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THE GROUNDHOG

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Volume 32, No. 8

"Neighborhood News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

August 2013

Artist Spotlight: John Miller

By Sandra Padgett

"I can't remember not painting" was the answer John gave me when I asked him when he started painting. At age six he won first place in an art contest; and that was the beginning of his quest to learn more. His high school art teacher became his first mentor; and her enthusiasm and knowledge set him on the right path. John has been in the art business for thirty years. He owns the Miller Gallery in Oneonta, Alabama, celebrating 20 years in business. He has been an art dealer for artists on both coasts successfully promoting their work. Sydney Helfman, (Los Angeles artist who is known for his bright colors, cowboys and Western themes) was represented by John until Helfman's death several years ago. John purchased Helfman's collection from his widow and continues to promote the works. Many collectors have these powerful pieces in their



*John Miller with friends
(left-right) Lucy Mitchell, Cynthia Luck
and (far right) Donnie Davis*

homes.

John is a magnificent artist in his own right. His multi-media abstracts are stunning with the unique choice of colors that he masterfully weaves together on canvas. His composition and style are unique and profound. His last mentor of twenty years was an accomplished watercolorist who taught him to paint in the moment. "I like to think that I paint with my visual mind engaged; but in a state of freedom to express impressions both current and past." He is most comfortable painting in his beautiful garden at his home in Valley Head. His home is beautifully restored and his garden and environs are superb. John brings his genius for color harmony to his home as well as his canvas. His design and architectural capabilities are on display in the

(Cont'd on page 24)

Mentone's Cookin': Linda Fontana, Moonlight Bistro

by Susan Cheronos

When Linda decided to go back to school at about age 50 to study Culinary Arts at Georgia Northwestern Technical College in Rome, she was a little daunted because she wasn't "fresh out of high school." Even so, she elected to get an Associate's degree instead of just a certificate which required her to add a full range of core classes in addition to learning how to make the "mother sauces" and turn out a perfect pie!

Expressing her concern to her English professor, Mr. Costner, on the first day of class, she was enlightened and encouraged by his comforting perspective that rather than being behind the class because of 35 years away from school, she was actually ahead of the game because of all her life experience!

And boy, did she have life experience! From the time she could stand on a chair in her mother's and grandmother's kitchens, she was drawn to be a part of the action. She learned all



the basics from them and a whole host of skills that come with helping to put three meals a day on the table for a family of 14!! She also learned about food from the rich soil around Menlo and Cloudland where her large Ballinger family kept busy gardening, canning, pickling and raising their own meats as well as hunting deer, and eating the occasional turtle (quite good, she

says) and coon (her grandmother once battered it and tried to convince her it was fried chicken). Linda had never even seen store-bought meat until she moved out on her own and was sure it didn't look quite right! She also had a really hard time learning to cook for a pair instead of a dozen or more when she got married.

Linda attended Chattooga High School and spent 20 years in Denver, Colorado. Her journey along the way included secretarial and clerical work, banquet service, bartender, and ranged from Fortune 500 companies and huge hotels to working as secretary for one 87 year old man who captivated her imagination by telling tales of prohibition days, and of the wonder of experiencing life before and during the appearance of all the electronic conveniences like radio, TV and telephone.

Linda is so grateful for the three years she has served as the chef at The Moonlight Bistro and
(cont'd on page 24)

THE GROUNDHOG

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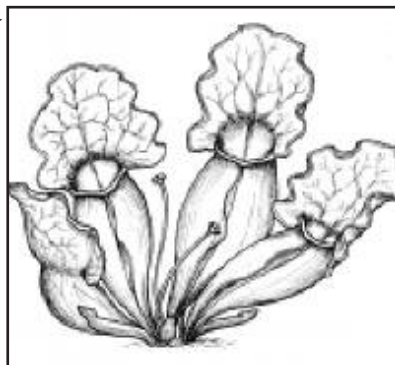
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**Have a Letter to the Editor
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it to The Groundhog at
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From The Editor

We've been enjoying such a lovely cool summer. The weather seems a mite confused, though pleasant cool breezes rarely ruffle summer feathers 'round here! Doesn't hurt my feelings to shiver on the porch swing of a morning in late July. Will August be so kind?

There's still vibrant orange butterfly weed in patches on roadsides and blueberries are weighing their branches down with the healthy heavy fruit. Several folks have signs out; go and pick your



own and freeze some cheap excellent nutrition for year round enjoyment.

The camps are beginning to wind down for the year, another wonderful summer locked in the memory bank. Mentone's still bustling with summer energy, though. The water is high, as is the corn, and all is well in our world.

Best, Susan

Treasure On Lookout Mountain

Part III, By Sandy Harris

Six days following the arrival of the 20th Corps in Valley Head, the soldiers broke camp after receiving new orders. McCook was to march his troops over Lookout Mountain and move rapidly to Summerville, Georgia, to intercept General Braxton Bragg's men and attack them.

The march up Lookout was a difficult one, men breathing heavily with their chests heaving as they carried their gear up the steep incline. Out of the corner of his eye, William noticed Thomas' struggle as they marched upward. He asked his friend if he could help in any way, but Thomas declined.

McCook's troops made good time up the mountain, but were disheartened to learn that Bragg had retreated not far from Chattanooga, so the new orders were to move to Chickamauga. The general's decision to sleep atop the mountain that night had dire consequences for one soldier.

After supper that night, Thomas's curiosity got the better of him. He stealthily pulled his rucksack to a position on the bluff, out of the view of the prying eyes of his fellow-soldiers. He had never been able to take a good look at the jewelry before now. This was his chance while the other men were talking and sitting around the fire, tired from their trek up the mountain. Thomas pulled out a lovely, delicate gold locket. As he opened it, he noticed there was a little blond curl, which looked as if it had been cut from fine, sweet baby hair. "Obviously somebody's keepsake," thought Thomas, with no remorse whatsoever. There was another necklace, bedecked with small sapphires and rubies, a treasure for sure! He fingered the gold but only removed a few pieces from the sack. "Voices! Men coming this way!" whispered Thomas to himself. He quickly forced the jewelry back into the rucksack and looked

around furtively. "They're almost on top of me!" In his hurry, two pieces of the gold dropped from his hand, and in the deep twilight, Thomas searched for a place of safety for his treasure. In the gathering darkness, he noticed a massive oak tree nearby, which amazingly had a considerable curved opening at the base of the tree. He quickly stuffed his sack into the hole and backed away to put distance between him and the tree. He planned to look for the dropped gold and retrieve the bag first thing tomorrow morning before they broke camp and marched down the mountain.

As the two soldiers walked through the undergrowth to get a better view from the edge of the bluff, Thomas continued to retreat. His foot slipped, and as he slid down the side of the mountain, he hit his head on a pointed, protruding rock. Blood gushed from the gaping, open wound.

"Run, go get help!" yelled the older of the two soldiers. "The man's hurt real bad! Blood everywhere and he's been knocked unconscious!"

Doc came as quickly as his legs would carry him and gave instructions for Thomas to be carried carefully back to his tent. Upon arrival at camp, the doctor deftly stitched the extensive head wound and asked William if he would stand watch over Thomas and alert him of any change. Doc planned to get a few hours sleep and then sit up with Thomas until morning. William gazed at his friend as he lay on the cot. Thoughts raced through his mind, back to the battle of Shiloh when he had saved Thomas's life as Rebel bullets flew all around them. The men had been friends ever since, but lately William wondered why Thomas seemed a little stand-offish.

(cont'd on page 4)

This Old House: MERF Community House

My boards may be a little creaky and my paint a little flaky but I am full of life. I continue to open my doors to the young and the wise so my walls are full of joy, laughter and learning.

Summertime socials-what a blast! July’s social was making my seams stretch a bit. The MERF house was filled with the senior lunch bunch crew and the oldest girls from Camp DeSoto. The Camp DeSoto girls helped serve pound cake, fresh peaches and strawberries, whipped cream and blueberry coffee cake from Glenda and Sarah at Mountain Laurel Inn B&B. The girls also visited with the regular crew so the room was a buzzing with fun conversations. After eating and a round of “Happy Birthday” to several, the DeSoto girls sang some of their favorite songs. Then, the whole room joined in with “Amazing Grace” and “You Are My Sunshine”. The Black Hat poet ended our social fun with an entertaining recitation.

Earlier in July, several local folks met with Elizabeth Harris and the MERF board regarding the Mentone Health Assessment that is taking place this summer. The Assessment will collect data to be used to inform local residents about strengths of and areas for improvement in Mentone resources that address the health

and quality of life needs, and to inform for the development, implementation, and evaluation of community health improvement plans. Mentone area residents and local health professionals will be asked to provide information about their own health status and the “health” of the community. ALL information collected is anonymous so please help MERF to know your thoughts by filling out the survey when asked. Surveys will be available at several community meetings, churches, Mentone Market, the Hardware store and by email. For questions or survey access, contact the Community Health Assessment Coordinator, Elizabeth Harris, at 609-731-4857 or 4857 or mentone.alabama.chaproject@gmail.com.

Please help MERF to enhance life here on this beautiful mountain so we all can continue to say “Leave Me in Mentone”.

MERF: Mentone Educational Resources Foundation is a local non-profit with the mission “To enrich the learning and living of the community by identifying needs and coordinating resources.” If you would like to support our programs, tax-deductible donations can be mailed to POB107 Mentone, AL 35984 or contribute online at www.crowdrise.com/MERF.

Want to know more about Mentone’s early years?

MAPA is offering Zora Strayhorn’s popular book *Mentone, Alabama: A History*, a fascinating collection of information about many of Mentone’s oldest structures, the early settlers and popular legends and lore. Also included are several historic photographs of the Mentone area. You can buy *Mentone, Alabama: A History* at the following businesses in Mentone:

Wildflower Cafe . Kamama Gallery
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The cost is only \$15.00, and all sales proceeds go to the Mentone Area Preservation Association to further its goals for 2013. Help support MAPA and get answers to all your questions about the history of Mentone!

Live outside the area? Send a check in the amount of \$18 (covering shipping and handling) to MAPA, P. O. Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984, and a book will be sent to you. Be sure to include your shipping address.



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ColorFest 2013 Planning Begins

By Ray Padgett

Even though hot, humid August is blazing down on Mentone, it's Colorfest planning time again and we are looking for volunteers to make another great Mentone festival. Our first planning meeting was held July 17th – committees were formed, schedules were established and festival events were discussed. As always, Colorfest is held the third weekend in October. This year that is October 19-20.

Thomas Qualls agreed to co-chair Colorfest with me (Ray Padgett). Committee chairs are: Karen Britt (Farm Fair), Laura C. Moon (Food), Kayla Worthey (Marketing), Elaine Gauldin (Public Promotion), Beverly Bates (Site Planning), Scott Thomas (Exhibitor Contact), Lisa Crow (Music), Doreen Waters (Finance). We still need volunteers to chair the Sponsor Committee and the Community Decorations Committee. If you would like to help any of these volunteers on their committee please contact them.

Colorfest presents our Mentone community to the world in all the artistic mountain colors of fall – great artwork, pottery, and crafts; delicious

homegrown and homemade food (Taste of Mentone); music born and bred in these hills (Sounds of Mentone) and old time life on the farm activities. Once again, we plan to have the supper and music on Friday and Saturday evening at the Mentone Inn pavilion and boat rides on the Little River.

As always, we are looking for people and businesses to help defer festival costs – Festival Sponsors. While all the folks who work many hours to create Colorfest volunteer their time, every business in the area and local government benefit financially from our community festival. Sponsor names will be included on festival marketing material, guides and signage. If you don't have the time or inclination to volunteer for Colorfest, then participate by becoming a sponsor.

If you have questions, suggestions, or would like to help, you may contact Thomas Qualls (256-634-3013, thomas.qualls@gmail.com) or Ray Padgett (256-634-3001, ray88padgett@earthlink.net).



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Treasure (cont'd from page 2)

As William's watch wore on, the injured man's breathing became more shallow, but his groaning soon increased. Thomas tried to fix his eyes on William, but they wouldn't focus very well.

"William, come here," rasped Thomas, barely able to speak. "I want to tell you what I done, get it off my chest 'fore I die. Some time back, I stole some things. Lookin' at 'em last night when I heard men comin'. Hid the stuff in a hole in the tree. Tripped and fell. Gonna die soon. Wanted you to know it 'fore I go."

William leaned closer to his friend as he gazed at the man whose pain made him barely able to speak. "Thomas, God be a forgivin' God. Jus' ask Him." William wasn't even sure his friend heard him.

Thomas's eyes closed, and he breathed peacefully for a few more minutes. William sat and stared as he watched his friend pass from this world to the next. He called for Doc who

pronounced him dead and had two privates dig a grave on that beautiful mountain top so far from Thomas's Ohio home.

The 20th Corps moved out early the next morning, and William didn't have a chance to go search for Thomas' rucksack, which contained the stolen items.

William still had no idea that the treasure was taken from the Winston mansion. Since Thomas hadn't revealed the source of the stolen articles, William had no clue where Thomas had gotten them.

"Oh well," thought William. "There are other things lots heavier on my mind. We're headed to Chickamauga for a big showdown with those elusive Johnny Rebs. Hope we come out on the side of victory."

General Alexander McCook's troops ended up arriving at Chickamauga too late to be of any help. By then, the damage had been done, and the Confederacy claimed victory in what was to become known as "The Bloody Battle of the

West."

As a result of being late, McCook faced court martial and was relieved of his command and not given another until November of 1864. William was one of the few men in his immediate circle of friends who came through the war unscathed. He had pushed the thought of the stolen items so far back in his memory that it had not resurfaced since Chickamauga. William had no family to speak of, so after the war, he needed to make a decision of where to live. He couldn't get the little village of Valley Head, Alabama, out of his mind. That place would surface repeatedly in his memory as an area where he'd like to settle down. He would follow his dream of using his blacksmithing skills and head back to the beautiful land at the foot of Lookout Mountain.

To Be Continued in the September Issue



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Genre Classics

By Jane Faile

Last month I wrote about the “classics” – novels that have stood the test of time, that are well-written, meaningful works of literary art. This month I want to discuss classics of specific literary genres, those sometimes mysteriously labeled books that don’t quite make it into the “mainstream.” There are many of these categories, so I’m going to limit this article to just a few: romance, western, mystery, fantasy and science fiction.

Jane Austin’s *Pride and Prejudice* sets the pattern for the romance novel. A feisty heroine encounters a rich, arrogant hero; there’s a secondary romance subplot; and all the lovers are married by the end. The dialogue between Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy is sparkling, witty, and Austin’s social commentary is often biting. The Gothic romance is a darker type of story, and Emily Brontë’s *Wuthering Heights* is a perfect example. Was there ever a darker hero than brooding Heathcliff? The doomed romance between Heathcliff and his beloved Catherine is set in haunted moors, a desolate countryside, and a house that invites ghostly visits. If you’re a reader of romance fiction, you know that most modern romance writers from Victoria Holt to Nora Roberts pretty much follow the patterns set by Austin and Brontë.

I’m not a consistent reader of westerns or mysteries, so I have to rely on the experiences of other readers here. Larry McMurtry’s *Lonesome Dove* jumps to the top of the pile. I’ve read this long, richly detailed novel, and find it to be a deeply moving story that intertwines character and setting. But friends tell me that the groundwork for a story like this was laid by

the novels of Louis L’Amour, many of which are in our library.

Mysteries involve solving a puzzle that nearly always includes a dead body (or two or three). We have several of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock Holmes mysteries, as well as many by Agatha Christie. Part of the pleasure of reading the Holmes stories is trying to see how his mind works to solve a crime. With Christie’s works, the often exotic setting adds to the pleasure, plus the fact that there are often “too many clues in this room,” forcing the reader to decide which leads to follow and which to discard. As in the romance novel, by the end the issues are resolved (unlike in real life, which is probably one of the reasons we read fiction!).

For many years I taught a course in Science Fiction at LSU. My students always loved to debate the definition, especially when the line between fantasy and science fiction became vague. In a nutshell, a science fiction story begins with an idea, a speculation based on some scientific principle, and at least an attempt to explain how things work, whereas fantasy doesn’t do this. The classic of fantasy literature has to be Tolkien’s *Lord of the Rings* trilogy – most fantasy novels written since have used Tolkien’s creation as a model. The story follows the epic journey of a Hobbit, not really a human, but not so different from us, as he and his companions face various depths of evil in their quest. The world these creatures inhabit seems as real as our own, which is the hallmark of successful fantasy.

Our library has few Science Fiction novels, but it does have the “origin” novel: Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*, considered by many to be the foundation story for Science Fiction. The many movies made of this tale do it an injustice. Readers are always surprised at how articulate the creature is, how self-aware and intelligent. The real “monster” is the doctor who created him, who deserts his creation and takes no responsibility for his actions. The speculation in this story is two-fold: can life be created in the laboratory? Should it be? And what is the responsibility of the scientist/creator to his

creation?

A sub-genre of Science Fiction is the “dystopian” novel. “Utopia” (1516) was Sir Thomas More’s description of his vision of a “perfect” world; the dystopian novel inverts that, imagining a world that may seem perfect, but that is rotten to the core. Ray Bradbury’s *Fahrenheit 451* is one of the best of this type. It



describes a near-future world where reading is banned, and the hero is a fireman whose job it is to burn all books. His curiosity gets the best of him though, and when he actually reads one of the books he was supposed to destroy, his mind is opened to a new world of possibilities. This text is often paired with Orwell’s 1984 and Huxley’s *Brave New World* in classroom discussions of political issues and visions of the future.

There are many other genres – the spy novel (LeCarre’s *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*), adventure (Clavell’s *Shogun*), thrillers (Robert Ludlum’s *The Bourne Identity*) the horror story (pretty much anything by Edgar Allan Poe).

Also, in this article I’ve discussed what might be called “foundation” stories – the novels that set the pattern for the stories that have followed in the modern era. There are many other books that many would call “classics” of a particular genre, for example, Herbert’s *Dune* (Science Fiction) and Mitchell’s *Gone With the Wind* (historical romance). Which books would you identify as “classics” of their type?

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By Liz Baker

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Brandy Rhodes is in charge of recommending Family/Children's DVDs and is very knowledgeable about the library's holdings. Jane Faile is very knowledgeable about literature and DVDs, and recommends acquisitions in the areas of general fiction and movies. Liz Baker handles acquisition of mysteries/thrillers. Please let our librarian, Beverly Ashley, or one of these persons know if you want to recommend something for the library.

Sage Advice From a Gardener:

Hummingbirds By Susan Sego, Fine View Garden Ctr.

I have hummingbirds at the garden center that will buzz me, letting me know they have arrived and are eager to feed on the bright blooms of the flowers. "Hummys," as I call them, add happiness to the garden. They are beautiful to watch and their energy is unending. They are wonders of nature in their tiny size, yet they can move so quickly that sometimes they are a blur. They can dart back and forth with great speed. I have seen as many as twenty-five hummies feeding at once.

The ruby-throated hummingbird is the only species to breed in Georgia, although other species from the West may visit in fall and winter. Just last evening I watched one on my front porch, enjoying the summer flowers that are in containers. The lilies in the small bed at the foot of the porch were also attracting the little bird.

Hummingbirds feed on nectar from flowers. They seem to especially like red flowers but they will feed on most any color bloom that

sage, coral honeysuckle, monarda, red-hot poker, columbine, trumpet creeper, cardinal flower, impatiens, red buckeye, Mexican sunflower, zinnias, and azaleas. There are many others, also.

One shrub that especially appeals to hummingbirds is the butterfly bush. No matter the color of the bloom, they will hover for hours feeding on

the nectar.

Hummingbird feeders are different than regular bird feeders. Most have a long tube because the hummies have long beaks they use to feed from the tubes and flower throats. The formula for the "nectar" in the feeder is four to five parts water to one part white table sugar. Do Not use honey or imitation sweetener or food coloring. The feeder should be cleaned once a week, although if your hummingbirds eat the way mine do, you will need to clean and refill it every couple or three days during the blooming season.

Fill your garden with blooming shrubs and flowers, sit back in your favorite rocker on the porch, and feast on the site of the hummingbirds at your garden table.



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Coming to Mentone: Starting Over

By Marilyn Knight

In 1987, when my husband Wymer and I finally moved into the house we had been working on for about two years, I breathed a sigh of relief, vowing “no way will I ever build another house!” No one could have told me that I would be eating those words nine years later! We had bought a motor home, and the taxes on our home and RV in Fayette County GA were just getting out of sight. We had both retired in 1993 and Wymer kept saying if we wanted to continue traveling, we were going to have to sell our home and find a way of living that was more economical. But just what that could be was the big question. Several of our friends who owned an RV were what they called “full timing,” and Wymer suggested that we should think about that. I immediately squelched that idea! I could just not imagine living that way anymore than living in a cave. (He at one time had suggested building an underground house – to a wife who was semi-claustrophobic!) After all, I had bought a new piano when we moved into our new home, and I was not about to let that go. I always felt that I would want a place to come back to after being on the road and that would not be in another RV park.

I hated the idea of moving again. We had lived in Fayette County since 1963 and most of

our friends were there. We were active in our church and had a wonderful neighborhood of very caring people. I loved our house with features that we painstakingly included when building. I had created a flower garden from a jungle. We had planted fruit trees and had a great vegetable garden. Were we to give up all this?

We knew that we could live more economically in Alabama since taxes were more favorable to retirees, so we started looking at different places. At first we thought of living close to the Gulf because we so loved vacationing there. But the more we thought of that, the more we thought that the Gulf was a wonderful place to visit but would we really want to live there? On one of our travels from south Alabama we had intended to spend some time at Cloudland Canyon State Park before heading back home, but when it became rather late in the day, we saw DeSoto State Park listed in Alabama and decided to stop there. We never did get to Cloudland that time because we so loved this park in Alabama. We started driving around the area, and when we got back home we were seriously thinking that northeast Alabama might be the place we could live.

We made several more trips to the area,

always staying in the State Park. We visited a realtor in Mentone and were directed to several properties, but none suited us. One day on leaving the park we noticed a new sign reading “Property for sale, 5.2 miles to the right.” We followed the directions and came upon an unbelievably beautiful subdivision with a winding road lined with tall oak and hickory trees. We fell in love with it immediately - we both exclaimed, “This is it! This where we will build our house.” None of the lots had been sold as yet, so we had our pick. After changing our minds several times, we finally bought the perfect one for us.

The rest is history. We were building another house. We were going through the same agony I never thought we would go through again! Yes, we were starting over.

Do I miss our old house and neighborhood? At times, yes, but those old times are fading, and how could we have selected an area to live that could be more perfect? We have the most wonderful, caring neighbors of anywhere on earth, we are active in our church, and we have made great friends here. I have again created a garden from a jungle. I do complain occasionally about the lack of space that we had in our other house, but at least I have plenty of room for my piano!

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Rhododendron Garden Club

By Linda Brown

Do you know what a lathrus odorata is? It is the common sweet pea vine that we see on the roadsides in Mentone. What is a hemerocallis? That's a daylily. Did you know we have Beauty from Ashes in Mentone? While someone may have the book, in this case it is the name of a floral design displayed on top of a piano. All of this can be found in the schedule of a Small Standard Flower Show presented by the Rhododendron Garden Club at the M.E.R.F. Community House on June 11, 2013. The title of the show was, Written in the South. Mellanie Tuttle served as General Chairman.

We opened the registration of entries at 7:00 A.M. We shut the entry books at 10:00 A.M. In those three hours we entered 152 entries in horticulture and 16 in designs. There were entries in almost all of the classes in horticulture and all of the design spots were filled. For a show to be counted in garden club organizations, it must have judges who have completed an extensive course of study and have the credentials to that effect. The show had entries and/or judges from Courtland, Hampton Cove, Cedar Bluff, Rainsville, Huntsville, Albertville, Decatur, Fort Payne, Henagar and Mentone. Only judges and clerks are allowed on the floor during judging, but the word heard after judging was that they had a hard time deciding which specimen was best in many of the classes. Our records show that there were 57 blue (first place) ribbons awarded. The members of the Rhododendron Garden Club who were awarded blue ribbons were Gethryn Giles, Suzanne Wheeler, Mellanie Tuttle and Martha Wood.

Most of our members helped in some way and we were described by one visitor as being very professional at our jobs. Months in advance Mellanie and her helpers develop the schedule for the show. This serves as the law for the show. This is what can be entered and who serves as committee chairman for each job. The day before the show several of our members



and two or three husbands helped Mellanie put up tables, cover them in black and arrange the staging of the rooms. Other members made snacks for break time and made coffee. Some served as placement clerks. These members took each specimen and found a bottle to hold it and placed it in the proper place. When the time to enter was over and it was time to judge the show, other members were designated clerks who were to travel with the judges and place the ribbon or sticker as directed and record the name of the entrant and what place they won.

All of the design classes were small (8"x 8") or miniature (5"x 5"). When you think of using flowers, sticks, leaves, rocks, driftwood and other natural material you can understand how hard this is. Some of the plant material was tiny and the containers were precious. Others used material which stays small but looks large (like one bloom of a cluster) or the leaves or blooms which are just starting to develop. The living room held the designs which were staged on top of the piano and on the round tables. The horticulture was outstanding. Maybe the rainy season has helped because each entry was lush and very colorful. This made a very attractive display on the tables in the kitchen and back book room.

After all of the work was finished, everyone was invited to Mellanie's house for lunch. She had three tables prepared. Always remembering the lessons learned in garden clubbing, she used cloth napkins and tablecloths, china, stemware and silverware. The table arrangements of

daylilies, hydrangeas, Queen Anne's lace and daisies were prepared by a club member. A wonderful menu consisting of ham, salad, and rolls and dessert was offered by club members. Mellanie's mom, Penny Lyday, was able to join everyone for lunch and I hear that she had a wonderful time and found that one of the judges was a friend from another time and place. What a great way to end a day of being made aware of the wonders of nature.

But wait, the show is over at four o'clock! All of those flowers have to be disposed of, the bottles emptied and stored for another year, all who left a design must return to pick it up and the rooms have to be returned to their original state. Everyone puts on their work shoes again and does what it necessary. The show is over.

What an accomplishment! The garden club members had fun and at the same time welcomed others to Mentone. We sometimes fail to realize that our actions are always being observed and judged. Most of those who attended expressed their appreciation and love of Mentone. The local members now know a lot more about having a flower show; it is not an easy thing to do. Mellanie and the members who chaired committees would like to say, "Thank you", to all of those who helped in any way to make it a perfect day.

Our next meeting will be August 13, 2013 and guess what the program will be? It is Flower Designs and Planning for Flower Shows by speakers Martha Wood and Mellanie Tuttle. It is time to start thinking about the VFW Flower Show. We always help with this and enter items in the show. We never forget that we are "clubbers."

The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of Northeast Alabama Federation of Garden Clubs, The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., District II, Deep South Region and National Garden Clubs.

Mountain Music: 97th Annual Convention Held

The 97th session of the Henagar-Union Sacred Harp Singing Convention was held at Liberty Baptist Church on the first Sunday in July and the Saturday before. Singers from across America and a few foreign lands converged upon the country church and filled it to the rafters with loud, proud, SOUND!

On Saturday, after approximately 100 songs had been sung, the singers adjourned to the

nearby farm of "PappaCoy" Ivey for his annual social, cookout and bluegrass picking that was well attended in spite of the rain. Sometime Mentone resident, Pam Ivey Ellis, along with her husband and children, oversaw a lovely meal. David Ivey, Coy's eldest son, has just been awarded the designation of 2013 NEA National Heritage Fellow for his outstanding work in "reinvigorating this unique vocal tradition for the 21st Century." David will travel to Washington to receive this honor. Singers worldwide, and Dekalb County residents alike are proud of David's national recognition.



Sacred Harp Singers at Liberty Baptist Church in Henagar. Photo courtesy of Darrell Swarens



**THE
RECIPE CORNER
BY
ANGIE CARDEN**

Back To School!

August is usually a very hot month here in the South. The term "The dog days of summer" always comes to mind! But it seems that we may continue to have a mild and damp continuation of the season! August is also the month that everyone is buzzing around buying new school clothes and supplies. I personally love the scent of school supplies! Many of you

may be planning a big "Back to School" to-do. We have all done the cupcakes shaped like apples, alphabet soup, and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches cut into shapes! I have a perfect recipe for you to add to your menu! And I wish all you kiddos a wonderful first day of school and a very fun and safe year!

Apple and Rice Salad

In a bowl, mix together:

1/2 c cooked brown rice, 1/2 c cooked wild rice, 1/4 c dried cranberries, 1/4 c shelled sunflower seeds and 1 granny smith apple, chopped.

Dressing:

In a small bowl, whisk together 2 tbsp balsamic vinegar, 1 tbsp olive oil, 1 tbsp honey, 1 tsp orange zest and 1/2 clove grated garlic.

Add dressing to salad and serve room temp or chilled!



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What To Do Around Here!

August 2013 Community Calendar

Aug 1 - 4 - 27th Annual World's Longest Yard Sale.

Travel the scenic byways of America for more than 450-miles of yard sales. Follow the Lookout



Mountain Parkway from Gadsden to Chattanooga for the southern portion of the sale. Connect with the U.S. Highway 127 in Chattanooga for the remainder of the route to Hudson, MI. 888-805-4740.

Aug 1 - Tales and Twangs with Phil Weaver, Ken Watters and Bruce Walker.

The Kamama Music Series presents story telling with Jazz and Classical interpretations. 6-10pm. 256-634-3001.

Aug 3 - Beat the Heat Paddle on Little River!

One World Adventure Co. Paddle your own craft on the West Fork of Little River. All ages and experience levels. Boat rentals



available. Trip is approx. 4 hours. 9am CST. Meet at Little River Canyon Ctr. and shuttle 20 minutes to DeSoto Falls. Free. Space is limited. 256-634-8370.

Aug 3 - DeKalb County Fiddlers' Convention.

Come and enjoy the 105th Anniversary of the DeKalb Fiddlers' Convention. Held at the DeKalb Theatre in downtown



Fort Payne. Registration starts at 11am with contests at noon. Special concert by DeKalb's own national banjo champion James McKinney/The Night Travelers. 256-845-2224.

Aug 3, 24 - Extreme Night Hike. True Adventure Sports. Hike has a bit of bouldering, scrambling and spelunking. \$18 (includes headlamp and guide),e Sports. 7:30-10pm. \$18pp. 256-997-9577.

Aug 3 - Basic Pine Needle Basketry Class. DeSoto State Park. Join DSP staff and volunteers to learn the basic steps to making

a coiled basket from longleaf pine needle, an old craft with a long history. \$10. All materials- pine needles, thread, and small center



for basket--will be furnished. Ages 10 and up. 9:30 am-1:30 pm (Bring a sack lunch) Pre-registration required; class number is limited to 10. 256-997-5025.

Aug 3 - Lyrica Muse Festival. Mentone Inn Pavilion. Musicians will gather for an evening of fun, food and music. Delicious Food from The Hardware Cafe! Special Guests: Jay Chadwick, Wes Yelawolverine Barnes, Arrie Bozeman, Ken Watters, James Mason Atkins and more!!! Interpretive Art/Dance by Sun to Bun Starlight Studios, Drum Circles and an Open Jam. 2:00pm. \$10 a person plus cost of food!

Aug 3 - Bro. Billy Bob "The Baptist" Bohannon at The Pickin Post.

Come enjoy a great night with funny Christian comedy by Billy Bob Bohannon. Get your tickets now at Black's Tire in Rainsville or at The Book Shelf in Fort Payne. \$10 each. 6 pm. 256-657-3817.



Aug 6- Celestial Navigation. True Adventure Sports. Basic introduction to navigation by the stars. Learn how to navigate without the use of a compass or GPS with the same rules used for almost six thousand years. 7:30-9:30pm. \$20. 256-997-9577.

Aug 7, 12, 24, 28, 31 - Rappelling Adventure. True Adventure Sports. 10am-2pm. \$37 (trip includes all gear). 256-997-9577.

Aug 8 - Blood Drive. Ryan's Steakhouse. Your blood donation can mean a lifetime to a patient in need. Please come and give life. Kids age 11 and under eat Free with a parents donation. 2-7pm. 256-845-1783.



Aug 8 - Lifestyle & Diet Changes That Will Improve Your Health & Help You Lose Weight - Kamama Gallery. Stan Lawton and a team of specialists will surprise you with simple and proven diet and life style changes. 7pm (Doors open at 6pm). FREE (This class will be our only free event. Come one, come all to change your lives for the better)

Aug 7, 10 - Night Sky Swing Adventure. True Adventure Sports. Enjoy the thrill of the swing at night. Pre-registration required by 6pm the day before the adventure. 7:30-9:30pm. \$45. 256-997-9577.

Aug 9, 19, 23, 29 - Wild Cave Tour. True Adventure Sports. Explore in one of NE Alabama's most unique all-weather caves, Manitou Cave, in the heart of Fort Payne. 5-7:30pm. \$30 (includes helmet, cave lamp and guide) 256-997-9577.

Aug 9 - Zip Line & Sky Swing Adventure. True Adventure Sports. 7:30pm. \$50. Pre-registration required by 6 pm the day before adventure. 256-997-9577.

Aug 10 - A Morning With The Water Keeper of Little River - Bill Shugart.

DeSoto Falls Park (water's edge, picnic area), The Waterkeeper Alliance's Riverkeeper Bill Shugart will demonstrate monitoring the health of the Little River and its tributaries. He investigates pollution issues in the river, educates the public about river health and finds solutions to keep our river pristine. The Waterkeeper Alliance is sponsored by One World Adventure Co. 9 am. \$10. Refreshments will be served.



Aug 10 - 3rd Annual Youth Day in the Park.

Rainsville City Park. Enjoy free hot dogs, soft drinks, inflatables, dunking booth and much more. First 500 kids get free event t-shirt. 12-4pm. Free admission. 256-638-7800.

Aug 10 - Music On The Mountain. Tom Bevill Lyceum on the NACC Campus. 4pm. \$15 per person. 256-638-4418.



Aug 10 - Robert Keefer as Elvis at

The Pickin Post. Come enjoy a great night with music from Robert Keefer. Get your tickets now at Black's Tire in Rainsville or at The Book Shelf in Fort Payne. 6pm. \$10.. 256-657-3817.

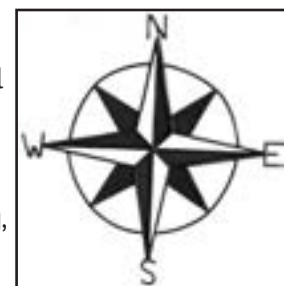
Aug 10 - Alabama State Championship National Racking Horse Association.

Northeast Alabama Agri Business Center will be hosting this event. Come and enjoy. \$5 admission. 256-638-1650.

Aug 10, 15, 22, 26, 30 - Rock Climbing Adventure. True Adventure Sports. 10am-2pm. \$35. (includes all gear). No prior climbing experience is needed. 256-997-9577.

Aug 11 - Crafting Sterling Silver Earrings. MERF House, Class taught by Charlie Munoz, noted sculptor and jewelrymaker. 1pm, \$15. www.mentonearts.org.

Aug 13 - Orienteering Class. True Adventure Sports. Basic yet essential skills for survival navigation are brought to you in map reading, compass reading, and topography. Bring your own compass or you may purchase one at our store. 10am-1pm. \$20. 256-997-9577.



Aug 14 - Zip Line Adventure. True Adventure Sports. 10am-12pm. \$50. Pre-registration required by 6 pm the day before the adventure. 256-997-9577.



Aug 16, 28 - Zip Line Adventure at Night.

True Adventure Sports. 7:30-9:30pm. \$50. Pre-registration required by 6 pm the day before the adventure. 256-997-9577.

Aug 17 - Rock Climbing 101. Join PCIA Instructor Bill Shugart with One World Adventure to learn the basics of Top Rope Rock Climbing. Learn about what to look for when buying equipment, important hardware and proper set-up & safety techniques. 9-11am. \$10. 256-634-8370.

Aug 17 - Third Saturday Sunset Event.

Downtown Fort Payne. This public event will include food, live music, a car show and activities. 5-8pm. 256-996-3857.

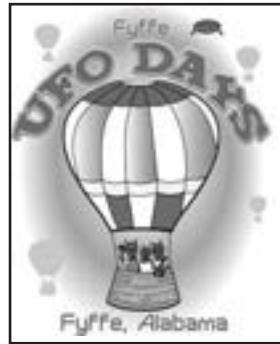
Aug 19 - Zip Line Adventure. All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 pm the day before the adventure. \$50 per person. 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577

Aug 21 - Rock Climbing Adventure. True Adventure Sports. 2-6pm. \$35 (includes basic gear) No prior climbing experience is needed. 256-997-9577.

Aug 24 - 9th Annual Fyffe UFO Day. Hot Air Balloon Rides showcase this unique family

outing! Arts and crafts, children's games, food vendors, antique tractors, live entertainment, street dance and much more. 10am. 256-623-2222.

Aug 24 - Afternoon Rock Climb. True Adventure Sports. 2-6pm. \$34 (includes gear). No prior climbing experience is



needed. 256-997-9577.

Aug 29 - Treasure Hunt Adventure. True Adventure Sports. This adventure will take you deep into the heart of Manitou Cave. You will have to solve and follow each clue in order to find the next one, and ultimately the Treasure! 3-8pm. \$65 per person. 256-997-9577.

Aug 31 - Sons of Confederates Festival. Menlo Park. Vendors and displays are welcome at no charge. This event is to fund Monument memorials in this area. If interested, call 256-294-3663.

Ongoing

MAPA Members meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in the MERF House in Mentone.

Gluten Free/Diabetic All Natural Cooking classes with Brenda Trace will be held at Little River Hardware at 6pm on Wednesdays. Classes \$10.

Lookout Mountain Parkway Association meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at lunch. Call to find out how to get involved! 256-845-3957.

Karaoke every Saturday Night. 6-10pm, The Blue Lantern. Nice, clean family entertainment. Located on Co. Rd. 642 in Mentone, 0.7 mi No of Hwy 117.

DeKalb Quilters meet every 4th Tuesday, 9:30am, Second Baptist Church in Fort Payne.

DeSoto Rescue Squad meets the 1st Saturday of the month at 9am at the MERF house in Mentone.

Free Square Dance Lessons offered most Thursdays, 6:30pm, at Tom Bevell Center in Rainsville by Duos and Solos Dance Club. 256-638-2780

Moon Lake Elementary School PTO meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6pm in the Gymnasium.

Free food for needy families. New hours: Tuesdays, 9am – 12pm. The Bank at St. Joseph's on the Mountain Episcopal Church. Recipients and new applicants. Joint effort between St. Joseph's Community Outreach Ministry and North Alabama Food Bank.

Mentone Fire Department meets the 3rd Monday of every month at 7pm.

Mentone Town Council meets every 2nd Tuesday at 6pm.

The Lookout Mountain Wholistic Center meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month at Rock Ridge Retreat Center in Valley Head at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome!

Mentone Farmers Market open year round every Saturday, 10am-1pm.

Storytime at the Canyon Center every first Saturday of the month. 11am-Noon. Free. 256-782-5697.

NPS Green & Gray Saturday every second Saturday of each month at the Canyon Center. 10am. Free.

256-782-5697.

Little River Canyon Center River Rhythms Nature & Art Family Fun Program every fourth Saturday from Jan-Oct. 1pm - 3pm; No Fee. Call Renee Morrison at 256-782-5697.

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August Birthdays

Aug 2 – Logan Goza
Aug 2 – In memory of Emmett Bain
Aug 3 – Halle Hilyer
Aug 3 – In memory of Betty Butler
Aug 5 – Hope Martin
Aug 5 – Amanda Pope
Aug 5 – Elizabeth Meadows
Aug 6 – Casey Stott
Aug 7 – Samantha Blalock
Aug 7 – In memory of SSG Jonathan Dean
Aug 9 – Martha Browder
Aug 9 – Carolyn Martin
Aug 10 – Alex Whatley
Aug 11 – Dianna Carden
Aug 11 – Lila Jane McElhaney
Aug 12 – Kinsley Worthey
Aug 14 – Jennifer Ferguson
Aug 14 – Alan Black
Aug 15 – Michael Langston
Aug 15 – Dallas Gregory
Aug 17 – Sandra Pruitt
Aug 19 – Michael Flannigan
Aug 20 – Carla Warren
Aug 20 – Shane Ingram
Aug 20 – Joseph Goza
Aug 21 – Eddie Langston
Aug 21 – Emma Campbell Crawford
Aug 21 – Christina Stokes
Aug 21 – Michele Black
Aug 22 – Casey Gregory
Aug 22 – Haven Downer
Aug 22 – Keith Langston
Aug 23 – Slade Carden
Aug 23 – Lukas Boehringer
Aug 24 – Dana Pangle
Aug 25 – Jason Gregory
Aug 25 – Carolyn Coots
Aug 25 – Jason Gregory
Aug 27 – Howard Hilyer
Aug 27 – Crystal Lee
Aug 27 – Tamara Hawkins
Aug 27 – Luke Durham
Aug 27 – Jack Chambers
Aug 29 – Kayla Worthey
Aug 29 – Donna Willingham
Aug 29 – Susan Cheronos
Aug 31 – Wesley Rhodes

August Anniversaries

Aug 1 – Carolyn & Eddie Coots
Aug 8 - Jim & Beverly Bates
Aug 28 – Joseph & Mandi Goza
Aug 29 – John & Kim Johnson
Aug 30 – Richard & Christy Harrison

Mentone Camps Mold Our Youth Through Nature, Fun and Friendship



At Camp Juliette Low:

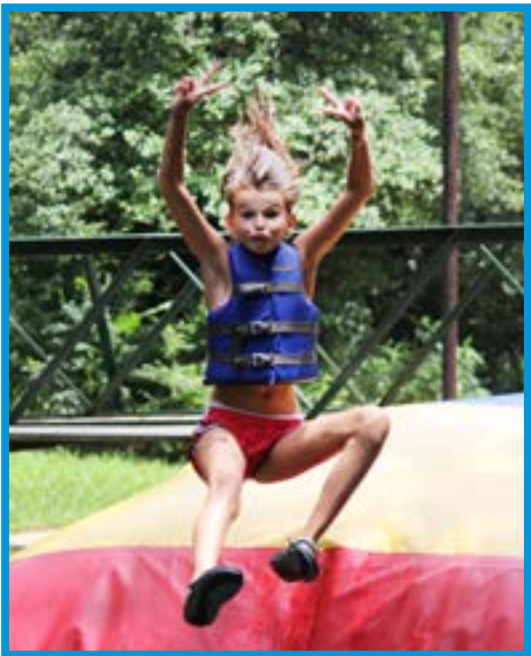
Top - Girls at the All Camp Day Competition

Right - Sailing on Lake Ashcraft

Far Right - Winning Unit of the Counselor Hunt



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Catering to You

Chef Ben and Moon agree, they are creating their best culinary magic working together again, both in house and at your desired location. Chef Ben will cater his Grill Skills for you on Thursday Nights.

Live Music Weekends

Appalachian Tony Goggans performs at Wildflower most weekends, but as he says, "I'm just your back up band." Come sing along with Moon, Ben & staff or simply tap your feet & enjoy!

Hormone Free Meats - Wild Caught Salmon
Gluten-Free Vegetarian and Vegan Options
Homemade Desserts

New Summer Hours:

Monday-Wednesday, 11am-2pm; Thursday-Saturday, 11am-8pm
Sunday Extravaganza, 11am-6pm
Reservations requested for dinner

Worship

The Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 9AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Rev. Jerry Davis is our minister for these services.

The Valley Head Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6PM; Women on Mission meets at 1PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

Lea's Chapel Baptist Church welcomes you to worship with us. 10AM Sunday Bible Study, 11AM Morning Worship, 6PM Evening Worship. Wednesday 6-8PM Awana (ages 4 to 18); 6:30pm Praise and Prayer time. Located at 4212 County Road 751, Valley Head. 635-1001.

Visitors are always welcome at the **Valley Head United Methodist Church**. Please join us each Sunday morning for a traditional worship service at 9:30AM.

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter, is currently holding services in the Woodmen of the World Hall in Valley Head. All are invited to attend! Sabbath School and Song Service: 9:30-10:45AM, Worship Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood; Lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnel.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds Sunday mass in English at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in Spanish. Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in English, Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. bilingual, Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in English, Friday at 9:00 a.m. in English and Saturday at 6:00 p.m. in bilingual.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 85), Fort Payne. Regular Worship Services are at 10AM Sunday. Bible class or Lent/Advent services every Wednesday at 6:30PM. Steve Schrader,

Pastor - 845-4314. Everyone welcome.

Walnut Grove Baptist Church on Highway 11 North of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School 10AM, Worship Service at 11AM, Wednesday night youth meeting at 6PM, and Wednesday night Prayer Meeting at 6:30PM.

The Fort Payne Christian Center and Pastors Ken and Elaine Hollman invite everyone to join in Worship on Sunday at 10AM, Wednesday evening at 6PM. God Bless You.

Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA), 5760 Gault Ave. NE, Fort Payne, AL. Sunday School 9:45AM; Sunday Worship 10:55AM. Church office: 256-845-4756.

Menlo Church of Christ invites you to attend the 10AM and 11AM services and evening services are at 7PM and 9PM. Visitors are always welcome.

Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Cloudland, GA, welcomes everyone to come and take part in our church services. Sunday School at 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM, Sunday evening at 6PM, and Wednesday evening at 7PM.

DeSoto Church of Christ invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10AM, Worship at 11AM, Wednesday Bible study at 5PM.

Howard's Chapel (Church in the Rock) has regular services 10AM each Sunday. You are invited to attend these services or visit the church at other times. Casual dress is always acceptable.

St. Joseph's On-The-Mountain Episcopal Church, 21145 Scenic Highway, Mentone. Everyone welcome to 10:30AM Sunday service of Holy Eucharist. Open for daily prayer and thanksgiving. Supporting our community with outreach. Call for more information, 256-634-4476, <http://stjosephmountain.dioala.org>

Mentone United Methodist Church, 415 Cutler Avenue, Mentone, Alabama invites you to come and worship with us. Each Sunday, our Worship Service is at 11AM and Sunday School is at 10AM. Rev. Tony Gunter is the pastor. The service of Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month, the second Sunday is Youth

Sunday and Fifth Sunday is a service of music and pot-luck lunch.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to worship with us. Sunday School begins at 9:45AM, with classes for all ages. Morning Worship is at 11AM. The Lord's Supper is observed on the first Sunday of September, December, March and June at the morning worship hour. Discipleship Training is at 5PM and Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM. On Wednesdays, Team Kids, Youth Bible Study, Adult Bible Study and Prayer Meeting are all at 6:30PM. Rev. Terry Turner is the pastor.

Alpine Community Church, 115 Hwy. 337, Menlo, GA. Pastor and Rev. Tommy Pledger welcome each and everyone to worship service Sunday morning at 11AM GA time; Sunday School 10AM GA time; Wednesday night Bible Study 7PM GA time.

Cove Road Baptist Church, County Road 631, Mentone, Alabama. Brother Marlin Stames, Interim Pastor, welcomes all to Sunday School at 9AM (10AM GA time) and Sunday night services at 5PM (6PM GA time).

Summit Church of God invites you to be in service Sunday morning 10:45AM, Sunday night 5PM, Wednesday Bible Study 6:30PM. Pastor Lance Kincer invites everyone.

Mentone Church of God of Prophecy - regular service times are Sunday School at 10AM, with Worship at 11AM. Evening services begin at 5:30PM on Sunday and 6PM on Wednesday. Rev. Dean Clair invites everyone to attend.

Mentone Community Church, 90 Summerville Rd., Mentone, AL 35984. Sunday Services: Sunday School

9:15AM-all ages; Sunday Service 10:30AM; Bible Study Wednesday 6PM; Youth Services 7PM Sunday and 6:30PM Wednesday (Meet at Mentone Revival Center Building). Pastor Tim Miller.

Cloudland Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone to come join us for services, with Pastor Roger Kvam. Bible Study Sunday at 9AM (EST) and Worship at 10AM (EST).

Since 1889 worshippers have gathered at the Historic **First Presbyterian Church PC (USA)** at 300 Grand Avenue North in downtown Fort Payne. We invite you to join us for worship this Sunday at 10:55AM. 256-845-2915.

New Oregon United Methodist Church located off DeSoto Parkway, would like to invite you to their services. Sunday School for all ages 9:45AM; Traditional Worship Service 11AM. Sunday evening youth activities 5:30PM. Evening Worship 6PM. We have a variety of activities for all ages including Wednesday evening youth activities; knitting ministry for ladies each Tuesday at 9AM; Elderberries for Senior Adults once a month for fellowship and meal. Pastor Jeff Davis, Associate Pastor Keith Davis. Address: 1203 New Oregon Dr., Ft. Payne, AL 35967. Phone 256-845-7446.

The Church of God 7th Day in Hammondville located just off Hwy. 11 N. at corner of Hwy. 117 and Palmer Road. Sabbath School classes at 9:30AM and Worship Service at 11AM. Visitors are always welcome.

Send any changes to The Groundhog at groundhognews@aol.com or P. O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984.

We're Going Back To School



Upon This Rock

By Thomas Qualls

At the edge of Mentone, Alabama, on County Road 165 is a small church with a rather large story. The Sallie Howard Memorial Chapel is located near the entrance to Desoto State Park. A small N.E. Alabama town, an even smaller church. The church is also known as The Rock Church, or the church built around a rock because it is literally built around a massive granite boulder encompassing one entire end of the church. A quaint one-room country chapel sitting upon a small knoll atop Lookout Mountain, dates its history back to the early Twentieth Century.

From the outside, it is impressive to see the church was built around the rock as part of the master plan. Col. Wilford H. Howard had the chapel built and dedicated June 23, 1937, in memory of his wife Sallie who had died and was buried in California. Col. Howard wanted to leave a lasting memorial to his wife, and he was active in every part of the building of the chapel. He felt it might be the very last act he might be able to complete as he was in failing health himself. This proved to be true when he died later that year after returning to California. Following his death, his ashes were returned to Mentone and placed inside the huge boulder inside the chapel. A bronze plaque placed on the boulder over the site where his ashes rest reads, "I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

On the door of the chapel (always unlocked), there is a small brass plate which reads, WELCOME. This Chapel Door -- Like God -- is always Open. Pray, Stay Awhile. Please Come In.

Upon entering, you are met by the granite boulder which takes up the front of the church. Looking at the rock for the first time I was reminded of Jesus' words in Matthew 16:18b "...and upon this rock I will build my church"

The pastor's pulpit and altar are fashioned from stacked stones from the Little River; most of the materials used in building the church are local materials with the construction done by local workers and the C.C.C. The pulpit seems dwarfed resting directly under the rock, while the rock seems to create the image of the bow of a ship pointing the way, giving the impression of moving forward. The rock is framed by hand-hewn timbers, upon which a message is written; it was a sentence taken from Sallie Howard's last letter to her husband and reads..."GOD HAS ALWAYS BEEN AS GOOD TO ME AS I WOULD LET HIM BE." Directly above that, also across a timber is one word-IMMORTALITY.

You won't find ornate church symbols, or stained glass, but as you settle into one of the hand-crafted wood pews, there is a sense of



solemnity, comfort and simplicity, a quiet sacredness in the chapel. A piano rests in the front and Sunday morning singing is lively and joyful from a familiar 'red back hymnal' that I grew up singing from as a child. There are also hand fans in the back of the pews, another bit of nostalgia for me from the pre-air conditioning days of my childhood.

First and foremost the chapel is an active church, a place of worship with Sunday services at 10:00 a.m.; but the other days of the week it is a place of solitude, where sightseers, travelers and those in need of a place of refuge are welcome to stop by and stay awhile. A part of the Dekalb Baptist Association, Howard's Chapel is active in outreach ministries, with monthly food assistance to the needy, benevolence ministry as well as providing supplies to needy children at local schools. For such a little church they make a big impact in the community. These ministries are all quietly done out of the generous hearts of the church members. Pastor Reynolds talked about what a joy it is to pastor such a congregation of caring and giving people. They make a difference in Mentone and the surrounding area.

Various plaques of recognition are found on the church walls, noting former pastors and members of the congregation and a poem entitled, "Ode To a Country Church". . .

To a little country church house
On a hill beside the way.
The Faithful come on Sunday
To sing and preach and pray.
They may not know each other
When they just came thru the door
Of the little country church house
With the painted wooden floor.
For some who come are local
And some from far away.
But they share the Master's presence
On a hill beside the way.
Each brings with them their talent
To sing or preach or pray.
And they put it all together

On a hill beside the way.
There's always special singing
And a new friend we can meet.
In the little country church house
With the handmade wooden seats.
Its tiers and beams amaze me
Just as His grace has done.
And His people fill the chapel
When we all become as one.
Tho' the fixtures are not modern
His grace is still sublime.
Like the rock above the altar
It will stand the test of time.
I always feel Him near me
As I kneel down to pray.
In the little country church house
On a hill beside the way.

The poem is signed Justin Hill 1989 and is actually the pen name of Tallmadge Butler who was a superintendent at Desoto State Park. In the back of the chapel there are free reading, devotional materials available and a small bulletin board holds a simple message: "Come Worship With Us" "Come As You Are" and on any Sunday you will see folk in their Sunday dress as well as others in t-shirts, shorts and sandals. Attire is not as important as the fact that you show up.

A time is set aside for announcements and the pastor leads with introductions where each person can, if they choose, share their name, where they are from and share a prayer request or praise report.

There is lively singing, friendly folk and the shared Word of God by Reverend Ron Reynolds who has pastored since 2008 along with his wife Frances.

On the grounds there is a picnic area, shaded trails with plenty of native plants, flowers and trees and rock benches to sit upon and rest. Behind the church is a small cemetery, with a handful of graves, some of which are marked by only an unmarked stone in the ground, a few of those have faded artificial flowers placed upon them suggesting someone may know who is interned there. The chapel and grounds are very well kept with pride and attention to detail.

Churches, such as Howard Chapel, are an integral part of any community, for they provide a place for fellowship, worship, spiritual renewal and community service; a place to identify with, belong and serve. We are fortunate to have many such churches and chapels in our area, many of which have rich historical traditions and stories.

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.....
LOTS and LAND

GET INTO THE WOODS!! 4.43 wooded & unrestricted acres, Mentone. And, until you're ready to build, you can enjoy weekends in the RV set up on the property! Septic tank, public water & power already in place! Private drive off winding country road. \$52,000 (311288)

4.42 ACRES WITH CREEK. Build just the right getaway or mountain home. Wooded. At the end of the road. Lightly restricted. Public water slated to be installed soon. \$36,000 (564362)



CREEKSIDE CABIN within walking distance of Mentone, now under construction. Contract now & choose your finishing touches! 1500 sq ft, 2BR/2.5BA; vaulted living; lots of glass; 2 fireplaces (one on the screened porch!); safe room in utility area under house. Natural setting & gated entry offer a feeling of complete privacy, yet so close to everything. Listen to the creek & watch nature's wonder from the elevated screened porch. \$230,000 (859173)



GRACIOUS & WELCOMING, designed for living & sharing! Local stone work inside and out, Brazilian cherry floors throughout first level, huge pantry, great kitchen with lots of cabinets & granite, sunroom with dining & seating spaces where you can see forever across the woodland & rolling hills beyond. Privately-situated on 7 rolling acres (more land avail) w/numerous wild & cultivated flower gardens. 2 screen porches. \$249,000 (686827)



GET YOUR OWN PRIVATE BIT OF EARTH with this property nestled on 15.41 acres of fenced pasture & woods at the end of a quaint, winding road. The 3BR/2BA cedar-sided home is approx. 1750 sq ft, featuring spacious living area with wood-burning fireplace; kitchen/dining combo with appliances; large master bedroom; front & back screened porches. Complete the idyll with a pond, large barn & add'l outbuildings. \$117,500 (385250)



OH MY, WHAT A DEAL! This little house could be flipped or used for rental income. It offers two bedrooms and one bathroom, a large living area; huge kitchen with granite counter tops; deck. No. 1. Greatest of shape, needs some TLC and elbow grease, but it has a lot of possibilities and a doggoned great price to boot! Offered at only \$59,900 (512871)

SOLD



LINCHPNEY & COOL ST, where the brow views & lovely sunsets are only a glance away. Immaculate, one-level, rambling ranch-style home. 4BR/3.5BA; sep office; det 2-car gar/shop; att single carport; deck; WB Fpl in fam rm; gas log Fpl in den. Space galore for multi-family or single family use! Approx 3,000 sq ft. New roof; new heat/AC combo unit in semi-detached office area. Right behind Mentone Inn! Now \$175,000 (657739)



GOT CARS? Got motorcycles? Want to have your own place to work on them either for business or hobby? 33x60, 4-bay shop equipped with lifts, air compressor & paint booth. House is approx 1560 sq ft, one-level with full front porch, 4BR/2BA, mostly hardwood floors. Corner lot with paved road access and it's only 2 miles north of downtown Mentone on the scenic parkway. \$150,000 (417497)



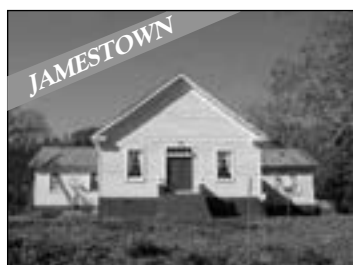
LAKEFRONT RETREAT: 5BR/4BA in all! **MAIN CABIN** w2BR/1.5BA, WB Fpl, lg screened porch; **GUEST CABIN** w/2BR (one a 3-bunk rm), gas-log Fpl, full KIT, bath w/claw-foot tub & sep shower, 2 screened porches; **LIBRARY COTTAGE** w/open library room, office area, BA & upstairs studio/BR. Furniture, carvings & whimsical statuary (even a lifesize alligator!) by mtn craftsmen Kaw-liga, Phil Faircloth & Lightfoot. Outdoors there's a grilling shed, 2 fire pits & a fish pond w/fountain forged in 1860. 1.55 acres. Now \$279,000 (799345)



RARE WEST FORK LITTLE RIVER lot with swim w/c, pad-dle, easy slope, camp Laney area. \$160,000. (332814)

EAST FORK LITTLE RIVER: 3 acres, wooded, riverfront with stream & waterfall. Paved road access. Minutes from Mentone. Just up river from Lake Lahusage. Seller will build to suit. \$99,900. (815833)

BUY ONE GET ONE FOR \$1.00! Wooded lot has a view of neighboring lake. During the "Hunter's Ridge Buy One Get One For \$1.00" lot sale, you can get Lots 1 & 2 (totaling 4.01 acres) for only \$30,000 + \$1.00! Add'l lots are BOGO, too. Call for details & a plat. (462353)

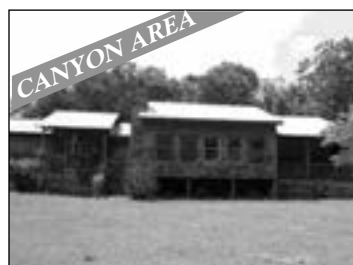


SPACIOUSNESS THAT IS POSITIVELY, WELL, HEAVENLY! Circa 1870 church divinely transformed into a split 2BR/2BA home. Original heart pine floors & custom-designed interior. Original chandelier in master bedroom. Master BR w/whirlpool tub & sep shower. End BR w/sitting area. Office that could be a 3rd BR. Lg laundry w/pantry. Country church home \$57,000. (313842)

SOLD



COUNTRY FARM HOUSE CHARM, all the modern niceties. Custom-designed & built home w/gourmet kitchen (custom cabinetry; work island & top of the line appliances); lg laundry w/ add'l food prep/storage areas; b'fast area; sep DR; spacious sep office in Master BR suite (also a Fpl); Master BA w/whirlpool tub & sep shower. Antique mantels & bricks on both Fpls; pine plank floors; small stream; short drive to Chatt (35 min); S'boro & Ft Payne (25 min) NOW \$169,900 (747941)



BARGAIN GETAWAY! This could be your weekend get-away, residence or rental. Located right across the road from Little River Canyon! Not only is there a quaint, wood-sided home, there's a great barn, gazebo and BBQ area. Sure, this place needs a little TLC, but at this price you really won't find much else on the market, sitting on about an acre (with beautifully-landscaped yard) that'll be better. \$39,000. (803058)



THE LARMORE HOUSE, landmark home built in 1836, one of the few remaining early homes in DeKalb County. Hand-crafted doors; wavy window glass; well-worn heart-pine floors; massive stone fireplace in the kitchen (there are six in the house altogether); smokehouse with hand-carved pegs in the rafters; servant's quarters with massive stone firepit in the middle of the floor. Surrounded by ancient cedars & walnut grove. 3.49 acres. \$159,900. (535973)

57.98 ACRES with majestic water oaks; 2 year-round springs & a great building site with water, power & septic. Great horse or hunting property with distant views, pasture & woods. Well-marked lines ready for fencing. Hand-dug well & old stone springhead. \$225,000. (428133)

WEST FORK LITTLE RIVER: 4.5 acres with 450' frontage. 1 mile from Hwy 117. Gently terraced with access off paved road (where power & water are available as well). \$145,000 (339911)

9.2 ACRES ON BROW! Vistas stretch out practically forever! Wooded lot with rock ledges, brown belt, new. Beside a new land in the Mentone area. \$119,900. (367456)

SOLD

Also look for our listings at AlabamaMountainLiving.com

DeSoto State Park's Pitcher Plant Project

By Brittney M. Hughes & Nikki Stowe

The Green Pitcher Plant (*sarracenia oreophila*) is a carnivorous plant found only in small populations in certain areas of North Alabama, North Carolina, and Georgia. Green Pitcher Plants are listed as Endangered on the United States Endangered Species Act. There is a recovery action plan that focuses on the effective protection of existing populations, as the most important threat to the future of the green pitcher plant is over-collection (meaning people picking or attempting to transplant them and/or dealing in illegal trade). The green pitcher plant has highly modified leaves in the form of a pitcher and act as traps for its prey, namely bugs.

FLOWERS, GROWTH CYCLE, MORPHOLOGY & CARNIVORY

The opening of the pitcher tube has a surface covered in nectar-secreting glands. When the prey enters the tube, it loses its footing – due to the smooth, waxy secretions found on the surface of the upper portion of the tube – and



the prey falls inside the tube trapped by a combination of inward-pointing hairs that prevent escape, digestive fluid, and wetting agents. However, some large insects (such as wasps) have reportedly made their escape by chewing their way out through the wall of the tube.

Large, yellow flowers with 5-fold symmetry are produced in spring. During late summer and autumn, the carnivorous leaf production stops, and the pitcher plant instead starts to produce flat, non-carnivorous phyllodia. Once the temperature starts heating up in July, the pitcher plant's natural habitat dries quickly – it is believed that this is due to the fact that the smaller phyllodia are probably easier

to maintain with the dwindling water supply. Interestingly, the traps of the pitcher plant take on a pink or red flush as they age.

Recently, DeSoto State Park has endeavored in a conservation project to help protect, preserve, and educate about the carnivorous, Green Pitcher Plant of Alabama. The land where the plant grows wild at DeSoto State Park, known as a bog, is protected and maintained, and there is no public access. However, staff members are now in the process of creating an exhibit to display these plants to the public. Austin Evans, of Mentone's Boy Scout Troop 106, has teamed up with DeSoto State Park to plan and implement a public display of pitcher plants at the Country Store; this will count as Evan's Eagle Scout Project. Also, Ron Determann, VP of Conservatories, at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens will be providing the Green Pitcher Plants used in the display, which are clones of the plants from DeSoto State Park's bog. We would personally like to thank Dan Grogan and the Ft. Payne HS Agriculture Dept. for their assistance in our conservation efforts by helping clear the brush that was shading the bog in preparation for a prescribed burn that took place later – an earlier phase of the ongoing project.

Be sure to find DeSoto State Park on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/DeSoto-State-ParkFort-Payne-Alabama/353666125257?ref=hl>) to follow us and stay tuned for the grand opening of the Green Pitcher Plant Display!

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Blooming Beauties

By L.C. Moon

Along the banks of Little River, and the many creeks scattered across the mountain, are red blooming beauties, cardinal flowers- *Lobelia cardinalis*. In addition to its own brilliant beauty, it attracts butterflies and especially hummingbirds. Cardinal Flower is closely related to *Lobelia inflata*, which is excellent to help relieve lung congestion and is antispasmodic, but cardinal flower is considered a less effective substitute medicinally. However many different tribes of Native Americans used the leaf of *Lobelia cardinalis* for colds, fevers, headache and the roots for stomachache and worms. Caution should be used because all lobelias are considered to be noxious or poisonous depending on the dose. In small doses I have had wonderful results from *Lobelia inflata*, though have never used the cardinal flower medicinally.

Jewelweed, *Impatiens capensis*, is one of my favorite plants because as an adult I have developed an allergy to poison oak and poison ivy. Jewelweed effectively prevents the rash. Praise God for this succulent orange flowered beauty! On a long walk to the river, I traversed over tall rocks dodging the poison oak and yet it was so thick it still got me from my feet up to my knee. Luckily by the edge of the river only a couple of minutes later I came upon jewelweed. I rubbed it all over my bare legs and feet where the poisonous plants touched me. Not even the smallest rash appeared!

In order for jewelweed to be most effective in prevention it must be used fresh. Jewelweed will stay useful and somewhat fresh in a sealed jar in the fridge for a few days. Due to the freshness issue, unfortunately you can't carry jewelweed with you dried and reconstitute it with water to use just in case you come in contact with poison oak or ivy. You can, however, add water to baking soda to prevent the rash if used within a half hour or less of contact with poison oak or ivy.

If jewelweed is preserved very skillfully in a salve, so as not to form mold on the preparation, it can be a mild preventative and help heal the

rash especially if used in combination with tea tree oil, peppermint and/or lavender essential oil. The salve and fresh plant do help shorten the duration of a rash though not as effectively as it prevents the rash. Native Americans harvested the fresh plant and rubbed it on the rash until some blood appeared. According to numerous accounts, the rash was said to dry up and go away quickly. I have never tried this method because thankfully I have not gotten it in large enough patches to deem it necessary since I learned this wisdom. Essential oils and a good comfrey or jewelweed salve have worked just fine for me thus far.

Another orange beauty on Lookout Mountain is Butterfly weed *Asclepias tuberosa*. As its name notes, it abundantly attracts butterflies. Common Milkweed, *Asclepias syriaca*, also attracts butterflies and is known to be a great host for the larva of the Monarch butterfly. Both plants have been used medicinally for an array of maladies such as warts, chest and lung congestion, fever, venereal diseases, and inflammation. Its historical claim to fame is in regard to relieving chest ailments because it expels phlegm, acts as an anti-inflammatory and has a mild tonic effect on the body. Butterfly weed is also known as pleurisy root because it helps greatly with pain associated with the ailment as well as relieves difficulty breathing.

Before the cardinal flower, jewelweed or butterfly weed bloom upon first glance they appear to only be weeds out in the wild. As in life, may we all take the time to see the beauty and potential within. May your summer be full of blooms and may all your weeds be Wildflower.

NEIGHBORLY NUTRITIONAL NAGGINGS

By Nadine Mettlemore

Blueberries

They are everywhere right now! Farmers in both valleys and the mountain tops have them for sale and cheap! You can't buy cheaper nutrition. Freeze gallons of them and eat a cup a day all year in smoothies, oatmeal and gluten/sugar-free, all-natural muffins and pancakes and such! There is almost nothing on this planet better for you than Blueberries! They are packed full of antioxidants. If you don't know what they are or why they are important imagine an old truck sitting in the yard rusting-that is

oxidation. Imagine cutting an apple into lovely slices and coming back in 20 minutes and finding they have all turned brown. That is oxidation. What happens if you sprinkle lemon juice on a freshly cut apple-it doesn't turn brown. ANTIOXIDANT in action! It's happening in your body, too. Right now! You're rusting! Or, the biological equivalent. They are a

good, low glycemic addition to most any diet! Blueberries fight free radicals so you don't rust!



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The Chicken Lady

While some may disagree that it's a new thing...I think I have gone a little crazy. I was spotted chasing my chickens with the lawn mower. No, I didn't mow any of them over! But, let me tell you I sure did have fun watching them run. Two of my girls that I did not raise from baby chicks stick together like birds of a feather. If you see one, you see the other; they are their own flock. There is one tree in our back yard that is a favorite spot for these two. It is shady and cool and a little higher than the rest of the yard so there is no standing water. As I rounded that tree those two chickens took off running to the other side. I am a simple girl and am easily entertained. I quickly got carried away and turned my back yard into something

resembling the Talladega Speedway. As I kept turning left around that tree and those two goofy black chickens kept going straight across. I laughed out loud at myself and that pair of silly birds.

Then I got the bright idea of just playing chicken with the chickens. I have four chickens that trust me and love me because I raised them from babies. I am their Mama. Well, after my Talladega racing experience I was ready for more and feeling a little feisty. I could see Favorite Chicken in the distance. I went straight for her, mower a blazing. She slowly looked up at me, "Hey, Mama" then BAM, strait into the hedges just like a big ol' chicken! She ran like the wind as only a chicken can. There is something comical about a creature with no arms running at full tilt. On this day I was feeling mischievous and just howled at my ability to be entertained. I chased a chicken and she didn't die...because she was chicken!

What is the difference between a chicken and a duck? Have you ever heard the saying,

"mad as an old wet hen?" I have no ducks but I do have 7 mad wet hens! July was so wet that my hens feet were shriveled up, feathers were droopy, and their moods were fowl. I keep looking for mold on their combs but haven't found any yet. A wet chicken is not a pleasant chicken. All they ask for is to eat fresh corn and grain, a simple existence. You would think they would love the wet weather and eat worms all day long but not my chicks. They congregate under the door stoop, on the front porch, or the doghouse. The funniest thing is our dog Max in the doghouse with all those chickens. Poor Max having to entertain a bunch of grumpy old women. I don't even think he likes chickens perhaps for good reason?

There are so many sayings that involve chickens. Mad as an old wet hen. Let's play chicken. The Chicken flew the coop. Don't count your chickens before they hatch. I think the next few articles we will explore the origin of all the Chicken Sayings we have in our lives and maybe why we have them...or not?

Menlo Notes

By Diane Smith Mealer

Summer had finally reached the North Georgia mountains. It's warm glow filtered through the valley and hills. A soft breeze touched the trees making them sway gently and cooling. People were gathered along the streets, in store fronts, and by the park. It was a quiet, beautiful Saturday in the flat land.

Suddenly, the stillness of this June morning was awoken by bells and whistles, booms and clangs, squealing children, smiling faces, arms waving, people cheering and music in the air.

The joy of the annual Glory Days Celebration had once again settled over the town of Menlo.

There were soldiers and floats, antitque cars and decorated ATV's, tractors and fire trucks, and even the Mayor of Alpine. No marching bands or silly clowns, just local folks giving full energy to bring a long time tradtion to life in this small area.

The parade made it's way down Main Street,

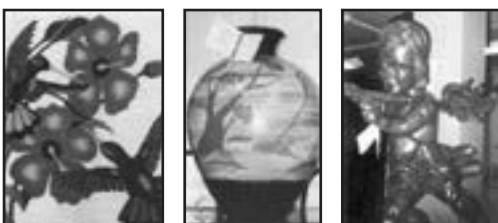
(Cont'd on page 23)



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 3BR/1.5BA · \$199,900 2.2 Acres · MLS #589918	 3BR/2.5BA · \$199,000 1 Acre · MLS #326959	 1BR/1BA · \$465,000 .42 Acre · MLS #970196	 3BR/2BA · \$189,000 6+ Acres · MLS #353611	 2BR/1BA · \$89,900 1 Acre · MLS #809133	 2BR/2BA · \$284,500 .68 Acre · MLS #654813
 3BR/2BA · \$195,000 .95 Acre · MLS #965143	 3BR/2.5BA · \$179,500 5 Acres · MLS #917245	 3BR/3BA · \$219,000 6 Acres · MLS #781653	 2BR/2BA · \$279,500 2.3 Acres · MLS #332033	 3BR/2BA · \$269,000 4.5 Acres · MLS #391589	 3BR/3BA · \$298,500 2.37 Acres · MLS #421306
 3BR/2.5BA · \$259,900 3.45 Acres · MLS #982922	 3BR/2BA · \$269,900 1 Acre · MLS #902940	 1BR/1BA · \$279,900 8.3 Acres · MLS #412695	 3BR/3BA · \$254,900 1 Acre · MLS #594685	 3BR/1BA · \$99,500 .27 Acre · MLS #483441	 3BR/3BA · \$199,900 1.6 Acres · MLS #526384

 4BR/3.5BA · \$345,000 3.45 Acres · MLS #842226	7.13-acre lot in Mountain River Esates Sub. \$49,500. MLS #656265. 1.95-acre lot at Lake on the Brow Subdivision. \$52,900. MLS #984141. 1.02-acre lot in Hidden Lake Subdivision. \$55,000. MLS #762331. 1-acre lot in Hidden Lake Subdivision. \$55,000. MLS #665968. .95-acre lot in DeSoto Bluffs Subdivision. \$49,500. MLS #595179. 1.7-acre lot at Lake on the Brow Subdivision. \$55,900. MLS #845943.	1.06-acre lot at Hidden Lake Subdivision. \$60,000. MLS #867272. 246 acres..woods and stream on Lookout Mountain. \$1,082,400. MLS #928084. 100 to 243 acres on Lookout Mountain. \$3,900 per acre. MLS #785191. 3.04-acre lot in Oakwood Subdivision. \$32,000. MLS #980192. 3.46-acre lot in Oakwood Subdivision. \$35,000. MLS #807940.
LOTS AND LAND 3.22-acre lot in West Fork Subdivision. \$29,000. MLS #881041. .49-acre lot with 100' on West Fork Little River. \$168,000. MLS #553323. .78-acre lot with 106' on brow. \$109,500. MLS #403694.		

April Fools

Charles Dickens got it right: "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times." Although I must admit I have never read *A Tale of Two Cities*, the opening words are very famous and they do certainly ring true for every generation, every era, yea verily every year. There is something, some event that threatens civilization, that will doom civilization to repeat history; and even that is at once a boon and a bane, a blessing and a curse, a good and an evil, a horrid April Fools' joke on humanity. What is the present day joke? Electronic memory! Nothing is easier than pressing a few computer keys to set up an electronic memory and with great confidence preserving your words or information in electronic form. Your deathless prose has been converted to an enormous set of zeros and ones, pluses and minuses, stored in an incredibly small space. There it all resides awaiting your command to get it back.

Whoa, hang on just a minute. Remember how information was stored sixty years ago? It was on a wire recorder – quite common; I had one. I even communicated with my mother via wire spools. Battery operated recorders/playbacks were dirt cheap. Could you go play those now and listen to your mother talking to you? No way. It's all gone now, although at the time we thought it would last forever. In this same era, to save time writing a report, a proposal, or a letter, you dictated to a stenographer. She would type it up and you could edit and have it just as you wanted. Could you read that

report now? You bet! Could the shorthand notes be read now? Probably, if you could find a stenographer. However, that was an intermediate record and not intended to be



permanent – the permanent part still exists. but can I listen to what I recorded? No way. The paper record does still exist somewhere if it hasn't been sent to the burn pile. In that era stenographers were no longer being trained, and today you can't find one under sixty years of age.

Dedicated computers were just coming into use thirty years ago, as opposed to large, room-filling mainframe units which were operated from a multitude of desk-top terminals. One of my jobs at work was to find new chemical analysis techniques which would speed things up and save money, in addition to being more accurate. I found a computer operated machine

which would do an analysis of a solid propellant very quickly and preserve the data electronically. Since solid propellant changed its composition slowly over time and thus changed its physical

properties detrimentally, it was important to track all of these changes and keep the armed services advised as to how much longer any given rocket motor would be good. With this device we could measure the chemical properties on the day the propellant was made and take a sample yearly from the motor and measure its chemical properties; through known relationships we could tell its physical properties and how much they changed. It was going to be a real boon to the company and to the armed services, and the services were very pleased at the prospect. We then set about to gather data and record it on 1/2-inch magnetic tape and store the tapes in anticipation of using them for the next ten, fifteen, or maybe twenty years. Yet within five years the data gathering machines no longer stored data on tape and eventually could not even read the tapes. Starting over with new recording technology was not possible, and recording by new methods which could not be compared to old recordings was a useless thing to do. Years' worth of useful information was now useless and the entire procedure was abandoned. Three years of my research work was down the drain.

Each year a new recording technology is established and old technology forgotten. New technology made gathering the data possible and changes in technology made it useless. A boon and a bane, a blessing and a curse; a foul April Fools' joke.

What survives? The written word lasts at least as long as the media upon which it is recorded. Words in stone have lasted thousands of years; words on papyrus and paper have lasted a thousand years. What will future generations have from this era when computers a hundred years from now can no longer read what has been left in ephemeral electronic storage? What will survive is what has survived, the written word. Let's hope there are enough of them left to benefit future societies and not doom them to repeat history.

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REDUCED



FALLING LEAF LODGE. Charming rustic cabin nestled in the woods. Lots of porches to enjoy the outdoors of this 2 bdrm 1.5 bth with loft. Custom floors and doors, lots of windows, WB FP open living w sunroom dining area. Also a Workshop for the Hobbist a must see. **\$155,000 (22190)**

NEW PRICE



STUNNING MOUNTAIN HOME and Retreat. Newly renovated kitchen, 2 living areas, and Gas FP. Open loft above the 2nd living area and open kitchen design. MBR has separate entrance to the deck, guest BR, and 2 BA. 700 sq ft. 2 rm guest cottage and a glassed Greenhouse/artist studio. Many possibilities with this wonderful property. Now \$219,000 (20562)



"THE NUTHOUSE CABIN. Quaint Weekend getaway with open living kitchen design. 2 bdrm 1 bath, covered porch to watch the wildlife. 1 acre wooded with large Rock formations. small shed. located at the end of private drive. complete with furnishings. \$139,000. (22833)



MOUNTAIN CREST CABINS. Fully furnished log cabin nestled in the woods on 5.7+- acres, next to Cloudmont Resort. 'Up in the Clouds' is 2br/1bt with kitchen/dining combo, and large crawlspace that can be made into a basement. Amenities include CHA, gas log fireplaces, hot tub, 3/4 wraparound covered porch, kitchen appliances, furniture, decorations, linens, etc. *Appointment Only* \$150,000. (22793)

NEW PRICE



9 ACRES located on the east fork Little River with 500 ft on river, and 550 ft on Gilbert branch. Old homeplace. Concrete slab, power, well and septic. Privately located. Great place to build that getaway cabin! \$138,500 (22148)



5 ACRES ON THE EAST BROW tract overlooking Pleasant Valley. Rock pallacades, wooded. See Weiss Lake in the distance. Private gated area. Joins National Preserve & Forever Wild protected property. \$65,000 (22866)



WILD SCENIC LITTLE RIVER LOTS, privately located off Co. Rd. 628, Mentone. Two lots combined to make 2.2 acres with 337 ft on river. Partially cleared building area. What a View. \$65,000 (21685)



HISTORICAL MARTHA BERRY HOME in Downtown Mentone. Built in 1900's. An original Mentone dwelling, this home features 6 bedrooms, 7 baths, 2 living areas, and large dining area. Remodeled kitchen, 2 large porches, and Deck. Native foliage surrounds the 2-story home. \$397,000 (22160)



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN just off Desoto Pky. 4 bdrms 3 bths, living room, eat-in kitchen, separate dining rm. HVAC 1/2 finished basement storm rm. In-ground pool, barn, pond large yard, and pasture area sitting on 4.4 acres. \$159,900 (22964)



NICE LEVEL WOODED PROPERTY with partial drive and homesite cleared. Previous perk test. Easy access to the middle fork of Little River. Restrictive cov. apply. Located in Mountain River Estates. \$69,900 (20892)



3 ACRES LOCATED on the west fork Little River 1 mile above DeSoto Falls. Deep water for boating. Level wooded property with native Holly scattered throughout. Circular drive, perc tested, water meter installed. A beautiful spot to build that retirement home. 70 ft on the water. Quiet neighborhood. \$125,000 (21648)



LOG CABIN known as "Knowus Ark" is a hidden jewel of a property on the East Fork of Little river. 2 bdrm 2 bth, loft, screened porch, covered porch and double deck. Adobe wood burning FP, tiled floors. Also a separate artist studio. Trail to the river with a nice swimming hole. Privately located on 6.4 acres. \$299,000 (22069)



WORMAHOOTABOO FARM. Beautiful land with open pasture, 2 ponds, wooded area with trails for horseback or ATV. Barn with tack or equipment storage. Fenced for livestock. City water and paved road frontage. What a setting \$129,000 (20161)



6.26 ACRES OF MAGNIFICENT VIEWS, woods, and complete seclusion located on the East Brow of Lookout Mountain, Cloudland. 2bd/2ba rustic home, with tung & groove walls and ceilings. Open floor plan with kitchen/dining room combo, sleeping loft, and utility room. Floor to ceiling windows surround the great room. Sit and enjoy the sunrises from the rock patio that overlooks Shinnel Valley. Amenities include CHA, wood burning stove, and separate storage/shop. Nicely landscaped with 400ft on the brow. Appt Only. \$330,000. (22952)



EAGLES AERIE. A unique Octagon-structure Home on the West Brow of Lookout Mtn. 8.8 acres, 3bdrm 2bth, Great Room W/FP Open kitchen/Dining. Heart Pine Floors & Views from every Room. A must see. \$395,000 (22539)



HILLTOP SETTING, 2 story maintenance free siding. 4 Bdrms 3.5 baths Eat in Kitchen, Great Room w Gas FP, Den, lots of walk-in closets Wraparound porches. approx 3500 sq ft. landscaped with mature plantings. a must see on 5 acres. Mentone area. \$450,000. (22949)



COTTAGE ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON. Peaceful setting and private 2 bdrm 2 bth with sleeping loft, greatroom with rock fireplace. Screened porch with a view of the canyon rim over 5 acres. A must have. \$165,000. (22865)

LOTS AND ACREAGE

WOODED 39.8 ACRES, level mixture of hardwoods and Pines, some trails through property. Over 2500 ft. of paved road frontage. Could be nice development opportunity. Build a few cabins in this spot. REDUCED TO \$163,800 (21649)

NICELY WOODED 5 ACRES on DeSoto Parkway with Stream. Can be Residential or Commercial. Land has old homesite and green house. Large Rock formations.

Possibilities are Endless! **REDUCED TO \$90,000 (19419)**

BUILD YOUR DREAM CABIN in the woods! 2.56 acres across from Lake Lahusage. Paved road frontage, city water available, perc tested. Lightly restricted. Owner financing available. \$40,000 (19149)

NICE WOODED 3 ACRES next to Mountain

Crest Cabins. Great building site for yourself or for rental cabins. Wildlife and trees are abundant. Priced to sell at \$25,000. (22095)

HEAVILY WOODED ACREAGE with wet weather spring. Paved road frontage along County Road 106, and just minutes from downtown Mentone. \$110,000 (22248)

6.4 ACRES. Partly open field and wooded tract of land in Oakwood subdivision. Lightly restricted. Surveyed, Perk. 2 lots 9,

10. \$45,000 (22650)

1.66 ACRE TRACT with septic, county water, well, and power. Lightly restricted. Cleared and ready to build that cabin in the woods! \$18,000. (22747)

3 WOODED ACRES on the parkway. Gently sloping to level with many hardwoods. Great location to build your weekend cabin between DeSoto Park and Mentone. \$25,000 (22918)

Business and Organization News

Look for Sassafras in its New Location

Sassafras, featuring new and resale clothing, jewelry, accessories, fun collectibles, gifts, shabby chic,

driftwood items, home furnishings and more, has moved to a new location. . just 2 minutes from Mentone town center at 4277 Hwy. 117. Open Friday-Saturday, 11am-5pm, beginning mid-August.

Let us know about your business and organization news. Promotions, moves, awards, meetings, whatever is newsworthy. Just send to groundhognews@aol.com.

Menlo (cont'd from page 19)

then circled the town park. Most everyone followed, because no one wanted to miss the entertainment or great barbeque to be served later.

This celebration started way back in 1962. The PTA needed to raise funds for playground equipment for the Menlo School children. They were so excited with the outcome and community support that it became a yearly event.

The Lion's Club was organized in 1969, and the event was shared by those members and the PTA. (later called PTO). The parade was put aside in the early seventies, but picked up again in the early 90's. Since that time, the whole shebang has been taking place each year. The club funds are used to support Special Oympics and scholarships.



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Mentone Wedding Chapel



Nestled in the woods atop Lookout Mountain, near Mentone, Alabama, this quaint little chapel is surrounded by ferns, forest and flowers. The chapel is a scaled version of traditional Appalachian churches of days gone by. Stained glass windows filtering soft forest sunrises and soft organ music accent an ambience fitting the wedding ceremony. Inside wooden pews will seat approximately 60 guests.

Linda Patterson, owner of the chapel, said the idea for it began with a bell, and now that bell rings as newlyweds exit the door of the chapel.

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Miller (cont'd from page 1)



resurrected building which houses the Kamama Gallery. He helped the Padgett's transform a former gas station/ grocery store/ restaurant/ general store into the showplace in the heart of town. His art is displayed there and is worth a visit to behold. His range includes realistic paintings that are usually florals; but the abstracts can be landscapes with moons shining, a seascape, a fierce bull or a peaceful mountain river. They all are thought provoking and harmonious.

Miller is a graduate of the University of Alabama with a degree in economics. His art continued pulling him from the corporate world back to the thing he first loved as a child – art. Another passion that has continued throughout his life is antiques. He began collecting when he was fifteen. His artist eye and sense of style is reflected in the superb collection of antiques for sale in the “Montevallo Rd” section at Kamama gallery.

John enjoys mentoring young artists. He is very helpful in marketing and sharing the “business” aspects of the art world. He generously shared his knowledge and was key in the creation of Kamama gallery that fulfilled my personal dream of having a first class gallery

Mentone's Cookin' (cont'd from page 1)

her eyes shine brightly as she says that she and restaurant owner, Christine Ballenger “make a pretty good team!”

The Moonlight Bistro team is proud of their communication and that they maintain a system which allows them to almost always have food on the table within 15 minutes of a guest's arrival without anything sitting under a heat lamp even during busy times! Linda makes all of her own sauces and dressings and offers her basil, peach and strawberry vinaigrettes for sale.

She studied with Pastry Chef Shannyn King and is known for her sweets. Frosted cinnamon rolls, pies, cakes, brownies all tempt and are sinfully delicious. Fried Oreos should really be experienced...once! Chef Greg Paulson, her Culinary professor, would certainly give top marks for her savory dishes as well. Though offering arguably the best Ruben around, (with consistently good fries) the lighter fare competes well, too, with crisp cold salads, fresh side dishes, sauteed veggies and fresh local trout.

She considers herself most fortunate to live by the maxim “do what you love, and love what you do.” It is from this that she derives the energy to keep it all going. In addition to support from a boss who arranged and re-arranged the schedule to allow Linda the time to attend school, and receiving

excellent training from dedicated professionals, she also feels blessed to have received a great deal of support from her husband, Arthur, of the Walker County Road Dept, who agreeably and skillfully took on some of the housework to allow Linda to tend to homework instead.

She has worked 5 days a week while attending school sometimes from 8am to 9pm for the last 2-1/2 years and her last class will be the last Monday of July. She has achieved a 3.96 grade point average and is in the running to be the class valedictorian.

Mentone and The Moonlight Bistro are proud of Linda!



in my beloved Mentone. He and his wife Julie, a retired teacher, are indeed an asset to our area. They balance their time between Oneonta and Valley Head with time spent in Birmingham with their daughter Brooke and in Nashville with their son Brad. The Millers have two grandchildren and are enjoying this phase of their lives.

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Twiggs Coffee Shoppe at Kamama Gallery is now a cuisine d'art restaurant.

The artistic ambiance adds a flavorful accent to dinner on Friday and Saturday evening between 06:00 and 09:00.

Jimmy Rogers, a native of Sand Mountain, who perfected his culinary skills in restaurants in Dallas, Texas; Chattanooga, Tennessee and Perdido Key Beach, Florida, is our new Chef and Twiggs partner.

Come on up to Mentone – visit Kamama Gallery and enjoy our wonderful artwork and a unique fine dining experience. Your eyes, ears and taste buds will thank you.

Dinner reservations are requested 256 634-3001

Hours: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Thursday through Monday

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