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THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville

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Volume 27, No. 7

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

July 2008

Mentone Area Preservation Association: The Next Generation

By Jerome Stephens

As the new president of MAPA, I began to think about what the letters MAPA stand for: Mentone Area Preservation Association. Our Bylaws state that "MAPA's purpose is preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area." That's a pretty tall order to fill, but as our new year begins MAPA will try to move forward to achieve these goals and serve our community as best we can. Mentone's heritage is truly unique. From the inception of its name in the 1800's, which comes from a French word meaning "musical mountain stream," people have been drawn to our area for its beauty and its sense of community. In recent years, Mentone has faced new challenges such as increasing development and traffic flow. However, many residents rose to the challenge of trying to ensure that our natural environment is not compromised.

The Lookout Mountain Heritage Alliance was formed to protect our treasured Little River and surrounding areas. The Mentone Area Art Council enriches our town by bringing together many artisans that live in our community. The Mentone Educational Resource Foundation provides help to our older citizens and maintains a community center for all to use. The Lookout Mountain Parkway Association preserves the beauty along the parkway and promotes tourism.

Many local groups and service organizations like the Boy Scouts, Moon Lake School, The Mentone

Library, The Mentone volunteer fire companies, the Desoto Rescue Squad, The Rhododendron Garden Club and Valley Head High School need either volunteers or financial help. MAPA will work to extend help to these organizations through volunteers and fund raising events.

In the upcoming year, MAPA's goal will be to "serve the community" by promoting the town, the businesses, the camps and working with the other organizations, some of which I have already mentioned. MAPA has formed The Mentone Tourist Committee to help promote Mentone and its businesses. Besides MAPA's Rhododendron and Fall Colorfest Festivals, the Tourist Committee is working on new events that may include music festivals, bike races, 3K runs, motorcycle poker runs, Christmas in July and holiday events. These events will help raise money for the local groups and service organizations and bring tourist to our businesses. In addition, the Mentone Area Art Council, the Mentone Inn and the Mentone Springs Hotel are working on events for the upcoming year. The Committee is working on a new web site that will highlight all that Mentone has to offer. The DeKalb County Tourist Association is stepping up its promotion of the Lookout Mountain area.

MAPA's monthly publication, The Groundhog, will help serve the community by promoting businesses, local events and attractions. Starting soon, a section of The Groundhog will be dedicated to the businesses in Mentone and Valley Head. It will



New MAPA officers L-R front: J.P. Nation, Page Cunningham, Marie Dillenbeck. L-R back: Dave Wasson, Jerome Stephens, Evelyn Graves.

list each business with its operating hours and phone number. In addition, each month the Groundhog will feature at least one business in our area.

In closing, I and my fellow officers Vice-President Page Cunningham, Treasurer J.P. Nation, Secretary Marie Dillenbeck, and Members-At-Large Evelyn Graves, Dave Wasson and Sara Wilcox look forward to serving MAPA and the community. This is my personal invitation to individuals and businesses in the Mentone area to join MAPA or any of the other fine organizations and help make Mentone a place where people want to live and visit. If you have any suggestions on how MAPA can help the community

or want additional information about membership please e-mail me at

Jerome@MentoneAlabama.org.

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THE GROUNDHOG

PO Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984

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THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

Editor.....Evelyn Graves
Assoc. Ed/Typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck
Contributing Writers.....John Baty,
Linda Brown, Ronda Bruckno, Sara
Jacoway Chastain, Marie Dillenbeck,
Evelyn Graves, LC Moon.

MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Amelia Kirk Lolli
Vice President.....Jerome Stephens
Secretary.....Marie S. Dillenbeck
Treasurer.....Leroy Crowe
Parliamentarian.....Dessie Brown
Members-At-Large: Lucille Crowe,
Evelyn Graves, Wesley Chesnut
Festival Chairman.....Jerome Stephens

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

DEADLINE FOR ALL MATERIAL FOR THE GROUNDHOG IS 20TH DAY OF EACH MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION. PLEASE ABIDE BY THIS!!

MAPA MINUTES -



Mentone Area Preservation Meeting was held on Tuesday, June 3, 2008, at 6:30PM. The meeting was held at the Mentone Inn covered pavilion. President Amelia Kirk-Lolli called the meeting to order. Others present were Kim Albrecht, John Baty, Lamar Bray, Ronda Bruckno, Dot Crow, Leroy Crowe, Lucille Crowe, Page Cunningham, Marie Dillenbeck, Mark Gibson, Evelyn Graves, Madelon and Mike Houghland, Slate McDorman, JP Nation, Sha-lee Regling, Debbie Reynolds, Jerome Stephens, Liz Stephens, Paul Todd, Claudia Wassom, Dave Wassom, and Doreen Waters.

The President thanked Jerome for all the work he did for the Rhododendron Festival the weekend of May 16, 17, and 18. The May minutes were in The Groundhog. Wesley Chesnut made a motion to approve the May minutes, which were approved unanimously. Leroy Crowe passed out the treasurer's report.

Amelia brought up the matter of repairing the rock wall on AL 117 down the mountain. MAPA had been instrumental in getting the rock wall built and many of the Crows worked on the wall a long time ago. Lamar Bray said that the hold up was the matter of insurance for any crew to work on a State Highway. Lowell Barron may be able to help.

Jerome gave the festival report indicating 43 vendors. Leroy presented the treasurer's report. Slate McDorman to report on the boat rides when he arrives.

Jerome mentioned that entertainment equipment was broken and thanked Mark's mother who provided the equipment to keep it going. Jerome commented on the entertainment at the festival and thanked all those who helped.

Jerome reported on the motorcade parade and thanked all those who participated. Paul Todd is a member of the North Lookout Mountain Fire Department and this year fire engines were added to the parade. Signs advertising the festival were placed in many places and made a difference in the crowds coming to the festival. All those who partici-

pated in putting up signs and allowing signs to be placed at their businesses were thanked.

Next month's meeting will be the installation of new officers and the meeting will be held at Brow Park. The slate of new officers for next year are: President - Jerome Stephens; Vice President - Page Cunningham, Secretary - Marie Dillenbeck; Treasurer - J.P. Nation; Parliamentarian - Amelia Kirk-Lolli; Members at Large: Sarah Wilcox, Dave Wassom, Evelyn Graves. Page called for any other nominations from the floor. There being none, Page made a motion that the nominations be accepted. Wesley Chesnut seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Doreen Waters made a motion to install the new board at the July meeting. Dot Crow seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Page reported that an audit committee needed to be appointed to go over The Groundhog and MAPA accounts. Jerome is the chairman and the other members are Leroy Crowe, Page Cunningham, and J.P. Nation. A motion was made to include Jerome and the others to audit both accounts, which passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be the picnic at Brow Park on July 1st, MAPA provides the meat, and all others bring dishes. The annual dues are due at that time.

A motion was made to have the MAPA meetings at a specific place. After a discussion, Wesley Chesnut stated that the MERF house has all the facilities. Jerome made a motion to have all meetings at the MERF house. Page Cunningham seconded the motion, provided it was available. Sara Wilcox stated that donations are welcome from anyone who wishes to use the MERF house. After the discussions, a vote was taken and it was unanimous.

Jerome thanked Gloria and Cynthia of the Mentone Inn for allowing MAPA to use the pavilion for several meetings.

Jerome made a motion to have refreshments and drinks available before the meetings start. Marie seconded the motion, after which a discussion was had concerning the time of the meetings. A motion to move the meeting to 6:30 with light refreshments was made and Wesley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Jerome recommended that the president or a representative of the following organizations

be invited to the meetings: MERF, MAAC, Mentone Heritage Association, Lookout Mountain Parkway Association. He agreed to get in touch with all the representatives of the organizations, and the motion passed.

Slate McDorman gave a report on the boat rides at DeSoto Falls. There were 164 riders, and 3 animals.

Slate made a motion to have the Heritage Alliance come to the next meeting. Dave Wassom 2nd the motion, which passed.

Jerome thanked everyone who helped in any way with the festival. He also thanked Tony Goggans for the sound system and mixing board to help with the entertainment at the festival.

A motion to reimburse \$39.31 to Clay Patrie was made and seconded, and approved.

A motion to appoint The Groundhog committee consisting of Jerome, Liz, Evelyn, Marie and members at large to monitor The Groundhog prior to publication was made and seconded by Wes, and passed.

Sara Wilcox reported that the Tourist Association will hold an Education Seminar on how to use U-tube and MySpace.

Jerome would like to get businesses and organizations together to coordinate festivals and events.

Jerome said he was updating the list of MAPA members and wanted to get everyone's e-mail address. He is also reviewing the bylaws and needs a committee to review them. He will make a copy of Roberts Rules of Order available at the next meeting, as well as handing out a meeting agenda each month.

Jerome stated that Lyle and Heather Nicely will go before the DeKalb County Commission on June 24th, at 10AM with a petition to adopt a water shed and have the county endorse it so that run off won't affect Little River. He made a motion that MAPA prepare a letter to give to Heather to take to the Commission endorsing the petition. Wesley Chesnut seconded the motion, which passed. Members of MAPA are welcome to go to the meeting.

Gloria Sitz stated that she is having a Tag Blues Society at the Mentone Inn some time in July and all are welcome to attend.

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

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- The Groundhog is printed by the last Thursday of each month.
- We appreciate your cooperation and understanding. Thank you.

Public Notice

The 2008 quarterly meeting dates for the Mentone Planning Commission, 5972 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL will be on the 3rd Thursday of the following months:

Thursday, July 17, 2008
Thursday, October 16, 2008
Thursday, January 15, 2009

All meetings will be held beginning at 5:00 PM in the Mentone Town Hall meeting room. Should there be any changes in the date, time, or place, a notice will be posted on the bulletin board at the Mentone Town Hall. A notice of any special or called meeting will also be posted on the same bulletin board prior to the meeting date and time.

Public Notice

The 2008 dates for the Mentone Waterworks Board, 5972 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL will be at 4:00 PM on the 4th Thursday as follows:

Thursday, July 24
Thursday, August 28
Thursday, September 25
Thursday, October 23
Thursday, November 20
Thursday, December 18

All meetings will be held beginning at 4:00 PM in the Mentone Water Works office in the board room. Should there be any changes in the date, time, or place, a notice will be posted on the bulletin board of the Mentone Town Hall, adjacent to the Water office. A notice of any special or called meeting will also be posted on the same bulletin board prior to the meeting date and time.

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Public Notice

The 2008 meeting dates for the Mentone Town Council, 5972 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL will be on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6PM, as follows:

Monday, July 14
Monday, August 11
Monday, September 8
Monday, October 13
Monday, November 10
Monday, December 8

All meetings will be held beginning at 6:00 PM in the Mentone Town Hall meeting room. Should there be any changes in the date, time, or place, a notice will be posted on the bulletin board at the Mentone Town Hall. A notice of any special or called meeting will also be posted on the same bulletin board prior to the meeting date and time.

Public Notice

The 2008 meeting dates for the Valley Head Water Works Board, 101 School Street, Valley Head, AL as follows:

Monday, July 14
Monday, August 11
Monday, September 8
Monday, October 13
Monday, November 10
Monday, December 8

All meetings will be held beginning at 4:00 PM in the Valley Head Water Works office in the board room. Should there be any changes in the date, time, place, or there is a special called meeting, a notice detailing changes will be posted in the lobby of the Valley Head Water Works building prior to the meeting.

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Yes, Thank You.....all of you at The Groundhog for 12 mths. of mighty fine reading. I opened my mail box and there was my Groundhog...I smiled. The neighbors probably thought I had gotten some money in the mail.

I do love reading about my favorite town on Lookout Mountain.

Take care of each other & I'll be up there in the fall.

P.S. Dessie.... I sure love your coconut pie!

Barbara Jones, Seminole, FL

ART SHOW

July 4th and 5th
11:00 am to 4:00 pm

The Mentone Springs Hotel presents
An Invitational Art Show
at
Tall Meadow Rue Chapel in Mentone

One block south of the blinking light in Mentone
The art show will be on the left

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SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

JULY

Mondays - July 7, 14, 21, 28 - 6:30 PM, N.L.M.V.F.P.D. Weekly Meeting
 Tuesday, July 1, 6:30 PM, MAPA Meeting, Picnic at Brow Park Pavilion
 Friday, July 4, INDEPENDENCE DAY (Display your Flags.)
 Tuesday, July 8, 10:00 AM, Rhododendron Garden Club, MERF House
 Tuesday, July 8, 6:30 PM, Post 215 Meeting, American Legion Hall
 Monday, July 14, 6PM, Mentone Town Council Meeting, Town Hall meeting room, open to the public (Note: the August meeting will be held a week earlier on August 4 at 6:30PM.)
 Thursday, July 17, 5PM, Town of Mentone Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting, Town Hall Meeting Room
 Thursday, July 24, 4PM, Mentone Waterworks Board Meeting, Board Room, open to the public
 August 7-10 - World's Longest Yard Sale along the Lookout Mountain Parkway route and the U.S. 127 Corridor from Gadsden, Alabama, to DeFiance, Ohio (See more in the July issue of *The Groundhog* or go to the website for World's Longest Yard Sale <http://www.tourdekalb.com/yardsale.htm>)

Welcome to the World's Longest Yard Sale (Also known as The 127 Sale)

As Seen on HGTV, in Southern Living, Country Living, USA Today, Newsweek, The Tonight Show and more!

Watch the 2006 Endless Yard Sale on HGTV

Yard Sale Date: August 7 - 10, 2008

Place: The Lookout Mountain Parkway and the U.S. 127 Corridor
 From: Gadsden, Alabama to Defiance, OH

****Note - The World's Longest Yard Sale is a 4-day event. The dates will be determined each year by the First Thursday of the month of August. The event will take place Thursday to Sunday for 4 days of yard sale heaven!**

****Please drive with caution and be alert of the others around you. The month of August is usually very warm in the deep South so pack plenty of water and don't forget the sunscreen. We can't wait to see you!!**

Travel more than 630-miles of scenic beauty and see tons of yard sales. Get started on your journey by traveling the 93-mile Lookout Mountain Parkway route from Gadsden, Alabama to Chattanooga, Tennessee for the most "scenic rural America" in the United States. Alabama has more than 1,000 yard sale vendors alone! You will find everything from antiques, collectibles, furniture, dishwares, fresh garden produce, homemade jams and jellies, food vendors, live entertainment and so much more. Continue with the yard sale, following the U.S. 127 Corridor from Chattanooga, TN to Defiance, OH for another 530 miles of yard sale bargains. When combined, the Lookout Mountain Parkway and the 127 Corridor have had as many as 5,000 vendors lined along the scenic yard sale route in past years and the year 2007 promises to be even bigger.

Residents of DeKalb County, Alabama invite you to spend some time touring the area and enjoying the hospitality of our people. Spend the night in one of our many Bed and Breakfast Inns, State Park or other cabin rentals located in Historic Mentone and other motels and unique accommodations located within minutes of the yard sale route. View scenic vistas and majestic waterfalls as you visit the Little River Canyon National Preserve and DeSoto State Park. See deer and cattle grazing side by side in rolling hills and farmland. Come travel the Lookout Mountain Parkway in DeKalb County, Alabama! "America's most Scenic Shopping Mall!"

Directions - South to North: Yard sale begins at the Noccalula Falls Park in Gadsden, Alabama on top of Lookout Mountain. Follow Tabor Road, across from Noccalula Falls. Stay on this road and it will become Alabama 176. Follow 176 to the Dogtown Community and stay straight through the 4-way stop. The road then becomes DeKalb County 89. Stay on 89 through communities such as Five Points, Fort Payne, Fischer, DeSoto State Park and on into Mentone, Alabama. From Mentone turn right onto Alabama 117 and follow into Georgia where it becomes Georgia Road #48. You will stay straight a short distance before turning left on GA 157, then left on 136, right on 189 then right on 157 again. This carries you directly in front of Rock City where you travel down Lookout Mountain and pick up TN 27 to the U.S. 127 Corridor for the remainder of the yard sale where it ends in Covington, KY. (The road winds around a little in Chattanooga as you make your way to the 127 Corridor. Follow Ochs Hwy. off of Lookout Mountain to Tennessee Ave. to Broad St. to Hwy 27 to the U.S. Hwy. 127)

JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

JULY BIRTHDAYS

01 - Terry Hutcheson
 02 - Byrum Emory
 03 - Larry Smalley
 04 - Gerry Disney; Orion Nicely
 05 - Marilyn Knight, Nathan Jones
 06 - Elizabeth Brown; Al Kuehl;
 Eileen Perry in memory of
 07 - Jimmy Blalock
 08 - Marilyn Action; Gail Smalley;
 Rachel Manifold
 09 - Rhonda Blalock
 11 - Garrett Collins, Barbie Hester,
 Kanissa Smith, David Bridges,
 Glenda Jeffery
 13 - Jolee Brown, Lamarie Payne
 14 - Bob Crow
 15 - Jessica Green, Kira Mae
 Goodwin
 16 - Cecil Baty, Kattie Bird Cobble,
 Penny Lyday
 17 - Kayla Hazell, Coy Crow
 18 - Ronald K. Jones, Raymond
 Blalock
 19 - Oksana Cherbonneau
 20 - Barry Blalock, Judy Dowiat
 21 - Jody Brown
 22 - Jim Lyday, in memory of
 23 - Taylor Blalock

25 - Robert Brown, Allie Blalock,
 Dr. Bill Berry
 26 - Allen Cherbonneau
 27 - Marcus Sutton, Amy Burtram
 28 - Marilyn Hodge, Jim Leftwich
 29 - Ken Kirby
 30 - Rachel Collins, Brenda Green,
 LuJean Pierce
 31 - Kenneth Cash, Paige Wright,
 Marris Pierce

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

01 - Mr. & Mrs. Byron Gilbreath
 06 - Herman & Mattie Golden;
 Larry and Gail Smalley
 07 - Roland & Carolyn Hendon
 08 - Joey & Kumi Dillenbeck
 11 - Wesley & Kat Griffith
 16 - Walter & Lucy Fowlkes
 20 - Amanda & Charles Gray;
 Glenda & Stan Jeffery
 26 - Ralph & Susan Flynn
 30 - LuJean & Marris Pierce
 31 - Les & Jackie Brown

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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 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; Scripture and Communion Services at 6PM on Tuesdays.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 85), Fort Payne. Regular Worship Services are at 10AM and Sunday School at 9AM. 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

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 Hollman 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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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 Lords 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. The interim pastor at Moon Lake Baptist is Rev. Terry Turner.

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 10AM GA time; Wed. Night Bible Study, 7PM GA time.

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).

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

Mentone Community Church Schedule: Sundays: Sunday School 9:30AM; Worship 10:30AM; Family Service or Small Groups 6:30PM. Wednesdays at 6:30PM; Pioneer Clubs; Youth Group; Adult Bible Study.

New Oregon United Methodist

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



DEVOTIONAL

By Evelyn Graves

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. (1 Ch. 16:29 KJV)

As we read this scripture, we may wonder, is the Bible speaking of the beauty of the holiness of God? No, it makes reference to our own holiness as we approach him. Luke 1:75 repeats this verse, "In righteousness and holiness before him all the days of our lives."

As we approach the throne of God in prayer, we should be careful that our offerings and our prayer requests are from a holy and contrite heart, and we should always worship him in thanksgiving for his holiness and his mercy to us, acknowledging our unworthiness and our sinfulness, but committing our willingness to serve Him better.

Mentone Christmas Decorations Committee Report

June 20, 2008

Hello Everyone,

It has been a couple of years since the Mentone Christmas Decorations Committee has sent out any type of correspondence in regard to the Christmas decorations in the Town of Mentone, but it has become necessary to contact you once again.

On December 11th, late, or in the wee morning hours of the 12th, 2007, someone vandalized the Christmas decorations in Mason Park in the Town of Mentone. The Cascading Fountain had been turned over damaging several of the parts. The smaller displays had been turned over, pulled up, and either ran over or stomped down resulting in quite a bit of damage to them. You cannot imagine the hurt and disappointment we felt when we saw the damage. The Committee has worked very hard to raise the funds needed to purchase these Christmas decorations for the town and get them put up for everyone to enjoy during the Holiday Season. Then, have someone vandalize them like they did. A Police Report was filed, but there are no leads into who did this.

With help from Chief Lamar Bray and one of the Mentone Water works employees, Committee member Brenda Goss and myself got the Fountain set back upright and tried to repair it as best we could to get it in operational order. The smaller displays were pieced together enough to get them back up and operational. It took almost a full day to get things back in working order. We were again able to have the annual "Celebration of Lights" in the park as planned, with the Children from Moon Lake School singing Christmas Carols.

When it came time to take the displays down for the season, we were forced to discard several displays due to the damage caused by the vandals. Now, we have to replace those displays, which we hope to do so with much sturdier ones.

We had also hoped to have the Gazebo in the Park built by now, but we only have \$1050.00 in that fund, as of this date, towards the construction of the Gazebo. We have approximately \$500.00 left in the Christmas decorations fund. This will not be near enough to replace the displays that were destroyed by the vandals, get the Snowflakes up on the poles, buy bulbs, etc., to keep everything maintained and pay the electric bill.

Plans are in the making to try and go "greener" this season. We want to switch over to the more energy efficient LED bulbs for the displays. The cost of the LED bulbs range from approximately 80 cents to \$1.55 each. Of course, we will shop around for the best value. LED bulbs are 80% more energy efficient and have 100,000 burning hours per bulb, as compared to the C7 bulbs that we have been using, and they won't have to be replaced as often.

The Christmas Decorations Committee operates on donations alone. The main goal is to make Mentone more beautiful than ever during the Christmas Season. You have been most generous with your donations in the past, and we hope you will continue to support our efforts. All donations go towards the purchase and upkeep of Christmas decorations for the Town of Mentone.

The Committee applied for a grant to help build a Gazebo and possibly erect a Veteran's monument in Mason Park; but we were not considered for it.

If you would like to make a donation to the **Christmas Decorations Fund** or the **Gazebo Fund**, you may send your donations to the Mentone Christmas Decorations Committee, P.O. Box 13, Mentone, Alabama 35984. (Please designate which fund you are donating to on your check or money order.)

Thank you in advance for your donation.

Gail Chambers,
Mentone Christmas Decorations Committee

PS: If you have any information as to the person or persons who may have committed these acts of vandalism in Mason Park on December 11th or 12th, 2007, please contact Chief Lamar Bray at the Mentone Police Department.



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YOU'LL LOVE COMING HOME to this beautiful & spacious brick, two-story traditional home. 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, screened back porch. 6 acres, mostly fenced, w/pond; year-round spring; split-rail fence; walnut trees. \$289,000 (17838)



NATIONAL PRESERVE ON TWO SIDES! 40+ acres of wooded and pasture land adjacent to Little River Canyon National Preserve featuring a creek with beautiful boulders, rock formations and an exhilarating waterfall atop Lookout Mountain. Mostly hardwood forest. Perfect location for a horse farm. Now is the time to get back to nature! Priced at \$239,000. (17643)



THE PERFECT MENTONE GETAWAY cabin snuggled into 2 mostly-wooded acres. Paved road access; close in to village of Mentone & camps. This cute little cabin offers a great front porch, sleeping loft BR, wood heat & open living space. Room outdoors for expansion or just for wandering. Now priced at \$90,000. Cabin and 10.2 wooded acres offered for \$150,000. (17038)



ELEGANTLY RUSTIC 3BR, 2BA home. Your private lodge w/woodburning stone FP, 2-story open LR/KI/DR area, ceramic tile baths, track lighting, pantry, full-SS appliance package. Front & back covered porches, hot tub, stream. Hiking trails in the woods, quiet country lane. If you like quiet, this is the place. Furnished \$219,900. Unfurnished \$209,900. (16821)



NATURAL LIGHT-FILLED cabin offers beautiful interior and exterior w/just the right mtn getaway features. Nice covered front porch, 3/4 wraparound deck, small balcony off upstairs MA BR suite. MA BA w/whirlpool tub & sep shower. Hickory wood b fast bar & kitchen cabinetry, mtn stone woodburning FP, HW and ceramic tile floors. 2BR, 2BA. Short drive to Mentone, DeSoto State Park. \$155,000 (17386)



75 ACRES W/PASTURE, POND. 2 cabins & woods! Very private property is like a hidden treasure. Cabins already constructed, future cabin underground power & water hookups, beautiful home site w/spreading oak tree & view of pasture & mtns. Small pond for leisurely boating/fishing. Easy commute to Chattanooga from Hwy 11. A jewel in the valley, hidden in the trees, surrounded by mtns. Find it for \$600,000. (17522)



TRADITIONAL HAND-HEWN log cabin w/true, old-fashioned workmanship. Built to last. Each log in this home is fashioned using a broad axe, just as our forefathers did. Hand-notched, dovetail design. 3BR, 2.5BA, approx 1650 sq ft w/loft balcony overlooking open LI/DR/KI area. Double FP, Main level MA BR, 2BR upstairs. Stacked stone foundation work. Working price of \$248,500. (17537)



THIS IS THE BUY OF A LIFETIME! Cabin home overlooking Lake Lanoka at Mentone on 6.14 acres. Newly-constructed, 1438 sq ft, 3BR/2BA, lg covered front porch w/room to relax on the porch swing and enjoy the view. Rustic woodburning stone FP; all wood interior; oak cabinets, SS appl. Split BR design. Also avail. w/2.7 ac for \$179,000. Now only \$190,000. (16788)

LOTS and LAND

DESOTO PARKWAY. 4 wooded lots sold as a whole. Approx 2 acres. Just listed at only \$19,900! (17805)

3 ACRES W/POND FRONTAGE. Wooded. Minutes from Little River Falls. \$29,000 (17615)

CUTLER AVENUE, MENTONE. Approx 1/2 ac lot. Public water & power at road. \$25,900. (17299)

NORTHBEND - A world away, not miles away! Restricted, wooded 3 acre lot. Reduced. \$39,000 (17460)

RURAL MENTONE One-acre lot. Park your RV while you build. Power & water at road. \$26,000. (17127)

SUNRISE & SUNSET VIEWS 4.9 ac w/530+ ft on E Brow Sand Mtn, 570+ ft paved rd frntge. \$250,000. (17858)



BOULDERS & TREES encircle the yard of this private Mentone executive retreat home w/1900+/- sq ft living area. Great rock formations, small caves, garden areas, fountains, native and cultivated flowers. 2BR, 2BA, loft area for 3rd BR/office/studio. Exotic hardwood flooring. Ceramic tile baths. MA BA w/Jacuzzi. Backup generator. Just off the Scenic Pkwy between DeSoto and Mentone. Offered at \$249,900 (17777)

JULY, THE SEVENTH MONTH OF A.D. 2008

By John S. Whitaker

The month of July was named in honor of Gaius Julius Caesar (100?—44B.C.) after he was assassinated by a group of aristocrats on March 15, 44 B.C. (the Ides of March). William Shakespeare's play, *Julius Caesar*, vividly describes the Roman ruler and his death.

Although July is the hottest month of the year, people continue to enjoy it: school is out, gardens are beginning to reach maturity, and many people take a family vacation.

The water lily is the flower for July. The special gem is the ruby.

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS IN JULY

2* President James Garfield (1831—1881), and a Republican, was shot in 1881 by Charles J. Guiteau.

President Garfield died 80 days later. He was the second president to be killed in the capacity of president.

3* Idaho became the 43rd state in 1890.

4* Independence Day. The

Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence in 1776, and this became the birthday of the United States of America, the greatest country in the world.

* The Philippines celebrated its official independence in 1946. This group of islands was under U.S. control, but fell to the Japanese in World War II. Then on July 4, 1946, the U.S. granted the Philippines complete independence.

5* Venezuela declared its independence from Spain in 1811.

* Amendment 26, proclaimed in 1971, lowered the voting age from age 21 to age 18 years of age.

6* The Republican Party held its first state convention at Jackson, Michigan, in 1854 and chose the name Republican. Delegates had met earlier in Ripon, Wisconsin, at a small schoolhouse. This building, which is still standing, has the honor of being the birthplace of the Republican Party.

9* Argentina, second largest country in South America, declared its independence from Spain in 1816.

10* Wyoming became the 44th state

in 1890.

11* Aaron Burr (1756—1836) mortally wounded Alexander Hamilton (1755—1804) in a gun duel in 1804. What issue caused the duel? Burr had lost in his bid to be elected governor of New York in 1804, being beaten by Hamilton. A very angry Burr challenged Hamilton to a duel. Hamilton died from his injury the following day.

13* The Northwest Ordinance was adopted in 1787 and led to further expansion of the U.S. and eventually the formation of the states of Ohio (1836), Indiana (1816), Illinois (1818), Michigan (1837), and Wisconsin (1848).

14* Bastille Day. The Bastille was a prison in Paris, France, and was greatly hated by the common people. In 1789, citizens stormed the Bastille, captured it, and took Louis XVI from his position as king. This day was the beginning of the French Revolution.

16* American scientists set off the first atomic bomb near Alamogordo, New Mexico, in 1945.

20* Astronaut Neil Alden Armstrong (1930—) was the first person to

walk on the moon in 1969. How exciting this event was! It was on a Sunday night, and with the television set on, millions of people saw him walk down the ladder from his space module and step onto the surface of the moon!

24* Mormons settled in Salt Lake City, Utah, in 1847.

25* George Stephenson first successfully demonstrated a steam locomotive in 1814.

27* The Korean War ended in 1953.

* Amendment 14 was proclaimed in 1868. This law confined citizenship to those born within the borders of the U.S. or those who became naturalized citizens. The law clearly made citizens of former slaves.

30* The first representative assembly in America was convened in Jamestown, VA, in 1619.

Read a good book this summer. It's good to re-read a book that you've not read in several years. New things are learned when you read and re-read a good book.

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RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Linda Brown, Secretary

The Rhododendron Garden Club of Mentone met on June 10, 2008, at the M.E.R.F. Community House. Twelve members enjoyed the refreshments served by Margaret Baker and Martha Wood. The inspirational minute was given by Peggy Roark.

Martha Wood, president, called the meeting to order and the usual reports were given. The members discussed the flower show which was held in May. The general feeling was that it was a good show. The judges were mentioned by name and were thanked in absentia. They were: Peggy Benefield, Reita Grant, Ann Houston, and Marjorie Holderer. Ann came early and was present as an advisor during the registration of the exhibits and an extra "thank you" was expressed to her.

President Wood stated that a Mentone resident has approached the club requesting a letter of support to be presented to the DeKalb County Commission requesting help with the protection of the watershed of Little River. The members agreed that a letter be written and delivered in support of this endeavor.

Salvia was the subject of the material presented by Martha Wood. Salvias (also known as sages) have become one of the most popular plants in yards. The reason seems to be that they flower for a long period, do well in hot, dry conditions, and provide a variety of fragrance, blooms and color. They come in all sizes and all are liked by butterflies and hummingbirds.

There are over 900 species of salvias. Most of the gardens in Mentone have one or more species blooming from early spring to first frost. Watch for the plants with beautiful spikes of flowers in red, blue, purple, white, and yellow in the local flower gardens.

The next meeting will be July 8, 2008 at the M.E.R.F. Community House beginning at 10:00 a.m.

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

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THE TREE GUY

Hello Readers,

Well, our trees are in full bloom, and with our rain consumption, it is working out pretty good, so far; although the ground is being saturated. Keep an eye on your tree root systems for raising up around the base of the tree caused by uprooting. This could cause severe damage to surrounding structures. So, now that the leaves are out, we can clearly see what has and has not made it.

As far as our trees and bushes are concerned, if they haven't turned green yet, you may want to consult a professional to make sure whether it's dead or not before taking action and cutting something down unnecessarily.

I've seen a lot of new planting going on, which is something we all like to see. Landscaping is another project that is big this time of year. Just a little reminder of caution—when planting and mulching do not exceed or cover your small or large trees too high on the trunk. Leave them room to breathe—4 to 6 inches of mulch is plenty for small trees and 6 to 8 inches for larger trees is sufficient.

So, please don't get uprooted just get on it. Have your trees evaluated today.

By Mark Gibson "The Tree Guy"

treeguy1@centurytel.net

Treeguy1848@aol.com

256-634-4809

2008 Vann-McCary Scholarship Recipients

Seven persons from the Mentone/Valley Head area have been awarded scholarships from the Vann-McCary Scholarship Fund. This fund was established at St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church in 1988 and has awarded many scholarships to local students during the last 20 years. The purpose of the scholarships is to assist Mentone area students in continuing their education at a school of their choice.

This year's recipients are Alex Hazell, Alicia Cherbonneau, Amanda Johnson, Maxim Cherbonneau, Justin Grider, Oksana Cherbonneau, and Kayla Hazell.

Your prayers are solicited for these young people and their families.



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2008 photos by Cynt Stinson



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UNIQUE SETTING ON LITTLE RIVER - "The Hatteras Cabin" overlooks a covered Bridge, has a wrap-around deck, 2 bedrooms and 2 baths with a huge loft. Rock Fireplace, furnishings included - and much more. Located at Cloudmont Resort. \$300,000 (16466)



A DREAM A REALITY. Transformation near completion on this 19th century country church circa 1870. Features 2500 sq ft of heavenly bliss. Large open floor plan with 2 master suites. Gas log fp. Heart Pine floors throughout. Custom cabinetry and tables made from the original pews. This is definitely a find. Located in the foothills of Jamestown, AL. 15 minutes from State Parks, Lake Weiss, Mentone. \$172,000 (17487)



6.3 ACRES AT CANYON VIEW FOREST, east rim Little River Canyon. Great Views of the Canyon Below, Rock Formations. Private Gated \$110,000 (16801)



OWN A PIECE OF PROPERTY ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON. One and Only Canyon View Forest. 5 acres with rocks and stream with a view of the bluff of the Canyon. Very private with gated access. \$80,000 (14630)



PRIME LOCATION. Brow View, mature landscaping Large level yard, Accented by Rock Gazebo. One mile from Downtown. 1800 sq ft Ranch style Home with Large open living area and kitchen. 2BR/2BA, separate Den with Rock FP. 3/4 basement CHA, city water, metal Roof. 20x26 Deck for viewing the wonderful sunsets. \$339,000 (17600)



RIVER TRACTS AVAILABLE AT HUNTERS RIDGE. 3 to choose from. #4-116ft river, #5-113ft, #7-136ft. All are over an acre. Prices starting at \$124,500. Pristine East Fork Little River. Lightly restricted. County water and underground power. Home owners assoc. \$100.00 a year. (17798)



FALLING LEAF LODGE. Appropriate name for this new Rustic cabin in the woods. Enjoy all the porches, screened and open. Inside there is 2 bedrooms and loft, 1.5 baths. Living room with F.P., sunroom for dining. Lots of windows. \$153,900 (17315)



GET AWAY CABIN ON THE CANYON. very private with 8.5 acres M/L. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, rock fireplace, completely furnished. Totally remodeled \$199,500. (16247)



HUNTERS RIDGE. Nicely wooded acreage tracts available. county water and underground power. Common area access to the little river. Lightly restricted, and POA \$100.00 a year. 7 tracts available. price from \$30,000 to 44,000. 1.6 to 2.9 acres (17779)



THE PAWNEE - is a modified Daniel Boone log home package. located on 2.06 acres, this newly built log home has a lot to offer. Situated on a lot next to the future covered bridge, homeowners have access to the Little River and a property owner's assoc. with mild restrictions. The cabin features covered front porch and spacious back deck with a running stream below. The amenities are endless and the setting priceless. \$189,900 (17778)



GREAT INVESTMENT in Valley Head. Triplex in very good condition Apt A: 2BR/1BA, kitchen, living area laundry room, stove, frig, window unit, side deck. Apt (occupied) Apt B: 1BR/1BA w/shower. Efficiency kitchen, small living room, large room with washer and dryer area and storage. Apt C: 2BR/1BA, large open family room and kitchen. DW, stove, lots of cabinets. Back deck and C/HA. A must see at 112,000 (17189)

WEST BROW LOT, MENTONE. Level and cleared. Ready for that weekend or permanent Cabin to enjoy those fabulous sunsets. \$100,000 (15757)

34 ACRES OF RAW LAND. No restrictions. With timber, hardwoods, lakesite, some partial clearing great for hunting. can be developed. Or have your own private estate with views of the surrounding ridges and Mountains. \$85,000

NICELY WOODED 11 acre tract with pave rd frontage city water available. Can be subdivided, or keep as your own estate. \$110,000

NICELY WOODED 2.5 acres, across from Lake Lahusage. Lightly restricted, city water available, paved rd. frontage. \$35,000 Owner/Broker

WOODED 2.9 ACRES, paved rd. frontage, city water available, across from Lake Lahusage. Lightly restricted. \$38,000 Owner/Broker

BROW LOT ON SCENIC HWY, MENTONE, 1 mile from Downtown. Wooded with a great view of the Valley and sunsets. 1.54 acres \$150,000 (10251)

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Southern Delight Night

For an evening of very high spirits please join us for **dinner and show** at Mountain Grove B & B **Saturday, July 12th at 7PM Eastern time!** Come join us for plenty of food, plenty of laughter and a goodness-gracious Southern good time.

Hilarious Benn Johnson, Birmingham artist and playwright extraordinaire, will perform his original one character parlor play: "SOOO SOUTHERN: The Seven Signs of being Southern, Y'all." Sooo Southern is set around seven pieces of silver (that's "silvuh" to you and me), and Benn is QUITE a character!

The Mountain Grove Kitchen Magicians will set before you a buffet laden with tasty choices. We guarantee that your spirits will soar as the evening's entertainment unfolds.

The price is \$35 per person which includes dinner, beverages, gratuity and entertainment. You are welcome to BYOB, but be sure to bring along your favorite (or not so favorite) Northern friend to take the "Yankee Detox Pledge."

Seating is limited; please call to make your reservations: 706-862-6676. For directions, please visit us online at www.mgbb.com or give us a call, y'all!

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New Hours for Snappy Graphics

Snappy Graphics in Mentone will be open on Saturdays and after 4 pm by appt. Due to the lack of business and no lack of bills, I've been forced to take a job during the week. I will still have the shop open on Saturdays and will be doing jobs in the evenings so if I'm in the shop, feel free to stop in. I've been open here in Mentone for over 3 years and have enjoyed meeting many wonderful people on the mountain as well as visitors to the mountain. But I do need a regular income and benefits, so I will be available as time permits. I will occasionally be closed on Saturdays as well whenever I have a car show to work. I do vending at various VW car shows putting pictures on T-shirts and other items. Stop in on Saturdays to order any screen printing, photo shirts, photo cups, caps, mouse pads or tote bags, as well as or vinyl and magnetic signs as I will still be making all these great items. Thank you for your patronage. Beverly Smith

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OBITUARY

JAMES ROWE LYDAY

Mentone, Alabama



James Rowe Lyday, age 87 of Mentone, passed away Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at his home.

Jim Lyday was adored by all who knew him. He was a good man and a wonderful example to his family, friends and fellow church members of how to live a fruitful, Christ-like life.

He left the mountain to serve as a flight engineer on PBV aircraft in WWII and completed his service being honorably discharged as a seaman First Class. Jim was a member of the American Legion.

He met the love of his life, Penny Pennington, while at UGA. They have been loving partners through all aspects of their lives, especially supporting UGA. They were married during the Christmas break on December

21, 1947. After graduating from the University of Georgia, he taught at the College of Ag Engineering.

Jim taught Ag in Monroe, where his children, Mellanie and Jimmy, were born. They moved to Cincinnati in 1960, joined Roselawn Baptist Church, and he taught eighth grade science.

In 1969, he started the Community in Schools Program supervising 60 teachers serving 3,000 students per year.

Retired in 1982, Penny and Jim went to Hawaii to celebrate. They added a wing to the Rock House in 1990 and moved to Mentone. Moving back home was a blessing for Jim. They were members of the First Baptist Church of Fort Payne and regularly supported and attended Howard's Chapel. They sat on the front left pew. Jim's favorite time of the year was Thanksgiving when all the family comes to the Rock House in Mentone, AL.

Granddad Jim wrote two books so his grandchildren could know his stories and the times in which he grew up. With rare exception, every Sunday afternoon, Jim faithfully wrote letters to family and friends. Jim Lyday's favorite scripture is Micah 6:8, "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God."

Funeral services were held 1 p.m. Friday, May 16, 2008, at Wilson Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Pat McFadden officiating. Burial followed in Howard's Chapel Cemetery.

During the entire trip, without exception, every car that was met pulled over to the side of the road and waited for the hearse to pass.

You did not know Jim Lyday: a WWII veteran, married for sixty years, educator, Baptist, and good man; yet you showed him honor and respect.

Our tears and grief became those of pride and amazement. Your actions showed that small town character and values are alive and well in northeast Alabama. Thank you.

Sincerely, Melanie Lyday Tuttle, Jacksonville, Florida

(This note of thankfulness for your respect is reprinted from June 5, 2008, *DeKalb Advertiser*, pg. 18.)



*Rhododendron Festival 2008
photos by Cynt Stinson*



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.

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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 COUNTRY LIVING? This 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath home offers hardwood and carpet, family room with fireplace, fully equipped kitchen, front and side porch and is surrounded by 8 acres in a restricted subdivision could be it. Call today. \$239,000 (14536)



EXCELLENT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY! Two log cabins located in Mentone currently used as rentals. The first is "Hillbilly Mansion". Main level has greatroom, kitchen/dining, and bath. Master BR & BA. Upstairs are two additional loft bedrooms and a half bath. The second is "Little Barn". Eat-in kitchen, living room, bath with laundry and BR. Loft BR upstairs. Both cabins complete with all appliances, and furnishings may be negotiable. Perfect for a full time residence, weekend get-away, or money-making business. Only \$215,000 (17541)



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! \$89,500 (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)



VERY PLEASANT LIVING! Look at the possibilities of this superbly-kept 2 bedroom, 2 bath 1-1/2 story nicely set on 1.39 acres. Happily planned, with pine floors, ceiling, and walls, rock fireplace, screened porch, loft, main-level master bedroom, full-appliance package including washer and dryer, ceiling fans. Lake privileges, metal roof, covered front porch and city water. Here is just your kind of easy-going comfort! \$185,000 (17735)



OVERLOOKING LAKE LAHUSAGE on 2.62 acres. Great room w/stacked rock fireplace. Kitchen with ceramic tile and stainless appliances. Master bedroom on main level and the bath features a whirlpool tub and shower. Upstairs are 2BR, a bath, and lots of extra storage space, 2-car garage. Additional property may be purchased. \$269,900 (17217)



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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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. \$174,900 (15985)



IF WALLS COULD TALK you could hear all the great stories this family and home has shared for over 50 years. Now this comfort and warmth is offered to you with 3 bedrooms, pine floors, den and storage basement in downtown Mentone. \$119,000 (16803)



BREATHTAKING VIEW! You can enjoy the view year round from this one-level brick home. This property is situated on DeSoto Parkway and is "just around the corner" from DeSoto State Park and Mentone. 3BR/2BA, living and dining combination, wood burning fireplace, spacious kitchen with breakfast bar, sunroom and large deck. \$475,000 (17082)



LOOKING FOR PEACE AND QUIET? We've got it! This immaculately kept 4BR/2BA home is surrounded by 3 +/- acres of nature's abundance, yet is within walking distance to downtown Mentone. Kitchen and dining combination, 546' square feet of finished basement, CH&A, ceramic and laminate wood-grain floors, and more. Additional acreage available. \$174,900 (16376)



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)



YOU'LL FEEL RIGHT AT HOME in this charming farmhouse on a beautiful level lot of over one acre. Wood floors and wood walls, comfortable living area, large dining room, kitchen with walk-in pantry, 2 bedrooms and a lovely bath with whirlpool tub, and more. Major renovations have been completed on much of the house. \$178,900 (17131)



NOTHING CAN COMPARE!! Beautiful Cabin with all the craftsmanship we desire situated on 3 acres! This 3BR, 2.5BA home offers great room with vaulted ceiling, fireplace, wood flooring, open kitchen with bar, master is downstairs with glamour bath, rocking chair front porch with nice screened porch off back. Additional property available. \$259,900 (17209)



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)



MOVE UP TO RIVERFRONT! Get an open and airy feeling throughout this 3 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home. Features include an oversized state-of-the-art kitchen with eating area, stone fireplace, wood and tile floors, oversized back porch and boat dock. Appealing landscaping with large native stones. Many windows to soak up the views. A must see for \$579,000. (17781)



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! \$189,500 (16059)

BUILD YOUR NEW HOME ON THIS BROW LOT in Mentone with a breathtaking view of the valley below. Approx. 100' on the brow with 2 additional lots available. \$89,900 per lot. (14598)

WHAT A VIEW! 4 acre tract with 300' of brow frontage and gorgeous rock formations. It can all be yours to build your mountain getaway or your dream home. \$265,000 (17175)

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. 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. Co-broke with Prime Realty. \$120,000 (16844)

IF YOUR HEART LONGS FOR COOL MOUNTAIN BREEZES AND NATURE IN YOUR BACKYARD, then you must see this beautiful property. 35 Acres adjoining DeSoto Park is home to native plants &

flowers, mature trees, unique rock formations, and abundant wildlife. This is a one-of-a-kind property. \$472,500 (16984)

ENJOY GOING TO WORK IN THE MORNINGS? If not, then perhaps you should consider investing in your own business. Lookout Mtn Nursery is now for sale offering 9 greenhouses with inventory included. \$69,900 (16393)

MENTONE - minutes from Desoto State Park, Desoto Falls and Fort Payne! Foundation and septic tank already on property. Build your dream home under the beautiful Oak trees! \$149,000 (17138)

MENTONE - Walk to quaint shopping center of Mentone - 3 beautiful wooded, corner lots across street from brow. \$55,000 (17282)

LOOKING FOR THE MENTONE GET-A-WAY? This new development offers only 4 lots with gorgeous trees. Located off Co. Rd. 106. Lots are priced at \$35,000 each. (17060/17061)

RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL... you choose! This 5 +/- acre tract is right off Hwy. 117 in Mentone and would be great for a residence or business. \$45,000 (17270)

IT'S BETTER THAN GOLD! Attention subdividers - here's your opportunity! Great layout with this 22 +/- acre parcel of property near Lake Lahusage in Mentone. Lots have already been surveyed or you can keep as a whole. \$179,900 (17399)

LAKE ON THE BROW - Build that "Get-away Cabin" on this beautiful wooded 1 acre lot on the lake. \$59,500 (17384)

BREATHTAKING... Sunsets and views await you from this 6.5 acre brow lot in Mentone. Build your personal home, vacation home or rental cabin and start enjoying this opportunity. \$345,900 (17268)

BEAUTIFUL FARM ATOP LOOKOUT MTN in close proximity to DeSoto State Park. Old homestead w/ outbuildings, pond, county water and offers scenic, private country living. Fantastic views. Multi-use,

horse or cattle. \$360,000 (17441)

BEAUTIFUL FARM ATOP LOOKOUT MTN in close proximity to DeSoto State Park. Old homestead w/ outbuildings, pond, county water and offers scenic, private country living. Fantastic views. Multi-use, horse or cattle. \$780,000 (17438)

BROKEN DAM @ LAHUSAGE! Waterfront lots starting at \$100,000 (17334)

JUST LISTED... Lot in Hidden Lakes Subdivision on Lookout mountain. \$59,900

3+/- ACRES on the East Fork of Little River. \$165,000

NO MORE DAYDREAMING about living on Little River! Pristine river lot with 150 +/- feet frontage. You can put in a boat from your private dock, ride for 10 minutes and have a 104' waterfall to view. \$195,000

A Tribute to Jim Lyday

By Evelyn Graves

It was my honor to visit with Jim Lyday at the completion of his first book, "First Off the Mountain", and to interview him about his life, his accomplishments, and his joy at being back home at Mentone after being away for many years.

Jim's mother was my fifth grade teacher during World War II, and I remember very distinctly Jim's coming by the school to see his mother while on leave. He was dressed in his navy uniform, and he was quite handsome. That remembrance of him stands out in my mind. Of course, I would see him and Penny from time to time when they made a visit to the mountain, but it was a pleasure for me to sit for several hours and listen to Jim as he very patiently provided the information I needed for the interview about his book.

I have enjoyed being with Jim and Penny in many different settings. They always attended the second Sunday night singings at Union Hill Baptist Church where my husband was pastor. Jim had a beautiful bass voice, and he blessed us all as he directed several songs during those services. He reminded me of his father who also was a choir director, taught singing schools in various churches in the area, and always displayed the manner of a gentleman, as did Jim. Jim also was gifted with the talent for playing the guitar and enjoyed getting with friends and playing and singing.

Jim enjoyed attending church, having taught a Sunday School class for many years, and he always enjoyed having his pastor visit in his home. Penny enjoyed cooking a wonderful meal, and they had a great time of fellowship with their pastor and his wife.

Jim was an active member of the American Legion for many years, and he was an active member of the Mentone Area Preservation Association, serving as an officer in that organization for many years until his health failed.

Music was not Jim's only talent. He had many of them, but woodworking was one talent that was outstanding. He not only taught woodworking classes, but he continued to use that talent at home. During a recent visit with Penny, I was overwhelmed with the beautiful pieces of furniture that Jim had made for their home. They were finished in the finest form and are certainly something tangible that Penny and the children will always cherish as they are reminded that each piece was created with a lot of love.

Jim was a pleasant person, always bearing a big smile. He and I were cousins, several generations removed, but he loved to acknowledge that kinship, meeting me with a smile, a kiss, and a big greeting, "Hey, Cuz." It always brightened my day, and I left him feeling happy that I had had a brief visit with him.

I will certainly miss Jim Lyday, but it is comforting to know that we will meet again in a place where time is not a factor. There will be plenty of time there for us to sit and talk about the good things of life and to sing in perfect harmony. The best is yet to come!

Jim has written two books that have been published. The first is "First Off the Mountain", and the second one is "The In-Between Years." He completed two others that were never published. He left the manuscripts for the children to publish if they desire to do so. "First Off the Mountain" gives a detailed description of life at Mentone in Jim's young years.

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MULES

By Linda Brown

The mention of mules in last month's article started me to thinking about the mules I have known. I lived on a farm for the first twelve years of my life and I don't remember a time when we did not have a mule. Dad was one of the little farmers who was forced to close by those with bigger and more modern equipment.

I hated mules! I don't remember this happening but my parents often told me the story. Dad had a big red mule named Slim. Slim would rear up on his hind legs and come down with his front hooves on anything smaller than he. Slim had killed baby pigs, a baby calf and some kittens. On this particular day, Mom sat me down in the barn lot to play in the dirt. I must have been about two years of age. Somehow Slim got through the fence and came at me. Mom turned and grabbed me just as he came down with his front feet. She always said that she felt the air force of Slim's hooves as she managed to get us both to safety. See why I hate mules?

Why would dad keep such an animal? He never told me, but I have thought about the incident a lot. This was about 1939 and Slim was a valuable animal. He was the reason we had food on the table, because dad could plow the garden and make enough to feed us during the summer and also to can and preserve for the coming winter. He could plow the fields of corn, which was used to feed the cows, who provided milk; the chickens, who gave us eggs; the pigs, who provided meat and were sometimes sold for cash; and the corn was food for Slim, too. Dad always planted a field of cotton. The cotton was picked by hand and carried to Fort Payne to be sold. This was our main source of cash to buy clothes and other items that would be needed through the winter.

Slim stayed with the family for many years. When we moved from Fruit Farm Road to below Adamsburg, Slim would not stay home. No fence could keep him in if he wanted out or if a thunder storm came. Slim jumped over the fence without touching a hair on his body. This I did see and it was a beautiful sight. Slim was very graceful as he scaled over Fraser's fence. Slim became known throughout the neighborhood and people would tell us where he was. He would be waiting for dad when he went to get him. At one point, dad sold Slim to Bob Evans, our next door neighbor. Slim wouldn't stay with the Evans', so Fraser bought him back and Slim stayed wherever he wanted to.

In later years, dad must have sold Slim to buy two smaller, younger mules. These mules had never been "broken", that is, they were not trained to pull a plow or do the other work of mules around a farm. Unbroken mules were cheaper to buy. Fraser set to teach them the law of the farm. Now, if you have ever tried to teach a mule anything, you know what a job he had. He would manage to get the two mules ready to plow by the spring planting. He would use them during the season of growing and then sell them, thereby not having to feed them all winter while they were idle. Early the next spring, he would buy another pair of unbroken, young mules, and the circle would continue.

I don't know how long he did this, but I know that the mules were the cause of several family accidents. At least once each spring, the mules would run away with whatever equipment they were pulling. We would hear a great commotion, look out the door and see the mules, the plow, and Fraser flying across the field. Fraser would be holding onto the lines, hollering "whoa" and bouncing up and down like a rubber ball. Eventually, he would get them stopped. Sometimes they would run through a neighbor's field and the neighbor would help stop them. Usually, after this happened, the mules would be put into the barn and Fraser would go to the house to cool off.

One incident almost caused my brother and his friend a serious injury. They were playing in sand at the bottom of the neighbor's front doorsteps. The mules ran away in the field next to the neighbor's house and headed across the yard. Mom heard the noise and picked up both boys just as the mules came across the steps. The bottom step was broken into by the plow they were pulling.

We had one mule that would not stay in the stable. The stable was boarded up about two thirds of the front wall. This left the top open to feed the animals without going into the stall with them. You could reach over and pour the oats and corn into a trough, which was built for this purpose. We would put this mule into her stall at night and the next morning she would be outside eating clover or some other sweet patch of greens. The stall would still be locked and nothing would be amiss. Mom stood the not knowing as long as she could and one night she took a quilt and stayed in the hall of the barn, well out of the mule's sight, but so she could still see the stall. Well into the night, she heard the mule stirring around and looked just as the mule backed up as far as she could against the back of her stall, ran and jumped through the open top part of the stall. It seems that we decided if a mule was this smart, we would let her have fun doing it and she wasn't eating that much clover.

Mules were a part of my life, but I never learned to like them any better. I do know what an important part they played in the development of this country, especially the construction of the railroads. There are still several teams of mules in Mentone; and they make a pretty picture as they pull their wagon down the road. I am at peace with the mules I have known.



Rhododendron Festival 2008 photos by Cynt Stinson

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LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY

by Linda Brown

We need YOU to come to the library!! We continue to have patrons come in and check out books to read, but we need people on Saturdays. We really have a need for little people, children who love to read and love books. The Accelerated Reading Program is continuing and Mrs. Lasseter is at the library on Saturday morning. She is there to help Moon Lake students with the AR program. This summer's reading will count toward their school credits if they take the tests and record them. She will help any other student or young person to find books suitable for their age group. Don't let this program die, bring your children on Saturday morning.

Also, we have some wonderful DVD's and these can be checked out on the library card of the parents or guardians. Another feature of Saturday morning is that an adult FRIEND of the Library will be reading aloud beginning at 10:00 a.m. They will be reading stories of interest to all children. The first one was wonderful. The meeting room was set up with a rocking chair and stuffed animals all around. The children carried a beanbag chair in and sat in those. It was a fun time!

Mark your calendar for our book sale. It will be the Friday and Saturday of the August Longest Yard Sale. We have lots of books and as always we have them on every subject and for every age. I'll have one more article before then and I'll try to be more specific as to what we do have.

With the new format of The Groundhog, I have to write the article before the meeting of the Board of Directors. I will report on the results of the June meeting in the next article. I reported on the May meeting last month, so I don't have a meeting report for this month's article. I'll get it all together soon and then I'll forget where I put it.

Come to the Library on Saturday morning!! Bring your children!!

MOON LAKE LIBRARY



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Rhododendron Festival 2008 photo by Cynt Stinson

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WANT PRIVACY CREEK AND A LARGE HOME? Enjoy mother nature at your back door in this 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath vinyl siding home. Offers 36 x 14 screen rear porch, an eat-in kitchen featuring all appliances, formal dining and 2 master suites. Situated on 1.5 acres all for 149,900! (17678)



18 ACRES ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON!! Be at One With Nature on This Beautiful Secluded Property! Build Your Dream Home or Use This Property For Recreational Purposes. There is an Unfinished Cabin That Would be Perfect For Camping. Watch the Deer and Turkey Roam!! Enjoy the Serenity of Lookout Mountain!! \$439,000 (17625)



LIVE SMARTLY in this downtown, wooded-lot Cabin on a tranquil street. This enviable residence provides fireplace, a large view deck and vaulted ceilings. Plank flooring, subtle recessed lighting, all-appliance package. Metal roof, cool screened porch, covered front porch. Mature plantings. Here are great looks, plus lots of great living! Move in immediately. Only \$149,900! (17492)



BEAUTIFUL RUSTIC LOG HOME features, dovetail style corner notching, metal roof, covered front and rear porches, stacked stone and a cozy, outdoor fire pit. Wood burning insert and multipurpose loft, oak and pine hardwood flooring, vaulted ceilings, exposed beams, wet-bar and slate tile shower in the master bathroom. \$199,500. (17256)



AN OUTSTANDING LIFESTYLE... You'll enjoy privacy on the large view deck while you soak up the valley view. Fascinating 3BR/2BA Ranch-style in excellent condition. This gracious single-level features hardwood flooring, Circular drive, Neutral decor, comfortable large bedrooms. Handy workshop inside the two car garage, large covered front porch. Full landscaping. Delightful design and a warm welcome. \$219,900 (17842)



REPLENISH THE SPIRIT in this 3 bedroom/2 bath home high atop Lookout Mountain nestled among the trees in a wooded paradise. Spend your summer days hiking in the 5 acres that surround you, and nights listening to the wind blow while relaxing on the back porch. \$110,000 (17604)



MENTONE: LIKE NEW CABIN IN THE WOODS. Located just off Lookout Mountain Parkway, one of the most scenic drives in America. Features 2 possibly 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, stone fireplace with gas logs, open living area with soaring views of stairway and loft above. Includes 3 covered porches. Priced to sell at only \$189,900! (17698)



Rhododendron Festival 2008 photos by Cynt Stinson

A message from the President of MAPA

In the recent issue of the Mentone Area Art Council newsletter, it became clear that this organization is doing some amazing work to promote the arts in our area. They will soon have a web site, www.mentonearts.org, that will promote artist and local business. They are going through growing pains and need members, volunteers and donations of office equipment. I urge MAPA members, or anyone else in the community, to help this organization; join, volunteer or donate. To help contact Bill Rutledge at ibjannwer@yahoo.com or call 256-634-4837 to volunteer.

ATTENTION MENTONE AREA MERCHANTS!

The Tourism Committee of the Mentone Area Preservation Association is creating a visitors' guide within The Groundhog for shopping, dining and lodging in the Mentone area, including Valley Head, Hammondville, and Cloudland, Georgia. The guide will be published in The Groundhog every month. Your FREE listing will contain the business name, address, telephone number and a brief description of your business. If you would like to be included in the guide, please contact Doreen Waters at 256-516-4014, or you can e-mail the information to doreenwaters@gmail.com.

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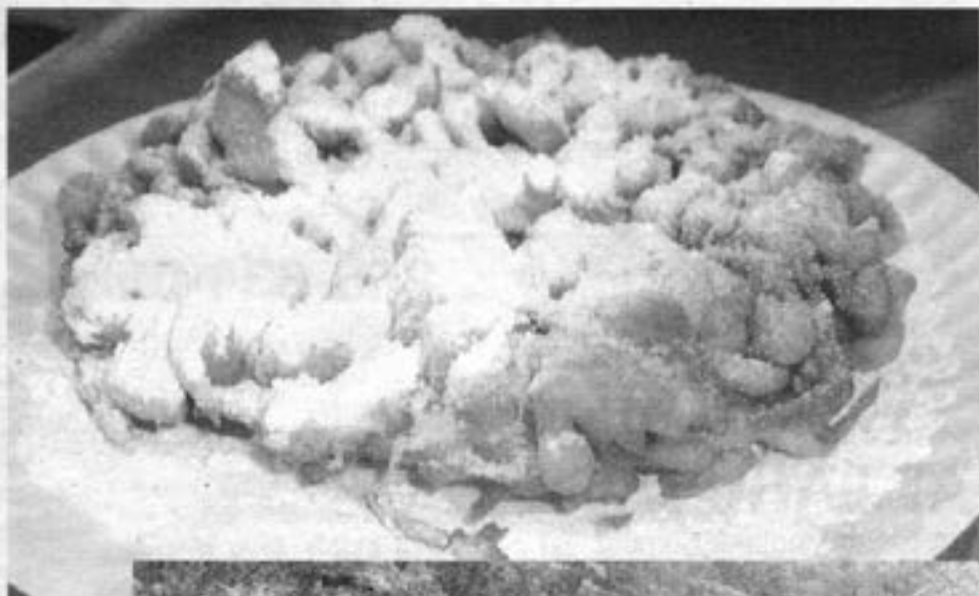
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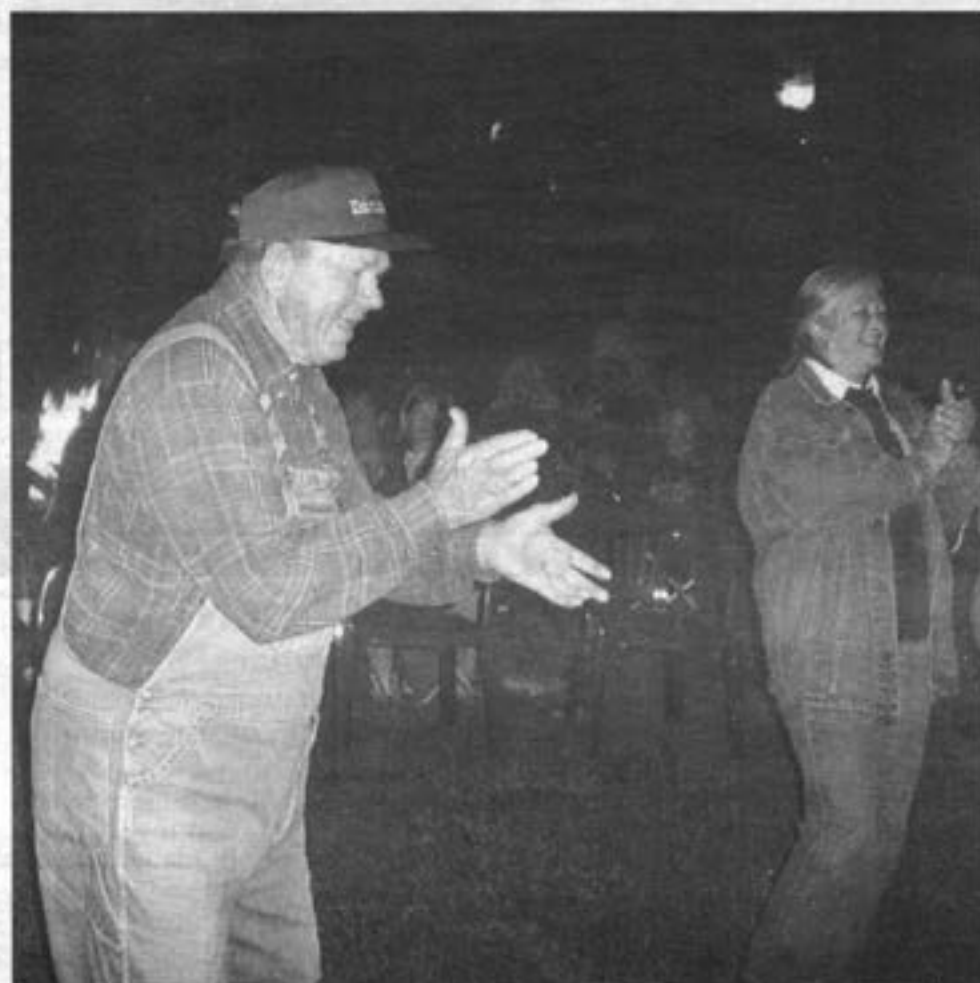
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THE RIVER

By John Baty

The recent attention given to Little River and its watershed has stirred many old memories of my childhood and the woodlands as they were from 1944 until about 1970.

Farming on Lookout Mountain might have been classed as subsistence farming. I can recall very few crops where the produce left the area for distant markets in appreciable quantity. To be sure, there was cotton. But cultivation of the white stuff never equaled that of Sand Mountain nor the valleys to the east and the west.

In large part, the communities which made up the central portion of the mountain's population lived by exploiting the natural resources: Timber; pastureland; masonry; coal, etc.

My family, and many other families to the immediate north and south of Mentone, were "Sawmill families." From early on, I was introduced to the woods and the cutting of trees. It is not much of an exaggeration to say that when one viewed a tree, it was with an appraising eye, coolly calculating the quantity and quality of lumber which it might yield.

The author's older brother, Robert Glenn, started his sawmill business at Mentone during the World War II era, and continued operations until his death in 1987. It was from about 1950 that I became a part of timbering. As a worker in the employ of my brother, I helped with the removal of the best of the hardwood (Red Oak and White Oak), and the remaining good pine. The best of the pine was Shortleaf,

but some of the other species furnished a good portion.

Land prices for "undeveloped" acreage were unimaginably low by present standards. The going price for woodland to the east of our present residence, at mid century, was \$200 per forty acres. The author's brother, Frank, at the end of WWII, bought eighty acres on the Stillhouse Branch for \$400, and sold the pine timber to Mr. R.D. Blalock (another sawmiller) for enough to pay for the land. As a gesture of goodwill, Mr. Blalock left enough good trees standing for a house which was built at Menlo, Georgia.

The lifeblood of any clean waterway is the forestlands of its watershed. The natural cycle of absorption by the root mass and detritus holds the rainwater in the soil, metering it out, as it were, through small streams and springs.

I have lain prone and drunk clean (and relatively safe) water from trickling streams barely underground. Those same little streams are now dry with no evidence that cool water once gurgled there except in the driest of seasons.

After the oaks, poplars, gums, pines and maples were gone, we went back and cut the large hickories. The nut trees. Some few of the choice logs were sawn into handle material, but the great majority went into pallet lumber: cut 5/8 inches by 4 inches and sold to Barwick Carpet Mills at LaFayette, Georgia. Those tough Hickory pallets were loaded with automotive floor mats and shipped to Detroit for the new cars.

I did most all of the jobs connected with sawmilling at one time or another, except the hauling. I never wanted to be a truck driver.

About 1960, I sawed the hardwood pallet lumber for a year. I can still visualize the clear, white, hickory lumber, free of knots, as it fell off the saw. At that time, I was not thinking of the Kalmia, Azaleas, the Trillium and Orchids, the Foxes, the Bobwhite Quail, the Fox Squirrels, which depended on the mixed timber for its habitat; its existence. Nor the naturally regulated waterways as they kept the River at proper flow.

With the natural brake on the water, slowing it down, the entire system swung in equilibrium as late as mid-twentieth century.

A very few years past, (three or four) I snapped a photo of DeSoto Falls between the Dam and the Falls after an excessively rainy time. The River there was more angry with whitewater than I had ever seen it. Probably not then, but certainly today, as I look at the framed photo, I feel a twinge of melancholic guilt for the small part I played in helping to compromise the smooth functioning of a beautiful system in natural equilibrium. . . . Yes, I appreciate Little River.

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