

# Arizona Historical Foundation

Vol. 1 Issue 2

Official Newsletter

Summer 2005

## A Note from James D. Kitchel, President of the Board Arizona Historical Foundation

In early April, the Arizona Historical Foundation held a retreat at the Hassayampa Inn in Prescott, Arizona. Board and staff analyzed the state of AHF, its goals, mission, and priorities. Under the inspired guidance of facilitator, Jack Pfister, retreat participants identified key priorities for the future. Aggressive financial steps in concert with board members, the continuation of discussions with Arizona State University regarding AHF becoming part of the downtown campus within a proposed library structure called the "Goldwater Library," and the broadening and expanding of professional staff and internship program were the three themes that should guide the Director and staff during the next year. I appreciate all who participated and made this important two-day meeting a success.

Additionally, I am working closely with Board and staff to implement a committee system to address priority issues in an aggressive and comprehensive way. The final committee assignments are close at hand and I look forward to working with the board and our staff in assuring that our new system works in an efficient and open manner.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by

Jack L. August Jr., Ph.D.

Since our last *Newsletter* the Arizona Historical Foundation staff and board have been actively engaged in a variety of activities that have enhanced our collections, self-governance, and public profile. The Arizona Historical Foundation retreat, held April 1-2, 2005 at the historic and elegant Hassayampa Inn in downtown Prescott accomplished many things, including bringing together board members who paid their own way and staff in a relaxing and enjoyable social setting. Jack Pfister proved to be a skillful facilitator. He was instrumental in guiding discussion and providing focus through various helpful techniques. This environment provided the framework for revisiting our mission, refining our goals, and setting priorities that will guide the Foundation for the next several years. Issues concerning governance, budget priorities, collection development policies, and public outreach were discussed in detail and candor. A critical juncture in AHF's institutional history, the retreat illustrated the organization's new level of professionalism and commitment to the collection, preservation, and dissemination of the history of Arizona and the Greater Southwest. In short, the retreat affirmed our new directions and provided a framework for future development.

In this context the board adopted the idea put forward by board President James D. Kitchel which called for the implementation of a comprehensive committee system of self-governance. In the next months chairmen will be assigned and committee members will meet to address



critical needs and establish priorities. Clearly, this order and self-discipline will serve the organization well as we move into uncharted waters in terms of our relationship with Arizona State University, potential donors of manuscript collections, and public outreach activities.

Over the past few months, Public Broadcasting Station KAET approached me to discuss several issues, including the possible airing of selected presentations from the recently completed 2005 Goldwater Lecture Series. While final decisions and details have yet to be worked out, the idea was to run the lectures when the nightly show *Horizon* takes its annual summer hiatus. Moreover, the new Program Director at KAET, John Booth, discussed the possibility of collaborations in the production and development of historically-based programs. John, whose body of work includes some internationally acclaimed documentary features, is an Arizona native anxious to produce works of enduring value.

I attended a few noteworthy conventions in April, including a very well-attended meeting of western archivists, which met in Las Vegas, Nevada from April 14-16, 2005. In fact, the session that I addressed, "Users Talk Back," with AHF certified archivist Linda Whitaker as the chair, attracted a standing-room only crowd. Amazingly, in a hot and cramped room, archivists sat through the entire session and then peppered the token historian, yours truly,

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## NOTES FROM THE FIELD:

### The Art of Collecting

Often we are asked, "What is it that you collect?" and "How do you know that it is worth anything?" The answers lie within some basic archival principles.

Knowing what to collect centers around a **collection policy**. This is essential to any repository and is easier said than done. Many repositories large and small start out seeking and accepting everything. Over time, space issues, budgetary pressures, and other considerations force repositories to assess their holdings. In the past year, this is precisely what occurred at AHF. We looked at what we had and determined that we would **focus on business, law and politics** which form the bulk of our collections. In other words, we decided to build on our **strengths**.

We also looked at **gaps in the record** to determine what Arizona industries, people, and geographic areas are currently under-represented within our collecting focus. The lists of those that meet that criteria are too numerous to mention here. Suffice it to say that there is a lot more out there than any one repository can handle. We also want to **avoid duplication**. We frequently refer donors to other repositories that would better serve their interests and researcher needs such as the Arizona Historical Society for family histories and genealogy. We also ask if they have previously donated material to another archive. If so, we refer them back to that repository. Why? We want to avoid artificially **splitting a collection** because it poses real hardships on researchers. The goal is to have sufficient depth to **attract researchers** and **provide comprehensive reference services**.

Subject matter is not the only consideration, however. **Formats** such as books, maps, audio/visual material, artwork, printed documents, newspapers, CDs, photographs, microfilm, artifacts and memorabilia can be found in most archives. Many of these items have specific **storage and preservation** requirements. Some formats are more heavily requested than others. For example, maps were poorly utilized at AHF. Many were un-catalogued. Last January AHF donated 1200+ maps to the Noble Library because it has the specialized staff, storage, and preservation resources that **insure long term access** to researchers. It also freed up valuable space for other collections such as political cartoons. We also returned approximately 1000 linear feet of Channel 10 film to the Arizona Historical Society not only because of the special preservation needs required, but also because it was part of a film collection already in AHS holdings.

If books, photographs or print material are badly damaged or deteriorated, we may also turn them down due to excessive preservation costs. The good news is that contemporary collections are usually in excellent condition. The bad news is that 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century collections are vastly larger than those from other eras. This requires more space and more staff time to process.

The key is to **collect only what can be reasonably supported**. AHF has a modest budget and limited space. We must collect selectively. This means we turn down more collections than we accept. Currently, **we can support** printed material, photographs, microfilm, and books. We accept A/V material but this requires further preservation and may remain relatively inaccessible until it

is re-formatted. (This is not unique to AHF and is a common dilemma for many repositories.) Film also requires special equipment. Electronic records present problems as well as opportunities. We'll be discussing that in later newsletters.

Scholars are generally not interested in three-dimensional objects. For that reason, we **no longer collect** furniture, framed artwork, sculpture, or sporting equipment. Collecting material cultural objects is best left to museums. AHF accepts certain artifacts and memorabilia within the limitations of our ability to exhibit them but they must be part of a larger collection.

How does one determine what items have **enduring historical value**? For archivists and librarians, worth is determined **less by financial appraisal** and **more by institutional missions, research interests and by repository collecting focus**. Further, it is **unethical** for an archivist to assess the monetary value of a donation. Donors who seek tax deductions are encouraged to get independent appraisals of their collection.

Use often determines what librarians and archivists collect. We can't predict research trends because those change over time but we do track requests for certain material. In the archives world, use is one proof of value. We also evaluate documents by certain criteria for their merit for continued preservation in an archive. In a world overwhelmed by information, only a small percentage of it is preserved. Here are some terms taken from the National Archives website (<http://www.archives.gov>) that define enduring historical value.

**Secondary Values** - the values of records to users other than the agency of record creation or its successors (see below; if one or more criteria are met, then the record is archivally valuable)

**Evidential Value** - the value of records or papers as documentation of the operations and activities of the records-creating organization, institution, or individual

**Informational Value** - the value of records or papers for information they contain on persons, places, subjects, and things other than the operation of the organization that created them or the activities of the individual or family that created them

**Intrinsic Value** - the archival term for those qualities and characteristics of permanently valuable records that make the records in their original physical form the only archivally acceptable form of the records

Anyone interested in donating their papers to AHF are encouraged to call. We would be happy to answer questions, give you a tour, or help guide your archival decisions. In our next issue, look for information about **business archives and record retention schedules**.



## DIRECTOR'S REPORT *continued*

and a bright young political scientist from the University of Niagara, with a host of penetrating questions. I observed a marked camaraderie and concern for service among the nearly 260 archivists in attendance that represented institutions from nearly every state west of the Mississippi River. I indicated to the audience that my experiences contrasted, at times, with those of political scientists. In short, I arrived at the conclusion that historians are comfortable with weeding and sampling of collections, while political scientists, for the most part, prefer the opposite. I informed Linda and AHF archivist Susan Irwin, who also attended the conference, that I would welcome an opportunity to attend another archive convention.

Meanwhile, AHF Board Vice-President C. Kimball Rose exposed me to some of Arizona's judicial luminaries whose personal and professional papers could be of significant historical value, providing AHF with inroads into the legal and judicial history of the state. To sit in as judges reminisce, reflect, and recall cases, processes, and the actions of any number of colorful individuals, has been an exciting and rare privilege for me.

Also, I am very pleased to announce that AHF board member Bill Phillips scheduled a luncheon with real estate mogul and political figure William Schulz, Jim Kitchel and me which resulted in a signed deed of gift promising that AHF will serve as the repository of the William Schulz Papers. Besides this important twentieth century collection, there are other exciting field collecting initiatives in the offing. Barry Goldwater Jr. has also agreed to donate his personal and political papers to AHF. Father and son congressional papers in the same repository are unusual. Together they provide rare insights into politics and father-son relationships. It's a rare opportunity and a privilege to work on both collections.

Recently, I was asked to serve as the first annual McFarland Lecturer at the plenary session of the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of the Arizona Historical Convention held in Flagstaff from April 21-23, 2005. I was fortunate to share the podium with State Land Commissioner Mark Winkleman and Director of the State Historic Preservation Office, James Garrison. We covered a host of public land and water use topics and touched upon the tension between public versus private ownership of natural resources and the built environment. My discussion of the cumbersomely-named Arizona Navigable Stream Adjudication Commission (ANSAC) hearings produced a surprising number of audience questions and some of the issues raised were discussed throughout the three days of the convention. Additionally, I chaired a Saturday afternoon conference session on the Colorado River, which featured a paper on the Arizona v California "war" of 1934, when Governor B.B. Moeur sent the National Guard to the Colorado to remove construction workers from California who were building Parker Dam. Also, I was privileged to award the annual Goldwater Prize for best convention paper at the Saturday evening banquet on April 23, 2005, to Dr. Melanie Sturgeon, whose paper addressed bigamy which was part of a larger study of the history of prostitution in territorial Arizona.

At the convention, Vince Murray, who heads the Friends of Arizona Archives (FAZA) asked that I serve as keynote speaker at their annual meeting on June 3, 2005, which will be held at the Arizona Historical Society's Central Arizona Division in Tempe. I agreed to speak and will discuss "Senator Dennis DeConcini and the Keating Five Scandal." Additionally, in June 2005 I will serve as a faculty member of a National Endowment for the Humanities Public Programs grant on the "History of the Colorado River." Most of these sessions will take place in Lake Havasu City.

On April 25-26, 2005, I met with Arizona State University officials in two separate meetings to discuss the emerging downtown campus of Arizona State University. On the 25<sup>th</sup>, AHF Board Vice-President C. Kimball Rose and archivist, Susan Irwin, attended this interesting parlay as well and their presence was greatly appreciated. Chaired by recently-appointed ASU Downtown Vice-Provost Sheila Stokes and ASU Vice President for Public Affairs, Nancy Jordan, this meeting was held at the current ASU downtown facility and included several potential private, non-profit, and public sector groups who expressed interest in a presence on the new campus. Vice President Jordan asked us for a "wish list" to present at the meeting of April 26, 2005. Linda and Susan went to work, producing a list of space, shelving, and preservation needs, virtually working overnight.

The 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, held at the office of the Dean of the School of Architecture and Environmental Design, Wellington "Duke" Reiter, was attended by AHF board members Bill Phillips and Kim Rose, and Linda, Susan and me. This meeting signaled a critical juncture in AHF history and the board. We must review our options and act in an expeditious manner if AHF wants to play a premiere role in the evolving downtown ASU campus. Dean Reiter suggested that AHF could serve as a cornerstone and cultural icon to the library facility on this campus. As one of the top three priorities agreed upon at the board retreat, the ASU Downtown initiative promises to be a goal that I will pursue with determination and resolve. Our board and membership, as well as those in our community of scholars and the public, are invited to assist in this effort.

I look forward to keeping all abreast of the aforementioned developments and more in our next quarterly AHF *Newsletter*.

### Goldwater Award

The Arizona Historical Foundation sponsors the **Barry M. Goldwater Prize** for best paper presented at the Arizona History Convention. The 2005 recipient, **Melanie Sturgeon PhD**, won for her paper, *Where There's Smoke There's Fire: The Secret Life of David J. Boleyn*. Ms. Sturgeon is the Director of the Arizona History & Archives Division of the Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records. She received her M.A. in Public History and Ph.D. in History from Arizona State University. AHF Director, Jack August, had the pleasure of presenting the \$500 prize to Melanie Sturgeon, Ph.D. at the Arizona History Convention Awards Banquet on Saturday April 23, 2005.

### Graduate Students Intern at AHF

In January, as part of our educational outreach, AHF began an internship program for graduate Library and Information Science (LIS) students. Internships in an archives setting can be difficult to find for students. We have created two intern positions for each semester (Spring, Summer and Fall). The interns must have completed a minimum of 12 graduate credits in LIS before applying. The internships are project based, with the student's interests and skills matched to a specific AHF project.

Over the course of 135 hours the students work closely with staff to complete the project. Once accepted as an intern, the student writes up a proposal outlining the goals and objectives of the project. We then provide the students with a packet of readings that must be completed before their first day. The overarching goal of the internship is to provide the student with a project based problem which will utilize their knowledge and skills and in the process give them some insight into the archives field. At the end of the semester the student turns in a final report detailing the how the goals were achieved. As is the case in most educational endeavors, the teachers learn as much, if not more, than the students.

The spring 2005 interns completed their projects in April. **Michaelanne Ehrlich** and **Tara Summus** are graduate students in the School of Information Resources and Library Science at the University of Arizona. Each processed a collection during the semester. Michaelanne surveyed, arranged, described and processed the **Ralph E. Ellinwood Collection MSS #78**. She created a finding aid and assisted in the cataloging of the collection. In addition, Michaelanne curated and mounted the Ralph Ellinwood Exhibit. See the online version of the Winter 2005 newsletter for details about the exhibit. With the remaining hours of her internship, she assisted staff member Liz Scott with the processing of the Arizona Organized Crime Collection.

Tara surveyed, arranged, described and processed the **Frank L. Snell Collection MSS #92**. The collection contained a mix of formats including documents, publications, blue prints, photos, news clippings, and audio tape material. Tara created the finding aid and assisted with the cataloging. At the end of her internship, she assisted Archivist Linda Whitaker with the Barry M. Goldwater Papers.

Descriptions of the two collections, and the finding aids, will be added to the AHF website in the coming week. Please check the Manuscript Collections page at [http://www.ahfweb.org/collections\\_manuscripts.html](http://www.ahfweb.org/collections_manuscripts.html) for details.

### Association of the Centers for the Study of Congress



[www.congresscenters.org](http://www.congresscenters.org)

We are pleased to announce that AHF has been accepted as a member of the Association of the Centers for the Study of Congress. The ACSC was founded in 2003 as an independent alliance of organizations and institutions which promote the study of the U.S. Congress. It supports a wide range of programs designed to inform and educate students, scholars, policy-makers and members of the general public about the history of Congress, the legislative process, and current issues facing Congress. It also encourages the preservation of material that documents the work of Congress including the papers of Representatives and Senators; and supports programs that make those materials available for education and research. Use this link <http://www.congresscenters.org/members.htm> to view the impressive roster of member institutions.

AHF has been invited to attend the annual ACSC conference in Washington DC. This is a pivotal meeting that will determine the future goals of ACSC, not the least of which is getting a significant grant from the Humanities Council. Karen Paul, Senate Archivist, will be among those attending. She has been very interested in the progress of the Personal and Political Papers of Barry Goldwater.

### Arizona Culturekeepers Event

Members mark your calendars in order to attend the annual Culturekeepers Awards Dinner which will be held this September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005. This event honors ten Arizonans who have been deemed worthy of keeping and preserving Arizona history. The evening will be filled with good food, exciting entertainment, as well as a silent auction. Ticket information and exact time of the event will be announced at a later date.



MUSEUM DAY  
IN MAY

The Arizona Historical Foundation is a member of the Museums, Galleries, and Collections Committee (MGCC) at Arizona State University. The committee includes representatives from a wide variety of repositories including the Archaeological Research Institute, ASU Art Museum Ceramics Research Center, Center for Meteorite Studies, College of Law Art Collections, Mars Space Flight Facility, Luhr's Gallery, Archives & Manuscripts, and Vascular Plant Herbarium. MGCC promotes the programs and resources at two dozen museums, galleries and collections on the campus.

May is Museum Month and MGCC is celebrating by offering Museum Day Tours on International Museum Day, Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be three themed tours: Natural Science tour from 9:00am to 11:00am, Fine Arts tour from Noon to 2:00pm, and a History and Culture tour from 2:30pm to 5:00pm. Details of the tours are posted on the MGCC website at [http://www.asu.edu/museums/mgcc\\_museumday.htm](http://www.asu.edu/museums/mgcc_museumday.htm). AHF will be handing out free books and bookmarks to those who attend the History and Culture Tour.

MGCC hosts a number of events throughout the year. The "Exhibits @ Noon" program offers one tour on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, August through May, at one of the 24 sites on campus. In February, MGCC hosts an Open House with morning and afternoon tours. The website listed above includes a calendar of events.

AHF welcomes the opportunity to participate in the cultural events sponsored by



**Processing the Goldwater Papers:** This is a work in progress and from time to time, we'll give you a photographic update. The collection is currently divided into parts called series. These will be called Personal, Administrative, Legislative, 1964 Presidential Campaign, and Media. What you see here are portions of the Personal Series which are rich in research material. Jared Jackson is working on general correspondence, arranging it alphabetically and chronologically. Linda Whitaker is shown (taking a break!) after reconstructing the Alpha Files and organizing 50 years of the Senator's Boards and Memberships Files. The goal is to process this very important collection according to acceptable standards for Senate papers.



### Western Round-Up, Las Vegas

No, this wasn't a rodeo but rather a "super regional" meeting of archivists from California, Utah, Nevada, Hawaii, Arizona, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, and Western Canada. Nearly 260 western archivists, librarians, curators, and others joined forces in Las Vegas on April 14-16 to discuss a wide range of topics. These included Privacy v. Public Access, Processing 20<sup>th</sup> Century Papers, Water Resources and Archival Education. There were 15 sessions, six business meetings, and three workshops in all. Between Susan Irwin and Linda Whitaker, AHF was represented at most of them.

Linda chaired and Jack August participated in a panel entitled "Users Talk Back" to a standing room only audience. Jack shared the podium with Associate Professor of Political Science, Sean Q Kelly, from Niagara University. Together, these scholars have used over 30 repositories researching political collections. Political collections are notoriously complex and expensive to process due to their size. Each described the various collections and research strategies they used, compared and contrasted their experiences, explained how obstacles impacted their research, described how they overcame those obstacles and reported the results of their research. The goal was to increase the visibility and accessibility of political papers.

Due to the considerable interest of the audience, we have been encouraged to host a workshop on political collections next year. Stay tuned for details.

## Book Notes

In our previous newsletter, we discussed the process of collection development and how archives and libraries weed materials from their collections. Now that we have more space on our shelves and a better handle on our collecting focus, we would like to start adding titles, not only to our stacks, but also to a new public reference section in the reading room. Below is a **wish list** of some titles that we are interested in acquiring. These can be new or used. Please contact me before you purchase or bring in any items ([elizabeth.scott@ahfweb.org](mailto:elizabeth.scott@ahfweb.org) or 480/965-3283). That way we can avoid multiple purchases and duplication. You may also make a donation to the Foundation specifying that it go directly to our collection development efforts.



Again, these are only a few suggestions. If you have additional titles on Arizona's legal community, politics, or businesses that you think would be appropriate to the collection, don't hesitate to contact me. I would enjoy discussing the books with you.

## Wish List

*Suburban Warriors: The Origins of the New American Right*,  
by Lisa McGirr

- This book explores the 1960's "death of conservatism" and rebirth through people in Orange County, CA. McGirr examines a new kind of conservatism activism that happened in mainstream American rather than in fringe groups. She also follows the 1964 campaign of Barry Goldwater through to the Reagan election.

*Historical Dictionary of United States Political Parties*,  
by Harold Franklin Bass, Jr.

- This book provides a concise history of the major and minor political parties both past and present.

*Elections A to Z*,  
by John Leo Moore

- Focusing mainly on national elections, this book covers the history and major concepts related to winning elections.

*The New Encyclopedia of the American West*,  
Howard R. Lamar, editor

- This work replaces Lamar's 20-year old four volume set on the American West. Illustrated, this contains over 2400 entries which focus not only on old west topics like cowboys and Indians, but new issues such as women and African Americans.

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