



National History Day in Arizona Theme Supplement 2026





Arizona Historical Society
1300 N. College Avenue
Tempe, AZ 85281
Contact: Jennifer Merry
Website: <http://www.azhs.gov>

Collection: The mission of the Library and Archives is to collect, preserve and organize materials relating to 20th century central and northern Arizona. The library is available by appointment.

Hours of availability: Tuesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. by appointment only. May be able to accommodate other hours for NHD students; please call or email 480-387-5355 or ahsreference@azhs.gov.

Students under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Student tour of archives facilities: Maximum of 10; Museum can accommodate more.

Cost: \$.50 per page for photocopies; \$1.50 for pdf scans; charges for photo reproductions and digital images vary. Items used in NHD projects may be available for free.

2026 Theme: Revolution, Reaction, and Reform

Theme video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0UKT2In1fo&feature=youtu.be>

Theme book: https://nhd.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/NHD_2026_ThemeBook_online_052225.pdf

Overview: Theme

2026 represents the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. This year's National History Day theme can encompass the ideals that were part of the creation of the new United States. What do these words mean to you? Which one can you focus on for your thesis, or do you want to focus on all three? You do not have to pick all three, but if you do, you must include all three in your thesis. Think about people who have been impactful, places where events have happened, events that occurred that were important in history, and how you could argue their importance. Why did this person, place, or event matter, and how does that relate to the theme of Revolution, Reaction, and/or Reform?

How to Search

The Arizona Historical Society Library page: <https://arizonahistoricalociety.org/research/library-archives/> is a good starting place. The AHS catalog <https://azhs.bywatersolutions.com/> will help you locate books, maps, ephemera, and archival collections, and is searchable by keyword, title, author and format. In addition, Finding Aids are available for manuscript, photograph and audio-visual collections. An archival finding aid provides an overview of a collection and its contents. The finding aid will not list every item but will give enough detail to help you discover which sections you might want to explore

TUCSON: HOSPITALS - Barfield Sanatorium

Barfield to Become Haven for Tubercular Indians

Sanatorium to Provide Beds for Tribesmen; Expansion Planned

By ELLSWORTH MOE

The Barfield Sanatorium, 2100 East Speedway, will be used as a tuberculosis treatment hospital for Navajo and Hopi Indians within the next 30 days, Albert S. Oshrin, owner of the sanatorium, said yesterday.

Oshrin signed a contract with the Indian Service and U. S. Public Health service this week providing exclusive use of the institution for treatment of the Indians.

It will provide 50 beds for tubercular tribesmen. Medical treatment will be provided by the Tucson clinic.

Renovation of the 30-year-old sanatorium begins this morning. A nurses building will be constructed in the center of the site cottage patient area.

\$25,000 Expansion

The \$25,000 renovation plan also will include the conversion of cottage porches into gown rooms for nurses, and a completely new kitchen and separate dishwashing room, and physicians' treatment room in the administration building.

The administration building's current lobby will be used for occupational therapy for ambulatory cases. Food service buildings also will be built in each of the site cottages.

"The contract requires that we provide as good or better treatment than we would for white patients," Murray Cohen, administrator of the hospital, said, "and we intend to do it."

Under the contract the hospital will receive \$15 per day per patient and the Tucson clinic about \$2.50 per patient day.

Total Payroll

Oshrin estimated that his payroll would total about \$75,000 per year for approximately 45 employees including registered nurses, nurses' aides, maintenance and kitchen employees and administrative personnel.

Dr. P. Robert Freckleton, public health service spokesman at the Window Rock, Ariz., Navajo reservation headquarters, said this was the first of several contracts the service hopes to make with hospitals in the southwest for treatment of tubercular Indians.

He said the Barfield contract was made with the understanding that it would be reactivated each year so long as congressional appropriations are renewed.

"We need about 400 beds, right now for Navajo and Hopi Indians who have tuberculosis. This contract will give us 50 beds, we hope to contract with other hospitals in Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado soon for more beds."

Death Rate High

"The tuberculosis death rate among the Navajo and Hopi is 10 times that of the nation as a whole. This area has only the 100-bed hospital at Fort Defiance for tubercular treatment of the Indians.

"The addition of 400 beds for their treatment would be a long step towards controlling the disease among the Indians. We now have Navajos and Hopis being treated for tuberculosis as far from the reservation as Washington."

Albert Oshrin, right, owner of Barfield Sanatorium, 2100 East Speedway, and Murray Cohen, hospital administrator, look over plans for the \$25,000 renovation of the 30-year-old institution. With Indians, Oshrin announced yesterday. (Photo by Lewis)

September 17, 1952
Arizona Daily Star

"We may move some of them to Barfield sanatorium in Tucson. We also will transfer many Indians to a new overcrowded the Indian Service hospital in Phoenix to Tucson."

To Aid All Tribes

"Indirectly this will help all tribes in Arizona by providing more room for them at Phoenix, the Tucson hospital is being contracted for under a bill that limits its use to Navajos and Hopis on the Window Rock reservation, so it is not likely that Pima and Papago tribes will use it," Freckleton said.

Earlier Indian service estimates have placed the number of tubercular Navajos and Hopis at 4,000. The disease has been increasing because the Indian service had no adequate means of checking it."

A Tucson clinic spokesman said the project was badly needed by the Indians.

Tucson Viewpoint

"It was a situation that had reached extreme proportions and someone had to do something about it," the physician said, "our staff will do what it can to help."

The sanatorium is a cottage type institution with buildings spread out over a full city block. Its six cottages will have two and three ward wings in the comparatively new buildings.

The hospital was started by Earl Barfield in 1922.



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further. Use the search box at the top of the page here: <https://arizonahistoricalociety.org/research/library-archives/> to search across all finding aids. A Google Advanced search: https://www.google.com/advanced_search will also help you search across all of our manuscripts via keyword. Digitized materials from some collections can be accessed on this page under the Digital Collections tab.

Here is a search guide you can download and review: <https://arizonahistoricalociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/LA2303-Tips-on-How-to-Search-Archives.pdf>

Keywords to try: revolution, reforms, policy, legacy, Names, Places,

A few suggested collections, there are many, many others:

Primary Sources:

- PP MS 245 [League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Phoenix collection](#), 1940-2005: The League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Phoenix (LWVMP) began in 1941 as the "Women's Citizen League of Phoenix" headed by Mrs. Frank Brophy. This collection of 27 boxes contains minutes, correspondence, annual reports, studies and surveys, news articles, publications, photographs, and scrapbooks.
- [Hayzel B. Daniels](#) oral history interview, 1983 and 1988: NAACP president who tried the Phoenix Union High School desegregation case. He later served as Assistant District Attorney and Phoenix City Judge. Sound recording of two interviews which focus primarily on the events and

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personalities involved in the effort to integrate Phoenix schools in the 1950s and specifically on the Phoenix Union High School lawsuit. Did he inspire a revolution? Was desegregation a reaction or a reform?

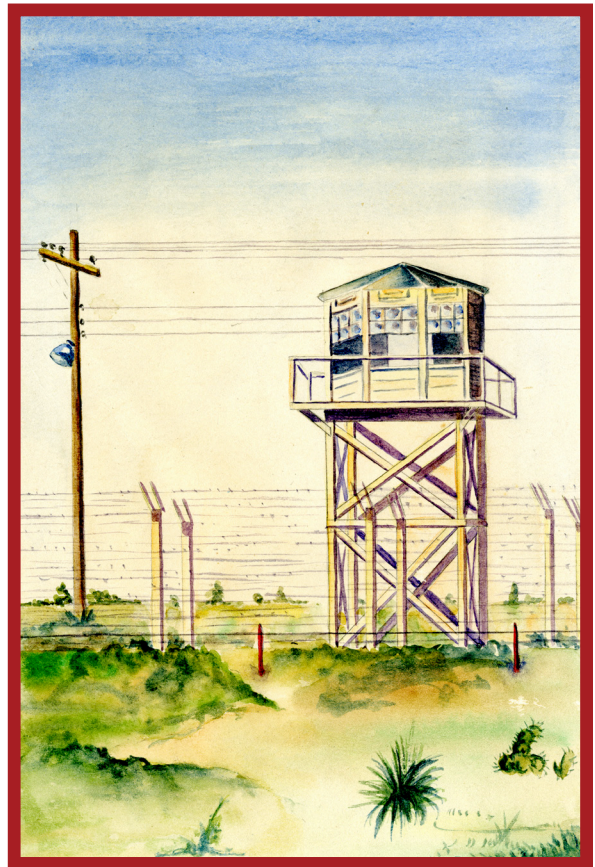
- TU MS 904 [Tucson Committee For Interracial Understanding Records](#), 1943-1945: Correspondence, minutes, clippings and other printed matter relating to TCIU's opposition to discrimination against Japanese-Americans, African-Americans, Mexican-Americans, Jews and Chinese. The collection also includes the constitution, member lists and financial records. Also see MS 1369 [Tucson Commission on Human Relations Papers](#), 1956-1968. What about the incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII, was this a reaction?

- See also: [PP MSS-7 Frances and Mary Montgomery Collection](#)

In the months following the United States' declaration of war with Japan, thousands of Japanese-Americans who resided on the country's west coast were told to evacuate their homes and resettle in communities managed by the United States government. One such community was the Gila River Relocation Center. From 1942-1945, Frances & Mary Montgomery were teachers at Butte High School located at Gila River. Various artifacts, newspapers, yearbooks and correspondence were collected and donated by the Montgomery sisters so others may learn about the history they lived through (1942-1983).

- See also [PP MSS-118 Wade Head Collection](#)

The collection consists of correspondence, reports, notes, speeches, and essays relating to the administration of War Relocation Authority (WRA) camps in general and Poston specifically, the daily activities and transactions in these communities, the federal investigation into un-American activities, and the departure of Wade Head from the role of director in 1943. Box 4 consists entirely of dedications to Director Wade Head on his resignation. Internees from almost 70 block units of the center signed their names, contributed artwork, and expressed their gratitude for Head's role as a leader of the community.



100-0005717

- PP MS 13 [World Peace Through Law](#), 1945-2012: The World Peace Through Law Section of the State Bar of Arizona was formed in 1989 to foster world peace and justice through respect for international law. Specific objectives include the promotion of a greater public understanding of the substance and process of international legal principles and the facilitation of debate within the legal profession on issues of world peace. Was the idea of World Peace a reaction, a revolution, or a reform?

Secondary Sources:

- *Barrios & Barriers : the Tucson Civil Rights Era*, DVD by Arizona Public Media. Tucson Library and Archives, 342.73 B277, 2011
- *Chicano! : the history of the Mexican American civil rights movement* by F. Arturo Rosales, Available at the Tucson AHS Library and Archives, 301.45 M611, R788, 1996
- *Minorities in Phoenix* by Bradford Luckingham

Many of the suggestions given in the rest of this guide can be used as search terms, example: The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo:

https://azhs.bywatersolutions.com/cgi-bin/koha/opac-search.pl?idx=&q=guadalupe+hidalgo&limit=&weight_search=1

Tuberculosis:

https://azhs.bywatersolutions.com/cgi-bin/koha/opac-search.pl?idx=&q=tuberculosis&limit=&weight_search=1



Research Services

National Archives at Riverside

23123 Cajalco Road
Perris, CA 92570
www.archives.gov

NHD Reference: Riverside.Archives@nara.gov

Collection: The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is the nation's record keeper. The National Archives at Riverside holds permanent historical records of federal agencies and the courts dating back to 1798 that relate to Arizona, southern California, and Clark County (Las Vegas), Nevada. The research room at the National Archives at Riverside is available by appointment only.

Hours of Availability: By appointment only, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. (except federal holidays). Please email reference requests to Riverside.Archives@nara.gov.

Cost: Visiting the National Archives is free. Reproductions are \$0.80 per page for staff-made reproductions, \$0.25 or less per page for researcher-made reproductions. Generally, copies of records held by the National Archives may be published without special permission or additional fees. For more information please visit: <https://www.archives.gov/research/still-pictures/permissions>

How to Search:

- The National Archives Catalog: <https://catalog.archives.gov>
 - Try specific keywords relating to your topic.
 - Additional information on using the Catalog can be found at: www.archives.gov/research
- More digitized images of primary sources are being added to the Catalog every day, but many of the records you find in the Catalog are not yet digitized. At the bottom of the Catalog entry, you can find the National Archives office where the records are

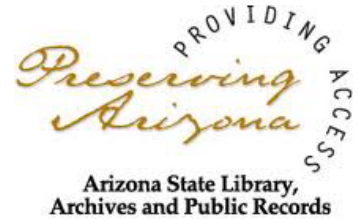
located. Use the contact information listed there to request more information about the records or to request reproductions.

- Citations for digitized material found on the internet should cite the document and the physical location where the original is held. See the *Citing Records in the National Archives of the United States* for more information:

<https://www.archives.gov/files/publications/general-info-leaflets/17-citing-records.pdf>



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STARL

State of Arizona Research Library

1901 W Madison Street Phoenix, AZ 85009 | Phone: 602-926-3870

Website: www.azlibrary.gov/starl

Main Contact | Ask a Question: contact@azsos.libanswers.com

Collection

The State of Arizona Research Library (STARL), located in the Polly Rosenbaum State Archives and History building, collects, preserves, and provides access to information for Arizonans about their government, their state and their world in a variety of formats.

Hours of Availability

For more details about doing research at STARL, you can visit our Research at the Polly Rosenbaum State Archives and History Building guide at:

- <https://azsos.libguides.com/planyourvisit>

Guide Organization

The following guide will provide an overview of the types of materials located at the State of Arizona Research Library as well as some examples of items that may be used for your National History Day project. Some project ideas will be provided based on our collections, but you can choose your final topic.

How to Search

The list provided below will describe our current collections and the materials included in each collection, how to access the materials, and resource and research guides. To view and search our entire collection, you can use our catalog for keyword searching. Keep in mind that our items can be digital, physical, or both.

- STARL Catalog
 - <https://asli.na5.iivega.com/>

Arizona Collection

The Arizona Collection is a continuous collection of items from the 1864 Territorial Library to the present day. As such, it contains many items not found in other libraries. The Arizona Collection houses a wide variety of materials, including historical and contemporary books, periodicals, biographies, city and county reports, city and telephone directories, high school and college yearbooks, theses and dissertations, and vertical files.

The following Finding Aid is a searchable list of items from the Arizona Collection (in addition to newspapers and maps) including city and telephone directories, periodicals, and vertical files.

- Research Library Finding Aid
 - <https://azsos.libguides.com/findingaids/>

Arizona Memory Project (AMP)

The Arizona Memory Project is a free, publicly accessible online platform for local institutions and members of the public to contribute content that helps researchers discover information related to the history, government, and statecraft of Arizona. AMP provides access to primary sources in Arizona archives, museums, libraries, and other cultural institutions. Visitors to the site will find some of the best examples of government documents, photographs, maps, and multimedia that chronicle Arizona's past and present.

For help with using the Arizona Memory Project, you can utilize the guide and YouTube videos below.

- Arizona Memory Project Research Guide
 - <https://azsos.libguides.com/azmemory>
- AMPlify your Research Video Series
 - [AMPlify Your Research sessions - YouTube](#)

In addition, we have created a specific National History Day Arizona collection on AMP with possible topics for research.

- [National History Day Arizona, 2026: Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History](#)

You can reach out to AMP Staff for assistance with your project at:

- azmemory@azlibrary.gov

Newspapers

The Newspaper Collection contains almost 1,200 newspaper titles from across the state and neighboring states, ranging from 1859 to the present. Newspaper titles are provided in various formats including microfilm and print available for public access in our Reading Room and digitized on the Arizona Memory Project.

To see which Arizona Historical Digital Newspapers are available on the Arizona Memory Project, you can visit the following collection online.

- Arizona Historical Digital Newspapers
 - <https://azmemory.azlibrary.gov/nodes/view/3>

Maps

The State of Arizona Research Library Map Collection contains approximately 6,500 maps and atlases. These maps include international, national, state, county, and city maps, dating from the 1600s to the present. Many of our maps have been digitized and are available on the Arizona Memory Project but we do have print maps for viewing in our Reading Room.

To see the Arizona Map Collection on AMP, you can use the following link:

- <https://azmemory.azlibrary.gov/nodes/view/252583>

For assistance searching our Arizona Map Collection, you can also use the guide below.

- Arizona Maps and Place Research
 - <https://azsos.libguides.com/maps>

State Publications

The Arizona State Publications Collection includes publications produced by Arizona government agencies. The state library is the central depository of all official books, records, and documents not in current use of the various state officers and departments of this state per ARS 41-151.09.

The collection contains documents published by all the Arizona state agencies. The collection includes items such as annual reports, newsletters, audits, special reports,

and studies. The collection includes books, periodicals/serials, and maps, dating back to when Arizona was a territory.

To learn more about how to research State Publications, please see the Arizona Memory Project Collection below.

- Arizona State Government Publications
 - <https://azmemory.azlibrary.gov/nodes/view/65>

Federal Documents

The Federal Documents collection spans more than 170 years of United States history and illuminates Arizona's changing relationship with the rest of the country. Learn about public lands, military installations, interstate highways, water policy and more. In addition, the State of Arizona Research Library is the Regional Federal Depository Library for Arizona.

To learn more about how to research Government Documents, please see the guide and Arizona Memory Project Collection below.

- Guide to Government Documents Research
 - <https://azsos.libguides.com/govdocs>
- Federal Documents Collection
 - <https://azmemory.azlibrary.gov/nodes/view/438>

Law Collection

The Law Collection contains a variety of materials related to laws and legislative history. These resources include current and historical annotated codes, official statutes, regulations and bills, session laws, Attorney General's Opinions, legal periodicals, and access to Westlaw at the Reading Room.

For assistance with Law Collection research, you can use the following guides.

- Researching Arizona Legislative History & Intent: 1912 – 1996
 - <https://azsos.libguides.com/azleghistthrough1996>
- Researching Arizona Legislative History & Intent: 1997 – Present
 - <https://azsos.libguides.com/azleghist1997topresent>

Reading Arizona

Reading Arizona provides free access to nonfiction and fiction eBooks and eAudiobooks about the culture and history of Arizona for readers of all ages.

For instructions on how to sign up for and use Reading Arizona, please see the following guide:

- Reading Arizona eBooks and Audiobooks
 - <https://azsos.libguides.com/readingarizona>

Theme for 2025-26 National History Day (NHD)
Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History
Arizona State Organization of The Questers

Topic: Friendship / Merci Train

The Merci Train is a long-forgotten love story between two countries, America and France. A story of sacrifice, giving and friendship between two nations.

In post war 1947, America heard the call from newspaper journalist Drew Pearson to help provide aid to war torn France and other allied governments by way of FRIENDSHIP TRAINS filled with grains, sugar, canned milk, etc and medical supplies. 12 boxcars filled with goods left Los Angeles and 10 days later after traveling across the United States more than 700 boxcars filled with additional supplies arrived in New York Harbor ready to be shipped to France. All with NO government help, only donations and all volunteers.

France was filled with gratitude and responded 18 months later by sending 49 special boxcars (called 40 & 8's as they knew all US veterans would remember traveling in these as they carried the doughboys throughout both wars.....carrying 40 men OR 8 horses.)

These special boxcars, called MERCI TRAINS, or gratitude or thank you trains, filled with personal items (as they had nothing else) such as medals, wedding dresses, family heirlooms, toys, dolls, family heirlooms, art work, etc., all sacrificial gifts, were sent to each state in America. There were parades and pageantry as the MERCI TRAINS traveled throughout each given state.

Arizona is one of a handful of states that has a restored MERCI TRAIN and the only state to have the complete collection of personal items intact. The MERCI TRAIN is located at the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park and thanks to the QUESTERS now has 8 storyboards surrounding the boxcar to tell this amazing story. The complete collection of personal items can be found at the Capitol Museum in Phoenix with a few pieces on loan to the railroad park in their railroad depot.

Core theme: revolution, REACTION, reform in history.

POSSIBLE TOPIC IDEA:

*“The Merci Train: A **Reaction** to a Nation’s Call to Action”*

1. What historical events led to this call to action?
2. Why was this call to action necessary?

3. What was the response to this call to action?
4. Who was affected by this call to action?
5. How were the local communities involved?
6. How and why was AZ impacted so differently than other states?

PRIMARY SOURCES:

1. AZ Merci Train Boxcar & Museum at McCormick Stillman Railroad Park, 7301 E. Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85251
Contact: Susan Armanovs, Museum Supervisor and History Coordinator,
SArmanovs@scottsdaleaz.gov.
480.312.8575
2. Capitol Museum Collection of AZ Merci Train boxcar contents.
Contact: Carissa Whiting, Assistant Administrator and Curator at the Arizona Capitol Museum, 1700 W Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007. 602.926.393,
CWhiting@axleg.gov.

SECONDARY SOURCES:

3. THE BOXCAR DIPLOMACY - Two Trains that Crossed an Ocean by Jane Sweetland.
4. THE FRIENDSHIP TRAIN OF 1947 - America's Christmas Gift to Europe by Linda Baten Johnson
5. THE MERCI TRAIN WEDDING DRESS by Linda Baten Johnson
(Above three books available through Amazon or on sale at the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park.)
6. THE MERCI TRAIN - A Big Thank You From France
By Earl R. Bennett - Order online only.
7. Brochure of the Arizona Merci Train 8 Panel Signage
Dedication February 9, 2025. Available at the
McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, Scottsdale, AZ
8. HISTORY OF THE MERCI TRAIN - PowerPoint
By Daphne Davis, International QUESTERS
President, dldavisinterior@gmail.com, 507.829.5526
9. Pam Todd - Immediate Past QUESTERS
International President - 406.425.4674.
pastpres@questers1944.org.
10. Joan Fudela - Scottsdale, Arizona Historian
11. Guy Benoit - Retired French aeronautical engineer
Lecturer at ASU with programs on the Merci Train,
LaFayette as well as the World Wars. 480.469.0406.
guybenoit@outlook.com

12. Doug Adamson - AZ Director of the Boxcar 40 & 8 Society - dougdebaz@gmail.com. 602.882.8030
13. David Knutson, 512.736.2377 - Texas -
La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux, Grand Publiciste, Grande du Texas,
djk3002@yahoo.com

Contact info:

Betsy Stambaugh - Treasurer and Merci Train Chair
QUESTERS Four Peaks #1207
25822 N. Bolero Bend
Rio Verde, AZ 85263
BetsyStambaugh@gmail.com
Cell: 630,728,9653

The Questers are dedicated to keeping history alive through education, preservation of meaningful places, and funding of restoration projects. From saving local landmarks to granting national scholarships, The Questers work to honor and share the stories that have shaped our collective heritage.

Theme for 2025-26 National History Day (NHD)
Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History
Arizona State Organization of The Questers

Topic idea: How the “White Death” helped build a state. In the late 1800’s and early 1900’s people coming to Arizona were ranchers, miners AND people suffering from tuberculosis (TB). Among the people coming for their health were members of the Frank Lloyd Wright and Goldwater families, along with others who stayed and made major contributions to the development of our state. At that time, Arizona was remote, thinly populated and primitive. But the clean dry air made it the promised land for people with TB and other lung ailments. In response to the influx of tuberculosis patients, Arizona built “sanitariums” around the state. Initially, these sanitariums were nothing more than a few tents housing individual patients and a small wooden building for a kitchen and office. Saint Lukes Hospital in Phoenix began in 1907 as one of these “tent” hospitals. Later it was determined that the canvas walls of the tents retained the TB bacteria. So tents were changed to small wooden cabins with wide flaps that could be opened for air flow. The last remaining TB cabin in Arizona is on the National Register of Historic Places and is located at the Cave Creek Museum. Through the 1900’s people continued to arrive, stay and contribute to the growth of Arizona. In 1930, Boyce Gully left his wife and daughter in Seattle to come to Arizona treatment. He built the 18-room “Mystery Castle” for his daughter that still stands today at the foothills of South Mountain. His daughter didn’t see it until after his death in 1945. Even with advances in medicine, including shorter treatment courses and prevention, the World Health Organization reports that worldwide 1.25 million people died of TB in 2023.

By Alice Helton, Four Peaks Chapter

Sources:

[Arizona Memory Project](#)-Arizona State Library, Archives and History Division, Tuberculosis Hospitals-Arizona-Phoenix, Tent Hospitals (Photos)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), Tuberculosis Report

[Article: February 2001, Cave Creek Museum’s Tubercular Cabin: Standing Its Ground](#)

by Stephanie Bradley

[Arizona Genealogy Trails-History Group](#), Hospitals and Sanitariums "Social Survey of Arizona", May, 1921, By: Mary Kidder Rak

[Phoenixmag.com > 2019/05/23 Sunnyslope Owes Its Townhood to Tuberculosis - PHOENIX magazine](#)

[En.wikipedia.org > wiki >Mystery Castle - Wikipedia](#)

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Arizona State Organization of The Questers

From Deborah Hansen, past state president of Arizona Questers and creator of the Questers Women's Suffrage Exhibit, [deborahhansen44@gmail.com/602-920-9365](mailto:deborahhansen44@gmail.com)

Suggested Topics:

1. Contemporary feminist Gloria Steinem calls the movement for women's rights "the longest revolution." Why is this description so appropriate?
2. How have attitudes about women traditionally been formed and transmitted? How have various women reacted to changing attitudes about women and their expected roles in society?
3. What social conditions in New York and the US created a conducive environment for the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, NY?
4. In considering the five women who organized the first women's rights convention in 1848, what factors shaped their character and prompted their commitment to women's rights? Why did it take courage for Elizabeth Cady Stanton to ask for the right to vote in the Declaration of Sentiments she wrote?
5. What rights are women still advocating for and why? Who is involved in these efforts and what methods are they using to reach their goals?
6. What setbacks have occurred in the fight for women's rights? Are these setbacks a reaction to changes in the status of women? Are those opposed to change "reactionary"?
7. The woman suffrage movement experienced serious discord among factions, resulting in the split into the National Woman Suffrage Association and the American Woman Suffrage Association. The two groups finally merged to work together. How did the internal split among suffragists impact the suffrage movement? How did the two groups differ in their strategies for winning the vote? Was one strategy more effective than others, or was ultimate success due to a combination of tactics?
8. What reforms to improve the status of women have occurred during the lifetimes of women still living? How have these women reacted to these reforms and how have they affected their lives?
9. What actions, small or large, have living women taken to improve their own lives or those of other women and girls?
10. What efforts are being made to document contemporary efforts to improve the status of women and extend women's rights?

11. Why is it important to document and share the stories of actions taken during “the longest revolution”? Is sharing these stories as important as archiving them? Describe ways that historians have worked to record women’s history, as well as ways historians and their allies have worked to share or spread information about women’s history.
12. Describe the nascence of the genre of “women’s history.” Who was instrumental in identifying the need to focus on women’s history? How did the teaching of women’s history progress, and how is it being taught today? How and why have reactionaries attempted to suppress the teaching of women’s history, which has been included in many DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion) programs?
13. Advances in the status of women were achieved not just through the efforts of such luminaries as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, but through the efforts of millions—including men. Identify a man or men and their efforts on behalf of women’s rights. Identify lesser-known women and describe their efforts to improve the status of women. Consider focusing on individuals in your state or local community.
14. Women often started and maintained some of the most significant social reforms in America, including temperance (Frances Willard), settlement houses (Jane Adams), the Red Cross (Clara Barton) and the League of Women Voters (Carrie Chapman Catt). What factors contributed to the fact that women instigated these critical reforms? What characteristics did these women share? What tactics did they employ to achieve their goals? Consider illustrating other social reforms women gave spearheaded in your local community or on a larger scale.
15. The mission of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. What efforts have AAUW branches in your state or community undertaken in support of women’s rights?
16. The mission of The Girl Scouts of America is: Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. What influence has Girl Scouting had on the status of women and girls? Consider using personal histories and oral histories of Girl Scouts living or deceased.
17. The Arizona Women’s Hall of Fame honors women who have made significant contributions to shaping Arizona’s history and aims to recognize and celebrate these women’s diverse achievements and voices. They also seek to inspire future generation by showcasing the impact of women on the state’s social, economic and cultural landscape. Consider exploring how an inductee of the AZ Women’s Hall of Fame became an advocate for women’s rights and what actions she took to improve the lives of women or girls.

18. What other organizations have been or are currently committed to advancement of the status of women? Describe their reform efforts and external reactions to those efforts.

Resources:

1. The Arizona Center for the Book in the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, in recognition of the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in America, created an extensive reading list of related books, including the following:
 - Marching with Aunt Susan: Susan B. Anthony and the Fight for Women's Suffrage* by Claire Murphy
 - Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the Right to Vote* By Tanya Lee Stone
 - Long Island and the Woman Suffrage Movement*
 - Elizabeth Started All the Trouble* by Doreen Rappaport (a spirited look at the Founding Mothers)
 - *A Time for Courage: The Suffragette Diary of Kathleen Bow* by Kathryn Lasky (historical fiction)
 - Winning Their Place: Arizona Women in Politics* by Heidi Osselaer
 - Winning the Vote: The Triumph of the American Woman Suffrage Movement* by Robert Cooney (excellent and comprehensive, illustrated)
 - The Woman's Hour* by Elaine Weiss (Excellent, absorbing)
 - The Women's Suffrage Movement*
 - Heart on Fire: Susan B. Anthony Votes for President* by Ann Malaspina
 - A Lady Has the Floor: Belva Lockwood Speaks Out for Women's Rights* by Kate Hannigan
 - Rose and Radicals: The Epic Story of How American Women Won the Right to Vote* by Susan Zimet
 - Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence* by Kate Clark Lemay
 - Who was Susan B. Anthony?* by Meg Belviso and Pam Pollack
 - 100 Years of the Nineteenth Amendment: An Appraisal of Women's Political Activism* edited by Holly J. McCammon and Lee Ann Banaszak
 - A Time for Courage: The Suffragette Diary of Kathleen Bowen* by Kathryn Lasky (Genre fiction)
 - Nina Otero-Warren of Santa Fe* by Charlotte Whaley
 - Around America to Win the Vote: Two Suffragists, A Kitten, and 10,000 Miles* by Mara Rockliff
 - Why Couldn't Susan B. Anthony Vote? And Other Questions About Women's Suffrage* by Mary Kay Carson
 - Bold and Brav: Ten Heroes Who Won Women the Right to Vote* by Kirsten Gillebrand

--*For the Freedom of Her Race: Black Women and Electoral Politics in Illinois* by Lisa G. Materson
--*Articulating Rights: Nineteenth Century American Women on Race, Reform, and the State* by Alison Marie Parker
--*I Could Do That!: Esther Morris Gets Women the Vote*, Linda Arms White
--*Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts
---*Sisters in Spirit* by Sally Roesch Wagner
--*The Road to Seneca Falls* by Judith Willman
--*Seneca Falls and the Origins of the Women's Rights Movement* by Sally McMillen

2. Books that describe the continuing revolution in women's rights, especially the second wave of feminism that burgeoned in the mid twentieth century

--*The Feminine Mystique* by Betty Freidan (classic book that launched "second wave" of the US women's rights movement)
--*When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present* by Gail Collins
--*Sisterhood is Powerful* by Robin Morgan (1970 anthology of feminist writings considered a text of the "second-wave" feminist movement)
--*Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions* by Gloria Steinem
--*The Agitators: Three Friends Who Fought for Abolition and Women's Rights* by Dorothy Wickenden
--*The Women's History of the Modern World: How Radicals, Rebels, and Everywomen Revolutionized the Last 200 Years* by Rosalind Miles

3. In addition, consider reading books published by key players in the 100-year struggle for the vote, including the following:

--Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, later joined by Jocelyn Gage, wrote a six-volume compendium detailing the activities of suffragists from 1848 through 1920 and the establishment of the League of Women Voters in that year.
--Carrie Chapman Catt, who was president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) when the nineteenth amendment passed, has written several first-person accounts, including *Woman Suffrage and Politics: The Inner Story*
--*Jailed for Freedom* by Doris Stevens
--*Let the Truth Be Told* by Ida B. Wells

4. Consider the relationship between “artifacts of material culture” and the way they illustrate history, particularly in regard to the women’s movement and the woman suffrage movement.

--The Arizona Historical Society houses artifacts as well as oral histories of the suffrage movement and the fight to pass the Equal Rights Amendment.

--The Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records in their archives hold letters between Carrie Chapman Catt and a NAWSA organizer sent to Arizona in the early 1900s, which illustrate Catt’s visits to Arizona herself.

--The Sharlot Hall Museum incorporates the log building which was the AZ Territorial Capital and which was saved through the efforts of Sharlot Hall. Professional Staff have woven women’s history into the interpretive fabric of the museum’s historic buildings and exhibits, and they honor the role of women in historic preservation. The Sharlot Hall Museum is used by the National Collaborative of Women’s History Site as an iconic example of how museums can best reveal hidden history—the history of women and other underrepresented groups.

--The mission of the National Collaborative for Women History Sites is to support and promote the preservation and interpretation of sites and locales that highlight women’s participation in American life. Consider exploring the many historic sites in America dedicated to a particular woman or to a women’s movement and illustrate how museum professionals influence a citizen’s perceptions and overview of American history, by including or omitting various groups such as women. For example, the Susan B. Anthony Museum and House in Rochester, NY, preserves the home and headquarters of Anthony and her hive of suffragists. The site of the first women’s rights convention in Seneca Falls, NY, is now the Women’s Rights National Historic Park.

--The Questers is an international nonprofit organization founded in 1944 whose mission is to keep history alive through preservation, restoration and education. They created an impressive exhibit on the women’s suffrage movement which was displayed at the Arizona Capitol Museum and toured Arizona libraries, museums, schools and other organizations. They also created a touring program called Keepsakes Roadshow, which encouraged community members to “show and tell” about personal items they preserved, often those items being artifacts related to the daily or quotidian lives of women. Consider the role of “citizen” preservationists and historians in bringing history alive to others, including younger generations. Illustrate the role that everyday Americans play in preserving women’s history and priceless, often unrecorded women’s stories.

5. The National Women’s History Project (now the National Women’s History Alliance) was founded in 1980 in Santa Rosa, CA, by a group of women

determined to provide educational material on women's history to schools. In addition, they successfully lobbied Congress to designate March as National Women's History Month, now celebrated throughout the US. Women's history in 1980 was generally not taught in public schools. What impact did the NWHP have on children's perceptions of the role of women?

6. The National Women's History Museum was founded in 1996 by Karen Staser and Joan Meacham, an Arizona resident, with a powerful vision to ensure that women's contributions to American history are visible, valued and permanently recognized. It "currently offers an online museum, educational programs, scholarship and research." However, it has also lobbied for years for a permanent physical location on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, DC. Describe the formation and growth of the NWHM and the obstacles it has faced in fundraising and realizing a permanent location. Why are the challenges faced by the NWHM perhaps an illustration of reaction and/or an unfinished revolution?

7. Project Gutenberg:

The History of Women's Suffrage 1900-1920

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/30051/30051-h/30051-h.htm>

- Chapter 2 is Arizona

8. Women's Suffrage from the Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records Division

<https://azlibrary.gov/dazl/learners/research-topics/womens-suffrage>

NOTE: The Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouting, encourages senior Girl Scouts to explore a specific issue and its causes, interviewing members of the community regarding that issue. For some students, the History Day project might also serve as a vehicle for working on their Gold Award.

The Questers are dedicated to keeping history alive through education, preservation of meaningful places, and funding of restoration projects. From saving local landmarks to granting national scholarships, The Questers work to honor and share the stories that have shaped our collective heritage.

Theme for 2025-26 National History Day (NHD)
Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History
Arizona State Organization of The Questers

Topic: Following the History of WWI through Sheet Music

Category: Reaction

Reason: The popular songs that came out of Tin Pan Alley at the turn of the 20th century often reflected and even anticipated the changing social and political climate in America. The Library of Congress has a collection of 14,000 pieces of sheet music from 1914-1920, spanning the time before, during, and after ‘the Great War.’ First came songs popular in Europe and America before America was involved in the war and then patriotic and anti-war songs. Once Wilson signed the declaration of war on April 6, 1917, George M. Cohan wrote the iconic song “*Over There*” and then thousands of songs were written about all aspects of the war and American life: separation from loved ones, songs about children and mothers, songs about the Allies and against Kaiser Wilhelm, songs to escape the news of the day, humorous songs in America and in France, songs made popular on Broadway and in contests, songs to support the war effort, songs anticipating coming home and, inevitably, songs popularized after the war about adjusting to life back home. This program could be a collaborative effort including students more interested in the history of WWI and those who would like to perform the iconic songs from the war (singers and pianists) as a team presentation of song and narration.

Sources:

Primary: (music)

Sheet music from 1914-1920 housed in libraries and personal collections as well as in song book collections

Primary: (history)

Articles written in newspapers and magazines during the war time
Artifacts and documented information from family members who served in the war

Secondary: (music and history)

Ewan, David. **All the Years of American Popular Music**, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1977

Ewan, David. **The Life and Death of Tin Pan Alley** (the Golden Ages of American Popular Music), New York: Funk and Wagnalls, 1964

Secondary: (history)

Numerous American history books used in school history classes and in libraries

Note: Dr. Sylvia Munsen could serve as a mentor for this project; students could use her copies of the David Ewan books and review her collection of 200 pieces of WWI sheet music.

Dr. Sylvia Munsen – sylvia.munsen@gmail.com

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Suggested NHD Topics with Arizona ties incorporating the 2026 NHD theme *Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in History*

- Farm worker rights with Cesar Chavez; note participation of Alfredo Gutierrez at <https://historicalleague.org/projects/alfredo-gutierrez/>
Cesar Chavez's second fast was at Santa Rita Community Center in Phoenix. It would be possible to have many primary sources and first-person interviews from participants.
- 56 years after being kicked out of ASU, Alfredo Gutierrez received his bachelor's degree in 2024. <https://historicalleague.org/projects/alfredo-gutierrez/>
- Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ending the Mexican American War (1846-1848) and defining the border between the United States and Mexico
- Native Americans' Right to Vote in Arizona - 1948
- Women's right to vote in the Arizona Constitution of 1912, the initiative in the original Arizona Constitution; view Edwynne "Polly" Cutler Rosenbaum at <https://historicalleague.org/projects/edwynne-polly-cutler-rosenbaum/>
- Edwynne "Polly" Cutler Rosenbaum and seven other women legislators searched the Arizona constitution and eliminated the word "male" as a requirement for an

elected state office; see <https://historicalleague.org/projects/edwynne-polly-cutler-rosenbaum/>

- Funding the Roosevelt Dam
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) negotiated at the Heard Museum; view Michael J. Fox at <https://historicalleague.org/projects/michael-j-fox/>
- Indian Wars in Arizona; forced relocation of Native American tribes
- Revolution in care for individuals with autism, from early 1900s to today; consider Denise Resnik <https://historicalleague.org/projects/denise-d-resnik/> and Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center
- Revolutionary Impact of the Interstate Highway in Arizona; consider construction of I-10 through Phoenix with Okemah Community and historic neighborhoods; view Terry Goddard <https://historicalleague.org/projects/terry-goddard/>
- Revolutionary Impact of the Green Book in the Grand Canyon State
- The Orphan Train Movement from New York to Morenci and Clifton – 40 Catholic orphaned children kidnapped from Morenci Catholic families in 1904
- Tuberculosis sanatoriums and preventoriums in Tucson and Sunnyslope in the early twentieth century, *Journal of Arizona History*
- The Six Triple Eight; 104-year-old WWII veteran Major Fanny Griffin McClendon, the last surviving member of the legendary 6888th, lives in Tempe.
- Sante Fe Railroad-- Revolution in tourism to the West
 - Campaigns to romanticize the West and bring tourists. Changed the perception of the Grand Canyon from worthless chasm to scenic landscape.
 - Hiring Fred Harvey to establish upscale dining and hotel accommodations along the rail lines, making travel more comfortable.
 - Created a market for Native American art including baskets, rugs, jewelry, pottery, and Katsinas.

- Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988
 - Generates billions in revenue for tribes.
 - Significant employment and economic opportunity.
 - Still much controversy over morality and ethics.
- Walter Bimson of Valley National Bank
 - During the depression, Bimson thought outside the box regarding loans.
 - Broke with conventional wisdom regarding loans.
 - Made Valley National Bank a leader in Arizona.
- A number of Arizona women may qualify for this topic besides Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor:
 - Francis Willard Munds--women's suffrage—helped secure women's right to vote in Arizona. First woman with a sculpture at Arizona Capitol in Wesley Bolin Plaza in 2024.
 - Annie Dodge Wauneka—Navajo leader, helped to improve health on the reservation. Second woman to serve on the Navajo Tribal Council; encouraged Navajos to use Western medicine.
 - Dolores Huerta—cofounder of United Farm Workers of American, advocate for social justice.
 - Sarah Herring Sorin—First woman attorney admitted to the bar in the Arizona territory and first woman to argue before the Supreme court without a male attorney.
- Reverend Warren Stewart's fight for Martin Luther King Day in AZ. We are the only state that won a popular vote for the holiday.
<https://historicalleague.org/projects/warren-h-stewart-sr/>
- Japanese Incarceration in World War II Arizona, *Journal Arizona History*, Autumn, 2025, Volume 66, Number 2; - see William "Bill" Masao Kajikawa's oral history at <https://historicalleague.org/projects/william-bill-masao-kajikawa/>; his wife's parents were incarcerated at Santa Anita Racetrack while three sons and a son-in-law were fighting for the USA in WWII. Two sons were killed and the third son was sent home because of the tragedy.
- Chandler Farmworkers during the Great Depression; research Dorothea Lange's Chandler photojournalism projects conducted through the Farm Security Administration from 1937-1940; view Chandler History Museum

- Homesteading in Arizona 1870-1942; online search reveals barbed wire arrived in Arizona in 1875, revolutionizing the territory's cattle industry by enabling ranchers to control and separate herds, transforming open-range ranching into a more enclosed and profitable business. Its advent led to increased conflicts between ranchers, homesteaders, and cattlemen over land use and access, sparking range wars in the mid-1880s. Eventually, barbed wire came to be used by all groups, solidifying its crucial role in the development of Arizona cattle industry and in defining property boundaries. Consider Washburn and Moen of Worcester, Massachusetts.
- Hopi Silvercraft Cooperative Guild - Following World War II, the U.S. government provided assistance for Hopi males to train in silversmithing through the G.I. Bill. The program was spearheaded by Hopi artists Fred Kabotie and Paul Saufkie, Sr., and led to the formation of the Hopi Silvercraft Cooperative Guild in 1949.

Other suggested topics relating to 2026 NHD theme *Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in History* (Not related to Arizona)

- Black Panthers
- Discovery of Insulin in 1922 reversed the diabetes death sentence

September, 2025