



Glendale Arizona Historical Society

"preservation of the past"

MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER

Volume 38, Issue 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

at a glance

Please Save these Dates

ED ALLEN

"William Beardsley & the Arizona Canals"
Monday, March 27 at 7pm
Manistee Ranch

LINDA IRICK

"Fred Harvey Girls"
Monday, April 24 at 2pm
Manistee Ranch

ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sunday, May 21 at 4pm
Manistee Ranch

RENEW
Your GAHS Membership
TODAY

Highlights Inside

President's Message	2
Military Uniform Display	2
"Pioneer Sheriff in Town"	2
Glendale's Mother Teresa	3
Visit Glendale's "Gems"	3
Folk & Heritage Festival	4
Want an Annual Report?	4

William Beardsley and the Canals of Arizona

The Glendale Arizona Historical Society invites its members, guests and interested individuals to attend the March 27, 2017, 7:00 p.m., Manistee Ranch, 5127 W. Northern Avenue, Glendale, AZ (enter off of 51st Avenue) meeting to enjoy Ed Allen's outstanding presentation on "William Beardsley and the Canals of Arizona". For over 1,500 years canals have allowed the desert to be fertile and productive by the Hohokam and later settlers. Pioneers like James Murphy who built the canal systems across the Salt River Valley and William Beardsley envisioned irrigating desert lands in the west valley. What remains is a canal, a street name and sign along a railroad where the town of Beardsley once stood. Hear and see this man's story of perseverance in the early settlement of the west valley. Ed Allen and his wife live in Wisconsin, but have been coming here since 1975. When he retired he became active with the Sun Cities Area Historical Society and wrote the book "Sun City West Silver Celebration". There will be refreshments served.



Ed Allen Sun Cities Area Historical Society



2017 BOARD AND OFFICERS

The members of the Glendale Arizona Historical Society voted for officers and directors resulting in three new directors on the Board. The GAHS annual meeting was held on January 23, 2017 at Manistee Ranch. The officers of Ron Short, President, Carol St. Clair, Vice-President, Jessica Koory, Secretary, and Marty Cole, Treasurer remained in their positions. New directors are Tracy Marsh, Catherine Morgan and Carol Hook. Outgoing directors are Bud Zomok, Gary Hirsh and Vesta Roper. The president thanked each for their excellent service to the Society as directors. The other directors on the Board are Martha Dennis and Rosemary Lynch. The photo from left to right is Councilmember Bart Turner, who conducted the installation of the Officers and Directors at the meeting, Tracy Marsh, Carol Hook, Carol St. Clair, Ron Short and Marty Cole.



President's Message



Ron Short, President
Board of Directors

The weather is warming up and the Society's activities are in full swing. Tractor Days, on February 11 and 12, 2017, was a great success with huge crowds at Sahuaro Ranch. The Society welcomed hundreds of visitors to the Guest House museum. Thanks to the many volunteers who were docents during the event. The booked weddings in the Rose Garden or Palm Grove for 2017 have far exceeded the budget goal. This means the Society needs volunteers to be

facilitators for the weddings. The Society helped the city staff with school tours of the Adobe House. The monthly newsletters have helped to inform and remind members and others about Glendale's history. The Board was installed at the January 2017 Annual meeting with Carol Hook, Tracy Marsh and Catherine Morgan joining the Board. The members enjoyed an exciting presentation from Nelda Crowell on the "Bisbee's Mass Deportation" and look forward to this month's program on "William Beardsley and the Canals of Arizona by Ed Allen of the Sun Cities Historical Society. Nelda Crowell is working hard to improve the GAHS research library at the Guest House and moving the oral history program forward. Carol St. Clair is working on the photo collection and fulfilling the Arizona Historical Society grant work program for the photo collection. Manistee Ranch is being repaired and maintained as one of the region's premier history museums. Our membership has made a modest growth. The Board and membership say thank you to those members who passed in the past several months. The Society is moving forward to assure its functions are educational and makes residents and visitors aware of Glendale's unique and intriguing history.

GAHS Honors Veterans with Stunning Military Uniform Display

Volunteers of the Glendale Arizona Historical Society spent years receiving uniform donations from local Glendale men and women who served the country in uniform. The exhibit has artifacts from the Civil War to the present. Occasionally grooms and their groomsmen ask permission to adjust a collar, button or metal to make it perfect.



Jessica Koory, Rosemary Lynch and Martha Dennis have done an excellent job on this military display.

Members and the public are urged to visit the Guest house at Sahuaro Ranch on Sunday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. to marvel at and gain a better knowledge of the wars and military dress through the decades. A docent is available to answer questions. The exhibit is an important function of the Society for the community to preserve and promote Glendale's history.

GLENDALE'S PIONEER SHERIFF

Jim McAllister, a Glendale City Councilmember in 1990, felt the proposed statue by the Glendale Arts Commission of an Arizona ranger looked a lot like his grandfather Sam S. Stout a lean, raw boned, gun toting figure sporting a 10-gallon hat. Stout was the territorial sheriff from Glendale during 1901-1902. The title of the statue by sculptor Bill Nebeker was changed to "Territorial Sheriff". The



statue is located on Glendale Avenue in front of the Public Safety Building. There are two plaques at the statue; one names the artist and title of the statue and the other describes early Arizona peace officers and acknowledges the 14th territorial sheriff and Glendale's only territorial sheriff, Sam Stout.

Sam S. Stout was one of Glendale's early pioneers. He was born on March 21, 1856 in Nashville, TN. His mother died while his father died fighting in the Civil War. Sam stayed with relatives until 16 and took off working on railroads, made sugar hog head, became ill with yellow fever, and worked in swamps making cross ties. He came to Arizona in 1882 working in the freight business. Then he got a job as foreman on the Arizona Canal and became a partner with W.J. Murphy. In 1885 he and Murphy farmed 1200 acres of wheat where downtown Glendale is now. In 1886 Sam bought 320 acres at 35th Avenue and Glendale Avenue for \$1.25 per acre. He survived Indians, "low-downs", horse thieves, cattle rustlers, fugitives and rattlesnakes. He always wore his irrigating boots-one night he killed 85 rattlers. He walked a lot like from Glendale to Prescott and Prescott to Flagstaff. As territorial sheriff, Sam and two deputies chased a horse thief 250 miles across the desert to Durango, CO. and caught him returning home by horse. His grandson said "He was a guy that wasn't afraid to try something new. He was a problem-solver and a kidder. He had a sense of humor. And I like to think he was a bit of a gambler." Sam, once known as the "**Hard-riding, Gun-packing Sheriff of the Old West**", died August 14, 1950 at the age of 94 in Glendale, AZ.



Samuel S. Stout

Glendale's "Mother Teresa"



Glendale has had and is fortunate to have many

citizens that provide outstanding volunteer service to their community. One lady may have the record of remarkable energy and drive to serve others, and she was Volene Stockham. Volene was born on October 26, 1913 in Blythe, CA. In 1927, when she was 14, her family moved to Glendale. The Phillips family had ten children and her father was a lawyer. Her Aunt in Phoenix invited Volene to come and stay with them and she graduated from Phoenix Union High School with a goal of becoming a lawyer. Volene, while in Glendale, was walking home with a girlfriend from the swimming pool wearing a skirt and blouse and a car whizzed by fanning her skirt. The driver stopped and backed up and said he was sorry and asked the girls to go out with him in the desert and drink home

brew. They said No! The boy worked at a downtown market and she would see him in the window and eventually they would talk. The big event came when she admired a jar of large dill pickles. The boy took out a pickle and wrapped it in butcher paper and wrote on it "This is for your dyspepsia". Volene met Carl in August and they were married December 1, 1932. This started her over six decades of service to others and volunteering to help the community. They started a meat market and operated it until 1947 when Carl retired. During the depression Volene began to help the plight of migrant workers by using her own money to buy them food, clothing, layettes and diapers for penniless migrant families. She started active volunteering stating "Volunteerism is the greatest thing that can happen to any person". She joined the PTA and served as President. During WWII, she was appointed Civilian Defense Coordinator in the Northside by Governor Osborne. She helped

establish the USO in Glendale coordinating entertainment, refreshments and publicity. She was Vice- Chair for Maricopa County in the Division of Women's Activities. In 1949 City Manager Elton Kirby stopped by her home in Catlin Court and asked her to come to work for the city.

Volene worked twenty years for the city government starting with secretarial work and then within a year was promoted to Assistant Superintendent of Water and Sewer and of Streets. All this time she worked the front desk greeting the public and helping them. Even though she worked full time that did not stop her from volunteering for the March of Dimes, Cancer Foundation, United Way, conducting long term cancer research surveys, private youth counseling, transporting disabled to the doctor, blood drives, well baby clinic, health fairs, organized fireman's parades and Melon Festival. In 1949 she helped organizing the BPW club and

served as president. She was first woman of the year of Glendale BPW in 1953.

Volene retired from the city government in 1970, which allowed her more time to volunteer. From 1972-1991 she served on every election board for county, state, city and school board elections. She was active in the Glendale Arizona Historical Society, the Glendale Adult Center and the Glendale Samaritan Hospital (5,000 hours) and served on the Salvation Army Board. She served on the Mayor's Aging Services Advisory Commission, Glendale Charter Review Committee and the Mayor's 75th Anniversary Task Force and created Glendale's one-stop Center for Human Services. In 1990 the Glendale City Council created the Volene Stockham Humanitarian Award and she was the first recipient of the award. Volene died March 27, 2000. She is missed by many.



Make a Resolution to Visit Glendale's Historic Gems

Make a resolution for 2017 to visit with your children, relatives or friends at both Sahuaro Ranch Historic Park, 9802 N. 59th Avenue, Glendale, AZ and Manistee Ranch, 5127 W. Northern Avenue, Glendale, AZ. The **Main House (1895)** is open for free tours by Sahuaro Ranch staff 623-930-4200, Sept.-May, Wednesday- Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.; Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; June and July 10:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. The **Guest House (1898)** is open for free

tours by the Glendale Arizona Historical Society October – May 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. The Glendale Arizona Historical Society conducts tours at the **Manistee Ranch House (1897) and office** October to May on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (last tour starts at 3:00 p.m.) Call 623-435-0072 for group tours. Tour fees: Adults \$5, seniors \$4 and ages 6-16 \$1. The remaining tour dates are March 4, 18; April 1, 15 and May 6.

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Our next membership get together is a presentation by Ed Allen on "WILLIAM BEARDSLEY and THE CANALS of ARIZONA", on March 27, 2017 at 7:00 pm, at Manistee Ranch, 5127 W. Northern Avenue.

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.



**Renew Your
Membership
Today**

Glendale Arizona Historical Society
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GLENDALE 2017



SATURDAY & SUNDAY, March 18 & 19
from 10 AM to 5 PM both days
AT HISTORIC SAHUARO RANCH

Admission is FREE

Don't miss the delightful and fun 2017 Glendale Folk and Heritage Festival this year. It is two days packed with tons of great folk and bluegrass musicians, blacksmith demonstrations, storytelling, and cowboy poetry. IT'S FREE!!!! The Guest House will be open for tours and there are usually over 600 people that tour the house. This means we really need a lot of help from members to be guides for a few hours shift. **Please call 623-435-0072** and volunteer for either day. You don't need to be a history expert. There are plenty of publications for the visitors. We just need a nice Glendale smile.

**GLENDALE ARIZONA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

2016

ANNUAL REPORT

The GAHS Board of Directors released the **2016 Glendale Arizona Historical Society Annual Report**. Members, who wish to read the interesting and informative report of what the Society accomplished in 2016, are invited to call 623-435-0072 and ask to receive a copy.

It can be e-mailed or mailed to you. It is also available for your review when you visit the Society website: glendalearizonahistoricalsociety.org.