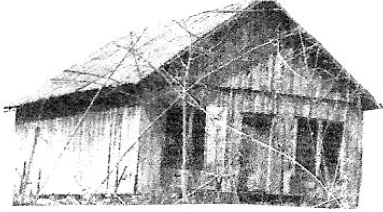


Glade Community Historical Society, Inc.
including Garfield & Pine Log, Arkansas
a 501 (c)(3) Charity
www.gladehistory.org
Glade Newsletter # 3, 2023



Glade Post Office

The purposes of the society is to preserve the history of the communities by researching and gathering stories, documents and artifacts.

Join us at the Glade Museum and Coal Gap School at 2 p.m, Sunday July 23, 2023. Hot Dogs and Hamburgers, chips and drink will be served. Bring a lawn chair and tour the museum and check the Jennings Ford Road that was used years ago, before the lake, to cross White River to Blackburn Road, Larue, and War Eagle Mill.

Slavery has existed in many cultures since ancient times, but it had nothing to do with race until slavery came to America. Slavery was recorded in Arkansas as early as 1720 and continued until the end of the Civil War, but fewer than four percent of Arkansans owned slaves. Yet, people were politically influenced by the rich and powerful plantation owners, and some justices of the Arkansas Supreme Court owned slaves and influenced people by writing of a striking difference between the Black and White man in intellect, feelings and principles to justify owning them.

Slaves were valuable property and increased the riches for their owners. Before the Civil War, the plantation owners of eastern and southern Arkansas dominated the legislative branch of government in Arkansas. These wealthy men sold 26 million tons of cotton annually during the 1850's with slave labor and they controlled the levers of power to maintained their riches and privilege. These oligarchs preferred state's rights because it gave them the power to control the state and maintain their way of life.

Arkansas was a frontier in the 1850's. Most were farmers in the northern mountainous part of the state and subsisted on small parcels of land. Education systems were lacking or rudimentary and communication was slow with the pony express of 1860 and 1861. The northern hillbillies had limited knowledge of political and slavery issues, but they remained loyal to the Union despite division among people in the Ozarks when the war began. As the country became more polarized, the people in rural areas were mostly concerned with their daily subsistence and survival. They were mostly unaware of struggles in other part of Arkansas.

When Abraham Lincoln was elected in 1860, he was committed to ending slavery, but rich slaveowners wanted Arkansas to secede to maintain their way of life. When Fort Sumter was fired upon and President Lincoln called for Arkansas troops to suppress the rebellion, Arkansas chose the side of the Confederacy on May 6, 1861. Most Arkansans agreed to secede, but in the mountainous regions of the north-central part of the state, some residents formed the Arkansas Peace Society group which resisted Confederate authority throughout the war.

Females were violated during the war, though few stories of rape and violence are recorded, but as many as 450 rape cases were prosecuted ranging from age 5 to 82. Following the Victorian era, female purity was highly valued and justice was not assured in the courts. Women were considered valiant, silent helpers who supplied uniforms, ammunition and medical herbs. But, violence against women was high during the war and southern women lived in fear of rape from invading soldiers. Then, when the Union military took control, Black and White women in the occupied south were increasingly vulnerable to sexual assault without a venue for justice. Male war records of 73,000 cases of syphilis and 109,397 cases of gonorrhea left evidence of sexual activity. Gang rapes occurred on Union and Confederate sides, according to records compiled from the war.

Times were very different in those days when women were not independent of their fathers or husbands. In the Antebellum South, White women were the property of their husbands. Black women were the property of slaveowners and slaves were not recognized as humans under the law. White male owners could have intimate access to Black female slaves. Some Black females fled to federal safety, and some slave owners threatened to send them to Texas to prevent their freedom. White men could rape their wives since marital rape didn't become legal in every state until 1970. Even as late as 1880, the age of consent for females was 10 or 12 in most states. And in the state of Delaware consent was age 7. Rape or stories about females were rarely mentioned in Civil War history books. And, even less is known of Confederate rapes cases since those records were destroyed to avoid falling into Union hands.

The Civil War was the country's bloodiest conflict. Many families fell into destitution. The destruction of much of the south and the loss of more than 600,000 soldiers caused destruction and pain that lasted for years. Many people in Newton and Carroll Counties fled the war and many homes in Northwest Arkansas were left unoccupied. Starvation occurred from Cassville, Missouri to Fayetteville, Arkansas and the winter of 1864-1865 was called the year of the famine. Rebel troops burned Arkansas College in Fayetteville and Union soldiers burned Cane Hill College. Bushwhackers burned the McDonald County Court house at Pineville, Missouri. The towns of Bentonville, Berryville, Dubuque, Huntsville, Salem and Yellville, Arkansas were destroyed.

The Battle at Pea Ridge on March 7 and 8, 1862 was the turning point for the Union and catastrophic for the Confederacy. Then on December 7, 1862, in the Battle of Prairie Grove approximately 2700 men were killed, wounded or missing and Fayetteville turned into a giant Union hospital. More than a year after the war, the *Arkansas Gazette* wrote about wasted farms, deserted cabins, lone chimneys, destroyed dwellings and gardens and overgrown fields in northwest Arkansas. A few Confederates battles occurred across the state but military operations came to an end long before June 2, 1865. But violence still continued in large areas of Arkansas in 1867.

Arkansas had returned to the union when President Lincoln's lenient policy, proclaimed that if ten percent of the 1860 voters took an oath of loyalty, they could draft a new state constitution if the state outlawed slavery and renounced secession. In 1864, Isaac Murphy was elected governor of Arkansas and a new state legislature was formed and he attempted reconciliation. Even as the Civil War ended in 1865, wars were rampant on the Great Plains with the Kiowa, Cheyenne, Comanche and Dakotas as Native American lands were claimed by White men, and laws of President Johnson that pushed them further West.

After the ruins of the Civil War, people struggled to survive during Reconstruction. Coexistence and forgiveness did not come easy. There were local power struggles and revenge attacks. President Lincoln had been assassinated and Andrew Johnson who was president from 1865 to 1869. Unlike Lincoln, Johnson did not favor protection for the former slaves. His Reconstruction policies returned power to traditional white aristocrats and his Black codes suppressed them. But he embittered the Radical Republicans in Congress which led to his impeachment. Though he was acquitted, his national leadership waned.

Slavery had ended but the new Arkansas state constitution was designed by carpetbaggers. All the states were required to draft new constitutions for male suffrage and to ratify the fourteenth Amendment of 1868 which stated: *All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside.....* But native Americans, women and Chinese immigrants were excluded.

The years that followed the war were chaotic. Arkansas was divided because of its former loyalties and former Confederate soldier, Governor Powell Clayton treated Reconstruction as a continuation of the Civil War. He was active in creating the Republican Party in Arkansas where Radical Republicans controlled the election machinery. He allowed much leniency and the Ku-Klux-Klan (KKK), which had originated in Tennessee in 1866, became active in parts of Arkansas. That group employed terrorist tactics to intimidate or kill African Americans and Unionists.

The Civil War challenged the sanctity of records as armies occupied enemy soil. For fifty years after the war, the destruction continued, and many records were destroyed. Benton County's Klan records were destroyed. The KKK's massive campaign of terror and violence erupted in all but the northwestern counties of the state in 1868, and weak law enforcement and a poor judicial system allowed a general rise in crime.

Finally, Governor Powell Clayton stopped a statewide epidemic of KKK activity by declaring martial law in ten counties in eastern and southern Arkansas. Missouri militiamen were called in to patrol the area and they subdued them. Then in 1871, Democrats and Liberal Republicans overhauled the voter registration system in the declining days of Radical Republican rule. Arkansas saw only limited episodes of violence in the Ozarks, but in 1872, elections were still chaotic.

Martial law was lifted and the vote was restored to former Confederates in the spring of 1873 thus making Arkansas the last of ten states under military reconstruction to remove the voting ban on rebels. In 1874

Arkansas voters, including Confederates, went to the polls for the first time since 1866 and approved a new Constitutional Convention which undid most of everything established in the previous 1868 Constitution.

The struggle continued with the Brooks- Baxter War during April and May of 1874. Both men claimed the governorship and it led to scattered violence that spread outside Pulaski County. After several skirmishes, where more than 200 men were killed, President Ulysses Grant asked his attorney general to decide the governorship, and Baxter was returned to the state house.

When Congress readmitted the former Confederate states to the Union between 1868 and 1870, the Republican Party had to figure out how to build a national party in hope of holding the White House. When they returned to power in the federal government, they turned their attention to the west. In 1888, Grover Cleveland won the popular vote by about 90,000 votes but Republican operatives maneuvered the Electoral College to award the victory to Benjamin Harrison.

It was a slow recovery after the war's destruction and divided loyalties. Rebuilding of homes, livestock herds, roads, schools, and churches required years. The struggle for equality, the economic losses and the slow reconciliation of Unionists and Confederates during the years of Reconstruction was a struggle as resentments lingered and racism and voting rights issues persisted.

Some progress was noted when a system of free public schools, a public university and new construction began. And, in 1886 the Crescent Hotel in Eureka Springs brought new development to northwest Arkansas and railroads to the Ozarks. Still, the state was beset by mismanagement, inadequate finances, and racial violence. The Elaine Massacre was the deadliest racial confrontation in Arkansas in 1919. The Lost Cause Myth of the Confederacy, reflected in educational curriculums and monuments, created ongoing struggles that hindered reconciliation and the Black population of Arkansas until the 1950's and 1960's when civil, political and educational rights became the second Reconstruction. And some of the Lost Cause myths still persist in Arkansas, the south and slowly permeated the country.

"By the turn of the twentieth century, inequality was written into American law.... Indeed, the progressive legislation of the early twentieth century was possible because it privileged upwardly mobile white men. As in the days of the founders, democracy was attainable only so long as it was exclusive," wrote Heather Cox Richardson in How the South Won the Civil War.

Self- reliance without government interference was the old motto embodied in the slave owner, the confederate soldier and displayed in the cowboy of western individualism. Ironically, Theodore Roosevelt brought that western brand of democracy to the White House through exclusion. Before the Civil War, the oligarchs had insisted that the government not intrude on their ability to be exclusively wealthy, but when Theodore Roosevelt became president, he used the government to regulate the economy and created the Gilded Age of the Fords, Vanderbilts, Rockefeller's, and a few other oligarchs.

Glade Community Historical Society's next board meeting is July 14, 2023 at The Museum/Coal Gap School and you are welcome to attend. Board members are Sam Reynolds, Judi Walter, Dorothy Williams, Ruth Billingsley and Patricia Heck.

Dues are \$25 annually to maintain the organization, and payable to Sam Reynolds, Treasurer. Newsletters and four public meetings will keep you informed and entertained each year. Your support is appreciated.