

Calendar of Events

Sept. 8, 2016: Cowboy Road Series: Upstream Brewing Company at Old Market, Omaha, Neb.

Sept. 9, 2016: Cowboy Road Series: Buzzard Billy's, Lincoln, Neb.

Sept. 10, 2016: Cowboy Joe Club Pre-Game Hospitality, Lincoln, Neb.

Sept. 15-17, 2016: UWAA Board of Directors meeting, Laramie, Wyo.

Sept. 22, 2016: Cowboy Road Series: Arbor Brewing Company Microbrewery, Ypsilanti, Mo.

Sept. 23, 2016: Cowboy Joe Club Pre-Game Hospitality, Ypsilanti, Mo.

Oct. 1, 2016: Cowboy Joe Club Pre-Game Hospitality, Fort Collins, Colo.

Oct. 7, 2016: 50-Year Club Reunion (1966 and earlier), Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, Laramie, Wyo.

Oct. 7, 2016: All Alumni and Friends Reunion with Pep Rally, Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, Laramie, Wyo.

Oct. 7-8, 2016: Homecoming registration, Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, Laramie, Wyo.

Oct. 7-8, 2016: UW Alumni Band Reception and Homecoming participation. Please contact Lori Dockter for details at uwmom1@yahoo.com.

Oct. 8, 2016: Homecoming Parade and Cowboys vs. Air Force

Oct. 21, 2016: Cowboy Road Series: Silver Peak Grill & Taproom (Downtown), Reno, Nev.

Oct. 22, 2016: Cowboy Joe Club Pre-Game Hospitality, Reno, Nev.

Nov. 12, 2016: Cowboy Joe Club Pre-Game Hospitality, Las Vegas, Nev.

Nov. 26, 2016: Cowboy Joe Club Pre-Game Hospitality, Albuquerque, N.M.

Jim Nielson

UW Distinguished Alumnus



Distinguished Alumnus Jim Nielson (B.S. '54, business administration) believes in sharing his resources—time and finances—and he's given both to the University of Wyoming.

"I like to help with education," Nielson says. "It helped me. I like to give some of that back. I'm a strong believer in our University of Wyoming."

He grew up on a farm near Cody where they had sheep, cows and horses, and raised hay, grain and, one year, peas. Nielson and his family would rush every summer to harvest their crops so that they could receive peak prices from a Cowley vegetable cannery.

Nielson graduated from UW in 1954 with a degree in business administration. He credits his education for preparing him for his life and career. He formed many lifelong friendships with people he met at UW and throughout the state.

"It's still small in comparison to most of the state universities in this country," Nielson says. "You can still be an individual, and you can still know your instructor and be able to sit down and talk with them. It's more personal."

He continues, "My education hasn't just stopped with the time spent in Laramie. I have been able to go back and talk with instructors and have personal

contacts with the university to this day."

After graduation, Nielson spent three-plus years in the U.S. Navy as a commissioned officer in the Supply Corps, then joined Husky Oil, a company that was founded by his father. He did everything from roughnecking to marketing, exploration, refining and eventually serving as executive vice president of exploration and production and president and CEO. Husky Oil's Nielson family interest was sold in 1979 to the national oil company PetroCanada. After this, Nielson was the president and CEO of JN Oil and Gas Co., a partnership with the principals and founders of Winn-Dixie (1979 to 1992).

In 1992, Nielson became the founder and president of Nielson & Associates Inc., an oil and gas company in Cody. He served as a board member for the Wyoming Pipeline Authority for 28 years, serving under four governors, and is a former director of the Denver branch of the Kansas City Federal Reserve. He has also served as president of the Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Association in Denver and has been involved in many other boards in Wyoming, Colorado and Houston.

Nielson is a strong advocate for Wyoming. Aside from the energy industry, he believes in tourism as a major industry and feels the state can do a better job of marketing itself to visitors. Wyoming has a lot to offer, with Yellowstone National Park located 96 percent in Wyoming, Grand Teton National Park 100 percent in Wyoming, Devil's Tower, various Native American cultures and rich history. He wants tourists to visit so they can appreciate and experience the year-round beauty of the state he calls home.