

*The Glade Community Historical Society, Inc. Garfield, AR 72732*

Mark Wheeler: April 28, 2013@ Lost Bridge Community room.

*Glade Store & Post Office*

Spring teases us with rain, snow, and daffodil blooms as shades of green unfurl. Spring renews hope and welcomes our second quarterly meeting of GCHS on April 28, 2013 at 3 pm at Lost Bridge Community room. Our guest speaker will be Mark Wheeler who is a historical interpreter at the Pea Ridge National Park. He has volunteered there since 1995. Mark and his friends will be presenting our program. Mark your calendars to hear about the Pea Ridge Campaign as they bring to life the history of our area during the dark days of the Civil War! And we will learn more about the Missouri State Guard.

And for those who like to plan ahead: Our third meeting will be July 28, at 3 pm with presenter, Mr. John Cross, and our fourth meeting will be October 27 at 3 pm with Susan Young at Lost Bridge Community room.

“Historical Facts & Stories from Glade, Arkansas”

The *Arkansas Democrat Gazette* of October 31, 2012 announced the first phase of a purchase of 1,375 acres of Devil’s Eyebrow. It was purchased by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission in a cooperative agreement with the Arkansas Field Office of the Nature Conservancy. Ultimately, 1,952 acres will be purchased.

This news would surprise Lillie Lind Preston whose earlier story about Devil’s eyebrow is in her book, Dinner’ll Soon Be Ready, published in 1976. She refers to the Devil’s Eyebrow which is south of the Gateway community. Lillie’s dad, Will Edens, was a dreamer. He farmed several places at Glade: around Gravel(ey) hill and Moulder hollow and had tried farming in Oklahoma before returning to farm in Arkansas. He farmed in the early 1900’s, but he had always dreamed of becoming a railroad engineer. His cousin George Hurd was an engineer on the Frisco railroad route which ran from Monett to Fort Smith. Hurds’ have long resided in and around Gateway, AR.

‘Will and family lived only four miles from Garfield, at that time, and as George came through there was a swag in the grade from the Devil’s Eyebrow to Garfield, and when George rounded the eyebrow, he picked up speed for the grade and blew his whistle, a long, low, lonesome whistle, especially for Will, and the family remarked, “There goes George.” He usually went through about sundown. When George was off duty and someone else took his engine out, the train often stalled on the grade that approached Devil’s Eyebrow and one who listened could hear the wheels slipping on the rails and the engine straining to make the grade. At which time, George would say, “Now there’s no use for that, if I were there I’d pat her on the old bald head and she’d take out.” One day they missed George’s whistle and wondered if they just didn’t hear the train. News traveled slowly in those days, and a few days later they heard that his train had left the tracks and the engine overturned and pinned George under it. He tied the whistle down and it whistled all night. But he could not be saved.’

Just type “*Devil’s Eyebrow*” on your PC and U-tube provides glimpses of its pristine beauty. And when the Eyebrow management plan is completed and protection assured, the public will be allowed to enjoy it in future years.

The GCHS, Inc. continues its regular board meetings and plans for returning the Post Office to Glade. The survey report of Gene Buescher of Survey One, has been received by Sam Reynolds and next is the Planning Commission approval. Our appreciation goes to Gene Buecher for his work on our behalf. No further information has been received regarding Coal Gap School. It’s loss to the Glade community would bring much sorrow so we shall continue to seek and share information as it becomes available. Patricia Heck was invited and presented a program about Glade to Shiloh Museum on January 16, 2013,and she has been invited to speak to the Pea Ridge Historical Society May 28, 2013. Money making projects are being discussed at our board meetings. Dorothy Williams and Judi Walter will be actively involved. Reminder: Please send your $25 dues to Sam Reynolds at 20916 Slate Gap Road, Garfield, AR 72732. Your participation is deeply appreciated.