



# SNAPSHOTS IN HISTORY

ANNUAL REPORT  
2024



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*On the cover: Markow Studio staff posing with their equipment.*

## MISSION STATEMENT

Connecting people through the  
power of Arizona's history.

## CONNECT WITH US AT AZHS.ORG

Follow us to stay in the know.

Facebook: @arizonahistoricalsociety

X: @AZHistSociety

Instagram: @arizonahistoricalsociety

Email: [news@azhs.gov](mailto:news@azhs.gov)





# SNAPSHOT OF AHS

We save memories in a variety of ways. The most common tends to be through photographs. Today, we often snap pictures on a cell phone, but some people still save memories in scrapbooks, polaroids, and old slides. Some of you might even have a floppy disk which preserves all of your favorite moments from birthday parties and family gatherings. No matter how you preserve those memories, each is a snapshot of that treasured past.

At the Arizona Historical Society, our mission is to connect people through the power of Arizona's history. We do so by supporting historical organizations or endeavors, mentoring students and researchers, and, of course, collecting and preserving the wonderful artifacts and memories of Arizonans.

Keep reading to find our favorite snapshots and memories from the past year, as we look forward to even better years to come!

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The mission of the Arizona Historical Society is "Connecting people through the power of Arizona's history." The Society has carried on this mission despite some interesting and challenging times.

AHS continues to be a meaningful presence statewide through its Certified Historical Institution (CHI) program and its museums. During these turbulent times, AHS has learned to become flexible, while looking towards the needs of the future and listening to our stakeholders.

One example of listening is Yuma's wish for local control of the Sanguinetti House Museum and Gardens. AHS helped put this change in place by creating a lease agreement and supporting this request for local control by the Yuma County Historical Society. In February, the lease agreement was signed by the Yuma County Historical Society, which then began to operate Sanguinetti House Museum and Gardens. The Arizona Legislature has since passed a bill to transfer ownership of this property to the City of Yuma. The formal transfer will take place in September 2024.

Post-pandemic, sustainability of the workforce has been an issue both nationally and statewide. AHS has been no exception,

with many staff members leaving for other jobs and present staff members stepping up to cover the duties of two or more positions so that our agency can do what needs to be done.

I would like to commend the AHS executive director and staff for their expertise and hard work this past year. AHS is recruiting, hiring, and onboarding staff to fill needed positions that can enable us to carry out the activities necessary to fulfill our mission. AHS staff and board members are reviewing and making budget recommendations to focus our efforts on the Society's present and future activities.

I would like to thank my fellow AHS Board members for their passion for Arizona history and for supporting our mission. Moreover, I would like to thank the AHS Board officers for the extra time and the experience they bring towards moving AHS forward: Vice President DeNise Bauer, Secretary Deborah Bateman, and Treasurer Linda Whitaker (who has also served as Board president in the past). Working together helps us fulfill our mission.



“

**I would like to thank my fellow AHS Board members for their passion for Arizona history and for supporting our mission.**

”



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Words fail to express my gratitude to AHS's staff, Board, members, supporters and friends. It has been another landmark year at the Arizona Historical Society—and it has been a year! From successfully completing the Sunset Review to the changing nature of the Society's historic property ownership and stewardship, AHS has come a long way from where it started in July 2023.

It was a year full of operational challenges, with persistent staff vacancies and departures, funding gaps, and the unintended impacts of a turbulent legislative session. These could have easily distracted us from our true mission:



to connect people through the power of Arizona's history. Keeping this balance required enormous support from staff, the Board, and you: our membership. Whenever we issued a call for your support, you answered—in force. Clearly there is no shortage of passion and love for the legacy of Arizona's past or the desire to see it preserved and celebrated for future generations.

I am excited about what we accomplished during the last twelve months. The legislative committee gave AHS the longest possible recommendation for its next Sunset Review: 8 years, and without a single recommendation for improvement. With the support of both the AHS Board and staff, the Fiscal Year 2024 budget finished above expectations, and we introduced much-needed reforms to our reserves and managed accounts.

The Legislature-initiated transfer of AHS's three Yuma properties—the Sanguinetti House Museum and Gardens, the Jack Mellon House, and the Molina Block—returns three important pieces of history back to the people of Yuma while resolving an otherwise impassable funding valley for AHS. I have confidence in one of AHS's long-standing partners, the Yuma County Historical Society (YCHS), to serve as their future operator on the city's behalf. Meanwhile, in Flagstaff, representatives of the AHS Board have been working with community members and stakeholders to explore how best to manage the reopening of the Pioneer Museum.

Across our sites, there is a renewed energy among our partners and support groups, with volunteerism and active fundraising on the rise. Our major public programs, including National History Day (NHD) and Juneteenth, remained strong, bringing in more participants and new audiences this past year. From publications to exhibits, from collections and archives to major capital projects now in preliminary planning, AHS did more and accomplished more—oftentimes with less—than in preceding years.

AHS has faced challenges over the past year, but we have continually faced those challenges with energy, passion, and sacrifice. Reduced funding from the state and a reduced physical profile mean that outreach efforts—especially our Certified Historical Institution (CHI) program—and ensuring increased public access to the Society's services and resources will be more vital than ever. The Society's physical statewide presence may be different than it was at the year's start, but it does not represent a loss in statewide representation; 2025 will be a year of growth as AHS leads statewide historical communities and conversations, supporting and elevating those grassroots partners and programs already in place.

Turning the page on Fiscal Year 2024, I am excited about the positioning of AHS as we enter the new year. Thank you for a busy yet inspiring year, and thank you for the history yet to come.

# CONNECTING ARIZONA

## Our Museums

**Arizona Heritage Center,** Tempe  
**Arizona History Museum,** Tucson  
**Pioneer Museum,** Flagstaff



## Our Historic Sites

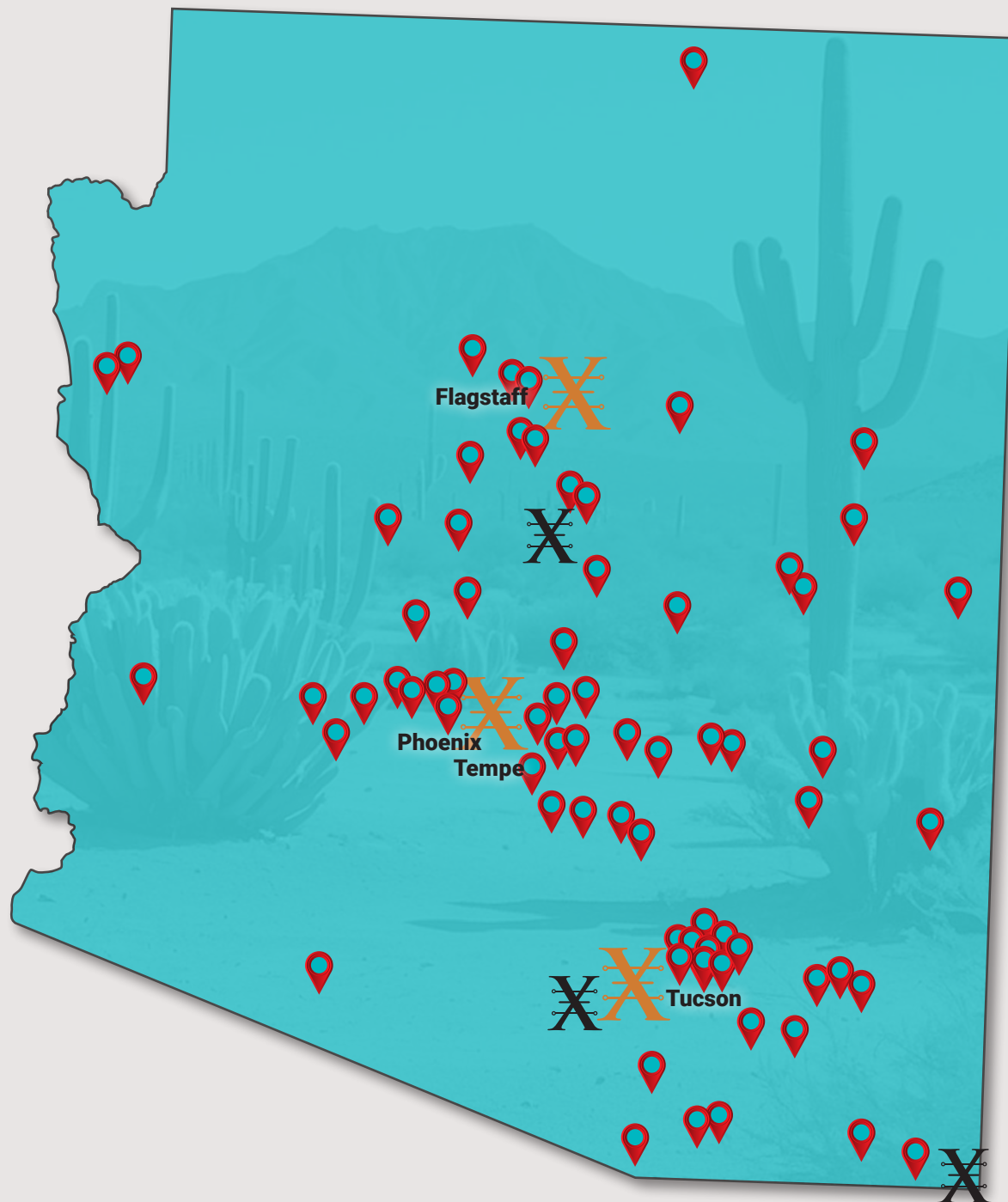
**Strawberry Schoolhouse,** Strawberry  
**Charles O. Brown House,** Tucson  
**Douglas-Williams House,** Douglas



## Our Certified Historical Institutions

### Central Arizona

**Arizona National Guard Historical Society/**  
**Arizona Military Museum,** Phoenix  
**Arizona Railway Museum,** Chandler  
**Arizona Street Railway Museum,** Phoenix  
**Buckeye Valley Museum/Buckeye Valley**  
**Historical Society,** Buckeye  
**Cave Creek Museum,** Cave Creek  
**Desert Caballeros Western Museum,** Wickenburg  
**Glendale Arizona Historical Society,** Glendale  
**HD South/Gilbert Historical Society,** Gilbert  
**Heritage Square Foundation,** Phoenix  
**Irish Cultural and Learning Foundation,** Phoenix  
**Mesa Historical Society/Mesa Historical Museum,** Mesa  
**Museum of Casa Grande,** Casa Grande





**P.W. Litchfield Heritage Center**, Litchfield Park  
**Pioneers' Cemetery Association**, Phoenix  
**River of Time Museum & Exploration Center**, Fountain Hills  
**San Tan Historical Society**, Queen Creek  
**Sun Cities Area Historical Society**, Sun City  
**Superstition Mountain Historical Society**, Apache Junction  
**Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West**, Scottsdale

### **Western Arizona**

**Bouse Chamber of Commerce**, Bouse  
**Colorado River Historical Society**, Bullhead City  
**Mohave County Historical Society**, Kingman  
**Quartzsite Historical Society**, Quartzsite

### **Eastern Arizona**

**Bullion Plaza Cultural Center & Museum**, Miami  
**Butterfly Lodge Museum**, Greer  
**Eastern Arizona Museum & Historical Society of Graham County**, Pima  
**Ebenezer Bryce Foundation**, Bryce  
**Gila County Historical Society**, Globe  
**Greenlee County Historical Society**, Clifton  
**Pinal County Historical Society**, Florence  
**Pleasant Valley Historical Society**, Young  
**Superior Historical Society**, Superior

### **Northern Arizona**

**Arizona State Railroad Museum**, Williams  
**Black Canyon Historical Society**, Black Canyon  
**Camp Verde Historical Society**, Camp Verde  
**Clarkdale Historical Society & Museum**, Clarkdale  
**Verde Historical Society/Clemenceau Heritage Museum**, Cottonwood  
**Fort Tuthill Military Museum**, Flagstaff  
**Glen Canyon Conservancy / Powell Museum and Archives**, Page  
**Grand Canyon Historical Society**, Flagstaff  
**Navajo County Historical Society**, Holbrook

**Northern Gila County Historical Society**, Payson  
**Old Trails Museum/ Winslow Historical Society**, Winslow  
**Pinetop-Lakeside Historical Society**, Lakeside  
**Sharlot Hall Museum / Prescott Historical Society**, Prescott  
**Sedona Historical Society/Sedona Heritage Museum**, Sedona  
**Show Low Historical Society**, Show Low  
**Snowflake Heritage Foundation**, Snowflake  
**Verde Valley Archaeology Center & Museum**, Camp Verde

### **Southern Arizona**

**African American Museum of Southern Arizona**, Tucson  
**Ajo Historical Society Museum**, Ajo  
**Amerind Museum**, Dragoon  
**Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum**, Bisbee  
**Bisbee Restoration Museum & Historical Society**, Bisbee  
**Douglas Historical Society/Douglas-Williams House**, Douglas  
**Los Descendientes De Tucson**, Tucson  
**Oracle Historical Society**, Oracle  
**Oro Valley Historical Society**, Oro Valley  
**Patagonia Museum**, Patagonia  
**Pimería Alta Historical Society & Museum**, Nogales  
**Postal History Foundation**, Tucson  
**Santa Cruz Valley Historic Museum**, Eloy  
**Southern Arizona Transportation Museum**, Tucson  
**Sulphur Springs Valley Historical Society**, Willcox  
**Tubac Presidio State Historic Park**, Tubac  
**Tucson Musicians Museum**, Tucson  
**Tucson Presidio Trust for Historic Preservation**, Tucson  
**Vail Preservation Society**, Vail

The Certified Historical Institution (CHI) Program supports historical museums and organizations across the state in their efforts to collect, preserve, and share Arizona's history. To learn more about the CHI program, email [certified@azhs.gov](mailto:certified@azhs.gov).

# EXHIBITS

AHS opened new exhibits this year at both the Arizona History Museum and the Arizona Heritage Center. Visitors could immerse themselves in the colorful history of the Butterfield Stage route with the “Dusty Trails” exhibit; learn how Arizona took the shape we know today in the “Shaping Arizona” exhibit; see children’s messages of hope in the “Welcome Quilts” exhibit; and explore Navajo weaving in the “Violet Decorates” exhibit. In addition, we moved two exhibits, “Journey of a Gap Year” and “K7UGA: Barry Goldwater’s Ham Radio,” to new locations.



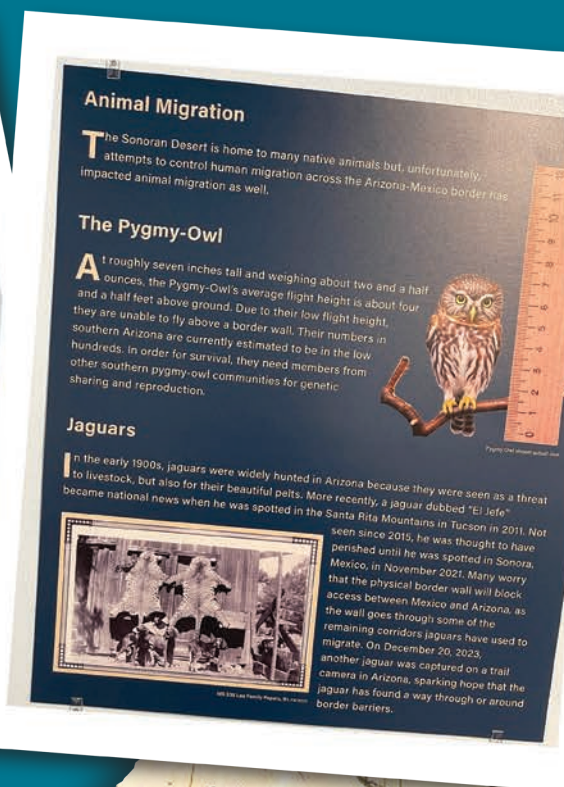
## SHAPING ARIZONA

Shaping Arizona  
Tempe



### Arizona In the Mexican Era: 1821-1848

The Mexican War of Independence was not a single conflict, but a series of armed conflicts from 1810-1821. When Spanish troops left their presidios within Arizona, the missions were abandoned. With the exception of San Xavier del Bac. Many Mexican settlers began moving closer to Tucson for safety as tensions with the Apaches rose, and the population began to rise after the Republic of Texas became the twenty-eighth state to join the U.S. after gaining independence from Mexico. The Mexican-American War began in 1846, and after two years of fighting, the Treaty of Guadalupe



### Animal Migration

The Sonoran Desert is home to many native animals but, unfortunately, attempts to control human migration across the Arizona-Mexico border has impacted animal migration as well.

### The Pygmy-Owl

At roughly seven inches tall and weighing about two and a half ounces, the Pygmy-Owl's average flight height is about four and a half feet above ground. Due to their low flight height, they are unable to fly above a border wall. Their numbers in southern Arizona are currently estimated to be in the low hundreds. In order for survival, they need members from other southern pygmy-owl communities for genetic sharing and reproduction.

### Jaguars

In the early 1900s, jaguars were widely hunted in Arizona because they were seen as a threat to livestock, but also for their beautiful pelts. More recently, a jaguar dubbed "El Jefe" became national news when he was spotted in the Santa Rita Mountains in Tucson in 2011. Not seen since 2015, he was thought to have perished until he was spotted in Sonora, Mexico, in November 2021. Many worry that the physical border wall will block access between Mexico and Arizona, as the wall goes through some of the remaining corridors jaguars have used to migrate. On December 20, 2023, another jaguar was captured on a trail camera in Arizona, sparking hope that the jaguar has found a way through or around border barriers.





## Welcome Quilts: Migration, Art, and Hope Tucson



## Journey of a Gap Year: A Photo Journey through Navajo and Hopi Nations, 1977 - 1978 Flagstaff

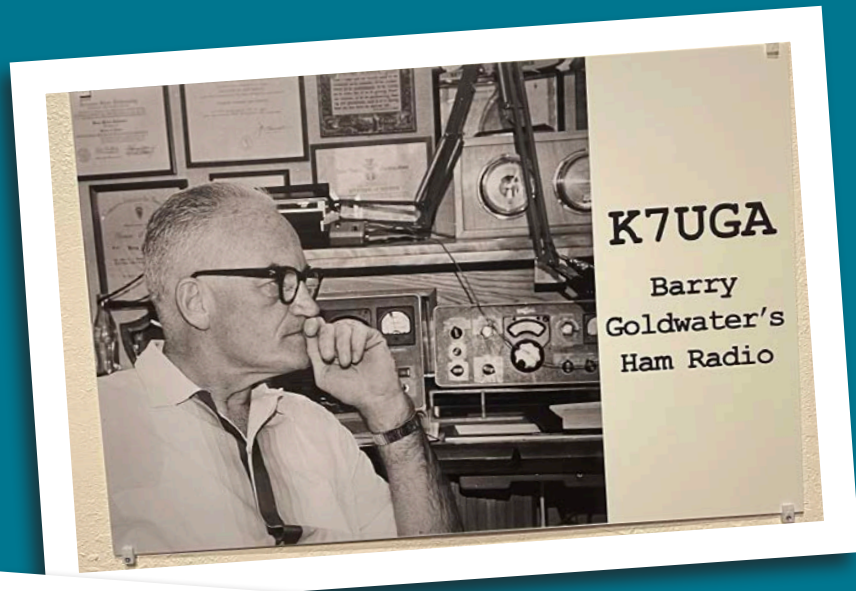


## Shaping Arizona Tucson



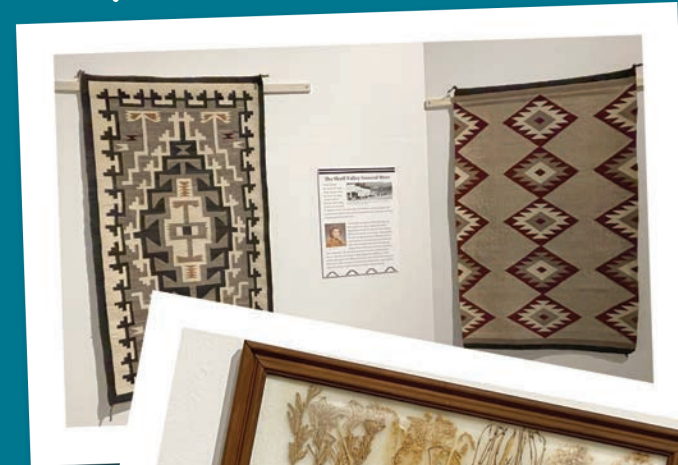
Dusty Trails: Paintings of the  
Butterfield Overland Trail  
Tempe





Violet Decorates: Navajo Weavings  
from the Skull Valley General Store

Tempe  
↙



↖ Barry Goldwater's Ham Radio Desk  
Tempe



# EVENTS AND PROGRAMS



AHS hosted several large public programs this past year, including our two new signature annual events: Statehood Day and Juneteenth. This year, Statehood Day turned into Statehood Week, as we celebrated all-things Arizona from February 10-17. Our annual celebration of Juneteenth again welcomed hundreds of people to the Arizona Heritage Center for food, fun, and reflection about the importance of history and community.

Statehood Day  
Tempe & Tucson



Halloween Event  
Tucson



Juneteenth  
Tempe



Lunch with  
Historical League  
Tempe



Wool & Fiber Festival  
Flagstaff



# TRANSFER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES TO THE CITY OF YUMA

For decades, the Arizona Historical Society has proudly served as the steward of three historically important properties on Madison Avenue in Yuma—the Sanguinetti House Museum and Gardens, the Jack Mellon House, and the Molina Block. During that time, countless visitors—young and old, local and from out of town—have walked their halls and grounds to enjoy the stories they tell.

The main attraction of AHS's historic campus in Yuma has always been the Sanguinetti House Museum and Gardens. Built around 1870, the small adobe home was purchased in 1890 by Yuma's merchant prince, E. F. Sanguinetti, who greatly expanded it to the residence and grounds we see today. For decades, Sanguinetti was the driving force behind much of Yuma's development. After he



passed away in the 1940s, his family retained possession of the home until 1963, when the newly formed Yuma County Historical Society (YCHS) took it over. By 1972, AHS director Sidney Brinkerhoff, armed with a robust infusion of money from the state legislature, was looking to expand AHS's footprint and agreed to bring Sanguinetti's home—then called the Century House Museum—into the AHS fold. In the time since, the Sanguinetti House Museum has told the stories of not

just E. F. Sanguinetti and his family, but of Yuma's growth and the pivotal moments in its history. The museum has hosted countless weddings, dinner parties, school groups, and curious museum visitors hoping to learn about Yuma's past.

In 1972, AHS also acquired another property on Madison Avenue. The adjacent Jack A. Mellon House, as it is today known, was built in 1873 by William Johnson. It was bought a year later by Captain Jack Mellon, steamboat captain of much acclaim, known from his record transit times as the "Wizard of the Great Colorado." Since then, the building has been home to a variety of businesses, serving at various times as a gift shop, a restaurant, a store, and even the offices of the *Yuma Sun*. Roughly two decades later, in 1991, AHS



additionally acquired one of Yuma's oldest adobe structures, the large commercial building known as the Molina Block (1875). This building stands in contrast to the surrounding residential neighborhood of historic Madison Avenue. The higher ground of this affluent neighborhood saved it from destruction during the flood of 1916 and allowed the Molina Block to flourish over the next century as the site of a grocery store, restaurant, apartments, medical offices, and more. Looking ahead, its grounds continue to be the focus for redevelopment and might soon boast a permanent outdoor exhibition of Yuma's agricultural legacy.

As host to fifty-two years of AHS exhibits, programs, and services, these properties have captured moments from Yuma's past and fostered exploration of the city's urban, agricultural, economic, cultural, and maritime history.

Facing the realities of reduced state appropriations and reduced staffing, earlier this year the AHS Board and Executive Director David Breeckner began working with local officials, state legislators from Yuma County, and members of the Yuma County Historical Society to return control over Sanguinetti House, as well as the Mellon House and the Molina Block, to the City of Yuma and its people. The Arizona Legislature passed Senate Bill 1441 during this past legislative session, and Governor Hobbs signed it on March 25, 2024. Following the official transfer on September 14 this year, AHS will continue to fulfill its mission in Yuma through its partners and services. We look forward to continuing to work with city officials, YCHS, and other regional museums and historical organizations after this transition to help them interpret, showcase, and elevate their community's history.



Above, left to right:  
AHS Board Member  
Bruce Gwynn, Rep.  
Timothy Dunn, Yuma  
Mayor Douglas Nicholls,  
Senator Brian Fernandez,  
and AHS Executive  
Director David Breeckner.

# EDUCATION

## 2nd Annual AHS Postcard Contest

Over five thousand third grade students participated in their classrooms, learning about Arizona statehood using lessons developed by the department. Lessons align with third grade Arizona State English, Language Arts, Reading and Art standards.

Winners received an AHS swag bag, hosted pizza party for their class and the teachers received art books to use in the classroom.



## Education Highlights

Over **1,500 learners** ranging in ages from 5 to 90 enjoyed tours at both the Tucson and Tempe museums.

The Tucson museum hosted and presented at the Arizona Council for Social Studies fall conference in October. 75 Arizona educators came to learn about history opportunities to integrate in their classrooms.

The Tucson museum hosted 90 Tucson Unified School District K-8 teachers for their professional development day.

Outreach opportunities:

- GeoCivics Conference
- AZ Council for Social Studies
- History Relived Tucson Rodeo Museum

Love of Reading Week - Teachers at White Elementary and Butterfield Elementary classrooms read Arizona books to over 250 students.

The Education Department sponsored two interns: One was a U of A fall semester student and a yearlong museum internship for a Catalina Foothills High School student.



# NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

## National History Day Stats

As the Affiliate for National History Day Arizona, the education department ran four regional contests, the state contest, and a Day at the Museum event.

### East Region Competition

155 students competed  
99 projects

### West Region Competition

84 students competed  
55 projects

### North Region Competition

41 students competed  
29 projects

### South Region Competition

20 students competed  
13 projects

### State Competition

179 students competed  
111 projects  
43 students promoted to nationals  
40 students committed to going to nationals

### Day At the Museum

32 out of the 40 students going to nationals attended

### National Competition

39 students attended  
Finalists: 4 Students



# PUBLICATIONS

## *Journal of Arizona History (JAH)*

It was an exciting year for AHS's flagship publication. During the past fiscal year, the *Journal of Arizona History* published four issues, including back-to-back special issues, both groundbreaking in their own way: The Summer '23 issue featured all Indigenous authors, while the Autumn '23 issue featured short essays that compared Arizona and Kentucky history, with help from our friends at the Kentucky Historical Society.



## *JAH Downloads in FY2024*

12,511 on MUSE  
29,795 on JSTOR



## *The JAH at the WHA*

*Journal of Arizona History* editor David Turpie put together a panel of state history journal editors for the 2023 Western History Association conference. The panel included current or former editors of the history journals in Oregon, Montana, Utah, Kentucky, and, of course, Arizona. Dr. Turpie is pictured here with Dr. Stephanie Lang, of the Kentucky Historical Society, who partnered with the *Journal* for the Autumn 2023 issue.

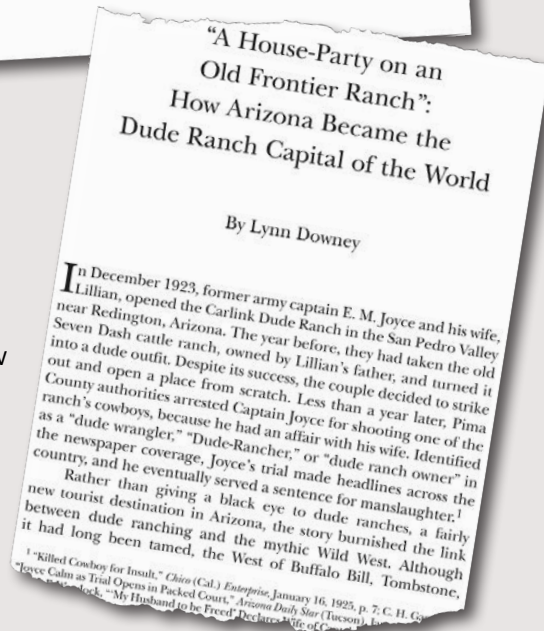






## 2023 Sonnichsen Award

Lynn Downey, "A House-Party on an Old Frontier Ranch': How Arizona Became the Dude Ranch Capital of the World" was recognized for best article in Volume 64 of the *Journal of Arizona History*.



## Fellowship Program

The 2024 cohort of Research Fellows included nine scholars—four professors, four graduate students, and one public historian—from institutions across the country, including the University of Central Oklahoma, Boston University, Drake University, Loyola Marymount University, Stanford University, the University of Southern California, the University of Oklahoma, and the University of Texas.



### Amahia Mallea

(Drake Univ.) soaking up some Arizona sunshine after a day of research in Tucson.



### Chelsea Ball

(Univ. of Central Oklahoma) with a canine companion during her research visit last spring.

# REVENUE

State, Local and Tribal Govt. Grants - Operating	\$25,456.39
Admission and Entry Fees	\$65,474.92
Other Fees and Charges for Services	\$76,763.83
Publications and Reproductions	\$106,223.12
Other Charges for Goods	\$15,272.14
Sale of Capital Assets	\$ -
Other Fees	\$56,869.10
Unrestricted Donations	\$185,956.62
Restricted Donations	\$6,550.00
Private Grants	\$57,700.00
Treasurers Interest Income	\$226,169.23
Rental Income	\$369,729.75
Miscellaneous Receipts	\$3,542.40
Current Year Reimbursements	\$10.72
Transfer In	\$ -
Appropriated Revenue	\$3,045,800.00

**TOTAL** **\$4,241,518.22**

**TOTAL REVENUE**

**\$4,241,518.22**

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES**

**\$4,232,198.51**

# EXPENDITURES

Salaries	\$1,925,110.92
Employee-Related Expenses - ERE	\$761,212.23
Temporary Labor	\$5,920.28
Professional and Outside Services	\$48,223.00
Travel In-State	\$35,853.29
Travel Out-of-State	\$5,449.19
Aid to Historical Societies	\$118,398.33
Insurance	\$53,200.00
Information Technology Service	\$178,096.44
Utilities	\$377,885.96
Rental Expenditures	\$31,654.46
Internal Acct/Budg/Financial Svcs	\$34,380.72
Repair/Maintenance	\$390,403.71
Operating Supplies	\$35,053.03
Resale Supplies	\$5,006.43
Conf, Education and Training Reg	\$11,420.00
Advertising	\$12,363.50
Printing and Photography	\$58,796.18
Postage and Delivery Services	\$39,328.66
Awards	\$3,253.19
Entertainment and Promotion Item	\$ -
Dues/Membership	\$16,566.40
Book-Subscription-Publication	\$11,775.62
Other Miscellaneous Operating	\$39,785.22
Capital Outlay - Over \$5,000	\$ -
Non-Capital Equip < \$5,000	\$33,061.75
Transfer Out	\$ -

**TOTAL** **\$4,232,198.51**



# AHS BY THE NUMBERS



Number of Visitors

**11,543\***



Gift Shop Revenue

**\$17,319**



Website Page Views

**234,380**



YouTube Watch Time (Hours)

**737.5**



Instagram Reach

**258,502**



Facebook Reach

**133,230**



X (Twitter) Impressions\*\*

**49,961**



Attendance for In Person & Virtual Events

**1,528**



Attendance from 20 Community Presentations  
by AHS Staff around the State

**423**



New Memberships

**139**

\*Updated to include museum and library visitors, facility rental event guests, virtual program registrants, and educational tour and special program attendees.

\*\*Because of changes to the X (Twitter) platform in April, we no longer have access to analytics for our account.

# CHI SMALL GRANTS

Through the Certified Historical Institution (CHI) program, AHS supports local historical societies, museums, and organizations, providing access to industry professionals, statewide networking, educational materials, and grant opportunities. In FY2024, AHS

distributed over \$32,000 in grant funds to CHIs to support their projects, which ranged from collections storage updates, to public programming, to preserving important artifacts.



Amerind, Dragoon, Fall Fest lecture (Diné poet/author, Dr. Laura Tohe)



Ft. Tuthill, Flagstaff, volunteers building collections storage.



Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, Tucson, Silver Spike festival, commemorating the arrival of the train to Tucson



Oro Valley HS, Oro Valley, volunteer updating archival storage.



Sharlot Hall, Prescott, Collections preservation.



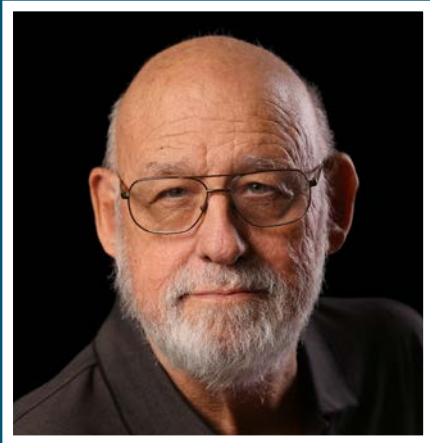
HD South, Gilbert (PHX), updated collections storage.



Scan here to learn more about the CHI program on our website.



# 2023 AL MÉRITO RECIPIENTS



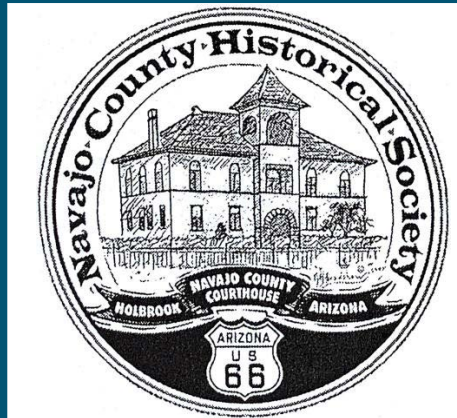
**Frank Barrios**



**Dr. Michael M. Brescia**



**Arizona Barrio Stories**



**Navajo County  
Historical Society**



2023 marked the 50th year of the Al Mérito Award. Pictures above are from the 2023 Annual Meeting.

# AHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Officers

Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson, President

DeNise Bauer, Vice-President

Deborah Bateman, Secretary

Linda Whitaker, Treasurer

## Board of Directors

Robert Ballard

Desirae Barquin

Wynne Brown

Dr. Colleen Byron

Kelly Corsette

Bruce Gwynn

Richard Powers

Sherry Rampy

Gregory Scott

James Snitzer

**Interested in serving  
on the Board?**

**Scan here for Board  
Member Application.**



On the mic!



Board members at last year's Annual Meeting. From top to bottom, Linda Whitaker, Kelly Corsette, and Sherry Rampy.



# REMEMBERING TOM

On Wednesday, June 19, 2024, AHS's Eastern Chapter Representative to its State Board, Tom Foster, passed away at Haven Health in Globe.

Tom had served AHS and its Board since 2001, beginning first as a community member on its committees and then officially joining as a Board member in 2013. Tom's impact and influence extended across all aspects of the agency and Board, including the Outreach Committee, Property and Buildings Committee, Publications Committee, and Education and Public Programs. Tom was an active contributor and shaper of the Arizona History Convention. His successes were based on his personality, commitment to high standards, and the ease with which he could

engage any audience across the state on any subject. As a presenter and promoter of Arizona's history, there were few better.

Tom was the best advocate for the causes he believed in, and he was confident in the path that he charted for himself and others. As AHS's Eastern Chapter Representative, he was its best spokesperson in rural communities, and readily navigated the balance between Arizona's rural and urban centers.

He arrived in Arizona from southern California in August 1971 and completed a course of study at Arizona State University in 1974 with a BAE in education and an Art minor.

During his career, Tom has worked at various Arizona museums as well as offering consulting, restorations and research services. Tom was most recently the



Executive Director of the Bullion Plaza Cultural Center and Museum in Miami, Arizona.

In addition to the Arizona Historical Society, Tom also served as the President of the Municipal Property Corporation in conjunction with the Town of Miami, as well as the Globe-Miami Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Cobre Valley Center for the Arts Board, and Habitat for Humanity.

As time allowed, Tom enjoyed reading, hiking, exploring and visiting different historic sites and museums throughout Arizona. Captivated by the beauty and history of the desert Southwest, he realized there is no other place like it anywhere, even in the heat of the summer.



# DONORS

## **\$50,000+**

C. R. Krimminger Fund

## **\$10,000+**

Victor W. Kramer Charitable Trust

## **\$5,000-\$9,999**

Morgan Stanley

Anonymous

David Berman and Susan Berman

SRP

## **\$1,000-\$4,999**

Mr. Harry Carson and Mrs. Sandra Carson

Dr. C. Gilbert Storms

Mr. William Parker and Mrs. Mary Parker

Mrs. Linda Whitaker and

Dr. Duane Whitaker

Mrs. Marianne F. Ayres

R. Keith Newlon

Ms. Betsey Bayless

Susan Dale and Mr. Ennis Dale

Diane Melissa Mendez Padelford

Historical League, Inc.

Mr. Joe Sparks and Mrs. Pam Sparks

Mr. Patrick Nackard

Mr. Robert Ward and Mrs. Mary Ward

Stevie Eller

Susan M. Call

William J. Harrison

## **\$250-\$999**

A-Resilient Contracting, L.C.

Mortenson Chase Farnsworth

Friendship Village, Tempe

Pacific SW Minority Supplier  
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Ambassador Level and above, as of June 30, 2024

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George Cunningham

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Mary Garbaciak

Phillip Robles

Susan Ash

Bob Hungate

Ron Woggon

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## WMA VISIT



A handful of Western Museums Association (WMA) members came to visit the Arizona History Museum in preparation for the WMA conference that will be held in Tucson in the Fall of 2024.

## HISTORY PARTNERS

48 Most Intriguing Women of Arizona  
Friends of the Arizona Historical Society  
Historical League, Inc.  
Northern Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society  
Yuma County Historical Society  
Arizona History Convention  
Arizona State University  
Borderlands Theater  
Douglas Historical Society  
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Los Descendientes del Presidio de Tucson  
Mexican American Heritage and History Museum  
Pine-Strawberry Archaeological and Historical Society  
Tucson Presidio Trust for Historic Preservation  
University of Arizona Press

## FRIENDS OF AHS

Friends of AHS is a 501(C)3 organization that supports the mission of the Arizona Historical Society. As the main fundraising partner of the agency, Friends of AHS works statewide to help the organization achieve its strategic plan and goals and serves as a trusted manager of public and private donations for the benefit of the Society. In 2023-24, Friends of AHS supported undergraduate and post-graduate interns for ongoing archiving projects at the Arizona Heritage Center and also helped to raise funds for the AHS Juneteenth event.

## GRANT PARTNERS

Arizona Architecture Foundation  
Arizona Community Foundation  
of Yuma  
Arizona Department of  
Emergency Management

Arizona Historical Records  
Advisory Board  
Conserv  
Historical League, Inc.  
Institute of Museum and  
Library Services

## TRIBUTES

### In Honor of

Arizona Heritage Center  
and Elizabeth Kapp  
Edward Ronstadt  
The Arizona Rangers  
Todd Bailey  
Tracy Row  
William Frend

### In Memory of

C. J. and Alice Scott -  
Black Canyon City  
Constance Wynn Altshuler  
Dianne Honeycutt  
Doug Hamilton  
Frank Barrios - Arizona Historian  
George Eggleston Truman  
George Fletcher  
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The People Who Made Arizona Great  
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# INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

Acquisitions Division Periodicals  
Acquisitions Department /HREF  
African American Museum of Sound  
Ajo Historical Society Museum  
Allen County Public Library  
The Amerind Foundation, Inc. Library  
Arizona Rangers  
Arizona Western College  
Bisbee Restoration Museum  
Buckeye Valley HS and Museum  
Butterfly Lodge Museum & Gifts  
Casa Grande Valley Historical Society  
Center for American Civics  
Chino Valley Historical Society  
Church History Library  
Cline Library, NAU  
Cochise County Historical Society  
Colorado Mesa University  
Dewey-Humboldt Historical Society  
Donnelly Library/Periodical Department  
Duke University Libraries  
Eastern Arizona College  
Eastern Arizona Museum & HS  
of Graham Co., Inc.  
Edmon Low Library  
E-Resources and Serials  
Evans Library - Ser Rec  
Federico Serafin

Flagstaff Public Library  
Glendale Community College  
Harvard University Library  
Heard Museum Library  
Hodges Library  
Jerome Historical Society  
Joel D. Valdez Main Library (Tucson)  
Kansas State University  
Library Acquisitions Sec  
Marriott Library – University of Utah  
Mary Coutts Burnett Library  
McClelland Irish Cultural Center and Library  
Learning Foundation  
Mesa Community College  
Midwest Genealogy Center  
Museum of Indigenous People  
Museum of The Great Wars  
N. M. State University at Alamogordo Library  
National Forest Service Library  
New York Public Library  
Niedersaechsische Staats  
Periodicals / ACQ  
Pima Community College  
Pimeria Alta Historical Society Museum  
Prescott Corral of Westerners International  
Santa Cruz Valley Historic Museum  
Sedona Public Library  
Sharlot Hall Museum

Show Low Public Library  
SMU CUL DEG  
South Mountain Community College  
Tubac Presidio State Historic Park  
Tucson Corral of the Westerners  
University of California Berkeley  
UCLA YRL Serials  
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Washington State University Libraries  
Western History Department  
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Wickenburg Public Library  
William H Hannon Library  
Zollinger Library

## CHAPTERS

Eastern Arizona Chapter  
Central Arizona Chapter  
Northern Arizona Chapter  
Rio Colorado Chapter  
Southern Arizona Chapter

# AHS LICENSE PLATE

Total number of plates sold for FY2024 **3,779**

Total revenue for FY2024 was **\$59,260.50**



## RENTALS

### Arizona History Museum

This unique venue features impressive collections and exhibits, while offering a beautiful, one-of-a-kind location for special events, including weddings, corporate functions, fundraisers, dinners and receptions.

### Arizona Heritage Center

Arizona Heritage Center, nestled in the foothills of Papago Park, is a lovely setting for magnificent Arizona sunsets that serve as a backdrop for weddings, corporate events, fundraisers, receptions and proms.



**For more information or to book your event,  
contact [confirmation@azhs.gov](mailto:confirmation@azhs.gov).**