



The Glade Community Historical Society, Inc.

including Garfield & Pine Log, Arkansas, a 501 (c)(3) Charity

www.gladehistory.org

2024 Newsletter # 2

[Meeting, April 28, 2024 at Garfield City Hall at 2 p.m.](#)

The work of the society is to preserve histories of Garfield, Pine Log and Glade by researching and gathering stories, documents & artifacts.

History connects the past!

Thousands have viewed the beauty of Beaver Lake from a favorite spot on Whitney Mountain, the tallest pinnacle in Benton County at 1808 feet. This story demonstrates that change is constant in the Ozarks, as it is in other parts of the world. This chronicle covers three generations of family members who lived on Whitney Mountain.

In the 1800's, many families moved across the country in search of a better life. Among them were the Whitney family who moved to the area now known as Whitney Mountain. Long before they moved to Arkansas, Elijah Whitney married Elizabeth Moon in 1840. They had three children: William H., Joseph James and Mary Ann Elizabeth. Mrs. Whitney died in March 1847 in Randolph County, North Carolina. Death in childbirth was not uncommon in those days.

In 1849, Elijah married Ruth Ann Cox, and they moved to Kansas after the civil war. Their next move occurred when the family moved to Whitney Mountain in 1876. That journey was an ordeal of rough and dusty terrain, alternate cold and heat along the way and little protective shelter. Nine children were born of that union. The farm land Elijah and Ruth Ann homesteaded included Lost Bridge Village and Whitney Lodge area, located near Garfield, Arkansas.

Elijah's son Jesse and his wife, Addie, had eight children born at the Whitney homestead. Jesse continued operating the farm after Elijah's death. His apple orchard filled many freight cars in Garfield. He grew strawberries and peaches and owned 104 acres on White River where he

grew corn and other crops. Elijah owned another farm of 40 acres and accumulated other properties in the area. That land near White River is now under water.

Jesse was known for his team of Percheron horses and his fine harnesses and carriages. The Percheron is slightly smaller than the Clydesdales horse. They are known for their intelligence and hard work. His purchase of a road grader cleared rocks from the road near his home to the entrance of the lodge. He built beautiful masonry rock fences. Some of those stones have been used again at the entrance of the lodge at Whitney Mountain and for the fireplace of the building built in 1973 and in 1990. Today, that building is known as Whitney Mountain Lodge and is open to lodgers.

Jesse was a prosperous farmer and business man and was president of the first bank located in Garfield. The bank closed after September 16, 1914. World War I began on July 28, 1914. After the bank closed, Dr. Guy Hodges had an office and drug store in that same building.

Mr. Whitney served as one of the directors of Ruddick School on Highway 127. It closed in April 1914 but the building still stands at Ruddick Cemetery. The Whitney family attended the Garfield Church of Christ (It was on left side of Highway 127 near Garfield Mountain and the railroad track). Around 1918, the Whitney family moved to a farm near Ruddick Cemetery and planted another apple orchard there. Jessie and Addie, and their parents Elijah and Ruth Ann Cox Whitney and Addie's parents, James Henry and Nancy Wilson, are buried in the Ruddick Cemetery.

Clarence LeRoy (Roy) Whitney was born in 1893 on Whitney Mountain. He was Jesse and Addie's son and a grandson of Elijah. He died October 11, 1950 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Roy attended the schoolhouse at Ruddick Cemetery and later Ozark school, just down the road. That building no longer stands.

Roy purchased 40 acres of cleared land from his father Jesse, and he purchased 40 acres of virgin timber from the George brothers. The timber land was purchased in 1915 and still stands on Highway 127. Scott and Ada Clanton Whitney owned a general merchandise store at Clantonville after her parents Frances Marion and Delilah Ann Roller Clanton purchased it for them. It was near the Clantonville School, located on the left side of Highway 62 at the turnoff to Indian Creek Road, but the buildings no longer stand.

Scott and Ada bought chickens, eggs and cream in those early days before the milk routes were established. The cream was tested there for butterfat content, then sent by rail from Seligman to Carthage and Monett, MO. The chickens and eggs were sold to the Farmer's Exchange in Seligman (Closed years ago). Coffee was ground by hand as it was ordered. Coal oil (kerosene) for lamps was pumped from a barrel on the front porch, and small chicken incubators occupied space there. They sold work clothes, boots and shoes and the usual notions of thread, needles,

thimble and buttons. And, they sold fabric or “piece goods.” Scott Whitney operated a garage, blacksmith shop and grist mill. Ada’s mother, Delilah Roller Clanton, was a descendant of Jacob Roller, one of the earliest settlers of Benton County.

The Whitney family farmed until 1923 when they went to Tulsa seeking work. They found work and returned in the spring of 1924 to sell their household and farm equipment. They leased the farm until 1945 when it sold. After more than 50 years, the Whitney family no longer owned land on the hill. In Tulsa, Roy owned a fence business and his wife Lillie had an interior decorator business. She died December 15, 1996 at the age of 101.

Clantonville School or Fairview # 1 was annexed to Garfield in 1945. Dorothy Ellis Ross, a Garfield historian and teacher preserved the following story. She recalled Clantonville during the days when a trip to Eureka Springs required three days. When she was nine years old, in 1922, they stopped at Clantonville and rested under the trees near the store. “We were really tired by noon. It took all day Friday to go and all of Sunday to come home. Papa took the mule feed out for them and then went to lift out our lunch. There was no lunch! He had failed to put it into the wagon. My mother---had worked many hours preparing for the boys and Grandpa to be left at home for three days and put together a good lunch for the travelers. At that time there were no restaurants along the road so Papa went into the store and bought crackers and pork and beans. I had never seen food preserved in tin cans before. We were all so hungry by then, we ate breakfast soon after 5 am. I remember the good taste of those beans to this day. I was so glad that we had forgotten that home cooked lunch of cake, biscuits and jelly and friend chicken.”

Our next meeting will be April 28, 2024 at 2 pm at Garfield City Hall. 2024 is an election year and our speakers from the Benton County Election Commission will dispel the myths and rumors that circulate at election time and set the record straight about the integrity of our system.

Glade Community Historical Society Board members: Patricia Heck, Sam Reynolds, Judi Walter, Ruth Billingsley, Dorothy Williams

Membership dues: \$25 (4 meetings a year; 4 newsletters, plus email stories through the year).

Send dues to: Sam Reynolds, 20916 Slate Gap Road, Garfield, Arkansas 72732