



The Glade Community Historical Society, Inc.
Glade, Pine Log and Garfield, AR 72732
A 501(C)3 Charity

GCHS Newsletter #2, 2015
www.gladehistory.org

Glade Post Office/Store, circa 1890

The Work of the Society is to Preserve the History of the Communities by Researching and Gathering Stories, Documents and Artifacts

We are proud of the work that the Glade Community Historical Society has accomplished since it incorporated in November 2011. Each year, we have four general meetings that are open to the community and monthly board meetings. We are happy that the Glade Post Office was returned to Glade in July 2014, and repairs and refurbishing continue this spring. We are pleased that the Benton County Historic Preservation Commission will provide \$5,000 to help us preserve the Glade Post Office this year.

Thirty-two oral histories have been collected and recorded and pictures of an earlier time are continually sought. Send pictures of relatives and earlier days and tell us your stories! Your community support helps us reach our goals. We are grateful to those who have supported us, and a reminder to those who may have forgotten; please send your 2015 \$25 membership dues to Sam Reynolds, 20916 Slate Gap Road, Garfield, AR 72732.

Historical Fact & Stories from Glade, Arkansas

We have some magnificent buildings and landmarks in the United States that were preserved because people took an interest and labored many hours to save them. The preservation movement in the United State began in the eighteenth century and merged with the establishment of the National Trust for Historic Preservation Act in 1949 and the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act in 1966. Independence Hall in Philadelphia was saved from demolition in 1816, and the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union was founded in 1853 to save deteriorating Mount Vernon (former home of George and Martha Washington) after the federal government showed no interest in taking care of the property. Today the site is visited by thousands of visitors and Mount Vernon's recent visitor was the future King of England, Prince Charles, who traveled to the US to see it.

Through the years many historic sites have been saved at the national and statewide level, and many individuals have labored to save parks, buildings and historic districts in the United States. From Yellowstone National Park to Frank Lloyd's Wright's house that was relocated and is being preserved at Crystal Bridges in Bentonville, AR. All these historical structures allow us to gain insight into our history. And, today there are college degree programs in historic preservation, and increased awareness that preservation technology is multidisciplinary, involving architects, engineers, planners, archeologists, curators, educators, managers, trades people, historians, contractors, technicians and students. According to the second edition of Historic Preservation, this reversal of Americans 'use it up and move on' mentality is toward 'moving in and picking up the pieces'. Preservationists are not against growth and development, but they see growth as built on the past. It is more than old buildings and puts history to good purpose and allows us to see how our society has evolved and to have that past serve as a guide for the future.

Historical records provided us with this information: Garfield's first Post Office was established in 1837 and Ezekiel B. Ruddick was the first carrier. The mail was left at the Sugar Creek Stage Coach Stop three miles away. Garfield was one of the paths of the Trail of Tears in 1838 where Native Americans entered Arkansas just north of Garfield, near Herd, now known as Gateway. There were cattle drives before the railroad could send cattle to distant markets from the Garfield train stop, and fruit was plentiful. People began settling in Garfield around 1876 and a general store was built in 1881. In 1889, according to Goodspeed's History of Benton County, Garfield had three general stores, a jewelry store with the Post Office, a candy store, two hotels, a bank and a lumberyard, one evaporator (apple dryer), and the sales of mules raised for market. In 1888, Garfield incorporated and in 1889 a new structure was build for \$800 that had a school on the lower level and a Masonic Hall on the upper level. In 1904, a high school was organized.

Wanda Lori Cline Mahurin, Garfield's first female mayor, wrote The History of Garfield Arkansas, 1874-1996, leaving us a picture of earlier Garfield days. When she realized that her grandson couldn't see back beyond his years, she wrote the history of Garfield, with encouragement from Billie Jines who was editor of the *Pea Ridge Graphic Scene* then. Wanda wished she had collected stories earlier as many of the old timers she knew were gone before she began collecting. Wanda reported that Garfield may have been named after President Garfield but no records confirm it. Wanda was born March 2, 1932 and died March 2, 2004 and is buried in the Ruddick Cemetery on HWY 127.

In the late 1800's and early 1900's, after the incorporation on September 16, 1888, a mayor and council members were elected. Around 1914, a lumberyard supplied wood for homes and businesses, and farmers drove their hogs and cattle to Garfield's stockyard to be shipped to Kansas City and St. Louis. The train picked them up once a week. In those days, there were 6 train stops in Garfield, 3 going north and 3 going south. People traveled mostly by train to Rogers and beyond and could return home the same day. Between 1900 and 1925, Garfield had two cafes, two churches and two doctors in town. A hamburger or a bowl of chili cost 10 cents. There was a livery stable and Garfield had its own baseball team. In 1920, women were hired at a tomato cannery in Garfield providing additional income for families.

Then the depression hit and Garfield declined. The fruit industry slowed, the lime kiln burned and the doctors moved away. The population dwindled and according to the 1960 Census, only 49 people lived in Garfield. Slowly, life changed. The highway to Rogers, AR remained unpaved till 1933. Highway 127 was known as the Lost Bridge Road and was a dirt road until 1969 when it was coated with oil and gravel after Beaver Lake was built and tourists discovered it. An increase in current population was recently spotted on a marker at the city's edge showing Garfield now has 502 residents. Current construction of additional lanes on Highway 62 will bring more folks to town and an increased awareness of the beauty of the Ozarks.

Pie, pie, and more pie! Our second general meeting of 2015 will be April 26, 2015 at 2:30 pm at the Lost Bridge Community Room. Pies will be available for dessert. Come and purchase some pie and visit with your neighbors while enjoying Greg Grays' music. Our program for this meeting by Jeanne Strokebrand will tell us about the Japanese Internment Camps of World War II in Arkansas at Jerome and Rohwer, Arkansas. Some 120,000 Japanese descendants living in the US were removed from their homes and placed in camps under President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066. Come and learn more about those days; and to keep current on happenings with the Glade Community Historical Society, including earlier newsletters you may have missed, please go to www.gladehistory.org.

Glade Community Historical Society Board President: Pat Heck; Treasurer: Sam Reynolds; Secretary: Judi Walter; Board members: Larry Hanner, Dorothy Williams and Jerry Morrison. Webmaster: Danene Gray; Communications: Don Berndt.