



# Glendale Arizona Historical Society

*"preservation of the past"*

JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

Volume 39, Issue 1

## UPCOMING EVENTS

at a glance

Please Save These Dates

### POTLUCK / ELECTIONS



Board of Directors Election

Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm  
Manistee Ranch

### History of the White Tank Mountains

Presented by Karen Kraus  
Monday, February 26<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 pm  
Manistee Ranch

### "Where the Boys Are"

Presented by:  
Vice Mayor Ian Hugh & Buzz Sands  
Monday, March 26, 2018, at 7:00 pm  
Manistee Ranch



Your membership really matters!  
It's nearly time to renew.  
So please watch your mailbox  
For just what you should do.

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## GAHS ANNUAL MEETING POTLUCK and ELECTIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2018 AT 6 PM, MANISTEE RANCH  
(enter off of 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue)

Start the new year off right by attending your Society's Annual Meeting and Potluck Supper. Select the Board of Directors who will represent you during the coming year. Glendale City Councilmember Bart Turner will perform the 2018 Installation of Officers ceremony. Come and see the wonderful restoration work that's been done at Manistee Ranch and hear about other improvements. Please bring a main dish, side dish, salad, dessert or rolls.

It is wonderful to experience the tastes of Glendale through its many excellent cooks. Bring a friend with you and ask them to join the Society to help preserve Glendale's rich heritage.



GAHS members love to share with one another.  
What a great place to share your favorite dishes.



ATTENTION: GLENDALE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI - IT'S TIME TO

## GET BACK TO SCHOOL

for our

## Annual All Class Reunion

This is for you, Cardinal fans, Glendale High School, that is: The Annual All-class Reunion:  
March 3, 2018 from 10 am to 4 pm, Glendale High School Cafeteria  
Cost: \$20 per person - purchase tickets online or by mail to the address below:

GUHS/GHS AAR Committee  
PO Box 6288, Glendale, AZ 85312

For more information, to register, or to purchase your tickets online, visit [ghsaar.myevent.com](http://ghsaar.myevent.com). Seating is limited and tickets go fast, so hurry and buy yours now. You sure don't want to miss seeing your classmates and reliving great memories. One of our favorite teachers, past principal and former GHS student, **Mr. Bruce Heatwole**, will be our Master of Ceremonies.

Be sure to include your name (maiden name), graduation year, spouse or guest's name, and of course, your contact information: phone, email, mailing address with city, state and zip code. Deadline to register is Friday, February 16, 2018.

# President's Message



Ron Short, President  
GAHS Board of Directors

The Board wishes a very Happy New Year to all of our GAHS members and friends. We hope 2018 is filled with fun, success, safety and health for each of you. The Board is looking forward to a strong wedding season and a year of membership growth that will allow the Society to fund programs that preserve Glendale's history.

The November 18, 2017 Annual Picnic at Manistee Ranch was a wonderful success. There were 65 people attending. Bill Kreb and his band played music. Members of the Sands family attended the picnic and were surprised to learn that these historical buildings did not have security cameras. They generously offered to fund a security camera system. The Board approved having PCI Security. There would be four 12 foot poles - two in front and two in the rear of the house with two cameras affixed to each. These will provide visual coverage for most of the buildings and grounds.

In November and December 2017 Diamond roofing replaced most of the Manistee Ranch roof with wood shingles. Then Jay Espinoza painted the exterior of the house and built a lattice enclosure around the bottom of the building for security and appearance. Members Bill Kreb and John and Paulette Geurs spent countless hours cleaning the grounds, removing debris and breaking up homeless encampments at Manistee Ranch. Thanks to their outstanding efforts, and the work we've hired done, Manistee Ranch is in excellent shape. However, keeping it that way is a never-ending task.

At Sahuaro Ranch, the City will be dedicating funds to the restoration and reconstruction of the burned out historical buildings.

All of this success is possible because of dedicated volunteers, generous financial donations and your membership support.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Short".

Ron Short, President  
GAHS Board of Directors

## GLENDALÉ HAD ONE NUDE PARADE

*(Participant Photos Unavailable)*

The Selective Service System was created on May 18, 1917 to require young men to sign up for the draft and fight in WWI. In Arizona, a date was set that all men between 21 and 31 years old were required to come in and register.

Word was sent out to the Russian colony their young men were expected to register. The Molokans said they did not want any part of the war. The Molokans held a protest march in downtown Glendale. They pulled up outside the city limits in horse drawn haystacks, piled out and began to file through the main street toward the Civic Park. There was the whole Russian colony, including grandmothers and grandfathers, probably over 100 people, all marching nude. They marched around the square, singing religious chants and songs in Russian.

There was no law enforcement available except for old Dad Rudd, the constable, who couldn't handle the situation. Local townspeople got blankets and covered some of the protesters. The colony returned peacefully to their homesteads.

The next day federal commissioners arrested 34 young Russians. They refused to sign religious exemption requests, thinking that would result in being drafted at a later date, and were sent to jail in Prescott for one year. Hundreds of Russians protested the young men going to jail. Twenty eight Russians were placed in county jail charged with inciting a riot after they caused a disturbance near the courthouse.

The young Russians returned ten months later after being released from jail. Every single one of the men who had been arrested registered for the Selective Service draft.





# The Sands Family

## *The Heart of Manistee Ranch*

The Sands family has been a significant part of Glendale's history. Louis M. Sands (1826-1905), son of Swedish emigrant, Louis Sands, married Caroline Richards (1838-1863). He was a successful Michigan lumberman, moved to Flagstaff in 1900 and there he became involved in lumbering with the Saginaw and Manistee Lumber Company. During the next few years he acquired timberlands in northern Arizona and used them as grazing areas for sheep, which were wintered in Paradise Valley. In March 1907, Louis purchased a ranch at the corner of 51<sup>st</sup> and Northern Avenues from Herbert W. Hamilton who had built the ranch house in 1897. Mr. Sands renamed the ranch as **Manistee Ranch**, which became his home and headquarters for the 325 acres that Mr. Sands developed into one of Arizona's most successful farms. It consisting of citrus trees, a palm grove and a cattle feeding center and later expanding into other businesses such as the Sands Chevrolet dealership which is still going strong today with a Sands family member at the helm.

Louis and Caroline had two children, Frankie (1860-1863), and Charles (1861-1926). Caroline Richards Sands passed away in 1863 and in 1865 Louis married Isabella Marshall (1842-1913). Together they had five more children: Louis M. (1875-1941) (Manistee Ranch owner), Martha (1867-1942), Charlotte (1869-1966), Sarah (1871-1955), and Flora (1875-1950). In November of 1906, Louis M. Sands married Frances Porter (1873-1964) from Rockford, Illinois. Their children were Louis M. Sands, Jr. (1908-1975) John Porter Sands (1910-1993), and Flora Sands (1916-1995). All three children were born in the master



Manistee Ranch was purchased by the Sands family in 1907

bedroom of the ranch house.

Louis M. Sands, Jr. married Elizabeth Crothers Graham (1909-1992). They had two children, Elizabeth 'Bonnie' and Louis IV 'Buzz' (owner of Sands Chevrolet). John Porter Sands married Marie McSpadden (1912-1992). They had four children, John Porter, Jr., Edgar L., David, and Charles F. The grandchildren of John Porter Sands and Marie McSpadden Sands are Carol, Janet, Kippy and Jennifer. Flora Sands married Robert Williams. They had two children, Kathleen and Marilyn. Marilyn was very active in the planning and development of the Manistee Ranch Subdivision of 411 homes.

# Chicken Day in Glendale ?



We just couldn't wait till the last minute to tell you, so you can start now to get ready to celebrate **CHICKEN DAY** in Glendale!

In the early 1920s **Henry Reid** was the publisher of the *Glendale News* and a major promotor of the community, helping to organize the Glendale District Commercial Club. Mr. Reid got the idea that the U.S. Agricultural Department might

be interested in establishing an arid climate model chicken raising experiment in Glendale, and he was right!

The U.S.D.A. got interested in Glendale and selected this site, which was in competition with two California towns. The community raised enough money to buy 10 acres at the Northeast corner of lateral 19 (59th Avenue) and Bethany Home Road. The government bought another adjacent 10 acres to create a 20 acre chicken experimental station. Glendale officially declared **May 19, 1921** as **CHICKEN DAY**.

Over 15,000 people came to town to celebrate. There were speeches by state and national dignitaries, a parade, entertainment, free chicken dinners and the biggest display of aerial bombs and rockets ever seen in Arizona at **Louis Sands'**

ranch. **Mayor T.H. Tinker** gave the welcoming address and the Honorable **Ernest Hall**, acting governor of Arizona presented **George Rommel**, division chief of animal husbandry, the deed to the 10-acre parcel. **The U.S. Poultry Experimental Station** operated from the 1920s to the 1960s. It closed for good on June 1, 1965.

**D.H. "Harry" Bonsall Sr.**, Chairman of Southwest Feed and Seed, lead an extensive campaign to get the federal government to deed the land back to Glendale for a community park. He was successful. Harry died in 1970. **Madge Ulrich** circulated petitions for months to get the park renamed **Harry Bonsall, Sr. Park**. The city council passed the name change in December 1982.

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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Jessica Koory.....Secretary

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Rosemary Lynch.....Director

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Our next membership get together is our  
**ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTIONS  
& POT LUCK SUPPER**

**Monday, January 22, 2018 at 6 pm  
Manistee Ranch, 5127 W. Northern Ave**

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.

*Your Society wishes you a  
blessed and prosperous new year.  
May 2018 be your best ever!*



Glendale Arizona Historical Society  
PO Box 5606  
Glendale, AZ 85312-5606

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## 2017 - 2018 Ranch Tour Schedule



Sahuaro Ranch Main House



Sahuaro Ranch Guest House



Sahuaro Ranch Adobe House



Manistee Ranch House

**SAHUARO RANCH 1895 MAIN HOUSE**

9802 N. 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Glendale, AZ

**FREE TOURS** of the Main House September —May: 10 am to 2 pm, Fridays & Saturdays; 1 pm to 4 pm, Sundays; June and July: 10am to 2pm Fridays & Saturdays (closed during 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, Glendale, AZ

**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 the parking lot on 51st Avenue)**

Tours conducted by the Glendale Arizona Historical Society docents October to May: noon to 4 pm (last tour starts at 3 pm). Fees: Adults \$5, Seniors \$4, Ages 6-16 \$1, GAHS MEMBERS FREE. 2017-2018 tour dates - the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from October to May will be on the following dates: January 6 and 20; February 3 and 17; March 3 and 17; April 7 and 21 and May 5.