



# COUGAR TRACKS

MARCH 2009

Winter/Spring



*A Publication of the Sahuaro High*  
**COUGAR FOUNDATION**

*Incorporated November 22, 1992*

## The President's Tracks

### Cougar Foundation Retreat

The Cougar Foundation Board decided to get away from the usual board meeting format and held a retreat at the home of board member Marti Jones. At this meeting we discussed future plans and goals for the Cougar Foundation in a relaxed atmosphere. A fun-filled afternoon getting to know each other and making plans for the Foundation was just the beginning. Along with a wonderful lunch we brainstormed and made a lot of good decisions for the future of the Foundation.

The Board grew with the addition of two members. Mrs. Donna Pierson and Mr. Jack Lehmkuhl are two long-time Cougars who will add knowledge and excitement to the Board.

Some of the decisions include two short-term goals of raising \$10,000 and increasing our membership to 200 strong. The Cougar Foundation is also excited to announce that this year's Hall of Fame Breakfast and Hall of Fame induction will take place in the new gymnasium at Sahuaro and that the breakfast will be held in conjunction with a celebration of the 40-year anniversary of the school. So mark your calendars for the weekend of October 3, 2009.

The Cougar Foundation Board enjoyed the afternoon at Marti's house and wants to thank her for hosting the event. We look forward to an exciting year.

Sandy Novak  
Cougar Foundation President

## Sahuaro is Celebrating 40 Years of Tradition

Sahuaro just finished its Fortieth Anniversary Year. Sahuaro opened its doors in September of 1968 with the band playing the National Anthem by the flagpole as the flag was raised for the first time at Sahuaro High School. Members of the staff and student body were encouraged to attend and many of them did. **Dave Ashcraft, Student Body President**, led the Pledge of Allegiance and **Principal Egbert** gave a short speech and school was underway.

In 1993 it was time to celebrate 25-years of education, and the occasion was celebrated with the "Silver Celebration." The program

included a welcome by **Linda Schloss** and **Paula Walters**, MCs of the program, introductions of the Student Council, and the four principals who served over the previous 25-years: **Hank Egbert, Leo Johnson, Keith Meenan, and Joan Richardson**, the presiding principal.

The special booklet produced for the occasion was dedicated to **Beverly Rockliffe** who had served Sahuaro for 19-years as the Cougar Office secretary and had done an outstanding job. Beverly passed away on November 28, 1992. Included in the booklet (Pg. 2-Fortieth)

### Cougar Foundation Board

Sandy Novak,  
President  
Scott Hurlbert,  
Vice President  
Fran Johnson,  
Sec.-Treasurer  
Marti Jones,  
Sec.-Treasurer

### Members-At-Large

Harry Johnson,  
Founder  
Jan Boyd  
Phoebe Chalk  
Jack Lehmkuhl  
Billy Lopez  
Donna Pierson  
Mike Spacone  
Bob Vielledent

Cougar Foundation  
information may also be  
found at:

[Sahuarohighschool.net](http://Sahuarohighschool.net)

Sahuaro Alumni and  
Event Info is on Face  
Book!

<http://www.facebook.com/>

Search: Sahuaro High  
School in Tucson





*Cougar Foundation 2006 Hall of Fame inductee Jay Dobbins with Foundation founder Harry Johnson at the 2008 Foundation Breakfast.*

## 2008 Annual Breakfast & Hall of Fame

The Annual Breakfast and Hall of Fame inductions were a huge success. There were over 100 in attendance. The highlight of the morning was the inductions of the new Hall of Fame members. They were: **Clara Botkin**, a long-time member of the Sahuaro staff in the faculty cafeteria. She engendered the Sahuaro Spirit and infected all the staff that ate there with her caring and warm attitude.

**Admiral Scott Sanders** who, in turn, was introduced by **Elaine Myles Courneen** introduced **David Jackson**. Scott was inducted the previous year, but was unable to attend. Therefore, both were honored even

though **David** was unable to attend this year as he was in the Middle East.

**Bob Vielledent** introduced **Rodney Peete**, a former NFL quarterback. **Rodney** was very humble and grateful for his experiences at Sahuaro.

The final inductee was **Tom Pierson** who was introduced by **Albert Puckett**, former student and one of Tom's athletes.

The acceptance talks given by each of the candidates were very good as well as entertaining. **Tom Pierson's** acceptance speech was inspiring and had everyone ready to go out and give their all for the Cougars

## Fortieth . . .

**(Continued from Pg. 1)**

were Hall of Fame inductions made by **Joe Estes** for **Hal Eustice** (baseball coach and teacher), and **Linda Schloss** for **Hank Egbert** (Sahuaro's first principal.) There was also a picture tribute to each of these men who were the first to be inducted.

The booklet also contains letters from **Principal Joan Richardson**, **Jim Small**, Student Body President, and **David Ashcraft**, first student body president, first Choral Director, and co-chairman of the celebration. It also included a brief history of the first 25 years, a biography of each principal who served over the 25-years, and a list of all staff members, the Student Body

Officers, testimonials and anecdotes on school incidents as well as brief highlights for each year. In addition there was an article on the Sahuaro Cougar Foundation, its founding members and original donors.

One of the statements made in the booklet that is worth repeating is: *"A school is not just bricks and mortar, it is people: staff, students, parents, and community; it is an atmosphere, a spirit of community, a sense of respect, a recognition of the individual, a sense of pride in the whole, a loyalty to one another, a sharing with each other."* These qualities along with great students and staff have made Sahuaro outstanding.

## Welcome New Board Members



New Board Member, Donna Pierson with husband, Tom, 2008 Hall of Fame inductee with Sahuaro VP, Joni Pabst, at 2008 Breakfast

One of the things that came out of the Breakfast was the volunteering of four new board members. These four members have brought new blood to the Board, which has stimulated a proposal to have a retreat for the Board to review objectives and generate new ideas. The new members are **Mike Spacone** ('84), and a returning board member and Hall of Fame member, **Dr. Phoebe Chalk** ('85), 2007 Hall of Fame inductee and served on the Silver Celebration Committee); **Donna Pierson** was at one time Sahuaro's Athletic Director and Business Education teacher;

**Jack Lehmkuhl** (2003 Hall of Fame) served in several capacities at Sahuaro: math teacher, baseball coach and assistant principal. The rest of the Board members remain the same.

Board membership is still a few members short, so if you would like to become a board member, please contact any current member or email us at [cougarfoundation@cox.net](mailto:cougarfoundation@cox.net) or by mail at Sahuaro Cougar Foundation, P.O. Box 18181, Tucson, AZ 85731

## Sahuaro Cougar Foundation Provides Scholarships for Sahuaro Students

The Sahuaro Cougar Foundation provides various scholarships throughout the year for current students. One such scholarship, partial-payment scholarships, help students attend summer experiences such as Girls and Boys State Conferences, the HOBY Leadership Conference, and AnyTown USA. Other scholarships being offered are partial scholarships to help students pay for summer school. All of the aforementioned scholarships are need-based. Another partial scholarship that is also need-based helps students to pay for Advanced Placement testing. All students who request such assistance from the Cougar Foundation must petition the foundation in writing.

The Cougar Foundation has this year instituted a new scholarship for two graduating seniors. The \$1200 scholarships are intended for one male and one female student to be used in institutions of higher learning found within the state of Arizona. These include universities and community colleges as well as other accredited post-high school institutes.

Applications for the Cougar Foundation Scholarships are available through the counseling office of Sahuaro High School and the deadline is March 31, 2009. Along with other criterion, students must have a GPA between 2.5 and 3.4 and provide two letters of recommendation from Sahuaro Faculty.



Sophomore Monique Trejo (left), scholarship recipient, and family at Foundation Breakfast

## Hall of Fame Nominations Accepted Year Round

**Eligibility:** Anyone with Sahuaro connections who has made significant contributions to Sahuaro, the Foundation, their community, state or nation, or to mankind, in general, will be considered. Supporting letters or additional nominations by second parties are helpful. Nominations are accepted year-round. Feel free to email or send a more extensive, separate relationship explanation

I would like to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ as a candidate for the Sahuaro Cougar Foundation Hall of Fame. His/Her relationship to the school was \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please forward this request to Sahuaro Cougar Foundation, P.O. Box 18181, Tucson, AZ 85731, AND email to [CougarFoundation@cox.net](mailto:CougarFoundation@cox.net).

## Dick Arnold Memorial Sahuaro Cougar Foundation

### 2009 Golf Tournament

This year Dick Arnold Memorial Sahuaro Cougar Foundation Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2009 at the **Forty-Niner's Country Club**. Billy Lopez is working hard to obtain hole and tee sponsors as well as door prizes. One of the prizes that will be raffled is the NFL Patriots football autographed by Tedy Bruschi.

Raffle tickets for the football are still available and sell for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Billy Lopez and Mike Spacone are also working hard to get a headline sponsor for

the tournament. For more information call Billy Lopez at 520-749-5828.

Get your foursomes lined up and your entries in rly. There is a limit of 125 players.

**To register**, please use the tournament gistration form found on the next page or email e \_\_\_\_\_ Cougar Foundation at [ugarfoundation@cox.net](mailto:ugarfoundation@cox.net), and a form will be ailed to you.

G O L F  
ANYONE?



# Dick Arnold Memorial Sahuaro Cougar Foundation Golf Tournament

**Saturday  
MAY 30, 2009**

**49ers  
Country Club**

**Registration:  
6:30 a.m.  
Start Time:  
7:30 a.m.**

**Tournament Directors**

Billy Lopez  
(520) 749-5828  
  
Bob Vielledent  
(520) 747-9223

Please make checks  
payable to:  
**Sahuaro Cougar  
Foundation**

Mail checks and  
registration to:

**Sahuaro Cougar  
Foundation  
P.O. Box 18181  
Tucson, AZ 85731**

<u>Platinum Sponsor - \$400</u> 1 Tee Sponsor Golf Foursome 2 Additional Lunches Special Recognition	<u>Tee Sponsor - \$125</u> Signage Representatives allowed on Tee 2 Additional Lunches
<u>Green Sponsor - \$75</u> Signage	

*REGISTRATION*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate a raffle prize \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to join the Cougar Foundation for \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

**Foursome Registration - Singles Encouraged**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name, Company, phone or e-mail
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name, Company, phone or e-mail
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name, Company, phone or e-mail
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name, Company, phone or e-mail

**Total Amount Enclosed:**

Registration \$80 \_\_\_\_\_ Includes Golf & Lunch

Foundation Dues \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Platinum Sponsor \$400 \_\_\_\_\_

Tee Sponsor \$125 \_\_\_\_\_

Green Sponsor \$75 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

Proceeds from this year's event will go toward student scholarships as well as new equipment for the newly constructed auxiliary gym.

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Sahuaro High School  
Cougar Foundation

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High School  
Cougar Foundation

P.O. Box 18181  
Tucson, AZ 85731

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Cougar Foundation  
Sandy Novak  
520-731-7105

E-Mail:

Cougarfoundation@  
cox.net

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We're coming to the  
Web!

See us at:

**TBA**

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More Foundation and  
Sahuaro News at  
<http://sahuarohighschool.net>

and

<http://www.facebook.com/>

Search:

Sahuaro High School in  
Tucson

## A Website is Coming, a Website is Coming...

To help better communicate with our ever-growing alumni, the Cougar Foundation is investigating a web connection that will inform members of reunions, activities (such as the May 30<sup>th</sup> golf tournament), scholarships, and other items of interest.

Also being discussed is a web-store for Sahuaro shirts and other items. and having a FaceBook Page to facilitate the

## NOTES OF INTEREST FROM SAHUARO...

**Student Letters:** **Amanda Genung** wrote a note of thanks to the Foundation: *"Thank you very much for your generous donation toward my week at AnyTown. It helped me pay for the most eye-opening experience of my life. I learned so much about myself and others while I was there. My time at Camp AnyTown was a life-changing experience. I think it is great that you support students at Sahuaro and help them have experiences such as this. My experience was so touching that I hope to go back as a counselor so I can help others learn and grow as I did. Again, thank you so much for the scholarship."*

**Monique Trejo** writes that she used the Foundation's Outstanding Student Award this past year to enroll in a World History/Geography course during the summer so she could be in the Concert Choir this year. She states she is Sophomore Class President, a 4.0 student, and on the swim, soccer, and track teams.

And, in a second note, **Monique** thanked the Foundation for the scholarship to attend the

HOBY Youth Leadership Camp, a fantastic learning opportunity, later this year.

**Alumni Tracks:** Hall of Fame (2006) member, **Jay Dobyms** ('80) has written another book, *No Angel*, about his life as an undercover narcotics agent who infiltrated the Hells Angels. It became available for purchase on February 10, 2009. Twentieth Century Fox has picked up the movie rights to the book which is said to be very graphic and somewhat disturbing, not something for the kids to read.

**Sahuaro Directory:** **Carol Holly** has been working on a new and updated School Directory of all former Cougars. It is being printed and sold by Harris Connect Directory. This is the THIRD directory that Carol has been involved in producing. We owe her a real big THANK YOU for all she has done to keep track of the alumni.

**Sahuaro Alumni:** **Alumni and Sahuaro news now on FACEBOOK!** Check it out on the Web (see the address this page sidebar.) Reconnect to Sahuaro Cougars the world over!

## Reunions. . .

### Class of 1989 20-Year Reunion

**Date:** June 6, 2009

**Location:** La Paloma Resort

**Website:**

<http://www.classicreunionsandevents.com/1989shshq.html>

**Contact:** Phoebe Chalk

Classic Reunions and Events  
520-850-3246

### Class of 1999 10-Year Reunion

**Date:** July 25-26, 2009

**Location:** Viscount Hotel

**Update** your address and get information, etc., at:

<http://sahuaro1999.com>

**Contact:** Southwest Reunions

1-877-498-4900 or 520-407-8300