

**1998
Honored
Alumni
Banquet**

**Homecoming
University of Northern Colorado
Friday, October 9**



Ah! Well I Remember

Ah! Well I remember, Friends of "Purple and Gold."
Friends met in September, Pledging their faith to hold.
Gone, friends of September, Gone, dear friends of old.
Time never shall sever, Friends of "Purple and Gold."
Time never shall sever, Friends of "Purple and Gold."

— *J. De Forest Cline*

Program

Honored Alumni Banquet

Welcome

Marti Alter
President, Alumni Association

Student Welcome

Stacy Sax
President, Student Representative Council

Invocation

Karel Hill
Emeritus Alumni Association Board Member

Dinner

Introductions

Georgette Vigil
Executive Director, Alumni Association

Award Presentations

Hank Brown
President, University of Northern Colorado



Trail Blazer Award

Frances Omori (BA-71, MA-72) is a Senior Military Fellow at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. Commander Omori develops global and regional political/ military policy games for high-level civilian and military leaders to assist them with formulating national security policy. She is a specialist in arms control, counterproliferation, terrorism, weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile defense.

"She is highly regarded by professionals both inside and outside the military. She represents the best of UNC. She cares deeply, thinks clearly and leads with vision," says Nancy Turner, coordinator of UNC's Assault Survivors Advocacy Program.

Before taking her current position, Omori coordinated Congressional hearings for the Secretary of the Navy and other senior officers. Earlier she served as executive officer of a Navy recruiting district, international political-military officer with the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and an analyst with the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for financial management.

Her many military honors include the Navy Commendation Medal and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. Omori's recognition cites a variety of leadership achievements, including her role with the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency from 1988-91: "Her military expertise, political and cultural savvy and keen sense of timing enabled her to provide invaluable advice during face-to-face negotiations with the Soviet Union in Geneva, Switzerland."



William R. Ross Award for Science

Charles Putnik (BA-72) is vice president of technology at Condea Vista Co. in Austin, Texas. "Our rationale for nominating him for this well-deserved honor is threefold: his contributions and dedication to the profession of chemistry, to the department and university, and to his family," say UNC's James Schreck, professor of chemistry, and David Pringle, professor and chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

"Since graduating from UNC, successfully completing a Ph.D. in chemistry at the University of Wyoming (1975), and finishing a post-doctoral appointment at the University of Illinois, Dr. Putnik has held many important positions of progressively increasing responsibility in the chemical industry," Schreck and Pringle say, citing Putnik's management positions at five organizations. "As testimony to his effectiveness as a chemical scientist, Dr. Putnik has published 13 scientific papers and has one U.S. Patent."

Putnik, who was honored as an outstanding chemistry student in 1969, '71 and '72, has supported his former department by recruiting UNC chemistry graduates for employment, and contributing to scholarships and laboratory improvements, student assistantships and research. Putnik was a member of the Bears football team and an Academic All-American as a UNC undergraduate, and he continues his athletic support as a contributor to the scholarship program of the Blue and Gold Club.

Schreck and Pringle also credit Putnik for assisting a sister-in-law who was paralyzed from the neck down after an automobile accident. They say Putnik and his wife cared for his sister-in-law's son and provided her with financial support after the accident. A few years ago, the sister-in-law's son returned to live with her and she earned a bachelor's degree from UNC.



Outstanding Educator Award

Harold Love (Ed.D-63) is a professor of special education at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway, where he has served as a faculty member or department chair for the past 34 years.

"Dr. Love has made outstanding and continuous contributions to the professional body of knowledge in his discipline of special education. He has authored over 25 books, numerous journal articles, and has received numerous grants, both federal and state," says Freddie Litton, chair of the UCA's Department of Childhood and Special Education.

"Dr. Love has focused on educating and certifying thousands of undergraduates and graduate students to teach special needs students. He founded two special education departments, one being his current employer. He also has taken a leadership role in this field and, during his long and distinguished career, has influenced and positively affected many professionals in Arkansas and across the nation," Litton says.

Love has served on Arkansas governor's commissions on mental retardation and related health services. He has been a member of the National Special Education Advisory Committee of United Cerebral Palsy Inc. He was state president of the Council for Exceptional Children and the Arkansas United Cerebral Palsy Association.



Professional Achievement in the Arts Award

Paul Beal (BA-57), owner/artist at Springbrook Studio in Friedens, Penn., has "earned great success as an educator and artist," says Gary Pitkin, dean of the UNC Libraries. Pitkin cites Beal's international reputation for quality work in such media as papercutting, watercolor, screen printing, drawing and quilting.

"His credits in education — elementary through university levels — are extensive," says Shirley Howell of the College of Performing and Visual Arts. "As a traveling art teacher in K-12 programs, Mr. Beal served the Somerset Pennsylvania Area Schools for 17 years. He taught at Penn State University and throughout Pennsylvania. Judith Meyers, chair of the advisory committee for UNC's Mari Michener Gallery, notes that Beal's work is on display at the gallery during homecoming and credits the artist for his professional activities, as well as his talent." Paul is now president of the Guild of American Papercutters, an organization he helped found. He writes a column for *First Cut*, the quarterly newsletter."

A member of many professional art organizations, Beal has numerous shows and exhibits to his credit. He holds a master's degree in art education from Penn State.



Community Service Award

Walter Katnich (BA-50), retired as a principal and teacher at St. Anne Catholic Elementary School in Lodi, Calif., in 1994, but he continues to influence the lives of former students, colleagues and grateful community members.

Compassionate, involved educators made a difference in Katnich's life when he was a young Yugoslavian immigrant growing up on Chicago's south side. "As a young immigrant to this country, he personally felt the pain of physical and verbal abuse. That early abuse gave him his most distinguishing feature—his own eagerness for dedicated service as a teacher and his unremitting perseverance to make life easier for children of all races, all colors, and all creeds," says Janelle Munn, founder of Friends of School Mental Health of Los Angeles.

"He has been inducted into Chicago's Tilden Technical High School Hall of Fame, and was three times elected mayor of Lodi, California. He was the director of Lodi Boys Club and chosen by the citizens of Lodi to be an ambassador of good will to their sister city, Kofu, Japan. In whatever he does and wherever he goes, he is an ambassador of good will. He is universally trusted, respected, admired, listened to, and loved," Munn says.

Katnich served in the Army during World War II, then entered UNC (Colorado State College of Education), where he played on the baseball team and earned his bachelor's degree. He went on to earn a master's degree from Lewis and Clark College, and teach at schools in Nebraska and Oregon, as well as California.



Alumni Volunteer of the Year, President's Award

Frank Lakin (BA-55, MA-57) served UNC for three decades as director of the counseling and testing center, assistant to the president, vice president for academic affairs, acting president, and a professor of higher education administration. Lakin, who also holds a doctorate in educational psychology from Oregon State University, continues to contribute to UNC and the community.

"He has served on the board of directors of numerous community organizations," said Vincent Scalia, dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences. "I am aware of his work on the board of directors for A Woman's Place (serving battered and abused women in Greeley) and the Sunrise Community Health Center (serving migrants and those less well off). More recently he has served as chair of the United Way campaign.

Lakin was among the 100 inductees of UNC's Centennial Hall of Fame, which was established in 1989 as part of the UNC's year-long centennial celebration. The Centennial Hall of Fame also noted Lakin's many contributions to the university, which include gaining approval from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education for the first Bilingual/Bicultural Studies and Mexican-American Studies programs in the state.

Lakin continues to work on UNC's behalf, particularly in the area of diversity. He and his wife, Donna Dhority Lakin (BA'87), endowed a scholarship for black student leaders and have been active in programs to help minorities feel welcome in the community.



Outstanding Young Alum Award

Ellen Brilliant (BA-94) is senior public affairs coordinator for Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains. Ron Edgerton, director of the UNC Honors Program, and Melanie Wilson, director of the Women's Resource Center, say Brilliant set standards for academic excellence and public involvement as an undergraduate at UNC.

"Ellen Brilliant has surprised no one by emerging so quickly as an articulate spokesperson for a public service agency here in Colorado," Edgerton says. Wilson credits Brilliant as a founder of the Women's Resource Center, a women's clinic volunteer, and a founder and leader of a pro-choice student group.

Katie Reinisch, vice president for public affairs at Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains, says Brilliant has shown similar attributes in the workplace. "Ellen brought to her job a perfect combination of academics, experience and commitment. With her background in both women's studies and drama, she was poised to become a lead spokesperson for this large and highly visible agency. She has done so, and done so superbly well, even under nerve-wracking situations," Reinisch says.

Brilliant's achievements also include serving as a founder and actor for the women's troupe Her Acting Group (HAG).



Humanitarian Award

Peter Lemon (MS-81) has owned his own company, Lemco Enterprises Inc., since 1994. He is a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for his valor in Vietnam; author of *Beyond the Medal*, a book that provides insights about people who have been awarded America's highest military honor; and an inspirational speaker, who has addressed audiences across the nation in boardrooms, classrooms, convention halls and outdoor amphitheatres.

"As far as I know at the present time he is the only UNC graduate to have ever received the Congressional Medal of Honor," says nominator Ray Biondo, an alumnus from Little Rock, Ark. "Of the 9,200,000 Americans who served during the 1964-73 Vietnam War, only 155 Army personnel received our nation's highest award."

Lemon was a sergeant in Vietnam in April 1970 when his base came under heavy enemy attack. Although outnumbered, Lemon defended the base with gunfire, hand grenades and hand-to-hand combat. He was wounded three times, but continued to fight until he collapsed from injuries and exhaustion. When he regained consciousness at an aid station, he refused to be taken to a medical facility until his comrades were taken first.

Lemon has been honored by President Jimmy Carter with the Certificate of Outstanding Achievement for superior community involvement and is an inductee in the elite Ranger Hall of Fame. He is a member of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society and the Airborne Ranger Association.

Homecoming 1998

Saturday, October 10

9 am - 3 pm - Special Homecoming Hours: UNC Bookstore

The UNC Bookstore celebrates Homecoming! Show the cashier this schedule and receive 20% off all UNC insignia items. Stop by and visit the featured student/faculty display of artwork and authors.

10 am - Homecoming Parade

The parade will begin on 10th Ave. near 17th St. and travel to 20th St. (at the University Center). From that intersection, the route goes west toward Nottingham Field to finish just in time for the tailgate and picnic.

10 am-noon - Hispanic Alumni Brunch/Fundraiser for UNC Hispanic/Alumni Partnership/CUMBRES

Alumni are invited to get together for a brunch/social on the front lawn of the Cesar Chavez Cultural Center (The House on the Hill) at 1410 20th St. before the football game. Call the Center at 970-351-2424 for information.

11 am - African American Alumni Association Mixer

Alumni are invited to this Barbecue and Mixer at the Marcus Garvey Cultural Center at 928 20th St.

11 am-1 pm - Pre-Game Picnic

Sponsored by McDonald's and the Blue and Gold Club. The picnic offers hamburgers/chips/ cookies and a drink for \$4. At the northeast corner of Nottingham Field. You must purchase a game ticket to get to picnic.

1 pm - Homecoming Football Game

UNC Bears vs. University of South Dakota Coyotes at Nottingham Field. The Back-to-Back Division II National Champions will strive to keep their title. Gates open at 11:30 am.

4 pm - Fraternity/Sorority Open Houses

After the game stop by your fraternity or sorority house and meet the current members. For more information, phone the Interfraternity/Panhellenic Council at 970-351-1360.

5 pm - Nursing Alumni Reception and Tour of Gunter Hall

Free

6 pm- School of Nursing Alumni Dinner

Join the School of Nursing Alumni Association as they recognize alumni from 1968, 73, 78, 83, 88 and 93 in the University Center Panorama Lounge. Cost is \$16.50. For reservations, tour, and special class booklets, phone 970-351-2293.

9 pm-Midnight - Student Homecoming Dance

The University Program Council presents: the free 1998 Homecoming Dance in the University Center Grand Ballroom. Semi-formal attire. Please join us for an evening of music, dancing and refreshments.

Welcome to the Jungle



Homecoming 1998