

CHAPTER NEWS

A Message From The CSEA President:

Happy October everyone! I hope you have all settled into a new semester well. I'm still settling as I've only been back a little over a week after 4 weeks off from shoulder surgery, so I feel like I'm starting all over. I want to thank my E-Board for picking up the slack in my absence. You guys are all so AWESOME and I appreciate you more than words can say!

I want to remind all of you of our upcoming chapter meetings for October and November. These two meetings are very important as we are accepting nominations for election to E-Board spots. VP Christine Grimaldi-Clarkson sent the notice out a couple weeks ago explaining the process. I will announce here that I am running for President again this year! I feel like I've only just begun to do the work that needs to be done. Moral is down for various reasons and I see that and really want to help, but it takes communication and collaboration. I, our Union Stewards, and negotiators don't know how to help if we're not made aware of issues or concerns. So please don't be afraid to contact us, even if you simply have a question. We're here to assist YOU! The members of the E-Board alone cannot do all the things that need to be done in order to make this a better workplace. We need the help of our members! We are all in this together.

We have some fights coming our way in this next political year (2016) that could have great impact (negatively for unions). So we'll need to ban together in whatever capacity best fits our individual personalities. I will get more information out as I receive it.

Have a great October. I look forward to seeing the Halloween costumes on Friday, October 30. I've got exciting ideas for the next few months of this year and going into next.

In Solidarity!
Kristi



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CSEA Union Benefits

CSEA Member Spot light

Our very own Christine Grimaldi Clarkson, CSEA Vice President, is an official published author. She has an article coming out in the *SCA Proceedings journal* next month.

"It is a very short version of my master's thesis and is titled "AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF CA-MRP-402: INVESTIGATING BEYOND THE ROCK ART IMAGES" and documents that ancient Native Americans living in Mariposa County intentionally altered the landscape to create an astronomical observation area and generate consistent equinoctial solar and shadow alignments. I feel this work reveals much more than archaeologists have ever known about the Native Americans who lived in this area, and I am hoping that the general public will take an interest." – C. Grimaldi Clarkson

The article will be published in Volume 29, in November. You should also be able to access it here next month: <https://scahome.org/sca-publications/articles-of-the-sca-proceedings/?sort=1#27>

Money for School...through your Union! **Member Career Grant applications due October 31st**

CSEA Member Career Grants - \$1,000

Applications are available now and are due October 31st.

CSEA offers grants to members who are going to school on a part time or full time basis. \$1000 grants are awarded to recipients based on financial need, goals and objectives, citizenship, and CSEA activities.

CSEA Member Grants are accepted through Oct. 31. Get more information or download an application by going to csea.com and clicking on "Education and Scholarships" under the "Benefits" tab.

Member Reimbursement Subsidy - Up to \$250

Subsidy grants up to \$250 are awarded to members who are pursuing an opportunity that connects them to the union, the community, and/or students. Examples of the types of programs considered include attendance at CSEA's Paraeducator Conference, CSEA's Maintenance and Operations Academy, completion of the citizenship process, obtaining a high school diploma or GED, and other college or vocational courses. **Applications available year round.**

Union Plus Scholarships - \$500 to \$4,000

Because CSEA is affiliated with the AFL-CIO, CSEA members, and their dependents, including spouses, are eligible to apply for Union Plus scholarships. **Go online to apply today at www.unionplus.org/scholarships. Applications due January 31st.**

Education Resources

From test taking strategies to discounts on college counseling, textbooks, Dell computers and more, visit www.unionplus.org/education.

For more details and to download applications, go to www.csea.com or call CSEA Member Benefits at (866) 487-2732 to request an application or brochure.

California School Employees Association



Merced College CSEA will hold an election in December for 2016 Executive Board Officers.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the next two chapter meetings on October 21st and November 25th, 12:00 – 1:00 pm in the Student Union Building, room SU-137.

Please bring the attached nomination form, **with the nominee's signature**, to one of the next two chapter meetings and make a motion to nominate a member(s) for office(s). Nominees must sign the attached form for the nomination to be accepted. A member may nominate him or herself.

The following offices are open for nominations:

- PRESIDENT**
 - VICE PRESIDENT**
 - SECRETARY**
 - TREASURER**
 - CHAPER PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER (CPRO)**
 - CHIEF UNION JOB STEWARD**
 - NEGOTIATORS**
- (2 offices open—2-year terms)**



MEMBER BENEFITS

California Academy of Sciences

Explore an aquarium, a planetarium, rain forest and natural history museum in the hear of San Francisco's Gold Gate Park. [Buy tickets online](#) (use sales code: csea)

Six Flags Discovery Kingdom

America's original combination wildlife park, oceanarium and theme park, features all the new Dare Devil Chaos Coaster. Season Passes available at a great discount! \$60 (regularly \$114.99). Call CSEA Member Benefits at 866-ITS-CSEA(866-487-2732).

Great America open tickets on sale now

Now in its 40th season, California's Great America has expanded its Planet Snoopy kids area with three new rides to go along with dozens of "big-kid" thrill rides. Call CSEA Member Benefits for tickets at 866-ITS-CSEA (866-487-2732).

Private party at Universal Studios

CSEA members are invited to a private party at Universal Studios on Saturday, May 9th. Visit the park on a Saturday at the incredible price of \$66 per person (reg. \$95) that includes FREE parking (reg. \$17) and enjoy little to no lines at your favorite attractions! ... [More](#)

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The Merced College Child Development Center "Hooligans"

It's that time again... the children of the CDC would like to show off their Halloween costumes (and get buckets full of treats from the departments).

Our little ones will trick or treat their way through your departments on Friday, October 30th between 10:00 and 11:00AM.

If your department is interested in having the children stop by, please contact Simone at x6245 or e-mail simone.salas@mccd.edu and let us know if you want to be put on our trick or treat route.

Thank you for always appreciating the children who attend our Center.



California School Employees Association



AFL-CIO