

Panther Purrs

- **Peoria first started Senior Ditch Day in 1926**
- **In the 1930s students would meet at 4:30 or 5:00 AM and travel to Canyon Lake, Grand Canyon, or Saguaro Lake for a day of water and fun.**
- **There was always a Junior Class Play and Senior Class Play at PHS in the '30s.**
- **Clubs or activities offered at PHS in the 1930s: Future Farmers of America, Student Council, Operetta, Glee Club, Orchestra, Girl's Reserve (GAA), Annual Staff, Newspaper (Panther Purrs), Atheneum (Honor Society), Merit Committee, Home Economics Club, Pepettes (Pep Club) and Letterman's Club.**
- **The mascot for Peoria was the Horned Toad until about 1935 when it became the Panther.**
- **During the Depression, High School teachers made \$1200 a year and elementary teachers made \$900.**
- **In the late 1930s, 200 parents signed, for religious reasons, not to have dances at PHS. So dances were held downtown at the Women's Club.**
- **There were no girls' sports in the 1930s. They had intramurals two times a week through Girls Reserve.**
- **The sports offered at Peoria were football, basketball, baseball, track, and tennis.**
- **Tennis was a combination club and sport and was called the Netters.**
- **Before the completion of the Old Gym in 1937, the basketball teams practiced and sometimes played on dirt courts outside.**

- **There were also two dirt tennis courts.**
- **There was a very strict dress code at the school and all girls had to wear either nylons or leggings so that they would not show their legs.**
- **Proms were held at the Women's Club downtown until 1937 when they had the prom at the Hotel Adams in Phoenix.**
- **As posted in the 1939 Yearbook – All-Time Baseball Team until that time: R. Wacker (Catcher), G. Holmes (1st Base), M. Austerman (2nd Base), A. Wiggins (Shortstop), E. Dorris (Third Base), G. Fierros, E. Kosier, V. Sutherland (Outfield)**
- **As Posted in the 1939 Yearbook – All-Time Basketball Team until that time: Guards – G. Holmes and E. Taylor, Forwards – T. Ribelin and M. Austerman, Center - T. Greenfield.**
- **The first Peoria High School yearbook came out in 1934.**



Odds and Ends of the Yearbooks

The 1930s yearbooks did not have many pictures so they filled their pages with poems, jokes, or sayings

Consider The Hammer

It keeps its head,
It keeps pounding away,
It doesn't fly off the handle,
It finds the point, then drives it home,
It is the only knocker in the world that does only good,
It makes mistakes, but when it does, it starts all over,
It looks at the other side, too; and then often clinches the matter,
If you are inclined to lose your head and fly off the handle,
"Consider the Hammer"

It Is Not Easy

To apologize.
To begin over.
To admit error.
To be unselfish.
To take advice.
To be charitable.
To be considerate.
To endure success.
To keep on trying.
To avoid mistakes.
To forgive and forget.
To keep out of the rut.
To make the most out of a little.
To maintain a high standard.
To recognize the silver lining.
To shoulder a deserved blame.
BUT IT ALWAYS PAYS

Jokes from the 30s

Sam: “Dad, you’re a lucky man.”

Father: “How is that?”

Sam: “You won’t have to buy me any books this year.
I am taking all of last year’s work over again.”

English Professor: “If Shakespeare were alive today wouldn’t
He’d be looked upon as a remarkable man.”

Student: “I’ll say so.
He would be over 300 years old!”

