



Glade Store & Post Office

## **The Glade Community Historical Society, Inc.**

Garfield, AR 72732

NEWSLETTER: 2013 #4

The work of the Society is to preserve the history of the Glade Community by researching and gathering stories, documents & artifacts.

### **“Historical Facts & Stories from Glade, AR”**

Our Glade Community Historical Society (GCHS) work continues as the postal site becomes closer to a reality, yet days of hard work still lie ahead. The site is cleared, the footing in place, and we are almost ready to begin the move of the old post office back to Glade. Much progress was made in 2013!



Harry Fine family (Hall Fine in back, 2<sup>nd</sup> from left)

Perhaps you have heard of the Orphan Train movement? Between 1854 and 1929 an estimated 200,000 orphaned, abandoned, and homeless children were placed during the Orphan Train Movement. Sent from New York City to rural communities in the U.S. and Canada, Anna Mae Fine of Glade was one of those children.

Anna Mae Rhubottom Fine was born in 1911 and died in 1998. It is uncertain if she attended Coal Gap or Willow Springs School. According to records, she could recall the day her parents put her on the ship in France to send her to America when she was four years old. She was too young to understand it then, but later, she thought it might have been to save her life for World War I was raging in 1915. Many people’s lives were in danger and in many places food was scarce or non-existent. Anna Mae came to Rogers, Arkansas on the Orphan Train at 4 or 5 years of age.

The train movement was started by The Children’s Aid Society in New York City and the Catholic New York Foundling Hospital early in the century. They took orphan children and other poor children off the city streets and sent them on westward to be adopted. Some trains stopped in Rogers after leaving Little Rock, Arkansas and that is where Anna Mae found her parents. Her adopted father, Nathan Dixon “Dick” Rhubottom, was born in 1884 and died in 1953. His wife Clara Ruth Ford was born in 1885 and died in 1967. Clara Ruth was the daughter of “Billy” Ford and Phoebe Jane Rumley Ford of Dinner’ll Soon Be Ready (a story of early settlers in the area). Their story was presented and recorded at Shiloh Museum in January 2013 and the recording has been posted on YouTube. To listen, please cut and paste the following link <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ORWveFbOzgQ> to your web browser.

Dick and Clara Rhubottom were childless, and they went to the Rogers train station to meet the Orphan Train to find a boy to adopt. When they arrived, the boys were already gone and as the train began to pull out of the station with Anna Mae and the other children onboard; Clara screamed, "Stop the train! I want that little girl."

Anna Mae treasured that memory of being wanted; but her records from France and of the Orphan Train were destroyed when their house burned. Anna Mae grew up, married Hall Fine and they had four children. Anna Mae and Hall and their oldest child, Leona Fine, are deceased. Remaining are Everett Fine who lives in Goshen, AR; and Earl Fine and his sister Grace Fine Baker who live in Rogers.



The National Orphan Train Complex, left, is located in Concordia, Kansas, about 6 hours from Glade. It contains exhibits and archives, and has a research center for historians, genealogists, students and those seeking information on any Orphan Train rider. Early critics of the orphan train adoptions saw it as a form of slavery or cheap labor, but many children grew up in good homes. Two boys who later became governors

rode the Orphan Train; John Green Brady of Alaska and Andrew Burke of North Dakota. 136 children found homes here in Arkansas. The train movement ended because of the depression and new laws and programs designed specifically to help children. Foster care homes began to replace the large institutional care homes of the past.

Our last GCHS meeting of the year is October 27 at 4 PM at the Lost Bridge Village Community Room. The ever delightful Susan Young will be our speaker, her topic, *Ballad Hunting in the Ozarks*. Also, please note we changed the meeting time to 4 pm instead of our normal 3 pm for this meeting as we are also having a soup supper. This *SOUP SUPPER*, consisting of a variety of homemade soups, cornbread and dessert will be served after Susan Young's presentation. The price is \$7.00 per serving, and if availability allows, soup may be purchased to take home.

And, you can still buy chances for a handmade quilt that belongs to Stan and Dorothy Williams. Some lucky person will take this beautiful quilt home when the drawing occurs at this October 27 event. Quilt chances are still available at the meeting or by calling Dorothy Williams at 479-359-3300. Tickets are only \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Also, for a final note, our last yard sale for 2013 was September 13 & 14 in front of Marty Seamster's on HWY 62 in Garfield, AR. The \$622 proceeds from the sale will go to help us move the post office back to Glade so we can begin its restoration.

We look forward to seeing you at our last meeting of this year, October 27 at 4PM. Also, mark your 2014 calendars as our first GCHS meeting will be Sunday, January 26, at 3 PM; again at the Lost Bridge Village Community Room on Whitney Mountain at 12477 Lodge Dr, Garfield, AR.