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Your Roads....

Your Future!

ARPA Member Blast April 30, 2009

ArizonaRockProducts.org

Senate President meets Gov't Affairs Committee

Senate President Bob Burns was the guest speaker at the ARPA Government affairs committee last Wednesday.



Pres. Burns provided an update on the state budget and took the time to answer committee member's questions about the budget process as well as the prospects for legislation.

ARPA Government Affairs Director Rusty Bowers briefed President Burns and the Committee members about ARPA's legislative agenda and discussed Burns' priorities for the session.

President Burns has pledged that the Senate will not hear any bills until Arizona's \$3 Billion budget deficit has been addressed. That process is expected to take at least another month.

Burns' refusal to hear other bills serves to focus member's attention on the budget crisis and increases the pressure to resolve the budget crisis in a timely manner.

Naturally, the Legislators, lobbyists and state employees are a bit nervous about the prospects of a session without legislation. Here's a summary of ARPA's legislative Agenda. We are confident that these bills will be heard once the budget is complete.

—Senate Bill 1183

ARPA has been working on a project to channelize the Agua Fria River in an effort to increase the value of the surrounding land, make mining operations more productive and provide additional recreation and riparian areas. The law that enables participants to form the Special Channelization District is set to expire in 2010. Senate President Burns has sponsored a bill to eliminate the expiration date.

—Senate Bill 1255 and its companion bill SB 1256

ARPA has been working with the State Mine Inspector to establish a mining reclamation fund that will provide the inspector with the resources he needs in order to properly reclaim aggregate mined lands.

—Senate Bill 1259

Changing market conditions and demand fluctuations can dramatically affect the economic viability of aggregate mines. SB 1259 allows the State Mine Inspector to consider these factors when deciding to extend the period in which to initiate reclamation of the mining property.

—Senate Bill 1260

This bill exempts certain intermittently used mines—that meet a strict set of conditions—from the reclamation provisions of state reclamation law.

—General Plan Amendment

Rusty and Senator John Nelson are working on an amendment that would provide a place for mineral planning in general plans. The amendment is ready and simply needs a germane bill to serve as a host, or a redundant bill to serve as a striker.

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Registration forms are available on the ARPA website. Register Today!

ARPA Members to the rescue

Rusty Bowers and 1,200 of his closest friends were enjoying an annual Mountain Man Retreat at the Varsity Scout Rendezvous when the unthinkable happened. Someone put a bit too much powder in the cannon and blew the arms off the thing.

Well, needless to say, you can't have a Varsity Scout Retreat without a Cannon, and Rusty knew just the guy who could fix it.

ARPA Member George Randall saved the day and in exchange, Rusty let George and his crew wear Rusty's Sacred Mountain Man Hat which has been passed down from generation to generation and hasn't been washed since the Hoover Administration. Here's Rusty's account of the story.

"Cannons for fun are a blast! But when the main cannon at the 2009 Mesa District Varsity Scout Rendezvous went off one time too many it took the specialists at the Cannon Repair Shop at Payson Concrete and Materials to get it back on the firing line!



Every two years the Mesa District Varsity Scouts of the Boy Scouts of America, Grand Canyon Council, hold a Mountain Man Rendezvous at the R-C Scout

Ranch near Payson. 1200 boys plus their leaders showed up to the three day event and were having quite a time until the charge in the main cannon was a bit hot and blew off the arms. The cannon is used to announce special events, so a quick repair was needed. Rusty said he knew the folks who could "get'r done"! Enter the shop crew at Payson Concrete Cannon Repair - under the leadership of Mountain Man George (Randall). they had the expertise to get the cannon back in action on a short fuse, ready to blast away into the 19th century! The entire encampment was saved - thanks to Sid "Hands-of-Fire" Wells, James Waterman, John Chilson! Thanks guys!"

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