



ARIZONA HERITAGE ALLIANCE

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PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

AUGUST 2016 UPDATE

Summer 2016 greetings! My report begins with a recap of the long awaited [Arizona State Parks Board](#) meeting held on July 20. Arizona Heritage Alliance (AHA) Vice President Jim McPherson was able to attend and made comments at the Call to the Public from his AHA, [Arizona Preservation Foundation](#), and [Arizona Main Street](#) perspectives. The meeting began with Chair R.J. Cardin, Director of Maricopa County Parks and Recreation, welcoming the seven member board. After the officer elections, R.J. handed the gavel to Vice Chair Kay Daggett of Sierra Vista who then stepped into the Chair position. Shawn Orme was elected Vice

Chair. In addition to an enthusiastic description of the Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) grants, the development project at Lake Havasu seemed to be the subject of most interest to people. There was a brief presentation regarding the development which consists of a 40-year contract and include Lake Havasu State Park within it. A mention that a bill for the removal of the State Parks Board would again return next legislative session. I guess we will have our work cut out for us again.

While on the subject of the State Parks Board, we are sad to report that John U. Hays, former Parks Board member, rancher, and illustrious State Representative (1975–83) and later Senator (1984–1992), passed away on June 10 at home. Among other achievements, it was he who ensured a skeptical legislature passed the bill that brought Kartchner Caverns into being as a state park. Besides been an effective, fair, and hardworking legislator, John was a really nice person, true gentleman, bicultural statesman in work with Mexico, great friend of the Heritage Fund, and mentor. He is truly missed.

Game and Fish Commission

meeting, June 10, Payson. Bill McLean, former G&F Commissioner, and I attended this meeting. To our great pleasure, we learned that the [G&F Commission](#) was using the recently created O&M (Operations and Maintenance) fund (up to \$1.4 million – via SB 1361) for Heritage Fund properties for water and fencing projects that were greatly needed to enhance the habitat purchased for the various threatened and endangered species. Formerly much of that funding was coming from sportsmen's dollars which are in decline due to falling license sales. AHA would have preferred a more public-spirited way of reassigning those Heritage Fund dollars now used for O&M, but they are being used appropriately and with transparency. Such expenditures will be brought up yearly and transparently to be considered by the commission on behalf of the public.



Arizona Historic Preservation Conference. On June 9, AHA Vice President Jim McPherson, Director Lani Lott, and I attended the [Arizona Historic Preservation Conference](#) in Phoenix. We participated on a panel to discuss various funding mechanisms that support preservation such as the Heritage Fund. Even though there are other granting sources out there, it was obvious that the new State Parks Heritage Fund is still awaited with enthusiasm. We had the sad job of informing the audience once again that the initiative could not be ready for the 2016 ballot due principally to lack of funding for signature gathering.

Other Legislative Matters. Moving back to the Legislative, two bills sponsored by Senator Gail Griffin and signed by the Governor, make the Mexican Wolf recovery more difficult. Two water adequacy bills that would have negatively affected the San Pedro River also passed, but fortunately were vetoed by the Governor.

All in all, it was a busy if somewhat frustrating six months. The remaining G&F Heritage Fund is alive and well along with many well-developed and run non-game programs at G&F. Public support is still very much alive to create a new granting program for State Parks and assure its enhancement and strengthening as an organization, financial security, and protection on behalf of the people of Arizona.

On behalf of the entire AHA Board of Directors, thank you for your continuing support of the Alliance.

Elizabeth Woodin

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Larry Weigel

The Arizona Heritage Alliance is honored to spotlight Board of Director, Larry Weigel. In addition to serving on AHA's Board, Larry is also a member of the Arizona Game & Fish Heritage Fund Public Advisory Committee representing Region V.

Larry was born in Canada and immigrated to the United States as a young boy. His family moved from California to Illinois to

Michigan and ended up in Arizona by the time he was 12 years old. He graduated from the University of Arizona with a degree in Finance. Larry has worked for Tucson Electric Power (TEP) for more than 30 years in various financial capacities. He holds the position of Transmission and Distribution Supervisor and helps manage the company's external labor resources. Another one of Larry's responsibilities is co-managing TEP's raptor protection program.



Larry is an avid sportsman dedicated to conservation and preservation of Arizona's vast natural resources. Larry and his wife Lea Anne have four sons and four grandsons, who also enjoy Arizona's outdoor activities. Thank you Larry for all you do for Arizona.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

ARIZONA PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

Our Partner Spotlight for this quarter is [Arizona Preservation Foundation](#). Since 1979, the Arizona Preservation Foundation has worked with local, state, and national partners to preserve Arizona's historical, archaeological, architectural, and cultural legacy. Key initiatives include:

- Compiling the [Arizona's Most Endangered Historic Places List](#)
- Publishing a [Historic Preservation Referral Guide](#) for homeowners and building professionals
- Sending out Preservation Alerts related to statewide issues
- Offering a [Speaker's Bureau](#) for your meetings and events
- Organizing the [Annual Statewide Conference](#) and [Governor's Heritage Preservation Honor Awards](#)
- Advocating for historic preservation statewide as well as offering support on a regional and local level through a strong web and social media presence.



ARIZONA HERITAGE ALLIANCE

DIRECTOR'S BITS AND PIECES

The Arizona Heritage Alliance is one of the newest recipient of [Summit Hut's "Decline-A-Bag" Initiative](#). Every time you shop at Summit Hut, located in Tucson, and decline a shopping bag, the cost of that bag is donated to local outdoor organizations doing great things in our community. With help from their customers, Summit Hut has prevented over 230,000 bags from entering the waste stream and have contributed over \$12,500 to local organizations since their giving back program began! Thank you Summit Hut for supporting local outdoor organizations like the Arizona Heritage Alliance.



Arizona Republic article, "Where Does the Arizona Lottery Revenue Go?," outlines how Lottery funds are distributed. Since the Arizona Lottery's launch on July 1, 1981, its sales revenue has totaled \$11 billion, with nearly \$3.5 billion of that directed back into state funds and programs. While a majority — and growing — portion of that money has gone into the general fund where the

Governor and Legislature can spend it as they choose, about \$1.8 billion has been returned to Arizona communities through grants and programs. [Click here](#) to read the full article.



Arizona Heritage Alliance will celebrate its 25 year anniversary in 2017. The AHA Board is proud of the work the organization has accomplished over the last 25 years and in preparation for celebrating this milestone, AHA's Communication Committee has started to make plans for a year-long celebration highlighting the successes of the Heritage Fund and honoring our friends and partners who have been with AHA along the way. AHA's Board of Directors also recently held a strategic planning session to update the organization's mission and identify goals, objectives, and priorities to help chart a solid course for the future. [Click here](#) to read the full 2016–2018 Strategic Plan.

Arizona Game & Fish Department is now accepting applications for more than \$400,000 in Heritage Fund grants. Deadline for the grant submittal is October 31, 2016. Grant categories include environmental education, outdoor education, schoolyard habitat, urban wildlife/habitat, public access, and Identification, Inventory, Acquisition, Protection and Management (IIAPM). Applicants for this year's grants can [click here](#) for guidance on applying. The documents include the Heritage Grant Application Manual, Heritage Grant Application Form, and various "Heritage Grant Funding Window" documents, which describe eligibility information and provide specific eligibility criteria listed within each grant sub-category. The Game & Fish Department will hold the following informational workshops for those interested in learning more about the grants and how to apply:



- Monday, Aug. 22 from 2–4 p.m. at Game & Fish Headquarters, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix.
- Tuesday, Aug. 23 from 2–4 p.m. at the Tucson Regional Game & Fish office, 555 N. Greasewood Road.

Please RSVP to Robyn Beck at (623) 236–7530 if you are interested or planning to attend one of the workshops.

Edward "Pat" Madden of Flagstaff will lead the five-member Arizona Game and Fish Commission for 2016–2017 fiscal year. The commission oversees the Arizona Game & Fish Department and establishes rules and regulations for

managing and conserving wildlife and fisheries resources, and for safe and regulated watercraft and off-highway vehicle (OHV) operations for the benefit of Arizona residents. Mr. Madden, who joined the commission in 2013, has an extensive law enforcement background. He spent more than three decades working for the Flagstaff Police Department – beginning his career in 1966 as a patrolman and retiring as chief of police in 1999 – and also worked for the Arizona Department of Gaming before fully retiring in 2015. “I look forward to my chairmanship and a continued productive working relationship between the commission, department, and public to ensure that Arizona's wildlife is protected, preserved, enhanced, and managed,” said Madden.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- [Parks in the Pines Birthday Bash](#), 100 Years of the National Park Service, August 20, Flagstaff
- [Arizona League of Cities and Towns](#), August 23–26, Scottsdale
- [Becoming an Outdoor Woman](#), Arizona Wildlife Federation, September 9–11, Friendly Pines Camp, Prescott
- [Arizona Forward's 36th Annual Environmental Excellence Awards](#): September 10, Arizona Grand Resort
- [Arizona Historic Preservation Conference](#), June, 2017, Hilton El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort, Oro Valley

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The Arizona Heritage Alliance is a 501(c)3 non-profit with the mission to preserve and enhance Arizona's historic, cultural, and natural heritage. To accomplish our mission we actively:

- Protect the integrity and voter intent of the Arizona Game & Fish Heritage Fund.

- Monitor state legislative and agency activity.
- Pursue sustainable and dedicated funding sources for Arizona's historic, cultural, and natural initiatives, programs, and activities.
- Educate Arizonans on the benefits of our state's wildlife, open space, parks, and historic and cultural resources.



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