



Glendale has a long and storied history. One of our most historically significant features is Sahuaro Ranch Park. William Henry Bartlett settled at Sahuaro Ranch in 1886. The city of Glendale first acquired 80 acres of the ranch in 1977 converting it into a magnificent park, restoring the structures at the ranch and taking the necessary steps to have the property placed on the National Register for Historic Places.

One longstanding tradition at Sahuaro Ranch Park has been the many wedding ceremonies that have taken place there over the past 100-plus years. The first wedding at Sahuaro Ranch was held on April 6, 1899 with the marriage of William Henry Bartlett's daughter. Since then, the beautiful rose garden at Sahuaro Ranch has become an extremely popular setting for many wedding ceremonies. In 1986, the Glendale Historical Society held the first wedding after the initial restoration of the Adobe House and the Guest House.

When a bridge that connects the house to the rose garden was recently replaced, the Glendale Historical Society realized that approximately 1350 brides had traveled across the original bridge on their wedding day. There have been all different styles of ceremonies, from a Renaissance theme to the Traditional Scottish wedding, complete with kilts and bagpipes.

All of the help for the weddings at Sahuaro Ranch is provided by volunteers. The "Wedding Belles" are a group of volunteers that serve as hostesses for the wedding parties. There are many marriages planned at Sahuaro Ranch in 2008 and additional Wedding Belles are always needed. If you would like additional information about getting married at Sahuaro Ranch Park, or would like to find out how you can volunteer as a "Wedding Belle," you can contact the Glendale Historical Society at 623-435-0072. Prospective couples can visit the Guest House on Tuesdays through Fridays from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM for an on site inspection.

Thank you taking the time to read my "Glendale Bulletins". Please contact me at (623) 930-2260 or mayorscruggs@glendaleaz.com, if you have any comments or questions. I strive to provide the most timely information and best possible service to you, the citizens of Glendale. I sincerely appreciate your feedback.