

# **TUCSON HIGH SCHOOL Class of 1950**

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## **FEBRUARY 1999 NEWS**

**IT'S TIME AGAIN TO PLAN TO ATTEND THE MINI-REUNION PICNIC FOR THE CLASS OF 1950. JUST ONE YEAR UNTIL OUR 50TH REUNION, AND WE ARE MAKING OUR PLANS TO GO ALL OUT IN 2000!**

### **SATURDAY--APRIL 17, 1999--A CASUAL DUTCH-TREAT DINNER!!**

We are planning a repeat of the casual dinner that we enjoyed the night before the picnic last year. Please join us at 6:00 p.m. at Casa Del Rio Mexican Restaurant, 1060 South Pantano (on the north side of the little mall at the NW corner of Pantano and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street). Contact Zola Lyerly Powers at 577-5566 with your reservation by April 5.

### **SUNDAY--APRIL 18, 1999--A PICNIC IN REID PARK!!**

**DATE:** Sunday, April 18, 1999  
**PLACE:** REID PARK, RAMADA NO. 22 (NW corner on Country Club)  
**TIME:** 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
**COST:** \$7.00 per person

This year we are again going to picnic in Reid Park (see enclosed map on next page). For \$7 per person, come enjoy a lunch of BBQ beef, beans, salad, dessert, and soft drink. Everything is provided except beer. Feel free to bring your own (cans only!) as we have the required park permit. Other than that, just bring yourself and perhaps a lawn chair or cushion (to soften the hard benches).

**Reserve April 18th for our 5th Annual Reunion Picnic and send in your reservation now on the enclosed form!** This is one way to keep with our classmates as well as plan for our 50th Reunion. We had a great turnout in 1998, and we hope to see an enthusiastic turnout again this year. **Plan to be in Tucson for the picnic!**

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**IN MEMORIUM:**

We are sorry to report the deaths of the following classmates during 1998-1999:

**John C. Robinson** passed away in October 1998 as a result of pancreatic cancer. John retired at the end of May 1997 after a 29-year career in banking and a second career of seven years as a bank examiner for the State of New Mexico. He had been an international banker with Citibank in Colombia and Ecuador, with Continental Bank in Chicago, and the chief administrative officer for a Chicago merchant bank. He married Donna Minge of Denver in 1958, and they had three sons who are presently an architect in Albuquerque, a licensed surveyor in Phoenix, and an electrical engineer in San Francisco. John and Donna were divorced in 1990, and Donna passed away in January 1997.

In June 1997, John married Lilly Otto and was living in Albuquerque, New Mexico. After his retirement, he undertook consulting assignments to the Central Bank of Armenia, to the Superintendency of Banks of Costa Rica, and was scheduled to serve as a consultant to foreign central banks and bank regulators when illness necessitated an indefinite postponement of this third career. While at Tucson High, John was the Staff Editor of the Cactus Chronicle and was selected to Who's Who.

**Jack Levkowitz** passed away in December 1998 of cancer. Jack was born to Harry and Clara Levkowitz who had arrived from Odessa, Russia via Chicago to Tucson in 1917 with the first three of their seven children. While at Tucson High, he served on the Senior Council and was a member of the Orchestra. Jack attended the University of Pittsburg Dental School, interned at Montefiore Hospital in Pittsburg, and completed post-doctoral research at the University of Southern California before returning to Tucson with his wife Bertie.

In addition to his private dental practice in Tucson, Jack founded ABC Dental Center and was a pioneer in nutrition and preventive dental care education in public schools. Jack was a Jewish community activist and was co-founder and former president of the Tucson Hebrew Academy. He was personally involved in welcoming and educating Soviet emigres to Tucson. Jack is survived by his wife Bertie, a daughter, a son, granddaughter, two brothers, and a sister.

## TUCSON HIGH BADGER FOUNDATION

The Tucson High Badger Foundation held its annual breakfast and meeting in October 1998. The goals of the Foundation are to perpetuate the traditions and history of Tucson High School, to promote the educational and cultural activities of the students and alumni, and to encourage and support its students to graduate. A number of Class of '50 graduates were in attendance to honor the induction of one of our own class members into the Badger Foundation Hall of Fame of **Judge G. Thomas Meehan**, who died October 19, 1993 at the age of 61.

Tom Meehan was a native of Tucson, attended University Heights Grade School, Mansfeld Junior High, and Tucson High. Following graduation, he was in the submarine service during the Korean War. He served as a state highway patrolman after the Korean War and received his undergraduate degree in Corrections Administration from the University of Arizona. He worked as a state liquor enforcement agent while he was studying for his law degree from the University of Arizona College of Law. He was in private practice for several years and served as a special court commissioner for the Pima County Superior Court. He became Judge Pro Tempore in 1978 before his appointment as Superior Court Judge. In January 1985, he was named Presiding Judge with administrative duties over 21 divisions.

Tom was known for his common-sense approach to the law, a congenial mix of wisdom, wit, and ornery intolerance for the starched formality that dominates many courtrooms. He was described by colleagues as a "man's man" who grounded his legal rulings in a sensibility linked to his love for the Old West--a life-size cardboard cutout of John Wayne stood in the corner of his office. He was both tough and empathetic--he once sentenced a child molester to 2975 years in prison (the defense attorney got the sentence reduce to 2865 years.). He was quoted as saying, "Who the hell am I to sit and decide what happens to somebody's life." He liked to say he became a lawyer because he was never very good with issues that had right or wrong answers but he demonstrated repeatedly that he could find the right answers. He had no regrets.

Other 1950 Class members who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame are Stanley Feldman, Alba Bustamante Torres, and H. Wilson "Unky" Sundt. Contact either Suzanne Laws Bernard or Margaret Clampitt Bath, both currently serving on the Badger Foundation Board, for details on presenting a nomination for the Hall of Fame. Nominations for the THS Badger Foundation Hall of Fame must be received by April 1, 1999. Dues to the Foundation are \$10 a year and are due by October 15 and delinquent by December 15 of each year.

The Class of 1950 Reunion Committee will continue to accept donations in any amount as we continue to collect funds for Tucson High School and funnel these moneys through THS Badger Foundation. If you want to contribute funds to benefit Tucson High School, send the Class of 1950 Reunion Committee your check **made payable to the THS Badger Foundation**. We will keep records and then forward the funds to the Foundation. Our Class members contributed \$895.00 from October 1997 to October 1998. Grants totaling \$7,592.05 were given by the Foundation to individual students and groups during the past year--from basketball shoes, to testing fees, to travel expenses, club activity expenses, and extra classes.

**Preliminary Information on the  
50th REUNION IN 2000**

Dates: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday  
October 20, 21, and 22, 2000

Headquarters: Sheraton Hotel (formerly Hotel Park Tucson)  
5151 East Grant Road, Tucson

Cost: To be determined in early 2000  
Activities will be priced "a la carte"

Possible Activities:

Friday, October 20, 2000

Tours around Tucson "hot" spots and/or Tubac & Nogales  
Sports Activities (Golf, Tennis)  
Registration and Hospitality at Sheraton Hotel  
Casual Western gathering with light food in evening at Savoy Opera House,  
Trail Dust Town, 6541 East Tanque Verde Road

Saturday, October 21, 2000

Registration and Hospitality at the Sheraton Hotel  
Badger Foundation Breakfast at THS Cafeteria  
(a chance to see graduates from other years)  
Tour of THS following Breakfast  
Dinner and Dance at the Sheraton Hotel

Sunday, October 22, 2000

Breakfast Buffet

**Note:** The Reunion Committee is in the process of setting up committees to plan for the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion. If you would like to help on one of the committees, please drop us a line or e-mail. There are jobs that can be handled by individuals outside Tucson or even Arizona, such as staffing the Hospitality Room, greeting at airport, transportation to events, etc. Contact Barbara Baldwin Salyer (bsalyer@azstarnet) or Margaret Clampitt Bath (mcbath@theriver.com).

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**THS Reunion Committee:**

Margaret Clampitt Bath	Suzanne Laws Bernard	Ann Kelley Boice	Betty Lara Carrillo
Don Carson	Lloyd Colbeck	Barbara Burrows Crawford	Norma Don
Joan Malone Gardner	Bob Hall	John Huerta	Bridget Genovese Krmpotich
Sylvia Wesson Mooney	Spike Parnell	Jack Patty	Shirley Stephey Patty
Zola Lyerly Powers	Joni Clore Price	Barbara Baldwin Salyer	Dee Simpson
Pat James Simpson	Bob Thomas	Alva Bustamante Torres	Charlotte Leon Weakland
Ora Lee Wong			

## **Information regarding the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion:**

The Reunion Committee needs to have input from the Class members to help us plan for the “Grand Party”. Please let us know if you are interested in having any of the following items available at the Celebration:

1. **Lost your 1950 Yearbook?**

If you are interested in a Xerox reproduction of the 1950 Annual, complete from cover to cover and spiral-bound, we can have it waiting for you at the Reunion or mail it to you. The cost will be approximately \$25. We will have a more exact price closer to 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I want a copy of the THS 1950 Annual

2. **Interested in purchasing a THS Class of '50 Polo Shirt?**

We will again be placing an order for white polo shirts of a 50/50 blend with a red and white design of a badger next to a block “T” with “Class of ‘50” blazoned across the top of the “T”. These will be available for pickup at registration or mailed to you. The cost will be approximately \$20.00 a shirt with the XX-Large being approximately \$22.00. We will have an exact cost as we get closer to the Reunion. If enough people are interested, we can order another color.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to have a white THS polo shirt.

Size: \_\_\_ Small \_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_ Large \_\_\_ X-Large \_\_\_ XX-Large

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to have a red THS polo shirt, if possible.

Size: \_\_\_ Small \_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_ Large \_\_\_ X-Large \_\_\_ XX-Large

3. **Interested in having a memento of THS and the Reunion?**

**La Tiendita**, a small enterprise established to help its parent, Tucson High Badger Foundation, is like the old-time neighborhood market, with caps, pens, pencils, lapel pins, stationery for sale--all with “THS” on them. We will be inviting La Tiendita to attend our Class Reunion.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in having a memento from the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion.

4. **Do you have a memento, picture, cartoon, etc. from your days at THS that you can copy and send to us for display?**

We will be having displays of pictures, newspaper clippings, cartoons, and other trivia in evidence during the Reunion and would love to have contributions from any and all class members. It is particularly important to have something from those class members who are not able to join us in person at the Reunion.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I will be sending you an item for display at the Reunion.

**THIS AND THAT:**

- The Committee still needs you to **share your news** or news of your classmates with us.
- **Have you located any classmates for us?**
- **Send us your changes of addresses**--we keep losing classmates as fast as we find them.
- Send your **e-mail address** so we can communicate quickly---Barbara's e-mail: bsalyer@azstarnet.com
- For those of you who **pledged** a total of \$100 by the year 2000, now is time for the 1999 payment of \$25.

**COUNTDOWN TO OUR 50TH-----APPROXIMATELY 606 DAYS!**

**Keep an eye out for the THS Class of '50 home page on the Web--hopefully by the time you receive this letter.**

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**TUCSON HIGH BADGER FOUNDATION, INC.  
On to 2000 - THS Class of 1950 Reunion Committee  
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