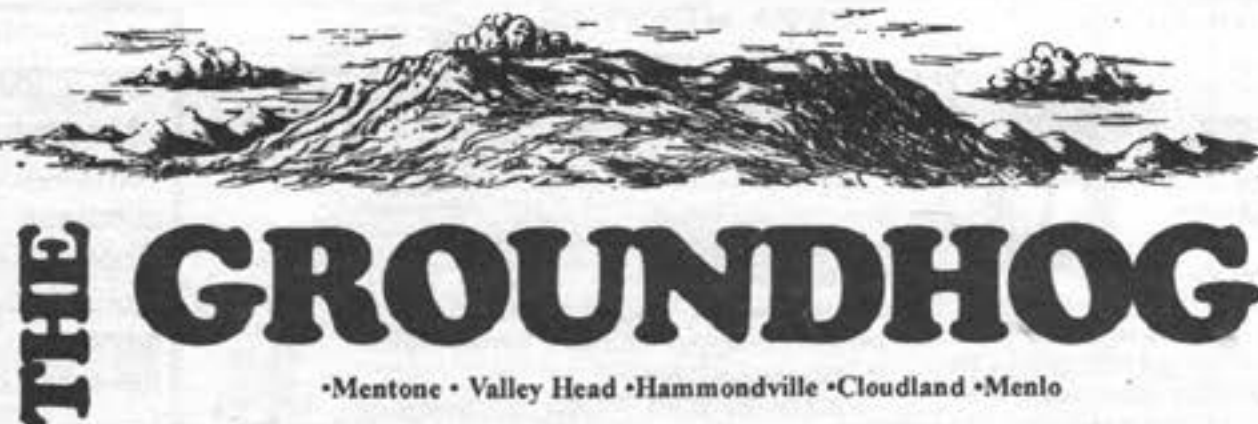


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Volume 20, No. 12

"Neighbory News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

December 2002

GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY



By Evelyn Graves

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night, and lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord... Luke 2:1-11

This is a very familiar passage of scripture that all of us have heard since we were small children, but it is one that never grows old, because it tells of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As I hear the Christmas story read year after year, it always brings back many memories.

When I was a child, I attended the Mentone Methodist Church, now known as the Mentone

United Methodist Church. The Moon Lake Baptist Church, where my ancestors attended, had burned some years before and had not been rebuilt, and we joined in worship with our Methodist friends.

Every year at Christmas time, the ladies in the community directed a Christmas program that included every child in the community who wanted to participate. Mrs. Pearl Matheny, Mrs. Gertrude Mallicoat, and Aunt Ethel Brown were always involved in this program. A man with a good strong voice was chosen to read the Christmas story from Luke. Everything was quiet as the audience listened attentively to the reading. Usually there was a play for the teen-age youth, and then there were various songs sung by the smaller children, as well as the recitation of poetry. This sometimes was done by a number of little girls, each quoting two to four lines until the reading was completed. At some point in time, we always appeared onstage as angels with crepe paper dresses, wings from crepe paper with tinsel outlining our wings. Our halo was a crown of tinsel, which stuck and scratched us throughout the evening. Our dresses also had tinsel around the neck opening which made us miserable. We never complained, because we somehow realized that this was a very special, sacred time, honoring Baby Jesus, and it was not the time for us to complain about trivial things.

I remember one particular time when my uncles, Fred, Leck, and Jim Jones, were teen-

agers and were participating in the Christmas play. Many weeks were spent in preparation for this presentation, and I am sure that, after awhile, minds wandered and mischief set in. They, along with others, including Grace Huron, who was so cute and a favorite among the young people, contrived a plan that Leck would "pass out" just as he was ready to speak. He fell flat on the floor, and Mrs. Matheny and Mrs. Mallicoat were scared and trying their best to revive him when he finally opened his eyes and grinned. Even those two dedicated Christian women had a hard time remaining dedicated or Christian for a few minutes when they realized that they had been the object of a very bad joke.

This incident, along with many more, are what make up the sweet memories of our childhood, and the programs that we as children participated in at church and at school influenced our lives, even as adults. May we provide for our children and grandchildren some of the same opportunities that we had at Christmas and Easter to participate in the birth, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. These are biblical truths that we never forget.

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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.

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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

www.MentoneAlabama.org



The November 5th meeting was held at the Mentone Community House. Jim Lyday gave the invocation. Present were Jack Jones, Dot Crow, Homer and Bernice Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Lucille Crowe, Dessie Newberry, Claudia and David Wassom, Tom and Lynn Donald, Pam Bettis, Barnabas Bettis, Olive Jones, and Bill Berry.

The minutes of the October 1st meeting were read and approved as was the treasurer's report.

Dr. Bill Berry was introduced by Homer Crow, although he needed no introduction as he has been before MAPA on several occasions. Dr. Berry spoke on the history of Moon Lake School.

The meeting resumed with a report on the festival. The winner of the beautiful Indian quilt was Jimmy R. Wilbanks of Rainsville. A young lady, Amber Ashley, drew the name from the box.

On December 3rd, the annual MAPA Christmas Party was held at the Dessie's Kountry Chef. Members each brought a gift in value of no more than \$10, and at the end of the covered dish dinner, drew numbers to select a gift from the table.

There will be no meetings in January and February. The next meeting will be the first Tuesday in March, March 4, 2003.

The MAPA telephone number is 256-634-8339.

The MAPA website is www.MentoneAlabama.org.

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!

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-PUBLIC NOTICE-

MENTONE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Meeting dates for remainder of 2002

•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.

Angela J. Wood
Owner and AL/GA Broker

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(1) SPEND YOUR WEEKENDS IN MENTONE. A Brand New Cottage (1555 sq. ft.) with two bedrooms, one up with Gas Fireplace, and Whirlpool Tub in Bath. Open Kitchen, dining, with Tile and Hardwood floors. Living Room with Gas Fireplace. Wraparound deck. C/WA, city water, located on a wooded lot. \$129,000.



(2) A-FRAME CHATEAU. 1.9 acres of Landscaped yard. Open living area. Kitchen. Bdrm-bath, private deck. Upstairs has 2 large bdrms, bath w/garden tub. C/WA. 1,200 sq. ft. Garage. Fenced. 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) 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.



(5) RUSTIC MOUNTAIN LODGE, and guest cottage, in the Mentone area. 5 wooded acres. Lodge consists of Pine floors, FP, Great Room Kitchen, Bath w/rock 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, Additional 15 acres may be purchased.



(6) WEEKEND COTTAGE ON LITTLE RIVER. Private location with 12 acres and 330 ft on the East Fork. 2 story cottage with bonus room and bedroom upstairs, great-room, kitchen, bedroom and bath on main. Large deck. All this for \$470,000. Reduced \$164,500.



(7) EARLY 1900s TWO STORY FARMHOUSE, located on Cutler Ave. Mentone. High Hedges and Oak Trees make a private setting in town. 2 Bdrms upstairs with sitting area and bath. Living area, eat-in Kitchen & Bath on the main level. Large screened porch. Pine floors, walls, and ceiling throughout. \$85,900. (Photo to the left.)

OTHER PROPERTIES

(10) 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 development by 2003.

(11) 35.43 ACRES. GREAT HUNTING LAND. Consists of Wooded and Open land. Test Well, private deeded access. Mentone area. \$55,000.

(12) 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 \$8,000.

(13) SIX WOODED LOTS (300x150), across from Sunset Park, DT Mentone, a rare find with Rock Formations, City water and perked. Perfect for the Cabin you have always dreamed of. \$40,000.

(14) 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.

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

(16) HWY 117. MENTONE. Older home, 1 bdrm, bath w/walk-in shower. 36x24 living room, handicap accessible. Storage rooms in basement. Over one acre, city water and priced to sell. \$39,000.

(17) FISHING CABIN ON LAKE LAHUSAGE. Three rooms and a bath, Pine and Rock Floors. Large Deck, with over 2 acres and 500 ft on the East Fork of the Lake. Adjoins boat ramp. Great fishing, boating, or just enjoying the view. REDUCED \$100,000.

(18) 7.8 ACRES AVAILABLE IN CHEROKEE COUNTY. MENTONE. Old Homesite with large trees and field. City Water and Private Rd. Located in East Fork Little River Estates. \$35,000.



(8) CABIN ON DRY CREEK, which is always flowing. 2 bedroom 2 bath in good condition. Batten and board siding. Covered porches and a deck. Located on 2.7 acres, Sulphur Springs Rd. \$71,000.



(9) TRULY A HANDYMAN SPECIAL. Located in Ft. Payne. This 7 room is a bargain on a large lot. \$25,000.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR



I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving. We assembled at the home of Michelle and Robert D. Brown for a delicious covered dish feast. Besides them and me were Billy Wallace and John Bob Brown; Cindy, David, Jason and Scot Meadows; A.J., Patil, Robert D., Justin, Mandy Brown; Nick Floyd; Doris, Ryan and Allison Johnson; Beverly Wright; Chris, Emily and Barry Brown.

Fifteen family members enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner at Edith and John Dean's home.

Lavoyd and Bessie Wilkes, Patrice and Geneva Smith went to Huntsville to the home of Glen and Joyce Wilkes for Thanksgiving. Also present were their daughters and their husbands, Tara and Tim Morgan and daughter, Kaitlin; Amanda and Heath Cain and daughter Amy.

Lesia and L.A. Smith entertained with a lovely luncheon, Sun., Dec. 8, for some members of Valley Head Presbyterian Church, including Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Gifford, Mr. and Mrs. Donahue, Linda Smith, and Marion O'Dell.

Bill and Dot, and Linda Blackburn and her friend, Betty Jo Lewis, and Martha and Hoot Gibson, spent five days during Thanksgiving, with Mark and Jane Gibson at their Rock Creek Ranch in West Texas. They have fine Long Horn Cattle on the ranch.

Doris and Jim Carmichael, Linda, Bob and Elizabeth Thomas, spent Thanksgiving with Emmy and Dr. Mark Ricketts in Birmingham. Katy joined them from Tuscaloosa, and Gary, Barbara and Barnes Thomas and daughter. Emmy's Polly came home with Doris and Jim to spend a few days while Emmy, Mark, John and Lucy went to N.Y. for three days to see some shows and vacation.

J.P. and Jo Thornberry, of Menlo, were hosts for the Thornberry family Thanksgiving dinner. Those present were Jo and Jerry Thornberry; Stella Pierce; Arvell, Edith, Tina and Christopher Mullins; Jeannie Lakin; Jim Thornberry; Donald, Margie, Heather and Brittany Daniel; Virginia and Harold; Lendell and Annette Chappell; and girls, Steve, Joannie, Jessica and Anna Thornberry; Ozell and Steven Thornberry, Ronald Daniel; Clarence and Betty Thornberry, Jennifer and Gracie, James, Robin Dylan; Gatlin Thornberry; and Dexter, Shannon and Savannah Smith.

Stella Pierce has had surgery on both of her eyes recently. She is doing well and can see better than she has in years.

Huey Manning has retired from the U.S. Postal Service after more than thirty-five years. His co-workers gave him a retirement party at Western Sizzlin and presented him with a beautiful watch. He will be missed by his co-workers and customers, but everyone hopes he will enjoy his free time.

Venna Livingston came down to church (Valley Head Methodist) Sunday, Dec. 8. She, Mozell Crow and I went to Captain D's for lunch.

Venna and her brother, Woodrow Young, went to California recently and spent about ten days with their brother, Tom Young and Oval and family. Venna's daughter, Sue Mosley, was going to Anaheim, so she was able to be with them and assist them. They enjoyed their trip so much. It was near Sacramento, and they were impressed by the huge and beautiful valley farms that grow 85% of U.S. food. They enjoyed sightseeing and especially being with their brother's family, since it had been so long since they saw them.

Lillie Bowden spent three days Thanksgiving with her daughter, Joellen and Mike Welch and their children, Jamie and Michael, in Chattanooga.

Karen and Mark Freeman, and Ben, Katie, Matt and Susana, went to Mary Freeman's at Pine Mountain, GA, for Thanksgiving.

Luke and Lee Freeman entertained Lee's parents, Debra and Jeff Martin and about 18 other family members for dinner.

Holly, former instructor for the Arthritis Aerobics Class at the sports Center in Fort Payne, came to their Christmas party, and brought her three-month-old triplets, Lilly, Robert and Paul. Everyone had a delightful time playing with the adorable babies.

The following items were given to me by Christine Brooks, which I appreciate very much:

Coley Morgan is enjoying having his dad spending more time with him. They recently went deep sea fishing and Coley caught the largest fish of anyone on the boat - 13 lbs, 5oz. Way to go, Coley!!

In about the middle of November, Don and Coley went to the NE Alabama Hunting Resource Reserve near Powell's Crossing on Sand Mountain and Coley killed 10 pheasants and 17 quail.

Dec. 22 was the shortest day of the year.

November 11, Walter and Christine Books met Walter's brother, Ernest, and his wife, Emma; and they went to Pine Mountain, GA, to Callaway Gardens. They went in a house of 100,000 butterflies and saw beautiful flowers and shrubs. From there, they went to the Little White House where President Franklin D. Roosevelt spent 20 days there taking therapy for his polio and swam in warm springs. The next day, they went South to Plains, GA, and visited the Jimmy Carter Museum, the peanut processing plant, saw where Jimmy and Rosalind live now, and they also toured the old home place where Jimmy was raised.

Lillie Bowden entertained the Sunshine Club, Nov. 19, with a good luncheon. Those present were Elizabeth Bauerle, Jewel Shelbourne, Ruth Pickett, Ada Campbell, Susie Clark, Verence Hawkins, Leona Chadwick, Lillian Pickett, and myself. Billie Harper is having the Christmas party, Dec. 19, at her home—covered dish—and we are taking gifts for The Way Home.

May we have the real Christmas measure
Enjoy its rich blessings and pleasure
All its good memories treasure,
Temper its hard labor with leisure,
Lest we're buried beneath its pressure.
Happy Christmas to all and may it be—
A year blessed with peace and prosperity in 2003!

Qualities of Christmas

(Choral Acrostic)

Christ was the beginning of Christmas,
Cradled as baby of lowly birth;
Center of faith and peace for Christians,
Crucified to save mankind of earth.
Holy is the meaning of Christmas,
Happy is the feeling that we earn,
Hope is the fulfillment of Christmas,
Home is the haven where all return.
Rosy is the color of Christmas,
Red in its glory like cleansing blood,
Reverent is the mood of Christmas,
Radiant the promise of its bud.
Innocence is the purity of Christmas,
Incarnation of God's only son,
Illustration of His love for man,
Immortality—faith will have won.
Sharing is the caring of Christmas,
Sounds of revelry thruout the earth,
Spirit of love embraces Christmas,
Sanctified by our dear Saviour's birth.
Tinsel is the glitter of Christmas,
Trees sparkle with baubles and light,
Trimings decorate streets and houses,
Toys bring joys to children as their right.
Mary was the mother of Christmas,
Music in cantatas and songs of praise,
Merry are the wishes for Christmas,
Memories are made in many ways.
Appreciation is the heart of Christmas,
Advent—the time of preparation,
Adoration and worship of God,
Angels join us in jubilation.
Starlight is the beacon of Christmas,
Shining from God's inviting hand,
Showing the pathway to His presence,
Showers of blessings in all the land.
All—
Qualities of Christmas are sacred,
Its true purpose and meaning reveal—
When Christ is born anew in your heart,
Real Christmas you will practice and feel.

—Eloise Brown

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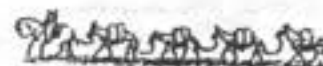
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Fun for the whole family

Our Town

By

LINDA BROWN



I'm sure that everyone is all ready for the Holiday Season. What planet am I on, right? I have not talked to anyone who is ready. It seems that Thanksgiving and Christmas came so close together this year, that it really threw our sense of timing off. We can't seem to realize that Christmas is about a week away.

I hope that all of you have seen the tree in the window of the Mentone Town Hall. The ornaments on it were made by the Partridge Poo Junior Garden Club, also known as the Kindergarten Class at Moon Lake Elementary School. They did a wonderful job on this and I am very proud of them. We have so much fun when we have our meetings. The last meeting was in the dining area of Moon Lake Baptist Church. The kindergarten class were there while the building that they are in was being remodeled. About one-third the size of the existing building was added to it. They are now back in their building and you would not believe the difference that extra twelve feet of space has made. Mrs. Sarrett has moved her desk into the new part and freed up the other for the students. They also painted the walls and installed new carpet.

The stores and businesses in Mentone are very festive. Most all of them have white lights. I wonder if they planned it that way. I hope that, by next year, Mentone will have new holiday lights on the poles through town. The white ones like Fort Payne has would really look good. I know that the Town of Mentone cannot afford them, but maybe some organization (or several organizations) could do it.

Many times citizens have the mistaken idea that the town has a lot of money. Nothing could be further from the truth. Because there is no industry or large manufacturing plants here, the only revenue comes from taxes and the fee to do business in the town. Everyone who has a business here is very good to pay their share, but there just aren't enough to amount to very much. Right now, the streets in town are in bad shape, but there is no money to pave them and paving is extremely expensive. The mayor is working on a grant or other help because some streets must have some attention soon. Because so many towns have outgrown their streets, there is now a specific width and right of way preparation that must be met. We can't just pave what is already there anymore.

The Rhododendron Garden Club had a wonderful meeting in December. We had a great meal together, everyone brought a covered dish. Instead of a serious gardening program we always do something fun at this meeting. This year, a very talented Mentone resident, Gene Giles, gave a recital of the Night Before Christmas, Louisiana style. Instead of reindeer, Santa's sleigh (which was more or less a boat) was pulled by alligators. It was a delightful reading. We then sang Christmas carols and enjoyed being together.

As always happens in the cold weather, most of the work on projects has slowed down. I would think that the contractor who is laying water lines over Highway 117 and side roads is getting a little impatient by now. The crew of workers has had some very nasty weather to try to work in. It seems that they are still working when they can. Maybe all of the lines will be ready by the early part of Spring. As I have said before, water is probably our most important commodity. It is not feasible to drill wells anymore, you never know if the stream of water will last or what the quality of the water will be. Therefore, most of us are dependent on a public supply of water.

I was visiting my dad recently and he said a very strange thing during the course of our conversation. He said, "I know you don't know, but I have always wanted to know where those women were the night Howard was born." It seems that when the time for Howard to be born arrived, at least three aunts and some neighbor women came to the house. But it seems that, at the time during delivery when the doctor needed help, he called Dad and said to come and assist him. The bottom line seems to be that Dad delivered Howard. Where did all of those women go and why were they not available to help? I guess we'll never know the answer. They have all passed away. I had never heard this story and it was a very insightful piece of family history for me.

This holiday season I have heard many comments made about the amount of "stuff" that we all have and will probably get more of. Many young moms have made the statement that they plan to get one major item and not so many that will never be played with. I hope they stick with this thinking.

This started me to thinking about Christmas when I was young. One thing we did that was different, although I didn't know it then, was to put our shoes under the Christmas tree on Christmas Eve. On Christmas morning, they were always filled with goodies. Usually one of the items was new crayons. I loved new crayons and it always broke my heart when one of them was broken. We would carefully remove part of the paper and sharpen them with a kitchen knife. I loved the colors, my favorites were maroon and turquoise. I colored all of the clothes in my coloring books these colors. Of course, we had the usual apples, oranges, nuts and hard candy. My dad always

managed to find a very large stick of peppermint candy. We had to break this with a knife and it usually lasted until the end of February. The hard candy was very interesting, it was in all shapes, flavors and colors. Some of it had little trees or bells in the center and they had a different taste. Dolly Parton's song, "Hard Candy Christmas", doesn't seem so bad to me, all of our Christmases were hard candy ones. The only soft candy was chocolate covered cherries. I am amazed at how old this method of making candy must be.

Our toys were few and far between. I usually got a new doll and my brothers would receive trucks. One Christmas when Howard was about two years old, Santa brought a black stuffed dog. Howard was very much afraid of it and would not even touch it. It spent most of its time sitting on a shelf. Maybe he thought --and maybe it should be so--that animals should always be alive. We had enough live animals that this thought could have formed in his young mind. My dolls were usually baby dolls, but when I was about twelve, Santa brought an older girl doll. I enjoyed her as I could sew by then and I would make clothes for her. When I married and left home, I left her for my sister, Myra. Several years ago, Myra found her and gave her to me again at Christmas. Bobbie Broyles cleaned her up and dressed her in a beautiful pink dress. This doll still holds a place of honor on a shelf above my sewing machine. She was a very welcome and wonderful gift, twice.

I hope that all of you make memories this Holiday Season. Things and stuff may not last, but memories always will. If you are old enough to have grandchildren, sit them down and tell them of your childhood. Better still, write down some of your stories and make copies for them. They will treasure them someday. And, if you had a birth in the family and all of the women disappeared, tell someone where they went while you still remember.

I have received many holiday cards already this year. This is one tradition that seems to continue. I love sending and receiving them. One thing I try to do every year is to make sure that at least part of my cards have a cardinal on them. This is my favorite bird and there is something cheerful about them on a Christmas card. They are usually pictured in a snow scene. Speaking of snow, how can we ever have any when the temperature continues to be above 60 degrees? We have very strange weather in Mentone. My holiday wish for each of you is that you have good health, a warm house, enough to eat and drink and the time to appreciate it all.

Recently, I heard that a dear, dear man is not doing well. Brandol Jones, get well and come back to Mentone soon. We miss you.

Happy Holidays to you and yours and may your every wish come true.

new year's greetings

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Brooklyn Wright, Marisa Wigley, and Kali Hope Haynes

The service and reception was held on Sunday, November 24, at 3PM, at
the Mentone United Methodist Church

Photo by Karen Saferite



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Barbara Petersen at 635-6787, Troop 1012.

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 devotion at 8:30 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 8:30 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 Alwood, Lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnell.

The Harmony Grove Baptist Church invites everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on Co. Road 239 (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 9 PM on Tuesdays.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, dedicated their new sanctuary and church building on Sunday, Oct. 13, at 3PM. Their new location is at 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 85), Fort Payne. Regular worship services are at 10 AM and Sunday School at 9 AM. Steve Schrader, Pastor 845-4314. All are welcome.

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 Menlo service begins at 11:15 AM (EST).

Menlo 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. Singing April 27, 7:00 GA time. Special Singers will be the Brown Brothers.

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 11AM, 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 8:30 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 Caraway welcomes new comers.

MT. Carmel Community Baptist Church, 1041 Yankee Rd., Cloudland, GA 30731, 706-308-7018, 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 634-4478 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.

Lenora Louise Ferrell-Cook

April 8, 1916-December 14, 2002

Lenora was born in Mentone, Alabama. She survived her parents, James M. and Mary Ethel Crow-Ferrell; two brothers, Jim "Bud" Ferrell and Hillman Ferrell, and was the widow of Johnnie David Cook of Fort Payne, Alabama. Lenora has resided in Marietta, GA, since 1957. During the late 1950s, and early 1960s, she was manager of Elizabeth School lunchroom. She was a member of Shady Grove Baptist Church for 45 years where she also served as President of the Golden Circle Sunday School Class and was an active participant of their Senior Citizens groups.

She is survived by her Daughters: Frances Elizabeth Cook-Davis and Judith Gail Cook-Ross, both of Marietta, GA.; Grandson: Joel Scott Davis, Marietta, GA.; Granddaughter: Ashleigh Ferrell Ross, Marietta, GA.

Friends of the family were received at Winkenhof Pine Ridge Funeral Home, Kennesaw, GA, on Dec. 16. Memorial services were held at Shady Grove Baptist Church on Tues, Dec. 17. Rev. Tom Cocklerose officiated. Burial took place at Walnut Grove Cemetery, Fort Payne, AL.

The family respectfully requests donations in her memory be made to the WellStar Community Hospice, c/o WellStar Health System 677 Church Street, Marietta, GA 30060-1148, in lieu of flowers.

Christmas Prayer

Divine Father of all mankind,
this holy season must remind
us all of our obligation
to express appreciation

for the supreme gift we receive
if we accept and believe.

Father, cleanse each mind and each heart,
so that each one may share a part
of your generous love and grace
and in each life may be a place
where you will live and ever abide
with your wisdom lead and guide.

Lead the leaders of each land
so that they may know and understand
how your sacred plan to fulfill
of peace on earth, to men good will--
Bringing an age of peace and reason
fulfilling the promise of this season
that all mankind may know and feel
hope and peace born of love divine and real.

—Eloise Brown

Season's
Greetings

Veterans Day---More Than Just



The Annual Veterans Day program at Moon Lake Elementary School was held on November 11. The veterans attending were: Front Row (L/R): Lyle Nicely, Homer Nicely, and John Hurt. Ed Ringer not picture. Second Row (L/R): Page Cunningham, Bill Schwarz, Benjamin Booth, Charles Elrod, J. Elrod, and John Hurt. Ed Ringer not picture.

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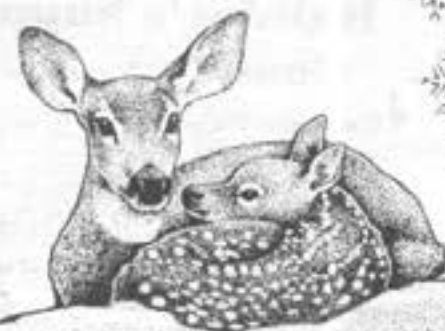
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Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year
from
The Groundhog staff.



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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, 30x50 shed/garage, and a nice landscaped yard on over 1 acre. Call today for acres of elite brow front property. \$55,000.



(2) NEW CONSTRUCTION - Adorable cabin at Mentone, private location, two bedrooms, 2 baths, central heat and air, fireplace with open loft overlooking living area. Private lake. All on 5.7+/- acres. \$99,000.



(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 \$74,800.



(4) ROOM TO ROAM - this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home offers lots of extras. Great room with cathedral ceiling, wood floors, separate recreation room, 2 car garage with large storage room, barn and fenced pasture on 46 private acres connecting DeSoto State Park. \$245,900.



(5) LOOKING FOR A MOUNTAIN RETREAT - This is it! 8 self-contained cabins, office building that could be converted into living quarters, numerous RV and camp sites all on 13+ secluded acres adjoining DeSoto State Park. \$339,000.



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



(7) LITTLE RIVER CAPE. This price has been reduced to \$123,500 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 at only 10 minutes from Fort Payne and Mentone. What a steal!



(8) 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 2.3 acres. Once you see it, you'll want to own it. \$199,000.



(9) BRING YOUR TLC to this 3 bedroom, 1 bath cottage in the heart of Mentone - located behind the Mentone Springs Hotel, within walking distance to all shops and festival activities. What a bargain at \$58,900.



(10) ENJOY LIFE UNINTERRUPTED in this custom built get-away on 4 secluded acres. Two bedrooms and 2 baths with wood floors and a 2-story fireplace offer a cozy atmosphere. Add a front and back rocking chair porch to complete the picture. Hurry before someone buys the cabin of your dreams for only \$125,000.

Merry Christmas

and

Happy New Year

from

Southern Properties

(11)



(14) CUSTOM BUILT 4 year old log home. Features include 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large country kitchen with all appliances, living room with cathedral ceiling, exposed beams, rock fireplace with insert, wood floors and open stairs to 2nd floor. Include a full front porch, 3 side decks, one car garage and 1.7 +/- acres and you are ready to move in! Reduced to \$139,900. Go broke with Prime Realty.



(12) RELIVE THE GOOD OLE DAYS in this distinguished older home made of sturdy stone. The 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, office, living room, dining room and kitchen have all been totally renovated within the last year AND it comes with a view of Lookout Mountain. Buy it today and move in tomorrow. \$122,500.



(15) ALMOST NEW CABIN with 3 bedrooms on Road 3002 in Mentone on 2 +/- acres with access to Brush Creek. Fresh paint inside and out, spacious living room with wood burning fireplace, decks upstairs and down, all appliances and it is ready to move in. \$129,900.



(13) ROCK AND FRAME HOUSE with large living room, eat-in kitchen, 3 bedrooms, one bath, wood burning fireplace, covered front porch, garden spot, 2 acres, all for \$98,500.



(16) 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 carpet with concrete floor, a shop with electricity, a barn, a small storage shed, and a covered picnic area, with 6 acres. \$84,900.

OTHER LISTINGS

- (17) OVER 9 acres on West Fork of Little River close to Mentone on a paved public road with access to city water, 999' of river frontage, several building sites allowing for subdivision or keep as a whole. \$135,000.
- (18) GENTLY ROLLING, WOODED VACANT LAND IN VALLEY HEAD. Perfect for development. Extensive paved road frontage. 62 acres listed at \$3,000 per acre.
- (19) Just listed 4.3 +/- acres on DeSoto Parkway. Only \$48,500.
- (20) Almost 800' on the West Fork of Little River, gently rolling and heavily wooded all within 4 miles of Mentone. \$70,500.
- (21) BUILD YOUR WEEKEND GET-AWAY...on this 1.17+/- acres filled with spectacular rock formations behind city hall in Mentone. \$14,500.
- (22) PRIME PROPERTY on Hwy 11 North. 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. \$400,000.
- (23) LAND! Surround yourself with trees, gentle rolling pastures, water, and a beautiful view of Lookout Mountain. 67 acres of prime property located on Hwy. 11 between Fort Payne and Hammondville is a dream come true. Call today! \$422,000.
- (24) LAND AND LAKE...40 +/- acres with a 6+/- acre lake and Brush Creek runs through it. The lake was stocked with Bass and Bream 2 years ago and is approximately 35' deep. Don't wait-act today! \$180,000.

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Miranda Sweatman, Ft. Payne, AL - 1 night at Mentone Springs Hotel
Villa Bradford, Fayetteville, TN - 1 night at Mentone Inn
Terry Gilbert, Boaz, AL - Dinner for two at Dessie's Kountry Chef

The White Elephant thanks all those who participated in the 5th Annual Open House. There were 1075 names in the box. A special thanks goes to the merchants in Mentone who also offered items for the drawings. All of the winners have been notified.



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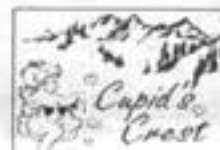
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Our Visit To America

(or What We Did In The Holidays)

by Jo Thexton

The journey to Mentone, Alabama, really started in Australia, where we first met Marilyn Blanton Campbell. Following a brisk exchange of letters across the Atlantic for some months, we had Marilyn visit us in England last year. An invitation to America was quickly accepted by us, and so we arrived in September 2002.

Our previous knowledge of America was mostly from films, or TV, so we undertook a twenty-week course on American history to put a more realistic slant on things. So we were, in part, somewhat more prepared, and having re-read GONE WITH THE WIND, felt we knew a little more.

What we had not reckoned with was the warmth and generosity of the people of Mentone. Wherever we went the people greeted us in a most heart-warming fashion. At a party at the church hall, given in our honour by M.B.C., we were treated more royally than had we been the Queen herself. Apart from all the amazingly friendly people, the scenery on Lookout Mountain was absolutely stunning. The amount and variety of trees were quite breathtaking, not to mention Little River Canyon.

During our stay, we were introduced to Southern cooking by M.B.C., who is a first-class cook, all of which we enjoyed, though we did pass on the grits. We were taken on numerous trips whilst there—down to Selma and Montgomery, Atlanta and Jonesboro (Georgia), and a magical weekend in a log cabin in North Carolina.

The weather could have been kinder, but unfortunately we were dogged by Hurricane Isadore, who was quickly followed by Tropical Storm Lillie. We have never seen rain like it!

Well, we have not missed the tropical type weather since returning to England's sunny shores, but we have missed all the friendly people we met, and are unlikely ever to forget.

Carol (Cutts) and I send our best wishes for a Happy Christmas and New Year to all our friends in Mentone.

Note: Marilyn Blanton Campbell reports that, when her friends, Jo Thexton and Carol Cutts, returned to England, as promised, they found their long time friends (Liz Guinane and Helen Strong—both of whom Marilyn met when she was over there last year) waiting for them at the airport in Manchester, where their plane arrived 1-and-1/2 hours early due to a fierce tailwind. When the ladies got home, they called Marilyn to let her know that they were there safe and sound. During that entire conversation, they laughed and giggled. It would seem that the very first thing their friends had to say to them upon their return was that it had not rained a drop the entire time they had been gone. Marilyn had come back from England last year believing that it rained off and on every little bit and often several times per day, but the ladies went back and were given to believe they had taken the rain with them to America. That was funny until the rain began to fall later on in the day after their arrival home.



December 2002/The Groundhog/Page 13

Huskey Family returns from trip to Nevada

R. B., Joyce, and Tyler Huskey came back from Las Vegas, NV, this fall, after visiting with their daughter, Lisa Patterson, and her husband Steve. The Huskey family went out there for a few days. They said it was great and pretty out there.

This was the first time the family had flown in an airplane and the flight was enjoyable.

While out in Nevada visiting, the Huskeys saw Hoover Dam, Valley of Fire (there are red rocks that look like fire), and many other great places, one of them being the Grand Canyon. The water show at Treasure Island was especially beautiful.

The Huskey family trip was most eventful. They hope to be able to return to Nevada and the surrounding area some day.

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Full Laundry Service

We Buy Standing Timber

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Highway 48
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Learn to sew

You can now sign up for sewing classes
which will be offered at
The Mentone Community Center
on Tuesdays, beginning January 7, 2003.
Classes are for children 10 and up
and for women of all ages
who are interested in learning basic skills.
Contact Evelyn Graves at 634-4390.
\$10 per hour for weekly lesson or
\$30 per month.

VALLEY HEAD HARDWARE

James and Clara Young, Owners
OPEN: Mon.-Sat.: 8-5
Closed Thursday PM
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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
sunrays 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.

[Candle-Lite Ceremonies • Music • Photography
• Flowers • Reception • Lodging • Limousine]

To arrange your wedding or renewing of your wedding vows, call
256-634-4181

Happy New Year!



We're happy to have the chance to say
Happy New Year to you, our valued
customer. Thanks for making this
year such a ringing success.

from
The Groundhog staff

VICKIE'S TIME SAVER

Owner and Manager Vickie Murdock

DeSoto Parkway
at Fischer Crossroads

Visit our Deli for
Homemade Biscuits, Fried
Chicken, Pizza, Corn Dogs,
Deli Sandwiches,
Barbecue made fresh daily

Wolff Tanning Beds Available
\$35 per month. Unlimited visits

Open 7 days a week until 9 p.m.



Enjoy a fine dining experience on the brow of Lookout Mountain.
You'll love the sunsets and good food at Cragmere.

Friday-Saturday 5-9 p.m. DeSoto Parkway - Mentone
For reservations, call Bonnie at
(256) 634-4677

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Valley Head
635-6247

Dixie Salvage

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Fort Payne, Alabama 35967

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Business (256) 845-5475
FAX (256) 845-5475

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Deli and Mountain Grill open Fri-Sat 11AM-6PM
Smoked Pit BBQ sandwich plates,
good fixin's and down home hospitality

BEHIND MENTONE MARKET - 1 MILE ON LEFT
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New Winter Hours: Gift Shop
10AM-6PM; Fri & Sat

New Shipment of Western Decor
•Southern Heart videos available•

2003 Birthday Column

- | Happy January
Birthday/Anniversary
wishes to: | Happy February
Birthday/Anniversary
wishes to: |
|---|--|
| 1- Scott and Linda
Brubaker (anniv.) | 1-Jeff Willoughby
Micah & Michael Moore |
| 3 - Freda Brandon | 2- Karen Davis |
| 4- Ed Ringer, | Terry Bouldin |
| 5- Angela Chambers | 3- Eloise Brown |
| 7- Samuel G. Whatley | 4- Ben Windom |
| Ronnie Hulan | Leslie Thornberry |
| 8- Charlyne O'Rear | 7- Kayla Powell |
| Karen Kay Powell | Mack & Debbie |
| Garnett Lee Smith | Flannigan (anniv.) |
| Robert Brandon | 8- Myrtle Blansit |
| 9- Stacie Worthey | 9- Willie B. Langston |
| 12- Mayfred C. Whatley | 10- Sybil & Danny |
| Denise Black | Hopper (anniv.) |
| Marie Dillenbeck | 11- Kayla Voils |
| Ted Holleman | 13- Craig Hall |
| 13- Lisa Shaw | 14- J. Young |
| 14- S.B. Stinson | 15- Michelle Williams, |
| 18- Barbara Blalock | Stacy Blansit |
| 19- Judy McMahan | 16- Tommy Kilgore |
| 20- Samuel C. Whatley | 17- Ginger Tuxbury |
| Judy Windom | Trey Moore |
| 21- Ashley Tuxbury | 18- Gail Grider |
| Alyce Springer, | William "Jug" Crow |
| Linda Brubaker | Rachel Harrison |
| 22- Madison Moore | 21- Wendy Manifold |
| 23- Clyde Hawkins | David Ashley |
| Scott Gifford | Michael Stephens |
| Kent Kerby | 22- Derek McMahan |
| 24- Dorothy Blansit | Lisa Cordell |
| Tommy Harrison Jr. | 24-Brandon Overstreet |
| 25- Dennis Lewis | Payton Day |
| 26- Dore Foreman | Michael Chambers |
| Shannon Smith | 26- Sanford Hartline |
| 28- Derek Whisenant | 27- Nancy Rector |
| 29- Doy Harrow | |

Note from Marie Dillenbeck: I am in the process of updating my equipment and programs to do The Groundhog. For the past six months, my equipment has not worked efficiently. Therefore, The next issue may not be out until sometime in February and will be a combined January/February issue. Thank you, readers, for your understanding.

If you have any items you would like to have placed in the next issue, please send it to The Groundhog, PO Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

"DRUGLESS"
FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC CARE
Appointments, Accidents,
Workers Comp, Emergencies
Always Welcome
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706/852-2555 home

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706/857-3888 Home; Pager 706/857-9863

706/857-5980 (O)

706/857-5970 (F)

C.S. Baker, GA/ALA. Broker
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CLOUDLAND-ON THE BROW - Authentic pine great room with mountain stone fireplace and built-in bookcase. 2 bedrooms/2 baths, one with walk-in ceramic shower. Kitchen with built-in pantry and abundant cabinets. Large covered porch across back, screened-in porch with mountain stone fireplace/grill. Covered, mtn. stone gazebo allows the privilege of unobstructed view of valley. Guest cottage being totally remodeled. A MUST SEE at \$226,000.00.



FORMERLY "THE BISTRO" - Features 2 dining areas - 2 baths - Kitchen/Prep area - separate apartment - cabin - 2.4 +/- acres. Public water soon. \$95,000. Or will consider lease. (No. A-107)

LINE ADS:

-CREEKSIDE ON LOOKOUT. Beautiful off Brow and interior wooded tracts. Located in this private community. Restricted - Easy access off Hwy 157 Cloudland. Owner financing.

-VALLEY VIEW FOREST, GAYLESVILLE - 5 acres on the brow, beautiful view, bordering Wildlife Management Area. Gated community. Call today. (A-68)

Douglas E. Hoyt CPA

- Bookkeeping
- Payroll service
- Tax Returns
- Business consulting

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Valley Head, AL



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Mentone, AL

unique gifts for home & garden

OPEN Wednesday-Sunday; 11:00 - 4:00 PM

THE REASON FOR THE SEASON

By Christina Wise

The Birth of Jesus was celebrated in music, song and narration once again this year. As in the past 3 years, there was a nativity pageant inside the national Guard Armory in Fort Payne.

Mary rode to the inn and the stable on a donkey, the shepherds had livestock and the wise men traveled by camel train.

This year there was an instrumental overture by a group of local musicians. They played an assortment of Christmas music just to get everyone in the mood.

Once again this was a moving spectacle of the first Christmas retold.

Performances were on Fri. Dec. 13 and Sat., Dec 14 at 6 pm in the National Guard Armory in Fort Payne.

If you were unable to attend this year, you should put it on your calendar for next year. This is a spectacular production with many volunteers and live animals. You and your children should see this wonderful story performed. There was a parade of the nations in full costume at the conclusion of the performance. An opportunity to take photographs was provided at the conclusion of the celebration.

The Community and The Groundhog would like to thank Christina Wise and each and every one of the volunteers who participated in The Reason for the Season performance. Once again they have celebrated the story beautifully and meaningfully.

Marie Dillenbeck, Associate Editor



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 36044
256-634-4588

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

•Saturday, Dec. 25, CHRISTMAS

2003

January

•Wednesday, 1, 2003, NEW YEAR'S DAY

•Monday, Jan. 13, 6 P.M., Town Council meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public

•Tuesday, Jan 14, 12:30 A.M., Rhododendron Garden Club, Mentone Community House

•Tuesday, Jan. 14, 6:30 P.M., American Legion Post 215 Meeting, American Legion Hall

•Thursday, Jan. 23, 4:00 pm., Water Board Meeting, Town Hall meeting room, open to the public

February

•Monday, Feb. 10, 6 P.M., Town Council meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public

•Tuesday, Feb. 11, 12:30 A.M., Rhododendron Garden Club, Mentone Community House

•Tuesday, Feb. 11, 6:30 P.M., American Legion Post 215 Meeting, American Legion Hall

•Friday, Feb. 14, VALENTINE'S DAY

•Monday, Feb. 17, PRESIDENT'S DAY

•Thursday, Feb. 27, 4:00 pm., Water Board Meeting, Town Hall meeting room, open to the public



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders; his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
Isa. 9:6

Isaiah prophesied of the coming of Jesus many years before it happened; but, when it came to pass, many could not accept it. Many would not receive him as being the Christ. But as many as received Him to them gave He power to become the sons of God.

As you do special things in honor of Christ's Birthday, be sure it will be things that will glorify Jesus.

Merry Christmas to all!

MOON LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

NEW COMMUNITY HOURS

TUESDAY 4 - 6 PM
THURSDAY 5 - 7 PM

The DeKalb County Library

Bookmobile Schedule:

Mentone at Town Hall parking lot
on Wednesdays

from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

•November 6, 20 •December 4, 18

•January 2003 - *, 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