



# The Foundation Focus

Spring 2021  
Volume 14, Issue 1

The Newsletter of the Catalina High School Foundation

## Meeting Needs of our Alma Mater Through Grants

by Jennifer Bond '66, Grants Chairman

**Principal Geoff Parks requested and received \$500** to provide a meal card to go along with a Certificate of Merit for those students who made the honor role during the fall semester in this difficult time. Normally the honor students have a spaghetti dinner, with the teachers preparing and serving the celebratory meal in the cafeteria. Since this was not possible with COVID, Principal Parks negotiated with several eateries; and our local McDonald's was able to offer 144 CHS honor students a meal which includes two (2) Cheeseburgers, Medium fries and Medium drink for the \$500 CHSF donated! That works out to \$3.47 per meal—thank you, McDonalds

**Robin Farias**, the head of Catalina's English Language Development teachers, requested and received **\$191.52** to purchase Quizlet, an innovative online flash card application program to expedite vocabulary learning. Four of the English teachers and the Spanish teacher were able to use this with their classes.

**Coach Chris Barlow received \$482.60** to fund a team set of practice clothes and a team set of practice gloves for the football team. The gloves helped ensure virus safety as they could be disinfected after each use.

**Cody Downing was provided \$500** to purchase shirts to help AVID students



02/21 Left to Right: Principal Geoff Parks, Assistant Principals Melissa Hall and Michael Beck

build their relationship to the program and celebrate the AVID program, which promotes college readiness and a college-going culture school-wide.

**Wanda Buchanan was awarded \$200** to offer eight \$25 gift cards to a grocery store to be raffled for those parents who participated in the parent/teacher conferences, which is a new online program for all the academic and sports programs now entitled Catalina Connection. This is a good incentive for parents to participate in learning more about the school and their student's participation.

The Catalina Student Council has designed a Spirit Week, which will be combined with College Week. The Foundation has authorized a donation to **Sam Rolfe, Jenny Miranda and the Student Council of up to \$300** in support of this activity, including offering \$25 gift certificates to the top three students in a school-wide competition administered online, as well as other planned activities.

**Athletic Director Tim Bridges** was able to purchase two soccer game balls and a goalie glove for the CHS soccer team for **\$92.40**.

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## Go Trojans

by Principal Geoff Parks

As you know this 2020–2021 school year has been unlike any other that we have experienced. Catalina High School has navigated this year to the best of our ability. There have been many “glows and grows” along the way.

Like all Tucson Unified School District schools, we have remained in the remote learning option for students. This means that students remain at home and login with a computer into a live zoom session with all of their teachers. Catalina was able to create a flexible schedule for our students and staff so that they are only required to login on Mondays and Thursdays to each of their 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th period classes for 30 minutes of live instruction, and 30 minutes of live guided practice for their homework.

*Go Trojans continued page 7*

# The Foundation Helped Meet COVID Challenges

by Jennifer Bond '66 and Stephen B. Gin '83

Hello Esteemed Catalina Alumni and Foundation Members!

This academic year has certainly posed a variety of challenges for Catalina High School. The Foundation continues to help the students and teachers during these stressful times. We want to highlight two ways we aided our school.

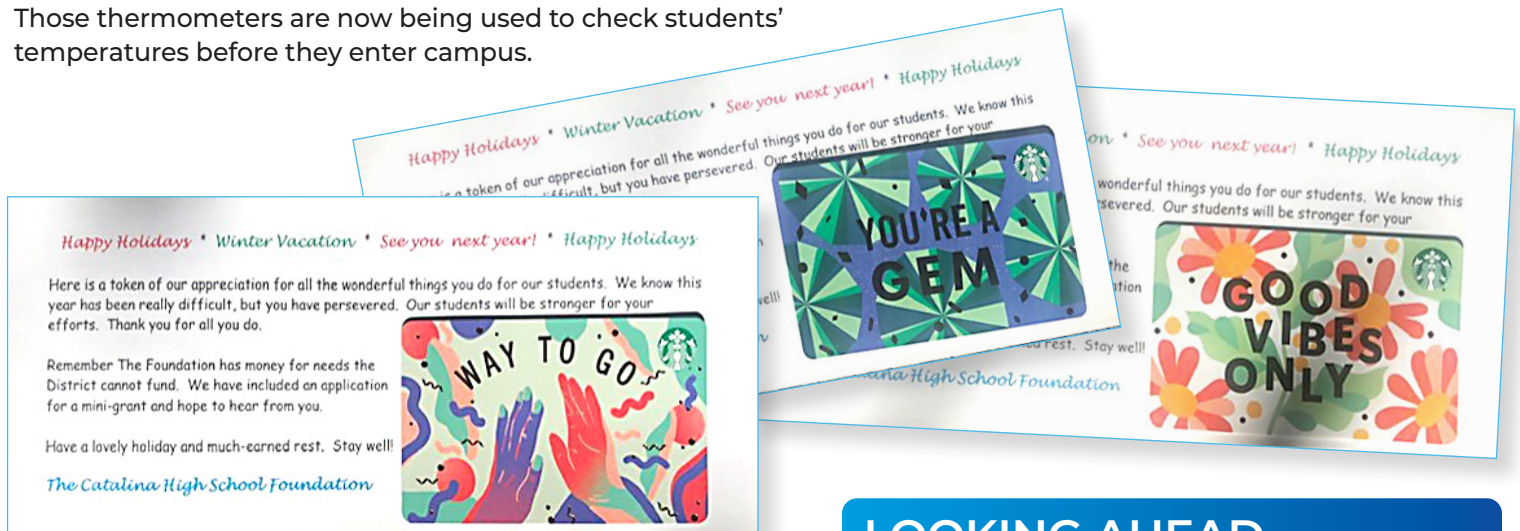
At the beginning of the fall semester, it was mandated that high school athletes in Arizona needed to be temperature-checked before a sport's practice could commence and before each practice. Catalina's new principal, Geoff Parks, asked if the Foundation could help with a problem: all the approved TUSD vendors were backlogged for thermometers, and it would take weeks to fulfill the school's order for thermometers, keeping the Trojan football team from being able to practice.

So voila! — The Foundation stepped in. Tech-savvy people researched no-touch, fast-read digital thermometers, and purchased five of them from two different sources. Athletic Director, Tim Bridges, was delighted to receive them in less than a week so the team could start practices on time. Those thermometers are now being used to check students' temperatures before they enter campus.



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Athletic Director Tim Bridges was thrilled to receive digital thermometers so the football team could commence practices!



Also, toward the end of the year, the CHSF Board wanted to do something special to show our appreciation to the faculty and staff for all of their efforts to help Catalina students in an online environment. Normally the Board sponsors a breakfast in the library at the beginning of school to show our support, but this was not possible. We determined that it would raise the spirits of everyone to get a \$5 gift card. Board member Lisa Watson '83, who is a teacher herself, suggested it would be a good idea and a welcome present to purchase gift cards from Starbucks. Karl and Sandy Elers '58 donated \$1,200 to the Foundation to purchase the gift cards for 120 faculty and staff. We designed a nice thank you card to go with the gift cards. The CHS administration volunteered to mail out the cards. This gift was very well received by all.

## LOOKING AHEAD

As you might expect, we have had to cancel the Spring Social, usually held Mid-March. We hope to have our Fall Social/Business Meeting on the usual date of the 3rd Thursday in October, which would be October 21, 2021 early evening. At that time, the latest group of Hall of Fame inductees would be introduced. The ideal venue would be outside in a large area. If you have such a space, and would be willing to provide that, the Foundation would arrange for refreshments, and help with set-up and return to original condition. Please contact Marylyn Tobey, [mkt@tobeys.org](mailto:mkt@tobeys.org); or, one of the Co-Presidents, Jenni Bond or Stephen Gin.



# Catalina Students On Path To College And Career

by Jennifer Miranda, Catalina College and Career Readiness Coordinator

The 2020–2021 school year has been one for the history books. Educators and students throughout the country have been thrust into a virtual world and have had to adapt to the ever-changing educational setting, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Catalina High School college and career program is no different.

Building on the success of last year's college and career program, Catalina High School was awarded a \$10,000 grant from College Success Arizona and the Helios Foundation. This money is to be used to increase college knowing and going activities at our school and, ultimately, to increase the number of students who enroll and graduate from post-secondary educational institutions. Additionally, Catalina was selected as an Achieve60AZ site. This initiative, also through College Success Arizona, allows us to partner with GEAR UP, a federal TriO program. This five-year partnership will provide opportunities for Catalina students to participate in leadership development, summer programs, peer guided curriculum, and a bound Senior Launch guide to assist them in their college-going tasks. We are so thankful for these two partnerships, along with our continued partnership with Earn to Learn and AmeriCorps, for these partnerships and the opportunities they provide our students!

This year, with the guidance of our College Readiness Team, we identified four goals:

- 80% of graduating seniors will complete the FAFSA
- 80% of graduating seniors will complete at least 1 college application
- 80% of graduating seniors will report the educational requirements for a career of their choice.
- Increase the number of Catalina faculty and staff who are FAFSA certified educators.

Our team, composed of administrators, teachers, counselors, students, and foundation members, meet monthly to review our progress in reaching these goals; and provide feedback and support in the activities and strategies we are using to support students. As in most years, we still conducted our FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Frenzy class competition, although it was virtual this year. We had two English classes tie to have 83% of their students complete the FAFSA. Instead of offering a catered lunch, as we have in the past, we sent each of the students a \$5 Eegees card via the mail.

We also created an incentive program this year to encourage students to complete four college-going tasks: Create a FSA ID, Complete the FAFSA, Complete

1 college application, and Complete a Scholarship application. We refer to them as the 4C's. As students complete each task, they get incentives such as a \$5 gift card, a t-shirt, entry into a raffle for a scholarship, gift cards and computer for the end of the year. So far 70% of our students have completed at least 1 of these tasks.

Over the remainder of the school year we will be hosting a Pima Community College Day at Catalina, a College Week, Signing Day Celebration and our annual Honors Assembly. As of the time of this letter, we are on track to meeting our goals. We currently have 51% FAFSA completion, 54% College Application Completion, 59% of seniors report they know the education requirements of their intended career path. We met our goal of increasing FAFSA Certified trained educators as well!

College readiness may look different at Catalina this year, but with the support of the Catalina Foundation and commitment of our staff, we will continue to support Catalina students as they determine their next steps past high school graduation.

## TAX CREDITS

If you are an Arizona resident paying income tax to the state, you can direct \$200 per person or \$400 per couple to Catalina. Send your check to CHS, 3645 E Pima, Tucson AZ 85716. Put Public school tax credit on the 'for' line. You can direct your tax credit to various areas at CHS (sports, music, general). You will get a receipt.

This receipt will be needed at the time you do next year's taxes when the credit will be applied to your state income tax. Other tax credits may be available.

See <https://azdor.gov/tax-credits>.

## Gracias! Merci! Danke!

What an awesome response (\$18,260) to the letter from Sandy Elers on behalf of the CHS Foundation! Each and every one of you has had a part in making a difference in the lives of the students, teachers, and programs at Catalina. As you read about the work the Foundation is doing on these pages, just remember that you have, and will have, given life to plans and ideas that come as a result of your caring. So, as you read the names on the Donations list, say "thank you" to each one for the gifts of money, time, and talent contributed.

# CHS Student Success

by Emily Kittle Morrison '60

All you have to do is ask...and, that's what we did. Emails went out to alumni and friends, and donations poured in. Amy Schull, Coordinator of the Student Success Center at Catalina, provided a list of supplies the students in her program always need.

In the end over 40 individuals contributed gifts cards, school supplies, food items, hygiene products...and wrote checks! They were delivered in person, by mail and in the case of several new backpacks—delivered by Amazon.

In mid-September, members of the Tucson Delta Gamma Alumnae provided manpower to deliver the boxes and boxes of donations to the school. Their members had made this challenge the focus of their annual "DO GOOD" project, and many, many of the donations were from their members. The contributions included more than



Items collected for Success Center 09/20

\$500 in checks, easily \$150 in total food items, at least \$150 in school supplies, as well as over \$150 in value of clothing. In addition, close to \$175 in hygiene items, about \$250 in backpacks, and \$1,000 in gift cards - when we included the donation from Thrivent.

Unlike the student population that attended when the school opened, a great many of the current students are on free or reduced lunch, and a good many are in the YOTO (Youth on Their Own) Program.

The SUCCESS CENTER is the one place students know they can go to for help at a moment's notice.

The Catalina High School Foundation maintains a budget line, where financial contributions are deposited when designated for the Success Center. This allows Amy to respond quickly to emergencies without having to go through the red tape of a TUSD 'Request for Funds'.

To all those who stepped up and helped out—we say THANK YOU!!

## The Marge Christensen Gould Memorial Scholarship

was established in memory of Marge Gould who taught at Catalina for 28 years, retiring in 2014. For over 18 of those years. She was the coordinator and teacher for the LEARN Program (an alternative literacy and workplace skills program for

at-risk students that served as a national model). In this program students, many of whom were refugees or immigrants, could learn based on their own abilities and treated as valued individuals. All the students were recognized for their achievements at an annual "Celebrate Literacy" ceremony. Outstanding students received laptop computers and scholarships donated by the many business leaders and government partners Marge worked hard to cultivate. This scholarship is intended to continue that legacy.

With the help of Mark Hanna, a former counselor at CHS, Marge's two daughters developed a scholarship of \$1,500 to be granted annually to a graduating senior from Catalina, Sunnyside, Desert View or Star Academic High Schools. Because Marge's daughter, Karen, works with the Sunnyside School District mentoring young women interested in STEM careers, applications were expanded beyond CHS to three of their schools. Through one of Marge's former classroom volunteers and program supporter an initial \$20,000 grant was secured along with the daughters' donation. The CHS Foundation helped to award the first scholarship to Angela Ayala on the steps of Catalina on August 6, 2020.



08/20

Left to right: Emily Morrison, Jennifer Bond, Mark Hanna, Angela Ayala and Jenny Miranda.



# Alum of the Year 2020

## Charleen Badman '87

by Liz Wheeler Whitaker '60



The Catalina High School 2020 Alum of the year is a very successful graduate of the Catalina High School FEAST (culinary arts) program. She is a nationally recognized chef and owner of FnB Restaurant in Scottsdale and has received many awards. Charleen received the 2019 James Beard Foundation "Best Chef Southwest" award. Her restaurant has also been recognized by James Beard for its outstanding wine program.

Charleen has been called the "veggie whisperer" for her ability to coax the very best out of locally grown vegetables. She uses seasonally available and locally grown foods to change the menu frequently. Her creativity with foods from many cultures makes FnB a destination for those desiring great food attractively presented.

One of her passions is the Blue Watermelon Project to raise awareness in Arizona children about their food and where it comes from. She sometimes volunteers at local Phoenix area elementary schools to introduce children to new foods and their sources.

# CHS Cinderella Story

by Stephen Gin '84

Despite playing much of its season with barely enough players to field a team, the CHS boys soccer team excelled, winning its region on Feb. 11 and making it onto the front page of the Arizona Daily Star's sports section!

The pandemic drastically cut into the number of soccer players who tried out. But with a motto of "All we got, all we need," the team, made up of tough, talented players from near and far, is incredibly united. And by winning the region over Sabino, the Trojans qualify for the state tourney. GO, TROJANS!



## Catalina High School Foundation Membership Form

Annual and Founder's Club dues run from November 1 to October 31

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues	\$25.00 _____	I would like my donation to go to (check one)
Founders' Club Dues	\$57.00 _____	General Fund _____
Life Membership	\$250.00 _____	Mini-Grants _____
Donation	_____	Social Services _____
Total Enclosed	_____	Band Fund _____
		Scholarships _____
		Eva Royce Fund _____
		Construction Trades _____

Please return this form and your donation/dues to:

**Catalina High School Foundation**  
**6740 N Calle Lomita**  
**Tucson AZ 85704**

I can help by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not publish my name. Initial here: \_\_\_\_\_

Life Member Payment Plan: Pay \$100 per year for two years and a final payment of \$50 in the third year, and become a Life Member. Put "Payment for Life Membership" on the "For" line. Questions? Ask Sandy at [greenchalada@gmail.com](mailto:greenchalada@gmail.com) or 520-260-9171.



## Donations

### \$5000

Helios Foundation

### \$2500 – 4999

Marylyn Schumann Tobey '57 in memory of Timothy K. Schumann '62

### \$1000 – 2499

Milton Angel '58, Success Center

Hal Ashton '58, general, construction

Kim Clark, Gould Scholarship

Newton Don '64 general

Karl & Sandy Elers '58, teachers' treat

Nancy Gin '78, Success Center, culinary arts, scholarships, band, STEM

James Muzzy '57, general

### \$500 – 999

Larry McBride '66, general

Ray Lindstrom '59, general

Jeff McKeever '57, general

Barbara Callaway Pollack '58, scholarships

Tony Veirup '66, construction & general

### \$250 – 499

Mike Codd '58, general

Lynda '71 and Mark Hanna, general

David Berg '60 athletics

George Campbell '58, band

Bob Gaylord '60, general

Janine Davison Hernbrode '63, STEM

John Moffatt '61, Success Center

Stephen Patzman '60, general

Dale Retrum '60, Success Center

George Roth '58, general

Don Schwatken '66, construction

Susan Shetter '66, In Honor of Jenni Bond

Thrivent

Stephen Lowe Young '60, general

### \$100 – 249

Molly Assenmacher '66, general

Glenda Boonstra Anderson '60, Success Center, Construction

Sheila Barry-Harris '68, STEM

Gaeel Morrison Beaham '57, general In Memory of Bon Richardson '57

Jessica Brandt '91, general

John & Paulette Bremond '66, '67, general

Joseph Butner '66, general

Billye Christensen '60, Success Center

Debbie Collazo '69, general

George Cunningham '63, Success Center

Chuck Davis '68, general

Drew Donahue '68, general

Wallis Downer-Joyner '60, Success Center, general

Sandy Tanner Elers '58, Success Center

Susan Carruth Ellington '58, general

Margaret-Ann Fangmeier '58, Success Center, general, In Honor of the Board

Mary Moody Fuller '60, construction & Success Center

Brenda Galligan '60, Scholarships

Neal Genda '60, athletics

Gregg Gibbons '60, general

Irma Gonzalez '66, general

Gail and Bruce Grossetta '61, general

Jim Haag '61, Success Center

Nancy Trott Hurtado '58, general

Lynn Derby Helmke '60, general

Toby Hyman '61, general

Don Ijams '60, general

Jay Kittle '59, general

Ronni Kotwica '67, STEM

Deborah Vaughn Linscott '67, Success Center, STEM, Construction, Exceptional Education

Verne Loose '61, general

Lucy Masterman '61, scholarships

Pamula Wheeler Maxwell '60, general

Jane McCague '57,

Bill Neubauer '61, Success Center

Dave Parmenter '70, general

Stephen Patzman '60, In Memory of Connie McMillian Elson '60

David Pear '60, general

Maryruth Prose '60, general

David Rees '58, general

Dennis Roberts '60, Success Center

Pete Ronstadt '59, general

Jim Sakrison '59, general

Alan Scott & Beth Janes, '66, '67, general

Marjorie Scott '66, general

Jim Seal '57, general

Mark Haddad Smith '71, athletics and scholarships

Rich Tofel '60, general

Steven Tofel '60, general

Mary Ann Towler '60, general

Charles Townsdin, general

Suzanne Rowe Van Ort '58, scholarships

Sue Pooler Wagner '58, STEM

Dean Zimmerman, Success Center, construction

### \$1 – 99

Lucy Massey, general

Amazon

Stephen Bentley '58, general

Dave Boling '66, business club

Jennifer Bond '66, general

Ford Burkhart '59, Success Center

Stacy Engel Iveson '85, general

Nina '71 & Tim Daldrup '70, general

Bruce Davidson '61, general

Eric Evett '66, general

David Getty '61, general

Mary Giltner, Success Center

Gail & Bruce Grossetta, Success Center

Jarel Hambenne '60, General

Julie Johnson '60, general

James Klein '60, general

Jaime Ledesma '75, general

Sharon Bykerk Lopeman '65, general

Emily & Ted Morrison '60, general

Jo Morrison, Success Center

Carolyn Parsons, Success Center

Howard Post '66, general

Pamela Morris Samuels '59, Culinary Arts

Sally Thomas

Robert Williams '67

Suzi Cole Wilson, general

Roland Wong '86, Culinary Arts

### In Kind

Gail Vita Irving '60, Success Center

Leslie Farrell King '60, Success Center

Jay Kittle '59, Success Center

Ray Lindstrom '59, Success Center

Emily Morrison '60, general

Barbara & Ken Newman '66, Success Center

## Membership

### Life Members

Debbie Collazo '69

Nancy Gin '78

Janine Davison Hernbrode '63

Larry McBride '66

Dale Retrum '60

G. Wayne Schumann '59

Tony Veirup '66

### Founder's Club

Joseph Butner '66

Chuck Davis '68

Sheila Barry-Harris '68

Lynn Derby Helmke '60

Donald Ijams '60

Jay Kittle '59

Verne Loose '61

Pamula Wheeler Maxwell '60

Jane McCague '57

David Parmenter '70

David Pear '60

Maryruth Prose '60

Pete Ronstadt '59

Marjorie Scott '66

Jim Seal '57

Rich Tofel '60

Steven Tofel '60

Mary Ann Krieger Towler '60

Charles Townsding

Dean Zimmerman '60

### Annual

Doug Boling '66

Ford Burkhart '59

Bruce Davidson '61

Eric Evett '66

Stacy Engel Iveson '85

Julie Johnson '60

Ronni Kotwica '67

Sharon Mykerk Lopeman '65

Howard Post '66

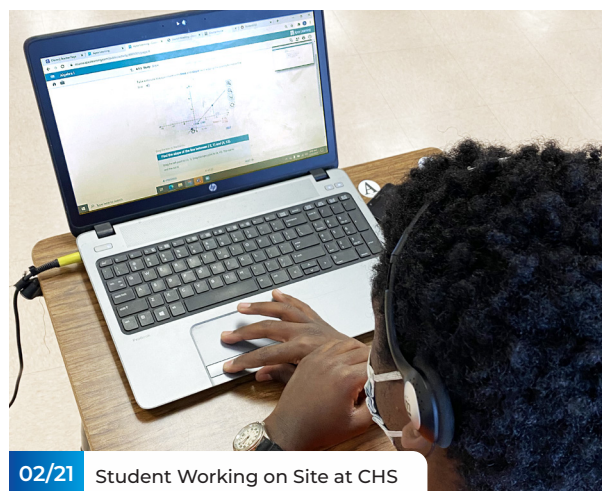
Pam Morris Samuels '59

## Go Trojans continued from page 1

On Tuesdays and Fridays, it is a similar schedule for periods 2nd, 4th, and 6th. On Tuesdays and Fridays, we also offer a conference period where students login to go through various lessons on social and emotional learning such as grit, positive inner voice talk, getting unstuck, celebrating diversity, among many others. We also used that time to work in small groups or individually with students that are struggling with the content, or struggling with their mental health. Wednesdays are considered primarily an "asynchronous" learning day. What that means is that students must check in for the first 30 minutes with their teachers, and then the rest of the day they are allowed to work on their assigned homework. Any students falling behind are required to work with teachers to get caught up on that day. At the end of the day on Wednesday, we also offer time for clubs to meet, athletic teams to meet, and provide fun school related items so that students stay connected with Catalina High School.

Along with the remote learning, Catalina offers "learning spaces" for at-risk students that do not have a home life that is conducive to learning. Currently we have two classrooms of students in general education; and two classrooms of self-contained students in the exceptional education program. The classrooms have a cap on the number of students so that we can maintain social distancing and provide a safe and sanitary environment for the students to learn with their computer. In total, we have about 50 students on campus each day.

The district has done a great job providing computers and hot spots



02/21 Student Working on Site at CHS

(portable internet devices) for students that do not have access. Catalina has diligently been emailing, making phone calls, and doing home visits to students and families that are having trouble engaging in school. This year has been challenging for everyone; students, staff, and families. Teachers have done a fantastic job utilizing all the technological tools to get students engaged and support them in their learning. We are all starting to get more comfortable in this type of learning. An example of this is that from our first quarter mid-term grade check to the end of 1st semester, we reduced the number of classes failed by students by 60%! That is a lot of amazing work by the entire Catalina staff, families, and students. We still have more work to do, because we do not want any student to fail.

We hope that our staff in TUSD all get vaccinated soon and return students to school as soon as possible. We all look forward to that day; as the best learning option is in person so that students can build strong connections with their teachers. We are holding out hope that we will be able to return to school this year. In the meantime, we will continue to partner with families and incredible organizations like the Catalina Foundation to continue to provide the best learning and support for our students.



## CHS Reunions

### Class of '58

Oct 22-23

Contact: Sandy Elers  
[greenenchalada@gmail.com](mailto:greenenchalada@gmail.com)

### Class of '60

Oct 22-23

Contact: Emily Morrison  
[ekmorrison@msn.com](mailto:ekmorrison@msn.com)

### Class of '65

October 22-24

Contact Rick Holsclaw at  
[rick@rickholsclaw.com](mailto:rick@rickholsclaw.com) and  
 Sharon Grabe Ellsworth at  
[sellsworth@resulsaz.net](mailto:sellsworth@resulsaz.net)

### Class of '70

Oct 15-17

Contact: Jim Frank  
[chilehouse@mac.com](mailto:chilehouse@mac.com) or  
[jrfrancis1952@gobrainstrom.net](mailto:jrfrancis1952@gobrainstrom.net)

Catalina High School Foundation  
 6740 N. Calle Lomita  
 Tucson, Arizona 85704

## CATALINA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021

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Sandy Tanner Elers '58

### Vice President

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### Trojan Hall of Fame

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Bruce Grossetta '61

Mark Hanna

Sarah LaVetter

McCraren '91

Dana Robbins Murray '80

Bill Neubauer '66

### Webmaster & Newsletter Designer

Roland Wong '86



Please notify your classmates that the ONLY authentic Alumni group AFFILIATED with Catalina is the CHS Foundation site ([catalinahighschoolfoundation.org](http://catalinahighschoolfoundation.org)) and [FaceBook link](#). People are registering with other FB pages that presume to be connected, and if money is sent it does NOT go to help Catalina but rather the commercial sites.

Website:

[www.catalinahighschoolfoundation.org](http://www.catalinahighschoolfoundation.org)

Contact us at [greenenchalada@gmail.com](mailto:greenenchalada@gmail.com)

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