

ARIZONA  INSIGHT

Celebrating the Arizona Story for 30 Years, 1973–2003

DECEMBER 2003

## A Change In Leadership

### Amanda Swain Succeeds Dan Shilling

**A**manda Swain has joined AHC's staff as the new executive director, effective December 1, 2003. She is only the third executive director in AHC's 30-year history.

Amanda, who recently resigned as associate director at Humanities Washington in Seattle, will follow **Dan Shilling**, who has been with AHC for almost 20 years, serving since 1989 as executive director. He is retiring at the end of December (see back page). **Lorraine W. Frank** was AHC's founding executive director and served from 1973 to 1989.

Amanda grew up in Florida but relocated to Seattle fourteen years ago. She has a master's degree in International Studies from the University of Washington, with a specialization in Russian and East European Studies. She spent ten months in Lithuania as a Fulbright Fellow in 1993-1994, and also lived and worked for a time in Bath, England, where she was a coordinator in the European office of a Christian student organization.

A member of the Humanities Washington staff for eight years, Amanda served as program director for grants, traveling exhibits, *Motheread*, and the *Inquiring Minds* speakers bureau. She was also responsible for state legislative relations, outreach, and special programs.

Selected from more than 100 applicants following a nationwide search, Amanda relocated to Phoenix in November, and will spend the month of December getting



Amanda Swain

acquainted with AHC programs and partners. Dan Shilling will spend his last weeks with AHC introducing Amanda to people and organizations around the state. "I couldn't be happier with the search committee's choice," said Dan, "and I know the people of Arizona will welcome Amanda as graciously as they did me."

AHC Board Chair **Judy Register** said about Amanda's appointment, "It is a distinct pleasure to welcome Amanda to Arizona and AHC. As

her final interview was in August, she already knows what the summers are like, and based on the precedent set by AHC's first two executive directors, we wish her a long and happy tenure."

## AHC Receives Heritage Fund Grant

At its recent September meeting, the Arizona State Parks Board of Directors approved a grant of \$67,018 to AHC to begin work on replacing the roof at The Ellis-Shackelford House, the 1917 building where AHC's office is located. Of the twenty-one proposals submitted for funding, AHC's was ranked second by the review committee.

Previously, AHC had received a grant of \$247,500 from the City of Phoenix Historic Preservation Commission to begin work on the building's exterior, as well as to provide better accessibility.

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**HOLIDAY  
GREETINGS  
FROM AHC**

# THOUGHTS ON

By Dan Shilling, Outgoing AHC Executive Director

**Kramer:** I'm doin' what I'm doin'. I do what I do.

**George:** Kramer, what the hell are you talkin' about?

– *Seinfeld*, Episode 42, "The Trip, Part II"

My condo is halfway up a high-rise in midtown Phoenix. Until three years ago, I lived in a typical suburban house – a fair-sized place where, for the first ten years of her life, my dog had ample room to roam, both indoors and in the backyard. Moving a big dog to a smaller space seven stories in the air, with no yard to visit whenever, was quite a shift for her. Not the smallest of changes was the elevator. At first it was clear she had no idea what to make of this little windowless room with the single sliding wall, sometimes filled with strangers who didn't live with us in our other rooms. After the wall closed, the slight jolt up or down surprised her, and she braced herself on four old legs, looking up with big, unblinking eyes that asked, "What the heck is this?"

Maggie has since become accustomed to the up-and-down sensation, and she knows the sliding wall won't close if she sticks her long nose into the space where the wall is headed. I still wonder, though, if she has any clue about what the elevator is. Does she know this tiny room is moving up and down in space? Does she recognize this vertical movement as a link to her home in the sky and the two or three walks she takes daily? And does she even know she does or doesn't know?

Sometimes I wonder if I'm in a similar place. As I ride on what amounts to a speck of dust across the universe (or multi-verses, or infinities), do I understand the connection between the journey and the ultimate destination? Like Maggie, I grow accustomed to the habits of life, and I too often accept them without questioning or fully appreciating their authority over my thoughts and actions. Do I connect this conveyance on which we travel – this experience of habits that we share – and finality in the correct way? Beyond connecting correctly, like my dog's conceivable inability to know she doesn't know, am I even remotely capable of comprehending the ways I'm not equipped to answer, let alone ask, the real questions? What if my truly understanding what is is about as likely as Maggie understanding the mechanics of an elevator? Can anyone argue persuasively that *that's* probably not the case?

So I'll do what I do and grow old and content with habit, since the rest is so far beyond comprehension it's meaningless. But then, with no safety cable to Aristotle's First Elevator Mover, my tiny room plays out like a scene from *No Exit*, hurtling toward the basement of Hell without brakes.

Doing what I do, being too comfortable with habit, leads to the ultimate dead end – and not just mine. In the short run, and here I mean a few million years or so – a blink of the eye for our multi-billion-year-old universe – this little worldly human invention will cease. Even if our species somehow manages to survive another million years (and I'm not sure about that, given the damage we've inflicted in just a few thousand), experts tell us that eventually – perhaps 50 million years, or 200 million – our Sun will expand, as aging stars do (and ours is approaching senior citizen status), and the increased gravitational pull will suck our tiny planet into its greedy, gassy grasp.

Everything that's ever been said, created, written, or thought will fuse into the expanding gaseous orb. All of history's magnificent built designs, from the Egyptians to Frank Lloyd Wright; every painting hanging in every museum; every line from Austen to Zola; every grand mountain, noble whale, or fanciful bug; all music, from Mozart to the Beatles; every photo, video, or page that documents our shared history on the planet; every Rupert Murdoch-sized ego that considered itself so important; every idea or expression that tries to make sense of it all – *everything* (in the most literal way one can use that word), slurped into scorching, swirling vapor, melted into fiery ether, eliminating forever any hint of our world, the billions of people who have inhabited it, and our species' creative, if sometimes horrific, genius over thousands of generations. Gone, kaput, nada.

Okay, so maybe I want to get off this elevator.

Or, like Kramer, I can just smile, feign understanding, and plunge myself into what I'm doing. What keeps Cosmo Kramer's "doing" out of Existential Hell is that it never really matters what he *does* (even though that's what he professes to "do"), because it comes at reality sideways, has zero chance of fulfillment, and isn't invested with consequence. Any meaning there is gets made in his covenant with "non-doing," as the *Tao Te Ching* teaches. Václav Havel championed "the power of the powerless," but The K-Man offers us a glimpse into

see "Thoughts On" page 11

## History on the Mall Plans Under Way

In commemoration of Statehood Day, AHC will co-host the annual History on the Mall at the Arizona State Capitol on Thursday, February 12, 2004. Historical institutions are invited to display exhibits for state legislators and the visiting public. The event includes a program emceed by long-time Arizona resident and personality **Pat McMahon**, featuring Governor **Janet Napolitano**, the Senate president, and the speaker of the House, among other dignitaries.

History on the Mall is one of the first programs to mark Governor Napolitano's countdown to Arizona's centennial in 2012. She has appointed AHC's founding executive director, **Lorraine W. Frank**, and the state historian, **Marshall Trimble**, as committee co-chairs of the Countdown to the Centennial Committee.

For the first time, the Statehood Day celebration will span three days, to include not only History on the Mall, but a day of activities for students, and History Fest, a one-day workshop for high school history teachers organized by AHC and Phoenix Union High School District.

To receive an exhibitor application for History on the Mall and for information on History Fest call **Theresa Jepsen** at 602/257-0335 x 28 or visit [www.azhumanities.org](http://www.azhumanities.org).



More than 500 students attended History on the Mall in 2003, learning about Arizona history at dozens of museum displays in the State Capitol.

He's difficult to miss – tall and hefty, long hair and an equally long beard, loud shirts accessorized by even louder suspenders and ties, and a booming baritone voice. If you've been anywhere near the Arizona State University campus over the last three decades, you're sure to have encountered Dr. Chris Smith, history professor since 1971.

Many readers, however, won't know Smith from university life, but from the countless public appearances he's made on behalf of AHC over 30 years. He's been there since the beginning. Smith recalls meeting with AHC's founding director, Lorraine Frank, when the office was at ASU. He believes a group he worked with received one of AHC's first grants – for a program on work and culture. (He's right. In its first year of grantmaking, 1974, AHC made five awards – one for "Ideas About Work: Where Have All the Values Gone?")

Smith was in the first speakers bureau; in fact, in the early years AHC awarded a grant to the "Consortium of Arizona Humanists," and Smith and others essentially ran the program themselves. AHC took over administration for the speakers bureau in 1988, and Chris Smith was a member, where he's remained ever since.

Over the years, Smith has served as a scholar for numerous groups applying to AHC for funds. He's also worked directly with AHC on projects. In 1994, the annual humanities lecture featured historian David McCullough, whose *Truman* won the Pulitzer Prize, and Smith developed reading programs for the book. For his service to the humanities in its many shapes, AHC presented Smith the 1998 Distinguished Public Scholar Award.

Like many Arizonans, Smith grew up back East; born in Gloversville, New York, he spent his first 30 years in various sections of the state, from New York City, Buffalo, Larchmont, and Brooklyn to small upstate towns. He went to school in Schenectady, majoring in social science at Union College. Schenectady was a factory town then, and his interest in everyday town life is evident in his teaching and presentations. He later taught high school in South Wales and Lake Placid, New York.

Smith eventually became a high school assistant principal while working on his Master's at the University of Illinois, but left teaching to concentrate on his doctorate in history, which he received from UI in 1972. In between, he had applied for a one-year position at ASU in 1971. To his surprise, not only did he get the job without PhD in hand, but the next year he was hired into a tenure track position, where he's remained since.

Those who have studied with him, both within and beyond the campus walls, consider Dr. Smith one of the best. He has received the ASU Dean's Quality Teaching Award twice, in 1976 and 2003, as well as the Liberal Arts

*"Just this week, I performed as Ben Franklin before the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution because someone's gotta do it. History doesn't just take place on campus. History is in the minds of the citizens of Arizona."*



Alumni Award and from the Arizona Council on the Social Studies, the William Mura Award for Lifetime Achievement. The university recently invited him to present one of its prestigious "Last Lectures," and he drew inspiration for it from a talk on material culture he's given to AHC audiences for years.

"Teaching is what I do, and I value the service I can perform to the community on behalf of ASU and AHC," he says. "Just this week, I performed as Ben Franklin before the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution because someone's gotta do it. History doesn't just take place on campus. History is in the minds of the citizens of Arizona."

Dressing up like Franklin to teach history isn't a foreign activity for Smith. He tried theater in school, community theater, and even worked as a mall Santa Claus (where he achieved a unique honor – the cover of *USA Today*). He's always incorporated costumes and artifacts into the classroom. "Instinctively I've always used theater and 'stuff' to teach. Living history is really daily life."

His interest in living history grew in 1993, when AHC was developing a project on attitudes toward nature. AHC needed someone to develop a Chautauqua presentation of William Mulholland, the man who built the aqueduct that brought water to southern California, making Los Angeles possible. AHC called Smith. Although he admits to being "scared as hell" when training first began, ten years later he's still on the road with Mulholland.

Smith has woven Chautauqua into his curriculum, at both undergraduate and graduate levels. "Today we had Rachel Carson," he says, and the class on "Nature and the American Culture" will also hear from Teddy Roosevelt, Ed Abbey, and John Muir. "History is not just written. To be a practicing

historian means honoring oral traditions, seeing other dimensions. There's nothing like trying to put yourself back in time."

He stays current with historical trends, because he continues to teach a full spectrum, from entry level survey courses to graduate seminars. He reads novels voraciously ("a big Richard Russo fan"), and he cherishes histories that examine daily life, such as Jennifer Price's *Flight Maps*, which looks at the depiction of nature on television, or William Cronon's *Changes in the Land*. "That book changed my conception of New England history," he says.

He's never without books, one reason being that his family has operated a book store in Tempe since the mid-80s. "I guess I'm a pack rat," he says – "an accumulator of books, not a collector." Begun off Mill Avenue with his daughters and a son-in-law working the counter, Old Town Books moved to Mill in 1987, where it's been a fixture ever since, selling mostly used hardbacks.

"The whole world walks into a used bookstore," Smith says. "It's an education, different from ASU, but education is not only what you learn on the page." Similar to his interest in public programs, he sees his store as a community service: "Bookstores are agents of civilization."

Smith believes his commitment to public service stems from his dissertation topic – the 19th-century writer John Clark Ridpath. Like many authors of the era, Ridpath, one of the best-selling historians of his day, went on an early version of the Chautauqua circuit to help educate the general public. Smith beams when he talks about Ridpath's commitment, and that same dedication is evident in Smith's career. AHC is fortunate indeed to count him among its long-standing colleagues, partners, and friends.

## Casa Grande Valley Historical Society

The Arizona Humanities Council has had a long and beneficial relationship with the Casa Grande Valley Historical Society (CGVHS). Some of its museum directors, such as **Kay Benedict**, have served on AHC's Board of Directors. Other museum staff, like **Laura Stone** and **Mitchell Menchaca**, eventually worked for AHC. In recognition of the Society's significant contributions to preserving and presenting Arizona history, CGVHS received the second AHC Distinguished Organization Award in 1991.



Casa Grande Valley Historical Society is a private nonprofit organization founded in 1964, whose mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and disseminate the history of Casa Grande Valley and its future. CGVHS occupies one-half city block that includes a museum and two historic buildings, Heritage Hall (a.k.a The Old Presbyterian Church, left) and Rebecca Dallis School House.

This past summer the Historical Society received a \$4,500 grant from AHC to help fund the Native American Exhibit Renovation Project. In addition, the Historical Society received \$1,625 from corporate sponsors and several thousand dollars worth of in-kind donations from local businesses.

The final product is a new exhibit, "Crossroads: Reflections of Native American Influence and

Culture," which opened in late October. One wing of the museum has been transformed to display native pottery, jewelry, and other artifacts from the Historical Society's collection. A relief mural of the Casa Grande Ruins is one of the focal points in the new exhibit.

Dr. **Brenda Brandt**, museum consultant, and **Allen Dart**, founder of the Old Pueblo Archaeology Center in Tucson, worked with Museum Administrator **Sybil Rossiter**, Research Assistant **Sara Turner**, and Historical Society Board Member **Thomas Poor** to develop "Crossroads."

For more information contact CGVHS at 520/836-2223 or info@cgvhs.com. The Museum is open Monday-Saturday, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, September through May.

## A Book To Celebrate 30 Years

AHC distributed complimentary copies of its new anthology, *Conversations on Community*, at the annual humanities lecture (see page 13). The book, which examines the nature of community, includes essays from Benjamin Barber, Robert Bellah, Daniel Kemmis, Scott Russell Sanders, and Juliet Schor.



As this newsletter went to press, House and Senate conferees completed negotiations on FY04 appropriations for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the federal agency from which AHC receives most of its funding.

The conference agreement provides an \$11.2 million increase for NEH. The figure is about \$5 million lower than the amount passed by both the House and the Senate. Committee staff attribute the reduction to budget pressures. Even so, the \$11.2 million increase would constitute the largest dollar increase since FY1991.

Of the new funds, about \$10 million is allocated to the NEH "We the People" initiative on American history. State councils are scheduled for a \$1.4 million increase. The committee's language mentions the state councils as a vehicle for disseminating NEH's program: "Further, the managers are aware that throughout the past year, state humanities councils have dedicated considerable time and effort to crafting program proposals for the 'We the People' initiative that would be implemented at the local and regional levels. The managers expect that as funds are allocated to the various programmatic areas participating in the American history initiative, state humanities councils will be represented appropriately."

## Lorraine W. Frank Appointed to Board of Regents

Founding AHC Executive Director **Lorraine W. Frank** was appointed in September to the Arizona Board of Regents by Governor **Janet Napolitano**.



Lorraine and Phoenix attorney **Ernest Calderón**, appointed at the same time, will help implement Changing Directions, an initiative to transform the three universities into distinct institutions.

Both positions are subject to state Senate confirmation and begin in January 2004. "I'm not approaching this position with a bagful of solutions," Lorraine said. "I certainly hope to make a great contribution, and I look forward to working with the people on the board." An *Arizona Republic* editorial endorsed the appointments, noting, "There won't be a lot of second-guessing or agonizing over these selections. Both are supremely qualified and well motivated."

## 7th Annual Arizona Book Festival Coming April 3

Mark your calendar – the Seventh Annual Arizona Book Festival will be Saturday, April 3, 2004, at Carnegie Center, in Phoenix, 10 AM – 5 PM. Home to Phoenix's first public library, the Carnegie Center lends a historic backdrop to the event, as well as ample parking and a lush landscape. Last April's festival drew 14,000 visitors to the site.

This free, family event offers something for every age level and reader's interest. Book lovers can browse through thousands of new and used books and visit hundreds of exhibitors, including booksellers, publishers, libraries, bookmakers, and artisans. Do you have an old book that might be valuable? Then bring it to the book appraisal booth.

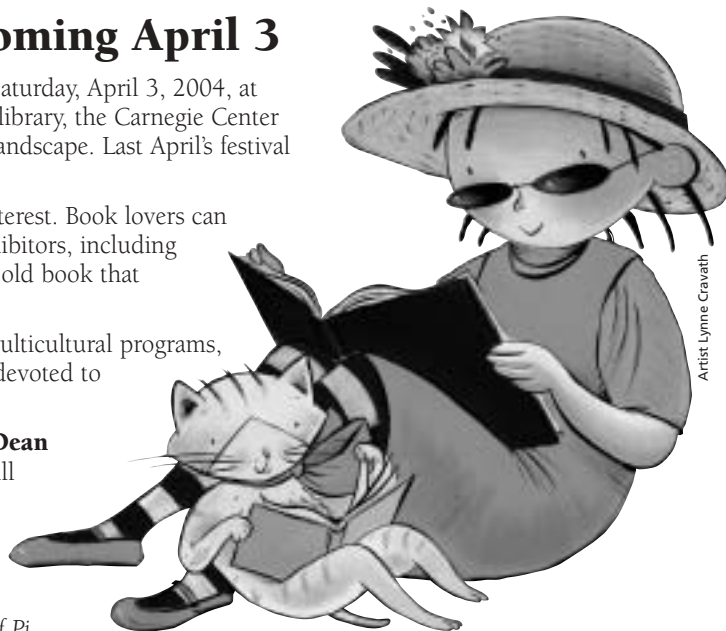
Four stages will feature engaging presentations, interactive discussions, multicultural programs, cookbook demonstrations, and costumed characters, while an entire area is devoted to children's activities.

AHC's Main Stage authors include **Ron Carlson, Nancy Farmer, Alan Dean Foster, Ursula K. LeGuin, and Tom McGuane**. Hundreds more writers will appear on stages and in exhibitor booths. The April 2004 AHC newsletter will provide updated author information, and a more detailed 8-page insert will appear in *The Arizona Republic* the week of the festival.

The festival is also the kickoff event for OneBookAZ, a statewide effort that brings adults together through literature. This year the selection is *Life of Pi* by **Yann Martel**, and there will be events at the festival to inaugurate the OneBookAZ program (see below).

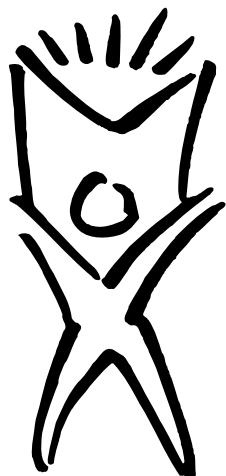
The Arizona Book Festival is designed to celebrate the rich literary traditions of the West and to promote the joys of reading and an appreciation of the book in all its forms. It is presented by the Arizona Humanities Council, in collaboration with the Maricopa County Library District, the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, and Salt River Project.

AHC also supports the Prescott Book Festival at Sharlot Hall Museum and the Northern Arizona Book Festival in Flagstaff. For more information visit [www.azbookfestival.org](http://www.azbookfestival.org) in January or call 602/257-0335 x 28.



Artist: Lynne Graveth

## AHC Collaborates with OneBookAZ



ONEBOOKAZ

The Arizona Book Festival, next April 3 at the Carnegie Center, marks the kick-off of OneBookAZ, a collaborative project that encourages every Arizonan to read and discuss the same book during the month of April. This is the project's third year; previously, *Animal Dreams* by Tucson writer Barbara Kingsolver and *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf of Colorado were selected.

For next April the OneBookAZ selection is *Life of Pi*, by **Yann Martel**. OneBookAZ activities at the Arizona Book Festival will include a presentation by Reader's Theater and booth displays of upcoming special programs occurring in April and May, including appearances by Yann Martel in Tucson, Phoenix, and Prescott. AHC will also offer a book-discussion program using *Life of Pi* (see page 8.)

A separate OneBookAZ for Kids is also under way. The selection for next April is *The Warm Place* by **Nancy Farmer**, who will read on the Main Stage at the Arizona Book Festival.

OneBookAZ, a statewide program based on successful models in Chicago and Seattle, was originally developed by the Maricopa County Library Council and is now coordinated by the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records. For information, call **Mala Muralidharan** at 602/542-5841. For information on OneBookAZ for Kids, contact **Tim Wadham** at the Maricopa County Library District, 602/506-5730.



Yann Martel, photo by Danielle Schaub

## Noted Author Speaks in Tempe

The Maricopa County Library District will host writer **Ursula K. LeGuin** when she delivers the May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture on Friday evening, April 2, 2004, at Galvin Playhouse on the campus of Arizona State University in Tempe. The Arbuthnot award, an annual lecture administered by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), honors an author, critic, librarian, historian, or teacher of any country who has made significant contributions to the field of children's literature. The lecture is also published in ALSC's *Journal of Youth Services in Libraries*.

LeGuin is a distinguished writer of science fiction and fantasy for young readers and adults. Perhaps best known for her novel, *The Left Hand of Darkness* (1969), LeGuin has written nineteen novels, many short stories and screenplays, and thirteen books for children. She is the recipient of the Nebula Science Fiction Award and Hugo Science Fiction Award.

LeGuin's presentation Friday evening is partially underwritten by AHC. She will also appear at the Arizona Book Festival the following day. For information about the Arbuthnot Lecture, call **Tim Wadham** at 602/506-5730.

## "Yesterday's Tomorrows" Sites Through 2004

### Parker Public Library

1001 South Navajo Avenue, Parker  
November 22 - December 27, 2003  
928/669-2622

### Cave Creek Museum

6140 Skyline Drive, Cave Creek  
January 24 - March 7, 2004  
www.cavecreekmuseum.org  
480/488-2764

### Arcosanti

I-17 at Cordes Junction, Mayer  
March 14 - April 25, 2004  
www.arcosanti.org • 928/632-7135

### Graham County Historical Society

3430 West Highway 70, Thatcher  
May 2 - June 13, 2004  
928/348-0470

### Payson Public Library

328 North McLane, Payson  
June 20 - August 1, 2004  
www.libraryfriendsofpayson.org  
928/474-9260

### City of Williams Council Chambers

113 South First Street, Williams  
August 8 - September 19, 2004  
www.williamschamber.com  
928/635-4451

### Casa Grande Women's Club

(hosted by Casa Grande Valley Historical Society)  
407 North Sacaton Street, Casa Grande  
October 1 - November 2, 2004  
www.cgvhs.org  
520/836-2223

### Mohave Community College

Lake Havasu Campus, Room 211  
1977 West Acoma Boulevard,  
Lake Havasu City  
November 14 - December 15, 2004  
928/505-3302

## Local Programs Look Backward and Forward To Complement "Yesterday's Tomorrows" Exhibit

The 2003 Arizona tour of the Smithsonian exhibit "Yesterday's Tomorrows: Past Visions of the American Future" is nearing completion, and seven more sites are preparing for 2004. Developed by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibit Service and the National Museum of American History, the AHC-sponsored exhibit shows how people at the beginning of the 20th century viewed the future. See the accompanying schedule at left for information on host sites, locations, and dates.

After opening at the Challenger Space Center last March, the exhibit went to the Spook Hall in Jerome, the 1904 Nogales Courthouse, the Prescott Valley Civic Center, and the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum.

Partnering with the Copper Queen Library, the Bisbee Museum presented a science fiction film festival ranging from *Metropolis* (1926) to *Roswell*, a made-for-TV movie filmed in Bisbee in 1994. The library displayed books and films on the "Yesterday's Tomorrows" themes of the future, computers and robots, homes, transportation, and communities.

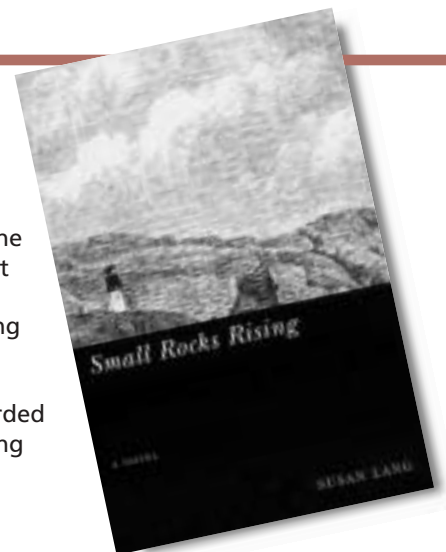
Plans at the Parker Public Library, where the exhibit will be from November 22 through December 27, include a number of events on opening day. The Wallace Elementary School Band will present a concert of futuristic songs as well as those of the past, **Rick Barnes** from the Art of Thought book store in Phoenix will talk about old and rare books and provide free book appraisals, and a panel discussion on "Transportation Then and Now" will be accompanied by a display of old and new vehicles. On December 6, **Fred Linch** will give two talks as part of "Robots in the Park," and a community book discussion will be held at the library on December 18.

On February 7, "Wings and Wheels" at SkyRanch Airport in Cave Creek will feature classic cars and antique planes to complement the "Yesterday's Tomorrows" exhibit, which will be on display at the Cave Creek Museum from January 24 through March 7, 2004. The museum is also planning a local exhibit displaying games and dolls from the 40s and 50s, old maps and documents to tell stories of local visionaries, and segments on transportation and communication. Patrons can take docent-led tours, and activities for students include games at the museum and classroom sessions. A fashion show February 21 at Carefree Resort will present 100 years of men's, women's, and children's clothing, both the successes, and some, such as paper dresses, that didn't quite work out.

"Yesterday's Tomorrows" was made possible through the support of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the Hearst Foundation. For information about the exhibit, visit [www.yesterdaystomorrow.org](http://www.yesterdaystomorrow.org).

## AHC Award Winner Reaps More

**Susan Lang**, the guiding force behind the Hassayampa Institute for Creative Writing at Yavapai College, recently received a Willa Literary Award, which honors women writing in the West. Lang won the Outstanding Paperback Award for her first novel, *Small Rocks Rising*. On October 30, AHC also awarded the Hassayampa Institute for Creative Writing the Distinguished Organization Award (see page 13).



# PUBLIC PROGRAM PLANNER

Arizona Humanities Council • 1242 N. Central Ave. • Phoenix, AZ 85004 • 602/257-0335 • Fax: 602/257-0392 • www.azhumanities.org

## New AHC Program Catalog Released

In August AHC distributed its 2004 Program Catalog to museums, libraries, and other educational and cultural institutions throughout the state. Although AHC continues to offer a full array of program opportunities, the new catalog is slimmer than in years past. That's because you'll find more information about AHC's programs on the Internet: [www.azhumanities.org](http://www.azhumanities.org). Beginning this year, the catalog will also be issued annually, instead of every two years, which was the previous practice. There are also several new policies for 2004; see the story at right. In the 2004 Program Catalog you'll find:

### Speakers Bureau

One of the most popular AHC programs, the Speakers Bureau offers dozens of Arizona scholars who are available to give talks throughout the state. Thirty outstanding presenters are described in the catalog, and community groups are also permitted to use AHC funding to host scholars not listed in the Speakers Bureau. More than half of the presenters are new to this year's Speakers Bureau.

### Chautauqua

Also known as living history presenters, these scholars assume the role of significant figures from the past, including period clothing. The presentation is given in the first person, with the scholar fielding questions as that historic figure might have. For 2004, two new chautauqua characters have been added – Sharlot Hall and Eulalia "Sister" Bourne.

### Community Book Discussions

AHC's library of titles continues to grow, and there are now nearly 100 fiction and nonfiction books from which to choose. AHC provides up to 20 copies of the book and a facilitator to lead discussion. Groups can also apply for special funding to use books not already in AHC's library.

### Special Projects

Find out how your museum, library, or other community group can participate in the Arizona Book Festival, History on the Mall, Arizona History Traveler, Motherhead Arizona, or other projects developed by AHC.

### General Grants

As always, you'll find information about AHC's General Grant program, which allows nonprofit organizations to apply for up to \$3,000 for community-initiated humanities programs. Another \$3,000 can be requested through AHC's Gift & Match program. Please note that there are now THREE deadlines a year (see page 9).



## AHC 2004 Program Catalog: New Deadlines, New Policies

AHC's 2004 Program Catalog contains new deadlines for General Grants and new policies for packaged programs, which include the Speakers Bureau and Community Book Discussions. Go to the AHC Web site at [www.azhumanities.org](http://www.azhumanities.org) to view or register to receive the new catalog, or call the office at 602/257-0335 to ask to have one sent to you.

### General Grant Changes

General Grant guidelines have been updated so that an eligible applicant must be a 501(c)(3) or governmental entity to apply, rather than simply a nonprofit organization.

The most significant change, however, is in the number of grant cycles per year. Previously accepted four times a year, grant proposals will now be accepted three times a year, increasing the grant monies available to each pool of applicants.

The three grant deadlines for 2004 are listed on page 9, along with the corrected dates for the corresponding grant workshops. Contact Program Director **Elizabeth Larson-Keagy** at 602/257-0335 x25 for more information.

### Packaged Program Changes

AHC has refocused its policies to ensure that all Speakers Bureau programs and Community Book Discussions are public programs, and to encourage partnerships. A new fee structure for both speakers and book discussions has also been established. The policies are explained fully in the new printed catalog and on the AHC Web site. Following are some highlights:

- Speaker and book-discussion programs are targeted for public libraries, museums, historical sites, historical and archaeological societies; parks, community centers (if open to all people all the time), and tribal entities. The organization must be a 501(c)(3) or governmental entity. AHC considers these groups "primary applicants."

- A \$35 administrative fee applies for each speaker and book discussion arranged through AHC, and there is no limit to the number of activities a group may request. (If a primary applicant and partnership applicant jointly book a speaker, a single \$35 fee applies.)

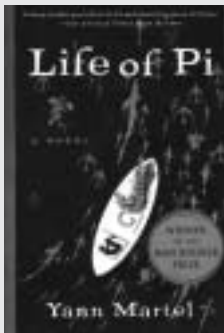
- For the Speakers Bureau, a primary applicant may request programs and is not required to partner with another organization. Other nonprofit organizations, including schools, colleges and universities, churches, community agencies, and civic groups, may host a program if they partner with a primary applicant in their community, and arrange for presentations by a single speaker at both organizations within the same eighteen-hour period.

- For Community Book Discussions, other nonprofit organizations may sponsor a book discussion if they work with an eligible applicant in their community.

## New Titles Added to Book-Discussion Library

Thanks to the Arizona Book Festival's collaboration with OneBookAZ, and to the Community Book Discussion Expansion Program, AHC has added two new titles to its library:

### *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel



A fantastical and humorous adventure parable, and next year's OneBookAZ selection, *Life of Pi* is the story of a zookeeper's son, Pi Patel, and his physical and spiritual survival on the open sea with a Bengal tiger.

AHC is offering *Life of Pi* in time for sites interested in holding OneBookAZ discussions in March, April, and May 2004. Simply apply for the title as you would for any book-discussion award, and AHC will fulfill requests on a first-come, first-served basis. As part of OneBookAZ, **Yann Martel** will also be in Arizona next April, presenting readings in Phoenix, Tucson, and Prescott (more information in the April newsletter).

### *These Is My Words: The Diary of Sarah Agnes Prine, 1881-1901* by Nancy E. Turner



Inspired by her own family memoirs, Turner has created pioneer Sarah Prine's authentic and dramatic tale of survival in the Arizona Territory of the late 1880s.

Through the Community Book Discussion Expansion Program, libraries may select a new title for AHC's library, which is how Turner's book was added. Simply contact AHC and submit a title for approval, and your group may be reading it for your next book discussion!

For Community Book Discussions and OneBookAZ information, check out the AHC Web site or contact Program Associate **Ann-Mary Johnson** at 602/257-0335 x 26.

## Motheread® Arizona Will Host Two January Events

Thanks to a generous grant from the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust for 2003, Motheread Arizona will host the third annual Motheread Arizona Reunion at the Arizona Historical Society (AHS) in Tempe in early January.

Attendees will receive updates on state affiliate support, share program ideas and experiences, and hear a special presentation designed to build their facilitation skills by Los Angeles-based national Motheread trainer **Gloria Gonzales**.

AHC will offer a *Working with Spanish-Speaking Families* workshop in late January, also at AHS. Trainers from the national network will work with established Motheread Arizona facilitators, enhancing their cultural sensitivities, curriculum possibilities, and organizational capacities for serving Latino audiences. The increased professional development of Arizona's facilitators will benefit parents and children at more than forty Motheread sites throughout the state.



Another full class of new Motheread Arizona facilitators completed the Training Institute this past summer.

These facilitators have already been trained in the Motheread philosophy, curriculum, and implementation model, which they have taken back to parents who want to improve both their reading and parenting skills. Motheread Arizona provides the initial training, ongoing professional development, and the first series of exceptional children's books for parents to keep.

AHC hopes to coordinate another full Training Institute for new facilitators in July 2004. Contact Program Associate **Ann-Mary Johnson** at 602/257-0335 x 26 for details about Motheread Arizona, the Annual Reunion, or the January workshop for Spanish-speaking groups.

## Build a Bookshelf at the Library

The National Endowment for the Humanities is collaborating with the American Library Association to inaugurate the "We the People Bookshelf," a program to encourage young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history.

School and public libraries are invited to apply to NEH to receive the "We the People Bookshelf," which consists of fifteen thematically related books and supplemental materials to help with publicity and developing public programs.

Each year the project will explore a different theme; the theme for 2003-04 is "Courage." Books are divided into four school-age categories: K-3, Grades 4-6, Grades 7-8, and Grades 9-12. Sample books for the "Courage" theme include *Anansi the Spider* (K-3), *Little House on the Prairie* (4-6), *The Hobbit* (7-8), and *Invisible Man* (9-12).

NEH will accept applications online from December 15, 2003 to February 15, 2004. Further information and application guidelines are available on the "We the People" Web site: [www.wethepeople.gov](http://www.wethepeople.gov).

**WE**  
the People  
National Endowment  
for the Humanities

## AHC and AOT Continue Plans for Heritage Tourism

AHC continues its discussion with the Arizona Office of Tourism (AOT) to design a program that will support cultural heritage tourism in the state. AOT's leadership is firmly behind the initiative to bring more cultural and heritage travelers to Arizona. AHC studies show that heritage tourists stay longer and spend more, and Arizona is in a unique position to capitalize on this growing trend in the travel and tourism industry.

Plans currently call for a multi-year initiative to continue research on the spending and staying habits of heritage tourists, those people who travel to Arizona to visit history museums, Native American tribal centers, archaeological sites, and other heritage institutions. The last statewide study was completed by AHC in 1997, demonstrating that heritage tourists in Arizona stay considerably longer during their travels.

Beyond updated research, AHC hopes to kick off an ambitious marketing plan that will position Arizona as a key heritage destination. AHC Director **Dan Shilling** says, "Sure, we want people to come to Arizona to enjoy our sunshine, golf, and the Grand Canyon, but we also want them to think of our state as a premier destination for history and heritage. Given the unique collision of cultures that took place in the Southwest – and which continues today – Arizona can't afford *not* to build on its assets."

AHC hopes to launch its new campaign shortly. For information, call Dan Shilling at AHC: 602/257-0335 x 22 or [dshilling@azhumanities.org](mailto:dshilling@azhumanities.org).



Volunteer Scott LeRoy awards Creepy Little Productions at the April 2003 festival, voted best among more than 100 exhibitors. Creepy Little Productions received a trophy courtesy of The Winners' Circle and \$100 toward exhibitor space in 2004.

## Upcoming Grant Deadlines & Workshops

### General Grant

<i>Intent Deadline</i>	<i>Application Deadline</i>	<i>For Projects After</i>
January 2, 2004	February 2, 2004	March 20, 2004
May 3, 2004	June 1, 2004	July 24, 2004
September 1, 2004	October 1, 2004	November 20, 2004

### Community Book Discussions • Speakers Bureau

**Application Deadline: May be submitted anytime**  
Projects in these categories should begin four to six weeks after the date of the proposal's submission.

### AHC Grant Workshops

AHC hosts regular grant workshops in its office at 1242 N. Central Avenue in Phoenix. The workshop is free of charge, and open to anyone interested in learning more about the Arizona Humanities Council, its available resources, or how to write a competitive AHC grant proposal. The workshop lasts from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Please call to reserve a spot.



#### Upcoming dates are:

March 25, 2004 • August 19, 2004 • December 9, 2004

For a description of grants, eligibility, and other policies and provisions concerning grants awarded by the Arizona Humanities Council, please request a copy of AHC's Program Catalog. The catalog may also be accessed from AHC's Web site: [www.azhumanities.org](http://www.azhumanities.org)

## Opportunities To Participate in the Arizona Book Festival Are Unbound

Exhibitor applications are being accepted for the Arizona Book Festival. Booksellers, publishers, libraries, bookmakers, artisans, reading groups, writers – any group or individual that offers something of interest to readers and families – are invited to apply. The festival takes place Saturday, April 3, 2004, at Carnegie Center in Phoenix.

Now in its seventh year, the Arizona Book Festival celebrates the rich literary traditions of the Southwest, and promotes the joys of reading and an appreciation of the book in all its forms. Festival-goers will discover thousands of books, hundreds of authors, book appraisals, interactive discussions, multicultural programs, a children's area, author signings, cookbook demonstrations, and much more. Admission is free.

All exhibitor booth spaces are 10' x 10' with a full-height back wall and half-height side divided with taffeta draping. Space rental includes two 6' tables, two chairs, signage, and a printed program. Exhibitors are also provided medical personnel, security, and designated nearby parking.

Exhibitors are asked to provide proof of insurance with applications – a new requirement this year. Tables must be covered, and creatively decorated spaces are encouraged; an award is presented to the best booth (see photo left). Table coverings and skirts, and extra chairs and tables are available at an additional charge.

A free workshop to help first-time participants enhance festival marketing and merchandising skills will be held February 7 at Carnegie Center for registered exhibitors. Seasoned presenters will help exhibitors derive the maximum benefit from their booth space with ideas for displays, PR materials, merchandising techniques, and much more.

Sponsorships are also being accepted, providing vendors with greater publicity in all Arizona Book Festival publicity materials. For more information about booth rentals, sponsorships, or other festival questions, call **Theresa Jepsen** at 602/257-0335 x 28.



# Recent AHC Grants Funded

## Mesa's Washington Park Project Receives AHC Support

In the early 1920s, three Mesa subdivisions were created directly outside the city limits. Verde Vista attracted mainly Hispanics, while the Mitchell Addition and Tuskegee Place filled in rapidly with young African American families. By the mid-20s residents had formed a lively ethnic neighborhood with their own grocery stores, barbershops, schools, and churches. The area was later known as Washington Park, after the segregated Booker T. Washington School was torn down and replaced by a park.

In order to preserve the history of the neighborhoods, former and current long-time residents will be interviewed for this project, which is spearheaded by the City of Mesa Library. The information gathered will be the basis for a presentation on how African Americans and Hispanics of Washington Park contributed to the economic, political, and social development of Mesa.

Photographs and ephemera collected will be reproduced and displayed in the Library's gallery areas and later housed in the Mesa Room-Local History Archives and Special Collections. The

organizers hope the AHC grant will provide students, researchers, and the general public with a more balanced history of Mesa, Arizona.

For more information, contact **Sandra Apsey** at the Mesa Library, at 480/644-5420 or email [Sandra.Apsey@cityofmesa.org](mailto:Sandra.Apsey@cityofmesa.org).



*Booker T. Washington School, circa 1920.  
Photograph courtesy of Mesa Southwest Museum*

## Women in Journalism Subject of Video

The Arizona Press Women recently received AHC funding to complete and present the video *News Women: 50 Years of Change*. The program will provide a first-person account of the changes in Arizona women's roles in the media over the past half century. The oral histories of sixteen Arizona newswomen chronicle the story of changes in the news business, and lend insight into the larger issue of women's changing roles in society.

In 1953 a group of northern Arizona newswomen founded Arizona Press Women, an affiliate of the National Federation of Press Women, as a way to provide professional support to women, who were not permitted to be a part of the Arizona Press Club or the National Press Club. *News Women: 50 Years of Change* will present a vivid account of social change, the history of the women's movement, and the dramatic revolution in the news media in the last half of the 20th century. The video will be shown statewide, and will be aired on local city cable stations.

For information about *News Women: 50 Years of Change*, contact **June Payne** at 602/840-3427.

## Trading Post Wives: Weaving Together Two Worlds

With funding from AHC, Agave Productions is currently researching the historical context and the individual lives of pioneering Anglo traders and their wives on the Navajo reservation over a fifty-year period. Project Director **Beverly Harvey's** research of their stories starts during the 1930s, with horse-drawn wagons on rutted roads within a national railroad-dominated transportation system, where traders and the Navajos are intricately linked through a personal, credit-based economy. That era died in the 1970s with pickup trucks speeding along smooth new highways under the contrails of jet airplanes. The old posts were either abandoned or surfaced in a new economic form as convenience markets on a cash-and-carry basis.

Within this dramatically changing historic tableau of conflict, cooperation, and change, the wives of the traders played unique roles. Living behind small stores in a starkly beautiful high desert landscape, these women helped run the trading posts as community centers. They learned to create relationships with rural Indian populations who spoke little of their language and held profoundly different beliefs. They raised preschool children among Navajos, frequently relying on Navajo medicinal knowledge, while communicating Anglo-American values and ideas ranging from food to public health practices.



*Ganado's Hubbell Trading Post still serves the traveling public.*

Productions researches the lives of these women, they are gathering oral histories, locating historic photographs, and demonstrating the viability of doing an hour-long educational television documentary.

Agave Productions, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the history and culture of the Southwest by videotaping oral histories, producing educational videos, and archiving this historical record for future generations. Several of Agave's productions have received support from AHC, and most have appeared on public television. **Pam Stevenson**, founder and president, is executive producer on this project.

## Harvey Girls on the Radio

In cooperation with Northern Arizona University, and funded in part by AHC, Flagstaff public radio station KNAU created a thirty-minute documentary about the Harvey Girls in Arizona, which aired over the Thanksgiving holiday.

From the 1880s to the 1950s, women from across the United States went to work in Fred Harvey's restaurants along the Santa Fe railway. As Harvey Girl historian **Lesley Poling-Kempes** notes, "[I]n a time when there were no ladies west of Dodge City, the Harvey Girls came and civilized the West."

KNAU felt it was critical to undertake the project while some Harvey Girls are still here to share their stories. The station's project coordinators, **Anne Hepperman** and **Kara Oehler**, interviewed former Harvey Girls from Grand Canyon National Park's Bright Angel Lodge and La Posada Hotel in Winslow, which has recently been restored to its original turn-of-the-century luster.

AHC's grant helped fund the research to place the Harvey Girls' stories in a larger historical context, illuminating their contributions in Arizona and beyond, and highlighting their role in shaping the American West.



## Celebrate Books of the Southwest

'Tis the season to celebrate the Southwest. A collaboration between the Tucson-Pima Public Library, Arizona Historical Society, and Friends of the Tucson-Pima Public Library, the Southwest Literature Project is once again sponsoring activities in December that highlight the best in southwestern literature.

The third annual Lawrence Clark Powell Memorial Lecture will be held at the Main Library at 7:15 PM on December 2. This year's speaker is local author **Patricia Preciado Martin**, a long-time member of AHC's Speakers Bureau.

The Southwest Literature Project also debuts the 16-page publication, "Southwest Books of the Year: Best Reading in the Year 2003," which appears in the December 4 edition of the *Tucson Weekly*. Funded in part by AHC, "Southwest Books of the Year" identifies the best in southwestern literature selected by a panel of scholars and librarians from more than one hundred books published during the year.

Another event is the Arizona Historical Society's 28th Annual Holiday Bookfair on December 5 – 6. The event features more than thirty regional authors, who will be present both days to visit with readers and sign books. The Arizona Historical Society is located at 949 E. Second Street in Tucson. Information: 520/628-5774.

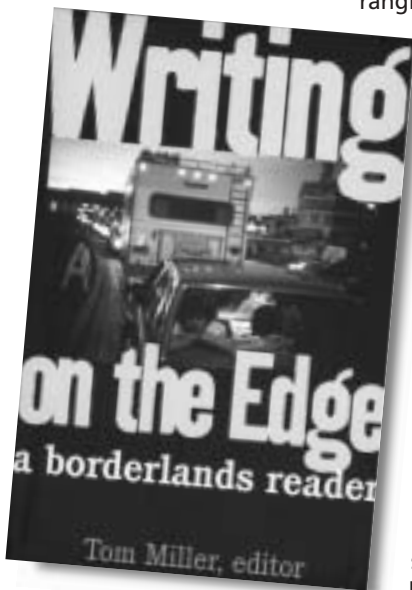
## New Book on Border Literature

Do some places inspire writers more than others? **Tom Miller**, editor of *Writing on the Edge*, a borderlands reader from the University of Arizona Press, thinks so. "The very notion of literature in a region considered an 'irrelevant nuisance' allows for more free-ranging creative output," he says.

Why does the U.S.-Mexico border, a largely unknown and misunderstood region, have such a prolific effect on authors? Perhaps it's the intense dichotomy of the area: freedom and fencing, wealth and poverty, beautiful land and human struggle.

Featuring contributions from such diverse writers as **Maya Angelou**, **Carlos Fuentes**, **Woody Guthrie**, **Jack Kerouac**, and **Elena Poniatowska**, *Writing on the Edge* offers 85 selections in every genre – fiction, nonfiction, poetry, song lyrics, and more – collecting a century of the border's best literature.

Editor Tom Miller has written about the American Southwest and Latin America for more than thirty years, in eight previous books and many articles. His research for *Writing on the Edge* was supported in part by a grant from the Arizona Humanities Council.



"Thoughts On" continued from page 2

the meaning of meaninglessness (i.e., "a show about nothing"). And here I've been forcing myself to make mattering matter!

So there's the Whole Enchilada. I'm a dog on an elevator, on a ride I'm incapable of knowing, trapped in and seduced by habit – where my ability To Figure It All Out is like asking Maggie to explain the blueprints for wiring the elevator. She'd probably just pee on them. Who needs a backyard? Who needs an explanation? Kramer's laughing it all away and Maggie's having a swell time meditating on a moth caught in the corner.

In his essay "Kramer and Kierkegaard," philosopher William Irwin concludes, "After all, if the divinity has a unique plan in mind for anyone, it must be Kramer!" I watch the lights blink on and off above the elevator door – 5...6...7. The ride slows to a soft bump, Maggie and I wait for the "ping," a wall disappears, the world opens before us, and she exits and turns right like always. Maybe the divinity has a wonderful plan in mind for Maggie. Good girl, lead on.

## University of Arizona Photography Exhibit

### *Americanos: Latino Life in the U.S.*

The University of Arizona Center for Creative Photography's exhibit of more than 100 photos, "*Americanos: Latino Life in the U.S.*," which closed in March 2003, was a collaborative effort between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) and actor and activist, **Edward James Olmos**. The exhibit displayed the work of thirty photojournalists, and was accompanied by bilingual descriptive text that offered a vast perspective of the Latino experience in the United States. The diversity and complexity of Latino life in this country is as broad as America itself, and the photographs explored aspects of Latino culture such as national origin, economic status, education, profession, religion, and language.



*Ballet Folklórico San Juan dancers perform at the community celebration day.*

An AHC grant funded nine public programs built around the exhibit. Included in the public programming was a "community celebration day," which featured music of the Andes, Central America, and the Caribbean, as well as a ballet folklórico presentation.

In addition, humanities scholars gave slide presentations and lectures on topics such as Latino immigration issues, Latinas in popular culture, the art and culture of low rider automobiles, using family photographs to tell family stories, and Latino masculinity.

The programs allowed a varied audience to learn about and discuss aspects of Latino life in the United States. Program attendees, many of whom attended several of the talks, commented that the programs opened their eyes to aspects of the Latino culture.

## Plants and People of Arizona *Two New Projects Illustrate the Connections*

The Gila River Indian Community and Desert Botanical Garden are two recent recipients of grants from the AHC. Both projects focus on native plants and their histories and uses by indigenous peoples of Arizona.

The Gila River Indian Community in Sacaton received two AHC grants to create exhibits in their new Huhugam Heritage Center (below), which opens to the public in mid-December with a groundbreaking ceremony and blessing of the property. The Center was established to ensure that the cultures of the Akimel O'odham (Pima) and Pee Posh (Maricopa) peoples survive and flourish.

One of the Center's exhibits, "Hekihukam Vo:g, Ancient Trails of the Arid Southwest" utilizes archaeological data, oral histories, and ethnohistories to provide a unique vision of Indian trails in the region. Included in the exhibit are photographs, maps, and artifacts, as well as a selection of Pima and Maricopa Indian songs.

Like other museums that have recreated and interpreted other trails, such as Route 66, the Santa Fe Trail, and the *Camino Real*, the Center will explore and interpret over one thousand miles of southwest Native American trails to gain perspective into the infrastructure and networks of American Indians.

A second AHC-funded exhibit at the Huhugam Heritage Center focuses on the ethnobotany of the Akimel O'odham. AHC funds are being used to develop interpretive signage for an ethnobotanical garden in the courtyard of the Heritage Center. Designed by Ten Eyck Landscape Architects, the garden is based on a book by **Amadeo Rea**, *At the Desert's Green Edge: An Ethnobotany of the Gila River*. The signs tell the story of how the Pima traditionally utilized certain native plant species. Stories told by the elders provide insight into the way of life of the native peoples prior to the degradation of the river habitat that has occurred in Arizona over the past 100 years.

For more information about the Gila River Indian Community Heritage Center, contact project director **John Ravensloot** at 520/562-6820 or e-mail [jcravesl@gilariver.com](mailto:jcravesl@gilariver.com).



The Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, which receives over 250,000 visitors annually, has received three grants from AHC since 1985 to help plan, develop, evaluate, and interpret one of their most popular attractions, "Plants and People of the Sonoran Desert Trail." The trail, which is a major ethnobotanical exhibit, is located on three acres within the garden and features the major habitats of the Sonoran Desert.

The DBG's most recent AHC-funded project is a cultural timeline of Arizona Indian, Hispanic, and European ethnobotanical contributions to the region. The timeline includes interpretive information about the plants, traditions, technologies, house types, and clothing of the three cultures – and their early influence on life in Arizona. In addition, the grant helped to enhance and interpret the Hispanic exhibit area. Through the new exhibits visitors will be able to imagine life in the Sonoran Desert 2,000 years ago, providing the public an opportunity to learn about the relationships between culture and the environment.

For more information about the Desert Botanical Garden's "Plants and People of the Sonoran Desert Trail," contact project director **Elaine McGinn** at 480/481-8174 or email [emcginn@dbg.org](mailto:emcginn@dbg.org).

*“Dan Shilling Retires” continued from back cover*

anniversary. To underscore his commitment to community, Dan has served on more than forty nonprofit and government boards and committees, and he encourages AHC staff to be equally involved.

Cultural heritage tourism has been another emphasis during Dan’s tenure. Recognizing how much Arizona has to offer tourists, and the potential role for AHC to aid heritage sites, Dan worked with the Arizona Office of Tourism, Arizona Tourism Alliance, and the tourism and museum communities to shepherd bills through several sessions of the Legislature for funds to enhance Arizona’s heritage. Along the way he edited the nationally recognized publication, *Cultural Heritage Tourism: Practical Applications*, he made countless presentations, and he helped create Web sites for travelers. These efforts resulted in the promise of almost \$200,000 a year for heritage tourism, and Dan being named Arizona Tourism Person of the Year in 2001.

Dan has increased AHC’s visibility on the national scene as well. He served as director for several multi-state projects, such as “Trails Through Time” (1989), which helped legitimize New Western History, and the recently concluded “Moving Waters: The Colorado River & the West.” He was instrumental in bringing the family literacy program Motherhead® from North Carolina to Arizona, where today there are more than forty sites. Dan has been active in the Federation of State Humanities Councils, the national voice for the state programs, and is currently finishing three years on their Board as vice chair.

Dan has earned the respect and friendship of many people he has worked with, both within and outside Arizona, including his staff. In thinking about some of the times they have shared, Associate Director **Julie Yoder** said, “I’m not willing to put in print some of the most memorable moments at AHC, but certainly one of the high points was the day I learned Dan had been hired as executive director. It’s hard to see him go, and we will miss him, but the people who come after him will be able to build on Dan’s impressive accomplishments.”

**Ann-Mary Johnson**, AHC’s program associate, says, “I feel privileged to have worked for Dan for the past four years. He’s a great leader, and I’ve learned so much from him about every aspect of this work we do.” Event Coordinator **Theresa Jepsen** seconds those thoughts: “Dan is one of the most fair-minded people I’ve had the privilege to work with. He is rare in his conscientiousness about what is right for the communities in which we work and live, and his reputation bespeaks his talents – about which he is modest.”

Those who have worked with Dan know he sleeps little, eats only occasionally, and works very, very hard. It is therefore difficult to use “retire” and “Dan” in the same sentence. Although his plans include writing and travel with his wife, Pam, he concedes that he may do some consulting, and his friends suspect that his retirement, which takes effect at year’s end, will be busy indeed.



*Dan and his long-time companion, Maggie, rescued as a pup outside the AHC office, lending credence to the perception that AHC is somehow connected with the Humane Society.*

## CALL FOR BOARD MEMBERS

AHC is accepting nominations for March 2004, when the Board will hold its next election of new members. There are generally two to four seats available on the 24-member Board each year. Board members vote on proposals submitted to AHC for funding, take part in long-range planning, and help promote AHC’s mission. Members serve on a voluntary basis, although expenses are reimbursed. The full Board meets three times each year. Terms are three years, with the possibility of a second three-year term.

For more information about Board membership, call AHC and request the Prospective Board Member Information Packet (602/257-0335). To nominate yourself or someone else, please send a letter of interest and resume to AHC, 1242 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

## Martin Marty Urges “Hospitality”

The Thirteenth Annual Lorraine W. Frank Lecture in the Humanities took place Thursday, October 30, at Burton Barr Public Library in Phoenix. More than 300 people attended the free, standing-room-only event.

Noted theologian Dr. **Martin Marty** delivered his talk on the theme, “The Menacing Faith of Strangers,” and urged everyone to “risk hospitality” with others. Whenever faiths collide, he said, wars, disenfranchisement, or apathy can result in an “us and them” situation, which cannot be healthy for community. Marty urged not so much tolerance as understanding.

The recipient of 70 honorary doctorates, Marty is Professor Emeritus of the University of Chicago Divinity School, specializing in late 18th- and 20th-century American religion. He has authored more than 50 books, with his scholarly work centered in a multi-volume work entitled *Modern American Religion*.

The annual humanities awards, which are given by AHC to recognize significant contributions to the humanities, were also presented. Dr. **Judy Nolte Temple** was the Distinguished Public Scholar recipient, Hassayampa Institute for Creative Writing received the Distinguished Organization award, and KAET-TV Channel 8 was named Friend of the Humanities.

Many friends and community leaders – from around the state, as well as from across the country – turned out to honor **Dan Shilling** at his last AHC public event as executive director. The guests included Governor **Janet Napolitano**, who spoke appreciatively of **Lorraine Frank** and AHC’s work throughout the state.

The Lorraine W. Frank Lecture in the Humanities is named for AHC’s founding executive director, who was also present. The lecture is held each October in conjunction with Arts and Humanities Month and rotates between Flagstaff, Tucson, and Phoenix.

AHC thanks the Phoenix Public Library for its generous support.



*Dan Shilling (l to r), Governor Napolitano, Lorraine Frank, and Martin Marty at the 13th Annual LWF Lecture in the Humanities.*

## BOARD NEWS

### New Board Members



**Ted G. Decker**, associate director of development at the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art since October 2001, has been active in the Valley's cultural community for many years. He serves on the NAU Alumni Board, the Regional Rail Art Committee, and the Phoenix Arts Commission. He recently received a master's degree in art history from ASU, and his BS degree from NAU is in business administration/marketing. He previously worked in banking and as an account manager and supervisor for DHL Airways, Inc. Ted was appointed to AHC's Board by Governor Napolitano.



**Thomas C. O'Halleran** has been state representative for District 1 since 2001. He began his career as a police officer in Chicago, where he attended DePaul University. He left the Police Department in 1978 to become an independent broker, and remained in Chicago as a consultant to the Chicago Board of Trade and the New York Mercantile Exchange until his retirement in 1995. Since then Tom has been particularly active in the areas of water and natural resources. In the House of Representatives he chairs the Natural Resources, Agriculture, Water, and Native American Affairs Committee. He was recognized at the end of the 2003 session as an MVP by the Sierra Club, and cited for his work as chairman by the League of Conservation Voters. *The Arizona Republic* identified Tom as one of the most powerful members of the 2003 Legislature. He was elected to the Board in June.

## BOARD NOTES

New AHC Board member **Helene Cann** announced that Outward Visions, Inc., the arts and education service organization she co-founded and directs, will publish *Straight Ahead: A Comprehensive Guide to the Business of Jazz (\*Without Sacrificing Dignity or Artistic Integrity)*, written by her husband Marty Khan. Release date is scheduled for November 2003. For information visit [www.outwardvisions.com](http://www.outwardvisions.com).

The NAU Alumni Association featured **Marion Elliott** and her husband, Harold, in its fall issue of *Pine* magazine. Both hold undergraduate and graduate degrees from NAU, Marion in art and Harold in math. Their commitment to NAU has continued for more than a half century through their work with the Alumni Association and scholarship endowments. The NAU sweethearts recently renewed their wedding vows at the Grand Canyon to celebrate their 50th anniversary. Marion has been on AHC's Board for five years, serving the last three as chair of the Nominating Committee.

**Kim Ferranti**, with ABA Architects in Tucson, in her first term on AHC's Board, was recently named president elect of the Arizona Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for 2004.

AHC Vice Chair **Diane Hamilton** was elected to the board of the United Latino Business Coalition. Dr. Hamilton, in her second term on AHC's Board, is superintendent of Tolleson Elementary School District and professor at the University of Phoenix.

Prize-winning author and professor **Jewell Parker Rhodes**, serving her first term on AHC's Board, was named to the newly created Virginia G. Piper Chair in Creative Writing at Arizona State University, and artistic director of the Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing. A \$10 million gift from the Piper Charitable Trust, the largest ever to a humanities program at ASU, will help elevate the program from its top 20 ranking to greater prominence. The creative writing program's second Writer's Conference will be held March 11-13 in Scottsdale, featuring more than 20 authors. Information: 480/965-0051.

Program Director **Laura Stone** left AHC in August to take a job with the Arizona State Library, administering their Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants program. Prior to accepting a position with AHC in 1994, Laura directed the Casa Grande Valley Historical Society Museum. Laura continued to be active in the museum community while at AHC, serving on the boards of the Museum Association of Arizona and National History Day.



**Elizabeth Larson-Keagy** (left) is interim program director through January 2004. Beth was project director for AHC's "Voices from Communities in Transition" project in the mid-1990s, and then worked for the City of

Scottsdale directing Scottsdale Voices. She is a cultural geographer, with an MA from LSU in Baton Rouge, and a PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She has traveled widely and written and taught about other cultures, particularly Latin American, in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Arizona. An active member of AHC's Speakers Bureau, Beth received the AHC award for Distinguished Public Scholar in 2002.

Administrative/Program Assistant **Mitchell Menchaca** also left AHC this



summer to work for Central Arizona College as a public events coordinator. In Mitchell's place, **David Kennedy** (left) joined AHC to assume front desk and office manager duties. An ASU graduate, David is

fluent in Spanish, having lived and studied in Mexico. Prior to joining AHC, he interned with the Arizona-Mexico Commission in the Governor's Office and spent several years at the Scottsdale Public Library as a courier and circulation aide. He is also a professional musician, teaching guitar and performing, including playing the national anthem at spring training games. David is active in the environmental and social justice community.

During the busy transition period this summer, with staff members coming and going, AHC was fortunate to have the talented services of interns **Maria Macia** and **Rebekah Sanders**. Recent graduates of Tempe Preparatory Academy, they were anxious to add time with AHC to their resumes before departing for college in the fall, Maria to Swarthmore and Rebekah to USC. AHC staff members were grateful for their help and sent them on to future experiences and successes with best wishes.

# The Arizona Humanities Council

# Celebrating the Arizona Story for 30 Years

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## Staff (with individual e-mail addresses)

Amanda Swain, Executive Director  
aswain@azhumanities.org  
Juliana Yoder, Associate Director  
jyoder@azhumanities.org  
Elizabeth Larson-Keagy, Program Director  
elarson@azhumanities.org  
Theresa Jepsen, Event Coordinator  
tjepsen@azhumanities.org  
Ann-Mary Johnson, Program Associate  
amjohnson@azhumanities.org  
David Kennedy, Secretary  
dkennedy@azhumanities.org

## Mission

Founded in 1973, AHC is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency.

The Arizona Humanities Council encourages people to share the stories of Arizona's vivid past and vibrant living cultures through public programs celebrating individual, communal, and cultural lives.

## ON THE WEB

[www.azhumanities.org](http://www.azhumanities.org)  
[www.azbookfestival.org](http://www.azbookfestival.org)  
[www.azhistorytraveler.org](http://www.azhistorytraveler.org)  
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*Arizona Insight*, the newsletter of the Arizona Humanities Council, is published three times a year. In addition to AHC staff, Sandra Apsey, Beverly Harvey, and Sybil Rossiter contributed to this issue. The next issue will be April 2004.

## Dan Shilling Retires as AHC Executive Director

He began his career at the Arizona Humanities Council as the part-time director of the newly created Resource Center in 1984. At the time, **Dan Shilling** was a doctoral student at Arizona State University, looking for a job that he could combine with his studies. **Lorraine Frank**, AHC's founding executive director, said she knew from the beginning she had hired a winner, and Dan's almost 20 years with AHC certainly bear that out.

Dan grew up in Pennsylvania, and holds BA and MA degrees in English from Penn State and Shippensburg State College. He taught English at the high school and college levels, and he became AHC's full-time program officer in 1987 after he received his PhD in rhetoric and literature from ASU's Department of English.

Dan recently told an interviewer that he had little interest in reading while growing up, but that books became increasingly important to him while in the army in Vietnam. "They'd drop us a hot meal once a day, and about once a week that drop had bags of books in it. I remember in the beginning reading a lot of detective and mystery books, just to pass time. Then – I will never forget this – I stumbled onto *Rabbit Run* by John Updike.... That book, and then a few by Hesse and Günter Grass in particular, made me realize there was something in literature – some clues to the big questions."



Since becoming executive director in 1989, Dan has dealt not only with these larger life questions, but also those pertaining to career and leadership, such as, "What direction should AHC take?" and "What do we need to get there?" From his early years as director Dan has put effort into forming partnerships with organizations that have missions similar to AHC's, and he has been instrumental in expanding AHC's visibility in cultural, business, and foundation circles, as well as at the State Legislature. Dan increased the size of the staff and worked to create a Board of Directors that reflected AHC's expanded program areas and partnerships. Funding has been a perennial challenge, particularly after the federal cuts in 1994, and Dan has been successful in bringing in funds from other sources to supplement AHC's federal allocation.

A major area of interest for Dan has been "community" – how we define it, and how we build and nurture healthy places. He created AHC's "Voices from Communities in Transition" project, which brought renowned scholars to Arizona to work with communities. "Voices" won the prize for the nation's best humanities council project in 1997, and Dan this year edited the scholars' essays into a volume called *Conversations on Community*, commemorating AHC's 30th

see "Dan Shilling Retires" page 13

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The Ellis-Shackelford House  
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