

Alumni Have Your Back

KAITLIN HENNESSY: Hi everyone. And welcome to Alumni Have Your Back Scholarships Chapter Events and Career Networking. My name is Kaitlin Hennessy I'm the Program Coordinator at Global Connections. Tonight we have three people joining us from the Alumni Association. We have Christina, Julie, and Kim. All are WSU Alumni, and we'll be sharing what the Alumni Association can do for you right now as current students.

Tonight we will be utilizing the chat box. So if you have any technical difficulties, please let me know, and I'll do my best to help you. We also have Olivia in the chat box who will help as well. And if you have any questions that come up at any point please write them in there. We'll largely be taking care of questions at the end of the session but don't worry type in your thoughts at any point, and we'll get to them at the end.

We also have a special raffle tonight. We will be doing a raffle for one year student membership. So anyone that participates at all in the chat box will write your name down and put it in the raffle, and at the very end of the session Julie will be picking the winner. All right everyone thanks for coming tonight. I'm going to turn it over to the folks at the Alumni Association.

KIM MUELLER: Hi everyone.

CHRISTINA Hello.

PARRISH:

JULIE MACKIE: Hello.

CHRISTINA PARRISH: Thank you for joining us for this webinar. I'm Christina Parrish. I am the Assistant Director of Engagement at the Alumni Association. And I primarily work with all of our volunteers from across the country in our chapters in our clubs.

KIM MUELLER: My name's Kim Mueller. Class of 91. I am the Director of Engagement and get to work with three others on our-- well four others on our Engagement Team. And I'm going to tell you about what we will provide for you.

JULIE MACKIE: And I'm Julie Mackie. I work on the membership and marketing team at the Alumni Association.

CHRISTINA PARRISH: So the WSU Alumni Association has 54 chapters and clubs and special interest groups across the country. And the primary focus of those is to engage and work with the alumni that are in those areas. So within the state of Washington we have 17 chapters.

And as you can see some of the chapters are one county others are probably I think we have up to four counties in one chapter. We have 15 chapters throughout the state of-- throughout the United States. Four multicultural chapters. 13 clubs throughout the United States and five special interest groups.

And again the alumni and chapters and clubs are formed to support alumni throughout the country. And they're formed geographically. And the volunteers in those clubs they represent and serve as advocates for the WSU Alumni Association.

So again we have about 28 chapters and clubs that are national. And to find those-- I'm going to try and do this here. Click over to our website, sorry.

KIM MUELLER: Do you want my help?

CHRISTINA PARRISH: Yes. OK. So to find all of our chapters and clubs across the country in the in-- Washington. Here is our web page for our in state chapters. And it lists all of our volunteers and their contact information. And then so you can at any point to get on and see-- connect with them via Facebook or contact the chapter president direct. And get involved, and they're always looking for volunteers from across the country. This is the Pierce County chapter Facebook page. And was that Pierce County?

KIM MUELLER: It was Palouse.

CHRISTINA PARRISH: It was Palouse, sorry. I was looking at Pierce County. But there are again 17 within the state of Washington that you can connect with. If you're in the United States outside of Washington here is the listing of all of our chapters and clubs that are outside of the state of Washington. They do things all throughout the year.

We provided-- I think there were about 550 chapters events that we did this last year. And ranging from viewing parties to WSU days a stuff. But I'll get into that just a little bit later. So as I said in addition to the in state and out of state chapters we also have multicultural chapters.

We have four. Right now we are looking for leadership in two of them. But list you those four. We have the African American. The Asian Pacific Islander chapter. The Ku-Au-Mah which is

the Native American and then La Alianza de which is the Chicana Latina chapter for multiculturals.

We also have five special interest groups. And I'm not going to go into these in a lot of detail. But we do have our Student Alumni Ambassadors.

The Cougars of the Desert which is down in the Palm Springs area. LGBT Cougs. The Greek Alumni Organization. And the WSU Retirees Association. And all of these-- which you need to be aware of is all of these special interest groups they are set up for the purpose of engaging alumni, and they also recruit and cultivate volunteers.

So this is just five more ways of getting involved if you want to do that. So as I said earlier, I would talk about some of our chapter events a little bit more. We again do events all over the country and all over our different chapters. And here's just a sampling of some of them. Some of the fun ones that we thought of.

In New York they actually did a taco truck crawl. That's what the picture on the bottom left that you're seeing. And it was very successful very much like a pub crawl but it was for food trucks. For our-- we have a holiday events. Pumpkin carving.

But our big one is during the holiday season. And that is our Cougar Golden Mistletoe. Those are set up where most of them are at winery's but they bring an area artisans that sell and produce Cougar merchandise. And they sell that there so it's a great way to get your shopping done for the Cougar in your area or in your family.

We also do wine tastings and beer socials. Community service events. We try and we actually encourage all of our chapters to do it community service event at least once a year.

And then we have a lot of cultural and arts events that we do in King County area. We had WSU night at the Nutcracker which was hugely successful where we had over 120 people attend that this year. And then some of our smaller chapters actually all of our chapters do outdoor adventure type of things. We just had a skiing WSU day at the slopes. And if you click on the King County-- not the King County but the Spokane County page. It will-- there's a bunch of pictures on that.

But one of the great ways to find out all the events are taking place in the area is to go to our events calendar. And where that is-- you could find that the friendly for the our events calendar is www.alumni.wsu.edu/events. And this is chronologically and so you can see all the different

events that are taking place all across the country at any point on this calendar.

Just some more chapter events that we do. We do a lot of WSU day at sporting events. And well and we're getting there to the slide there we go. We have WSU day at different theme parks. At a different baseball and soccer games.

And then one of our biggest event that we do it's not actually one event but there's multiple events for the viewing parties for all of the football games. And this is it, in 2016 we held approximately 550 viewing parties all across the country. And there was probably one in your area. So definitely before any football game in 2017 look up where you can attend a viewing party in your area. So at that, I'm going to turn it over to Kim.

KIM MUELLER: Why you're providing you this information is because we would love for you to join in on these events. I know that we're called the Alumni Association but we also love our students to get involved whenever they can. And so what do we look like to you is that you can go in and go back to that web page that we were at that showed the Wine With Coug's in the Olympia area. And you say, oh my gosh I want to get on with my other Cougs and boy it will be really fun to do over a glass of wine. And so you go and register.

Some of our events have fee's. Some of them are free. And you actually get a discount if you're an alumni member of the Association and Julie we'll talk about that in a moment. So what you get to do is then go hang out with other Cougs and talk about well network and find some connections with each other.

And then talk about what it's like to be a Coug and share your experiences as a Global Campus student. And other people will be from Global Campus. We have some alums from Tri-Cities in Vancouver.

So you just get those really nice mixture of alums from all over the broad spectrum of the WSU. So that is why we are sharing these really cool things with you because we want you to take part in enjoying the Cougar nation. Cougar day at the Mariners is my favorite too. There are I think 3,000 Cougs usually at Cougar day at the Mariners. They get really great seats for really low price.

On top of that \$2 of each ticket goes to scholarships for students. On top of that we usually walk away with a hat or a t-shirt. And a really great time at the game. And this section is just nothing but crimson and gray. So if you love the Mainers and you're in Seattle during the

summertime I think we have the early July as the next Mariner-- Coug day at the Mainers please join us the tickets go fast as soon as you see the registration go up then-- excuse me the event posting then you'll want to register right away.

All right so I'm moving on to talk to you about other events the Alumni Associations puts on. And these are central to just our-- things going on in our community. Where are you guys from? Do you mind shouting or typing in what area you are in Washington or in the nation. Tri-Cities awesome we have a really great-- Tony we are-- Oh my gosh Denver.

Where in Arizona are you, Polly? We have a really great group of people in the San Diego area, in the Tri-cities area. And Jack, Mesa got it. OK so in Tri-Cities for the viewing parties they had hundreds of people in Richland at the viewing party site in just-- it left my mind about the name of the place.

But it's the Cougar hang out Tri-Cities and so be sure to drop by it's free. You just-- you know choose whatever you want to the menu. And eat and watch the game with all the Cougs in it. It's a really good time. If any of you ever make it to Pullman we have a few other events that take place.

In '50 or '60 years if any of you are graduating this year we would love to see you back for your diamond or golden graduate reunion. So in April we have the class of 1957 and 1967 coming on campus to check out how campus has changed or talk with current students to hear about how student life has changed. And of course they always like to share with us stories about what it was like as a student '50 or '60 years ago. And women couldn't wear pants even if that was two degrees out and had to be home by 10 o'clock. It's just crazy.

But anyway, that is something they hope that you look forward to in the near-- in the far future. If any of you are graduating this year we have Grad Barbecue for our graduates. So what that entails is on Friday before commencement, commencement usually takes place on Saturday when you would walk. You and your family and whoever is in town to help you celebrate would to the lawn at the Alumni Association and we would love to treat you to a barbecue. And people just kind of hang out and visit it's something to do and entertain families and friends while they're in town.

We have some yard games and a DJ but it's just a chance for all of you to gather so we can celebrate you and all of your accomplishments. If you are a season ticket holder or if you would ever like to come to a football game it would be wonderful if you could come to Pullman

to a game but it would also be wonderful if you meet us at an away game because we will be there too. For the home games, the Friday before home games we have this wine makers dinner called The Feast. It's the best dinner you'll ever have on the Palouse. And we feature a Cougar connected winery.

So if you're having a-- for my friend in Tri-Cities let's say you're having a birthday coming up I would tell my significant other or parent or somebody that yeah, that's what I want to do for my birthday and have them buy that for your birthday present. That's what I did and it was one of my most memorable birthdays ever. Last but not least-- Oh I have two more I have to talk about.

So homecoming, every year in October we have a home game and our Student Alumni Ambassador. So we have a group of students who volunteer for the Alumni Association helping with traditions and helping with a bonfire. They put on this huge bonfire and that's it-- I think we have like 500 alumns come and gather around near Flag Lane which is near our track. And they had each of the coaches talk from all of the teams. And some of the athletes came up and they had a lip sync contest. And it's just about an hour long event that is our tradition that we do at WSU.

And then for those of you that are interested in becoming Alumni Association members my friend Julie is going to talk to you about becoming a platinum or life member. And for those that do that get the opportunity to have a reception in your honor. And that takes place during homecoming as well.

So football weekends. We like Christina said we viewing parties across the nation. And I bet you there's one near you. And so we'll have one web page dedicated just to those viewing parties. But we also go to almost every away game and throw a tailgate. And our name of our event is called the Pre-Games.

How we can help you professionally and with your career. So WSU Alumni Association puts on a monthly networking event that is kind of like what we're doing now. You would type in-- it's a chat room style like how you're passing on questions. And we have individuals that are professionals in their area that will help you with your resume. They'll talk to you about interview skills or chat with you about interview skills.

You can pull up your LinkedIn account and they get look at your LinkedIn page and see if you

need to update anything. But it's just an online opportunity to do better at your professional development side of the house. So that when you're ready to move on to another position then you're set and ready to go.

Another great thing that the Alumni Association can help you do is get your resume up and running. And we have an individual that has come up with this fantastic online opportunity it's called the Resume Coloring Book. And it walks you step by step through this online module of how to update your resume. So you can find that link through our website. I think the best thing though that the Alumni Association can do to help you with networking because it's not what you know it's who you know. We all know this - is for you to go to those events that Christina was talking about that are held in the chapters.

So you can go and introduce yourself and meet Cougs because I am telling you Cougs want to hire Cougs. And so if you meet somebody who's in the industry or somebody knows somebody that will be able to further you along in your career this is the way to go about doing it. This is, I think the probably the most valuable part of you coming-- or being a part of the Alumni Associations is doing that networking.

And maybe you're not comfortable with small talk and how to network, well you jump on to a monthly networking event in that chat room that we were talking about and we'll guide you through on how to do that the best way. So I think that my time with you has done. I thank you so much for tuning in with us. I'm going to hand the mic back over to Christina.

**CHRISTINA
PARRISH:**

OK I just want to quickly just touch upon one thing that actually the Alumni Association has a whole awards program that is setup and designed to honor individuals that have done outstanding achievements in their profession throughout the nation. But the one award that I really want to touch upon was one of the volunteer service awards because it is actually one of those awards is for students. And so all of our other awards are for alumni or for individuals who wish they were alumni. Well, that is our Honorary Alumnus Award and our Adopted Cougar Award. Those two awards are for individuals who did not attend every issue.

JULIE MACKIE:

So another program that's the Alumni Association has, and it's a benefit of being a member of the Association is it's called our Wine-By-Cougars program. And so what that is is we work with different wineries throughout Washington and all of them are alumni winery's. So those alumni that run winery's they connect with us. They have specialty wines that they would love to be a part of this program. And the best part is once you're a member you don't have to pay a fee to

become a part of this Wine-By-Cougars program. You're already a member. It's one of the perks.

So the best part is that you can go through and choose what types of wine you want, whether you're a red person or a white person or you want a little bit of both. But you get to pick and choose what you prefer to have delivered right to your doorstep which makes life so much more fun. So with that is-- because I mean I personally you know some things or you know kind of what you like but with each shipment we provide these wine notes.

So with each wine note it goes through what the winery is. A little background on the winery, the alumni that are part of the winery. As well as what that specific wine is. With it sometimes we throw in good recipes that go with that wine. Or what good food go with it too. So we try to help out and get everybody as connected as possible with these wineries.

On top of it all of the-- not all of the proceeds but some of the proceeds-- sorry. Nope, I saw your question and I'll just answering right now. As long as you're a member there is no additional cost or a membership fee. So it's just whatever the cost is for the exact shipment as well as the shipping and handling that goes with it just because different states cost different shipping charges and all that. I hope that answered it.

So with that proceeds to this go towards supporting the WSU Viticulture and program. And the college of business Wine Management Program. As well as internships and scholarships that go towards those specific programs as well.

And then on top of that the Artist Expression's Series that's listed on there. What we do is we work with those programs whether it's on campus or throughout if that's your major. We provide an opportunity for you to create an artwork to go with that specific wine and you can present it. And it's a lot of fun for us just to be able to see all the different art forms and everything that go with that particular wine that we're trying to sell.

But then on top of it you get that-- if you win and that is your art that goes with the wine it actually will be part of it for the-- I believe the entire year. So your name's going to be everywhere as well which is kind of fun. Moving on, we also have an Alumni Travel Program. So with this, if we partner with travel companies throughout the entire world. We offer a lot of different exciting destinations.

Travel options. We have them running all year round. These are just a very small segment of

what we are offering this month, next month, and April. But they go again like I said all year round. So as you can see hitting Antarctica, all the way to Cuba, to Italy. We've got some that are wine tours. Or some that are cruises.

A lot of different opportunities for you. So with that is we try to target this towards alumni so that way not only are you going to events like Kim and Christina were talking about but you have the opportunity to travel with different Cougs too. So sharing and bond with them as a Coug but then on top of that, you're going to these amazing destinations and just creating these wonderful memories. And for the most part, we try with these programs or these travel programs to create a price that you can't really find on a different travel website.

So we try to help out as many alumni as possible with not only in the country, out of country traveling, events, all of these fun things. So definitely something to look into and I'm always jealous when a travel program trip goes because I always want to go but it doesn't always work out like that. And then so here's one of our big programs. So--

CHRISTINA

PARRISH:

I feel like we should do a drum roll. These are really important slides.

JULIE MACKIE:

So with the Alumni Association and it helps with all of you being students so I'm going to just say right off the bat we do provide student scholarships. So we want you to go-- and I'll show you the website. And the deadline is coming up in a couple of weeks but you have plenty of time still to apply. We provide a lot of scholarships to a lot of different areas with a lot of different criteria and everything. So I am encouraging you right now please, please, please apply for our scholarships.

Membership dues go towards scholarships. We also have a License Plate Program and that goes to scholarships. Last year for the academic year we gave over \$250,000 worth of scholarships to students.

We are-- for the 2017-2018 academic year we're going to be giving \$200,000 worth of scholarships. I'm trying to emphasize all those zeros as much as I possibly can just with the amount of help that we want to provide to students. And we're getting over to the actual web page for it.

OK perfect. So what you're seeing on the screen like I said \$200,000 with scholarships. But I will say this is that if you want to apply for these, please do very soon because the deadline is coming up on January 31 and that is a hard deadline. One of the biggest criteria for it is that

you do have to fill out the general WSU scholarships first to even be eligible to apply for these additional scholarships. It doesn't take long.

The general scholarship is usually really short. And it's a lot easier to just do it and get it out of the way. But on our web page there's as-- Christine is scrolling through there all these different types-- So some of them are location based. Some of them are leadership based-- well we try to revolve around leadership.

Legacy awards. For the person in Arizona, we have a Cougars of the Desert Award. With this, each one has a GPA requirement and all of those things so you can just apply straight through here.

Follow the instructions there is an essay portion available in this as well. So if you need to check out what the criteria is for the different scholarships that you'd like to apply for check it out first. Get all of your pieces in order. Get your essay ready to go. And then all you have to do is input it. Input all your information. Save and continue. Put in your essay answers. Save and continue. And it's that easy.

So please, please, please apply for these scholarships. I would love to go through and read each and every single one to you but that would take a very long time. So now that you have this-- but the best or the website for this is if you go to www.alumni.wsu.edu all you have to do is hit slash and type in scholarships and that main page that Christina was on before that will be what you see.

And you can just peruse all of the wonderful scholarships that we have available. We do this every single year. We usually try to open it in I believe this year we started around November. October I'm sorry, I was just corrected, October. We always are trying to get as many students as possible we want to help out as much as possible. So please keep an eye out for that but usually our deadline is always the end of January. So that we have enough time to provide you with those scholarships before the next academic year.

On the website as well any questions for this are our guru on scholarships her name is Laylonie Stephens. She's a coworker. It has her email and her direct line. So if you have any specific questions regarding scholarships, she is the person to connect with. And she will also be helping to read through the scholarships and the essays to make sure all the criteria are in place. So please make sure that if you have any very specific questions to connect with her throughout this process.

Whew, OK, that was a lot on scholarships. The best part is that I know that it gets a little deceiving on the fact that it's the Alumni Association and we're focused on alumni and we do all of these things for alumni but the best part is is that honestly, anyone can become a member of the Alumni Association. We always want more students to get involved not only to help with our Student Alumni Ambassadors if they are interested in getting involved on campus or being part of chapters and clubs. Or anything wherever you are we want you to get involved.

We also-- this is the best part is that for students it is the cheapest membership that you could possibly get out of all of our options. So take advantage of that now because unfortunately it does tend to increase the older you get until you hit that Golden Grad. But we got some time for that happens. So, students, it is \$20 for one year. We do a deal where it's \$60 for four. So technically you're getting a year for free.

Unfortunately, I think we might be out of certain sizes but usually with your student membership you get that student t-shirt for the year as well. So I'll show you a picture on that. It will be in a couple slides but that way you can see what this years was. And kind of get a feel for what we tried to make as known as possible, so students are walking around campus or show up to an event or anything we know exactly which shirts are our shirts too.

On the list, as you can tell graduates, alumni, we want you to become part of the Alumni Association. That also includes any former students. So if you took a class for one semester you are considered a former student you can still become a member of the Alumni Association.

Parents of students we have special memberships that include adding one parent with a student and that's a bundled price. Parents love it because usually if you do that route they also get a Cougar parent coffee mug and they get really excited about that. They usually want the t-shirt too but that's just special for students. So you're welcome.

If you are a friend of the University we have something called an adopted Cougar. So even if you didn't go here, you show extreme loyalty and that Cougar spirit and everything you can get somebody to adopt you as a Cougar. So we try to get as many people as possible because not everybody understands what that Cougar spirit really is.

And those that do understand it having that person that when you're walking down the street in

the middle of Denver, San Diego and I know it happens in San Diego because my parent's live in California and my dad calls me every time it happens. You're wearing Coug logo you're going to get a lot of shout outs. So with that we just want to continue that Coug spirit as much as possible and get as many people involved with this community as we can.

So other benefits that come along with a membership we like to provide lots of ways to save money. So with that, we have just locally we have at least 50 different local businesses within Pullman that provide discounts only to those that show their WSU membership card. With some of them we actually have online offers as well. So just the specific discount only for alumni.

As Kim mentioned before, we have special deals for different events. So whether it is a discounted rate or sometimes it's a free for the members but for nonmembers you have to pay. We're trying to help out as much as possible in the fact that you are part of this community so we should be getting you free things and I like that.

With that, we are also-- because when you become a member, we ask you what area that you are in. So please keep us updated as well on the location because what we can do is we send you specific event invitations that are in your area. So that we are not just getting a general this is what's happening in the nation we can pinpoint and send you very, very specific info that is maybe down the street from you.

KIM MUELLER: Can I interrupt you?

JULIE MACKIE: Please do.

KIM MUELLER: You have a question on if they get a discount for The Bookie does that apply towards textbooks?

JULIE MACKIE: It does not. Unfortunately, it is only towards merchandise but because The Bookie with textbooks is run through a different company we can't have that discount run through. But on any Coug gear or anything else that they have with The Bookie I believe our discount is at least 15% and we do have the online code for it as well. So I'm sorry it's not on textbooks. We've been trying but we-- clearly we haven't won yet.

So going back as I mentioned before we do support students scholarships. So we always are trying to give back in that way. We also want to make sure that you are staying as connected as we possibly can.

So each at least once a month if not twice a month we send out our-- it's called Coug News. It's an eNewsletter. It has a lot of different information from kind of what the WSU Alumni Association is doing versus-- we have some athletic stories in there and some other things. So we try to take everything that's going on with WSU and compile it into one big newsletter for everybody to see. Along with some other members only things that it might be a special offer, special event only for members. We'll send out that information as well.

Kim mentioned career networking before So always trying to get people involved. We do have a specific LinkedIn account for the Alumni Association. And I'll show you what that link is here in a bit.

So you can always look in there make sure that everything is up to date and then you can network through that as well. And then I mean of course you always had the extra little Coug card with the Alumni Association and they're really pretty cards, I will say that. Just to show off that your Cougar pride is just brimming over the edge and that if somebody doesn't have the card, they're going to probably want one so you can show it off. And then you can get more people to be in your area and the members. It makes it fun.

And this is just a very small list. I could show you the full list of discounts but again that would take a while. So we have lots of benefits. So if you're interested-- if you're a student and you're interested in becoming a member-- whoops sorry--

Sorry I saw your question on jobs and we do have jobs within the Pullman area but that is a specific-- what is it Coug link-- I think. You can search for a job specifically within the WSU world. But with LinkedIn they are all over the country, all over the world. It is kind of sky's the limit on trying to find jobs. So we're everywhere. Cougs are everywhere and it's great.

So there's always something in your area. Or at least please look out for it. So a good way to go and become a member if you would like all you have to do is go to alumni.wsu.edu/student.

So this kind of gives us the general idea of all the different types. So on top of all the different amounts of people that we want involved we also categorize you in different ways. So we have recent grads who have a special rate for if you graduated within the last 10 years. Alumni are kind of in that middle ground or the Alumni and Friends. And then Golden Grad's is 50 or more years.

You can do a gift of membership just somebody. You can add your-- you can become a student or you can and your family on. So if you're looking through and you're interested in becoming a member of the Alumni Association please go check us out you can fill everything out online. But we always are more than happy to have you give us a call.

We can get your membership processed over the phone. If you shoot us an email we can always connect with you that way and make sure that we are helping you as much as we possibly can to get you involved. Because ultimately we don't run without you. So we always want your involvement.

The other thing is if you're ever in Pullman or next time Pullman whether it's for game, homecoming, just visiting. You need some more Ferdinand's ice cream or Cougar Gold please make sure to stop by. Because we always have fun little giveaways too. I think or face tattoos are always go very quickly on game weekends.

But we always just want to see you. We always want to connect with you see how you're doing. See what we can do to help if we can. Take a look around our building there is so much memorabilia for students and everybody to check out. And we have we're pretty amazing faculties so we always want you to come by and say hello.

And then finally if you're ever curious on how to connect with us we have lots of different things. So you could just go to our main website which we can show you what the main web page looks like. We do have Facebook. Also, each chapter and club tends to have their own Facebook pages well.

We have a Twitter account. LinkedIn account. We have Instagram. We have Pinterest. So if you can't find us then let us know and we will direct you on how to find us. And then so what you're seeing right now is if you type in alumni.wsu.edu this is the main page and it's going to bring you to. So across the top it'll have everything of how you can connect.

The chapters and clubs that we talked about is we do groups and volunteers. Any types of membership information that you're looking for. And then all the different types of activities and events. Different benefits. All of those things they're all in there. So please go through look around on our website get familiar with it as well. Because it's all in there, I promise. We just want you to be as knowledgeable as possible. And I know this is a lot of information all at once. So thank you for bearing with us on that. OK so--

KIM MUELLER: We are open for any questions you might have. Did we not get to-- did we not answer a question that came up that you want to re-ask or maybe we can get some help with a mediator on that.

KAITLIN HENNESSY: One question we had was regarding events for alumni chapters do you all alumni chapters do the same events or is it unique to each chapter?

CHRISTINA PARRISH: That is actually unique to each chapter. There are some events that do cross over. That one chapter might hold an event and all the other ones that get such a great idea that they'll also want to hold the same type of event.

But the one standard event that we have for chapters is our viewing parties. And then each chapter actually does-- is involved in the scholarship process too. So they get to choose a student who is from their chapter that is attending the Pullman campus. So there is that involvement as well.

KIM MUELLER: So I want to-- this is something that took me awhile even as a staff person in the Alumni Association to come to grips with. The Alumni Association main goal is just to make sure that you're feeling connected to WSU. I want you to know that we are not going to ask you for money. We are not a fundraising entity of the University.

We are an engagement entity and we call ourselves friend raisers. So I hope that you come freely to events knowing that nobody is going to ask you for money unless it's the cost associated with a particular event that is going on. And they may ask you to join with membership but we're not going to have you sign your kid's life way and take the proceeds. So just know that.

JULIE MACKIE: Sorry just to tag along with what Kim was saying too on asking for money and everything we do send out information based on how to become a member and with that as the page that I was showing we do have three different tiers of membership. We have an Annual tier which is always our cheapest one. We have a Lifetime membership, so you purchase it once and you are part Alumni Association for life.

We provide payment plans with that as well to try to help out on the cost just because it is a little bit more expensive. And then we have our top tier is called our Platinum Life. And the only reason that we created that is because the Alumni Association members asked for a better way to give back to the Alumni Association and give more towards the students and scholarships and events that were running.

So that is our top tier. We have those three different ones based on your financial needs. But like Kim was saying that would be something where we're just kind of providing knowledge that if you're interested in kind of leveling up on a membership we always love that. But it's not mandatory. We're not going to make you do any of it. We're just trying to give you as much information as possible.

KIM MUELLER: Somebody else asked a question. Let's see where are you? Tony asked is, do the Facebook pages for each of the chapter groups have information about the events that they're putting on? In most often yes but if you want to make sure that you're not missing anything then my suggestion would be going to our events page on our WSU Alumni Association website.

That would be my-- sometimes our volunteers get really busy and maybe they forgot to post something. Or maybe we have updated information and it usually is the most up to date on our website. Great. You are welcome.

**KAITLIN
HENNESSY:** Great.

KIM MUELLER: You are welcome.

**KAITLIN
HENNESSY:** And we do have another question from earlier and I asked do you have to golf or be an alumni group to purchase tickets to the Palm Springs events?

**CHRISTINA
PARRISH:** You don't have to be alumni and you don't have to golf actually. There are-- it's a whole weekend of events that take place for the Cougars of the Desert. On Saturday this year we are bringing in Dr. Schulz the President of the University. He's going to be our keynote speaker at the luncheon on Saturday.

And then on Sunday there is a golf tournament. Followed by a dinner and auction. And there's a lot of people that don't golf but they just attend the dinner and auction. And myself included.

So it's a lot of fun. It is-- most of the individuals there are-- it's a mixed group of alumni, retired faculty staff, there are some locals that live there that attend. And then we do have a few folks-- are chapter president from San Diego has attended in the past. As well as our chapter presidents from the Los Angeles area as well. And all of that information can be found at www.alumni.wsu.edu/desertcougars.

KIM MUELLER: Christina, somebody asked if the tickets are separate golf versus dinner?

**CHRISTINA
PARRISH:** Yes they are. Yep, and I'll see if I can-- I don't know if we can get into this and then I could show you.

KIM MUELLER: We're trying to pull it up on our website. But in the meantime, I think that we are ready to do

the drawings for the student membership. I'm with Mrs. Kim and I'm going to draw from the many names in the basket. All right who do we have? Our winner is SJ. Holler SJ you are receiving a membership for the Alumni Association.

JULIE MACKIE: Yay.

KIM MUELLER: Woo. Way to go SJ.

JULIE MACKIE: So we'll make sure to get your information in there. If you have any questions we'll probably be connecting with you over the next couple days. And then we'll make sure to get your membership card in the mail. So please keep a look out for that. Our packets are pretty snazzy. And our-- keep your membership card with you all the time because you'll get discounts and fun things all over the place.

CHRISTINA PARRISH: OK so here's the information on the Cougars of the Desert. And then on the registration page just click Register here. And it's actually lists right here for the luncheon and then golf. And then the dinner and auction on Sunday night.

KAITLIN HENNESSY: Thank you so much for coming out tonight Kim, Christina, and Julie. We appreciate you sharing all the information about the Alumni Association. And we hope to see you soon.

KIM MUELLER: We appreciate everybody joining us to listen to us talk. That was really nice of you to spend your night with us. Have a great evening and we hope that we see you at an upcoming event.