



# Glendale Arizona Historical Society

*"preservation of the past"*

February 2024 Newsletter

Volume 45 Issue 2

## GAHS Library and Archives Catalog now online

### February 2024 Members Meeting

GAHS members and the public can now access portions of the extensive archives and library catalog online.

An overview of the website, with a Q&A following, will be presented at the February members meeting on Monday, February 26, 2024, at 7 p.m. at Manistee Ranch. Until then, explore the site and see what you can discover on your own at:

<https://glendaleazhs.pastperfectonline.com/> or by using the QR code below.



### By Linda Armbruster

The Glendale Arizona Historical Society Archive Library staff is pleased to announce that GAHS members and the public can now access portions of our extensive archives and library catalogs online.

Interested in a particular topic? Try a keyword search, search by a term, or learn to use the advanced search features. Just want to browse some interesting photos? Look at our featured collections or click on

random images. There are many links within the site which allow you to share what you find or email the archive staff at our brand-new email address (library.gahs@gmail.com).

Know something about one of the photos? Have other photos or documents that you would like to donate to the archives? Email us at the above address so we can add to our knowledge of the history of Glendale.

# 2024 Antique Engine & Tractor Show



The annual Antique Engine and Tractor Show sponsored by the Arizona Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association is an event for the entire family and will be at Sahuaro Ranch Park on Saturday, February 10, 2024.

There is plenty of paved parking within easy walking access to the displays. Activities and exhibits will include tractor pulls, a tractor parade, engine displays and demonstrations, garden tractor events, tractor racing, a silent auction, food vendors, antique cars and trucks, and much more!

## 2024 Antique Engine & Tractor Show

February 10, 2024, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Sahuaro Ranch Park  
Admission: \$5 donation per person over the age of 12

## A quick glance at early Glendale history

By Jodi Decker

For those new to Glendale history, here's a quick little primer, based on the research paper "From Crossroads to Metropolis," written in 1965. The Glendale Arizona Historical Society library maintains a research collection which includes books, newspaper articles, family histories, and documents available to the public to view by appointment.

B.A. Haskell established the town in 1892 for the Dunkard people, who were committed to temperance, and Glendale was known as a dry town. However, it's interesting to find out that some businessmen circumvented this prohibition by taking suitcases into Phoenix by trolley and bringing liquor back. When seven drunks were arrested in one day, suspicions arose around the bootleggers in the community. Seventy-five families originally bought acreage from the

town. It was surrounded by fruit orchards and vineyards, and Glendale became a shipping point for grain, hay, stock, fruit, and dairy products.

Glendale was incorporated on June 18, 1910. The first Glendale council meeting was held on August 10, 1910. A.W. Bennett was the presiding mayor of a population of 1,000 citizens.

By 1930, the population was up to 3,200, and it was time to establish a city hall. By 1947, Glendale had hired a city manager. During its growth, the city leaders and citizens had established the fire department, churches, post office, sanitation department, women's club, library, grammar school, businesses, newspapers, and agriculture. Glendale appreciated a very diverse population including Russians, Hispanic, Native American, Filipino, Chinese, and Japanese residents.

# Ostriches flock to Glendale in 1900s

By Jodi Decker

In the early 1900s, ostrich plume hats were all the fashion rage for fine ladies. This created an opportunity for Arizona ranchers, including those in the Glendale area. According to Carol and Charles St. Clair in the book *Images of America Glendale*, (Charleston: Arcadia Publishing, 2006, pg. 40) an ostrich could produce one and a half pounds of feathers per year, over a time period of 20 years. A pound of feathers sold for \$75. In 1913, 8,000 ostriches were in Arizona.

A family is seen in a photo visiting a Glendale ostrich farm around 1915. After World War I, when ladies' fashions changed, the industry collapsed.

The ostrich diet featured alfalfa grown in Glendale, which created a unique luster to their feathers.

An ostrich could produce a crop of feathers every 8 months until it reached 50 or 60 years old. Plumes



are still used today in the making of costumes or for ceremonial purposes.

## *President's Message*



**Gary Sherwood**

I look forward to helping lead this great organization into our next fifty years of existence. I am honored to be serving as President this year. Although born in the Midwest, I do believe I have the necessary street cred having landed here in Glendale, AZ in 1979 (that is 45 years, older than our newest board director). I may not recognize many of the names when the likes of Marty, Martha, Jessica, and others get to talking about their childhoods, but I have stories I can talk about from my late 20s here, like swimming in the Sands' cement pool.

I have been on the Board of Directors now for four years, the last three as Vice-President. Having been a GAHS member for about nine years prior to being on the board, I was somewhat taken aback by what happens "behind the scenes."

As anyone who comes into a new position, I have ideas that I will continue to share with the board as we continue to preserve the legacy of Manistee Ranch, showcase the buildings at Sahuaro Ranch, and ensure that we have a sound business plan on making sure all that is Glendale history is recorded and accessible to anyone in the world interested on how our prede-

cessors chose to come to a land unfit for habitation. (in part taken from an inscription from the Statue of Liberty).

Thank you to Brenda Bartels for agreeing to take this position last year, a position she did not really want to take, but knew it was necessary to continue as a 501(c)3. She will continue to offer her talents as director for the next two years. Also, many thanks to Lorraine Zomok who finished off her term as director, and during her term ended up with the 1895 Spicery, added on to her many other responsibilities.

I also want to thank Jessica Koory for continuing as Secretary, Martha Dennis for serving another term as director, and to welcome our new board member Carlos Vargas, who just joined the society fourteen months ago and will be fulfilling the balance of Kathy Goree's director term as she moves into the Vice-President role, thank-you Kathy.

Continuing with their roles on the board, directors Randi Turk and Al Lenox, as well as Marty Cole as Treasurer complete this very talented group of individuals working well together to ensure the vitality of the society.

Finally, along with the Board of Directors, there are many others that work tirelessly both at keeping Manistee Ranch functioning and in our office at Sahuaro Ranch with the photo and archive library. I will highlight these individuals in the next issue.

**GAHS Board of Directors**

Gary Sherwood	President
Kathy Goreé	VP
Marty Cole	Treasurer
Jessica Koory	Secretary
Brenda Bartels	Director
Martha Dennis	Director
Al Lenox	Director
Randi Turk	Director
Carlos Vargas	Director

Sahuaro Ranch Guest House Office  
623-435-0072  
Wedding dates available

Zelle Payments  
602-309-6782

**Glendale Arizona Historical  
Society is designated as a  
Certified Historical Society**

**Glendale Arizona Historical Society**  
P.O. Box 5606  
Glendale, AZ 85312

**Address Service Requested**

*In Memoriam*

**Patricia Shawver**

**We now accept Zelle!**



**Renew your membership**  
**Pay for a tour or wedding**  
**Make a tax deductible donation to the**  
**historical society.**  
**Send your payments to 602-309-6782**

**MANISTEE RANCH**

Tours are held October - April  
on the 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month.  
Adults -- \$5 Seniors 65+ \$4  
Children 6 to 10 --\$1 (under 6 are free)  
Military with ID -- \$4  
GAHS Members -- free

**SAHUARO RANCH GUEST HOUSE**

Office Hours  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Tours by appointment only -- 623-435-0072

Glendale Arizona Historical Society  
GlendaleArizonaHistoricalSociety.org

P.O. Box 5606, Glendale, AZ 85312  
gahs73@gmail.com Like us on Facebook