



Glendale Arizona Historical Society

"preservation of the past"

JANUARY 17 NEWSLETTER

Volume 37, Issue 1

UPCOMING EVENTS

at a glance

Please Save these Dates

ANNUAL MEET/ING/POTLUCK

Monday, Jan 23 at 6:00 pm
Manistee Ranch

NELDA CROWELL

"Bisbee Mass Deportation"
Monday, Feb 27 at 7pm
Manistee Ranch

ED ALLEN

"William Beardsley & the Arizona Canals"
Monday, March 7 at 7pm
Manistee Ranch

LINDA IRICK

Monday, April 24 at 2pm
Manistee Ranch

ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sunday, May 21 at 4pm
Manistee Ranch

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2017 GAHS MEETING AND ELECTIONS

You can start 2017 off with a smile and fun at the Annual Glendale Arizona Historical Society Meeting and Election of GAHS Board of Directors and Officers. Ah yes!! One can smell the aroma of the yummy food now. The Annual Meeting is also the Annual Potluck. This is an important meeting in the life of the Society of starting the year with a newly elected and installed Board of Directors to carry out the important work of preserving Glendale's history. Please bring your favorite entrée, salad, side dish or dessert and the Board will provide the

beverages. Enjoy the surroundings of Arizona's historic Manistee Ranch (1897) located at 5127 W. Northern Avenue, Glendale, AZ (enter off of 51st Avenue).



Glendale Cardinals Host Reunion

now for seating is limited and it was full last year. You don't want to miss out in seeing your classmates. **Mr. Bruce Heatwole**, former student, teacher and principle will be the MC. Go to <http://www.ghsaar.myevent.com/> for more information and buy your **\$20.00 per person** ticket there too. What no computer!! Then mail a check to: **GUHS/GHS AAR**

Committee at PO Box 6228, Glendale, AZ 85312. Be sure to include **Name (Maiden name), graduation year, name of spouse or other attending with you and of course your contact information of phone, email and/ or Street address and city, state and zip code.** The deadline for reservations is **February 24, 2017.**





Ron Short, President
GAHS Board of Directors

President's Message

Glendale's unique and intriguing history. The Society starts the year off with the first ever City Council approved License Agreement with the Society at their December 6, 2016 voting meeting for the use of the Rose Garden, Guest House and Palm Grove area of Sahuaro Ranch. The Board wishes to thank the Glendale City Council and the City staff for allowing the Society to remain at Sahuaro Ranch with the office in the Guest House and the ability to facilitate weddings in the Rose Garden and Guest House. The Society facilitated 48 weddings in the Rose Garden or Palm Grove in 2016 and booked 34 weddings for 2017 with a goal of 50 weddings. The Board will improve

outreach with the development and printing of tour guides, Society information brochure and wedding pamphlets. Manistee Ranch will receive tender loving care in repairs due to age and vandalism. The Society grant application for roofing of Manistee Ranch house was not approved by Tohono O'Odham Nation. The photo digitization project of historic photos will continue with an Arizona Historical Society Grant. Tours of the Guest House and Manistee Ranch will continue. The research library is being improved thanks to Nelda Crowell, as well as renewed oral histories. Members and others are urged to volunteer for tours, exhibits, weddings, Board of Directors and refreshments at

The Glendale Arizona Historical Society is eagerly looking at a new year and opportunities to serve the citizens of Glendale in preserving and promoting

First Chinese Person to Come to Glendale

The first Chinese person to come to Glendale was George W. Sing in 1904 as a 12 year old boy. George lived in Glendale for 76 years before passing away in 1980. George had no family here and no schooling. This young lad went to work on the Arizona Canal as a cook's helper. He next ran a vegetable route on a Phoenix main street selling vegetables from a cart. George decided to open a grocery store in downtown Glendale. After many years of successful operation his two sons ran the store- Jack until 1969 and his brother until 1975. When the depression hit hard George Sing had sufficient supplies for himself and many of the townspeople. He gave considerable credit and those people were paying back old debts to his sons. George Sing created

the first dance hall and orchestra place in Glendale in a big old tin barn. He would have Mexican artists performing since the area was predominately Mexican. His son, Jack said all he spoke was Mexican and Chinese. Other Chinese families moved to Glendale and became successful businessmen. They included the Ongs (1940, Kim Tangs (1945) Wongs (1948) and the Gins (1965).



Tour the Ranches

2015-2016 Season Tour Schedules



The Guest House at Sahuaro Ranch is presenting its scheduled public tours between 1:00 PM and 3:30 PM each Sunday Afternoon by the Glendale Arizona Historical Society from October to May. Call 623-435-0072 to arrange group tours. (Last tour is at 3:00 PM) Schedule is subject to change.

The city's Parks and Recreation Dept. conducts tours of the Main House on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays - 1am to 2pm, and on Sundays - 1pm to 4pm. For more information or to arrange a group tour call 623-930-4201.

The Historical Society conducts tours of the Manistee Ranch House and Office from October to May, on the first and third Saturdays of each month, from noon to 4 PM. The last tour starts at 3 PM. This season's remaining tour dates are Jan. 16; Feb. 6 and 20; March 5 and 19; April 2 and 16; May 7. Tour fees: adults \$5, seniors \$4. Ages 6-16 \$1. GAHS members are free; (schedule is subject to change. Please call 623-435-0072 for group tours and schedule information.

LET'S SAVE MANISTEE RANCH

Manistee Ranch is a glorious example of a community dedicated to the preservation of its history. Twenty years ago Glendale citizens, historical society and elected officials successfully orchestrated one of the most improbable historic preservation projects in Arizona. Manistee Ranch house was built by Herbert Hamilton in 1897 and he sold the house and land to Louis Sands in 1907 for \$46,000. Louis named the ranch after his home town Manistee, Michigan. Sands raised three children at Manistee Ranch and developed successful businesses, including Sands Chevrolet. The Sands family donated land for Sands Park and fire station, sold land for major residential development and Valley West Mall. The family had a plan to turn the remaining ranch into high-rise office and apartment complexes, but in 1993 the family talked with the City of Glendale officials about developing a single-family subdivision and shopping center anchored by Albertson's grocery store. This would remove Manistee Ranch house and buildings. Carol and Bill Stout developed neighborhood support to preserve Manistee Ranch house. Mayor Elaine Scruggs appointed a task force to save Manistee Ranch. The Sands family offered to move the house to Sands Park at no cost to the city. It is critical that historical buildings remain in their original settings. It was decided that the historical society would apply for a \$347,463 State Heritage Fund Grant for 1.9 acres, The City match for the grant was the



house and \$140,000 donated by the Sands family. The application ranked 4th and was awarded \$241,620. The City of Glendale applied for a Heritage Fund grant to buy the 3.5 acres in front of the house and use it as a "serenity park". Glendale provided \$285,000 general fund money to match the state funds for a total of \$570,000 for the park. It came in 8th and was funded. This was a total of \$811,620 of public money and \$140,000 of Sands donation for a total cost of about \$950,000. It would cost \$300,000-\$500,000 to restore the house, office, barn and garage. The public is welcome to visit Manistee Ranch Public Park during the day and tour the house and office, owned by the historical society, during published tour days and times.

This House Has a Story



This is one of the few old (1800's) buildings remaining in Glendale. The house is located at 5602 W. Lamar Road. The house was built on Lots 10 and 11, Block 30 of the original Glendale Townsite. Elias Conway Bunch (1856) came west to Utah and married in 1881. His wife died in 1885. Elias remarried and moved to Glendale, AZ buying the property and building the house in 1898. J.B. Doner was the builder of this Folk Victorian style house. Elias worked as an educator and teacher. In 1907, Elias sold the house and left Glendale to become principal of the Seventh Street School in Phoenix. He died in 1924. The house had several owners in the following decade. On July 23, 1918 Manuela C. Perez bought Lot 10 and 11, but she may have rented the

house since 1912. Manuela died in 1955 and Jose M. Perez (Manuela's nephew) and his wife Sally Y. Perez became owners of the house. Jose was born on the front porch of the house in 1922. . The house now sits vacant and deteriorating. The Perez family has the property for sale at \$170,000 for 14,000 sq. ft. of land including the historic house. The land is zoned M-1 Manufacturing. There is a strong probability that the house will be demolished for another use.

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Our next membership get together is our **ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK, January 2017 at 6:00, Manistee Ranch, 5127 W. Northern Avenue**

Please enter the driveway to Manistee Ranch from 51st Avenue, just south of Walgreens. Proceed through the parking lot, and continue through the open vehicle gate. Then keep right, and park along the dirt driveway.



Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow.
Just not here; we love our Sunshine!

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The First Sahuaro Ranch Rose Garden Wedding



William Bartlett bought the 640 acres north of Glendale in 1886 for 25 cents an acre, under the Desert Land Act, with the promise to provide irrigation and improvements to the land and then the Federal Government would provide him title and he would pay an additional \$1.00 per acre. Mr. Bartlett's daughter, Mary was married on April 6, 1899 to Charles W. Case Deering in the rose garden of Sahuaro Ranch. The ranch was a successful enterprise with several buildings and agricultural products. Mary and Charles were active in California and then moved to Honolulu, Hawaii in 1916 building a beautiful residence. His father Charles, a rich industrialist, died in 1918 and left him \$5,000,000 inheritance. Charles divorced Mary in 1922. Mary stayed in Hawaii, as an active socialite, who died from pneumonia on November 15, 1926 at age 50. Charles became an amateur aviator and playboy. He married again and was divorced by his second wife Helen Elizabeth Moyer Deering in February 1924 claiming cruelty. Then Charles is sued for heart balm by Mrs. Marguerite Curl, widow, in April 1924 for failure to keep his promise to marry her asking \$50,000 for peace of mind. Helen claimed she had 50 fervent love letters from Charles as evidence. Charles had a love triangle that got him into trouble. Charles crashed a plane he was flying and died from his injuries on May 11, 1924 at age 47.