

# TIGER TRACKS

Official Newsletter of the Amherst Central Alumni Foundation, Inc  
June, 2013 - Mark Ahrens, President - [www.AmherstAlumni.org](http://www.AmherstAlumni.org)



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Mark Ahrens '73 - President

**A Strong Foundation can withstand anything that comes its way.**

With the terrible storms that have rocked the Southern and Middle States recently, I noticed one thing and that was that the foundations of the homes were still intact. Our hearts go out to the people in those areas; some may be Amherst Graduates. After all, there are over 22,000 of us throughout the world. I see a correlation to the Foundations of those homes and our Foundation, the Amherst Central Alumni Foundation, Inc. and what lies ahead. We are the foundation, along with the teachers, past and present, that will have to endure the financial storms of tomorrow. Already there have been sacrifices with the teachers taking on a three year freeze of their salaries. Our Foundation has stepped up to the plate by supplying needed funds to the Grant Program and the addition of the Alternative Funding Committee which has started their "Community Outreach" fundraising effort. With the Amherst Schools proactive TEAM approach, we will be able to soften the impact of future.



So as you can see it has been a busy 3 months since last we communicated. Some of the efforts have been to strengthen our "inner body" by way of revising our By-Laws to reflect the times. My thanks to Marilyn Rohl '70 and her committee for all their hard work. We also have some new members to the Executive Team who were voted into office at our Annual Meeting, May 16, 2013. I would like to welcome Lynn Ramsey '79, who is our new Executive Vice President, Lindsay Wolfe '77 as Assistant Treasurer and I would like to thank Sue Fretz '73 for taking on the Treasurer position. Larry Ross '73 will become Vice President. Ginna Coon '60 will continue to be Vice President of Grants and Nancy Graves Manalio '70, Secretary. I cannot thank enough these special people along with our entire Board of Directors and Mr. Chris Byrd, our Office Manager, for all they have done to make my last two years successful.

**GRADUATION DAY FLOWERS!** We will again be selling flowers on Graduation Day. Special Thanks to Ginny

(Fretz) Rusk '71 and her committee. It is always a huge success and appreciated by the Senior Class.

**GOLF! GOLF! GOLF!** Our Golf committee has been hard at work since January, planning our annual Golf Classic which will be held Thursday, July 11, 2013 at the beautiful Glen Oak Golf Course. Sponsorships are still available. Ellen Marshall's article below will have all the particulars. I hope to see you there!

**NEW DATE:** The ACAF, Inc., *Salute to Veterans Night* will take place on Wednesday, November 5, 2013 in the Auditorium. We need your photos and memories. Please send to the Alumni office: Amherst Central Alumni Foundation 4301 Main Street, Snyder, NY 14226. Please try to send reproductions. If you have a story to tell, contact: Mark Ahrens at [ahraph2@aol.com](mailto:ahraph2@aol.com) or call direct 716-870-1188.

Thank you all for your gifts to the 2013 Alumni Class Challenge. Donations are still coming in and please if you thought it was too late....IT IS NEVER TOO LATE to send a gift. The need will always be there for us to help provide opportunities to the students of today!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the **DECADE** of the 50's, Winners of this Year's Challenge! Your decade will appear on the plaque that will be on display outside the Alumni Office. We will also feature your decade in the next Tiger Tracks!

**PEACE!**

**Mark Ahrens '73**  
President, ACAF

**ALUMNI GOLF CLASSIC JULY 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Lynn Wardour '60 & Ellen Marshall '69

It's that time again! Preparations are being made for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Amherst Central Alumni Golf Classic on Thursday, July 11, 2013 at the Glen Oak Golf Course. We would personally like to invite you to join us as we continue into our second decade of hosting this golf outing. New this year will be a live auction in addition to the traditional raffles. Included this year will be a set of



custom fit Titleist irons and a pool-side gourmet dinner for 10 donated by John '82 and Jean (Cain) '79 Dengler.

If you are not familiar with our golf tournament, it is the primary annual fundraiser for the Alumni Foundation. The support of alumni, faculty, parents, students and "friends" of the district plays a very important role in its success. The proceeds from this year's event will go to maintaining and expanding the valuable services we provide to current students and teachers to further their educational goals and to assist with special projects through our ACAF Grant Program.

Our Alumni Foundation has received a record number of grant requests this past year and the financial support of ACAF, Inc. has increasingly become more and more important to our school district in these challenging budgetary times. This past year, we again provided over \$7,500 in grants to teachers and students in each of our four schools -- including funding for field trips in all the buildings; technology enhancements at Smallwood; Rookie All About Books for ESL Students at Windermere; mandolins for the Fiddle Club and an iPad for the Video Club at the MS; Insta-Learn Board & Tiles for the MS Special Education Dept., assistance for HS students to attend Science Afloat - Buffalo Urban Outdoor Education, and start-up support for the Amherst Tiger Cubs - a new basketball performance troop.

Our annual golf classic is a pleasurable way to bring individuals together, while raising much needed funds for our alumni organization. We hope you will join us! You can arrange for your own foursome, or come as a single -- and we will pair you up. And, if you are not a golfer, you are most welcome to join us on the patio later in the afternoon for beverages, raffles, awards and dinner.

If it is not possible for you to attend the day of the event, your sponsorship or donation will be greatly appreciated and acknowledged. Sponsorship levels starting with Classic Sponsor (\$2,000+) will be acknowledged in all pre-event publicity, and throughout the day in our program book, event banners, and on the golf course. ACAF, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit foundation.

A copy of our brochure which details all of the sponsorship opportunities, schedule of events and registration form is located at the end of this edition of *Tiger Tracks*. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to call the Alumni Office at 362-8259 or e-mail us: [alumni@amherstschools.org](mailto:alumni@amherstschools.org)

### ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR EMERITUS AWARD

By Ginny Rusk '71

Many of you may not be aware that our Alumni Foundation has honored 21 retired faculty and staff members since 2004:

**2004** - Donald Munson  
**2005** - Phillip Schweickard & Walter Reitz  
**2006** - Peter Demmin  
**2007** - Jack Duffy, Robert Hettler, Elenora Hildebrand, Ruth Westenfelder  
**2008** - Janette Atkinson, Thomas Davis, Werner "Whitey" Huber, David Ulrich  
**2011** - Gary Runckel, Valerie McGovern, Ellwood "Woody" Friedrich, Joseph Podgorski  
**2012** - Beck Brown, Virginia Federico, Howard Craig, Gail Eisen (posthumously), Jack Koch

This recognition/award is bestowed upon an educator who is held in the highest regard for his or her contributions to students while in service at Amherst. It embraces all staff, grades K-12, whether it is at the High School, Middle School, Harlem Road School, Eggert Road School, Smallwood Drive School or Windermere Boulevard School.

All alumni and retired faculty members are encouraged to submit a nomination.



The format encourages a statement that outlines the attributes of the nominee to be considered for this recognition. Nomination forms are available by calling the alumni office at (716) 362-8259, or by visiting our web site at [www.amherstalumni.org](http://www.amherstalumni.org). You may also submit a nomination on your personal stationery.

**We will be accepting nominations through August 1, 2013.** Our selection committee will meet shortly thereafter, and along with the Amherst Central Alumni Board of Directors, will announce the recipients in late August. **Our Distinguished Educator Emeritus Awards Reception will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2013.** All alumni, retired faculty, staff, and friends are invited to attend. More details will follow shortly.

Please submit all nominations to the Amherst Central Alumni Foundation, Inc., 4301 Main Street, Amherst, NY 14226 or by email to [alumni@amherstschools.org](mailto:alumni@amherstschools.org). We welcome your nomination.

**NEWS FLASH...CALLING ALL SINGERS!**

By Lynn Ramsey '79

We are in the process of forming the *Amherst Central Alumni Chorale* under the direction of Rosemary Dayton! This is a great opportunity to sing once more with your friends! We are also looking for Alumni accompanists!



Watch for news of this exciting opportunity. Rehearsals will begin in September 2013. The only requirement to participate at this time is that you are an Amherst Alumnus. Additional details soon. Please pass the word on to your fellow Alumni singers.

**LOOKING FOR INFO ON VETERANS**

By Christopher Byrd - Alumni Office

# AMHERST ALUMNI VETERANS

In November, we are planning on honoring our Amherst Alums who have served our Country in the Armed Services. Plans are still in the works. You can help by providing us the names of people you know who served from WWII to today's conflict. We want to make this a special event. Please help us.

If you have any questions, please contact our office. 716.362.8259 Follow this link for more info--> <http://tinyurl.com/amherst-vets>

**THE AMHERST APPEAL**

By Sarah Carney

The Amherst Appeal introduced itself to the community this Spring! We are so grateful to all the generous donors and participants in this terrific cause! Thank you so much for your support of The Amherst Appeal and please continue to consider a future pledge or gift.

[www.amherstappeal.org](http://www.amherstappeal.org) . A very special thank you to



our Amherst Alumni who are, without question, the most loyal alumni organization in the nation.

Without the commitment and dedication of Amherst Alumni, The Amherst Appeal would not exist as a vehicle for garnering financial support in a crucial time in our Amherst history. We are focused and ready in times of adversity, because of excellent leadership of the Amherst Central Alumni Foundation and their partnership with the Board of Education and the four schools: Amherst High School, Amherst Middle School, Smallwood Drive School and Windermere Boulevard School. Each and every contribution we receive promotes the excellent educational experience provided in Amherst. We know what it takes! Good governance is critical in times when budgets are in crisis. Be thankful, Amherst, you have the best!

It is no surprise that residents, students, teachers, neighbors, local business owners have such a distinct enthusiasm for helping the Amherst Central School District remain strong and sustained as one of the most wonderful school districts in all of Western New York. Join us! Please take great pride in an ability to help! Any amount assists Amherst! [www.amherstappeal.org](http://www.amherstappeal.org)

**CLASS OF 1968 REUNION**

Clay Pasternack '68



The ACHS Class of 1968 will be holding its 45th reunion event the weekend of July 26-27 2013.

The weekend will begin with a tour of the High School for all interested class members from 1-3 PM. All class members interested in participating should meet at the flagpole in front of the school by 1 PM.

Friday's activities will continue with a meet-and-greet of class members at Brunners Tavern on Main St. in Eggerstville from 8 PM until ? We welcome class members from 1966-67 and 1969-70 to join us that evening.

Our Saturday night (27th) main event will be held from 7-10 PM at the Buffalo Yacht Club at the foot of Porter Avenue in the City of Buffalo. Our class will soon be activating the class website for further information, registration and costs of the events. For inquiries and information, please email class co-director Clay Pasternack at [cp1968achs@cs.com](mailto:cp1968achs@cs.com). The Class of 1968 reunion committee consists of class members Laurie Steinmetz, Jeff Rausch, Rich Morin, Craig Speers, Neal

(Tad) O'Rourke, Tom Kenney, Grant Golden, Don Houck, and Clay Pasternack.

The ACHS Class of 1968 now has its own class website.  
<http://amherst-68-reunion.weebly.com/>

Please visit our website and if you are a member of our class, please fill out the information page to update your personal information for the class and also use the registration page to register for attending the events for our reunion!

## HERE AND THERE

By Susan Fretz '73 & Lynn Ramsey '79

### In Memorium

David Rogers- 6/28/2012

Edward Loomis '40- 8/29/2012

Armond Ciminelli '46- 8/2/2012

Albert O'Brien '47- 7/2/2012

Sally Baumgartner Baus '51- 9/6/2012

Ellwood "Woody" Friedrich '55 & retired faculty- 11/5/2012

William Berchou '61- 11/13/2012

Nancy Evans Ebert '61- 1/17/2013

Jeff Jerge '62- 9/11/2012

Robert Boorman '63- 12/24/2012

Darlene Campagna Grabenstatter '68- 5/31/2012

Thomas Delany- 7/24/2012

Carol Carpenter Scholl '74- 1/14/2013

Thomas Delaney '75- 7/24/2012

William Weber, retired faculty - 11/27/2012

Pete Cothran, Retired Faculty-ACHS - 5/11/2013

\*\*\*Special thanks to Lois Murray Carson '49 for submitting many of the deceased alumnus names listed in this issue. We apologize for any errors or omissions. *If you would like to share alumni updates for this section of Tiger Tracks, please email [alumni@amherstschools.org](mailto:alumni@amherstschools.org).*

Robert Sweeney '86 and his wife, Annie are the proud owners of the newest creperie in town, Break' n Eggs Creperie. Most recently reviewed in the Gusto section of The Buffalo News, their restaurant is located at 5235 Main Street, Williamsville in the former Sea Bar. You may have seen the article in the Amherst Bee as well. They are open 7-3 Tuesday- Sunday. Stop in to try out the great breakfast, lunch or dessert crepes and let them know you are a fellow Amherst Alumni! Support your alumni and small businesses!



Also check out their Facebook page for photos and more information.

**Kristy Grossman '98**, current faculty member, has been inducted into the Canisius College Sports Hall of Fame. She is the first Canisius women's lacrosse player to be inducted into the schools Sports Hall of Fame.

**Marina Leontaritis '09** is a dancer with Ballet San Antonio in Texas. Formerly with the company Ballet Pensacola, she performed the role of "Dew Drop" in the Christmas season favorite The Nutcracker. She is thrilled to be dancing after many hard years of dedication to dance and preparing for her career. Marina had much encouragement throughout the years, but the most important support came from her high school principal, Mr. Pigeon. He provided Marina the opportunity complete her senior year online while dancing with the Miami City Ballet Company. Mr. Thielman made the time to work with Marina to complete her senior English requirement. Without Mr. Pigeon's and Mr. Thielman's support she would not have been given this amazing opportunity to graduate from Amherst high while pursuing her dream career.



**Garrett Augustyn '10**, junior on the Binghamton U's men's lacrosse team, was named to the America East All-Academic team. He has been a 3 year starter and has a GPA of 3.39 in geography and urban planning.

**Ashley Fields '11**, a sophomore sprinter on the Baylor U's women's track and field team, was named to the 2013 Academic All-Big 12 Second Team. She was an All-Big 12 honoree at the Big 12 Championships, taking 3rd in the 200 meter dash in 23.33 seconds and 4th in the 100-meter dash with a personal best time of 11.5 seconds.

**Brett Lawhon '12**, a member of the Hobart rowing team, earned the Abe Solomon Memorial Award at Hobart College's annual Block H Awards dinner April 22. This award is presented annually to the Hobart athlete competing in his first season of varsity intercollegiate athletics and whose performance and contributions to his team warrant the recognition of "Rookie of the Year". This spring, he has been the stroke for the varsity eight, setting the tempo for the rest of the crew.

## REUNIONS 2013

By Christopher Byrd - Alumni Office



There are five reunions scheduled thus far for 2013.

- Class of 1963 - 50 Year
- Class of 1968 - 45 Year
- Class of 1973 - 40 Year
- Class of 1978 - 35 Year
- Class of 1983 - 30 Year

For more information, visit our website.

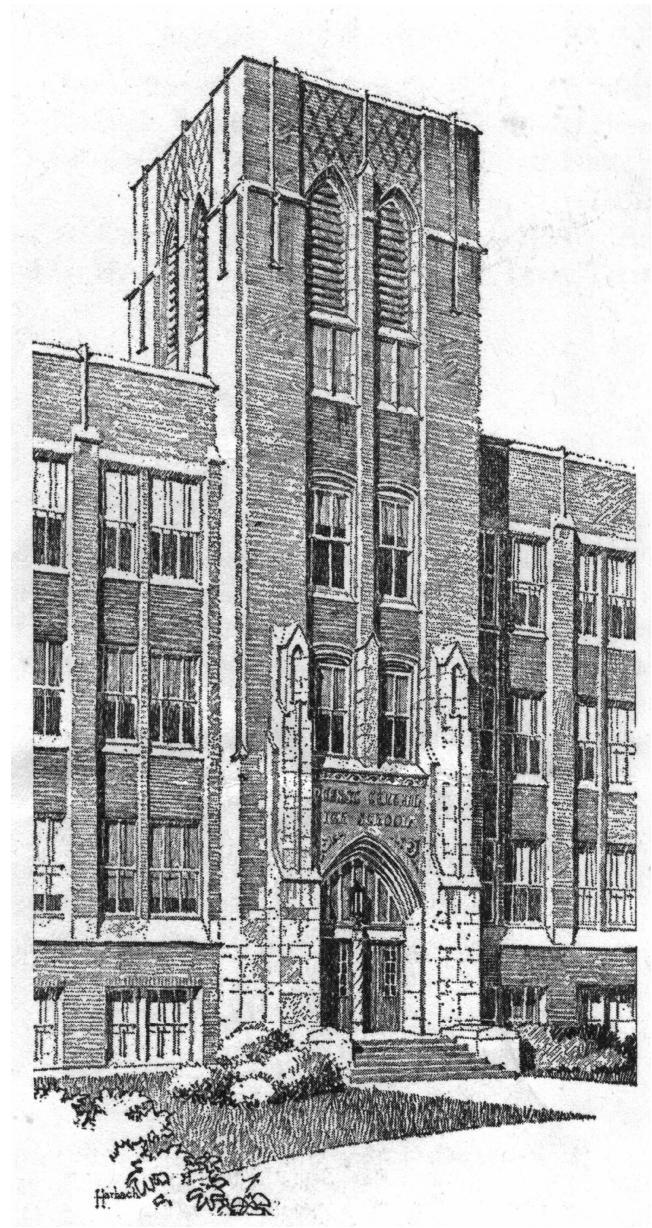
If your class doesn't appear on the list and you know you are having a reunion, please contact the alumni office at 716.362.8259 and we will add information to our website.

## [ALUMNI FUNDED GRANTS FOR 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Through the generous support of Amherst Alumni, we were able to provide these grants to the Amherst Central School District.

*Windermere* - Amherst Tiger Cubs - Performance Troop, *Smallwood* - Insta-learn Board and Tiles for Special Ed, *High School* - Science Afloat- Buffalo Urban Outdoor Education, *High School* - Bob Hettler Tip Off Classic Tournament, *High School* - Concert Chorale- NYC Trip Scholarship, *Middle School* - Fiddle Group- Three Mandolins, *Windermere* - Fourth Grade Fit Story, *Windermere* - Rookie All About Books- ESL students, *Smallwood* - Project Link Up/BPO, *Middle School* - New Swim Record Board, *Middle School* - Video Club iPad, and *Smallwood* - Kindergarten iPads

Thank you for your support!

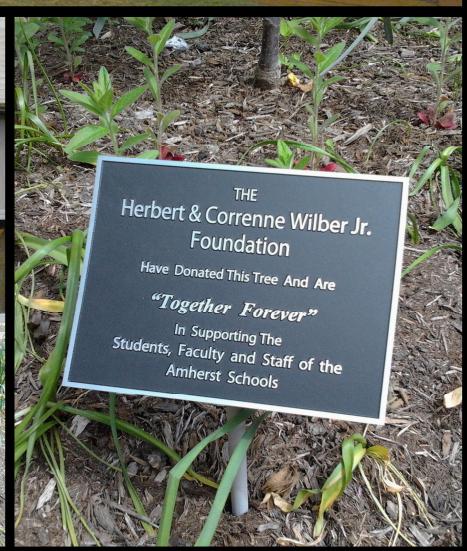
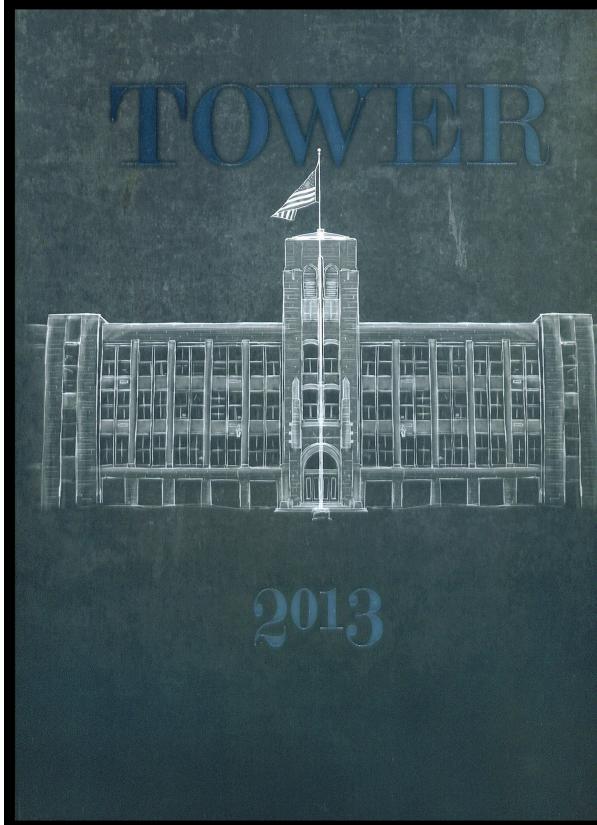


**Amherst Central Alumni Foundation, Inc.**  
4301 Main Street - Room 103 HS  
Amherst, New York 14226  
[www.AmherstAlumni.org](http://www.AmherstAlumni.org)  
716.362.8259

The Amherst Central Alumni Office is open year-round on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am-1pm!

**NEXT ISSUE OF TIGER TRACKS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER 2013!!**

PICTURE PAGE



*Pictures on left: Permanent collection painting by Emily Stillwell '10 & 2013 Tower Cover  
Pictures on right: 2012 Bolzano Reunion, Alumni Golf Tournament Display in main hall display case, & Tree donated by Wilber Family in Amherst Central High School courtyard.*

# GLEN OAK

Glen Oak is conveniently located on Smith Road between Transit Road and Millersport Highway, just 25 minutes from downtown Buffalo.



## DIRECTIONS FROM NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY

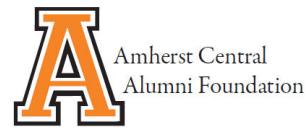
Take Exit 50 from the New York State Thruway onto I-290 West (the Youngmann Memorial Highway). Take Exit 4 off I-290 onto I-990. Go to the end of I-990 and turn left at traffic light onto Millersport Highway. At the next traffic light, turn right onto Smith Road. Glen Oak is approximately 1/2 mile on the right.

Our Alumni Foundation has received a record number of grant requests this past year and the financial support of ACAF, Inc. has increasingly become more and more important to our school district in these challenging budgetary times.

The proceeds from this year's event will go to maintaining and expanding the valuable services we provide to current students and teachers to further their educational goals and to assist with special projects through our Grant Program.

ACAF, Inc. awards grants to teachers and staff in all four schools in the Amherst Central School District to fund programs that could not otherwise be supported through the district budget.

Amherst Central Alumni Foundation, Inc.  
4301 Main Street  
Amherst, NY 14226



## 12th annual Golf Classic



Thursday, July 11, 2013  
Glen Oak Golf Course  
East Amherst, NY

## Schedule

### "Scramble"

Thursday, July 11, 2013  
at the Glen Oak Golf Course

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Registration                               | 10:00am    |
| Lunch                                      | 11:00am    |
| Golf Range                                 | 11 - 12:00 |
| Shotgun Start                              | 12:00pm    |
| Dinner /Awards /<br>Raffles / Live Auction | 4 - 6:00pm |

## Golfers

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>Adult Golfer</b>   | <b>\$135</b> |
| Includes:<br>18 holes of golf, lunch, refreshments<br>on course, raffles, prizes & dinner.<br><i>Early Bird Price - \$125, if registered by 5/31/13</i> |              |
|   |              |
|   |              |
| <b>Student Golfer (under 21)</b>  | <b>\$85</b>  |
| Includes:<br>18 holes of golf, lunch, refreshments<br>on course, raffles, prizes & dinner.<br><i>Early Bird Price - \$75, if registered by 5/31/13</i>  |              |

### Not a golfer?

Join us on the patio for  
dinner, raffles and live auction **\$25**

Questions? Please call (716) 362-8259,  
email [alumni@amherstschools.org](mailto:alumni@amherstschools.org) or  
visit our website: [amherstalumni.org](http://amherstalumni.org)

## Sponsorship

### Classic Sponsor **\$2,000 & up**

Includes:  
Four golfers.  
Recognition in all publicity, event banner, program & two signs on course.

### Event Sponsor **\$1,000**

Includes:  
Four golfers.  
Recognition in all publicity, program & one sign on course.

### Hole Sponsor **\$500**

Includes:  
Two golfers.  
Recognition in all publicity, program & one sign on course.

### Tee Sponsor **\$250**

Includes:  
One golfer.  
Recognition in program.

### Green Sponsor **\$125**

Includes:  
Dinner.  
Recognition in program.

NEW THIS  
YEAR!

Along with our traditional raffles for a variety of special prizes, there will be a LIVE AUCTION of outstanding, unique items. Included this year will be a set of custom fit Titleist irons and a pool side, gourmet dinner for 10 donated by John '82 and Jean (Cain) '79 Dengler.

Come join in the fun with this new prize format!

## Registration

Please check the appropriate level(s):

Classic Sponsor (\$2,000 & up)  
 Event Sponsor (\$1,000)  
 Hole Sponsor (\$500)  
 Tee Sponsor (\$250)  
 Green Sponsor (\$125)  
 Adult Golfer (\$135), Early Bird - \$125  
 Student Golfer (\$85), Early Bird - \$75  
  
 Dinner/Raffles (\$25) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 Please accept my donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Amherst class of \_\_\_\_\_  
(if applicable)

My group will include:

Just myself, please pair me up.

The following members including phone numbers:

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to and mail to:

ACAF Inc., 4301 Main St., Amherst, NY 14226  
Amherst Central Alumni Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation.  
No monies are received from the Amherst Central School District.