



Glendale Arizona Historical Society

"preservation of the past"

DECEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

Volume 37, Issue 8

UPCOMING EVENTS

at a glance

Please Save these Dates

CHRISTMAS PARTY and NOMINATIONS

Sunday, Dec 18 at 2:00 pm
Manistee Ranch

POTLUCK / ELECTIONS

Monday, Jan 25 at 6:00 pm
Manistee Ranch

NELDA CROWELL

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

ED ALLEN

**'William Beardsley and
the Canals of Arizona'**
Monday, March 27 at 7pm
Manistee Ranch

LINDA IRICK

'Meet the Harvey Girls'
Monday, April 17 at 2pm
Manistee Ranch

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GLENDALE ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2016 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 18, 2016 at 2:00 pm
At Historic Manistee Ranch



It's a HO, HO, HO and GO, GO, and GO to the 2016 Christmas Party in beautiful historic and decorated 1897 Manistee Ranch House. No snow but plenty of food, fun, holiday songs and fellowship. Members, bring a guest, to enjoy this unique and relaxing time, taking us back to bygone days of an old-fashion Christmas gathering. Please bring a dessert to share with others. The Society will provide the beverages. The members at the meeting will vote on the nomination recommendations of the Nomination Committee of officers and directors for the Society. The election would take place at the January 2017 meeting. Manistee Ranch is located at 5127 W. Northern Avenue, Glendale, AZ. Please enter off of 51st Avenue.



KARL DENNISON "WOW's" the Crowd

What an exciting evening 50 people had on October 24, 2016 listening to Karl Dennison, Class of 1957 - Glendale High School, talk about his family history, his life and reminisce about the 50's in Glendale. Karl put together a movie where he gathered photos from

his 50,000 photo collection to share with the audience. Karl was especially proud of his grandfather with a 4th grade education who after invented and implemented amazing engineering feats with concrete and steel. One device was a huge silo shaped water transport unit placed every mile that transported water from downtown Glendale to Danny Isabelle's ranch north of

Bell Road. His grandfather also built stone homes that have been demolished. Karl is an amazing concert piano player with many honors. He played a video of himself playing a classical selection on a \$150,000 Bosendorfer grand piano in British Columbia. Van Cliburn is a great piano player- but Karl's is better. Karl did play a few songs for the audience on the Manistee Ranch piano.





President's Message

by Ron Short, President of the GAHS Board of Directors

The Glendale Arizona Historical Society season of programs and activities started with an excellent and well attended presentation by Glendale's Karl Dennison in October, which was followed by a wonderful old-fashion picnic at Manistee Ranch on November 19, 2016 with entertainment by Ronnie Hazelett. We are looking forward to a large

attendance for the annual Christmas Party at decorated Manistee Ranch house on December 18, 2016. Then on January 23, 2017 (yes new year) at 6:00 p.m. is our annual dinner and elections. The remaining programs are Nelda's Crowell's presentation of **"Bisbee Mass Deportation"** in February.

Ed Allen's presentation: William Beardsley and the **"Canals of Arizona"** March and Linda Irich's presentation Meet the Harvey Girls for April (afternoon meeting at 2 p.m.) followed by the Annual Ice Cream Social in May. We appreciate the 150 members of the Society and ask those members to encourage others to join the Society. We need people who have a passion for preserving Glendale's history to join and volunteer to help with the tours, weddings, exhibits, research and leadership roles. It is critical in order to continue the important work of the Society into future decades that interested persons step forward and become part of the Society leadership.

Membership Directory



NEW LIFE MEMBER

Mary Ellen LeGendre
7520 N. 59th Dr.
Glendale, AZ 85301

and...

- ◆ Remove Dorothy Doyle who passed away in 2013
- ◆ Catherine Morgan's telephone number is 623-640-3994. It was incorrectly listed in the Membership Directory.
- ◆ David and Linda Irick moved and new address is 9069 N. Sweet Acacia Place, Tucson, AZ 85742
- ◆ Nancy McKay has passed and the name in the directory will be Family of Nancy McKay
- ◆ Richard St. Clair will be listed as Honorary Life member.
- ◆ Ronald Short's email is rshort7139@yahoo.com

Please mark these corrections in your GAHS Membership Directory.

Lovely Lady ~ Lovely Smile

Ruth Sparks Byrne, 94, born October 23, 1921 in Peoria, AZ, grew up in Glendale. Ruth was working as a teller at the First National Bank in 1942. There, currently, is a large framed photo of Ruth hanging on the wall at her teller window. That same year, a friend convinced Ruth to go to a dance in the hanger at Thunderbird Field and there she met and later married George Byrne. Ruth was in the military life and over 25 years lived in 24 different homes. During that time Ruth had five children Mike, Pat, Tim, Tom and Anne. The Byrne's returned to Glendale in 1973 and the rest is an amazing story of passion and dedication of preserving and promoting Glendale's history. The Glendale Arizona Historical Society was started in 1973 and made a non-profit 501-C3 in 1978. Ruth entertained and informed thousands of people, young and

old, about the history of Sahuaro Ranch and Glendale. Ruth had an old office chair and a little footstool we would place in the exhibit room at the Guest House and she would talk for hours to visitors. Ruth was a major organizer of starting and facilitating weddings in the rose garden at Sahuaro Ranch starting in 1986 and the Society has now facilitated 1,838 weddings. Ruth was deeply involved in saving Manistee Ranch in 1996 when the Glendale Arizona Historical Society bought the Manistee Ranch with State Heritage Fund grant and restored the house and buildings. The City of Glendale established an annual Historic Preservation Award named after Ruth. Ruth had a great sense of humor and a terrific smile. She was an avid Democrat and delighted when she actually found another Democrat to talk with about politics. The family held a beautiful Memorial celebration of Ruth's life

on November 19, 2016 at Ruth's beloved Rose Garden at Sahuaro Ranch with family, friends and community leaders providing their memories and thanks to Ruth for a life well done. Glendale is indeed better for Ruth Byrne helping to preserve and promote its history. Ruth died on October 16, 2016. She sat down in a chair and passed away. Ruth asked that donations be given to Glendale Arizona Historical Society in her memory



Jackie Pitts Payne Has Passed Away



Jackie Pitts Payne was born at St. Joseph's Hospital. Her parents were long-time Glendale residents Charles and Adelia Pitts. Jackie went to

Glendale schools and Phoenix College. She received a B.A. degree from San Jose State University, worked at Portman's Western Store and for a local developer. She married David Payne in 1954 and had their only child Matthew in 1957. Jackie was very active in the Bethany Bible Church and became an active member of the Glendale Arizona Historical Society. David and Jackie, with another couple, formed the Payne and Morrison Florists which became successful. Jackie was an expert photographer and collected cats. She had a long illness and passed away on October 24, 2016. It is asked that any donations be made to the Salvation Army and/or Hospice of the Valley.

WILLIAM HOYT BARTLETT- SURVEYOR

W.H. Bartlett (born 1879, died 1966) is not the person who built Sahuaro Ranch; that was William Henry Bartlett. Bill Bartlett is a West Valley pioneer responsible for the Bartlett Dam and many other accomplishments in the Phoenix area. Four Peoria, Illinois families moved to



Bartlett Dam

Peoria, Arizona in 1886, before Glendale was platted in 1892, to join relatives settling on a ranch on Lateral 19. Bill was one of three children in the first school for Peoria, AZ and it was about to close, due to the few students. Henry Mann, a school board member, saw a covered wagon coming down Grand Avenue with nine children. He gave the father a job and the school was saved. Bill attended two high school years at Occidental

College and a year at Phoenix High School. He then went to Yale University and graduated with undergraduate and graduate work in mining. He was asked in Peoria to do surveying. He became a part of the Verde River Irrigation and Power District, which benefited the development of the Deer Valley and Paradise Valley areas. He indicated he had fallen in with a group of 'desert rats' who were endeavoring to obtain permission from the Federal Government in 1916 to acquire rights of way over public lands to conduct stored waters of the Verde River to over 100,000 acres of desert land. Bartlett spent about four years camping in various locations along the Verde River and found a location of a narrow gorge in the granite mountain. He surveyed the area and presented the idea of a dam at this location. More surveying was done by others that confirmed it is an excellent site for a dam that would hold 185,000 acre feet of water. Bill Bartlett was engaged in ranching, carpentering, plumbing, mining, punching cattle, farming, but he stands out for his surveying and engineering capabilities.

Arrowhead Ranch Historic Development



Arrowhead Ranch had a long history before it was developed into Arizona's premier planned community development. Francis Isabell, wife of Danny Isabell in 1986 claimed there were hundreds of mounds in the Arrowhead Ranch area, between Union Hills Drive, Deer Valley Road and 51st and 83rd Avenues. All the burial mounds faced east "towards the rising sun". Mr. Isabell bought the area in 1936 and plowed up many of the mounds and planted grapes. There was an Indian village and canal from New River. The mounds were from the 14th Century. Paloma Development Company did not find any mounds. Texas developers came to the City of Glendale in the late 1970's with visions of a planned community north of Bell Road. Hunt-Stephens bought the ranch of 3,800 acres in March 1980 for \$42.9 million. Tally Industries had bought the land in July 1979 from Goldmar, Inc. for \$30.4 million. The area was rezoned in 1981. A development rights agreement was approved in 1983. The plans included 2,221 acres single family homes, 304 acres patio homes, 392 acres multifamily, 390 acres of

commercial development, 283 acres for two 18 hole golf courses and 20 acres for a sewer-treatment plan and five school sites. It would be a one billion dollar project. Construction started in October 1983. City Council in 1984 approved a 30 story resort hotel and mountaintop restaurant on a 29.4 acre site west of 51st Avenue and three-quarter mile north of Beardsley Road. City Council also approved \$600,000 of water, sewer and street projects for Arrowhead of a programmed \$16.4 million worth of improvements. Westcor announced it would start construction on a regional mall in 1988. Paloma Development resisted doing a master plan for the one square area in the middle of Arrowhead in 1987. The Arrowhead Country Club was projected to be completed in January 1989. The Master Plan was finally approved by City Council in 1989. It's not easy to plan and develop a huge mixed-use project, but Arrowhead Ranch has proven to be very successful and a great asset for the City of Glendale.

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Our next membership get together is our
**Christmas Party & Nominations
Sunday, Dec 18, 2016 at 2:00 am
Manistee Ranch, 5127 W. Northern Ave**

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.

A warm welcome to our new members:
Theresa Parker
Karen Dickey
Davita Solter

We bid farewell to members we've lost:
Jackie Paynes
Ruth Byrnes



Glendale Arizona Historical Society
PO Box 5606
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Glendale Historic Landmarks Open for Tours

Sahuaro Ranch located at the NWC of Mountain View Road and 59th Avenue has several historical buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Glendale City Parks and Recreation staff provides free tours of the Main House (1895) on Fridays and Saturday from September –May, 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and Sundays 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. No tours on holidays. The Glendale Historical Society provides free tours of the **Guest House (1898) and Adobe House (1887)**

October-May on Sundays from 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. and during special events. The Society conducts one hour tours of historical **Manistee Ranch House (1897) and office** located at 5127 W. Northern Avenue (enter off of 51st Avenue) on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. (last tour starts at 3 p.m.) from October – May. Call 623-435-0072 for group tours. Tour fees: Adults \$5.00, seniors \$4.00, Ages 6-16 \$1.00 and GAHS members free. The schedule and fees are subject to change. The remaining tour dates are Jan.7, 21; Feb. 4, 18; March 4, 18; April 1, 15; and May 6.

