



Glendale Arizona Historical Society

"preservation of the past"

APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER

Volume 44, Issue 4

HAPPY EASTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY APRIL 24 6:45PM

Manistee Ranch

"GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION"

SATURDAY MAY 20 10:00AM

**CHANGE OF DATE AND
VENUE**

Martin Auto Museum

4320 W Thunderbird

\$10.00 Admission Fee



GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATION

Monday, April 24 at 6:45 PM

Manistee Ranch

The April meeting of the Glendale Arizona Historical Society will be a celebration of its 50th anniversary with a presentation of the history of the society, its accomplishments and historical milestones, along with little known historical facts about Glendale. The meeting will also give special recognition to the society's past presidents over the past 50 years. Participating in the presentation will be the members of the 50th Anniversary Committee: Lorraine Zomok, chairman, Nelda Crowell, and Martha Dennis. This program is part of the year-long celebration of the Glendale Arizona Historical Society's 50th anniversary. Refreshments will be served.

Renewal of Vows Ceremony March 18

This month's newsletter went to print just before the big Renewal of Vows Ceremony at Sahuaro Ranch on March 18 that was a highlight of the society's 50th anniversary celebration. Eight couples were scheduled to participate. Be sure to watch for the May newsletter that will carry a full report on the event with photos and details.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Renewal of Vows Ceremony, sponsored by the Glendale Arizona Historical Society as part of the society's 50th anniversary, featured several important sponsors and volunteers that deserve a big "thank you" for making the event very special:

- **Valerie Burner, owner of Bears & More**, a business that has been in Catlin Court for more than 30 years. Her graphic design was an important part of the year-long 50th Anniversary program.
- **The Spicery Tea Room** provided meeting space and refreshments for the committee meetings as well as some of the refreshments for the Renewal of Vows event.
- **Glendale Flowers and Gifts** provided beautiful flower bouquets and arrangements for the ceremony.
- **Carlos Vargas** volunteered to provide recorded music for the Renewal of Vows Ceremony, adding an important element for the event.
- **Bart Turner, City Councilmember** for the Barrel District where Sahuaro Ranch is located, not only officiated at the ceremony, but also did background studies to make the ceremony go smoothly.
- **Davita Solter** took on the role of photographer for the ceremony, providing lasting memories for the participating couples.

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**WOMAN'S CLUB
KICKS OFF
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
FUNDRAISER**

Fashions of 1973

When the Glendale Arizona Historical Society opened its organizing meeting in August 1973, it already had a fundraising event in the works scheduled for November. As it has done many times over the years, the Glendale Woman's Club stepped up and created a fun-filled luncheon fashion show to raise money for the fledgling organization.

In keeping with the historical theme, the ladies modeled fashions from the early 1900s as well as current fashions. To showcase the theme, the event was held in the Woman's Club historic building, which according to Mrs. Joe Whitney, "is about as historical as you can get." She was a member of the Back Seat Drivers, Auxiliary to the Horseless Carriage Club. "I remember dancing here when we hung china berries [umbrella-tree berries] from the rafters," she said.

Ladies from that auxiliary modeled fashions from the early 1900s, including a 1927 chiffon dress and a 1910 lingerie dress. Modern fashions were presented by Montgomery Ward from their new store at Valley West Mall, now site of the Lowe's store at 59th Avenue and Northern.

The printed program contained tips on how a housewife in 1910 might keep house better: for instance, dip a sponge in alcohol and run it over your windows to keep them from icing; paint your gas range, all but the top, twice a year; clean your icebox twice a week with strong soap suds to which plenty of soda has been added. The program included notes on the modeled fashions as well pointing out that white satin girdles in 1920 were beaded with a pattern in black cut jet.

The event was well attended and raised more than \$200 for the newly formed Glendale Arizona Historical Society.

History Quiz

Each month, the meetings of the Glendale Historical Society will feature a fun game or quiz to highlight the society's 50th anniversary. Following is the quiz from one of the meetings. Guests were encouraged to "cheat", work in teams, and ask anyone present for help. Answers can be found below.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW MANISTEE RANCH?

1. Name 5 types of citrus grown on Manistee Ranch.
2. What are the three main changes made in the Manistee Ranch house by the Sands?
3. Who was the first owner of the Manistee Ranch property? What city and state did he come from?
4. Who owns the Manistee Ranch buildings and accompanying property?
5. Who owns the date palm area in front of the Manistee Ranch house?
6. What lovely artifact in the Manistee Ranch house is cracked and how?
7. List 3 items that are in the Manistee Ranch house kitchen.
8. What is the topmost room in the Manistee Ranch called?
9. Name the four main buildings on Manistee Ranch.

Bonus Question: Who is Fred Fellows and why is he important?

Answers to the Quiz

1. Oranges, grapefruit, tangelos, lemons, limes.
2. Breezeway enclosed, parlor extended east, west room added.
3. Herbert Hamilton from Marinette, Wisconsin.
4. Glendale Arizona Historical Society owns the buildings and the adjacent properties west, east, and south of the house and garage.
5. The date palm area is a public park owned by the City of Glendale.
6. The cut glass punch bowl was cracked at a party for the opening of the Sands Chevrolet.
7. The kitchen has too many items to list here. We suggest that readers take the tour.
8. Sky Parlor.
9. The house, garage, barn (granary) and office.

Bonus question: Fred Fellows is a sculptor who created "The Big 50" western bronze in the house. He is the longest active member of the Cowboy Artists of America.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March was a very busy month for the Historical Society. I am happy to report that we have had several guests revisit Manistee Ranch recently. While many have come back to share our local gem with family and friends, several have returned to see how we have cared for the home since our acquisition. Their stories have given me a broader picture of this home through their memories, adding another layer to my appreciation for this site.

Recently, GAHS was able to host its own wedding event! Congratulations to the couples who renewed their wedding vows as part of the 50th Anniversary celebrations! We all wish you many more years of love and happiness. Thank you to everyone involved from start to finish who created another wonderful wedding memory.

Did you know that April 22nd is Earth Day? What will you do to give our planet some TLC?



Looking Back at 1973

By Nelda Crowell

It was 1973, the year the Glendale Arizona Historical Society was formed. In the midst of a year of turmoil and major economic woes, history found a home. It was a reminder that the past paves the way to progress, but also confirmation that history does indeed repeat itself, and some things come full circle.

Nevertheless, 1973 posed its challenges. Inflation tripled from 3.4% to 9.6%, an oil crisis hit American pocketbooks, and a recession ravaged the economy. General Motors, Ford and Chrysler laid off 100,000 workers. Wall Street was in a bear market.

The average family income was \$12,900, and a new house cost around \$32,500. A gallon of gas averaged 39 cents; the minimum wage was \$1.60 per hour. The average tuition at a four-year public college was \$358. Eggs were 69 cents a dozen, and Oreos were 59 cents for a 19 oz. package. Coffee came in 1 pound cans, and a can of fruit weighed 16 ounces.

Walkie-talkies were popular Christmas gifts, but that was also the year the handheld mobile phone was invented, a portent of things to come. The MRI was invented in 1973, as were Ethernet, the computer monitor and fiber optics, all of which quickly transformed life as we knew it.

For Miami Dolphins, life was good as they beat the Washington Redskins in Super Bowl VII that year, but fans of *Bonanza*, *Laugh-in* and *Mission Impossible* were disappointed to see their favorite TV shows end. Bette Midler won a Grammy for Best New Artist and *All in the Family* was the top TV comedy.

Richard Nixon was in his first year following re-election as the 37th President of the United States. He ended American involvement in Vietnam combat in 1973 and halted the military draft that same year. The Supreme Court legalized abortion with *Roe v. Wade*, and the Endangered Species Act was passed.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

This newsletter is a publication of the

Glendale Arizona Historical Society

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Glendale, AZ 85312-5606

The GAHS Office is located in the

Sahuaro Ranch Guest House

It is published eight (8) times per year, monthly —
October through May

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**Glendale Arizona Historical
Society is designated as a Cer-
tified Historical Society**

WELCOME

NEW MEMBER

Marilyn Whitney Reid



HISTORICAL TOURS

MANISTEE RANCH 1897 HOUSE

5127 W. NORTHERN AVENUE (enter from the parking lot on
51st Avenue)

Tours are conducted by the Glendale Arizona Historical Society do-
cents from October through May: noon to 4 pm (last tour starts at 3
pm). Fees: Adults \$5, Seniors \$4, Veterans \$4, Ages 6-16 \$1, GAHS
MEMBERS FREE.

The 2023 tour dates are the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month—Jan.
7, 21; Feb. 4, 18; March 4, 18; April 1, 15; May 6

SAHUARO RANCH 1898 GUEST HOUSE

9802 N 59th Ave. Glendale AZ

FREE TOURS of the Guest House by appointment only: Donations
accepted

SAHUARO RANCH MAIN HOUSE No tours until further
notice

