



ARIZONA STATE  
LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND PUBLIC RECORDS

GladysAnn Wells, Director

PROVIDING ACCESS  
*Preserving  
Arizona*

May 18, 2006

Dear Legislative Member:

The State Library, Archives and Public Records is actively pursuing our mission of *providing access, preserving Arizona*.

**Arizona Highway Patrol 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary exhibit**

"Courteous Vigilance" a display of photographs, uniforms, badges and other artifacts celebrates the Highway Patrol's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Highway Patrol founded in 1931, became a part of the Department of Public Safety in 1969. Among the items on display are 1930's copper related items, a license plate, log book and badge that were made in honor of the State's copper industry and a concrete mile post. The exhibit also includes a memorial to the Department's 26 fallen officers. The exhibit is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Museum and is on display until August 31<sup>st</sup>. The Museum is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. please stop by to enjoy this wonderful display from the collection.

**Arizona Memory Project serves as access point to collections**

The *Arizona Memory Project* (AMP) launched this spring is a web-based activity providing access to the wealth of Arizona libraries, archives, museums and other cultural institutions. As a portal to many institutions' collections, the project will help individuals locate materials relevant to their interests. Please take a look at: <http://azmemory.lib.az.us/>

One of the benefits of participating in the Arizona Memory Project – accessibility! Recently, one of the participating museums experienced a server failure that lasted for several days. However, because they have a presence on the Arizona Memory Project, their repository information and collections are still accessible through our server, so patrons (and even their own staff!) still can locate organization and collections information. This is just one illustration of how the Arizona Memory Project makes collections – and organizations - accessible to patrons!

The Arizona Memory Project is one of several initiatives of the State Library in support of the Arizona State Centennial in 2012.

**National History Day State Finals qualifies 52 for National competition**

Thanks to House and Senate leadership, the National History Day State Finals were held at the Capitol and both Legislative office buildings on April 8<sup>th</sup> with over 350 4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students participating, representing most geographic areas of the state. Students researched, designed and presented in competition: Youth Posters, Websites, Performances, Exhibits, and Junior and Senior Papers. These students qualified as finalists through six regional events—Sierra Vista, Tucson, Phoenix Metro, East Valley, Flagstaff and Prescott – that drew more than 4,000 entrants.

Events were held in the Capitol Museum and throughout both legislative buildings, with the Award Ceremonies held in the legislative chambers. In addition to the students, 100 highly qualified adults volunteered as judges and 800 parents, teachers, friends and family also attended to support the State finalists. The National History Day Finals will be held June 11 through 15<sup>th</sup> at the University of Maryland. Fifty-two Arizona students will compete in the National Finals.

**Most visited exhibit at the Capitol Museum undergoes renovation**

In anticipation of Memorial Day, the *USS Arizona* exhibit is undergoing renovation. The 58 pieces in the USS Arizona Silver collection will be displayed in their entirety for the people of Arizona, veterans, school children, and visitors as part of a renovated *USS Arizona* exhibit. With the help of the Veteran Affairs Department, this new exhibit will allow for the preservation of all of the silver pieces, which will be displayed in *environmentally controlled* cases so that constant cleaning will not be required.

This service has been declared on of the "finest... in the Navy" and is made primarily of silver with some copper. The major source of funding for the purchase of the set came from donations by Arizona's citizens. The silver set was used aboard the *USS Arizona* from 1919 until January 1941 when it was removed on the eve of World War II. In 1976, it was permanently returned to the state and placed on display in the Capitol Museum.

146

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We look forward to re-opening the exhibit on May 24<sup>th</sup> and hope that you will join us in celebrating the service of the *USS Arizona* and all veterans.

### **Braille and Talking Book Library featured on Channel 12**

Channel 12 (KPNX) featured the Arizona State Braille & Talking Book Library on the "Arizona Midday Show" with Jineane Ford. In Arizona more than 65,000 visually and physically disabled people are eligible to use free services offered by the Arizona State Braille and Talking Book Library through the support of the Library of Congress, National Library Service. Talking Book Library services are available to persons who cannot hold, handle or read conventional printed material because of a visual or physical disability. Its services can be used by those with either permanent or temporary disabilities and are available to individuals or to institutions serving such persons.

### **Arizona takes the lead at New Skills Colloquium**

The Arizona State Library and Archives, along with the National Archives and the Society of American Archivists, developed a colloquium to explore new skills needed by librarians, archivists, and records professionals in the digital era. The colloquium, which takes place 31 May through 2 June, will bring together individuals from across the nation who have practical experience working in the nascent field of long-term access and preservation of essential digital information. Richard Pearce-Moses has spearheaded this effort. For more information, see <http://rpm.lib.az.us/newskills/>

### **Digital Preservation efforts increasing**

Several members of the Arizona State Library's Digital Government Cluster were invited to make presentations on its work at the Digital Preservation in State Government Best Practices Exchange, hosted by the North Carolina State Library. State Library representatives spoke about the development of a digital repository to store and provide access to digitized materials, such as state historical collections of photographs and papers, and born digital materials, such as state agency reports published only on the web and provided the closing remarks.

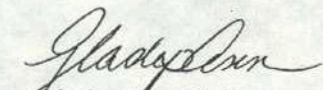
Scanning microfilmed images into digital format services have increased. This is very popular for our customers who have permanently valuable records that they wish to insure are preserved - via the microfilm - but want to better access, through the digital images.

The Arizona State Library and Archives continues to capture and preserve significant quantities of information published on state agency websites and under state agency contract. Most months, more than 55 gigabytes of data are downloaded and preserved as part of a collaborative project with the Illinois State Library using software developed at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

### **Speaker series brings Arizona history to life**

The 2005-2006 monthly Lunch Bunch Speaker Series at the Arizona Capitol Museum drew in record audiences eager to learn more about Arizona's history, people and place. Presenters discussed a variety of topics ranging from Mo Udall, John Rhodes and the Chiricahua Apaches, to Route 66 and photographs of Phoenix landmarks then and now, by sharing their expertise, passion for and stories about Arizona.

With Warmest Regards,

  
GladysAnn Wells  
State Librarian