

The Gladewater Museum

# MUSEUM MUSINGS

SUMMER 2016

**HOURS:**  
Friday & Saturday  
10:00-4:00P.M.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**  
Elaine Roddy,  
Director

Pete Adams  
Mark Armstrong  
Michelle Askew  
Frances Beavers  
Monty Graham  
Charlotte Light  
Bennie Moore  
Lois Reed  
Harold Wells  
Karen White



## CAMP FANNIN VISIT

Judy Banner, Janet Davis, Lois Reed, and Elaine Roddy enjoyed learning more about the history of Camp Fannin from Tom Craig at the University of Texas Health Center at Tyler. The World War II Veterans Memorial located on the hospital grounds is very informative. Did you know that there was a bus service which transported troops to Gladewater? Did you know that German POWs were housed at Camp Fannin in addition to American troops being trained there? You can learn more at the Gladewater Museum. QR scan codes are now available on several displays for your convenience.

Gloria is a valuable asset to the Gladewater Museum. She is always willing to greet visitors, pull weeds, vacuum, serve at receptions, or any other job that needs to be done. Her smile and willing heart are appreciated.



**VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH --- GLORIA TURNER**

**ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Judy Banner and Janet Davis interviewed Rhea Leen Linder on May 20, 2016. She was on her way to Gibsland, Louisiana for the Bonnie and Clyde Festival and to visit the authentic Bonnie and Clyde Museum. Rhea Leen was born in Gladewater, Texas to Hubert (Buster) Parker and Edith Clay, her parents. She was named Bonnie Ray Parker since her aunt was Bonnie Parker of the famous Bonnie and Clyde Barrow Gang. Rhea Leen changed her name from Bonnie Parker to Rhea Leen so people wouldn't associate her with Bonnie and Clyde when growing up. She was delightful and so interesting. We enjoyed meeting her so much.



Haley Hendrix, a sophomore at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, enjoyed touring the museum while visiting her grandparents this summer.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT:** Due to various reasons, including the number of days it rained in Gladewater during the spring, the third grade classes at Broadway were unable to tour the Gladewater Museum. Supt. J.P. Richardson has assured the Museum volunteers that third and fourth graders will experience the museum during the 2016/17 school year. Supt. Richardson is very supportive and knows the importance of the rich history of Gladewater to these young citizens. The volunteers are always excited to share their knowledge.

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR.....

The Gladewater Museum has many "positives" to report. Just during the past month, we have had visitors from Arizona, Indiana, Illinois, Massachusetts, New York, Nevada, and South Carolina. Visitors from Carrollton, Corpus Christi, Diana, Flint, Hughes Springs, Pflugerville, and towns near Gladewater have enjoyed seeing and hearing the history of Gladewater. The visitor from New York saw pictures for the first time of her grandmother and the hotel where she worked in 1932. The Snively heirs found time to come by during their reunion to remember their connection to the "Oil Boom" in the 30's. The Snively well was our "discovery well" and put some Gladewater residents on the path to riches.

Some of you remember the miniature derrick in front of the community Center. Thanks to Royce Day, it is again pumping like the big pumps of the past. We appreciate his help and his contacts to get this iconic symbol restored.

Our contacts through the face book page and the website have made history. At the last count, we have surpassed all other museums in our area with contacts and likes. Thank you Gladewater and the surrounding towns for making this possible. The museum also has an international following. Currently fans from nine foreign countries (Canada, Germany, India, Mexico, Norway, Saudia Arabia, Tunisia, Turkey, and the United Kingdom) have seen our face book page. A special thanks goes to David Trumbull, who keeps our pages fresh, current and interesting. If a special memory of home makes someone in Saudi Arabia smile, we have done our job.

Please follow the events and special exhibits at [gladewatermuseum.org](http://gladewatermuseum.org). You might find out something that you didn't know about Gladewater and the museum. There are still pictures in your family files (perhaps your father standing behind the counter of the Ritz Pharmacy) that we need to preserve. Scan and send pictures to [gladewatermuseum@gmail.com](mailto:gladewatermuseum@gmail.com). Gladewater, this is your museum!

Elaine Roddy

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### GLADEWATER MUSEUM MEMBERSHIPS

It is never too late to join the Gladewater Museum. The Museum is a recognized 501c.3 non-profit organization so all donations are tax-deductible. The Membership categories are:

\$15	Individual
\$25	Family (Includes all children 18 and under)
\$100	Contributing
\$250	Sustaining
\$500	Sponsor
\$1000 & up	Benefactor

Checks may be mailed to the address above or now you can join by using PayPal. The link is: [www.paypal.me/gladewatermuseum](http://www.paypal.me/gladewatermuseum). Another way to help the Museum is to become a website sponsor for only \$50.00 a year. You may make your check payable to: Gladewater Museum or come by and complete the form. Also, the Museum has an account at Amazon.Smile which we invite you to select.