

2019 Spring/Summer AHA Newsletter

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Quarterly updates, news, and events from the Arizona Heritage Alliance

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ARIZONA HERITAGE ALLIANCE

P.O. Box 16282, Phoenix, AZ 85011

602-528-7500

mail@azheritage.org

From the Desk of the Janice Miano, President

We did it! We finally did it!

On Friday, May 24, 2019, **Senate Bill 1241** (state parks board; heritage fund), introduced by Senator Brophy McGee and co-sponsored by Senators Boyer, Carter, Kerr, Navarrete, Otondo, and Pratt, was transmitted to Governor Ducey for his signature.



SB1241 re-establishes the State Parks Heritage Fund back, but without dedicated funding until the time when Arizona Lottery encumbrances are repaid and removed.



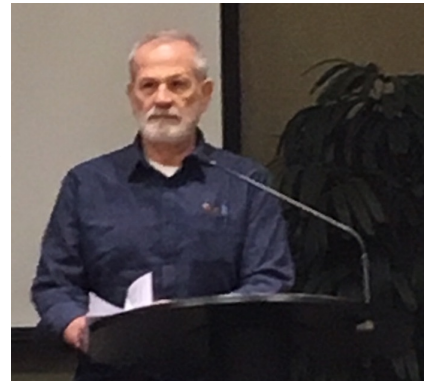
House Bill 2701 (state parks; lottery; heritage fund) was also introduced by Representative Joanne Osborne and co-sponsored by her House colleagues Cano, Cobb, Cook, Dunn, Fernandez, Kavanagh, Toma, and Kerr. Although this bill whizzed through committee and the House and Senate, it was held as a budget bill. HB2701 would not only have put the Heritage Fund back in statute, it would have had full funding (\$10 million) immediately. During the budget negotiations we were told, "Not this year. Try again in 2020." We will.

It has been ten years since the State Parks Board voted to cancel or suspend \$11.7 million in Heritage Fund grants already awarded and contracted. The Alliance board and staff never gave up and we worked diligently over these past ten years to have the Heritage Fund, and therefore the grants, reinstated. Hundreds of our members and friends, just like you, voiced their support for one or both bills via the Legislature's Request to Speak system and hundreds more made individual phone calls, emails, and letters to their elected officials. If anything can be said about the Alliance, is that we are tenacious and persistent in maintaining, adhering to, and seeking something valued or desired... a better Arizona.

On June 26 from 10 a.m. to Noon, the Alliance Board will meet in the Historic Senate Room at the State Capitol, 1700 W. Washington St. in Phoenix. The Board will discuss the new Heritage Fund (SB1241) and how to fund it through donations, grants, and appropriations and work with state officials to draft the administrative steps to accept, process, and promote future Heritage Fund grants. You are welcome to attend if you so desire.

Now let me highlight our first six months of 2019:

- **December 19, 2018:** The Alliance's annual meeting was held at the [Flinn Foundation](#) in Phoenix. Andy Gordon, an original author of the Heritage Fund pictured to the right, was our guest speaker and gave an inspiring keynote.
- **January 2019:** As the start of the legislative session, the Alliance's legislative task force worked tirelessly with our bill sponsors to gain bi-partisan support to restore the State Parks Heritage Fund and to plan for and attend committee hearings and meetings with individual legislators throughout



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- **February 13, 2019:** Over 350 individuals from almost every legislative districts participated in the 2019 Environmental Day at the State Capitol sponsored by the [Sierra Club \(Grand Canyon Chapter\)](#). Constituents discussed many issues with their representatives in celebration of Arizona's 107th birthday while Alliance members also met with legislators to communicate the Alliance's positions on SB1241 and HB2701 (the two bills focused on restoring the Heritage Fund).
- **March 22-24, 2019:** [ProMusica Arizona Chorale & Orchestra](#) invited the Alliance to join Sierra Club (Grand Canyon Chapter) and Black Canyon Heritage Park to participate at ProMusica's "Mountain Days: The John Muir Musical Concert." Lani Lott, Alliance executive director, set up a table each day to share information about the Alliance and the two Heritage Fund bills.

Ongoing activities throughout the year include:

- Continue to attend [Arizona State Parks & Trails 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 [Arizona Preservation Foundation](#), local preservation groups, [National Trust for Historic Preservation](#), [League of Arizona 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.

Of course I can't go without asking that you renew your Alliance membership for another year and/or make an additional tax-deductible donation. All gifts, large or small, make a significant difference in supporting our 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 now implementing the new Arizona State Parks Heritage Fund to benefit our local, regional, and state parks as well as our historic and cultural resources.

Thank you for your continuing support, advice, and assistance.

Alliance News & Notes

Lani Lott, Director

On February 13, 2019, over 350 individuals registered from almost all of the legislative districts to participate in the 2019 Environmental Day at the State Capitol sponsored by the [Sierra Club \(Grand Canyon Chapter\)](#). Constituents discussed many issues with their representatives in celebration of Arizona's 107th birthday while Alliance members also met with their respective legislators to communicate the Alliance's positions on bills SB1241 and HB2701 – both which were focused on restoring the State Parks Heritage Fund.



Congratulations to our President, Janice Miano, who recently graduated from the Leading for Change "Leaders Fellowship" program. [Leading for Change](#) is a non-profit, non-partisan training organization dedicated to developing the next generation of civic leaders in their quest to enhance the lives and opportunities in their communities. The [Leaders Fellowship](#) is an eight-month part-time program designed to elevate emerging community leaders' expertise in leading for change and includes five-weekend workshops, individual and small-group coaching sessions, project-based learning, and much more. An application process is required to participate in the program. [Senator Kyrsten Sinema](#) presided over the 2018-2019 Leaders Fellowship graduation and presented Janice with her diploma.



Hosted by the [Arizona State Historic Preservation Office](#) and the [Arizona State Parks and Trails](#), the [2019 Arizona Historic Preservation Conference](#) will be held at the historic [Hassayampa Inn](#) in Prescott, June 12-14. For the past 16 years, this conference has brought together preservation advocates from around the state to exchange ideas and success stories, share perspectives and solutions



to preservation issues, and foster cooperation within Arizona's diverse preservation community. The theme of this year's conference, "Preservation is Everybody's Business," will bring the community together to examine the myriad ways that preservation intersects with our daily lives. In addition to the regular sessions offered, below are this year's conference special events. Thanks to a sponsorship from Alliance Board member Bonnie Bariola, the Alliance is a sponsor for this year's conference and will host a table promoting our mission and handing out incredibly cute promotional "balls" that contain a poncho perfect for hiking during Monsoon season. [Click here](#) to see the full agenda, read about the speakers, and register to attend.

At the [Arizona Game and Fish Department's](#) Commission meeting held on May 10, 2019 in Prescott, [2019 Heritage Fund Grant](#) recipients were announced. Heritage Fund money comes from Arizona Lottery ticket sales and was established by voter initiative in 1990. Heritage funding goes toward conservation efforts such as protecting endangered species, educating students and the general public about wildlife and the outdoors, and creating new opportunities for outdoor recreation.

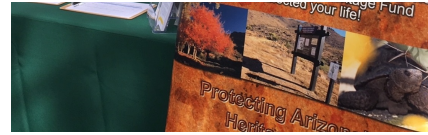


Since inception, the department has awarded more than \$16 million through the Heritage Fund grants program and support more than 800 projects throughout the state. A total of \$412,000 was available for the 2019 grant cycle and was awarded through a competitive application process in various categories (Environmental Education, Outdoor Education, Schoolyard Habitat, Urban Wildlife/Habitat, Public Access, and IIAPM). This year the agency scored 34 Heritage grant proposals. Visit azheritage.org to see a list of this year's grant awardees and the grant amount awarded. Congratulations to the recipients and good luck with your projects. We look forward to seeing the outcomes.

ProMusica Arizona's (PMAZ) mission is to enrich lives in the Greater Phoenix area, with focus on the North Valley, through innovative, joint performances of its multigenerational Chorale and Orchestra. As part of its commitment to high-quality musical performances, PMAZ is dedicated to an inclusive policy of attracting musicians in every age group and providing a challenging but supportive environment to develop talent. Participation offers musicians an educational experience and opportunity to practice



with others, perform before a live audience, and receive mentoring and instruction from experienced singers and instrumentalists. PMAZ is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is supported by the [Arizona Commission on the Arts](#) which receives they funding from both the State of Arizona as well as the National Endowment for the Arts. In March, PMAZ invited the Alliance to join [Sierra Club \(Grand Canyon Chapter\)](#) and [Black Canyon Heritage Park](#) to sponsor PMAZ's [Mountain Days: The John Muir Musical Concert](#) with a program ad and table to share information about the Alliance and our two Heritage Fund bills.



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](#).



Board Member Spotlight

Bill Meek is a 50-year resident of Arizona and past president of the [Arizona State Parks Foundation](#), a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving conditions at Arizona State Parks & Trails. Bill retired in 2007 after 14 years as the founding president and CEO of the 7,000-member Arizona Utility Investors Association, now known as the Arizona Investment Council. Before that, Bill spent 15 years running marketing communications companies in Phoenix, San Diego, and Tucson and another 15 years working as a newspaper reporter and editor, including ten years at The Arizona Republic. The Alliance thanks Bill for his service to the organization!



Partner Spotlight

League of Arizona Cities and Towns

[The League of Arizona Cities and Towns](#) provides an important link among the 91 incorporated cities and towns in Arizona and is the only organization that connects each and every municipality regardless of size or geographic location. The League is a voluntary membership organization and aims to promote local self-government, municipal independence and provide professional and high quality assistance to the municipal governments in the State of Arizona. The League represents the collective interests of cities and towns at the State Legislature, provides timely information on important municipal issues, creates skill-sharpening workshops and develops networking opportunities - just to name a few of the services. The organization's Annual Conference is the League's showcase event and is held in a different city each year. This four day meeting brings together more than 900 mayors, council members, appointed officials and guests. The Annual Conference allows members and other municipal officials to share experiences and discuss current local, regional, and national trends affecting municipal government in Arizona. This year the League's [Annual Conference](#) will be held August 20-23 at the JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort in Tucson.



Upcoming Events

- [Arizona Historic Preservation Conference](#), June 12-14, Prescott
- [Arizona Governor's Conference on Tourism](#), July 22-24, JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa, Tucson
- [Arizona Rural Policy Forum](#), August 7-9, Springerville-Eagar
- [League of Arizona Cities and Towns Annual Conference](#), August 20-23, JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa, Tucson

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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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Mission: To preserve and enhance Arizona's historic, cultural, and natural heritage.

Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 16282, Phoenix, AZ 85011

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