



Glendale Arizona Historical Society

"preservation of the past"

FEBRUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

Volume 35, Issue 2

UPCOMING EVENTS

at a glance

Please Save these Dates

HISTORY OF THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH with PASTOR GLADDING Monday, Feb 23rd at 7:00 pm Manistee Ranch

THELMA HEATWOLE VIDEO PRESENTATION Monday, Mar 23rd at 2:00 pm Manistee Ranch

VISIT TO MANASTEE, MI by Michael Ostapuk Monday, April 27th at 7:00 pm Manistee Ranch



Annual ICE CREAM SOCIAL Saturday, May 24th at 4:00 pm

HERE'S WHEN YOU ENJOY YOUR SUMMER BREAK !!

Highlights Inside

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First United Methodist Church

It's History and Importance in Glendale



Pastor Kim Gadding
First United
Methodist Church

The First United Methodist Church of Glendale has had a long history and impact on Glendale.

The church was established in 1894 and incorporated in 1897, where folks worshipped in a small white frame building. It was a struggle to maintain the church through drought and bad economic conditions.

Today's sanctuary, dedicated in 1929, is considered one of the

most beautiful buildings in Glendale, if not the Valley.

Pastor Kim Gadding will honor the Society by presenting a power point showing the history of the church in Glendale. Pastor Gadding will give the talk on **Monday, February 23, 2015 at 7:00 PM at Manistee Ranch** (driving directions on page 4).

This is another excellent opportunity to learn more about the history of Glendale. Refreshments will be served.

Thanks and Bon Voyage to Outgoing Directors

The Glendale Arizona Historical Society has been blessed with strong and effective leadership on the Board of Directors for many years. Three long time Board members, who have been at the forefront of preserving Glendale's history, resigned their directorships, or their terms of service were completed.

RUTH BYRNE has served the Society as a dedicated board member for decades and was instrumental in the acquisition of Manistee Ranch.

MICKEY LUND, a tireless champion for the Society, organized a huge fundraiser, "A Day at Manistee Ranch" with the Civic Pride Ambassadors.

JULIA PHILLIPS has been an active dynamo working at the Guest House developing fantastic exhibits and tours.

Rosemary Lynch, chair of the Nominating Committee, interviewed potential new directors to fill these vacancies. Those selected were: Elaine Scruggs, Gary Hirsch and Bud Zomak. They were approved by the membership at the Christmas party, installed at the January meeting and introduced to you in our January newsletter.

Our sincere thanks and great admiration go to these outstanding Glendalians!





Ron Short, President
Board of Directors

President's Message

February marks the centennial of Water Services by the City of Glendale. The Town of Glendale purchased the Water Works Company of two wells, two elevated tanks, distribution pipes and 160 customers from Floyd Homes Sine for \$12,000 and created the Municipal Water Works Department on February 25, 1915. The system was improved with new wells, pressure pumps, storm water disposal system, fire protection system and sewage system.

Glendale has taken pride in making the Water Services systems the foundation of building a great city of industry,

retail, education, services and residential. The Water Services Department leadership and staff are highly trained professionals that do an amazing job to make sure customers are provided quality water at reasonable rates. The staff, with support and approval from upper management and the City Council, assures the city has adequate water resources for the long range future of city growth.

The Water Service Advisory Commission with strong support from the staff will be making recommendations as part of the city budget process regarding the historic Urban Irrigation System. The Glendale Urban Irrigation System is 123 miles of irrigation ditches and has 350 customers.

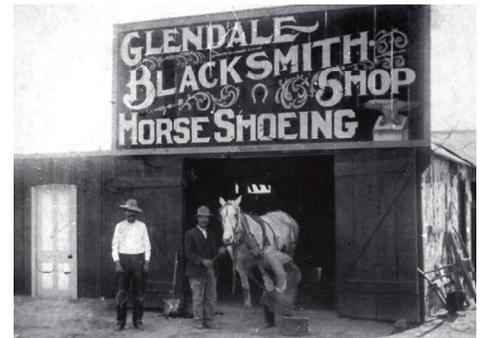
The system is over 100 years old and has allowed Glendale's historic districts to grow and maintain large old trees that depend on deep watering that only flood irrigation can provide. It is a strong character defining aspect of each historic district important to those districts being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Manistee Ranch is getting greatly improved outdoor lighting through Jerry Geiger and company. Jerry modernized the lighting through photoelectric cells instead of timers. There's already better lighting in front of the building and LED security lighting has been placed around the building. Flood lights will be installed on the east side and front for outdoor evening activities.

CELEBRATING SONORITA

In 1985, Brookwellyn Turner wrote "*Glendale Alive - Then and Now - The Good Life in Old Glendale*" about Antonio Maldonado. In 1901 Antonio fled Mexico to escape an arranged marriage and came to Glendale, working labor jobs and learning the blacksmith trade. He married and raised a family here, and became an important and effective citizen of Glendale. Anton, as the Russians called him, was a musician - singing and playing the bass fiddle and violin for festivals and events. He is honored as being the only person to have his own city ordinance passed by the City Council that forbade him to sing to his friends and relatives on their saint's birthdays.

Antonio's relatives believed that "Little Sonora" has existed between Grand Avenue, Market Street, 59th Avenue and Maryland Avenue since the 1880's. There were only a few white settlers in the area and TB sufferers, who could not work. Farm workers from Sonora were encouraged to come to Glendale to work the fields and orchards. Arizona Canal Mexican laborers were provided a camping area by W.J. Murphy west of Grand Avenue which was, Murphy's land, No Man's land and proposed railroad land. Murphy, twenty years later, opened up a sub-division known as Sugar Addition, which was located between Grand Avenue and 51st Avenue, south of Glendale Avenue. Some lots were sold and others had rental housing while many unused lots were squatted upon with makeshift shelters. Fifteen years later, from 1921-1927, there was a large migration of Mexican workers who came to pick cotton for Louis Sands, Sr., Van and Emma Forney Sine and others. Laborers wanted to live close to the tracks so they settled east from Lateral Eighteen to Lateral Seventeen, north to Glendale Avenue and south to Grand Avenue. These migrants were much poorer than early settlers and their shelters were sparse - constructed using trees, leaves and brushes, cardboard boxes with burlap walls and no doors. By the way, *Wuanhochi* means *Gunny Sack Village* in Spanish.



Antonio Maldonado (right) was a great promoter of workers settling in southwest Glendale's *Sonorita* (Little Sonora)

Memories

from Jessica Koory



With grateful hearts, we remember those who contributed so much to the Glendale Arizona Historical Society and have passed from our midst. These people enriched the city of Glendale in various ways. Now, we acknowledge their valuable participation in GAHS activities.

BETTY SPITLER and her husband, Clarence, were hands-on members. Betty is remembered giving demonstrations of bread making in the Adobe House at Sahuaro Ranch, giving tours of the Guest House on festival days, and even trimming trees at Manistee Ranch. As the granddaughter of the first mayor of Glendale, Betty participated in the reenactment of the incorporation of Glendale in Murphy Park. The Spitler family gave generous monetary contributions to our Society.

CHARLES BOOTZ put "I know that I've never met a man I didn't like..." in his autobiography, *A Sentimental Journey*. In it, he provides for the GAHS members a pictorial and anecdotal overview of early Glendale life. Charlie set up and maintained a display of the Outhouse Open at Manistee Ranch. The tournament began in 1963 and has continued through the years. Charlie and his wife, Vernell, were faithful in their Attendance at the Ole' Timers Picnics where they could visit with long time and new friends. Vernell will continue the tradition.

JIM GRANTHAM was always a person you wanted to see; he was a life member and enthusiastic GAHS "Ole' Timer". As an educator, he had either had a lot of us or our children in school. Jim and his wife, Geneva, faithfully attended our recognition picnics honoring those who have been in Glendale since the early forties. His unforgettable smile drew us to him and bought back wonderful memories.

MARY RENNER enjoyed visiting with people who took tours during festival days while sitting on the porch of the Guest House at Sahuaro Ranch. The visitors enjoyed hearing about Glendale's history from someone who had lived in Glendale all her life. The amount of contributions by those attending was always highest when she was there. The monthly meetings were highlights on Mary's calendar. She rarely missed a meeting and really enjoyed the Ole' Timers Picnics.

BETTY KLASS and her husband, Max, were enthusiastic, long time members of GAHS. When the call for help went out, Betty was one of the first to volunteer. Her attitude of service encouraged others to want to participate with her. At our monthly meetings, Betty was a frequent hostess. As a docent at Sahuaro Ranch, she was knowledgeable about the history of the ranch and its acquisition as a park. Gleaning fruit for the food bank was one of her many contributions.

Thank you, dear friends, for the foundation that you built for Glendale Arizona Historical Society. We will continue your work in preserving Glendale's rich history.

URBAN IRRIGATION UPDATE

The Glendale Water Services Advisory Commission has been studying the historic Glendale Urban Irrigation System for more than a year by reviewing Water Services staff reports and presentations, citizen input and taking tours. At their January 6, 2015 meeting, Commission members declared unanimous consensus in supporting and continuing the urban irrigation system.



As part of the public input process, on January 28, 2015 Councilmember Jamie Aldama held a District meeting for citizen discussion about urban irrigation. And at another meeting, Commissioner Schwierjohn requested an estimate for making capital improvements to the system. The Water Service staff said this could cost about \$19,000 in the short run and perhaps as much as \$400,000 in the long run.

While still very much an estimate, this is considered good news since these numbers are much lower than figures listed in a prior study. The Commission and staff will look at the possibility of applying for Community Development Block Grants and other funding sources.

Discussions and recommendations regarding funding and rate issues for Urban Irrigation will continue within the overall context of the City budget process.

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Our next membership get together is
**Pastor Kim Gadding presentation:
First United Methodist Church
Monday, Feb. 23, 2015 at 7:00 pm
Manistee Ranch, 5127 W. Northern**

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.



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

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Ranch Tours

- Now through May, 2015 -

Glendale Parks & Recreation Department conducts tours of the **Main House** now through May on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10 am to 2 pm and Sundays from 1 pm to 4 pm. For more information, or to arrange group tours, call **623-930-4200**.

The **Glendale Arizona Historical Society** tours of the **Guest House** are conducted now through May every Sunday from 1 pm to 3:30 pm. Arrange group tours by calling us at **623-435-0072**. Tours of **Manistee Ranch and Office** are conducted now through May on Saturdays from noon to 4 pm (*Last tour starts at 3 pm*) - February 7 and 21, March 7 and 21, April 4 and 18, and on May 2. Costs of Admission are: Adults - \$5, seniors - \$4 and Ages 6 to 16, just \$1. Arrange GAHS group tours by calling **623-435-0072**.

(Schedules are subject to change without notice)

IN REMEMBRANCE GIFTS to GAHS

When someone passes away, families often publish requests in the obituary that donations be made to their church or charity.

Our board members have noted that, in the past, GAHS was also placed in obits as recipients of these endowments.

Would you or your loved ones consider naming the Glendale Arizona Historical Society in your will with a donation?

We would be very grateful, and your gift would help the Society to continue preserving and promoting Glendale's history.

