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Volume 20, No. 8

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

August 2002

SHIGLEY FAMILY REUNION 2002

**By Granddaughter
Mario Crowe Waters**

The Mentone Community House, formerly the home of Henry Frank and Melissa Shigley of Mentone, Alabama was the setting for the Shigley Reunion on Saturday, July 27, 2002. It seems only fitting that the Shigley home is now a community house because the Shigley home was always welcome to guests and at many times was full of young people visiting and enjoying fellowship with the family.

We were graced with the presence of the two remaining members of the 12 children of the late Henry Frank and Melissa Shigley. They were Edna Shigley Jones of Macon, Georgia who is 98 years old and Margaret Shigley Crowe of Rome, Georgia, 87 years old.

There was quite a gathering of the extended families of Henry Frank and Melissa Keith Shigley. We had 98 Shigley family members in attendance. The families represented were those of Elizabeth Shigley Reece, Anna Belle Shigley Warren, Ernest Shigley Sr., Ethel Shigley Green Adams, Grace Shigley Jones, Edna Shigley Jones, Nona Shigley Williams, Rona Shigley Smith, Clarence Shigley and Margaret Shigley Crowe. Relatives attending represented 10 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Oregon, North and South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

The group ranged in age from infants to 98 years young.



**Margaret Crowe and Edna S. Jones (98)
(only 2 of the 12 Shigleys)**

It was truly a most enjoyable day--seeing many relatives we had not seen in years, sharing amusing incidents in our lives, poring over albums and photos from 'way back when' and up to the present. Modern day cameras were clicking everywhere and we were even videoed!

Of course, we had several tables of food of which we partook too generously. We had a great time of fun, food and fellowship, including playing the piano, singing and reminiscing. The Shigley Clan is blessed with plenty of musical talent.

The group began gathering around 9:30 a.m. CST and reluctantly parted between 4:00 and 5:00 in the afternoon. However, 40 cousins stayed over and attended church together the next morning at the Mentone Community Church (formerly

the Mentone Wesleyan Church). At the end of the service the entire Shigley Clan went forward and sang "Great Is Thy Faithfulness".

Grandpa and Grandma Shigley 'raised' their children in the Wesleyan Church. Grandpa played a significant role in the organization and building of the original Wesleyan Church. There have been several Shigley generations raised in the church. The oldest charter member of the church in 1998 was Ethel Shigley Adams, who died in November 1998 at the age of 100. Today fifth generation Shigley descendants are members of the church.

I know Grandpa's and Grandma's Spirits were with us the whole weekend and smiling down their blessings on us.

See additional family photographs
on pages 11 and 12

**To Subscribe to the Groundhog,
See Page 2.**

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Published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association. MAPA was first conceived on Groundhog Day, 1982, and organized April 6, 1982, for the purpose of preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment, and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area, and is chartered as a non-profit organization by the State of Alabama.

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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Associate Editor/typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck
Contributing Editors.....John Baty, Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Eloise Brown, Marilyn Campbell, Bernice Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Evelyn Graves, Sue Schwarz, L.C. Moon

MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Jack Jones
Vice President.....Dot Crow
Secretary.....Marie S. Dillenbeck
Treasurer.....Bernice Crow
Parliamentarian.....Mickey Gough
Member-At-Large.....Hope Walker
Member-At-Large.....Lucille Crow

In case of errors in advertisements, The Groundhog assumes liability only for the actual space that is incorrect in the advertisement. Call Evelyn Graves at 634-4390 for advertising.

Letters to the editor are welcome. They should be typewritten and of reasonable length.

The DEADLINE for all material for The Groundhog is the 15TH DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION.

MAPA Meeting

The June 4 Mentone Area Preservation Association meeting was called to order by President, Mickey Gough. The meeting was held at Dessie's Kountry Chef. Jim Lyday gave the invocation. Present were members Mickey and Sherman Gough, Bernice and Homer Crow, Hope and George Walker, Marilyn and Huey Mathews, Penny and Jim Lyday, Rick Chapman, Dot Crow, Jack Jones, and Marie Dillenbeck.

The minutes were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given by Bernice Crow.

Marilyn Mathews presented a financial report on the Rhododendron Festival. She thanked the Boy Scouts of Troop 100 and Ken Kirby for cleaning the parking area; Josh Hughes for cutting the grass in the parking area; Glenda Hollis and her daughter for getting the flyers out; Mickey and Sherman Gough for manning the MAPA booth, aided by Peggy Roark; Frank and Linda Hill, and George and Hope Walker; and Dessie Newberry for donating the color flyers and the combread.

President Gough asked if there was any old business, and there being none, proceeded with new business, the election of officers. The nominees for office are: President: Jack Jones; Vice President: Dot Crow; Treasurer: Bernice Crow; Secretary: Marie S. Dillenbeck; Members at Large: Hope Walker and Lucille Crowe, with Mickey Gough as the Parliamentarian. George Walker moved that the nominations be closed, seconded by Rick Chapman. The motion was carried unanimously. George Walker immediately installed the new officers.

Jack Jones, new president, addressed the members and thanked them for their confidence in him as MAPA's president, having served in said position for other terms.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to have refreshments.

The July Meeting was the annual picnic at the Brow and the under the food pavilion.



The August 6 meeting was held at 7 pm at the Roundup House on Jack Jones' Dude Ranch. The new president, Jack Jones, called the meeting to order. Members present were Jack Jones, Mickey and Sherman Gough, Dot Crow, Lucille Crowe, Marie Dillenbeck, Phyllis Cochran, George and Hope Walker, Rick Chapman, Tom and Lynn Donald, Bernice and Homer Crow, Pam Bettis, a new member, and her son Barnabas, and Dorothy Shelden, visitors.

President Jones announced that Pam Bettis had accepted the chairmanship of the October Colorfest. She will be co-chairman with him. He said the most important item on the agenda for this year is to increase the membership. He plans to send out letters to each of the advertisers inviting them to come to the meetings, since they are members by virtue of their support of The Groundhog. At a board meeting, the members had agreed that if they were an advertiser, they were automatically a member in MAPA.

By mutual consent of the board members, the MAPA office has been moved to the Dude Ranch office where there will be someone to answer the phone (634-8339) and respond to inquiries.

Tom Donald agreed to assist the president in maintaining an active membership list, and that when a special event is to occur, letters will go out inviting the members to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to have refreshments.

The next meeting will also be at the Roundup House on Jack Jones' Dude Ranch, on September 3, at 7 PM. Board Meetings are at 6:30 p.m., just prior to the general meeting.

The OCTOBER COLORFEST will be on Saturday and Sunday, October 19 and 20.

For those wishing to contact MAPA for membership, for applications to the October Colorfest, or for other MAPA related inquiries, the telephone number is 256-634-8339.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Evelyn,
Please find enclosed my label and my check to extend my subscription to The Groundhog. Getting and reading the paper is like a letter from "home." Keep up the good work. I especially enjoy Mrs. Brown's "Valley View" and all the news.

Hope to see you and Jimmy in Fort Payne next month.
Sincerely,
Rob Ringer Marianna, FL



MOON LAKE SCHOOL NEWS

We welcome one new staff member to Moon Lake. Her name is Venita Scott who is working here as an aide.

We will be celebrating Labor Day on September 2 with a holiday. Autumn school pictures are scheduled for Friday, September 6.

The first PTO meeting of the year will be on Tuesday, September 10, at 6:30 PM; and mid-term reports will go home on Monday, September 16.

We are pleased to see many community members using the library on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5 to 7 o'clock. We encourage everyone to obtain a library card and use their community library.

We appreciate the work provided by Camp DeCoto's "Project Phoebe". Campers painted a giant map of the state of Alabama and a sunburst on two concrete pads, thereby turning eyesores into beauty spots.

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FOOD AND RESTROOMS FOR THE YARD SALE-TRI-COUNTY

By Mary Alice Stout

The World's Longest Yard Sale is August 15, 16, 17, and 18. The volunteers of Tri-County Fire/Rescue will sell their famous bar-b-que sandwiches along with hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. They will be set up at the AL-GA state line in front of the fireworks stand.

Yard sale items will be for sale, too. Donations of items are appreciated. Call Chief Howard Durham (706-862-6400) to arrange for pick up. During the yard sale the Tri-County building will be open and RESTROOMS will be available. Donations are appreciated for restroom supplies and utilities.

Tri-County members ask that everyone use extra caution during the Yard Sale. Be safe! Have fun! And come to Tri-County for food, yard sale items and restrooms.

MOUNTAIN MAMAS LOTS OF YARD SALE VENDORS

by Mary Alice Stout

During the World's Longest Yard Sale, Mountain Mamas will have several vendors set up selling antiques and other yard sale items. The Mostly Shop (beside Mountain Mamas Craft and Rock Shop) is stocked with a wide variety of collectibles.

Our Craft and Rock Shop contains a wide variety of handmade arts and crafts from over 50 local and regional women. Check out handmade soaps by 4 different soap makers, a new supply of candles, pottery by many craftswomen, and just about every other kind of beautifully made crafts. Mountain Mamas is in its eighth year. We're normally open from noon to 6 pm (GA time), but during the yard sale the shop will open early and close late.

Mountain Mamas is located on Lookout Mountain Parkway in Cloutland, Ga., on GA Hwy 40, just East of the AL-GA state line. This is a fun place to shop during the Yard Sale!

Notes from the Mayor's Office

Last month I related that we had applied for a grant to do curbs, sidewalks, landscaping, and a crosswalk at the Hitching Post called a DOT T-21 Grant. We received a letter from the governor that our application has been approved. We will not start construction on it until after the October Colorfest. In all probability, we will not be able to finish it until spring as some asphalt paving is required. This will help make the intersection much safer and provide a sidewalk to the Post Office or beyond. Eventually we hope to provide a sidewalk to the new library.

Since our last notes in July about the dogs, not only have we had more complaints but two cases of bites. We will now be working on an ordinance to protect our citizens and the general public.

At our Town Council meeting on Aug. 12th, Larry Sanders was elected councilman to fill the unexpired term of John Corey who resigned. Larry was selected from several candidates. We appreciate the interest shown.

As most of you know, we had to replace our older police car. The new one has a different look, and the other one will be re-stripped to match it --a much cleaner look, don't you think?

The last step before starting construction on the Drought Grant (641, 639, 644, and on down Hwy. 117 to 106 (Whitley's store area) is set for Friday Aug. 16th. We hope the contractor will be able to start immediately. Also included in this grant are Alpine Road and Gray Road.

The tank site on Co. Rd. 642 is being cleared, which is included in the Rehab grant/loan. In all, we have over \$2.4 million in water improvements to our water system taking place.

Below is a copy of a warning sign posted at the pumping station and the tanks, stating it is a federal offense to tamper with a water facility under U.S. Code Title 42, Section 3001-1. This is a terrorist act and includes all water lines, obstruction or tampering with or accessibility to equipment, including water meters and fire hydrants. Therefore, **take notice that it is illegal for anyone other than a Water Board employee or supervised person by a Water Board employee to even cut a water meter on or off.** This is the reason why it is required: a cutoff must be installed on the customer side beyond the meter and back flow preventer.

It is worth noting that it is a felony for anyone taking water illegally, that is, out of a fire hydrant or NOT SIGNING-UP for water PRIOR to using it.

We are under a mandate by state and federal laws to protect our water system. We intend to do our part and will prosecute. It is all of our responsibilities to protect our water supply and source. If you should see anything suspicious, you should report it to the police, 634-0704; the Water Board, 634-9106; or to me, the mayor, 634-4278; or even to 911 if you think it's warranted.

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Mentone Grapevine II

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

The movie, **Southern Heart**, is now available on video. See the back page for the announcement.

Michael Stephens and friend **Karen Speck** from Hammond, LA, came to visit the Mentone United Methodist Church on Sunday August 11. Michael is working in Louisiana, and is a Groundhog reader, who has been receiving The Groundhog for over ten years.

Penny Lyday continues to need our prayers. She is recovering from a recent hospital stay. Please keep her and Jim on your prayer list.

Wayne Wooten, and wife **Ann Wooten**, of Valley Head have been recovering from recent hospital visits. We hope they will continue to improve and get back to a normal routine.

Linda Brown has broken a bone in her elbow, but that doesn't seem to keep her from attending to business and fun. She's out and about doing what she normally does.

Girl Scouts from Troops 307 and 208 Pineville and Alexandria, LA attended Mentone United Methodist Church on Sunday, August 4. They had been staying at the Dude Ranch and visited church prior to returning to LA. The Methodist Church is the meeting place for local Girl Scout Troop 1012. The members welcomed them to return should they be back in AL.

Jean McCahae has been confined to her home for several days due to an illness. We hope she will be back to school and about her business real soon.

John and Bobbie Smith went to an ice skating show in Arkansas, courtesy of sister, Pat McKenzie. This was one of the many gifts that the couple, who celebrated 50 years of marriage on June 22, received.

The new pastor of the Mentone United Methodist Church, **Les Brown** and his wife, **Jackie**, celebrated their 48th anniversary on July 31st. May they continue to have many more. Les also will celebrate a birthday on August 27th.

Lesley Brown, son of Les and Jackie Brown, needs your prayers as he continues to fight diabetes and other health problems. Due to several prescriptions he has had to take, his weight got out of control. He has lost approximately 100 pounds and continues to lose under the guidance of his physician and with the love of his family and friends. Please pray for him often.

Happy belated birthday wishes to: **Jennifer Huskey**, June 24, **Angela Huskey**, June 29 (1 yr); and **Allen Huskey**, July 27.

Happy September 2002 Birthdays and Anniversaries to: ●1- Bernise Crow, Matt Croxon, Connie Bell, Suzanne Woodall, Treva Lindsey, Bob Baty; ●2- Gail Chambers (Mrs. Kenneth); ●3- Dorma Hutcheson; ●4- Johnny Ferguson, Vance Carden, Marketta Crane; ●5- Christal Edmondson, Allen Scott, Trenton Green, Halie Westbrooks, Joey Combs; ●7- Angela Stalvey, Mrs. A.J. Lindsey; ●8- Melba Fuller, Adele Phillips, Mary Crowe; ●10- Sam Langston, Mickey Gough, Pam Bleavens Ogle, Landon Allen; ●11- Matt Williams, Calvin & Marie Blansit (anniv); ●13- Calvin Blansit; ●16- Skippie Mathis, James Bradshaw; ●17- Lynette Tolbert, Angie Carden, John & Mary Chambers, (anniv); ●18- Jimmy Owen; ●19- R.B. Blalock; ●21- Jorene Nelms; ●23- Dot Crow; ●24- Adriana Miranda, Paula Cooper, Tab Westbrook; ●25- Amy Harrison, Gail Bell, Scott Kyle, Nicole Stott; ●26- Kenny Busby; ●27- Ruby Brock, Scott Baty, Alfie Chambers, Jack and Jacob Meadows; ●29- Rusty Chambers, Allison Williams; ●30- Ethan Lewis, Harvard Hester, Dillon Lewis.

As everyone is now aware, school is back in session. Drive carefully through the school zone and keep our children and residents safe.

Eloise Brown invited to attend Eighth Annual Poetry Convention

By Marie Dillenbeck

Eloise Metcalf Brown has been invited by the Famous Poets Society to attend a special ceremony of the Eighth Annual Poetry Convention to be held at the Wyndham Palace Resort in Orlando, Florida, on August 31. In their letter to her they said they "plan to honor her as a Famous Poet for 2002 and present her with an elegant Shakespeare Trophy of Excellence during the New Honors and Recognition Round-Robin." The Executive Committee of their Board of Directors has chosen her poem, "God, Guide Our Talents" to be eligible for a presentation at the Convention. The letter also states that her poem would be published in *Today's Famous Poems - On the Wings of Pegasus*.

When contacted about her going to the convention, Eloise said, "I don't think I will be able to make that trip, but I am delighted and honored that I received an invitation and that they chose my poem, "God, Guide Our Talents".

Eloise has been writing for The Groundhog for as long as the paper has been distributed - over 20 years. We have been privileged to print many of her poems and her monthly article, Valley View, which is read by thousands of people each month. We count it a blessing that she continues to write her articles and share her poems with our readers. Eloise has done so much for her community and continues to be as active as she can. May God continue to bless her in her endeavors.

We love you, Eloise! Keep up the good work!

God, Guide Our Talents

Author of all creativity
You gave us gifts and talents to use.
Arouse us into activity
That will bless all and never abuse.
Each is an artist in a special way
Creative and original as can be.
Help us use all our talents each day
As a credit to ourselves and Thee.
However lowly or high the art,
Your wisdom and inspiration we need.
Your guidance for our hands and mind and heart
In worthy achievement to succeed.
For all these, thy help we humbly ask
To work creatively on this earth
To give our best whatever the task
To earn your approval of its worth.

—Eloise Brown

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THE OLD and THE NEW: Bridging the Gap

By John Baty

I sort of like old things. But I also like new things. I mean, you know, when a person has an infection of some 'space age,' virulent, mutated germ, then access to some of the more powerful antibiotics, like some of the mycins, is a comforting feeling. No one wants to give up certain of modern conveniences and regress back to 1900, say. Our grandparents, i.e., the grandparents of some of us who are grandparents ourselves, left us a heritage of hard work, independent survival and frugality. Those were the valued maxims of the times; the axioms which all folks of those days accepted without condition.

Even though high technology has led us far from the ways of our ancestors, there is still, in those of us who wish to remember, a deep and abiding respect for the grit, the guts and the pluck of those old pioneers.

I cannot know the minds of others, but I harbor a suspicion that when one of us sees or owns something, some tool or some product which represents untold hours of labor and love by the long-gone relative or friend, something reaches back into our subconscious and taps into an almost infinite supply of respect. I understand that the pace of the work-a-day world is such that many have small occasion to indulge in reminiscence about the old. Some of us, though, have worked some part of rural Americana into our schedules; into our lives. A hobby, a collection, an old-time shop, a craft or a vanishing art. We keep it alive because it helps us to continue to be able to feel; to experience emotion and it perpetuates our capacity to experience love. Living only in the present, one day at a time, is a hazardous practice. We feel that it is a fair assumption that only by appreciating the past can we constructively experience the present, and meaningfully project into the future.

Yes, I like old things. One of the most legitimate practices—in my opinion—is the restoration, the preservation, or the re-creation of significant monuments to the efforts and struggles of our forebears. Old buildings, old cars, old tools and old bridges all are worthy of our best effort.

It was with great interest, therefore, that I was party to a conversation between two men (you and he can supply names if you think it would help) who were discussing the restoration, or re-creation, of the covered bridge, which spanned Little River near Mentone. A sort of flame thrilled through my mind at the thought of again being able to view that old bridge in which my Mother got stalled in her T-model around 1920 or so. I, myself, recall walking through the old covered bridge and looking out the high window openings at the water below. It looked a little scary to me. Also, I and some other members of my family heard the loud noise when the truck crashed through the bridge, ending its use as a short cut to Mentone. The discussion was serious and the parties to that discussion fully capable of bringing such a project to fruition if the people of this great community lend their support. Such a project requires the input from many people, including politicians. What do you think?



IT'S A BOY!



Cade Braxton Ballenger

Cade Braxton Ballenger was born June 21, 2002. He weighed 7 lbs, 5 oz and was 22 inches long. He is the son of Chad and Julie Ballenger. His grandparents are Barbara and Wayne Ledbetter and Kelly Ballenger, all of Fort Payne; and Roland and Carolyn Hendon, of Mentone. Great grandparents are Alton and Magdalene Hendon of Arley and Lourene Ballenger of Ft. Payne.

August 2002 / The Groundhog / Page 5
CLOUDLAND MOUNTAIN CABIN



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L/R: Dot Crow, Mentone; Amelia Kirk Lolli, San Francisco, CA; D.J. McKinley, oldest grandson of Amelia from Sacramento, CA; and Grace Crow, Mentone.

LITTLE RIVER CHURCH Decoration Day May 19 and Dedication of new pavilion

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

The Little River Church held its annual Decoration Day services on May 19. The church was filled with good gospel music sung by those attending. Dot Crow, treasurer, was in charge of the singing.

Board President, Nelson Stallings, announced the dedication of the new 20x40 covered shelter/pavilion on the grounds of the church. Because of the generous donation from Amelia Kirk Lolli, the facility was built in time for Decoration Day. Mrs. Lolli stated that a plaque will be placed on the front of the shelter/pavilion in honor of her father and mother, Frank and Mabel Kirk.

Contractor Carl Jones was in charge of the project, which included a green metal roof to match the new roof of the church. The facility is framed with wood and the gable ends have the siding the same as the church. The pavilion is parallel to the existing church building and has a 6" slab for the floor. So that dinner on the grounds can be enjoyed, the pavilion has plug-ins and receptacles for use during the decoration day celebrations. The roof is sealed with soffit type material and electricity has been installed, as well as a light/motion sensor at the end of the gable. A special faucet was installed so that it would not freeze in the winter. There will be water available during decoration days.

Board members Nelson Stallings and Ken Kirby were instrumental in putting the finishing touches to the pavilion, along with C. Robert Brown. Through another donation, tables were purchased to be used each celebration.

Those who attended this year's Decoration Day services, enjoyed the festivities of the meal, along with the message of the day, which included great gospel singing, good fellowship and lots of wonderful food.

Next year on the third weekend of May, plan to join us and enjoy the day.

The president of the Board is Nelson Stallings. Other board members are: Ken Kirby, Arthur Crow, and Bea Crow, Dot Crow Treasurer, and Marie Dillenbeck Secretary. Raymond Brown also helps oversee matters of the church.



(Top)The front of the new shelter/pavilion
(Bottom)The inside of the new shelter/pavilion with all the wonderful food brought by those attending the services.



Further news!!

If you are one of the many people asking about cemetery plots, you probably know the original section is now full.

We have finally finished surveying the new section nearby and are now prepared to provide lots in the new section immediately. We have a survey plat, section details, a sales contract form, and a list of rules and regulations available for your review. These lots will sell initially for \$100.00 each. We will have a new bulletin board erected at the cemetery soon and will have the above documents displayed there for the public to review.

If you are interested in purchasing plots, please contact one of the following people:

Nelson Stallings.....256-634-4180
Ken Kirby.....256-634-4327
Raymond Brown.....256-634-4496

Little River Cemetery Trust Fund
c/o Dot Crowe
PO Box 151
Mentone, AL 35984

Your support in this effort will be greatly appreciated!!

Southern Properties Agency, Inc.

845-6000

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(1) NESTLED AWAY IN MENTONE - This 3 bedroom, 2-bath modular home comes with a fully equipped kitchen, living room, dining room, central heat and air, 20x30 shed/garage, and a nice landscaped yard on over 1 acre. Call today for acres of elite brow front property. \$68,000.



(2) OWN A NEW HOME WITHOUT THE HASSLE OF BUILDING—Perched on the edge of the mountain, this 2 bedroom, 2 bath all wood cottage with stacked stone fireplace can be a weekend get-a-way or permanent residence. A must see for \$169,000.



(3) COMPLETELY FURNISHED and ready to move into! This cute country cottage offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, rock fireplace and pine floors, add a wet weather branch and 2 wooded lots and you have a great weekend get-away for \$74,500.



(4) SITTING ON TOP OF THE WORLD, this magnificent home with spectacular panoramic view has it all! Located on over 5 acres on beautiful Lake on the Brow, this 5 bedroom home has 10' ceilings, 2 master suites, 3 fireplaces, crown moldings throughout, wet bar, gorgeous kitchen and family room, huge deck, front gallery, pond, terrace and tons of glass to take advantage of the view. \$575,000



(5) GREAT GET-A-WAY WITH ALMOST 6 ACRES OF LAND. Located near DeSoto State Park and historic Mentone, Alabama, this rustic cabin is surrounded by hardwoods and has a peaceful view. Also on the property: large carport with concrete floor, a shop with electricity, a barn, a small storage shed, and a covered picnic area. All this for only \$84,500.



(6) ATMOSPHERE FOR CHARM - Located on DeSoto Parkway, this home offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 lots, wood floors throughout, screened porch, deck with hot tub, 1 bedroom guest cottage, greenhouse and 2-car garage with storage room. Many features to list them all! A must see to appreciate - only \$249,900.



(7) ORDER UP? You can order whatever you'd like when you become the new owner of Little River Cafe. The price has been reduced to \$129,900 and the owners are ready to let you take over. A well-known and established business featuring a fully equipped kitchen and dining room with large porch for outside entertainment, and a rustic atmosphere in a charming renovated old home. Located between DeSoto State Park and Little River Canyon and only 10 minutes from Fort Payne and Mentone. What a steal!



(8) ALL THE SPACE YOU NEED is right here! This custom built home offers 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, large eat-in area kitchen, entertaining sized living room with fireplace and a multi-purpose basement that could serve as a guest room, office or hobby room. The rock and wood construction blend home and nature all on 2.9 acres. Once you see it, you'll want to own it. Call today for your showing. \$225,000. Reduced \$133,000.



(9) SURROUNDED BY CENTURY OLD TREES, this restored home in Valley Head has charm, simplicity, and historical appeal. With over 2000 square feet, this 2-story home features 3 or 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. The kitchen is equipped with a Jenn-Air range, built-in oven, dishwasher, and pretty Oak cabinets. Renovations include new wiring, plumbing, insulation, roof, and maintenance-free vinyl siding. Best of all...IT CAN BE YOURS. \$89,900.



(10) Large Front porch welcomes neighbors and friends to this spacious rancher in Mentone. This home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, den with pine floors, and gas log fireplace. Beautiful landscaped yard with paved circular drive and privacy fence. All this plus 2.5 acres for \$125,000.



(12) VALLEY VIEW FOREST - Secluded with an incredible view of the valley and Weiss Lake, this cabin offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and an eat-in kitchen. The living room has pretty pine floors and lots of windows. The bedroom upstairs is extra large and could easily be made into two rooms. All this and more located on 7.1 acres. Call today for more details on your perfect get-away. \$140,000. REDUCED TO \$139,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

(12) 160 ACRES OF NATURAL BEAUTY on Lookout Mountain—just minutes from DeSoto State Park and Mentone. Ready for your dreams. Hunting club—weekend retreat or development. \$2,150 per acre. Will sell in larger tracts.

(13) GENTLY ROLLING, WOODED VACANT LAND IN VALLEY HEAD. Perfect for development. Extensive paved road frontage. 62 acres listed at \$3,000 per acre. Sold as a whole.

(14) FOR LAND'S SAKE! Just listed 4.3 +/- acres on DeSoto Parkway. Only \$49,500.

(15) LAND AND LOCATION! Almost 600' on the West Fork of Little River, gently rolling and heavily wooded all within 1 mile of Mentone. \$79,000

(16) BROW VIEW.....We've just listed 7.1 acres +/- in Mentone on the North Brow on County Road 89. \$100,000.

(17) LIFE HAS ITS REWARDS and many of them can be found in this prime property on Hwy 11 North. One of the grand farms of this area, this 130+/- acre tract enjoys the setting of the valley with pristine views of pastures, ridges and Willis Creek which meanders through the property. The land could be used for development as there are many beautiful building sites or it could provide an owner with lots of room to spread out, have privacy, raise horses, and enjoy the tranquility of country living. Call for more information.

(18) NEW LOWER PRICE!!!! LAND..LOTS OF LAND! Surround yourself with trees, gentle rolling pastures, water, and a beautiful view of Lookout Mountain. 57 acres of prime property located on Hwy. 11 between Fort Payne and Hammondville is a dream come true. Call today! \$450,000. NOW \$422,000

(19) WEEKEND OR WEEKLY RENTAL AVAILABLE - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, will accommodate 8 people. For more information, call Susan Collins.

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About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



I have been guilty of making the statement that I hate August. But, after reconsidering this hasty remark, I have decided that August is the beginning of one of the most enjoyable seasons in Mentone. Anything that is a beginning cannot be all bad. The coming seasons of fall and winter are usually a very good and fun time for us. Of course, fall is always busy with getting everything trimmed, cleaned and put away until another spring. But winter may be the most enjoyable, it is a time to do crafts, writing and other things that you don't do during the long, hot days of summer. I am looking forward to getting back to my family heritage memory book. Look out, Wal-Mart, I'll be back! This is where I re-size, re-color and renew my photos for the book.

One other good thing about August is that my dad, Fraser Cochran, and my very good friend, Marilyn Blanton Campbell, both have birthdays this month. The world is a much better place for having both of them in it. It seems that maybe I got my dad in trouble last month. Some of his grandsons read *The Groundhog* and came to "sample" the product of the freezer break down. Oh, well, boys will be boys!

One day recently when I was working at the community library, a couple came in who have a home in the area, had read my articles and also had given a donation to the library and the fire department. Since I am treasurer of these organizations, I had written them a note and recognized their name. I started to tell them that the new fire truck is expected in Mentone soon and that it was the first one we had ever had. Suddenly, I realized that they were looking at me with amusement. Then I realized that they also live in Birmingham and there a new fire truck is nothing to get so excited about. I didn't apologize for my excitement but, rather, explained to them that this is a big event for a small town with a volunteer fire department. It seemed that they understood a little more of Mentone lore and the uniqueness of our community. I hope so.

The Moon Lake Elementary School Community Library is doing great. Anyone who has not been by is certainly welcome to drop by on the evenings that we are open. We are open on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from five to seven. If you are interested in being a volunteer and working some on those days, you can come in and sign up for that. You will be contacted and trained at a later date. If you want to check out books, you may come in and sign for a library card during those same hours. Your card will be ready for you in two weeks or less. Please come by and see us, this is a wonderful addition to our community and we want everyone to enjoy it.

If everything goes as planned, the new fire truck should be delivered to Mentone during the week of August 19. We plan to do the closing on it on August 16; and as soon as the paper work is completed, the truck will be here! I am so excited; and I will never drive it or hold the hoses to fight a fire. I can just imagine how the volunteers feel about having a truck that they know will get to the fires in a timely manner; and, then, everything will work when they get there.

The week-end of August 15-18 is the "World's Longest Yard Sale" again. This travels on Alabama Highways 117 and 89 and comes through the middle of Mentone. Lots of booths are already in place and the vendors are collecting their wares. Go out and enjoy this event. It seems to be a lot of fun for both sellers and buyers.

Many of the wells in Mentone are getting very low due to the lack of rain this summer. Some of these homeowners are connecting to the Mentone water lines. Others must wait for new lines to be put into place. The schedule is for this work to start very soon. Maybe by next summer everyone who has a shortage of water will be able to connect to a source of public water.

The lack of rain is beginning to be a dangerous situation. Many of the forest areas are very dry and when the leaves start to fall, the danger of fires will increase greatly. Many yards stand to lose some trees and maybe shrubs if they haven't been able to water these. Some places have received some rain; but even that doesn't seem to be enough. My house is close to the brow of the mountain, but not on it, and we haven't had rain in about two months now. The areas closer to the river seem to receive more moisture. One end of Cutler Avenue in Mentone has had rain and the other end has not!

The Book Club of Mentone is currently reading, "The Good Earth" by Pearl S. Buck. This is a classic tale with the setting in China. One year there will be a draught that ruins the crops and the next year it will flood and destroy everything. I suppose that some things never change. If you are interested in joining The Book Club, you may call me or just show up at the MERF Community House on the third Thursday of the month at 10 AM. We have a round-robin discussion of the book that we have read that month. We all read the same book and decide which ones to read about three months in advance. It is educational, fun, and we see some people whom we don't see regularly. We welcome any and all to join us. The price of the book is the only cost and you get to keep it!

The club is part of the ongoing program of Mentone Educational Resources Foundation. They also sponsor a tutoring program for Moon Lake Elementary School students and fund an art teacher for the school during the latter part of the school year. The organization purchased the land and the house that has now come to be known as the Community House. It has a walking track available on the grounds and the house is available for meetings, reunions and such. The organization also sponsors the Senior lunches which will begin at a later date.

Many times a newcomer to Mentone will ask, "What is there to do in Mentone?" For such a small place, I'm sure that we have as many or more things to attend than larger towns do. Another thing,

because we are small in size and number, we need everyone's participation in everything to make it work. If you are new in town, go by the Mentone Town Hall and ask Marie what's going on. You may find yourself more involved than you ever meant to be.

The children and young people are back in school. That means that we must start obeying the speed limit in the school zones again. Moon Lake School has a speed limit on Alabama Highway 117 and it is enforced, so be watchful during the opening and closing school hours. There is also a school zone for the Fort Payne schools, so if you have to go by one each day, please be observant of the speeds. This not only protects our students, but could save you some money. Traffic tickets are very expensive!

Since I am writing this on August 12, I feel that I will survive the month. Once a month gets into double digits it is almost gone. My friend, Jean McGehee, has had health problems for some time now. She has been confined to her home and we miss her smiling face around town. To Jean and everyone who is not feeling well, I wish a speedy and complete recovery.

Take care of yourselves, watch out for mosquitoes, the West Nile Virus is getting closer to us, and start planning what you will do on those cold winter days and nights that are sure to come. Happy Birthday, Grace Pullen!!

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 sunrays and soft organ music await 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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The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



Sunday morning services at Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church are held at 9:00 AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Rev. Jerry Davis and Rev. L.A. Smith are alternate speakers for these services.

The Valley Head Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 10 AM, Worship Service at 11 AM, Sunday Evening Worship at 6 PM, Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6 PM, Brotherhood breakfast and devotional at 9:30 AM the first Sunday of each month, Women on Mission meet at 2 PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

The Valley Head United Methodist Church prayer meeting is Wednesday night at 6 PM. Bible study Wednesday night at 6:30 PM. A prayer chain has been formed. Sunday School is at 9 AM each Sunday and Worship is at 10 AM.

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: 9:30-10:45. Worship Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood, Lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Dannel.

The Harmony Grove Baptist Church invites everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on Co. Road 200 (Hawkins Road). Sunday School is at 9:45 AM; Morning Worship is at 11 AM; Evening Worship is at 6 PM; Wednesday Night Prayer Service is at 6 PM.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds mass services at 10:30 AM each Sunday, and Communion Services at 6 PM on Tuesdays.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 114 First St. SW, Fort Payne, 345-4042, has regular Sunday services at 8 AM and Sunday School at 9 AM.

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 north of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School at 10 a.m., Worship service at 11 a.m., Wednesday night youth meeting with snacks, lessons, and activities at 6 p.m., and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30 pm.

Anyone interested in observing the Sabbath and Holy Days, please attend with us at 11 AM each Sabbath. Located 2 blocks on right on Hwy 85, off Highway 11, approximately 2 miles from Fort Payne. Call 845-2246 for information.

Presbyterian Church worship service at Cloudland, begins at 10 AM, (EST), and the Menio service begins at 11:15 AM (EST).

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

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

Lighthouse Fellowship assembly has moved to Cloudland. Turn at the produce stand, pass the tennis court, and go to the stop sign. Go right two blocks. A church alive is worth the drive. Sunday School - 10 AM; Worship - 11 AM, Alabama time. Everyone is welcome. Phone: 706-862-2607.

DeSoto Church of Christ invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10 AM, Worship at 11 AM, Wednesday Bible Study at 6 PM. 256-634-4137.

The Mentone Revival Center and Pastor Alfred Chambers and his wife Polly, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10 AM. Wednesday evening worship begins at 6:30 PM.

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

Mentone Community Church invites you to join us for Sunday School at 10 AM and worship service at 10:45 AM. Bible Study Wed. 7:00 - 7:45 PM. Pastor Randy Addison welcomes all!

The Mentone Church of God of Prophecy wants to invite you to attend their services. Sunday School is at 10 AM, with Worship at 11 AM. Evening services begin at 6 PM. Rev. Charles Flannigan invites everyone to attend.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to attend any of their services or activities. Two Morning Services with Children's Church are at 8:45 AM, with Sunday School at 10 AM, and the second service at 11 AM. GAs meet at 4:30 PM, Discipleship Training and Youth Choir meet at 5:00 PM, followed by Evening Worship at 6:00 PM. On Wednesday at 6:30 PM, Children's Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall, the Youth have Bible Study and Recreation Time, Adults meet for Bible Study and Prayer.

Mentone Church of God invites you to attend their church. Sunday School - 10 AM; Morning Worship - 11 AM. Sunday evening - 6 PM; Wednesday evening - 6:30 PM. Pastor LuRue Carraway welcomes new comers.

Mt. Carmel Community Baptist Church, 1041 Yankee Rd, Cloudland, GA 30731, 706-398-7018, now offers a 24 hour Prayer Line. Need Prayer? Just call and leave your message. Other activities include: Sunday School - 10 AM, Worship Services - 11 AM & 6 PM; Monday 7-8 PM - Informal Prayer Time; Wednesday 7 PM - Mid-week Prayer Service; Thursday 7-8 PM - Bible Discussion. We need Piano Player, Music Director, Children for Sunday School and You!

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church atop Lookout Mountain in Mentone, Alabama, regular services are Sunday at 10:30 AM, with a time for fellowship after the services. Contact the church at 634-4476 for more information on any events or services. Everyone is welcome to join in worship services or special events.

The Mentone United Methodist Church services are at 11 AM each Sunday. Sunday school is at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome. The Pastor is Les Brown. The Ethel Brown Unit of UMW meets on the 1st Wednesday at 2 PM in the fellowship hall, and the Mountain Laurel Unit of UMW meets on the 3rd Monday at 12:30 PM at the church.

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(Story on page 1, photographs continued from page 1.)

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THIS IS A MUST SEE FOR EVERYONE who wants the comforts of the country and a nice sized home. This home sits on 1.5 acres and offers 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, open kitchen and dining area, central heat and air, unfinished basement. Beautiful view. Call now to schedule time for your tour. \$110,000.

THIS WOULD ALMOST REMIND YOU OF ROCK CITY! You can choose from 2 tracts located on Lookout Mountain in Valley View Forge. Both tracts have a view. Excellent for permanent residence or get busy home. Tracts start at \$19,900. It doesn't cost anything to call!

BEAUTIFUL AND AFFORDABLE TRACT OF LAND! 6 acres level with lots of trees and large rock formations only minutes from town. Call for details. \$19,000.

DREAM HOMESITE! Located in Drow Park in Mentone. 200 ft. of paved road frontage with city water available. Property is wooded and level. \$14,500.

LAND ATOP LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN! Come see this 38 acre tract loaded with hardwoods and pines. Lots of wild game. Grape and muscadine vines. Fenced property has water and septic tank making it attractive for development. Bargain at \$79,900.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN WEEKEND RETREAT! This new 2 bedroom cabin located in the Crestline Park Subdivision is a perfect Weekend retreat. Located across Lookout Mountain Parkway from the brow. This is a must for that future Mentonian. Call us to tour Today! \$99,900.

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Robert McReynolds 16th Eagle Scout from Troop 106 in Mentone



Scoutmaster David Gilbreath
and Robert McReynolds

Robert McReynolds became the 16th Scout in Troop 106 to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. Robert is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford McReynolds of Fort Payne. Robert went before the Eagle Board of Review on April 29, 2002. He had joined Boy Scout Troop 106 on November 1, 1995, and received the following rank advancements:

Tenderfoot Scout on 4/1/96; 2nd Class Scout on 1/6/97
 1st Class Scout on 3/3/97; Star Scout on 11/6/99 and
 Life Scout on 10/9/00.

Leadership positions included Assistant Senior Patrol Leader 4/26/99 to 1/9/00; Senior Patrol Leader 1/10/00 - 5/15/00; and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader 4/15/00 to 5/15/02.

During his time with Troop 106, McReynolds completed Required and Elective Merit Badges:

Required	Elective
Camping	Archery
Citizenship in the Community	Canoeing
Citizenship in the Nation	Electricity
Citizenship in the World	Fingerprinting
Communications	Fire Safety
Emergency Preparedness	Fish and Wildlife
Environmental Science	Metallurgy
Family Life	Pioneering
First Aid	Road
Hiking	Rifle Shooting
Personal Fitness	Safety
Personal Management	Wilderness Survival
Swimming	

For his Eagle project, Robert led a local community clean-up with the assistance of Troop 106, their parents and family members, and citizens in the community. He and Eagle Scout Joshua Hughes attended the March 11 Montone Town Council and presented a proposal to clean up Mentone to prevent the West Nile Virus from becoming a real threat in

this area. In cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control and the Alabama Department of Health, the Town of Mentone sponsored Boy Scout Troop 106 in the West Nile Virus Cleanup Program. The Town Council voted unanimously to support this project, which was very successful. The cleanup was done on April 6, beginning early in the morning and lasting well after dark. Many hundreds of tires were collected, as well as filling up 4 large dumpsters and creating a huge mound of metal, appliances, boats, etc. The Mentone Inn was gracious enough to allow the scouts to place their collections on the corner lot on Alabama Highway 117 and County Road 89. Also allowing the scouts to use their property for dumpsters used in the cleanup were Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sutton, owners of Sutton's Place on the corner of Co Rd 642 and AL Hwy 117 in Mentone; and John Corey of The Little River Hardware. The bulk of the tires was collected at Sutton's Place. The Groundhog was privileged to document the progress of this project in two issues, March and April 2002.

On Saturday, May 25, at 6:30 PM, the Eagle Court of Honor was held at Jim Berry Hall Scout Building on Dempsey Street in Mentone to honor Robert McReynolds for his achievements along the Eagle Trail. Part of his program was the poem, entitled:

"The Eagle Scout"

The Scouts gave you a challenge, and
 You've met it faithfully, my friends,
 But it's quite hard to understand
 Just all it will mean in the end.

An Eagle Scout, you've reached the top,
 Or have you only just begun?
 I'm betting that you will not stop
 With so much glory to be won.

For life holds out a challenge too,
 A mountain high for you to scale,
 And with the training Scouts gave you,
 There's really no such word as "fail".

And so as you press on ahead,
 You'll find it's made much work like play,
 And as the tasks before you spread,
 They'll find you ready, so I'll say.

Congratulations, Eagle Scout,
 The world before you now is spread.
 Scouts taught you much what life's about,
 Prepared you well for what's ahead.

Congratulations, Robert McReynolds, on your achieving the Eagle Scout Rank!



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Mark Your Calendar! ! The British Are Coming! !

On Saturday, September 28, 2-4 p.m., at the Mentone United Methodist Church's social hall, Marilyn Blanton Campbell is holding "open house" (purely because there is more parking space at the church than at her house) for Mrs. Josephine Thexon and Mrs. Carol Cutts—these are the ladies that Marilyn visited last year—of Handforth, Wilmslow, Cheshire, England (that's in the Manchester area) to meet Mentone.

Anybody interested in meeting the ladies is cordially and sincerely invited to come as you are, help yourself to a snack, and pull up a chair to visit awhile. The ladies are looking forward to meeting the people of Mentone, and it is hoped that all of you are equally as excited about meeting them. Dress for the occasion is to be as comfortable as possible.

You will be asked to sign a visitor's book so that the ladies will know (when they get back to England) who they met when. The ladies are worried about getting names confused, so we will have plenty of name tags.

Mrs. Cutts and Mrs. Thexon are extremely nice people, and you will be amazed, when you talk to them, how much alike us they are and at the same time how different they happen to be.

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We need the names of good general building contractors. Someone you, a friend or family member would recommend to build our home on Lookout Mt. Parkway. A builder who would be proud to live in the houses he builds.

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The
**Country
Journal**
By
BERNISE CROW

Summer is fast slipping away. We are entering into the last full month of warm weather. I am a lover of summertime and will enjoy all of it. Cold weather seems to last much longer.

July was a month for family reunions, starting with the fourth. By the way, didn't our town look festive with the bright United States flags flying from the lap posts? Thanks so much to Woodmen of the World organization that furnished the flags and to the volunteer firemen for putting them up and taking them down.

I mentioned the Crow reunion briefly last month, but since I'm short on subject material, I'll elaborate a little more on it. This was Jesse's year to host the gathering of the clan, but he is not well and has no family to help him, so we had it here at our house. We set up canopies and tables outside and had a wonderful day, even with the heat. I think it was the warmest day of the year at that time. Jesse sent invitations and furnished barbeque and baked beans and Nellie made the good potato salad. Lucille Crowe made chocolate cake and Judy Smith made blackberry and peach cobbler. It was a feast.

We had fifty people present. Lester and Annice, Curtis, Margaret, and son Andy came from Powell, TN. Lester and Annice's daughter, Brenda and husband Lester Dunn, and their son, Stephen, came from Oak Ridge. Frances Crowe, daughter Lila Pettet and her daughter, Theresa and her children, Trevor and Bethany, from Clinton, TN; Dewey, Pam and Daniel, our neighbors now, of course, were here. Lucille Crowe, and her son, Leroy and Joanne and their son Johnny and his wife, Melissa, from Oak Ridge. Daniel and Wendy could not be present because Wendy was expecting a new arrival shortly. (They do have a new baby boy, named James Ethan.) Cecil and Pat and their son, Greg, were here from Oliver Springs, TN.

All our children were present, and granddaughters Lisa and Christina, and great grandson Alex Whatley and his dad, Sam, made a good group. Jesse invited cousins we seldom see and we enjoyed being with them. Homer's Aunt Juanita Crow (widow of Nick Crow who was Lee Crow's brother) came with her four children: Nick, Barbara, Shirley and Carolyn and Nick's wife, Mary Ann. It was so nice to have them join us. Aunt Juanita is 90 years old, but is sharp mentally and seemed to enjoy the day.

Guy and Judy Smith and son Whitney, and Geraldine Ellis came from Mentone. Guy and Geraldine are Aunt Nettie Smith's children—Nettie was Lee Crow's sister.

It was so hot that we got some of the guests in the house and Barry and Coy played music a while.

We also had Tom and Jean Jones from Rome, GA. Jean is a first cousin to Jesse and Homer on their mother's side. Jean is Lawrence Magnusson's daughter. They are a lot of fun. Tom usually has a funny story to tell. They subscribe to The Groundhog and enjoy it.

Also, Jerry Waters, our son-in-law, had his son Derek and wife Mindy here from Little Rock. Mindy is expecting a new arrival sometime this month. So, these new ones add to our family, and we welcome them.

Homer, assisted by Barry's wife, Donnah, made good peach and strawberry ice cream. That cooled us a bit.

Families are so important. We are thankful for being a part of a family that values the worthwhile things. There is a strong Christian fellowship among the group and all members are good citizens of our country—honest, decent people who are proud of their heritage.

Coy is a Civil War buff and is proud of his great, great grandfather, Greenberry Crow, who served in the Civil War—and a Confederate, too!

For Coy and Doreen's birthdays—both in July, we had the whole family for a delicious dinner at Grasmere Manna. And we had a great time. I made a German chocolate cake for them like I have done for many years. Both Coy and Doreen think that is a necessity for their birthdays. The waitress served it for us. Doreen gave Coy a beautifully framed print of Gen. Robert E. Lee and a group of men. He proudly hangs it in his room.

We had two other family reunions in Mentone the last week-end of July. The Shigley family held their cousin's reunion at the MERF House, which is the original home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Frank Shigley. They were the parents of twelve children, so you know there are many, many cousins. I was pleased to have a cousin's wife visit with me (Billy Warren's widow, since remarried). Her husband played the old pump organ beautifully. Later in the day, Robert and Anita Shigley came by and I enjoyed them. Robert and I were school mates at Moon Lake—many moons ago. Robert and I reminisced about the good ole' days while Anita shopped.

There was also a family reunion held at the Mentone Springs Hotel. Some of them came in the Hitching Post—one from Albany, NY, and one from Baltimore, MD. None of these people had ever lived here, but they had ancestors from here and from Fort Payne.

We have not leased the restaurant space, formerly The Dish, yet. Homer has finished leveling the floor and putting down a new floor over the old one. It is beautiful. Now, he is finishing the second restroom and we hope to have someone rent the space when he is finished. We really miss having good food in the building.

We are getting all set for the 450 mile yard sale, beginning the 15th through the 18th. We put things out to sell on our lawn at home and have fun selling some things and meeting people. My shop will be closed during the sale and I'll take some merchandise home to offer for sale at a discount.

We have people come from far and near. We met a couple last year who took their vacation to come for this sale—450 miles of it. We are fortunate to have the Lookout Mountain Parkway included in this sale. One never knows what one can sell. This is the fun part. We make a big container of lemonade and another of ice water—all free!

Don't fume about the heat. It will be over soon and we will wish we had some of these days back. Drink plenty of ice water or tea and stay cool.



Gabrielle Stratmann

Gabrielle is the daughter of David and Shawn Stratmann of Ellicott City, MD.

She is the granddaughter of Lee and Kit Graves of Lothian, MD, and the great granddaughter of Jimmy and Evelyn Graves of Mentone. She recently celebrated her 2nd birthday.

Her parents are so proud of her, and in the note with the picture, her mother said "Can you believe that she is two already? You wouldn't believe how much she says and how funny she is. We spend a lot of time laughing at her great sense of humor."

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Someone once said, "Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day."

Here is your small opportunity to help someone else. The Northeast Alabama Adult Education Program is currently in need of volunteers for the reading class located in Fort Payne, as well as in our main office and throughout the community.

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Lyndsey Little, Erica Blalock, Dustin Blalock
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Tracy Payton and sister, Rhonda Blalock,
at the Today Show on July 3, 2002

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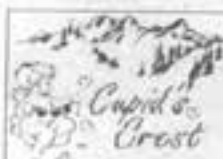
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Tribute to the Group "Alabama"

This tribute was left at the Log Cabin Restaurant and Deli after seeing pictures of the group while eating at the Deli during the week. (Editor's note: this was some time in June).

Austin Walter lost his daddy Nov. 10, 1998. He died of melanoma and left Austin, Katherine (at age 18 mo) and Kathy (wife.) At Bill's funeral, Kathy chose "Angels Among Us" by Alabama. That song is very special to our entire family. Thank you, "Alabama."

Austin Walter, age 8,
2010 Zandt St.,
Ft. Collins, CO 80526

Life-writing

By Jane Faile

All over the country, people are writing about their lives, and, in doing so, are preserving valuable family history. Have you ever wondered about your parents' courtship? What were the stories told as you and your family sat on the front porch? What kind of clothes did you wear? What was Main Street like? Who were your personal mentors as you entered adulthood? What events of your childhood and teen years shaped the person you became?

In a "life-writing" class, we learn to write our own stories, beginning with childhood memories, then teen years, young adulthood, and maturity. Each story is part of a personal journey of discovery, for, as Dorothy Bankston says in *Composing Your Life*, "our stories honor and validate the personal joys, the difficulties, the pain, the grief, the achievements, failures, and successes of our lives. They make tangible what has been ephemeral, fleeting, passing memory."

Since moving to Mentone three years ago, I have been involved in three lifewriting groups. One, led by Jean Corey, was held at the Mentone Community Center. A group of about seven people gathered weekly for a little over a month to write together and share our stories. A few months later, two of my neighbors asked about starting a group, so, drawing on my own experience taking life-writing classes (my first had been in Baton Rouge in 1997) and 30-odd years of teaching composition and literature at Louisiana State University, I started another class. This group grew to six people over the next year and is still meeting twice a month. Another group formed last year; it, too, is still meeting on a regular basis. As you can probably tell, life-writing is addictive! Once you start, you don't want to stop. And it's so much FUN sharing these stories with people in the writing group, getting their feedback and encouragement, and discovering new topics to write about.

In a life-writing session we each bring a one to two-page story about a topic the group has agreed on; for example, "where I was on an important day in history," or "first car," or "turning points." Each person reads her/his story, and we offer suggestions and comments; the class is always supportive, never critical. The focus in life-writing is getting to the truth of your story, and that means that we create a positive, trusting atmosphere in the group.

Another important aspect of life-writing that makes it different from other kinds of writing is the audience. We are writing for our descendants, real or imagined. As members of the two groups here can tell you, it helps to know your audience - especially if they are 13 years old and eager to hear Nana's stories, or adult nieces or nephews who are curious about what you remember about their mom or dad. Our stories contain valuable insights we can share with our families, and we can offer interesting history lessons; for example, what it was like to be a child growing up during WWII, or being a teacher of college students during the Vietnam War years, or living in a small southern town in mid-century America.

It's my hope that more life-writing groups will form here in Mentone, for so many who live here have so much to tell! If you want to start your own life-writing group, you don't really need a "teacher." I'd recommend buying Lois Daniel's *How to Write Your Own Life Story* and use her guidelines. These groups work best with just a few people--six is just about perfect. And meet regularly; I suggest once a week at first, then twice a month thereafter for as long as you want to continue. And when you're ready, come to the Mentone Inn's twice monthly Coffee House Cabaret nights (first and third Thursdays) and share your stories!



The RECIPE CORNER

By
SUE SCHWARZ

Camps are closed and school has started already. It seems that time is truly passing at a record clip. I hope you are enjoying the summer and the good fresh vegetables available to us this time of year. I bought some corn that was a little past prime, so I tried it in a corn pudding. It worked so well, that I thought you might enjoy it also. When visiting a friend earlier this summer, she served a pinto bean casserole that was very tasty and easy to put together. She gave me the recipe and I share it with you now.

Corn Pudding

2 T sugar
1 1/2 T all-purpose flour
1 t baking powder
1 t salt
3 large eggs
1 cup whipping cream
1 1/4 cup butter, melted
3 cups fresh corn kernels (about 6 ears) or 3 cups frozen or drained canned corn may be substituted.
Combine first four ingredients. Whisk together eggs, whipping cream and butter. Combine sugar mixture and milk and egg mixture whisking until smooth. Stir in corn and pour mixture into a lightly greased 2 quart baking dish. Bake for 45 minutes at 350° or until golden brown and set. Let stand for 5 minutes before serving. This serves 4 easily and is easily doubled.

Pinto Bean Casserole - Loretta Breasealle

1 pound sausage
1/2 C chopped onions
1/2 C chopped bell pepper
2 cans pinto beans drained
1 can tomatoes with chilies
1 can mexicorn, drained
2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
1 C buttermilk
1 C cornmeal, self-rising
Brown sausage, onions and pepper. Place in bottom of 9 x 13 pan or other large dish. Layer one cup cheese, pintos, corn, tomatoes and one cup cheese on top of sausage. Mix cornmeal and milk and pour over bean mixture. Bake at 425° for 20 minutes or until topping is browned and casserole is bubbly.

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Not pictured: Nathan Owen and Phil Harris.

Mentone Softball wishes to thank Marie Dillenbeck, Walker-Easler Construction, and all of our loyal fans for all of their support. Fall League starts late August.

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A Friendly— Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

It is hot and dry, the puckered up sky is getting ready to cry—we hope—perhaps by the time you read this, it will have done so and everything will be lush and green again.

Sixteen men from **Lee's Chapel Baptist Church**, took part in their first Masters' Men's Golf outing at Lil Mole Run Golf Course, on Aug. 5. A great time of fellowship and golf was enjoyed by everyone.

Ruth and Bert Pickett had a surprise birthday party for **Lillian Pickett** on Aug. 3. About 30 people from Nashville, Chattanooga and Fort Payne enjoyed the delightful occasion.

Marion O'Dell's cousin, **Gil Evans** from Honolulu, spent a week with her and **Charles and Alina**. They had a great time catching up on news, since it had been three years since they had seen each other. They went to Mentone and ate at the Log Cabin Deli and visited the White Elephant to buy gifts for his family.

Lavoyd Wilkes had knee surgery, Wed. Aug. 7, at Parkridge Hospital in Chattanooga. We hope it will be successful as the other one was, and he will have a quick recovery.

E.T. Holleman, Elizabeth Coleman, and Christine Brooks, attended the 90th birthday celebration for **Eleise Clark** at New Home Church, Aug. 4. They had been classmates at Valley Head.

Patrick Cooper, from Auburn, spent the weekend with his parents, **Janet and Jimmy Cooper**.

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** had church service and picnic at Hammondville Park, Aug. 4.

Martha Joan Killian, from Aiken, SC is spending a week with her mother **Oline Roberts**.

Lilly Bowden and Karen Freeman attended the funeral of Lilly's sister, **Annie Rene Stephens**, at Fort Valley, GA, recently.

Ben Freeman celebrated his 24th birthday, Aug. 5, at Clemson, SC, where he is working on his master's degree.

Janet Cooper had Sunday Lunch, Aug. 4, at her home for **Sadie Cooper, Norma Jones and Mary Ann Jones**. It's good to hear that Norma has recovered from her surgery enough to attend church.

Joyce and Harid Allen had lunch with **Ed Ringer**, July 28. Ed had baked a birthday cake for **Joyce**.

Sadie Cooper took **Oline Roberts, Elizabeth Coleman, and Laura Margaret Allison** for a nice ride and took them by to see the renovations of Valley Head Baptist Church, which they proclaimed as beautiful.

Beth Moore was recently invited to join Mu Alpha Theta Society at Northeast Ala. State Community College.

Ruth and Bert Pickett have been busy entertaining (as well as canning and freezing). They had lunch for **Ruth's** brothers, **Lewis and Roy Card** from Chattanooga, sisters **Betty Bracken**, from Chattanooga, **Thelma McElhaney**, from Ft. Payne and **Uncle Eugene Card**, from Soddy Daisy. **Bert's Aunt Bessie Wright** from Chattanooga, spent two days with them.

Dr. Abdul Rifai came on Sat. July 27, from Berea, KY, for the graveside service for his wife, **Lucretia Davenport Rifai**, at Valley Head Cemetery. **John Holleman** ate lunch with him. He was so grateful to **John** for making the arrangements. **Mary and Ted Holleman** and **John** had him and **Adelaide Biddle** and **Mary Lou Carmichael** from Dallas, Ga., and **E.T. Holleman**, for Sunday lunch, July 28, before the service. Others who came from out of town for the service included her sister, **Jane Davenport** from St. Simons Island, GA; **Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Hamilton**, Tryon, NC; **Ann Brown Davenport**, Tuscaloosa, AL; **Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Ellis**, Rainsville; **Ansley McGinnis**, Florence, SC; **Eleanor Cearley**, Alpharetta, GA; **Laura Schneider**, Chattanooga; **Mrs. Bill Shugart** and **Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Groat**, Fort Payne; and **Mr. and Mrs. Max Cash**, Mentone. Some of the relatives met together at **Laura Margaret Allison's** house after the service.

Congratulations to **Tammy Annette Cooper** and **Andrea Kara O'Tinger** who graduated from Jacksonville State University.

Congratulations to **Brandi Shirley**, who graduated from Auburn.

Schools are now in session, trying to cram lots of knowledge (and I hope wisdom) into youthful brains. If only they would realize what a precious time it is--and what a happy time, and concentrate to use each precious moment for the best advantage.

Everyone enjoy these beautiful Summer days. They are swiftly flying away.

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August Sings

August sings from dawn to dawn,
Gently, softly, on and on—
Loudly, harshly—every tune—
Big and small, they all commune.
There's no silence anywhere—
Happiness sings thru the air—
Music of life gaily swells,
Nature's stories gladly tells.
Listening, I hear more than sound
Joyful hearts with songs abound,
I join, then, the happy throng—
With a glad and grateful song—
Thankful I have ears that hear
August sing again this year!

—Eloise Brown

Summer Free

Summer, you set me free
From Winter's prison walls,
Took me outside to see
Vast beauty that enthalls
Where beauty covers every scene,
With flowers of every hue,
In a lush carpet emerald green
Their fragrance the breeze to endure.
You led me by singing streams,
Where happy minnows play,
Set loose my winging dreams
For a happier, brighter day.
You beckoned me to forest shade
Where ferns and wild plants grow—
And tall trees a cathedral made
Where I my God can know.
You tuned my ears to gay birds' songs,
And the sounds of living earth,
As creatures emerge in happy throngs,
Celebrating the blessing of rebirth.
How great to bask in your sun
And shining moon and stars at night—
To rest and be lazy when work is done—
Summer, you are a season of delight!

—Eloise Brown

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(1) **JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED.** A little R&R. 50 acres level to rolling fields, partially wooded, pond, and cabin. City water, 2 wells, 12x24 storage building, private road. Located in Mentone area, on Lookout Mountain. A must see at \$124,500. **REDUCED \$124,500.**



(2) **A-FRAME CHATEAU.** 1.3 acres of landscaped yard. Open living area. Kitchen, Bdrm-bath, private deck. Upstairs has 2 large bdrms, bath w/garden tub. CHA. 1,200 sq. ft. Garage. Paved. Located Hwy 117, Mentone. Priced to sell. \$118,000.



(3) **FARMHOUSE WITH 1.8 ACRES.** MENTONE. Oak trees outside, oak floors inside. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with tile shower and clawfoot tub, living room with stone fireplace. Open country style kitchen/dining area. Large covered front porch. Detached garage, city water, paved road. \$85,000.



(4) **ROCK HOME ON THE WEST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER.** Located next to Camp Skyline sits a 3 bedroom, 3 bath home with rock fireplace in master living quarters. Greatroom, kitchen and sleeping porch overlooking the water. A must see \$198,500.



(5) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES** is located between Mentone, Alabama and Cloudland, GA., on Alabama Hwy 117. There are river front and mountain stream tracts ranging from 3+ to 14+ acres in size. The middle fork of Little River runs through the property with over a mile of clean pristine water, containing both whitewater and placid pools. The property is situated on the Lookout Mountain Parkway. This secluded, unspoiled area is a perfect getaway for retirement or a second home. All homesites have access to electricity, and city water is planned to reach the developments by 2002.



(6) **THE HANGOVER COTTAGE.** Phenomenal East Brow View from this 3 Bdrm 2 Bath, with Open Living, Dining, Kitchen with Rock Fireplace. Large Screened porch and Deck. All privately located on 6 acres. Priced Right at \$155,000. Cloudland area.



(7) **2 STORY HOME ON CUTLER AVE, MENTONE.** 3 Bdrm 1 1/2 bath, updated with Metal Roof, 12x16 deck, Kitchen-dining combo. Living room w/gas free standing fireplace, cozy den, Large Bdrm with second story balcony. All appliances stay. Located on a level one-acre lot with large Oak trees and lots of wild flowers. \$72,000.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(11) **12 WOODED ACRES** located **SOLD** County Road 106, Mentone. Small Meadow area, paved road frontage, city water available. Lightly restricted. A good buy at \$30,000.

(12) **35.43 ACRES, GREAT HUNTING LAND.** Consists of Wooded and Open land. Test Well, private deeded access. Mentone area. \$53,500.

(13) **INDIAN TRAIL ESTATES:** Building lots on the West Brow, above N. Ft. Payne, county road, city water access, view lots starting at \$10,000; wooded lots starting at \$2,888.

(14) **SIX WOODED LOTS (\$299x199),** across from Sunset Park, DT Mentone, a rare find with Rock Formations. City water and paved. Perfect for the Cabin you have always dreamed of. \$40,000.

(15) **TRACT #32 MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES.** Over 3 acres. Property has natural Rock formations, covered in native foliage. Creek with small waterfall, 323 ft on the Middle Fork of Little River, with good canoeing access to Lake Lahusage. \$39,500.

(16) **DESOTO PARKWAY,** 1.56 Wooded acres. Private access on Polecat Hollow Road. Surveyed, city water access. Build your cabin in the Mountains here. \$21,000.

(17) **GREAT WEEKEND RUSTIC COTTAGE** located in Laurel Creek Lake. Common areas for Hiking and Three Lakes for Canoeing. 2 Bedroom 1 bath. Open Living area, Fireplace GRM. Covered porch with Deck. Wooded 1.75 acres. \$75,000.



(8) **MESQUITO CABIN ON LAKE LAHUSAGE.** Three rooms and a bath, pine and rough floors. Large Deck, with over 2 acres and 500 ft on the East Fork of the Lake. Adjacent boat ramp. Great fishing, boating, or just enjoying the view. **REDUCED \$100,000.**



(9) **WILD RIVER COMMUNITY** (1 Tract left) 220x300 on the East Fork Little River. Secluded and Scenic, with pools and Rapids. \$25,000.

(10) **WILD CREEK MOUNTAIN LODGE**, and guest cottage, in the Mentone area. 5 wooded acres. Lodge consists of Pine floors, PP, Great Room, Kitchen, Bath with rough floors, 2 screened porches. All Doors and Cabinets are hand-crafted. Upstairs has 2 loft bdrms, connected with a cat walk above the Great Room, 1/2 bath. Large covered porch and Deck for the entrance. Cottage has 2 rooms and Bath, pine floors and screened porch. Many unique Mountain touches, make this property a great retreat. \$150,000.



TOO

TOO MANY PROPERTIES TO LIST THEM ALL.

If L.M.P.R. doesn't have it, L.M.P.R. will find what you're looking for.

L.M.P.R. is licensed in Georgia, as well as Alabama.

L.M.P.R. covers more of Lookout Mountain, to offer a wider range to choose from.

Want to sell or looking to buy that special place in the mountains?



The Movie, Southern Heart,
filmed in Mentone and
Little River Canyon area
Southern Heart
 Now available on video
 \$19.95 per tape plus \$1.55 for shipping
 Videos can be purchased
 by credit card on the Internet
 at: www.southernheart-movie.com
 or
 by check or money order payable to:
 The Isaac Group, L.L.C.
 c/o Bryson K. Collins
 200 Clinton Avenue, Suite 801
 Munteville, Alabama 35801
 (please include the correct mailing address)

TO: All Former Members
 Co. C. 151st Engineer Combat Bn.
 1169th Engr. Combat Group
 A. P. O. 301, c/o Postmaster
 San Francisco, California

SUBJECT: Company G, 151st Engr.
 Combat Bn. Reunion

FROM: Willard E. Crabtree
 2199 Alabama Highway 117
 Idar, Alabama 35881, Telephone (256) 832-3035

Our reunion has been scheduled on August 17
 (Saturday) and August 18 (Sunday) from
 9 A.M. (CST) until 5 P.M. (CST)
 at the Fort Payne VFW Post (5128).

On Sunday August 18th, is family day and lunch will
 be catered. For those members who cannot make the
 Sunday schedule, on Saturday, August 17th the VFW
 Building will be open to come for a high level discussion
 (bull session). Hope you can make it for both days.

Please bring pictures to share.

NOTICE

www.MentoneAlabama.org,
 MAPA's web site, has a "Directory" to
 help visitors to our community find
 the places, things, and services they
 might want—much like the Yellow
 Pages in the phone book. If you have
 any information for the Directory,
 please submit it via e-mail to
Listings@MentoneAlabama.org.

If you already have a listing there,
 please make sure it is correct and up-
 to-date. Thanks for your help!

Mentone Post Office Hours

Monday - Friday

Open 8:00 am - 12 noon

1:30-4:15 pm

Saturday 8:30 a.m.-10:30 am

United States Postal Service

Mentone, AL 35984

256-634-4588

Mentone Community House Announcements

•If anybody wants any of the apples around
 the walking track, they are WELCOME to them.

•This fall SENIOR LUNCHESES will be from
 Oct. 2nd (on Wednesdays) thru Nov. 20th.

•Health Fair November 5th

•Tutoring will start at Moon Lake on Sept. 30th

•The Book club Book for August is
 "The Good Earth" by Pearl S. Buck

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

•Thurs-Sun. August 15-18 WORLD'S LONGEST
 YARD SALE, LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN PARKWAY
 Corridor 27 from Ohio to Gadsden, AL

•Thursday, August 22, 4:00 pm., Water Board
 Meeting, Town Hall meeting room, open to the public

•Monday, Sept. 2 - LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

•Tuesday, Sept. 3, 6 pm, MAPA MEETING

Roundup House, Jack Jones Dude Ranch

•Thursday, Sept. 5, 5 P.M., OPEN HOUSE,

MENTONE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

•Sunday, Sept. 8, GRANDPARENTS DAY

•Monday, Sept. 9, 6 P.M., Town Council meeting,
 Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public

•Tuesday, Sept. 10, 12:30 P.M., Rhododendron
 Garden Club, Mentone Community House

•Tuesday, Sept. 10, 6:30 P.M., American Legion
 Post 215 Meeting, American Legion Hall

•Thursday, Sept. 10, 4 P.M., Mentone Planning and
 Zoning Commission Meeting,
 Town Hall meeting room, open to the public



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

But my God shall supply all your need
 according to his riches in glory by Christ
 Jesus. Phil 4:19

What a wonderful promise! We have so
 many needs. We need healing for both soul
 and body, and we have so many problems
 that only God can help us with. But if we will
 have faith in God without doubt, and fully
 trust in Him, we will receive the things He has
 promised us. Just keep believing!!

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

MENTONE PLANNING
 AND ZONING COMMISSION

Meeting dates for remainder of 2002

•September 19 •December 19

Other special or called meetings
 will be posted as required.

The regular quarterly meetings are on the
 3rd Thursday; and all meetings are held in
 the town public meeting room at 4 p.m.
 and are open to the public.

The DeKalb County Library Bookmobile Schedule for 2002

Mentone at Town Hall parking lot
 on Wednesdays
 from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

•August 14, 28 •September 11, 25

•October 9, 23 •November 6, 20

•December 4, 18

•January 2003 - 8, 15, 29

The Bookmobile is in
 VALLEY HEAD

on the same days from 1:15 to 2:15

and in HAMMONDVILLE

on the same days from 2:30 to 3:30