

The “Polly” Award



Polly Rosenbaum

In 1999, the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records established the Polly Rosenbaum award in recognition of Polly’s tireless support for libraries, museums, archives, and the preservation of Arizona’s rich cultural history.

This award connotes a special acknowledgment of elected or appointed officials (not on the current Library Board) who cherish Arizona’s rich cultural resources and support the work of the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records.

Nominations are made by employees of the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, and the members of the Friends of Arizona Archives, and Arizona State Capitol Museum Guild.

The Selection Committee includes one professional staff person from each agency division, one representative from the Friends of Arizona Archives, and one representative from the Arizona State Capitol Museum Guild. Agency Division Directors chair the committee on a rotating basis.

The “Polly” Award is presented annually during Statehood Day celebrations at the State Capitol.



Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records

Winner of the 2008 "Polly" Award



Brenda Burns

Brenda Burns served in the Arizona legislature for 16 years – as the House of Representative’s first woman majority leader, and in the Senate where she served as the Senate’s first woman president. Ms. Burns served as national chair of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). Brenda Burns’ work has received other awards recognizing her in the legislature, such as the 2002 Legislator of the Year from the Arizona Chamber of Commerce, and 2000 Women Making History award from the National Women’s History Museum.

The “Polly Award” recognizes Ms. Burns’ sincere interest in and public commitment to the State Library’s mission to preserve Arizona’s history and to provide access to information, as demonstrated in numerous ways:

- ★ She supported the State Library’s work with legislative partners, initiating the Electronic Reference Service.
- ★ As a member of the Library Board, she supported the initiation of a cost recovery fee for the storage and servicing of records in the Records Management Center. This has helped our agency weather fiscal situations.
- ★ Once again demonstrating her skillful leadership, she steered the Capitol Task Force in an open, fair and balanced way. Ms. Burns’ inclusiveness of Task Force members encouraged them to engage in full and lively discussions of issues relating to the viability of using the historic Arizona Capitol building for legislative and government functions, determination of costs associated with converting the historic Capitol into a functioning building for legislative and government purposes, developing a plan to retain the features of the current museum uses of the Capitol, considering suggesting such renovations as part of the statewide Centennial Legacy Project, and considering any other options for the historic Capitol Building the Task Force deemed appropriate.

She has appreciated the value of cultural institutions and the role they play in helping citizens live their lives, work their jobs, and understand their history. Ms. Burns’ support of the Agency reflects the example of Polly Rosenbaum. Her continuing efforts to help us in our mission to provide access and preserve Arizona are treasured by us all.

It is with deep respect, appreciation and pleasure that Brenda Burns was selected for the *Polly Rosenbaum Award*.

Winner of the 2009 “Polly” Award



Jack A. Brown

Representative Jack Brown, serving Legislative District 5, is the Assistant Minority Leader in the Arizona House. He previously served 8 years in the Arizona State Senate, as Senate Minority Leader, including 2 years as Senate Floor Leader. Representative Brown is a native Arizonan and lifelong resident of St. Johns. He is a realtor, rancher, and farmer in eastern Arizona. Representative Brown is a graduate of Brigham Young University, with a degree in Agriculture and Economics.

On January 20, 2008, *The Arizona Republic* named Representative Brown to its list of “The Modern Arizona Legislature’s Shining Stars.” One of only 50 listed, the article describes Mr. Brown as a “congenial, calm lawmaker, respected for evenhandedness and common sense. . .” While Mr. Brown considers himself a representative for all of Arizona’s interests, his primary focus is serving as an ardent proponent for the rural areas of Arizona. He vows to continue being a “watchdog” for the lifestyles and rights of the rural communities. He has been an advocate for the state park system, health care issues and education funding.

The “Polly Award” recognizes Mr. Brown’s sincere interest in and public commitment to the State Library’s mission to preserve Arizona’s history and to provide access to information, as demonstrated in numerous ways:

- He supported the State Library in its goal of securing funding for a state of the art Polly Rosenbaum Archives and History Building. Although others opposed, he stood firm in your support of full funding for the best building possible to secure Arizona’s history for future generations.
- As a member of the library board he supported the many goals and activities of the State Library. He brought the voice of rural Arizonans and the importance of rural libraries to the forefront.
- Thanks to his support, and that of others he influenced, the people of Arizona now have adequate storage space, proper archival conditions and conservation equipment to preserve and protect the historical records of state, county and local governments.

He has appreciated the value of cultural institutions and the role they play in helping citizens live their lives, work their jobs, and understand their history. His enthusiastic support of the Agency mirrors the example of Polly Rosenbaum. His continuing efforts to help us in our mission to provide access and preserve Arizona are treasured by us all.

It is with deep respect, appreciation and pleasure that Jack Brown was selected for the *Polly Rosenbaum Award*.

Winner of the 2009 "Polly" Award



Jack Pfister

Mr. Pfister is a fourth generation Arizonan who has played a major role in guiding the state's growth for more than 30 years. He was born in Prescott and after receiving engineering and law degrees from the University of Arizona he went to work for Jennings, Strauss, Salmon and Track in Phoenix. They were the law firm that represented the Salt River Project. In 1970 he went to work for SRP in a non-legal capacity and then served as general manager from 1976 - 1991.

During his tenure as general manager of Salt River Project the utility experienced significant growth to become one of the nation's largest public power entities.

Mr. Pfister served under several Arizona governors on commissions involving growth and water issues, and was a member of Governor Jane Hull's transition team. He was a driving force behind Victory Together, ensuring statewide recognition of a Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Establishing a tradition of community involvement, he served on the Arizona Board of Regents, Arizona Town Hall, Flinn Foundation, Girl Scouts, YMCA, Arizona Humanities Council, Maricopa Community College Foundation and many others, and encouraged SRP managers and employees to do the same.

After retiring from SRP, Mr. Pfister taught at Arizona State University's School of Public Affairs, and served as president of the ASU Research Park and as the university's vice president for institutional advancement.

The "Polly Award" recognizes Mr. Pfister's sincere interest in and public commitment to the State Library's mission to preserve Arizona's history and to provide access to information, as demonstrated in numerous ways:

- He supported the State Library and FAZA in their goal of securing funding for the state of the art Polly Rosenbaum Archives and History Building. His interest in history and identification of difficulties in preserving Arizona's historical records in unsatisfactory storage conditions helped secure support from others including SRP.
- He provided valuable information to legislators on the importance of ensuring that historical records are properly preserved for future generations. His knowledge of legislative process and insight into how politics works was beneficial in helping gain the support needed.
- Thanks to his support, and that of others he influenced, the people of Arizona now have adequate storage space, proper archival conditions and conservation equipment to preserve and protect the historical records of state, county and local governments.

He has appreciated the value of cultural institutions and the role they play in helping citizens live their lives, work their jobs, and understand their history. His enthusiastic support of the Agency mirrors the example of Polly Rosenbaum. His continuing efforts to help us in our mission to provide access and preserve Arizona are treasured by us all.

It is with deep respect, appreciation and pleasure that Jack Pfister was selected for the *Polly Rosenbaum Award*.