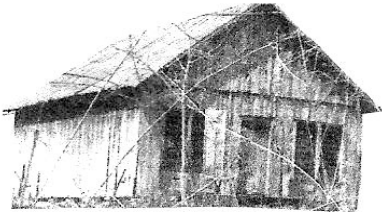


Glade Community Historical Society, Inc.
including Garfield & Pine Log, Arkansas
a 501 (c)(3) Charity
www.gladehistory.org.



Glade

2022 Newsletter #4

The purpose of the society is to preserve the histories of the communities by researching and gathering stories, documents and artifacts

SOUP SUPPER / OCTOBER 23, 4 PM / LBV Community Room/ \$10

Pioneers advanced into Northwest Arkansas as Indian removal treaties pushed Native Americans west. They traveled by rivers or trails and settled on prairies, rivers and creeks. Some were squatters. "In 1840 only one in three taxpayers...owned land," wrote Brooks Blevins, [A History of the Ozarks](#) continued "an act passed in 1854 that had the greatest impact at land offices in the Ozarks....the Graduation Act reduced the purchasing rate to 12.5 cents per acre if land had been on the market for 30 years, and 320 acres could be obtained." This act prompted land buys and encouraged relatives to join them. As the area grew, so did the variety of businesses and services.

By 1850, Fayetteville's Washington County consisted of a variety of services and the town's business and professional class was innkeepers, lawyers, doctors, teachers, clerks, and grocers. By 1860 the number had ballooned to more than fifty, and the population neared one thousand, according to Blevins.

In 1858 the Butterfield Overland Mail route launched from Springfield to San Francisco and the Springfield Road distributed thousands of immigrants further into the Ozarks. Stagecoach

services increased and Elk Horn Tavern at Pea Ridge was one of their stops as the 1850's steamboats traveled the Mississippi and its tributaries connecting people and markets.

In 1860 Benton County produced more than 20% of the region's manufactured tobacco. Water mills were fundamental to grind grain and drive sawmills and preferable to the earlier mortar and pestle. Pigs were common and slaughterhouses were a necessity. Prosperous Peter Van Winkle erected a steam-powered sawmill along Little Clifty Creek. He had thirteen slaves and ox wagons to haul logs to the mill where he employed thirty workers in 1860.

In 1853 education was limited, but Arkansas passed a school bill mandating that 25% of general revenue and sales of saline, swampland and 1/16 section of surveyed townships of government land would fund schools, but poor oversight and misuse of funds rendered underpayment for education. Though county administered, most schools were locally funded and school sessions were often 3 to 6 months. Children walked to school or crossed the river by ferry, boat or on foot. Schools had a well or nearby spring, a woodpile, shelves for lunch buckets and separate outhouses for boys and girls.

The Civil War abolished slavery in 1865, but Reconstruction hampered integration. The American Missionary Society of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania established the first public Black school in Fayetteville in 1869. But, segregation persisted in 1903, and only one Bentonville Colored School is reported. In 1916 the Pea Ridge Academy/College, an educational center for the area, was established and evolved into Pea Ridge Public Schools.

Those rural settlers developed their land, built schools and worked beside their neighbors. People lived on both sides of White River. Going to school could be complicated with a river to cross. Schools were on both sides: Union Chapel at Mundell, Pumpkin Center, and Rocky

Branch School at LaRue, on one side while Pine Log, Willow Springs and Coal Gap at Glade were one room schools on the northern side of the river.

Willow Springs School District lay within a rectangular area where White River looped and circled into the Rocky Branch School District. Some children living in the Willow Springs district had to cross at Brewer's Ford or by boat, and then walk 2 or 3 miles to the school. And, for 11 years, Glade students crossed White River to attend Pumpkin Center School. Finally, county administrators corrected their decision. Only Rocky Branch and Coal Gap school buildings have survived.

White River was beautiful and resourceful. Its ferries and fords allowed travel, but floods and drought sometimes ruined crops and isolated communities. People labored, cared for their own, helped their neighbors and welcomed visitors for a meal or a night, or for a longer stay.

A pioneer, William Douglas was born in 1872 in Missouri, orphaned at an early age and raised by Eli and Louisa Shepherd. William's brother Matt grew up in another family and they reunited years later. William moved with the Shepherd family to Benton County, Arkansas and married Cynthia Rogers in 1891. They lived near Twelve Corners at Pea Ridge where William cut ties for the railroad.

William and Cynthia's first child died in infancy. Then Ernest, Rose, and Harry Douglas were born. Their next three children, Lee, Carl and Cecil, died in infancy. After Cloe's birth, they moved to Pine Log in 1912 to care for Cynthia's aging parents, Anderson and Amelia Rogers. William and Cynthia Douglas separated in the fall of 1915 and he remarried and had one son. Cynthia died in 1941 in Arkansas. William died in 1951 in Springfield, Missouri.

Sarah Ellen, a sister of Cynthia Rogers Douglas was born in 1870 in Benton County. She married Mr. Dell and they had one son, Charley, born in 1888, but a high fever caused profound

deafness. Sarah left the area for Topeka, Kansas and her son remained with his grandfather, Anderson Rogers in Barry County, Missouri in 1900, prior to moving to Pine Log, Arkansas.

When Harry Douglas married Cleva Williams, they became responsible for his invalid mother Cynthia and his sister, Cloe, at his mother's home in Pine Log. His older brother Ernest Douglas farmed across White River at Mundell and Charley lived with them for many years.

Most ancestors valued friendship. They developed bonds that often lasted a lifetime. Charley Dell was a favorite visitor on both sides of the river. Despite his handicap, his friendliness was contagious and he remembered his friends wherever he went. Charley worked in the fields and enjoyed laboring with others. Visual hand signals were used as needed to ensure his safety.

Charley spent much time on the banks of White River. He loved to gather mussels and extract pearls. He saved a whole quart jar of pearls and sold one pearl for \$2,000. But he could be pushed too far. An often repeated story was about some guy who pestered him too long about his string of perch until Charley hit him with a club.

Ernest sold his farm during the 1950's, but his property was accessed by the Pea Ridge National Military Park and required another move to Twelve Corner's Road in Pea Ridge. Ernest died in 1955. His daughter Clarice continued to care for Charley who was hit by a car in Rogers and required a walker after his accident. Charley died in 1957 and is interred at the Ruddick Cemetery in Garfield among relatives and friends.

[Our final meeting of this year is our soup supper at 4 pm at Lost Bridge community room. A variety of delicious soups, bread, drink/dessert and listen to Jami Lockhart, PhD, of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Arkansas](#)

Glade Board members: Sam Reynolds, Kendra Taylor, Ruth Billingsley, Dorothy Williams, Judi Walter, Larry Hanner and Patricia Heck