

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends:

I want to thank all of you for your support, interest, and involvement in everything the Arizona Historical Society has to offer. A special “thank you” goes to all who supported our efforts to encourage the Arizona Legislature to reauthorize the Arizona Historical Society for ten years, the maximum term allowed under Arizona law. It is a privilege to serve as President of an organization with such devoted and informed members and friends.

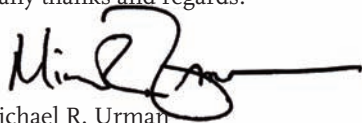
Last year, I wrote in this report about the need to confront the economic realities of the day regarding limits on public financial support and increased competition for fewer private-donor resources. Over the past year, the Arizona Historical Society has prioritized its efforts in these directions. Following analysis and discussion of economic trends and agency performance (from both historic and projected standpoints), this past summer the State Board of Directors created a committee to formulate a “business plan” charting the Society’s next five years of operation. The committee consists of an equal number of board and staff participants. Among its tasks is the establishment of revenue-generating and fundraising priorities, programs, and goals. The formalization and adoption of this business plan, with revenue goals and agreed-upon priorities, will guide our agency in its day-to-day decision-making and in its productive use of existing resources. The economic sustainability of our programs and facilities, both short-term and long-term, will be enhanced.

In order to maximize efficiencies and better utilize its resources, the Arizona Historical Society continues to collaborate with other agencies and organizations across the state. For example, Riordan Mansion State Historic Park in Flagstaff, operated by AHS in partnership with Arizona State Parks, is open and doing vibrant business. In southern Arizona, AHS collaborates with the Ben’s Bells Project—a nonprofit agency—to preserve and revitalize Tucson’s Charles O. Brown house, one of the area’s oldest surviving adobe structures. In Yuma, we continue to make progress on implementing the Yuma Museum Campus Plan, in conjunction with the City of Yuma, Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area, and the Yuma County Historical Society. This past year saw the opening of space in Yuma’s Heritage Library for AHS-Rio Colorado’s newly conserved historical archives, a collaborative effort between the Arizona Historical Society, the Yuma County Library District, and the Yuma County Historical Society.

The Arizona Historical Society’s efforts at collaboration and maximization of resources extend to programming and exhibits. The business plan being worked on by the Board of Directors and staff will build on, and expand, the Arizona Historical Society’s collaborative efforts with other museums, as well as with public and private entities of all kinds.

As the foregoing demonstrates, the Arizona Historical Society has prioritized its efforts toward long-term economic sustainability. We welcome your continuing interest, support, and participation in all of the Arizona Historical Society’s activities.

Many thanks and regards.



Michael R. Urman
President, AHS Board of Directors



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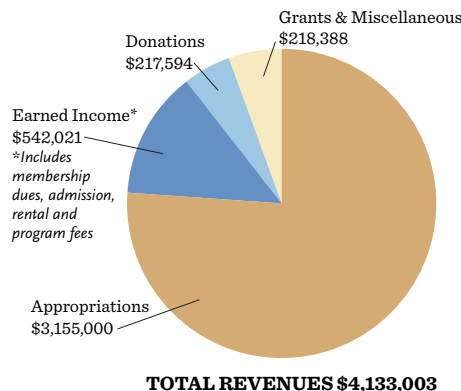
Michael Wade, *Maricopa*

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

AHS revenues increased slightly (less than one percent) from fiscal year 2012-13 to fiscal year 2013-14. This was primarily due to appropriations increasing to offset increases in employee-related expenses. Donations and earned income both decreased slightly, but were offset by increased grants and miscellaneous revenues.

AHS expenditures increased by 4.5% over the previous fiscal year, even as salaries and utilities showed small decreases. The single greatest contributor was operations, which increased due to repairs, maintenance, and improvements made to AHS facilities.

REVENUES



EXPENDITURES

