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THE

GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville

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Volume 25, No. 12

"Neighborly" News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain

December 2007

HISTORY OF THE MENTONE SPRINGS HOTEL



By Sandra Padgett

In 1983, I was given the honor to write the first article—Vol. 1, No. 1, for *The Groundhog*. That premier issue featured Ruby O'Rear whose parents were pioneers of this area. Her mother is credited with naming Mentone while at the dinner table with her grandfather John Mason and Dr. Frank Caldwell, who built the Mentone Springs Hotel in 1884.

Last week, I found an old box of memorabilia from my days as steward of the Mentone Springs Hotel. The yellowed, fragile paper was on top and there was the beautiful face of Ruby O'Rear and my words describing her as "a consummate gardener". Her yard was filled with lilacs, iris, lilies, and rhododendron. They were beginning to

bloom on the spring morning I interviewed her.

There was also a note in that first paper announcing the death of John M. Graham, uncle of Alexander S. Glover and Rev. Graham Glover (now deceased). His many accomplishments included curator of the Brooklyn Museum of Art and first consultant and vice president of Colonial Williamsburg. The note began, "Mentone as a focal point for individuals of artistic bent was emphasized with the death of John M. Graham on January 28." This reminded me of the fact that Mentone has always been a magnet drawing creative people with vision and energy.

Two people that exemplify this trend are Andy Talton and Mark Alaqua. Their contributions to Mentone are extraordinary. Their restoration of the

Mentone Springs Hotel to its glory is remarkable. But they continued their quest for the betterment of Mentone by restoring the Graham home with its remarkable gardens. John Graham would be so appreciative and proud of their vision and labor.

Another treasured part of Mentone's history, Sam Barrett's home, also benefited from Andy's and Mark's vision and investment. The "Smoke House" design and decor is unique and lively. Mayor Sam would be astounded.

Andy Talton, a native of North Carolina, is a successful businessman and entrepreneur. His talent was greatly appreciated and awarded when he lived in Atlanta. Corporations paid huge sums for his design talent, which he freely and generously shared

with Mentone.

Mark Alaqua's Italian heritage (where his ancestral home in Sicily is a national treasure) has contributed to his love and appreciation of historic buildings. The restaurant reflects his business aptitude and commitment to excellence. The food is stupendous and the heritage of the Mentone Springs Hotel is conveyed in the elegant surroundings.

Our founders of MAPA would raise a toast to Andy and Mark. Rev. Charles White McGehee, our first Groundhog editor, would revel in the elegance of the place. Mabel Kirk, 1983 president of the Rhododendron Garden Club, would have shared her garden wisdom with Andy (and probably have her garden gloves on beside him). Zora Stayhorn would be collecting new stories for her upcoming book. Catherine Bailey, 1983 city clerk, would be amazed at the

tax revenue generated by the businesses of Andy and Mark.

The title of that premier "The Groundhog" article was "Woman of the 80's in her 80's". My salute to Andy Talton and Mark Alaqua is: "Gentleman of the new millennium". Your labor, talent and investment in Mentone have more than anyone else continued the mission of MAPA: "to preserve and protect the heritage, natural environment, and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone Area". We honor you and are indebted to you for making Mentone a better place. Thank you, personally, for finishing my dream. It is beyond my most spectacular vision.

Sandra Padgett, steward* of Mentone Springs Hotel (1980-1991)

*Andy told me the first day I met him: "Think of ourselves as stewards of the hotel, because this building actually begins to 'own' us. How True!

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THE GROUNDHOG

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THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

Editor Evelyn Graves
Associate Editor/typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck
Contributing Editors.....John Baty, Linda Brown,
Sara Jacoway Chastain, Marie Dillenbeck,
Evelyn Graves, LC Moon

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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 20TH DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION.



November 3rd Meeting

The Mentone Area Preservation Meeting was held on Tuesday, November 3, 2007, at 6:30PM. President Amelia Kirk-Lolli called the meeting to order. Leroy Crowe gave the invocation. Present were Amelia Kirk-Lolli, Page Cunningham, Dessie Brown, Jerome Stephens, Dorothy Crowe, Dot Crowe, Joanne Crowe, Leroy Crowe, Marie Dillenbeck, Evelyn Graves, Wesley Chesnut, Anthony Teverino, Claudia Lowe and Dr. David C. Wassom, J.P. Nation, Ronda Bruckno, Kerry Breithaupt, Cindy Tyson, Lisa Carphone, John T. Fischer, Gloria Sitz, LC Moon-Keener, and Lamar Bray, Chief of Police, Mentone.

The treasurer's report was passed out. Page Cunningham, festival chairman, gave a report on the October Colorfest. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the Colorfest. Several suggestions were made regarding the Rhododendron Festival next year.

Reports were made on the Contests: pumpkin carving, best dressed pet in the parade, and pumpkin recipes.

It was suggested that the spring MAACC Arts and Crafts Festival and the MAPA Rhododendron Festival coordinate their events for the same weekend next year.

It was announced that the quilt done by Louise Hedrick of Sand Mountain was won by MAPA member, Joanne Crowe of Mentone.

A motion was made to appoint JP Nation the chairman of the festivals next year. A discussion followed, and the matter was tabled for later in the meeting. Many suggestions were made to improve the next festival. A special committee was suggested consisting of the five Board of Directors and five members to meet by December 11; and January 8, 2008, and report to the membership at their first meeting of the year.

The appointment of the festival chairman was brought back up on the floor. By majority vote, JP Nation was appointed chairman of the festivals.

Page Cunningham made a motion that a special committee of the members of the Board of Directors and five others who would volunteer to serve on the committee for the purpose of discussion matters pertaining to the festivals be appointed. The motion carried and the five volunteers are LC Moon, Debbie Lepper, Kerry Breithaupt, and Greg Coe.

The annual Christmas Party was brought up. Anthony Teverino made a motion that a Christmas Tree be purchased for no more than \$300, along with a nativity. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the members, and by unanimous consent.

Dave Wassom made a motion to meet in January and February. Kerry Breithaupt seconded the motion, which was passed.

Kerry Breithaupt suggested that a speaker system be purchased and encourage the retailers to have music during the Christmas season. Kerry also recommended that an award for residential or businesses to decorate for the season and clean up their property in the front and back; thereby taking pride in their property and business.

Many good ideas came out of the meeting and the members are looking forward to a great year in 2008. On December 15 and 16, the Log Cabin Village will have an open house, according to one report at the meeting.

Tony Teverino made a motion that the sum of \$150 be set aside for advertising and white lights in Mentone. The motion carried.

The annual MAPA Christmas Party was discussed. A motion was made that each members bring a \$10 gift to the December 4 meeting, at 6:30 PM, along with a covered dish for the party. Dessie volunteered to cook the meat for the party.

New member Armand Couteu spoke to the members regarding the MAAC organization. He urged the two groups, MAPA and MAAC to combine their efforts as their goals can be the same and both organizations can work together to make the festivals and art shows successful. A MAAC tour has been planned for November 17.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and the meeting was adjourned to have delicious refreshments.

See message from the MAPA president on page 16.

Be looking for notices about town for date of the Celebration of Lights in Mentone.

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NOTICE

For the November and December issues, please have all your articles and ads in by the 10th of the month. During the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays, I wish to spend time with some of my family. My sister lives in Illinois, and one of my sons lives in Texas. Thank you for understanding.
Marie S. Dillenbeck, copy typesetter

MENTONE AREA ARTS COUNCIL OFFERS CHILDREN'S ART WORKSHOP

The Mentone Area Arts Council is offering a holiday stained-glass mosaic workshop in December. Board member Linda Muñoz will be teaching two mosaic workshops for children ages 8 to 14 years old on Saturday, December 15. This will be a great opportunity for youngsters to create a small sun-catcher with a Christmas tree, cross or abstract design for themselves or for gift giving to someone special this holiday season.

The first 90-minute workshops will be from 10:30 am to 12 noon with the second one from 1:30 pm to 3 pm. Check-in will begin 30 minutes before each class. Each workshop's enrollment is limited to 8 youngsters. The cost of the workshop is \$13.00 which includes all of the necessary supplies to create the 5" X 7" sun-catcher. Ms. Muñoz also supplies all safety equipment needed for working with the stained glass. Light refreshments will be served.

The workshop will take place at the new Atali Center for the Arts located at 21279 Scenic Drive in Mentone, 1/2 block from the blinking light, just past White Elephant Antiques. The fees from this workshop will help the Arts Council raise money for more classes in the future.

To enroll in the workshop, call the Atali Center at 634-4480 (or 866-370-1597 outside the 256 area code) by Friday, Dec. 7. Leave your name and a phone number and the Center will call to confirm your reservation and answer any questions. Workshop fees can be paid on the day of the class with cash, check or charge card.

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FATHER SKY MOVES TO MENTONE AND THE ATALI CENTER FOR THE ARTS OPENS ITS DOORS

For those who are familiar with the shop Father Sky Originals & Collectibles located in Cloudland, Georgia, may be surprised it's moving to downtown Mentone. Armand Coutu, Father Sky's owner, said, "The chance to take the gallery to a higher artistic level and let it be what I had always envisioned has finally come to pass." The trademark blue mountains reflecting in a mirror-like lake will find its new home at 21279 Scenic Drive, behind the White Elephant Antique Shop in the location previously known as The Chestnut House and L.C. Moon's Health Food Store.

Kerry Breithaupt, Licensed Massage Therapist, has partnered with Armand to create a whole new type of co-op. "We felt we needed to find a collective name that would identify the place where people will come to do business with us instead of thinking of us as individuals huddled under one roof." It was at this point of discussion that the house and gardens took on the name The Atali Center for the Arts. First, atali may not be a common word to most people; it's the Cherokee word for "mountain." The Center will not only serve the creative artists for which Mentone and Lookout Mountain are famous, but also its historical and natural attractions of restorative health and practitioners of healing. "When I talk about the arts, I'm really talking about two different realms that both feed the human soul equally. I call them the inventive arts and the intrinsic arts," Armand explained. "The inventive arts are of course the visuals arts, music, literature, dance, theatre and film; whereas the intrinsic arts are the healing arts, massage, holistic nutrition, alternative medicine, spirituality and religion. It is the union of the miracles of the body, the mind and the spirit."

Not only is Armand the owner and director of The Center, or TACA for short, he is also a life coach with a business named Helios Life Strategies. "My slogan is Imagine, Declare, Achieve. I help people clarify, formulate, devise and realize their life-long dreams."

The Atali Center for the Arts will have a simple opening on November 17 during the Mentone Area Arts Council's Artist Studio and Gallery Tour & Sale. So come by and find out more about the programs and events that will be taking place year-round in the inventive and intrinsic arts here atop the atali.

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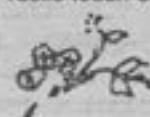
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in the middle; and Mixed Residential paper
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You may bring the above items and place them in the proper slots in the bin.

Thanks to Mr. John Walker of the Fort Payne Recycling Center, who requested
the outreach project in Mentone, we are now accepting the products.

Tombstone Unveiling for Eldridge and Elizabeth Jones

By Richard Sisson

On October the 6th, several descendants of Eldridge J. Jones and Elizabeth Francina Lane Jones gathered on the grounds of the Eldridge J. Jones homestead in Mentone, DeKalb County, Alabama, now known as the "Berry Patch" to honor their ancestors with a recently placed grave marker. The Jones cemetery is on the grounds adjacent to the Eldridge J. Jones homestead, circa 1846. The present owner/occupant of the Jones ancestral home, Mrs. Marjorie Jones Berry, very graciously opened the home and grounds for what in effect was a Jones' family reunion. The weather was very pleasant for this momentous occasion on which Eldridge and Elizabeth were memorialized with a sweet service in the family cemetery with all gathered around the new marker. Descendant Richard Sisson of Charlotte, NC, spoke briefly about the history of the Jones place and Eldridge and Elizabeth Jones, and gave some of the historical background of Eldridge J. Jones' family. The devotional was given by another descendant, Dr. Bill Berry, from Psalms 100, verse 5, and we were led in song accapella by descendant Mrs. Evelyn Jones Graves with "The Family of God" and "When We all Get to Heaven." Afterwards we enjoyed a hamburger and hotdog cookout prepared by David and Diane Gilbreath; there's nothing like a hamburger that's been grilled on a charcoal grill. We had a nice turnout with the majority of descendants from Thomas A. Jones, the youngest child of Eldridge and Elizabeth Jones. There were two descendants from Eldridge and Elizabeth's second child and eldest daughter, Nancy Hilburn Jones Blalock; they were Karen Saferite and her family and Taylor Floyd Crowe. Descendant Richard Sisson descends from the seventh child of Eldridge and Elizabeth Jones, and she was Easter Elizabeth Jones Hamilton. We missed Mrs. Betty Johnson and regretted that she was not able to attend due to immediate family commitments: she descends from Eldridge and Elizabeth's son, John Jones, and his wife Narcissa Elizabeth Crowe Jones. Mrs. Karen Saferite documented the event with her digital camera.

The family of Eldridge J. Jones is certainly an interesting one and full of interesting historical facts and anecdotes. The family of Eldridge J. Jones arrived in the area of DeKalb and Cherokee Counties in or prior to 1846. The land patent for the Jones homestead is registered in the Huntsville, AL, Land Patent Office in 1846. The core part of the Jones ancestral home is a two over two four-room log cabin with chimneys at either end and a central hall in the middle with a staircase at the back that takes one to two sleeping chambers. Originally, the kitchen was detached and behind the home. The home was probably built in 1846, and certainly prior to 1861. The width of the boards in the home lends credence to the age of the home. After the death of Elizabeth Francina Lane Jones in 1881, the place was purchased from all other surviving heirs by son William Taylor Jones known as "Billy Jones."

Eldridge J. Jones was born 9th of November, 1811, Jackson Co, GA; and died 16 February, 1865, Mentone, DeKalb Co, AL. He was murdered by Union soldiers, and the vest he had on that fateful evening is still in the family replete with bullet holes and bloodstains. Eldridge J. Jones married 14th of December 1834, to Elizabeth Francina Lane. Elizabeth was born

14th January, 1815, NC or GA, and died 13th of August, 1881, DeKalb Co., AL. (Elizabeth's parents were Jesse Lane and Rhoda Jolley.) They had ten children that lived to adulthood in Jesse, Nancy, Almada, James, William ("Billy"), John, Easter, Tabitha ("Annie"), Mary ("Mollie"), and Thomas.

It is interesting to note that Eldridge's daughter Nancy Hilburn Jones Blalock signed in three different places on the application and affidavit of her grandmother, Esther Holmes Jones, for the War of 1812 widow's pension. The Victorian penmanship of daughter Nancy was absolutely exquisite. The father of Eldridge J. Jones was James Jones, who was born in 1787, in Wilkes County, NC, and died 12th of November, 1853, DeKalb Co., AL. James Jones married 2nd of July, 1806, Jackson Co., GA, to Esther Holmes. Esther Holmes was born 23rd June, 1786, Rowan Co., NC, and died about 1876, Tupelo, Lee Co., MS, formerly Pontotoc, Pontotoc, Co., MS. James and Esther had thirteen children that lived to adulthood: Edward, William, Thomas, Eldridge, James, Charles, Nancy, John, Elizabeth, Oliver, Reuben, Mary Jane, and Rebecca.

James Jones, father of Eldridge Jones, acquired land from his father, Russell Jones, 17th of September, 1814, and is recorded in Deed Book F, page 114, Clerk's Office, Jackson Co., GA, for the sum of \$1,500.00 for 200 acres. James Jones served in the War of 1812 as a Lieutenant in Captain Nehemiah Garrison's Co. of Georgia Militia from 21st of November, 1814, to 20th of May, 1815. He enlisted in Jefferson, Jackson Co., GA. He received a Bounty Land Warrant as part of his payment for service. Esther Holmes Jones received a widow's pension (Certificate #5969) in 1872. Esther Holmes Jones signed the affidavits and application in about three or four places; her writing matches the writing and entries in the Jones Family Bible exactly!

James Jones' will was written in May of 1853 in Cherokee County, AL, but was probated in Chattooga Co., GA. A copy of the will was also recorded in Pontotoc Co., MS, where three of his sons resided and part of his estate was settled. In his will, James leaves his "three old negroes, Harry and his wife Dice and also Betty, \$100.00 to be shared as a legacy amongst the three of them. He also instructs that his son, Reuben Thornton Jones, to be their guardian and to look after them in Pontotoc, MS. The son, Thomas, takes the slaves out to MS and the estate records reflect charges for travel via stage coach, ferry crossings, food and lodging at various inns enroute to MS and back. The estate inventory is extensive, and bequeaths in excess of \$4,000.00 in cash from James Jones to his widow, Esther Holmes Jones. Payment for several yards of black silk in the settlement of the estate was no doubt for a mourning dress that was made for Esther.

The father of James Jones and grandfather of Eldridge J. Jones was Russell Jones. Russell Jones was born in 1745 in Virginia and died 25th of February 1828, Franklin Co, GA. Russell was married about 1770 in Orange County, VA, to Nancy Anna Beasley. They had ten children that lived to adulthood: Elizabeth, Russell, Arglin, Amelia, Lewis, Dudley, Mary, Thomas, William, and James. The home of Russell and Nancy Jones built in the 1700's is still standing in VA, NW of Charlottesville, located near

the intersection of US 29 and Meadow Creek. The family of Russell Jones moved to Wilkes County, NC, from VA around 1779. It was from this county in NC that Russell served in the Revolutionary War. It has been speculated but not yet proven that Russell Jones' home in Wilkes County, NC, may still be standing. If this is proven true, it would be in the Linville Mill Creek area. Around 1789-1790, Russell moved with his family to Franklin Co, GA. On 28th of November 1792, Russell Jones was appointed Justice of the Peace in Franklin Co., GA; and, in 1793, he was elected to the State House of Representatives from Franklin Co., GA. Also, in 1793, he was appointed Lt. Colonel in charge of Franklin Co. state militia to repel an anticipated Indian attack that never occurred. In 1795, Russell Jones exposed the Yazoo Land Fraud, and was elected to the Georgia Senate from Franklin County, GA, in 1796. On 19th of May, 1796, Russell Jones was appointed Justice of the Inferior Court of Franklin County, GA, until he resigned in 1803. Russell Jones, the grandfather of Eldridge J. Jones, married a second time in April of 1809 to Sarah Keese after Nancy Anna Beasley Jones died in 1807. The second marriage to Sarah Keese Jones involves a prenuptial agreement around their respective property.

Russell Jones' will was probated 3rd of March, 1828, in Franklin Co., GA, and encompasses about forty pages. The will includes household contents that included "silver spoons, mahogany dining table, and six Windsor chairs," land and slaves. The slave "Harry" was given his freedom. The estate inventory suggests a very prosperous and self-sufficient household.

Continued to Page 25.

ARE YOU A DESCENDANT OF:

Eldridge Jones and Elizabeth Francina Lane Jones? Or a descendant of John Hamilton Sr. and Mary/Polly Rhodes Hamilton, or John Hamilton Jr. and Ann Catherine Neill Hamilton?

These families lived in Cherokee and Dekalb Counties, both arriving in the area in the 1840s. I would love to correspond with anyone who is a descendant of these families as I am working on their histories. I am personally a direct descendant of all of these families.

Please contact Richard Sisson

@ 704-763-9434,

or by email lovhist6@bellsouth.net

or by mail at 4908 South Hill View Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210.



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Halloween Pictures from Contest at Snappy Graphics and Gary's Power Sports

A good time was had by all on Halloween at Snappy Graphics and Gary's Power Sports. The winner for best overall costume was Joyce Shirley & granddaughter Kayla Hiland, who received a \$25 gift certificate. The cutest costume was Jamie Mayhew, and the scariest costume was Triston Goss, who received a t-shirt with their photo. All other contestants are pictured below. Thanks to all who participated. Of course, Dracula, (Beverly of Snappy Graphics) the beautiful Witch and the Biker (Carol and Gary of Gary's Power Sports), as well as a friend The Lone Ranger (Marie), are not being judged, just having fun. All the scare-crows are also pictured. It was a great time.



Carol Goodman



Triston Goss



Beverly Smith



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Linda Patterson, owner of the chapel, said the idea for it began with a
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By Bill Crane

LSU ran into a den of Wildcats and got clawed out of first place. They enjoyed being first for three weeks, but took Kentucky for granted, much to their displeasure. Live and learn. Ohio State is now number one. How long will they be there? Time will tell, but if the trend continues, they will enjoy being number one only a few weeks. I have said that the fifth weekend in September was "upset weekend." Well, that just started the downfall of rated teams. Every weekend since then, seven to nine top twenty-five teams have been on the short end of the score. I think the rotation we are seeing is unprecedented. Usually, if a team starts the season in the top 10, they stay there for a long time. But not now. Being there too or three weeks is now the norm. And the unknowns, like South Florida, are getting in by beating some good teams. Instead of football, maybe we should call it "parity ball."

Now to baseball. George Steinbrenner has done what he indicated he was going to do — run Joe Torre off. He offered Joe a one year contract at a 33-1/3% reduction in salary. Joe was insulted and turned him down. George knew Joe wouldn't take that, so he accomplished what he wanted to do. I think he lost the best manager in baseball. No other manager could have done what Joe did in September. Entering that month, the Yankees were behind the White Sox and Mariners in qualifying for the wild card team in the American League. But Joe got the Yankees winning and really blasted the other two teams out and almost beat Boston to win the division. Joe made many more right moves than bad ones when he needed to juggle his players. Sure, he had some top caliber player to juggle, but a manager's effectiveness is putting the right player in the right spot at the right time. Few managers can do this consistently, and Joe is the best in doing it. If he gets back in baseball, he'll prove what I say. I hope he gets back in the game for baseball will be downgraded if he hangs it up.

While on baseball, I want to stick my neck out again before the World Series starts by picking the winner of the World Series. The Colorado team is on a roll in having won 21 of the last 22 games. They swept both the Phils and the Cardinals in winning the National League Championship. As I see it, the big negative for them at this point is they have been resting for eight days, and that is too much. The Boston team came from a 3 to 1 deficit in the series against Cleveland and blasted them for three straight games. They have rested for two days and will open the Series at home. I'm going to pick Boston to win the World Series for two reasons. They have the most

RAMBLINGS

batters who can hit the ball out of the ball park, and they have baseball's best pitcher in Beckett, who is to pitch the opening game. If the Rockies can stay close to the Red Sox in game one, I'll probably be wrong in my choice of the winner; but, if the Red Sox stomps them in the first game, the Series will be over. Furman Bishop of the Atlanta Constitution picks the Rockies to win, but I disagree. I do agree with his commentary about baseball losing appeal by it dragging the playoff and World Series out so long, now into November.

The preseason basketball polls have appeared and it looks like Tennessee, Arkansas, and Kentucky will be the powers in the Southeastern Conference. Then, look what happens—Kentucky gets beat by an unknown in their first game, at home at that. I can hear Adolph Rupp turning over in his grave! Like football, parity seems to have sprung in college basketball for GA Tech joins Kentucky in getting beat in their first game by an unknown. It has been announced that Joe Torre has signed to manage the Los Angeles Dodgers, and I'm glad. The Yankees keep losing players after Torre left the managerial position. A-rod has declared free agency, others have left. Since A-rod wants to own a large part of baseball to sign, only the Yankees and the Dodgers can afford him, and the Yankees haven't shown any interest in signing him, so he may join Torre in Los Angeles.

Alabama finally played one of their big games against LSU, and couldn't quite pull out a victory. They were winning until right at the last few minutes in the game. That game seems to have taken the starch out of them for they then go down to Mississippi and get beat. They must be looking ahead to their really big game against Auburn. Auburn is winning most of their games so this game should be a barn burner. Right now, I rate this game a toss up. I was perfect in picking the winners of the baseball divisions and the world series, but my crystal ball is too clouded to see who the winner may be in the Alabama-Auburn game. You may call me chicken, but that is how close the two teams are at this stage of the game.

The most unstable position in the football polls is the number 2 spot. The team sitting in that spot gets beat nearly every week and much more often than the team in the number 1 spot. I thought Boston College was the second best team in college football, but they lose, and now LSU is back in that spot. Ohio State seems to be the best team as they have held the number one spot several weeks. Who will play them for the championship?

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DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

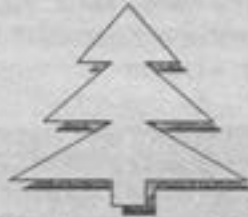
- 1 - Kaylee McMunn; Brian Green
- 3 - Kerri McMunn
- 4 - Cheryl Baker
- 10 - Bobbie Smith, Kevin Worthey, Melody Gilbreath
- 11 - Bud Fielder
- 12 - Sue Brown, Sonny Crane, Kristen Lauro, Homer Crow, Bill Cyr
- 13 - Michael Streeter; Sandra Blalock
- 16 - Karen Holcomb
- 17 - Randy Green, Lorelei Lauro, LeiLani Dillenbeck, Wesley Griffith
- 18 - Daniel Brown, Charles Akes, Ashley Henry
- 20 - Ilene Green
- 22 - Sid Holcombe
- 28 - Ladonna Blalock
- 30 - Emily Collins, Lyle Nicely, Ann Chesnut

Anniversaries:

- 1 - Cotton & Pam Baggett
- 4 - Gus & Janet Spahr; Al & Dianne Kuehl
- 5 - Steve & Jenny Rogers, Bill & Christina Wise
- 12 - Charlie & Sue Brown
- 18 - Jim & Joan Byrum
- 19 - Ovie & Barbara Blalock
- 21 - Jim & Penny Lyday; Randy & Marilyn Hodge
- 24 - George & Hope Walker
- 25 - Bill & Dorothy Cyr
- 29 - Randy & Brenda Green
- 30 - Jimmy & Evelyn Graves



Historic Mentone 1st Annual White Christmas Celebration!



- Who: All Mentone Area Business Owners
- What: Visitor Appreciation
- Where: Mentone Area
- When: Thanksgiving Weekend thru New Years Day with an open house at your place of business Dec. 1st & 2nd

Business Owners lets join together and offer our visitors an enchanted Mentone white Christmas. As business owners we can increase our business as the winter season normally lulls. We can offer visitors to Mentone a beautiful display of white lights and decorations. We are asking that all businesses participate with white lights for our theme of a white Christmas. All businesses that participate will be listed on the flyer that promotes an open house for the weekend of Dec. 1st and 2nd featuring any special plans you have for the weekend. Contact L.C. Moon 634-0066 @ Wildflower for details

TURTLES

By John Baty

When I was a child, my Daddy, Norace Baty, got some ducks and let them range and swim along the branch behind our house. He worked away at the time and only was home on weekends. The ducks would lay their eggs in the grass along the branch in the clean pasture and we would gather duck eggs and hunt turtles. Daddy didn't speak of tortoises, hard-backed turtles or any of the common names. He called them "snapping turtles." Snap they do, and if one bites you, he will hold on until it thunders. Some probably didn't know that. Daddy would dress any turtle we caught (well really, he would undress it — take off the skin and the hard shell), and my Mother would fry it. Fine eating. A turtle has seven kinds of meat on his bones: chicken, fish, goose, lamb, turkey, pork, and... I can't remember the last one. Daddy told me that when he and his twin brother Horace were ten years old, they would wade barefoot in the pond behind the house and feel with their toes for the hard back of a turtle in the mud on the bottom. There were four of these round natural ponds within a mile of each other, all on top of hills. The only explanation seems to be meteorites. By feeling around with the feet, they could determine which was the tail (safe) end of the turtle and grasp him by the tail and pull him out.

I know that story must have been true because we have a picture of the twins over our mantel taken when they were ten years old, and they are barefoot in the picture.

I thought turtles were the best of fare until I sat in on a biology class and the

professor had done his dissertation on turtles. We were required to look at some of the things which lived within the turtles and heard the professor say he would not eat one of the things for a million and a night with his choice of co-eds. I sorta felt different about the snapping turtle after that class.

Back when our old dog, Russell, was alive, and had lost most of his eyesight, a huge snapping turtle came stalking up in our yard and Russell was about to attack it. The old turtle was about the largest one I had ever seen around these parts, and he was snapping at Russell with some vicious jabs. Russell got him backed up against the fence and was getting serious about the fight. I thought I might dress and eat the big fellow, but then... I told Mary Sue to get the wheelbarrow. I eased around and got him by the tail and hoisted him into the wheelbarrow. She pushed him up to the road and dumped him under the fence near the neighbor's pond. As she rolled him out of sight, I could hear him striking the wheelbarrow, trying to get at the driver.

Recently, I saw two turtles on the road. Large fellows with very hard shells. Hardest I ever saw. I bet the backs of those would hold up a lot.

You know, if it were really Bertrand Russell who asked the lady what the turtle who was supporting the flat, motionless Earth was standing on, she could have said Lookout Mountain and would not have been far wrong!

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Marie Hunt

As a young girl, Marie was always singing--watching Disney movies, in church, in the car, etc. Now, she is majoring in Musical Theatre at Birmingham Southern College.

Marie Hunt is the granddaughter of Virginia "Ginny" Fisch Bosworth. She is the daughter to James and Mary Jane Hunt of Mentone.

In 2006, Marie graduated from Fort Payne High School. One of her major accomplishments was being chosen to be a part of the Alabama All-State Show Choir. She is the only one from Fort Payne High School to ever be selected for this honor. Thirty girls and thirty boys are chosen throughout the state. The show choir performed at The University of Alabama and at Samford University. During her Junior and Senior years of high school, she performed in several plays at Northeast Junior College - Peter Pan, Charlie Brown, and Joseph.

As a Sophomore at Birmingham Southern, she just finished performing in "The Taming of the Shrew."



Virginia "Ginny" Fisch Bosworth, left and her two granddaughters: Marie and Amber Hunt on Virginia's 93rd birthday on July 26, 2007, on board the Dixie Queen Boat in Chattanooga

Marie had the honor of being the "shrew" as Kate - the lead role. Also, she was elected to the Homecoming Court of BSC as Sophomore attendant.

Her freshman year, Marie participated in the productions of "Urinetown" (a Broadway musical), and in another Shakespeare play, "As You Like It."

Next Spring, she will play the lead role in "Merrily, We Roll Along" at BSC. It is a Sondheim production - a Broadway musical.

She has also been on the Dean's list both semesters as a freshman.

VALLEY HEAD WOMAN'S CLUB

The Valley Head Woman's Club started its 2007-2008 year off with a very informative program presented by Harriett Lillich and Christina Wise. Mrs. Lillich was a teacher of World History before retiring to Mentone, and she presented a timely program dealing with the basics of Islam. She discussed the ideals of Islam and explained some of the differences in the many branches of Islam and that these branches are very diverse. Mrs. Lillich explained that the Wahhabis to which Osama Bin Laden belongs is very fundamental in the belief that they should follow only God's law and not those of man; and that, therefore, all others are infidels and must be destroyed.

Christina Wise shared some of her experiences of living as a Christian woman in an Islamic country. She lived in Saudi Arabia for seven years. The fact that there is much diversity in the religion of Islam was discussed and both Mrs. Lillich and Mrs. Wise stated that it would be a mistake to criticize all of Islam because of the beliefs of the most extreme factions.

In October, the meeting was held at the home of Flo Kirby; and Mrs Brenda Wisner, incoming principal of Moon Lake Elementary School, was introduced to the members. Mrs. Wisner spoke on the Future of Moon Lake School. Mrs. Wisner, who is new to the school, said she is very impressed with the support this school receives from the community; and she expressed her pleasure at being the principal of the school in Mentone.

The meeting in November was held at the home of Judy O'Daniel. Mrs. Jan Wilkinson presented the program and taught us a bit about the process of illumination. Illumination is an art form whereby books are decorated by using decorative letters in the text. It was a practice in early monasteries to illustrate text in the Bible by this method.

The Valley Head Woman's Club has begun its yearly sale of pecans. The pecans are fresh from this year's crop and are available from any club member.

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Tracy and Annlyle Johnson

both received best in show ribbons on their sweet potato biscuits that they entered in the DeKalb County VFW Fair. This is the second year in a row that they have received it. Tracy is the owner of Granny Hester's Homemade Sweet Potato Biscuit Co. Annlyle is in the third grade at Moon Lake Elementary School.



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Eagle Scout Cherbonneau

The Eagle Board of Review for Max Cherbonneau was held on November 18, 2007.

Max joined Boy Scout Troop 106 on 1/27/2003. He earned the following:

Leadership positions:

Troop Guide: 10/2/2006-10/15/2006

Senior Patrol Leader: 10/15/2006-9/17/2007

Assistant Senior Patrol Leader: 9/17/2007- 11/8/2007

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EAGLE PROJECT

Max coordinated and directed the landscaping of Moon Lake Elementary School's north courtyard during the spring of 2007.

Max is the 28th Scout in Troop 106 to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. His parents are Allen and Jan Cherbonneau of Mentone.

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LAKE FRONT LIVING... Walk right out the back door to custom built wooden decks and walkways to your own boat dock on Lake Lahusage. This 2 bedroom, 2 bath cottage with pine floors, wood burning fireplace and screened porch, 2-story 2-car garage with apartment possibilities can be yours for only \$399,900. (16822)



IN-TOWN CHARMER - Walk to downtown Mentone from this 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath cottage featuring wood floors, cathedral ceiling and gazebo all on 1 acre with more available. Call today! \$149,900 (16659)



A PLACE FOR YOUR OWN CANOE! Why go anywhere else when you can enjoy all the amenities and border the West Fork of Little River...Peaceful setting just 5 minutes from Mentone. Large kitchen with pantry, breakfast bar, sitting area and computer desk adjacent to indoor and outdoor dining rooms. 6 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 2 offices/living areas, laundry room, Heart Pine and Red Oak floors, sleeping porches, outside shower, mountain stone fireplace and much more. For more details and pictures, please visit www.dekalbcountyrealtors.com (PLS #16467) or call Susan Collins. A MUST SEE! \$949,900 (Possible fractional ownership. Call for details)



LOOKING FOR PEACE AND QUIET but still need the security of being close to downtown? We've got it! This 4BR/2BA home is surrounded by 3 +/- acres, yet is close to downtown Mentone. Kitchen and dining combination, finished basement, CH&A, and more. \$179,900 (16376)



THE RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT! 11+ acres of private wooded land with 400' of the East Fork of Little River. Also features a 2 bedroom, 1 bath cabin with a screened porch for watching abundant wildlife and viewing native landscaping. Only \$215,000 (Co-brokerage with Prime Realty) (16767)



GREAT OPPORTUNITY! Commercial or residential property on the corner of 117 and 641 in Mentone. High visibility for a business or convert back to a 2 bedroom cottage with fenced yard. Call today to see. \$49,900 (16818)



IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GET-AWAY, you have found it in this cozy log cabin near Mentone. A hot tub on the covered porch and a metal roof give this one bedroom bungalow its warmth and rustic appeal. This cabin features wood walls, floors, and ceilings, a family room with gas log fireplace, and an eat-in kitchen with pantry. Call before this one gets away! \$110,000 (16948)



THE OPPORTUNITIES ARE MANY, BUT PROPERTIES LIKE THIS ARE FEW!! This beautiful traditional 5 bedroom, 4 bath brick home on over 40 rolling acres has ceramic kitchen with island and all the extras. Approximately 18 acres cleared, nice large barn and livestock pond. \$429,000 (14651)



LIVING ON THE WATERS EDGE - Enjoy a panoramic view of the most serene part of Little River from the large screened porch of this country living home. Cathedral ceilings provide an open and airy feeling throughout the great room with fireplace and open balcony. Plenty of room for expansion in the full basement and almost 6 acres of walking trails and a private vineyard. Great for a corporate retreat or single family residence. \$2,000,000 (16795)



ADD YOUR PERSONAL TOUCH to this under construction log cabin in Mentone. Two bedrooms, 2 baths, wood floors, screened porch and gas log fireplace make this a perfect retreat for any season. \$184,500 (15545)



MOUNTAIN MAGIC! Enjoy the comforts of this magnificent Heritage log home currently under construction in Northbend. Property offers 2 bedrooms plus an open loft for possible 3rd bedroom, 2-1/2 baths, pine floors, covered front porch and side deck all situated on a 3.32 acre wooded lot. \$285,900 (16884)

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SouthernPropertiesAgency.com



ENJOY THE GORGEOUS VIEW OF THE LAKE from this NEW construction in Mentone offering 2BR/2BA, large open living room with fireplace, spacious kitchen with dining area, master bath with garden tub and more. Call for your appointment today. \$194,000 (15985)



VALLEYS AND MOUNTAINS. The view is SPECTACULAR. Custom built log home, wood walls and floors, stacked rock fireplace, large kitchen and dining area, 3BR/3BA, screened-in porch and back deck. Restricted subdivision. Get away from the busy life in this mountain hideaway. \$369,000 (15616)



FIRST TIME OFFERED! Enjoy the gorgeous view of the valley below. Kitchen has breakfast bar and stainless appliances. Huge master bedroom has private deck, master bath offers clawfooted tub placed in front of the fireplace. Outside enjoy the stacked rock fireplace/bbq grill. Garage apartment has separate entrance, kitchenette, BR & BA. \$699,000 (15736)



NESTLED IN THE WOODS near DeSoto State Park you will find this enchanting 2BR/2BA house with guest cottage. Has all the amenities you are accustomed to as well as the private location you most desire. Main house offers 1400 +/- sq. ft. of living space with CH/A, fenced back yard and the guest cottage features a wood burning fireplace. \$169,900 (16922)



YOU WILL FALL IN LOVE with this custom built log home situated on a private, wooded lot of over 2 acres in Mentone. This unique property offers log and pine walls, great room with wood burning stone fireplace, dining area, sleeping porch, kitchen with hard rock maple counter-tops, open front cabinets. 2BR/2BA complete the downstairs. Upstairs, an open loft with built-in beds and space enough for extra guests. Offered for \$325,000. (16773)



ALL THE WARMTH & CHARACTER OF YESTER-DAY in this 4BR/3BA home. Features include a wood burning fireplace, wood floors, a gracious amount of windows which allow natural lighting in the rooms and a large laundry room that also features a 2nd kitchen. Possible office or craft room. So many rooms, so many options. Use your imagination. \$135,000 (16128)



HOLD YOUR FAMILY REUNION ON THE PORCH of this 5 bedroom, 2 bath log home featuring a large screened porch, cut stone fireplace, hand made windows, pine floors and large country kitchen. Ambience galore for only \$98,900. (16845)



NATIVE MOUNTAIN FOLIAGE creates a level of privacy for this 3BR/2BA brick house on 3 lots with 300' on the West Fork of Little River. Split BR design, large family room with cathedral ceiling and mountain stone wood-burning fireplace, screened porch overlooking a walkway to the river. 2 storage sheds (1 with electricity), an attached 2-car garage, and CH/A. \$289,900 (16371)



STROLL TO EVERYTHING IN MENTONE from this picturesque cul-de-sac location. This home as a lot to offer. Four bedrooms, 3 baths, living...dining and den with wood burning fireplace and great studio over garage. Three levels of decking with farmable mountain and valley views. Privacy fencing and more. \$429,900 (16366)



NORTHBEND... A gated subdivision. Your family will love this rustic cabin under construction nestled in a wooded 1.8 acre tract featuring great room with vaulted beamed ceiling and fireplace. There are 2 bedrooms each with walk-in closets, 2-1/2 baths and loft/den. Bring your rockers and enjoy the front porch and rear grilling deck. \$169,900 (16721)



THIS NEW HOME IS NOW COMPLETE and ready for new owners. Located in West Fork Subdivision and offers 2BR plus LOFT, 2.5BA, hardwood, ceramic and carpet, Mountain Stone fireplace, cedar siding, covered porch and side deck all on a 3.48 acre partially wooded lot with a seasonal view of the mountains. \$179,900 (16477)



YOU WILL LOVE COMING HOME to this cabin with 3.3 acres in Mentone. SELLING FURNISHED. 3BR/2.5BA cabin has everything you need! Main level master BR and glamour bath with jetted tub, separate shower and walk-in closet. Upstairs are 2BR/1BA. Call now and make your move to Mentone today! \$199,400 (16059)

BUILD HERE on this gorgeous 4.4 acre tract with a fabulous view of the valley below. Ready to build with existing septic system and well. Located on the North Brow in Mentone, this lot has unique rock formations. Don't wait or this one will be gone! \$299,000 (14998)

NATURE AT ITS VERY BEST describes these wooded acres. 1000 feet of valley views, nice timber and a small stream are found as you walk or ride the trails on this special 78 acres tract with access from 3 roads. Call for more information. \$897,000 (15933)

BUILD YOUR NEW HOME ON THIS BROW LOT in Mentone with a breathtaking view of the valley below. Lot offers approx. 100' on the brow with 2 additional lots available. \$92,500 per lot. (14598)

3.32 +/- ACRES JUST OUTSIDE THE MENTONE CITY LIMITS. This property has no restrictions so you can build or have a mobile home. \$28,500 (14351)

ENJOY GOING TO WORK IN THE MORNINGS? If not, then perhaps you should consider investing in your own busi-

ness. Lookout Mountain Nursery is now for sale. This operating business offers 9 greenhouses with inventory included. Don't delay on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. \$99,500 (16393)

START FROM HERE - The beginnings of a private get-away cabin on a 5 acre BROW lot. Drive down the private road to enjoy the eastern view and serenity of the valley below. Co-brokerage with Prime Realty. \$169,900 (16628)

NATURE AT ITS VERY BEST describes these lots. You can buy this 10 acres

with 300' on Little River with lovely views, nice timber and natural landscaping. All this can be found as you walk and explore your own special parcel of land. Co-broke with Prime Realty. \$100,000 (16843)

THE VERY BEST OF NATURE describes these lots. You can buy this 11.8 acres with 500' on Little River with lovely views, nice timber and natural landscaping. All this can be found as you walk and explore your own special parcel of land. Co-broke with Prime Realty. \$120,000 (16844)



MESSAGE FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT

I thank everyone who attended the November meeting and welcome all the new members.

Armand Coutu, from Mentone Area Arts Council (MAAC), discussed all the possibilities of MAPA and MAAC putting on a Spring Festival together and it was well received. He gave a brief background on himself. He had a shop, Father Sky, in Georgia, and now has moved to Mentone. So, we wish him good luck and welcome to Mentone.

Refreshments were provided by Wesley Chesnut, Dorothy Crow, and Marie Dillenbeck. Dessie always helps with the drinks and a meeting place.

Our Dec. 4th meeting will be our Christmas dinner at Dessie's. MAPA always provides the meat and members are to bring a covered dish, salad, dessert, etc. Please come and enjoy the holiday festivities.

Come and eat, play, and bring a gift not to exceed \$10.

See you at the party. Have a wonderful Christmas and enjoy the holidays.

Amelia Kirk-Lolli

**Be looking for notices
about town for date of the
Celebration of Lights
in Mentone.**

Big Jim's Bama Q

Big Jim's At Mentone
We are Growing and Moving
To a Bigger location
December 28, 2007



Hwy 117 and Hwy 11
behind the Hammondville Fire Station.

We wish to thank everyone in Mentone and the surrounding communities who have supported us this year!!! We look forward to seeing all our patrons 4 miles down the mountain at the old Crossroads Restaurant.

come one—come all and
let's continue to eat BBQ.

It is always our pleasure to serve you.
Our Heartfelt Thanks,

Big Jim, Alicia, Brandy, Donn, and Jennifer
256-634-1121

Forthcoming Marriage

**Ruthann Marie Richardson
and
James Anthony (Tony) Hendon**

Jerry and Jane Richardson of Centre are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter Ruthann Marie Richardson to Tony Hendon, son of Roland and Carolyn Hendon of Mentone.

Ruthann is the granddaughter of the late Excell and Floyce Richardson of Centre and the late George and Alfa Scroggin also of Centre. She is a 2002 graduate of Cherokee County High School and a 2006 graduate of Auburn University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Disorders. Ruthann will complete a Master's Degree in Speech/Language Pathology from Auburn University in May of 2008.

Tony is the grandson of Alton and Magdalene Hendon of Arley and the late Drew and Corrine Wolcott of Mentone. His is a 2002 graduate of Sand

Rock High School and a 2006 graduate of Auburn University where he earned a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Biosystems Engineering. Tony is currently employed by S&ME, Inc. in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The wedding is planned for December 15, 2007, at 4:00 PM at Goshen United Methodist Church in Piedmont, Alabama. Family and friends are welcome.

*Merry
Christmas
from The
Groundhog*

Senior Christmas Lunch

It's not early to mark your
Calendar to for the Senior Christmas
Lunch. Wed December 12. 11:30AM

Rhododendron Garden Club News By Linda Brown, Secretary

The regular meeting of the Rhododendron Garden Club was called to order by President, Martha Wood at 11:00 a.m. on November 13, 2007 at the M.E.R.F Community House in Mentone, Alabama. Martha led the pledge to the flag of the United States of America. The inspirational minute and blessing of the meal was given by Shirley Hussel.

President Wood stated that the purpose of the meeting was to celebrate the beginning of the Holiday Season with a meal and fellowship. She said that a short business meeting would be held to complete some unfinished business.

After the meeting, everyone filled their plate with delicious food and enjoyed the fun and laughter which always results when friends get together.

The next meeting will be December 11, 2007 at the M.E.R.F Community House at 10:00 a.m. The program will be a Show and Tell of Christmas Decorations by the members of the club.

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

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**MOON LAKE COMMUNITY
LIBRARY
KOFFEE KLATCH
SATURDAY, 10:00 A.M.**

**NO Koffee Klatch in the month of
December. Library will be OPEN, except
December 22, 25 & 26.**

January 5 - Travelogue with Francis Cline

January 12 - Tapestry with Sue Schwarz

January 19 - Life Writing with Jane Faille

January 26 - TBA



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TIPS ON TREES

By Mark P. Gibson

Fall is a very important time of the year for tree trimming and maintaining these valuable resources. As the tree's sap is beginning to run down inside the tree, they are preparing themselves for the winter months ahead. A simple process of weight reduction will greatly reduce your chances of costly storm damage due to snow, ice and freezing rain. All of these natural events cause very heavy build up on the ends of your tree branches.

Between the wood hardening from the bitter cold and the excess weight, the branches begin to give way. By reducing some of the weight from the ends of these large, heavy limbs, your chances of storm damage are greatly minimized by as much as 80% in most cases. Thus, we are able to keep the natural shape of the tree. This will also save costly damage to your trees in the future as well as damage to the surrounding structures, such as homes, garages, barns and other outbuildings.

So, please don't get caught with your branches down. Trim your trees.

We hope you have a blessed Merry Christmas and a healthy Happy New Year.

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LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY

by Linda Brown

The Moon Lake Community Library continues to be the place to be. We are having so much fun! The sessions of the Koffee Klatch are well attended and everyone is enjoying them. We have been working diligently to stabilize an old quilt that has been found. I will write an article about the quilt when I have more information. I am getting a lot of help in saving it and hope to soon have it in condition to share with everyone.

We will not have Koffee Klatch sessions during the month of December. The library will be closed for the holidays on December 22, 25 and 26. As always, use the drop boxes and you will not be charged a fine. The Koffee Klatch will resume on January 5 with a Travelogue of Turkey with Francis Cline. On January 12, Sue Schwarz will demonstrate the art of Tapestry. On January 19, Jane Faille will conduct another session of Life Writing. If you have a subject that you would like to share, contact us and we will schedule you for a session. If you have something that you would like to have us do, let us know this also. We have had requests for a class on instructions for beginning to use computers. We have not been able to find anyone to do this. This would be scheduled during one of the nights that the library is open. The schedule for the Koffee Klatches is printed in this issue of The Groundhog. Clip it and put it on your refrigerator door. Coffee is always available and sometimes someone brings cookies. Hint, hint!

The organizational meeting for the Quilting Club was well attended. We brain-stormed for some time and came up with some interesting things that we would like to see happen. One thing that we did not do was to consider a name. Maybe we will do that at our next meeting. We set the second Thursday as our regular meeting time. Our next meeting will be on December 13 in the library at 3:00 p.m. If you need to come later or leave early, don't let the time stop you from attending. We want to keep the meetings as informal as possible. We set a goal to learn at least one skill in quilting during each session. One of our members will demonstrate the art of piecing quilts with paper at this meeting. She will bring patterns and a sewing machine, but the members need to bring small pieces of fabric. We will start by making a quilted pot holder for the novices. The more experienced members may want to bring another project to work on. We will be learning to use a rotary cutter. This will be a first for some of us. This is another example what can be done when people work together. We want this to be fun and something that you look forward to each month.

The members of the Board of Directors have had the insight to put programs into place that do not require their attention unless something goes wrong. This is one of the reasons that the library is so much fun. There is no pressure to compete, no required dress, no required attendance and no strict rules to go by. People come and laugh, talk, meet new friends, and have a lot of fun.

The calendars are here and we will be distributing them before long. We tried very hard to get everything right, but have already found some mistakes have been made. There is so much information to keep up with and get in the right place. (In fact, we have already found one mistake. The meeting dates for the Mentone Town Council are incorrect. That meeting is always the second Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m. We are very sorry about this mix up and hope that everyone will make the correction.)

One thing that has really helped the overall looks of the calendar is that more ads are in color. We really appreciate all of the businesses and individuals who take the ads. This is where we are able to make a profit and continue to sell the calendars for \$5.00. If you have been getting a calendar in the past, someone will soon be delivering one to you. If you are new in town and would like to have one, let us know. We have some extra ones.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the Holiday Open House at the library on Thursday, December 13th beginning at 3:00 p.m. We will have a snow village display, complete with moving trains and a holiday tree which will be decorated with ornaments made by the kindergarten class of Moon Lake Elementary School. We will serve simple refreshments and have a favor for all of the children who attend. Plan to be there and help us start the celebration of the holiday season.

The new hours of Wednesday (3 to 6 p.m.) and Saturday (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) have not caught on well yet. We knew that it would take a few months for the patrons to get accustomed to coming these hours. Be sure to come by if you are out on these days. You do not have to have a book due or other reason to stop by. We enjoy having you come by to say hello and chat a few minutes. It gets rather lonely when you don't visit with us.

Don't forget the drop box for DVD's in place at the library on the side of the drop box for books.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Moon Lake Elementary School Community Library will be Thursday, January 17, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. We will meet in the library. The library will be open for the public during this time and we urge you to continue to use the library during our meeting. Call Jan Wilkinson, 845-5048, to be placed on the agenda. We do not meet in December.

To become a FRIEND, a volunteer in the library or to make a suggestion, you may write to us at this address: Moon Lake Community Library
Post Office Box 481
Mentone AL 35984

NEW OPEN HOURS

TUESDAY, 3:00 - 6:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, 3:00 - 6:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, 3:00 - 6:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.



STORY OF ELIJAH

The Sunday school teacher in a little country church was carefully explaining the story of Elijah the Prophet and the false prophets of Baal. She explained how Elijah built the altar, put wood upon it, cut the steer in pieces, and laid it upon the altar. And then, Elijah commanded the people of God to fill four barrels of water and pour it over the altar. He had them do this four times. 'Now, said the teacher, 'can anyone in the class tell me why the Lord would have Elijah pour water over the steer on the altar?'

A little girl in the back of the room started waving her hand, 'I know! I know!' she said, 'To make the gravy!'

LOT'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mummy looked back once, while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan, in which a man was beaten, robbed and left for dead. She described the situation in vivid detail so her students would catch the drama. Then, she asked the class, 'If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?' A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, 'I think I'd throw up.'

DID NOAH FISH?

A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?'

'No,' replied David. 'How could he, with just two worms?'

HIGHER POWER

A Sunday school teacher said to her children, 'We have been learning how powerful kings and queens were in Bible times. But, there is a higher power. Can anybody tell me what it is?' One child blurted out, 'Aces!'

Nine-year-old Joey, was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday school. 'Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then, he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved.' 'Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?' his mother asked. 'Well, no, Mom But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!'

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible; Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the verse. Little Rick was excited about the task -- but, he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous.

When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, 'The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know.'

CHURCH SMILES

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. 'Is there anything breakable in here?' asked the postal clerk. 'Only the Ten Commandments,' answered the lady.

While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign...

'Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass
Caution: Do not step in exhaust.'

Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, 'Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt.' Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said 'Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming.'

Many Thanks from MERF.

Winter is coming which means that Senior lunches on Wednesday at the Mentone Community House have come to an end, **except for the Christmas party on December 12th.** We have had lots of good fun and plenty of fellowship with singing and playing.

MERF would like to thank all of those who helped provide a wonderful time this Fall for our community. Thanks go to many that enriched us with wonderful food and service: Tony and Eleanor Teverino (Raven Haven B&B), Mae Hilburn, Susan Petty, Laura Foote, Norma Baker, Jeanne Bare, Willie Haynes, Glenda Ingram, Mentone Community Church, St. Joseph's on the Mountain Episcopal Church, Mentone Methodist Church, Mentone Church of God of Prophecy, Camp Laney, Camp DeSoto, and Camp Riverview.

Thanks to the librarians: Ann Chestnut and Jill Whitten that keep our noses in good books. We also appreciate the wonderful piano playing and guitar strumming by Elizabeth Romans, Betty Johnson and Harold Broyles. Tom Roark also helped us out recently by donating a refrigerator to keep our food chilled.

We hope that all who came enjoyed themselves. If you would like to help with food or serving in the Spring, feel free to contact Sue Henry or Sarah Wilcox. Thanks to all Mentone residents and friends that help support MERF and its mission. See you at the Christmas Party!

TAKE THE "TRAIL" TO MOUNTAIN MAMAS

The Lookout Mountain Valley Trail was unveiled during a Georgia Tourism Meeting in Rome, GA, on November 13th. The LMT Trail is a self-guided driving tour featuring "Georgia Made Georgia Grown" products including the arts, agri-business, bed & breakfast inns, local restaurants, and historic sites.

Mary Alice Stout of Mountain Mamas served as co-chair of the committee of 42 participants from the three NW Georgia counties -Chattooga, Dade, and Walker. Trail maps will be available at Mountain mamas, Cloudland, GA, Hwy 48.

MOUNTAIN MAMAS OPEN IN DECEMBER

For the FIRST Time EVER-Mountain Mamas Crafts and Rock Shop will be open weekends through December 23rd, noon to 5pm. Look for the "OPEN TODAY" sign each Saturday and Sunday. On December 24th, the Shop will close for the winter. Due to daylight savings time, we will close at 5pm.

Our 70+ women artists are leaving their handmade items in the Shop until Christmas. We're located on GA Hwy 48, just 1/2 mile east of the AL/GA state line. We are open by appointment during the week-call 706-862-2142.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Remembering Cloverdale Plantation, Part 2

By Ernest Smith

Gen McCook's Corps had now reached Valley Head, Alabama, and ascended Lookout Mountain through Winston's Gap. Although the gap was not as long as the Johnson's Crook Gap, it was far more difficult due to its steepness. Considerable time was required in hauling the artillery, supply wagons, ambulances, field kitchens, and other baggage of war to the summit. The long train now began a nine mile march across the crest of Lookout Mountain to Henderson's Gap on the east brow. The pace was slow due to the primitive roads and shallow creeks to ford. All along the march straying soldiers dealt severely with the widely scattered settlers. They took food from homes and fields as well as livestock, fowl, beast of burden, anything they could possibly use.

There was a Union Soldier killed by the home guard caught pilfering and later the owner of the property was shot and killed in retaliation. Also, a lady was shot from ambush while hanging out her laundry, but survived. Northern families living on the mountain supporting the south were harassed, sometimes in the middle of the night. For more information on the Lookout Mountain experience in the Civil War see the March 1996 issue of *The Groundhog*, "The Civil War Comes to Lookout Mountain." The head of McCook's long train now reached Henderson's Gap on the east brow and began their descent while driving Rebel pickets down the gap. At the foot of the gap, there was a lively firefight before the pickets were dispersed. Later, when the Henderson Family could safely return home, they gathered a water bucket half full of minis from the yard and inside the house. Recently, the house was demolished to make room for a new house. They observed plenty of evidence of the fire fight.

Gen McCook arrived at the foot of Henderson's Gap and was involved in the plans to continue the march to Summerville, Georgia. Close to midnight of the same day, he received an urgent dispatch from General Rosecrans Headquarters in Chattanooga. He ordered McCook to pull back and close up with Gen Thomas' Corps in McLemore's Cove near Lafayette, GA. He was to take the shortest route possible. Rosecrans had just learned that Confederate General Braxton Bragg was not marching on Rome, but was encamped at LaFayette, GA, amassing some 60,000 troops. McCook realized that he was in a dangerous situation as well as Thomas' Corps just over Pigeon Mountain from Bragg's Army.

Thomas had only 20,000 troops and McCook 11,000, plus about 8,000 Cavalry. Now an argument ensued between Rosecrans and McCook on whether or not a road north on the east brow of Lookout existed all the way to Daugherty's Gap, which was a way to descend near Thomas in the cove. Rosecrans insisted that such a road did exist according to maps. McCook was just as sure it did not. McCook was relying on paid for information from local informers who sometimes purposely gave misleading information. In any case, McCook had the last word, as commanders in the field usually do, and pulled back all the way to Valley Head. Then they marched north through Lookout Valley to Johnson's Crook. Many senior officers were dismayed by his decision to take such a long way around that would take days instead of hours to come to the aid of Thomas. The march took 48 hours without sleep. It was considered one of the

longest marches in army history. (If McCook had found a way north on the east brow to join Thomas, Lookout Valley and Cloverdale Plantation would have been spared from this plundering army.)

The Nisbet parents at Cloverdale had heard that a part of Gen Sheridan's division, McCooks Corps was marching north from Valley Head, Alabama. Shortly, Gen Lytle's brigade, McCook's Corps, arrived at Cloverdale. The Gen demanded a part of the house for his headquarters for a few days. The Nisbets were polite and accommodating. They even invited the General and his staff to dine with them that evening. The invitation was accepted. The Nisbets were wise enough to make the best of a bad situation.

The General posted the guards at the doors of the mansion to keep the raiding mob out. Security of the place was never breached. Only the General and his staff were permitted to enter. What was happening outside was another story.

The troops of Gen Lytle and Sheridan's Division were sacking the place, knocking down fences and taking all the cattle, horses, mules, and whatever food they could find in storage or in fields.

The Union troops had been led to Cloverdale by a James T. Hawkins, a deserter from Nisbet Company, while serving in Virginia. He had come home and joined the John Long's "home-grown Yankees" from northern DeKalb County, Alabama, supposedly scouting for the Union forces. They were really in business for themselves taking whatever they wanted from the Lookout Valley settlers.

Hawkins told the Union troops that valuables were buried near the mansion. Extensive damages were done in digging, but nothing was found. Mrs. Nisbet had told a trusted slave to hide the smokehouse meat, silver, and valuables she had gathered. He took the stuff to Fox Mountain and hid it in a deep ravine.

In a few days, the rest of McCook's Corps began to arrive and the troops began to leave Cloverdale to ascend Johnson's Crook and pass over Lookout Mountain to join Thomas in the cove. The bloody battle of Chickamauga was just hours away.

Before the Union troops left Cloverdale, some of the officers tried to get the slaves to go with them. They would insure that they would have safe passage to freedom. Only Emma, a mulatto housemaid, accepted their offer. Much later, it was learned that she was abandoned in Chattanooga and had sought help in a brothel. A sad ending for a young woman searching for freedom and a better life.

James Cooper Nisbet had been kept informed about the raid on Cloverdale. He was later given a short leave of absence to take care of some pressing business at Cloverdale. It was now necessary to send all of the slaves to central Georgia in accordance with their wishes. The plantation was closed down for all practical purposes. A local man was hired as caretaker of the mansion.

James Cooper Nisbet was promoted to colonel and raised the 66th Georgia Infantry Regiment, which saw action all the way from northern Georgia to Atlanta. Some of the battles were Resaca, Kennesaw Mountain, New Hope Church, Peachtree Creek. In the battle of Peachtree Creek, the 66th Regiment lost 25% of the regiment including Col Nisbet who was captured and taken prisoner. He was mistakenly

reported killed in action and his parents were promptly notified. The mix-up was caused by a report that he was seen when he fell and did not get up. What actually happened was the Col was drawing fire and dropped to the ground until the shooting stopped.

Col Nisbet was sent to a prison for captured Confederate officers located on Johnson's Island, near Sandusky, Ohio. He was released from prison in September 1865, which was 2 months after the end of the war. He had been imprisoned for 14 months. While he was in prison, he had plenty of time to think about the war and what went wrong and whom should be blamed. By the time he was paroled, he had put the war behind him and was focusing on restoring Cloverdale.

James Cooper Nisbet headed straight for Georgia for a long awaited reunion. His brother Major John W. Nisbet was there, just recently paroled. There was much joy in the family having both sons home safe.

The senior Nisbets had moved from their plantation in Macon, Georgia to a small place in Culverton, Georgia, in Hancock County.

James Cooper traveled to Macon and visited his sister and her husband, Col George Hazelhurst. This brother-in-law loaned him fifty dollars in greenback money to buy a mule for transportation. Later, he sold the mule for seventy-five dollars. Thus began the mule trade business. He kept at it until he had four mules in the clear and enough money to mend some of the fences and plant a wheat crop at Cloverdale. The mules were shipped by rail to Chattanooga and ridden down to Cloverdale. Nisbet lived at the mansion and took his meals with a local family until Myra, the Nisbet family cook, agreed to return to Cloverdale.

End of Part 2. See next month's issue for Part 3, the final segment of Cloverdale Plantation.

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Continued from Page 23.

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Joyce Shirley and
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Continued to Page 22.



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Children of Eldridge J. Jones
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Dr. Bill Berry conducting the
memorial service



Evelyn Jones Graves
directing the music



Descendants Taylor Crow, Dallyne Jones,
Ashton Jones, Carl Jones, Elizabeth Jones
Romans, Herman Jones, Jr., Richard Sisson,
and Grace Huron Jones

Photos provided by Karen Saferite



CHICKEN STORY II

By Beverly Smith

In my last chicken story the rooster survived a terrible plight with a monster in the woods??? Well this story doesn't have quite the happy ending, at least not for the rooster.

I've continuously been patching the chicken pen with everything I could find to keep the raccoons out. But it seemed nothing I did helped, so one morning a couple weeks ago I went down to let the chickens out (which I do every morning) and to my dismay I found another massacre. Three hens and the rooster were dead. I was not happy to have lost my hens but especially the rooster; I'd had for so long. THAT DOES IT I had to build a new chicken pen. So I bought the wire and lumber and called a friend who just moved up from Florida to help. She was happy to help, she loves the chickens. This brings me to another subject which I'll touch on later. Anyway, we worked on the 8' X 16' pen all day, finished the frame and one row of chicken wire around the bottom. That was a good day's work, and I was so thankful for the help. The next day I proceeded to put the next row of wire around the top, what a fun job to do alone, but I made it. A few days later another friend Fred, came over to put the tin roof on and tin around one end, for protection from the weather. It was coming along nicely. This new pen is such an improvement from their previous hut. It is still being improved upon and weather proofed and varmint proofed, but WOW what an improvement, and so far no tragedies. As for the rooster situation, one of the teenagers started crowing a couple days ago. Now the son shall reign.

DECEMBER TOY DRIVE CHRISTMAS TIME MEANS TOYS

By Beverly Smith

Snappy Graphics & Gary's Power Sports in Mentone are collecting toys for children.

Drop off new toys for children throughout December. We are collecting toys for the needy families in the area and also we are still collecting food items for the needy, also.

We would like to thank everyone who donated to the Battered Women and Children drive. It was very successful and much needed and appreciated. Please continue to think of the less fortunate as you shop for the Christmas Season. All donations large and small will count and be a blessing. If you don't feel you can donate enough to make a difference, please do not feel that way, any little item will help. If everyone donates a little bit, it becomes quite a collection when it's all put together. Working together we can make a difference. Thank you for all your donations. Drop off toys and food at Snappy Graphics 3219 Hwy 117, just 3 miles east of Mentone blinking light or 3 miles from Georgia line. Open hours are Wed - Sat 10 - 5. Donations can be left on the front porch anytime.



FRIENDSHIP

By Beverly Smith

Back to the subject I was going to touch on. That subject is Friendship.

As I mentioned in the above chicken story, having friends to help do things is just wonderful. My friend Barbara came over to help me build my new chicken pen, she also comes over to sit in my shop; Snappy Graphics, when I need her, she takes care of the chickens and dogs for me as well. It is such a blessing to have friends to offer help and not ask for compensation in return. Most people say well "how much are you going to pay me?", or "what's in it for me?", or "what are you going to do for me?", I think we should take time out of our busy and selfish lives to lend a hand to someone else and not expect anything in return except a "thank you". Wouldn't that make you feel good just knowing that you've helped someone? I am blessed with many friends who help me in different ways. I also want to mention Carol (who along with her husband Gary who have Gary's Power Sports here next to my shop). I didn't have a ceiling in my building and it was unbearably cold in the winter, so I really needed one, at least in the office and gift shop area. I bought the lumber and some air nailers and proceeded to do it myself. That's where Carol comes in, she and I put the 2 X 4 rafters up and used OSB board for the ceiling. Trust me those 4 X 8 sheets are VERY HEAVY. After about a third of the ceiling and 2 broken backs later, I decided to cut those suckers in half. Best idea I've had in awhile. That made life much easier. I also had to extend the electrical wire for the ceiling fans, and install new flush mount fans. But I could never have gotten the ceiling installed and painted without the help of Carol. I told her I couldn't believe how much work she was doing for me; she just replied "That's what friends do". Now the gift shop has been re painted and we are slowly remodeling the shop and revamping the merchandise as well. Carol is also making "time-out" or "pout" dolls and pretty flower arrangements which make great gifts or are great to cheer up a homebound or hospital patient. Soon Gary's Power Sports will have all the biker accessories, saddle bags, leather jackets, etc., while Snappy Graphics will have more gift items, handmade items and of course, the usual custom items, tee shirts, mouse pads, caps, and mugs plus vinyl and magnetic signs.

Stop by and see the changes and say hello. Snappy Graphics is open.

Wed - Sat 10 - 5 and Gary's Power Sports is open weekends.

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Santa Clause at Snappy Graphics And Gary's Power Sports

By Beverly Smith

Can you believe it is almost Christmas? Just go into any retail establishment and you'll see that all the Christmas decorations are up and ready. I just can't believe it's here again so soon. They say the older you get the faster the time goes and I believe that's true. Well, we here at Snappy Graphics and Gary's Power Sports are inviting Santa to stop by on Saturdays and have his picture taken with all the boys and girls in the area, as well as pets, too. So, if you've been good and would like to come by and see Santa, (and maybe one of his elves) stop by starting the Saturday after Thanksgiving and have your child's picture taken with Santa. Price for one photo will be just \$5.00, with package photos available. We will try to get Santa each Saturday until Christmas. Call Snappy Graphics for information or questions at (256) 634-TEES (8337). We are located just 3 miles east of Mentone blinking light towards Georgia at the 3 mile marker coming from Georgia.

MERF Bookclub

meets on the third Thursday of every month at 10:00 am at the Community House. The December meeting will be held at the home of Shirley Shigley

For more information, please call
Kathy McMinn (256) 634-4575

Church News

By Evelyn Graves



The Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 9AM 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 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6PM; Brotherhood breakfast and devotional at 8:30AM the first Sunday of each month; Women on Mission meet at 2PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

Lea's Chapel Baptist Church welcomes you to worship with us. 10AM Sunday Bible Study, 11AM Morning Worship, 6PM Evening Worship. Wednesday 6-8PM Awana (ages 4 to 18); 6:30PM Praise and Prayer time. Located at 4212 County Road 751, Valley Head. 635-2002.

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

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 AM, Worship Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor- Wilbur Atwood; Lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnel.

The **Harmony Grove Baptist Church** located on County Road 239 invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM and worship at 11AM. Sunday evening service is at 5PM. Thursday evening service is at 5:30PM.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds Mass Services at 10:30AM each Sunday; Hispanic Mass 6PM Saturday night. Scripture and Communion Services at 6PM on Tuesdays.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1519 Smith Gap Road NW (DeKalb County Road 85), Fort Payne. Phone: 256-845-4842. The community is welcomed. Regular Worship Services are at 10AM and Bible Class every Wednesday @ 6:30PM. Steve Schrader, Pastor 256-845-4314.

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

The **Fort Payne Christian Center** and Pastor Ken and Elaine Holleman invite everyone to join in Worship on Sunday at 10 AM, Wednesday evening at 6PM. God Bless you.

Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA), 5760 Gault Ave., NE, Fort Payne, AL. Rev. Billy Dempsey, Pastor, Sunday School 9:45AM; Sunday Worship - 10:55AM.

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

The **Mentone United Methodist Church** services are at 11AM each Sunday. Sunday School is at 10AM. Daniel Lee of Rainsville is the pastor. Everyone is welcome.

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

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

The **Mentone Revival Center** and Pastor LeRoy Nichols and wife, Nell, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10AM and 11AM, and Sunday night at 6PM. Wednesday night 6:30PM. Everyone is welcome.

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

Mentone Community Church Services are 9:30AM Sunday School; 10:30 AM Worship; 6:30PM Sunday evening (Third Sunday of each month are Small Group Home Meetings); 6:30PM Wednesday: Adult Bible Study, Youth Group, Pioneer Club.

The **Mentone Church of God of Prophecy** Sunday School is at 10AM with Worship at 11AM. Evening Services begin at 6PM. Rev. Charles Flannigan invites everyone to attend regular services.

Mentone Church of God invites you to attend their church. Sunday School-10AM; Morning Worship-11AM. Sunday evening - 6PM. Wednesday evening - 6:30PM. Randall Beagles welcomes all.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church - a place of prayer, thanksgiving, and celebration. Come by any time to pray and give thanks. Open 24 hours every day. Sunday service is at 10:30AM.

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

Potters House Church. We are a small community church filled with the love of Jesus, where everyone of all denominations is welcome to join us. Our Sunday Worship is at 2 PM with Bill Miracle Pastor. We serve a meal at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, and our Bible Study starts at 6:30 with Sabra Gann, Teacher.

Cove Road Baptist Church, County Road 631, Mentone, Alabama. Brother Marlin Starnes, Interim Pastor, welcomes all to Sunday School - 10AM(9AM GA time); Church Services 11AM(10AM GA time); and Sunday night services 6PM(5PM GA time).

New Oregon United Methodist Church, 1204 New Oregon Drive NE, Ft. Payne, AL 35967. The activities of New Oregon include: Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. and Evening worship at 6:00 p.m. Sunday morning fellowship time is from 9:20-9:40 a.m., followed by Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship and all activities of the church.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to worship with us. Sunday School begins at 9:45AM, with classes for all ages. Morning Worship is at 11AM. The Lord's Supper is observed on the first Sunday of September, December, March, and June at the morning worship hour. Discipleship Training is at 5:00PM; and Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00PM. On Wednesdays, Team Kids; Youth Bible Study and Adult Bible Study and Prayer Meeting are all at 6:30PM.

Dial-a-Devotional 634-0103

is provided daily by Evelyn Graves as an extended ministry of the Moon Lake Baptist Church. Feel free to call any time of the day or night.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church



At the corner of Scenic Hwy & Hwy 117

Sunday Service: 10:30am
YOU are welcome!

The Rev. Dr. David W. Crippen, Rector

256-634-4476

stjorm@hiwaay.net

Body Maintenance Alternative Therapies for Natural Health

Donna Sutton

Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork (LMT #95)
Gift Certificates Available

AL Hwy 117 • Mentone, AL 35984

(256) 634-3032

(by appointment only)



Dr. Steven Zhao
Acupuncture
(205) 822-5552

Alicia Roberts
Reiki (energy healing)
(423) 227-3130

Jeri LaVigne
Neurofeedback
(678) 886-5996

Valley Head Christmas Parade Saturday December 8th

Parade begins at 2:00 P.M.

Line Up at Valley Head School at 1:30 P.M.

Prizes Will Be Awarded!!

For 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place Floats

Application To Compete For Prizes Can Be Picked Up At:

A & J Supermarket, Citizens Bank, Dollar General, Old Barbershop Cafe, Tiger's Inn, Up-Scale Re-Sale & Gifts, Valley Head Discount Food Mart, Valley Head Drugs, Water Board, & Town Hall.

Applications for competition must be turned in to the Town Hall by 4:00 p.m. on December 7, 2007.

For More Information call: 635-6814 or 635-6642



NEW MEETING DATES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NLMFPD FIRE DEPARTMENT

EACH 3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH
7:00 P.M.

2007 DATES
SEPTEMBER 17
OCTOBER 15
NOVEMBER 19
DECEMBER 17



*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth
peace, good will toward men. Luke 2:14*

Jesus came into the world as a baby born
to a virgin whose name was Mary. He was
God's only son, and He came on earth to
bring peace and good will to men.

May we allow Him this Christmas season
to give us that peace that He wants to give
to us and may we share that gift with others
who also need to receive it.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA
"THE GIFT GOES ON"
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9,
5 PM - Moon Lake Baptist Church;
7 PM - Valley Head Baptist Church**

**Be looking for notices about
town for date of the Celebration
of Lights in Mentone.**



SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Mondays - December 3, 10, 17, 24- 5:30PM, N.L.M.V.F.P.D. Volunteers Weekly Meeting
- Monday, December 3, 6:30PM, DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD MEETING, MERF House
- Tuesday, December 4, 6:30 PM, MAPA Christmas Party Meeting, Dessie's; Bring a \$10 gift to the party
- Thursday, December 6, 7 PM, N.L.M.V.F.P.D. Board of Directors Meeting
- Thursday, December 6, 5:30 PM, MENTONE MUNICIPAL COURT, Town Hall Meeting Room
- Sunday, December 9, COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA, "THE GIFT GOES ON", 5 PM Moon Lake Baptist Church; 7 PM - Valley Head Baptist Church

- Monday, December 10, 6PM, MENTONE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING, Town Hall meeting room, open to public
- Tuesday, December 11, 10 AM, RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB, MERF Community House
- Tuesday, December 11, 6:30 PM, POST 215 MEETING, American Legion Hall
- Thursday, December 20, 4PM, MENTONE WATERWORKS BOARD MEETING, Board Room, open to the public
- December 21, - January 7, SCHOOL CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR HOLIDAY
- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
- TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, NEW YEARS DAY

Senior Christmas Lunch

Wed. December 12, 2007

Door prizes, gifts, Santa

Community House

11:30 AM

Please join us.

