



# Glendale Arizona Historical Society

*"preservation of the past"*

NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Volume 39, Issue 7

## UPCOMING EVENTS

at a glance

Please Save These Dates

### Annual GAHS Picnic

Saturday, November 17, 2018  
11:00 AM  
Manistee Ranch

### Annual GAHS Picnic

Saturday, November 17, 2018  
11:00 AM  
Manistee Ranch

### Annual Potluck & Election

Monday, January 28, 2019  
6:00 PM  
Manistee Ranch

### Sands "Trip to Taos" Exhibit

February 2019, Manistee Ranch  
(details to come)

## Highlights Inside

President's Message 2

You're Invited to the  
2018 GLENDALE ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# Annual Picnic

NOVEMBER 17, 2018 ▲ 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Manistee Ranch, 5127 W. Northern Avenue (enter off 51st Avenue)

The annual picnic is one of the most anticipated and enjoyable Society events of the year. Join members, guests and friends, relax under the shade of the giant pine trees, listen to the live music group "The Bill Greb Wranglers", marvel at the beauty of the historic Manistee Ranch home and office. Feel the cool breeze, have a delicious picnic lunch and meet old acquaintances and

make new ones. The Society will provide those wonderful Manistee Ranch cooked hot dogs, buns, condiments, beverages and paper plates, cups and utensils. It would be appreciated if each of you contribute a side dish, salad or desert. Yummy! Can't wait for that good ole' picnic time at Manistee Ranch. Please bring a guest.



Put your creativity to use by helping design the Wedding Dress or other exhibits. One of the many ways to volunteer.

## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

**Help!** The Society is mostly dependent on volunteer assistance, except for our secretaries and part-time repair helpers. We desperately need volunteers for wedding facilitators for the 50-60 weddings every year; Rose Garden maintenance through the Rose Society; Sunday Guest House tours and festival tour docents at Sahuaro Ranch, Manistee Ranch docents for regular and group tours, plus help maintaining the buildings and grounds; school and group tours at Sahuaro Ranch; helping change the exhibits at the Guest House; inventorying and computerizing Society documents and assets; and meeting host and hostess.

Please call the Society office at 623-435-0072 and talk to Marty or Leslie about areas that interest you.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Ron Short, President  
GAHS Board of Directors

The Board of Directors met on a very rainy October 2, 2018. They discussed and asked for more information regarding a bid to make repairs to the house support piers; new gutter installation to stop decay of wood; repairing the extensive woodpecker holes (the birds have drilled completely into the sky parlor); redo the stair treads and wood trim (groups use the stairs for photography and quickly wear off the paint); replace wood trim on the west side of the house that is rotten; adjust the lattice work to prevent feral cats from living under the porch) The Board approved a bid of \$1,430 to remove one large pine tree and prune three other trees.

Manistee Ranch is being used for a different purpose in addition to the public tours on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month. The Glendale Civic Pride Ambassadors will hold their December meeting at Manistee Ranch; Councilmember Ian Hugh uses Manistee Ranch for his district meeting and others are inquiring. The Board provides docents at the meeting to allow for house tours.

Paul King, Park Administrator, and Liz Duncan, Sahuaro Ranch Manager, discussed plans for the rose garden and future building improvements, as well as the status of the park's master plan. The Board is very appreciative of both Paul and Liz for their support and coordination with the Society.

The Board is developing a series of outstanding events and programs for this season for members and guests starting with Bill and Gertie Hickman who provided a history of the Hickman's Egg Ranch at the October 22, 2018 meeting. This month you all are encouraged to attend the fun-packed 2018 GAHS Picnic at Manistee Ranch on November 17, 2018 from 11 am – 1 pm or later.

## Glendale's Own "Little Miss Filer"

Ray and Lottie Filer moved to Tempe, Arizona from Storm Lake, Iowa in 1938. A year later they bought a bakery on Glendale Avenue operating in that location until 1943 when the bakery was moved to 7005 North 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The family rented a little rock house across from the grammar school on 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Little Miss Filer –Charlotte - was born on September 15, 1944.

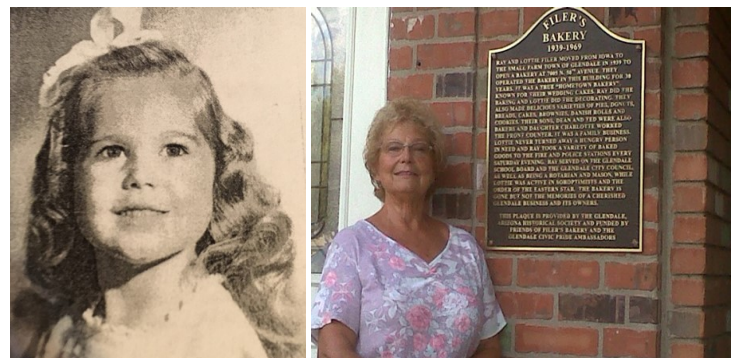
The family moved to California for several months, but returned and resumed running the bakery. They lived in an apartment at Orangewood Avenue and 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and then moved to an apartment above the bakery. Charlotte enjoyed that apartment. Next door was a movie theater and the owner, Mr. Eaglin, allowed her to go there anytime and have popcorn and a soft drink. There were a lot of Roy and Dale Rodgers and Gene Autry movies. Her parents devoted extensive time with the bakery forcing her mother to cook all meals in the bakery on a hotplate.

Charlotte, before starting public schools, rode her tricycle around the block and even crossed Glendale Avenue going to EverReady Drug Store where she got a ginger beer (strong ginger ale) on Saturday nights and ate a wonderful hamburger at the lunch counter called "The Chubby"- sort of like today's Big Mac but better. One day she saw a little boy in a wagon at Basha's and followed them home a block away. She and that boy Frankie Hill became best friends.

Little Miss Filer made the newspaper during "Dollar Days" Charlotte loved to roam the stores and all the store owners and clerks knew her. She was a frequent shopper but did so with no money. Mrs. Wilbur Thompson, J.C. Penny saleslady, listened to a confused Charlotte who insisted on getting that shirt "because mother always does." One day at Basha's, customers were

accosted by a diminutive little lady with the query "Would you like a cookie?" One of the employees went for lunch so Charlotte just took her place handing out cookie samples. However, she was giving out samples of Cal Ray cookies and not Filer cookies.

Charlotte Filer Peters in cooperation with the Glendale Arizona Historical Society and funding from the Glendale Civic Pride Ambassadors and Friends of Filer Bakery placed a beautiful bronze plaque at 7005 N. 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue honoring the Filer's Bakery. The bakery was in business from 1939-1969. It was a true "hometown bakery" serving a delicious variety of pies, donuts, breads, cakes, brownies, Danish rolls and cookies. Her father, Ray, served on the Glendale School Board and the Glendale City Council. Her mother, Lottie, was active in the Soroptimists and Order of the Eastern Star and she never turned a hungry person away.



Charlotte "Little Miss Filer" Peters, then and now,  
proud of her family's historic contributions to Glendale



# Jessica Koory

## Recipient of the 2018 RUTH BYRNE HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD



**Jessica Koory** was selected by the Glendale Arizona Historic Preservation Commission as the 2018 Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award recipient. The Glendale City Council presented the award to Jessica at their October 23, 2018 meeting. Jessica is strongly committed

to preserving and promoting Glendale's history. She lives in a Sands Estates home that is listed on the National Register. She is Secretary of the Glendale Arizona Historical Society Board of Directors, Chair of the Accessions Committee, compiles obituaries of former and

present Glendale residents and coordinates the tours for Manistee Ranch. Jessica has been active with the Society changing exhibits at Sahuaro Ranch and overseeing the historical artifacts and records at Manistee Ranch.

Jessica has served on the Glendale Arts Commission and

Glendale Library Board as well as the Maricopa County Library Advisory Committee. She is a strong advocate and very important to the success of historic preservation in Glendale, Arizona.

Congratulations, Jessica. We are so proud of you and grateful for your contributions!

## Early Glendale School History

By 1891 there were about 300 people living in the Glendale area. The Brethren Church's first meeting building, a shack at the corner of 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Orangewood. It also became Glendale's first schoolhouse.

The community organized and built the first real schoolhouse in 1895. Famous Glendale builder J.B. Doner constructed the school at 58<sup>th</sup> and Palmyra Avenue. Our little town continued to grow, and soon the new two-story brick grammar building was bustling with students.

By 1912, the students were fed up with overcrowding and demonstrated in the streets demanding a new and larger school. A bond issue was passed and

Glendale built one of the most advanced school designs in the nation. There were 34 one room class buildings on a 25-acre parcel at 58<sup>th</sup> and Palmyra Avenues. The classrooms were built from 1913 to 1920 and the last building built is still standing — right next to the District 40 Administration building. The buildings were demolished after 1960, and students had to go to Phoenix for high school.

In 1891 families east of Glendale formed Washington School District #6; 1899 families north and west of Glendale formed Peoria School District #11 and shortly thereafter Glendale School District #40 was formed. All three school districts voters

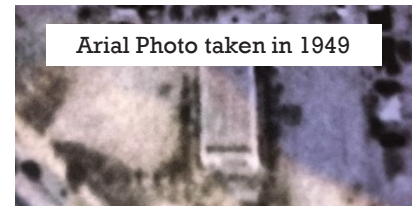
agreed in an election on May 19, 1911 to form the Glendale Union High School District.

The first high school class was held in Hill Building storeroom with 17 students and ending that year with 21 students. Mr. Lelan Hum was the first superintendent, first principal and first and only teacher. An election was held in 1912 that passed a \$30,000 bond issue for building a high school at 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Glendale Avenue. It passed 41-1. The school cost was \$21,636.41.

The high school building was dedicated February 12, 1913 with Vice-President of the United States Thomas R. Marshall delivering the dedication.

## Keeping Cool in Silver Pool

Aerial Photo taken in 1949



Last Aerial Photo, 1969



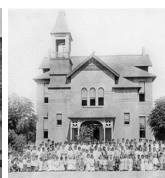
In May, 1928, Glendale dedicated its new \$14,000 swimming pool at Orangewood and 59th Avenue, called "The Silver Pool" by residents. The large parking lot and both sides of Grand Avenue for a half mile was filled with hundreds of vehicles.

The YMCA gave a demonstration on swimming and lifesaving techniques. Harold Smith, chair of the Chamber Recreation Committee presented the pool to the community. Mayor O.D. Betts and Harry Bonsall, Chamber President responded. There was a large crowd ready to use the pool.

A favorite place for children and adults, the pool was open from 10 am to 10 pm, its water was changed every Thursday, and it kept Glendale cool for over 40 years.



1912  
Student Protest  
March



1895  
Grammar  
School



1913  
Glendale Union  
High School



1913 — 1920  
One-room  
Buildings



1920s  
Remaining  
Classroom

This newsletter is a publication of the  
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**Visit our Website:**

[www.glendalearizonahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.glendalearizonahistoricalsociety.org)

**Your Governing Board of Directors**

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Bill Greb.....Director  
Rosemary Lynch.....Director  
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Our next member get-together is:

**Annual GAHS Picnic**

Saturday, November 17, 2018  
11:00 AM

**Manistee Ranch**

Please enter the driveway to Manistee Ranch from 51<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Remember...**

**Veterans Day**

**Give  
Thanks**

Glendale Arizona Historical Society  
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**KNOW WHERE YOUR HISTORIC RESOURCES ARE?**



Sahuaro Ranch Adobe House



Sahuaro Ranch Guest House



Sahuaro Ranch Main House



Manistee Ranch House

The **Glendale Star** needs to run a poll asking residents "Have you ever visited these historic places". No? Many of you travel thousands of miles to see historic places elsewhere, while there's fascinating history right here in Glendale. Isn't it time for members and others to enjoy unique guided tours of Glendale's agricultural past? The City's Parks and Recreation staff at Sahuaro Ranch offers free tours of the Main House, and your Society provides free tours of the Guest House and Adobe house. We also conduct tours of historic Manistee Ranch.

**SAHUARO RANCH 1895 MAIN HOUSE, 9802 N. 59<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE**

**FREE TOURS** of the Main House September-May: 10 am to 2 pm, Fridays & Saturdays; 1 pm to 4 pm, Sundays, (Closed August and on holidays, Thanksgiving weekend, December 24, 25, 31 and January 1.) Please call 623-930-4201 for group tours of 10 or more.

**SAHUARO RANCH 1898 GUEST HOUSE and 1887 ADOBE HOUSE, 9802 N. 59<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE**

**FREE TOURS** of the Guest House October-May: 1 pm to 3 pm on Sundays.

**FREE TOURS** of the 1887 Adobe House during festivals and with prior arrangements.

Call 623-435-0072 for more information, if you have any questions, or for group tours.

**1897 MANISTEE RANCH, 5127 W. NORTHERN AVENUE** (enter from 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue)

Glendale Arizona Historical Society docents conduct tours October to May: noon to 4 pm (last tour starts at 3 pm). Fees: Adults \$5, Seniors \$4, Ages 6-16 \$1, GAHS MEMBERS are FREE.

2018 tour dates — the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month on the following dates: November 3 and 17; and December 1 and 15.