



ARIZONA HERITAGE ALLIANCE

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From the Desk of the President

Janice Miano, President, Arizona Heritage Alliance

Our dedicated Board of Directors and Executive Director have not been idle this year. I'm excited to let you know that our Board's Legislative Task Force, chaired by former State Representative Russ Jones of Yuma, has been working with State Senator Kate Brophy McGee and key stakeholders to craft legislation to restore the Arizona State Parks & Trails



Heritage Fund. Our local, regional, and state parks, trails, and historic resources are under-funded and need our collective support.

We have written a letter to Governor Ducey telling him we are concerned about

the developments at [Arizona State Parks & Trails](#) regarding the destruction of artifacts and the disregard of laws protecting Native American and other archaeological sites. We believe it is time to heal the agency, its staff, the State Parks Board, and concerned citizens who care about our natural, cultural, and historic resources. We also told him that it is time to reinstate the State Parks Heritage Fund!

It's also my pleasure to inform you that Andy Gordon, an original author of the Heritage Fund almost 30 years ago, will be guest speaker at our Annual Meeting on Wednesday, December 19, starting at 10 a.m. at the Flinn Foundation, 1802 North Central Avenue, in Phoenix. You are welcome to join us. RSVP at 602-528-7500.

Now let me recap our 2018 highlights:

- **February 2018:** Alliance members joined 100-plus other individuals who are active in protecting, preserving, and enhancing Arizona's cultural and natural resources at Environmental Day at the State Capitol. We met with numerous legislators to highlight our accomplishments and communicate our positions on various legislative measures.
- **April 2018:** We supported the Verde River/West Clear Creek Conservation Area proposed by the Nature Conservancy and passed by the Arizona Game & Fish Commission. Our letter supported the Conservancy's request that Arizona Game and Fish Heritage Funds be used for the remaining non-federal match needed for the acquisition of the easement. The last step of this decade long project was completed to protect over three miles of the Verde River Corridor for generations to come.
- **May 2018:** Thom Hulen and Lani Lott attended Arizona Forward's "Statewide Sustainability Summit: Discover Rio Reimagined." Presentations focused on what other cities have done to enhance or recover river channels dissecting their communities. Here in metro Phoenix, the cities that the Salt River courses through can create wildlife habitat, park amenities, ecological services (e.g., fresh air, flood control, and urban heat island mitigation), and opportunities for economic development.
- **June 2018:** We welcomed William (Bill) H. McLean to the Board. Bill, an attorney by profession, is a past Arizona Game and Fish Commissioner

and volunteer with numerous wildlife and conservation organizations. He serves as the Alliance's liaison to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission.

- **July 2018:** Bonnie Bariola, Sam Kathryn Campana, Thom Hulen, Lani Lott, Jim McPherson, Bill Meek, Janice Miano, Dale Wiebusch, and past Board Member Anita McFarlane thanked State Senator Kate Brophy McGee for her work to support our overall mission and discuss how we can work together to improve our cultural, natural, and historic resources.
- **August 2018:** We organized a number of "meet and greets" with representatives of the Arizona State Parks Foundation, League of Arizona Cities and Towns, and Arizona State Parks Board. Janice Miano and Lani Lott attended the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits' Board Leadership Workshop.
- **September 2018:** Bill McLean, Jim McPherson, and Lani Lott attended the "Park Central Conservation Easement Celebration" hosted by the Nature Conservancy and long-time Camp Verde property owners, the Hauser family. The easement unifies over 1,000 acres of land and connects two national forests with Arizona's newest state park: Rockin' River Ranch. The Conservancy's Executive Director Pat Graham noted the positive contribution of the Arizona Game and Fish Heritage Fund and lamented the loss of the Arizona State Parks & Trails Heritage Fund.
- **October 2018:** Janice Miano met with ASU professor Dale Larsen to discuss a future student-led project to update the positive impact that past Arizona State Parks & Trails Heritage Fund projects have had on local communities.



Our ongoing activities...

- Continue to attend Arizona State Parks Board meetings to show our

support for projects that pursue the goals of the Heritage Fund while advocating for solid public policies to protect our state park assets.

- Continue to maintain, strengthen, and expand partnerships with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Arizona Preservation Foundation, local preservation groups, Arizona League of Cities and Towns, Arizona Parks and Recreation Association, Arizona Forward, Central Arizona Conservation Alliance, and related organizations.
- Maintain a robust communication and outreach plan keeping our members, friends, and partners engaged and informed through our web presence, Facebook page, e-alerts, quarterly newsletter, and one-on-one meetings.

Please consider renewing your membership for another year and/or consider making an additional tax-deductible donation. All gifts, large or small, will make a significant difference in supporting the Alliance's mission and goals. Your membership renewal and gifts can be mailed directly to the Arizona Heritage Alliance, P.O. Box 16282, Phoenix, AZ 85011 or online at azheritage.org.

With your steadfast support, we will continue to uphold the Alliance's goal to protect the integrity and voter intent of the Arizona Game and Fish Heritage Fund, while actively pursuing sustainable and dedicated funding sources for Arizona's local, regional, and state parks as well as our historic and cultural initiatives, grants, programs, and activities. On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, thank you for your continuing support and generous gift to our Mission.

Janice Miano
President, Board of Directors
Arizona Heritage Alliance

Advocacy Update

As mentioned by our President's in the message above, the Board of the Arizona Heritage Alliance wrote a letter to the Governor regarding our concerns with the recent damage and disregard for archeological and Native American sites on our State Parks. Linda Valdez of the Arizona Republic heard about our letter and asked if she could write an opinion piece using our letter to Governor

Ducey as the basis of her piece. Any media attention is good when you are trying to accomplish something, therefore on Sunday, December 2nd, Linda Valdez wrote the following [article](#). Thank you Linda for your article and continuing support.

Board Member Spotlight

The Honorable Russ Jones

For the past four decades, Russ Jones has been the head of [R.L. Jones Customs Brokers](#). During that time, the company has expanded and along with its sister companies dealing in warehousing, freight forwarding, logistics, property management, and insurance services, now has offices throughout California, Arizona, Texas, and New Mexico. His activities have not been restricted to his business interests. Additionally, he has been elected to the Arizona State House of



Representatives, bringing his special expertise on customs and border issues, along with transportation, agriculture, and educational concerns to the Capitol.

After leaving legislative office, he not only continued in his primary professional activities, but, along with his wife, Janet, was awarded the prestigious Philanthropists of the Year Award for their untiring efforts to promote the arts and educational opportunities for all, contributions to the efforts of the Arizona Community Foundation of Yuma (ACF of Yuma). He continues with his community and civic involvement by serving as Chair of the Yuma County Republican Central Committee and participating as a member of the Arizona State GOP Committee.

Alliance News & Notes

Lani Lott, Director

Mark your calendars and please join the Arizona Heritage Alliance Board of Directors at their Annual Meeting, Wednesday, December 19 at 10 a.m. at the [Flinn Foundation Conference Room](#) in Phoenix. Keynote speaker will be Andrew (Andy) Gordon. Andy is a Founding Partner at [Coppersmith Brockelman](#) with his long-time friend, Sam Coppersmith. He is a seasoned senior litigator with 45 years of experience and a national reputation in business, antitrust, health care law, government contracting, and procurement and appeals. He is also one of Arizona's best-known experts in election law, having represented a wide array of elected officials and campaigns, including former Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano, Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon, and a number of initiative and referendum campaigns. He also is a Judge Pro Tem on the Maricopa County Superior Court. Additionally, Andy has considerable expertise from his governmental service in national security legal issues. From April 2009 to October 2010, he served as Counsel to the General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, working primarily on national security issues relating to Guantanamo and the Southwestern border. He is also an adjunct professor at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University where he teaches national security law.



Congratulations to Jennifer Martin, a former Arizona Heritage Alliance Board Member, who was recently elected to the [Central Arizona Water Conservation District \(CAWCD\)](#). Maricopa County elected five members to the board that runs the Central Arizona Project. Three people were re-elected: Lisa Atkins, who is the current president of the board, Heather Macre and Terry Goddard along with newly elected Ms. Martin and April Pinger. In addition to setting policy for the Central Arizona Project canal system, the entire panel will be voting on whether to join a final Drought Contingency Plan. That deal will determine how a Colorado River shortage will be felt in Arizona. CAWCD board members serve six-year terms. There are 15 members in all, from Maricopa, Pinal and Pima Counties.



On November 16, Governor Doug Ducey fired Arizona State Parks & Trails Director Sue Black and her top deputy, James Keegan, ending a turbulent 3 1/2-year tenure running the state agency. Black's termination follows an Arizona Republic and Phoenix New Times investigation revealing allegations from former department archaeologists that [Arizona State Parks & Trails](#) repeatedly developed state land without regard for laws protecting Native American and other archaeological sites. Ted Vogt, who previously served as the chief operating officer for the state of Arizona, will continue to serve as the interim director of the agency.



Environmental Day at the Arizona Capitol is scheduled for February 13, 2019. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend for all or part of the day. This year we will be delivering a birthday card, honoring Arizona's 107th Birthday, to legislative leaders and the governor with *Five Cs for a Sustainable Future*, hearing from speakers, and meeting with legislators



Environmental Day 2018 photo by James Garcia

in teams to discuss important environmental issues, bills, and more. No experience is necessary and training is provided. We also coordinate a a bus from Southern Arizona so you can let someone else do the driving. It is a fun, interesting, and meaningful day! [Click here](#) to download the flyer and please spread the word.

If you hike, boat, ride, hunt, fish, watch wildlife, visit a park, or tour historic sites, then Arizona's Heritage Fund affects your life! The Arizona Heritage Alliance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created in 1992 to protect Arizona's Heritage Fund and its objectives. The Alliance is guided by a Board of Directors drawn from a broad base of outdoor sports, environmental conservation, and historic preservation groups that helped pass the 1990 statewide voter initiative creating the Heritage Fund. We're always looking for new voices and talent to help us achieve our mission to preserve and enhance Arizona's historic, cultural, and natural heritage. If you are interested in joining our Board or serve on a Committee, send a note to Lani Lott, Director, at mail@azheritage.org

Partner Spotlight: Friends of the Ironwood Forest

[Friends of Ironwood Forest](#) is a local non-profit organization that works for the permanent protection of the biological, geological, archaeological, and historical resources and values for which the [Ironwood Forest National Monument](#) was established.

The Friends provide critical volunteer labor for projects on the Monument, and with the Bureau of Land Management and many other partners, work to increase community awareness through education, public outreach, and advocacy.

One of Arizona's best kept secrets, the Ironwood Forest National Monument serves as a biological anchor point for conserving some of our rarest flora and fauna, extraordinary landscapes, recreational opportunities, and irreplaceable archaeological treasures. The Friends care about the natural environment that surrounds us and feel it is important to take action to conserve this unique ecosystem – the Sonoran Desert.



Upcoming Events

- [Environmental Day at the Capitol 2019](#), Wednesday, February 13, 2019, Arizona Capitol, Rose Garden area, 1700 W. Washington St., Phoenix
- [Arizona Historic Preservation Conference](#), June 12-14, 2019, Prescott

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The Arizona Heritage Alliance is a 501-C-3 non-profit organization 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
- 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
- Monitor state legislative and agency activity



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