince all the girls to live in the house, nor can we keep a full house. The financial impact of these issues is not letting us save as much money as we could for the project next door. The house will have 25 girls living in it. We pay the bills at 21 or 22 girls. We need to figure out how to attract good women, and convince them to live in the house. Of the 17 initiated last fall, only 13 are still active. We initiated 20 in the spring, and 19 are returning this fall.

We have not found a substitute for dry pledge. We had two ideas that we thought would work but they weren't feasible due to the possibility of hazing accusations, and the fact that women use social media for school. Although we love the idea of the girls exercising together for a 5k, this is considered hazing. We would like to discuss the social media issue further to see if it is feasible. Maybe girls can't post or comment on social media for a week but they can communicate via email with other students at Chico State for educational purposes? Bring your ideas, or better yet, send them to me via email csuc2000@gmail.com.

We have run into a snag with the house next door. All was well; we had the plans submitted through the City of Chico. We were ecstatic because we got approval for the French doors, patio, and removal the fireplace as long as we used the bricks to build planters. We had three contractors who agreed to bid our job, and Jim went to several banks to get loan information. The Board decided on a bank because we would be getting a construction loan, and be able to lump the 70 thousand we still owe on the sorority house into our loan. We figured we would need to borrow about 300 thousand for this, and our payment would have been \$1,900, and we would take in three thousand in rent for the house next door when the project was completed.. Jim called me in mid-May, and told me two contractors had decided not to bid our job because they couldn't get an accurate cost since it is a historical house. Contractors were also saying they could make more money on new construction. We received one bid in early June for \$460K, which meant we would need to borrow \$550K, including the money to cover the existing loan on the AX house. Simply put, we can't afford that. We need to be able to save more money to be able to take out a smaller loan. Jim does a great job saving money, but having 25 girls in the house just doesn't allow us to save the type of money we need. The house next door is not yet rented for the fall semester,, as we thought we were starting construction in June. We are going to need to paint the AX house, and do some repairs on the house next door. It needs a partial roof (a portion leaked this winter), small updates to the bathrooms, and portable AC units for the bedrooms to make it rent-ready ASAP. This is really unfortunate as we were really planning on having this project done for our centennial. The alumni board and Jim can't, in good conscience, take out a loan for more money than we take in each month. If anybody is playing the lottery and wins a fortune, we have an excellent idea for how to spend the money. I wish I had more optimistic news for the annual newsletter, but I wanted to be forthright with information as soon as we had it. We will keep you posted via our Facebook group if something changes. As always, contact me with questions, comment or concerns. If you would like an item added to the agenda, please submit it to me at csuc2000@gmail.com by Sept. 1. And, if you would like to run for an Alumni exec office, please submit your name and the office by Oct. 1. Thanks so much.

See you in October,
Lyndie Aquila

Treasurer's Message~

Hello Alpha Chi Sisters!

If you received a hard copy of this Anchor in your mailbox, you paid your dues and are an active member of the Alpha Chi Sorority Alumni Association. Thank you! If you received a soft copy of this Anchor in your inbox, please, pay your dues and become active. If you're reading this Anchor because you found it on our website, or because a sister shared it with you, that means your contact information is not current in our Alumni Database, please contact our Membership Chair (Kayla Mora) to update your information and pay your dues.

All of our dues go towards the Alumni association which pays for the website, insurance, Alumni activities with the actives, to help the actives when they need it, and restoration support for the house next door. Each year you will see there is very little spent from the Alumni account as we are saving for the new restorations.

If you are interested I would like to invite you to attend the budget and finance meeting which will occur at 5:30pm the Friday before the meeting. I would like to bring up the fact that even though we have over 646 sisters in the database, we received dues from only 71 sisters which paid \$40 dues for the 2016-17 year for a total of \$2,840. That is only 11% of our alumni who are in current Active status. I would like to say a special thanks to those who gave above and beyond their dues last year as we had \$2,196 in monetary donations. I hope you all received your blessing in return. Our donation campaign resulted in a permanent plaque in the AX house listing those who contribute designated amounts over the annual dues in the following categories:

\$50 -\$99 = Bronze	\$100-\$174 = Silver
\$175-\$249 = Gold	\$250+ = Platinum

Shortly after each annual meeting, our donor names are displayed until the next crop is revealed the following year! See recognition to our 2016-2017 Donors later in the letter.

Our ship is still sailing in large partly due to the diehard support from you, our Active Alumni! Paying your dues and making a donation is pretty easy. You may send a check, made payable to the "AX Alumni Assn" or you may remit via PayPal to AX_Alumntreasurer@yahoo.com (remember, depending upon your method of PayPal payment i.e. Pay for goods or services, our account will be hit with additional fees, so please be sure to gross up your payment so that your \$40 dues are received by us in full). Or if you process your PayPal payment "Send money to friends and family" we should not incur a fee. If you're a last minute attendee to our annual meeting, you may pay your dues in person of course! Please bring your dues and fill out the google RSVP form so Kayla can update your information in the database.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Ashley Casey, CPA, Fall 2003

AX Alumni Treasurer ashleycasey85@gmail.com

A big thank you goes out to the following sisters who have paid their dues every year for the past five years or more! Thank you for your unwavering support!

- Alicia Gonzales S'05
- Ashley Casey F'03
- Brianna Bryant Brown S'00
- Caitlyn La Haie F'11
- Carla Camerotto-Roope F'81
- Carol Jessen Sprecher F'87
- Carrie Izant Steffes S'95
- Catherine Reinmiller S'95
- Chrissy Fullington Jordan F'00
- Cynthia Denning Rachel F'00
- Debbie Jones Tarke F'83
- Ellen Peace F'82
- Gina McKeever Loza S'99
- Heather L'Amoreaux S'05
- Heidi Matejka Tank F'02
- Holly Dussell Feeney F'73
- Janelle Leon Weil F'06
- Jennifer Miller Chavez S'95
- Jennifer Von der Lieth F'03
- Joan Bottum Mora S'82
- Katie Ferrera Siegmund S'04
- Kelley Rothrock Valentine F'82
- Lashaun Schwenk Byer F'86
- Lisa Torney Morrill F'88
- Lyndie Aquila S'97
- Melissa Duque Murray F'04
- Michelle Choat Sander F'01
- Sandi Harbour Hernandez S'83
- Sharon Culbertson Anderson S'04
- Sheila Crawford S'04
- Sophie Whelan Kirk F'83
- Teri Harbour O'Keefe S'80

Shout Out to the 2016 Donors!

<p style="text-align: center;">BRONZE (\$50 - \$99)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ashley Casey F'03 Catherine Reinmiller S'95 Chantel Richards F'11 Cynthia Denning Rachel F'00 Ellen Peace F'82 Jennifer Miller Chavez S'95 Jenny Davenport Brooks F'95 Liz Yonge Goodrich F'86 Nicole diLorenzo S'13 Sharon Culbertson Andersen S'04 Sophie Whelan Kirk F'83</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SILVER (\$100 - \$174)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brianna Bryant Brown S'00 Carol Jessen Sprecher F'87 Carrie Izant Steffies S'95 Teri Harbour O'Keefe S'80</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">GOLD (\$175 - \$249)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Debbie Jones Tarke F'83 Joan Bottum Mora S'82 Melissa Duque Murray F'04</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PLATINUM (\$250+)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Julie Moreno Laskin F'80 Lyndie Aquila S'97 Jim Davis</p>



Vice President's Message~

Greetings, AX sisters!

I hope you are all having a fantastic summer, and are looking forward to seeing each other in Chico for this year's Annual Alumnae Meeting, and post-meeting "Lunch-on-the-Porch" at the Alpha Chi House, Saturday, October 7th.

As usual, our Annual Meeting will convene at 10:00 AM in the basement of the AX house, on Saturday, October 7th. Doors will open at 9:30 AM, for check-in, paying dues, etc. Please plan to arrive before the 10:00 AM start time so there's time for everyone to check in, grab a seat, catch up on the Friday night's fun, and be ready to "come to order" on time. If you need your morning caffeine, juice, muffin or bagel fix, please leave yourself time, on the way, to stop by your favorite local establishment to grab a treat to-go. Coffee is not provided at the meeting.

After the Alumni meeting, AX Actives and Pledges will join us for lunch, house tours, photos, and re-telling Alpha Chi tales. The cost of lunch for Alumni will not increase from last year, and will cover the cost for Actives and Pledges to attend. Hopefully, this will allow more of them to join us for the festivities.

For anyone wanting to save a couple extra dollars, a special pay-early incentive is being offered again this year (see the RSVP form). Even if you don't care to take advantage of that option, we ask that **EVERYONE RSVP, no later than Monday, September 25th**, even if you plan to pay at the door. This allows us to ensure that appropriate quantities of food are purchased and prepared, and to secure tables, chairs, paper goods, etc. in advance. As a reminder, the Alumni Association can no longer supply a keg-on-the-porch, or alcohol of any kind, due to liability. So, it's BYOB if you wish to partake of anything stronger than soda, iced tea or water.

I will be driving to Chico from So Cal early to prep everything for your enjoyment, so please do us the courtesy of an early RSVP... don't pimp your sister! All you need to do now is mark your calendar, check airfares and carpool options, and reserve a room. Fill out the RSVP Form included with this newsletter, write your check (or pay via PayPal), and make your way to Chico for a fun-filled weekend of sisterhood, making new memories, and reminiscing about all those wonderful times on the AX porch, at The Bear, Thursday Night Socials, and more.

If you can't join us this year, for whatever reason, remember that Alpha Chi turns 100 in 2018. The date has been set for Saturday, October 20th, 2018, a mere 18 months away. Suggested events and agenda items for our Centennial Weekend will be presented at the Alumni Meeting in October. So, mark the date in your Smartphones, Outlook, or your calendar – whatever you use to make note of, and remember, important upcoming events. And, PLEASE, pass the word about this year's event, and our upcoming centennial, to any Alpha Chi Alumnae you are in contact with.

We're looking forward to seeing you all in October!
Yours in AX, Teri (Harbour) O'Keefe (aka Pearl) – S'80
AX Alumnae Vice President, 2014-17

You can RSVP online this year!

<https://goo.gl/forms/NTceZTzzhDGcpRUg1>

I've done some research, and can offer the following information on available rooms in Chico (as of June 1st)

MOTELS - Within Walking Distance of the AX house				
Quality Inn (formerly the Thunderbird) www.choicehotels.com	Room Type	Non-refundable Rate	AAA Rate	Refundable Rate
	King	\$149/night	\$157/night	\$175/night
	Queen	\$140/night	\$148/night	\$165/night
	Queen Double	\$157/night	\$166/night	\$185/night
Heritage Inn EXPRESS (8th & Broadway) Internet Rates www.heritagehotelgroup.com	Room Type	Non-refundable Rate	AAA Rate	Refundable Rate
	King	\$80.75/night	\$85.50/night	\$95/night
	Queen Double	\$97.75/night	\$103.50/night	\$115/night
University Inn (7th & Main) Internet Rates www.universityinnchico.com	Room Type			Refundable Rate
	King			\$75/night
	Queen Double			\$75/night

HOTELS 2-3 miles from the AX house				
Courtyard (by Marriott) Chico 2481 Carmichael (near Fairgrounds)	Room Type		AAA Rate	Refundable Rate
	Queen Double		\$170/night	\$179/night
Residence Inn by Marriott 2485 Carmichael www.marriott.com	1 Bedroom Ste.		\$199/night	\$199/night
	2 Bedroom Ste.		\$254/night	\$254/night
Oxford Suites 2035 Business Lane (near Fairgrounds) www.oxfordsuiteschico.com	Room Type		AAA Rate	Refundable Rate
	King		\$161/night	\$164/night
	Queen Double		\$166/night	\$169/night
	1 Bedroom Ste.		\$186/night	\$189/night
	2 Bedroom Ste.		\$216/night	\$219/night
Best Western Heritage Inn 25 Heritage Lane (Hwy 99 & Cohasset) www.heritagehotelgroup.com	Room Type	Non-refundable Rate	AAA Rate	Refundable Rate
	King	\$169.99/night	\$179.99/night	\$199.99/night
	Queen Double	\$178.49/night	\$188.99/night	\$209.99/night

- ◆ **REFUNDABLE RATES** can generally be cancelled between 72 and 24 hours prior to check in with no cancellation fees
- ◆ **NON-REFUNDABLE RATES** usually require payment up front at the time of booking and will incur fees if cancelled at any time
- ◆ **AAA RATES** usually allow reservations to be cancelled within 72 to 24 hours prior to check in with no cancellation fees

Rate types can vary from hotel to hotel. Confirm with the property before booking.

ALL RATES shown above were available via the individual hotel websites as of June 1, 2016, and do not include taxes. Note that lower rates, and other options, may be available through other Internet booking services (i.e. Hotels.com, Expedia, Kayak, etc.)

If you weren't here in 2016... We missed you!



Current number of PAID Alumni Members vs. Alumni Membership Database

70 out of 646

****Only 10.8% of AX Alumni have paid dues (they're only \$40 a year!)****

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Know of any sisters that are not on the alumni list, but would like to be? It's never too late to become alumni!

The process is very simple! All they need to do is contact the alumni membership chair:

ax_alumnimembership@yahoo.com.

Provide the following information:

- Full Name (Include Maiden)
- Current Mailing Address
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Pledge Class

Sisters in good standing with the sorority will be added to the alumni database.

All members must pay dues (\$40/year) in order to attend functions, vote, and maintain alumni status.

HAVE YOU RECENTLY MOVED?

Be sure to contact the membership chair at ax_alumnimembership@yahoo.com with your new address so you don't miss out on receiving important news!

LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED?

If you are interested in joining the membership committee please contact Kayla Mora at ax_alumnimembership@yahoo.com. The committee will help plan and organize small events throughout the year, in different areas of the state and/or country, to get sisters together more often and increase our alumni association membership. With our centennial just a year away, we want all of our sisters to attend!

MEMORIES FROM YOUR DAYS IN THE AX HOUSE

We are creating a collection of pictures, videos, and memories from your days in the AX house to show at recruitment. Our hopes is that recruits will see the value in living in the house and dream of creating everlasting memories like the sisters before them. Please send your memories to Kayla Mora at ax_alumnimembership@yahoo.com

YOUR GO-TO ACTIVITY FOR CHICO VISITS

Is there an activity or a restaurant you HAVE to visit whenever you come to Chico? Share your go to activity and it will be added to a list of "99 Things To Do in Chico" for other sisters to enjoy during Alumni weekend.

HASHTAG FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND

We are looking for a fun hashtag for our 99th alumni weekend.

Vote for your favorite or submit your own on the RSVP Google Form.

We will compile the results and conduct a final vote before alumni weekend.

#99neverlookedsogoodax

#99yearsofaxsisterhood

#99yearsaxstrong

#99theaxlegend



Sisterhood is a lifelong friendship! Here are pictures of our sisters who have spent time together this year!





Facebook Updates

[Jenny Von Der Lieth](#) I do! I do!! I'm getting married 2 weeks after alumni weekend!!

[Rachel Meyer](#) Had another baby this year. 😊

[Jennifer Porter](#) I had twins!

Our sisters are doing amazing things!

[Kerian Brennan](#) Camryn Grace Arrived 6-10-17 ~ 7lbs 4 oz We are overjoyed!!!

[Alyssa Mendiola](#) I'm getting married this year too...October 14th

[Gina McKeever Loza](#) My little man Aiden Curtis was born May 2!

What's new with you?

[Sheila Crawford](#) I'm joining JV on the wedding train-getting married October 14th. 😊

[Ashley Casey](#) I am the CalCPA State Financial Literacy Chair for the next two years 2017-2019!

[Althea Dunn](#) Congrats on all the weddings and babies, so cute. I just rejoined a boutique recruiting firm in SF called BINC after 3.5 years at Zappos as a Sr. Lead Technical Recruiter. In my spare time I've been volunteering with local organizations to raise awareness and protect our local state parks in Las Vegas.

Alicia Kirchner Waiting on Baby #2 , little girl Kirchner 😊, Ella is now 1 and we bought our first home!

Melissa Murray I wrapped up my 3rd year teaching 2nd grade and finally received tenure! ✌️. I also applied and got accepted to the Discovery Education Summer Institute again this summer in San Diego! Ready to dive in and learn new techniques, strategies and technology goodness from educators around the globe! I am also finally committed and working on my fitness journey to a healthier me -- so far just under 40 lbs. down!

Jenny Leidigh Will be starting a new job within pg&e July 1st in the gas public safety and first responder group doing damage prevention awareness. I have a new niece who will be 6 months old in a few days.

Holly Brown After 7 years of teaching middle school math, I finally joined the elective team and am teaching Computer Science, Robotics, & Yearbook! Also coaching Track and Field & Cross Country after school & mentor new teachers.

Katrina DuVal I love all of these updates! I had my third kid! Maverick Raymond DuVal 2/4/17

Rachel Meyer I am celebrating 10 years for my awesome company! Working remotely is the best thing ever!

Crystal Roberts I've lost over 60lbs and would love to help more people on their health journey as well!

Laura Lu At alumni weekend I'll be one month away from graduating from the California School of Herbal Studies and will have worked 4 years for the county of Sonoma's dept of health services as a WIC Nutritionist and farmers market program coordinator (and 6 or so years at Santa Rosa Sports & Family Medicine). I've developed a mood-boosting tea blend that I'm going to start marketing and selling this year. Looking for the perfect name, so if I'm still hemming and hawing over it at alumni weekend, we might need to take a vote. I don't have babies, but I do have a fish named JerryCoco.

Nicole Hinojosa Got Married 6-11-16, just celebrated our first year together

Valaria Foster Bautista Currently waiting for #3 to make her (yes we'll have 3 girls now!! But that's it!! 😂) debut in November. We bought a house in march!! I just started a new position w/ Health Net in the sales dept. I finally get my holiday days back!! Lol!

Sarah Stephens Bean 😊, Same as **Nicole Hinojosa**. Got married on 6-18-16 and just celebrated our one year anniversary.

Jill Iannucci Clark Celebrated our 10 year anniversary! Plus, I have lost 125lbs and became a health coach! #newwoman

Cynthia Rachel We had our second (and final) baby! Margo Marie arrived 5/16/17... looking forward to preparing her to be an AX Legacy!

Meg Angell Mini reunion in Seattle at the home of my AX pledge sister (Fall '79), sorority house roommate, godmother to my child, and now neighbor on Wednesday evening.

Joining us was our AX sister Renee Reale, Dale Watanabe (Delta Sig) and Jim Egan (Phi Tau). Fun night!

**If you aren't a part of the
Facebook conversation join us!**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/94826210376/>