

ARIZONA HISTORICAL ADVISORY COMMISSION



Statutory Institutions:

State Historic
Preservation Office

Arizona Historical Society

Arizona State Library,
Archives and Public Records

Arizona State Museum

Arizona State Parks

June 1, 2007

Dear Centennial Colleague:

Arizona's Statehood Centennial commemoration is only five years away. This year two events and three legislative bills, passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor, have marked significant steps toward the planning of this important statewide milestone.

On Statehood Day, February 14, Senate President Tim Bee, Chair of the Board of the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, Speaker of the House Jim Weiers, and Board members Senator Soltero and Representative Jack Brown, approved and released the Centennial Plan developed by the Arizona Historical Advisory Commission (AHAC). The Centennial Plan is Attachment "A". All Commission information may also be found at www.azcentennial.gov

On April 19th, President Bee and Speaker Weiers, assisted by Commission member and event planner, John Driggs, hosted a Centennial rally, The Arizona Centennial Kickoff, at the Arizona National Guard Headquarters, Papago Park, Phoenix. Many of you attended or may have read about that very successful event.

This letter is a follow up to those events, an update from the Commission and a request for your ideas and your local Centennial contact person(s). House Concurrent Memorial 2006, Attachment "B", urges each city, town, county and Indian tribe to appoint a Centennial Committee to work to commemorate Arizona's Centennial. The other two laws (Laws 2007, Chapter 78, HB 2407 and Laws 2007, Chapter 169 Section 1, SB 1433) increased the size of the Commission, mandated the creation of Centennial Medallions and provided limited operating funds for the Commission.

Arizona Revised Statutes 41-1352, established the Commission under the State Library and Archives. Laws 2005, Chapter 1 Section 3; and Laws of 2006, Chapter 350 Section 4; added responsibility for the planning of the Centennial to the Commission (AHAC). The Commission is responsible for "recommending and funding activities and projects that will ensure lasting legacy accomplishments to commemorate the (Arizona) Centennial". The Commission "may accept and spend appropriations, grants, gifts, contributions and devises to assist in carrying out" its responsibilities. The Commission has established an Arizona Centennial account in the office of the State Treasurer for this purpose. Legacy project application forms and other information are also available on the Centennial website.

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1700 W. Washington – Room 200 • Phoenix, Arizona 85007 • Home Page: <http://www.azcentennial.gov>
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Laws 2006, Chapter 350, Section 7, appropriated \$2,500,000 to the Arizona Legislative Council for planning, activities and projects related to the Arizona Centennial. Before this appropriated amount may be spent the following must occur:

- The Commission (AHAC) must collect \$5,000,000 in matching funds from sources other than the State, and deposit these matching funds into the Arizona Centennial account.
- The Members of the Legislative Council must vote to authorize the expenditures(s).

The hope is that there will be \$7.5 million available to plan and produce local, regional and statewide Centennial projects and activities.

The Commission is specifically authorized to spend gifts, grants and donations as they are collected, but the Commission must make periodic accountings to the Legislative Council to enable the Council to determine the funds' eligibility as the state match.

Although the Commission anticipates receiving both unrestricted and earmarked or restricted donations, each donation must be accepted by the Commission at a public meeting. Restricted donations (those made for a particular purpose, rather than for the general Centennial activity), must be accompanied with the appropriate Department of Administration forms Attachment "C", to ensure that the Commission knows and can certify to the Department of Administration the:

- source from which such monies were received; and
- terms and conditions under which the funds were received.

The correct forms will be prepared and processed by the State Library and Archives, at the request and with the approval of the Commission. All restricted donations must be clearly described and accepted by the Commission in a public meeting. Restricted donations that are accepted by the Commission may be subject to refund or return by the Commission to the donor pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes 35-142, 35-146 and 35-149. With Commission acceptance, and Legislative Council agreement, restricted funds will count towards the \$5 million match needed. Interest earned on restricted funds will remain with the general Centennial account for the statewide activities. No funds will be accepted or released without a public vote of the Commission.

Unrestricted funds, those made for the purpose of general Centennial activities that are accepted by the Commission at a public meeting may be spent at the direction of the Commission for the development and coordination of Centennial activities and projects.

This information should resolve any confusion about the process and procedures. Attachment "D" is the Legislative Council memorandum distributed at the April 19th meeting. Any questions may be directed to the Arizona State Library, azcentennial@lib.az.us or 602-542-4035.

Attachment "E" is a short survey form that requests your local Centennial contact or committee; any events or projects now in planning stages in your communities, counties, agencies or tribes; and your suggestions for the overall statewide Centennial year. The Commission envisions a year long commemoration based on a master calendar posted on the Centennial website to ensure that each major event may be attended by as many people as possible. We hope to avoid duplication of dates and to encourage activities across the state during the Centennial year. One such event will be February 14, 2012, at the State Capitol on Statehood Day.

The Commission will maintain the website, post events, update the master calendar, and forward Centennial information to your Centennial contacts. In the belief that the \$5 million will be raised, the Commission will also develop a draft budget for public discussion and review providing for the major statewide set of activities that might be eligible for the \$5 million match funds once that money is raised. All Commission approved legacy projects could be considered by the Commission for funding, but in addition, the Commission is hopeful that several major efforts around the state might be assisted. Current ideas include: the development of an Arizona history series for national and statewide television, the restoration of selected historic properties and their return to public service, the creation of Centennial celebration art, literary and historical works, and regional lecture series or other Arizona historical or Arizona future planning events.

The Coordinating Committee for History in Arizona is assisting the Centennial effort through the building of an email based contact list and the offering of Centennial workshops. See the CCHA website for additional information www.ccha-net.org/

The Commission looks forward to working with you to provide Arizona with a unique and significant Centennial year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James W. Garrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

James W. Garrison, Chairman
Arizona Historical Advisory Commission

Cc Honorable Tim Bee, President of the Senate
Honorable Jim Weirs, Speaker of the House

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