

## CLASS NOTES

## 1940s

**Elaine Mason** (1947) a professor emerita of physical education was honored for lifetime tennis achievements by the Fig Garden Swim & Racquet Club in Fresno.

## 1950s



**Elvin C. "Chuck" Bell** (1959) received the Florida Panhandle's Significant Sig Award, Sigma Chi fraternity's highest award for professional service and civic leadership.



**Hon. Armando Rodriguez** (1959) **LIFE**, retired Fresno County Superior Court judge, received the Fresno County Bar Association's Bernie Witkin Lifetime Achievement Award.



**Jerry Tarkanian** (1955) former Bulldogs men's basketball coach, was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

## 1960s

**Dr. Edward Diener** (1968) a University of Illinois professor, received an American Psychological Association Distinguished Scientist Award for scholarship and research.

**Larry Duncan** (1969) became chairman of the board of Duncan Enterprises, a Fresno-based creative crafts company.



**Augie Garrido** (1961) the Texas coach, was inducted into the College Baseball Hall of Fame in Omaha.

**Morris Proctor** (1967) a trucking company operator and farmer, was grand marshal of the Kings County Homecoming celebration.

**Doug Yavanian** (1967) **LIFE** was selected to serve on the 2013-14 Riverside County Grand Jury.

## 1970s



**Lynne Ashbeck** (1977) became Clovis mayor for a second time.



**Diane Chambers** (1974) a veteran actor, appeared in the Syfy monster/disaster movie sendup "Sharknado."

**Edmund D'Arcy-Clarke** (1973, '77) was posthumously awarded a Purple Heart and Prisoner of War Medal for World War II Army service.

**Rohan Fernando** (1978) an Iowa State University professor, received the American Society of Animal Science's Rockefeller Prentice Memorial Award in Animal Breeding and Genetics.

**Maree (Mundelius) Hawkins** (1971) was named one of Stanislaus County's Outstanding Women of 2013.

**John Ledbetter** (1975) a grape grower, was recognized by Notably San Joaquin for major contributions to Valley agriculture and the community.

**Linda Penner** (1978) Fresno County chief probation officer, was appointed executive officer of the Board of State and Community Corrections.

**Jim Ringelman** (1975) conservation director for Ducks Unlimited's Great Plains region, received the North American Waterfowl Management Plan's International Canvasback Award.

## 1980s



**Mark Astone** (1988, '00) **LIFE** owner of Catalyst Marketing, received the Agency of the Year Award from the Fresno Advertising Federation.

**Geri Derbyshire** (1989) was named chief development officer for the American Red Cross' Connecticut and Rhode Island region.



**Brad Fischer** (1981) **LIFE** a past-president of the Fresno State Alumni Association, was named vice president and operations support manager of Premier Valley Bank.

**Carol Hartman** (1984) a landscape painter in Butte, Mont., was named 2013 Woman of the Year in the Arts by the National Association of Professional Women.

**Stan Louie** (1988) **LIFE** received the Selma District Chamber of Commerce Community Spirit Award.

**Dave Martin** (1983) co-founded Nettra Digital Marketing.

**Christine Maul** (1982, '97) a Fresno State professor of communicative disorders and deaf studies, was appointed to the Future of the State Developmental Centers Task Force.



**William McDonald** (1984) was named chief of the Las Vegas Fire and Rescue Department.



**Monica Nino** (1985) was appointed San Joaquin County administrator.

**Don Rhoads** (1985) was appointed Canyon City chief financial officer and director of administrative services.

**Luke Serpa** (1985) a civil engineer, was named Clovis public utilities director.

**Amy Shuklian** (1987) the mayor of Visalia, was grand marshal of Fresno's annual Rainbow Pride Parade.

**Kevin M. Smith** (1988, '92, '01) was appointed Fresno State Winery's business and marketing manager.



**Thomas Watson** (1986) was appointed South Lake Tahoe city attorney.

**Kathy Weststeyn** (1981) was the Ceres Chamber of Commerce Agribusiness Woman of the Year.

**Aleta Wolfe** (1980, '88) a Fresno State career counselor, received the H. Sanford Gum Award from the California Internship and Work Experience Association.

**Rob Yraceburo** (1984, '90) was appointed to head Wells Fargo bank's National Food and Agriculture Division.

## 1990s

**Frank Barajas** (1991) a history professor at California State University, Channel Islands, was the honorary marshal at that university's 2013 commencement.

**Darryl Booth** (1998, '00) was appointed president of Fresno-based Decade Software Co.



**Larry Farnsworth** (1998) **LIFE** was named communications director for U.S. Rep. Lee Terry, R-Neb.

**Tim Foster** (1992) was appointed College of the Sequoias Foundation director.

**Tara Gomez** (1998) is general manager of the new Kitá Wines in Santa Ynez.

**Betsy Hays** (1991, '99) a Fresno State professor of mass communication and journalism, was elected to the Public Relations Society of America's College of Fellows.

**Wil Hooker** (1997) was appointed coach of the American Basketball Association's Fresno Griffins.

**Pete Nolan** (1992) a senior Riverside County deputy district attorney, was the California District Attorney Association's Outstanding Prosecutor.

**Vidal Perez** (1993) was hired as winemaker at J. Wilkes in Santa Maria.

**Gary Quintana** (1999) a wrestler, was inducted into the Selma Athletic Hall of Fame.

**Peter Robertson** (1992, '95, 2005) **LEGACY**, Fresno State director of alumni marketing and engagement, was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

**Jimmie Soto** (1999, 2001) was appointed by Gov. Brown to the state Independent Living Council.

**Dora Westerlund** (1996) was chosen CEO of the Fresno Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

## 2000s

**Rick Chavez** (2001) was selected Fresno County's chief probation officer.



**Erica Henry** (2008) an assistant at Grambling State University (Louisiana), was selected as women's basketball coach at Fort Valley State University (Georgia).

**Rob Hoyt** (2008) was appointed men's basketball coach at Columbia College in Sonora.

**Ryan Joneson** (2006) of Nettra Digital Marketing received the Fresno Advertising Federation's Ralph E. Brown Award.

**Kent Karsevar** (1994, 2012) a senior development director at Fresno State, received the John Grenzbach Award for Outstanding Research in Philanthropy for Educational Advancement by the national Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

**Jesse Katz** (2007) winemaker at Lancaster and Forth estate wineries in Healdsburg, was named to the 40 under 40 list compiled by Wine Enthusiast magazine.

**Jeff Macon** (2012) was named manager of the Technology Commercialization Program of the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

**Jess Martinez** (2006) a veteran law enforcement officer, was inducted into the Kings County Professional Latin-American Association Hall of Fame.



**Geoff Martzen** (2001) was hired as Brigham Young University's coordinator of football player personnel and on-campus recruiting.

**Matthew McGee** (2010) was presented the James MacArthur Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Resident Play at the Helen Hayes Awards.

**Edward Moreno** (2005) was appointed the Monterey County public health officer.

**Anastasia Petukhova** (2001) and **Laura Pola** (2012) launched *GetMeATeam.com*, which helps high school athletes get recruited by college coaches.

**Andrew Robinson** (2002) an assistant women's basketball coach, was promoted to men's basketball coach at Imperial Valley College.



**Chad Spencer** (2005) was named Bulldogs men's golf coach after coaching Nevada's women's team.

**Oscar Torres** (2003) of Ramos Torres Winery in Kingsburg received a gold medal at the Finger Lakes International Wine Competition for 2010 temperanillo.

**James Tyner** (2003) was named Fresno's inaugural poet laureate.

## MISCELLANEOUS

(Graduation/attendance record dates unknown)

**Craig Bronzan**, Brentwood parks and recreation director, was a Liberty Union High School District (Brentwood) Graduate of Distinction.



**Paul George** of the Indiana Pacers was the National Basketball Association's Most Improved Player and played in his first All-Star Game.

**Gabriela Mello** was named Wells Fargo community development officer for Kern, Kings, Tulare, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties.

## CURRENT STUDENTS

**Greg J. Chavez** was named general manger of C.O.R.E. Sports Nutrition in Fresno.

**Daniel Clark** was elected California State Student Association vice president of legislative affairs.

**Michael Eberhard** received the North American Intrafraternity Conference Undergraduate Award of Distinction.

**Anthony Mosely** was inducted into the Selma Athletic Hall of Fame for his football exploits.

**Stephanie Nash** was chosen by the California Milk Advisory Board (Dist. 8) as its dairy princess.

**Gurbhupinder Sahota, Estevan Gutierrez, Tamar Karkazian, Ray Caldwell** and **Genesis Del Bosque** founded the Fresno Language Project while trying to break a record for languages spoken in a video.

**Ryan Woods** received a Williamstown Theatre Festival apprenticeship, National Partners of the American Theatre Classical Acting Award and an invitation to perform at the Shaw Festival in Canada.

## ALUMNI IN EDUCATION

**Fresno State's founding mission of training teachers continues in the university's 103rd year.**

Continuing that mission:

**Zachary Boswell** (2007) named assistant principal at West High School in Tracy.

**Scott Cory** (1997) named superintendent of the Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District.

**Renee DeCanio** (1998) of Selma High School received the Bob Burton Spirit Award at the California Association of Directors of Activities area convention.

**Alfonso Gamino** (1992) appointed the inaugural superintendent of the Santa Paula Unified School District in Ventura County.

**Joe Hendrix** (2004) hired as principal at Nuestro Elementary School in Live Oak.

**Paula Heupel** (1988) appointed Merced Unified School District director of curriculum and categorical programs.

**Steve Martinez** (2012) chosen as Twin Rivers Unified Schools superintendent in North Highlands.

## BULLDOG 'PUPS'

**Todd Graves** (2003) and **Claudia Graves** (2002) welcomed a son on May 16.

**Rob Robinson** (2009) and **Amanda Robinson** (2002) welcomed a daughter on Jan. 29.

**Fatih Yenen** (2006) and Bilhan Yenen welcomed a daughter on May 23.

## MARRIAGES

**Derrek E. Becker** (2009) and Ryan Gallego, May 25, in Portland, Ore.

**Roseanna Ferroggiaro** (2000) and **Matt Horton** (1993, '95), Jan 19, in Fresno.

**Thomas Gaffery** (2004, '09) and **Shane Strickland** (2009), July 8, in Fresno.

**Michael Grissom** (2002) and **Summer McGowen** (2006) April 27, in Tulare.

**Myndi Hardgrave** (1993) and Arriana Hernandez July 1, in Visalia.

**Garlyn Hollingshead** (2003, '06) and **Gerald Rude** (2010, '12), July 7, California.

**Lisa Lopez** (2003) and Kurt Jasso June 8, in Visalia.

**Eric Maul** (1992) and Joseph Belpasso June 28, in San Francisco.

**Vincent Ricchiuti** (2005) and Ashley Gunlund May 25, in Carmel.

**Dolly Silveira** (2010) and Brook Justin, July 10, in Fresno.

**Kathleen Smith** (2012) and **Spencer Carr** (2013) June 15, in Visalia.

**Garrett Stroup** (2008) and Angie Bazzano Oct. 13, 2012, in Tracy.

**Dorothy McDonald** (1971), a retired teacher in Corcoran, chosen Kings County Homecoming queen.

**Jerimicha "Jeremy" Powell** (2006) **LIFE** selected as superintendent of the Sequoia Union Elementary School District in Lemon Cove.

**Leonard Ramirez** (1960) was a Fresno County Office of Education Teacher of the Year for his work with adult students with intellectual disabilities.

His brother, **Manuel Ramirez** (1978), a 7th-grade science educator in Lamont, was the Kern County Department of Education's Teacher of the Year.

**Jeff B. Schmidt** (2003) named boys basketball coach at Bullard High School.

**Robb Young** (1975), Hanford High School's longest-serving educator, retired after a 35-year career.

## RETIREMENTS

**Fred Bologna** (1972) director of the "New Wrinkles" annual productions at Fresno City College.

**Bob Cooper** (1974) economic and redevelopment manager for Henderson, Nev.

**Mike Foley** (1967) planning director of Maui County, Hawaii, and a geography professor at Maui Community College.

**Dan Hemesath** (1960) after 31 years as a commercial photographer in Clovis.



**Manuel Jimenez** (1973) a small-farm adviser in Tulare for the University of California Cooperative Extension.



**Lanny Larson** **LIFE** from Fresno State's University Communications after 50 years in journalism and strategic communications.

**Manuel Lopez**, San Joaquin County administrator for 11 years.



**Larry Powell** (1971) Fresno County Office of Education superintendent and a 40-year educator.

**Robert Speer** (1965) after a journalism career that included 30 years as editor of the Chico News Review.

**Angelo Stalis** (1970) from ABC 30 in Fresno after 43 years, much of it as a weathercaster.



**Mike Watney** (1979) after 34 years as the Bulldogs men's golf coach.

## BULLDOG BOOK CLUB

**Looking for something to read?**

Here are recent works by Fresno State alumni for your reading list:

**Lee P. Brown** (1961) "Growing Up to be Mayor" (BGI Press/\$17.95)

**Stephanie Carroll** (2008) "A White Room" (Unhinged/\$14.99)

**Jim Escalle** (1983) "Unforgotten Hero: Remembering a Fighter Pilot's Life, War and Ultimate Sacrifice" (Traylor House/\$16.95)

**David Fitzgerald** (1989) "The Complete Heretic's Guide to Western Religion – Book One: The Mormons" (CreateSpace/\$14.99)

**James A. Herrick** (1976) "After the Genome: A Language for Our Local Biotechnical Future" (Baylor University Press/\$39.95), cowritten with Michael J. Hyde

**Raymond Ibrahim** (1999, 2002) "Crucified Again: Exposing Islam's New War on Christians" (Regnery/\$27.95)

**Doug Krikorian** (1965) "Between the Bylines: The Life, Love and Loss of Los Angeles' Most Colorful Sports Journalist" (History Press, \$21.99)

**Christopher R. Martinez** (2009) "Ashes in the Fall" (Amazon Digital/99 cents)

**Sylvia Ross** (1969) "East of the Great Valley: The Story of Merab McCreary" (Bentley Avenue/\$17.95)

**Daniel Silva** (1983) "The English Girl" (Harper/\$27.99)

The following letter from an alumnus after receiving the fall 2012 FresnoState Magazine speaks for itself:

As a very proud Fresno State Bulldog journalism alum (1971), FresnoState Magazine [Fall 2012 issue] is the finest publication I have received from the university. The contents are informative, entertaining and exceptionally composed.

Ironically, I had contacted the Fresno State Alumni Association office in 2010 and 2011 regarding the cost of membership for seniors living outside of the Central Valley [because] our opportunities to attend events is “distance-limited.”

I was informed there were no exceptions: I could either pay by the year or buy a lifetime membership. End of conversation.

My greatest joy reading the magazine was the discontinuation of dues and that every student – present or past – “automatically is considered a member of the Alumni Association.” I believe this policy change will only enhance alumni participation in all avenues.

Living in Los Angeles, I regularly wear Fresno State apparel promoting both the university and the Bulldogs. Our reputation in Los Angeles is stellar, and everyone I come in contact with says one message:

**“Fresno State should have been selected for the Pac-12!”**

I took it upon myself, with the assistance of Peter Robertson, our outstanding director of alumni marketing, to get this accomplished during the Pac-12’s recent expansion plans. I contacted Pac-12 headquarters in Walnut Creek and was able to obtain an email address for the commissioner.

We posted “Fresno State in the Pac-12” and received more than 15,000 hits requesting action. Although we were not invited, our efforts drew significant attention from Pac-12 headquarters regarding our enthusiasm and perseverance.

Now that we’re in the Mountain West, I firmly believe our conference will rival the Pac-12 in all sports and fare far better. I also look forward to receiving the next outstanding edition of the FresnoState Magazine!

**Bulldog Pride Forever!** – David N. Mitzman



## IN MEMORIAM

**Ken Adamske** (1956)  
June 2, in Fresno.

**Alan Lee Allen,**  
March 16, in Fresno.

**Bandar Alodahi** (2013)  
June 7, in Merced.

**Judith M. (Keown) Anderson**  
(1961) July 18, in Upland.

**Raymond C. Baker** (1961) **LIFE,**  
April 24, in Fresno.

**Robert Benneyan** (1943)  
May 23, in Fresno.

**Leonidas Bersentes** (1933)  
May 17, in Fresno.

**Richard Braun** (1966)  
June 11, in Fresno.

**Laura Ann Brenner** (1983)  
May 6, in Fresno.

**Charles Raymond Chaney Jr.**  
(1932), May 15, in Riverside.

**Steven W. Chow** (1955)  
March 27, in Fresno.

**Florence “Polly” Connor** (1940)  
**LIFE,** May 15, in Fresno.

**Dr. Curtis C. Darby** (1944)  
March 12, in Bend, Ore.

**Donald B. Diebert** (1955)  
April 15, in Fresno.

**Richard Stanley Dixon** (1954)  
July 19, in Newport Beach.

**Roberta Jean Duffy** (1979)  
May 27, in Fresno.

**Robert Emerzian** (1960)  
April 4, in Fresno.

**Helen Lynn Esajian** (1968)  
June 25, in Fresno.

**Morrell Fitch,** June 28,  
in Lakeport.

**Dorothy Jane Fox** (1979)  
April 24, in Modesto.

**Thomas D. Gerhart** (1962)  
Dec. 25, 2012, in Florida.

**Eva Marjorie Goodgame** (1950)  
June 23, in Crescent City.

**Kathryn Ann Haas** (1973)  
July 24, in Visalia.

**Jean Heckadon** (1948)  
April 22, in Hughson.

**Stephen Hiraoka** (1972)  
May 14, in Fresno.

**Fredrick J. Johnson** (1991)  
March 20, in Napa.

**Reynold L. Johnson** (1968)  
July 15, in Fresno.

**Bob Kazanjian** (1971)  
May 5, in Fresno.

**Ellery Kirkbride** (1946)  
March 16, in Hanford.

**William C. Laughlin** (1966)  
July 27, in Stockton.

**John Lawton III** (1991)  
March 11, in San Francisco.

**James Ledford** (1962)  
May 23, in Fresno.

**Ellen Lohmeier** (1974)  
June 19, in Fresno.

**Marian James Lopes** (1942)  
July 3, in San Luis Obispo.

**Irving Lurker** (1948)  
May 11, in Fresno.

**Katherine (Kudenov) Malone,**  
May 20, in Fresno.

**Virginia H. Martin,**  
June 7, in Fresno.

**Elaine Marion McCullough**  
(1981), April 23, in Fresno CA.

**Nancy Lee McNeil** (1953)  
April 12, in Fresno.

**Milenda Meders** (1957)  
May 27, in Madera.

**Peter G. Mehas** (1962)  
September 28, in Fresno.

**Keith Miller** (1947)  
July 7, in Santa Cruz.

**Margaret Arletta  
(Snow) Mingle** (1935)  
May 10, in Fresno.

**Lyla Joan Tilston Brewer  
Mompere** (1981)  
April 24, in Fresno.

**Edward T. Moran** (1948)  
April 5, in Los Osos.

**Dean Morse,**  
July 5, in Fresno.

**Susan Nelson** (1969)  
April 17, in Clovis.

**Daniel Okamura** (1977)  
June 6, in Fresno.

**Karl Joseph Oyer** (1952)  
May 22 in St. Charles, Mo.

**Christopher T. Peepe** (1970)  
May 15, in Crescent City.

**James B. Perez** (1966)  
April 15, in New Orleans.

**Melvin Phillips** (1950)  
June 7, in Fresno.

**Earl Rocca** (1951)  
March 31, in Fresno.

**Judi Slayton,**  
May 23, in Fresno.

**Mary Stutzman** (1971)  
June 10, in Fresno.

**Lucille Vlahos** (1942)  
June 21, in Fresno.

**Paul G. Wasemiller** (1947)  
**LIFE,** April 2013, in Fresno.

**James Wright** (1971)  
March 21, in Fresno.

## FACULTY AND STAFF

**Bonnie Jo Bevans,**  
July 11, in Fresno.

**James Cruz-Crossbuck,**  
Feb. 23, in Fresno.

**Charlotte Dishian,**  
June 26, in Fresno.

**Sharon Eagle,**  
April 2, in Portland.

**Nancy Louise Mundy,**  
March 16, in Fresno.

**June Paldi,**  
June 10, in Fresno.

**Russ Perry** (1982)  
April 15, in Fresno.

**Darlene Stewart** (1971)  
March 26, in Medford.

**Peroza Torosian,**  
April 7, in Fresno.

**Lelia McCain Veaco,**  
April 18, in Stockton.

**G. “Vishu” Viswewaran,**  
March 30, in Pinole.

**Melvin Whealen,**  
June 3, in Fresno.