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13 Years
in Print**

THE GROUNDHOG

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Volume 13, No. 5

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

May 1995



Cassie Jones Cash

(Inset above: Cassie as a baby held by Grandmother Harrell)

CASSIE CASH: A MOTHER WHO HOLDS FAST

By Max Cash



**Max Cash, Cassie Jones Cash, Eva Crabtree,
Edmund Cash, Dorothy Marsh, and Edward Cash**

(All photos courtesy of Max Cash)



**Inset to right is Albert and Cassie
holding twins, Edmund and Edward**

My mother, Cassie Jones Cash, was an infant of 10 months when her father, Dixie David Jones, died. Her mother, Martha Rice Jones, was the daughter of John and Susan Rice. The Rices and Joneses lived near Rockmart, Ga.

Cassie's father was a music teacher. Mother was the youngest of eight children, four girls and four boys. She was born July 22, 1906. After her father's death, the family moved to Lebanon, Ala. Lebanon is about 5 miles south of Fort Payne. The move to Lebanon was about 1912. They owned a nice farm in the Lebanon Community and farmed there for a few years. In 1920, they moved to Lookout Mountain about 4 miles east of Mentone. The farm they owned here in Mentone for a number of years is now owned by Dr. Edward R. Annis.

Mother met my father, Albert Cash, at a square dance in the latter part of 1921, and they were married in 1923. Both of them slipped off to get married. Since they slipped off, mother borrowed a dress from her sister-in-law, Jessie Jones. Albert and Cassie were married in Menlo, Ga., by Justice of the Peace George Kling.

Albert and Cassie had five children: Max, Dorothy, Eva, Edward and Edmond. Before the twins, Edward and Edmond, were born, mother dreamed that she would have twins and even dreamed what their names would be. On her next visit to the doctor, he told her that she would be having twins. Miss Martha Berry, founder of Berry College, insisted on helping name them. She said anybody could be named Edward and Edmond. She wanted them named Edward Albert and Edmond Alfred, and so it was.

William Cash, our ancestor, settled in Westmoreland

County, Virginia, around 1680. The Cashes moved to North Carolina and the Atlanta, Georgia, area about 1830, and on to the Mentone area about 1890.

Issiac Cash, my great grandfather, homesteaded 120 acres of land about 6 miles south of Mentone, near the forks of Little River in 1898. Sam Cash, Issiac's son, married Maude Willingham. They raised nine children: Albert, Joe, Bascom, Louie, Sam, Harry, Billy, Thelma, and Grace. Billy and Grace are the only two living.

Sam Cash, my grandfather, was a coal miner and farmer. He worked in the mines in Kentucky and Alabama, and he also worked in the Lahusage mines about four miles east of Mentone. Sam was also fireman on the small train (dinky line) that hauled coal from the mines to the east brow of Lookout Mountain where it was dumped into a large wood shoot. The coal went down the shoot to the valley where it was loaded on railroad cars and shipped away.

My father, Albert Cash, was a rock mason and

carpenter. He was caretaker of the Martha Berry property here on Lookout Mountain.

Daddy and Mr. H. F. Shigley were the principle builders of the log and rock house Martha Berry built near Moon Lake in the 1930s. Some of the logs in this house were 108 years when the house was built. It is still a very beautiful house now owned by Mrs. Charlie Sheppard.

Daddy and some of the masons and workers from Mentone helped build the beautiful Frost Memorial Chapel on the Campus of Berry College near Rome, Ga.

One thing I am about to forget—three of the Cash brothers worked on the old Rock Wall up Lookout Mountain: Albert, Bascom, and Louie. The new rock wall was recently dedicated, thanks to Dr. Pat Seymour.

Albert and Cassie Cash have 18 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren. Mother and Daddy have been members of the Mentone Wesleyan Church since the late 1920s. Daddy passed away in 1951. For a number of years, life wasn't easy for Mother, but she made it!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Thursday, May 4, 7 p.m. National Day of Prayer Services at Brow Park, Mentone
- Sunday, May 14, Mother's Day
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 19, 20, 21 Rhododendron Festival (See flyer on back page.)
- Saturday, May 20, Armed Forces Day
- Sunday, May 28, Children's Day
- Monday, May 29, Memorial Day

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THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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Member-At-Large.....Dot Crow
Member-At-Large.....Pat Seymour

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

The deadline for all material for *The Groundhog* is the 22nd day of the month preceding publication. The publication is due out by the first Tuesday of each month.

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MAPA BIRTHDAYS

MAY/JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Hedwidge Salord	May 1
Nicole Vernon	May 6
Elvina Lowman	May 15
John O'Rear	June 9
Amelia Kirk	June 20
Bud Simmons	June 23
Sue Schwarz	June 29

Columnist Linda Brown (Our Town) will be back in the September issue of *The Groundhog*; and Columnist Charlyne O'Rear (Beauty Tips) will be back in next month's issue of *The Groundhog*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

April 1995

Evelyn,
I don't know if you will remember me. I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoy the Groundhog. Tommie and Barbara Gifford send me theirs. I catch up on the news from Valley Head, the churches, Eloise Brown, and Linda's writings.

I enjoy living here. Have a large nice church, but it is good to read about home. Auburn is about the size of Fort Payne when I was working there. It is also in DeKalb County.

Sincerely,
Jackie McElhaney
Auburn, IN 46706

The Old One

By Sharon Jones Harris

She creeps through the house
on rheumatoid feet
who once was
victim of door-slam
wearer of finger paints
rider of van tops
whose whiskers once were trimmed neatly
over growling displeasure

Friend of child and woman alike
umpire of dog fights
bringer of chipmunk bodies
avenger of wrongs
bearer of kittens
sitter of laps
participant of childhood's revelry

Dignity in tabbied Siamese coat
Old lady cat

(Sharon Jones Harris is the oldest daughter of Jim and Dallyne Jones. She is the mother of three grown children, a registered nurse, a homemaker, and has taken up creative writing, which she loves. "The Old One" and "distant November" are two of her poems, which have been published.)

APRIL MAPA MEETING

By Marie Dillenbeck

The April Mapa meeting was held on April 4, at the Kountry Chef at 7 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Dessie Newberry, president, and Chester Crowe gave the opening prayer. There were 34 members present, including two new members, Linda and Larry Duffy.

The minutes from the March meeting were read and approved.

President Dessie Newberry announced that Penny Lyday had been appointed treasurer by the Board, and Dessie gave the treasurer's report, which was approved.

Evelyn Graves, Editor of *The Groundhog* gave a report, which was also approved.

The president announced that the speaker for the evening, Bill Witcraft was unable to attend.

The Rhododendron Festival was the topic of discussion, along with several items brought before the Board. The Gospel Music Festival was cancelled for 1995. The nominating committee was appointed by the president, and those members are: Homer Crow, Rick Chapman, and Jim Lyday.

The Brow Festival in July was permanently canceled by unanimous vote of the members.

A motion was made and approved to make another banner to replace the one that the weather destroyed.

It was decided that MAPA would have a booth at the Festival, and suggestions as to items for the booth were: Mentone Brochures, information, T-Shirts, Videos, balloons for the children, and post cards, to name a few. The purchase of an instant camera was approved for the purpose of taking photographs of individuals in front of Jack Jones' stagecoach that will be on display at the Festival.

A change in the date for the selection of the queen was approved, and the queen will be selected a week prior to the festival. Further festival matters were discussed and the meeting was adjourned.

Delicious refreshments were served by Terry and Dorna Hutcheson, Amelia Kirk, and Maurine Brewer.

FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT

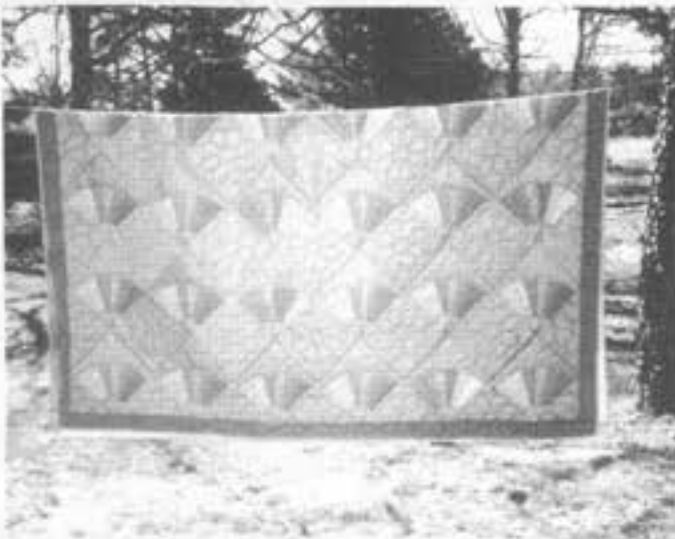
Here's just a sample of what you'll find at the 1995 RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL:

Vendors from Jacksonville, Ala., with wooden crafts and fabric dolls; Siminole, Ala., with oil paintings on antique ware; Chattanooga, Tenn. with hair bows and children's throw pillows; Marietta, Ga., with winds and more; Chelsea, Ala., with cross stitch assortment, printed T-shirts, etc; Attalla, Ala., with needlecraft & applique clothing; Cloudland, Ga., with herb plants & herbal crafts; Ocala, Fla., with plastic canvas & beaded items, Corchet Co. Western Dolls; Valley Head, Ala., with Savannah cinnamon, face painting, etc.; Cloudland, Ga., with Ceramics; Hayden, Ala., with wood toys, games & gifts for the home; Ft. Rucker, Ala., with wood desk accessories; Sylacauga, Ala. with herb products; Douglas, Ala. with children's moonwalk; Southside, Ala., with wood towel and napkin holders, etc.; and much, much more.

MAPA will have a booth with Mentone brochures, balloons for the kids, your picture taken with the old stagecoach, and much more.



The queen-sized quilt (fan design), made by Jewel Overbee of Henagar, Ala., to be raffled off at the Rhododendron Festival on Sunday, May 20, at 4 p.m., has six different shades in each fan. The quilt will be on display in front of the Hitching Post in Mentone during the Festival.



"A TRIBUTE TO MY MOTHER"

By Dr. Pat Seymour

As "A tribute to my mother," a number of Mentone area individuals were polled for this issue of *The Groundhog*. Each was asked, "What personal trait of your mother do you most admire?" Their touching responses make up this article and represent "A tribute to my mother."

Dr. Bill Berry: "Her sense of humor! She sees through any situation and perceives the humor hidden from view to others. I think she gets this delightful view of life from her father, Fred Jones."

Yvonne Blalock: "Always helping other people. People who knew my mother, Lena Bishop, recognized this trait in her and never hesitated to call on her for assistance."

Shelly Ingram: "Her ability to make me feel secure and safe. No matter what happens, I know it's going to be okay. She'll handle the problem, and I know she's always there for me."

Catherine Bailey: "Always doing for somebody else--she was so thoughtful--and her spiritual strength. I was never SENT to church; I was TAKEN there by my mother. Her love of God was passed on to me early in life. We had a family altar, and I remember kneeling by my chair to pray after Bible reading at night. She made everybody feel welcome at our house: too many guests for the few beds? Spread the pallets on the floor!"

Barbara Blalock: "The strength of her spiritual faith and her deep belief in God were the traits I noticed first as a child. She truly enjoyed us children and was a real companion to us. Many days we all went for a picnic on the brow. My mother impresses me also with her fierce spirit of independence and her determination to do for herself!"

Carol Hazell: "Caring for others! Many times people won't even know who has done something for them because Mother doesn't let on she was the one, especially if children are involved."

Eloise Brown: "Mother died of typhoid at age 18, when I was only an infant, and I was only three years old when Daddy died. My grandmother, her mother reared me and became 'my mother.' Her door was always open to everyone. Such gracious hospitality. She was also a very brave person. A little boy down the street would be beaten terribly by his father, and Grandmother would hide the boy at our house. She always defended the helpless."

Russell Wright: "Her worth ethic. My mother has been a worker all her life. Whether it was in the house, in the yard, or at a job, she gives it her very best effort. She saw to it that we always had clean clothes on our backs and good food on the table."

Marie Dillenbeck: "Her resiliency and determination. She never gives up and, like the Energizer Bunny, just keeps on going. Mom always saw to it that we had clean clothes and plenty to eat."

Linda Brown: "Mother always stuck to it until she got it done. In the field, in the house--wherever there was work to do, she did it. She would do the milking, gather the eggs, split the firewood, slop the hogs, and still take care of us. With Daddy gone about 16 hours a day on his job measuring land, mother ran our farm pretty much by herself."

Karen Wright: "Compassionate! That's my mother. She really cares about other people, especially children. We always came first with her. Although she has diabetes now and is having serious eye problems, Mother still bakes delicious cakes for us."

Jason Goss: "Her determination to succeed! Mother always does people right. She is fair, but sometimes seems overprotective of us kids. I like the fact that she takes care of herself and has a lot of pride in her appearance. Mother stays in real good shape, and I admire that."

Susan Hooks: "Consistent patience! We children always came first. If we needed clothes, she would do without, if necessary. My mother is a perfect example of sacrificial love!"

Brenda Williamson: "Making every day special. She put her children first. She was so family-oriented, and what a faith in God!"

Evelyn Graves: "Encouraging. She was always encouraging. If you want to do it badly enough, you can! Patient, strong willed, that's my mother."

And so the interviews went. A common thread runs through these responses: Mothers are at the center of all our growing up years, and if there is one most important word in the English language, it has to be Mother! A very, very happy Mother's Day to all the mothers among our readers.

From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS



Loyal readers, as much as it pains me to admit it, the dreaded "D" word is working! I can almost run around in moi harness, and I am a mere shadow of my former exquisite self. In the light at the end of the tunnel, I can almost make out the dear form of Precious, moi betrothed. Thoughts of her are the only things that make me keep on keeping on. Jack Lusk says, "When you plight your trough, there's no turning back." Hang on, Precious! I'm half way there.

Alex Jones, 2-1/2, is so wise for his mere 30 months of life. He had his folks bring him all the way from Ft. Payne to view the great one between the counters. I ask you--is that not the stuff intelligence is made of?

Word of moi's perfection is reaching into all corners of the world (as it should be.) With flatlander tourists coming from Mississippi and Georgia to view moi flawless body--admittedly there is less of that body every day, thanks to the evil "D." Mark and Brenda Dean from Saucier, MS, came in yesterday and were awed by what they saw. Children Heather (11) and twins, Lindsey and Derek (7), hesitated by the door overcome by the magnificent beauty within.

Brother Bill Russell is going to fit in beautifully here in Mentone. That dear man of the cloth brought in nice Cindy Marie Moll (15) from Birmingham to show her the major natural wonder in town--Moi! I rippled weakened-by-starvation muscles, and the lass was duly impressed.

Jim and Ginny Burchfield from Rome, Ga., always stop in the Superette anytime they're in town, hoping for a nod of this magnificent head. They try to contain their excitement in viewing me, but blind adoration is difficult to disguise.

Willis Blalock just blew his ice cream sandwich breath on me, knowing I've been sworn to treatlessness. How'd you like to be plummeted about your white head with my rawhide chewie, blue eyes?

Thank the Lord!! Here comes Kenneth Dobbs, the breadman. He's always good for a wrestle and punch game. Get down here so I've got a chance, doughboy, and no kicking thin ribs today!

Pop will want me in the shower with him when we get out of here tonight. He thinks it's cute that I've lost enough weight to give him room. Why bathe, I say? No self-respecting flea would get on my wasted frame, unless he had a memory of flesh that used to be. A few more pounds and moi'll be washed down the drain--it will serve Pop right! Let him explain that to my thousands of loyal fans!

This is the pits--but, hold on, Precious, I'm half way there!



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Mentone Grapevine

By
PAT SEYMOUR

One of eight couples honored on their 50th Wedding Anniversary, George and Hattie Lide, enjoyed a dinner in their honor at their Florida home, Wesleyan Village. After a bountiful pot-luck meal, the eight couples renewed their wedding vows in the presence of over 300 witnesses. A video tape of the ceremony was presented to George and Hattie. Sincere congratulations on your "Golden" anniversary, George and Hattie!

Kelly Bunch, daughter of Jim and Leslie Bunch, Valley Head, recently participated in the state qualifying round of the Future Problem Solving Program at the Fort Payne Middle School. Cheryl King was the sponsoring teacher.

Congratulations to **Linda Kilgore**, whose team Carter's Body Shop, won first place honors in the Thursday AM Coffeebreak Bowling League. The league finished the season with a luncheon at the Western Sizzlin where awards were presented to the top individual bowlers and teams.

Julie Atkins of Valley Head is DeKalb County's new Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) Case Manager. Her role is to help families of the individuals she serves to make quality decisions and to play a supportive role.

Valley Head Juniors invited to hear a program on preparation for admissions to college sponsored by the DeKalb County Auburn Club, included Jennifer Robertson, Kayla Bell, Shaunathan Bell, Karen Davis, Coley Morgan, and Campbell Smith, Counselor. These students are part of the Academic Top 10% of the eleventh grade students in county and Fort Payne schools.

Juanita Hartline would like to extend heartfelt thanks to Amy Keith, Marie Dillenbeck, Jim Roberts, Dr. Pat Seymour, and the community of Mentone for their donations of money, cakes, pies, preserves, hard work, and prayers that made the April 22nd benefit bake sale for Shane Ingram such a big success. Everyone's contributions made it possible to raise more than \$535 to help with medical bills accumulated from his recent auto accident on the road up the mountain.

Lyndell Elkins is home from UAB Hospital, where he underwent cancer surgery. He is back in school at Valley Head, but continue to keep him in your prayers.

Sam Whatley and **Lisa Crow** will be married on May 27 at 2 p.m., at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church. Father of the bride is Barry Crow and parents of the groom are Sam and Toots Whatley. Homer and Bernice Crow are the bride's grandparents. Friends are invited to attend the wedding.

A baby shower will be held on Sunday, May 7, from 1-3 p.m. at the Valley Head Promenade Hall in honor of Donna (Bill) Hilliard, wife of David Hilliard. The baby is already known to be a girl. Family members Connie Clark, Hazel Hilliard, Kathy Wheat, and Amy Kirby invite all friends and family to attend.

Linda Brown held a 78th birthday celebration at her home honoring her mother, Oline Cochran, on Sunday, April 30. Approximately 40 people attended, including Oline's husband, Fraser; her four children: Linda Brown, Howard Cochran, David Cochran, and Myra Politakis; two sisters: Clara Jacobs, Mt. Vernon, and husband Hoyt, and Edith Gissendanner; 13 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. A dinner of BBQ chicken, potato salad, baked beans, slaw, ice cream and cake was enjoyed by the group. Granddaughter Gail Smalley made the beautiful cake reading "Happy Birthday, Mamalene," and bearing a single candle.

Navy Seaman Recruit Jonathan E. Terrell, son of Arthur W. and Gwen Y. Terrell of Valley Head, recently departed for a six-month deployment aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Hue City, as part of the USS Theodore Roosevelt Battle Group W.

Van Cooper of Valley Head was the winner of closest-to-the-pin on No. 16 in the Third Annual Kiwanis Benefit Golf Tournament held May 20 at Terrapin Hills Country Club. The tournament was to raise money for the "Writing To Read" lab at Forest Avenue School.

Two Valley Head runners earned slots in the state track meet Thursday, April 20 at the Class 1S-2A sectionals in Talledega.

Ashley Blalock, eighth grader, won the 200 meter run with a time of 29 seconds flat. She finished third in the 100 meter run to qualify for state. **Angie Wheat** qualified by placing third in the 1600 meter run. The state track meet is scheduled for May 5-6 in Athens. These girls can move those feet like the wind! Best wishes at STATE!

Curt Miller, 16, son of Glen and Linda Miller, has been accepted by the Alabama School of Math and Sciences for his junior and senior years of high school. Located in Mobile the institution is a public boarding school. Way to go, Curt!

Brandy Browder, 8, granddaughter of Rindy Millican, had ear surgery recently at Medical Center East in Chattanooga. She is doing well, recuperating nicely, and back in school. Brandy is the daughter of Bobby and Terri Browder.

Joy Hester is opening an ice cream parlour in the Hester building in Valley Head to be open by June 1. The parlour will serve cones, old fashioned shakes/malts, fountain drinks, sundaes, and banana splits. The hours will be 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week. Joy has purchased the entire Hester property for her business.

Varco-Pruden Buildings recently honored its employees with perfect or meritorious attendance with a dinner. **Walt Pullen** of Mentone was cited for perfect attendance at work. Way to go, Walt!

Norma Bare and **Carla King** appeared on the Winter 1995 Dean's List at Gadsden State Community College. Students who earn all A's and B's in their coursework are named to the list. Congratulations, ladies!

Have you seen the beautiful border lights along Joel and Sue Kings driveway? It's worth a drive around Cove Road to view the sight!

Robert Green has changed jobs and is now working for Ovie Blalock driving heavy trucks.

Brenda Goss is working on Mondays at Mountain Manor setting hair and giving manicures. The residents are delighted with the new services.

Rabies shots will be administered to cats and dogs from 1-4 at the Little River Hardware on May 27. The charge per pet is \$7.00. Put dogs on leashes and cats in carriers.

Grace Howard has been publicized for the second time in a national miniaturist's magazine. Congratulations, talented lady!

Chad Williams visited recently with his parents Buddy and Norma. While Chad was here, the family enjoyed a picnic in Cloudland Canyon. For only \$2.00 a car, visitors can spend the day soaking in the beauty.

Harrell Jenkins, longtime treasurer of MAPA is seriously ill in a Birmingham hospital. Remember him in your prayers.

Abigail Stephens, 10, of Valley Head, submitted the front page weather art for a recent *Times-Journal*. What a talented young lady!

March 31-April 2, **Marilyn Blanton Campbell** attended the Third Annual Oxford Conference For The Book on the campus at Ole Miss at which she heard Doug Marlette (cartoonist), Darden Pyron (scholarly author), and Pat Conroy (novelist), among others, speak. While in Mississippi, Marilyn was the house guest of kinfolks Mike, Judy, and Micheal Canerdy of Myrtle. Mike and Micheal made a short trip to Mentone in February. Then, on April 12-15, Marilyn accompanied her mother, Mrs. Mary A. Blanton, and her brother, Daniel C. Blanton, on a trip to visit her sister, Jane Blanton, and her nephew, Joshua Rose, in Gaston County, North Carolina.

The **Valley Head Band** members held a car wash on Saturday, April 8, 1995, at 3 locations: Valley Head, Mentone, and Wendy's in Fort Payne. They raised over \$1,350 to help pay for new uniforms. The Band wishes to thank all the places who let it use their facilities and all the people who gave pledges or donations. It was really appreciated!

They also held the annual Spring Concert at the school in the auditorium on Sunday, April 23. The beginner band and the high school band both performed. Both bands did great. Thanks to everyone who attended.

The Band held the Annual Miss Spring Fantasy Pageant on Friday, April 28, and Saturday, April 29th. Donna Brock, last year's Miss Spring Fantasy, gave out trophies and crowned the winners. (See a list of the winners elsewhere.)

Don't forget the spaghetti supper and auction to be held on Saturday, May 20th. (See the notice elsewhere.)

Deepest sympathy to families who have lost loved ones:

Hazel Stallings, 79, sister of Mildred Shrader, Valley Head, died April 27.

Robert Climer, 86, husband of Annie Climer, died April 14. Memorial Services were April 30 at Moon Lake Baptist Church.

Johnny Mack Cooper, 47, father of Jana Cooper, died March 22.

Lula McGee is popping her buttons over the birth of a 9 lb, 2 oz. red-headed baby girl born to granddaughter Loretta McGee.

After tests, **Alan and Penny Baugh** have been told that their

new baby will be a boy--just what they've been praying for.

Mentone's favorite son, **Slim Easler**, will be 70 years young on Friday, May 5. How can a man claim to be 70 when he looks 30?? Happy Birthday, big guy!

Kisha Powell, 2, daughter of Richard and Karen Powell, is recovering from ear surgery to place tubes in her ears.

Pastor Marlon Williamson and wife, **Brenda**, were presented a \$100 gift certificate to Foodland by their Revival Center congregation last Sunday. Talk about a useful gift, wow!

On Saturday, May 6, at noon, the Youth of the Mentone Revival Center will sponsor a car wash at Wendy's. The proceeds will be used to support youth activities.

Rev. Jimmy Johnson, Jackson, MS, the District Superintendent of the Wesleyan Church is conducting nightly services at the Mentone Wesleyan Church at 7 p.m. through May 3rd.

Kirby McMunn, 8, grandson of Britt and Florene Kirby, had his tonsils removed recently. He is recovering nicely and back in school.

James Johnson, City Councilman, has been hospitalized, but is now resting comfortably at home.

Rufus Colquitt Jones is critically ill after undergoing surgery in Ft. Payne. Our prayers and thoughts are with him.

Rev. Edmund Crowe has returned from a two-week visit with son Jim and his family in Modesto, Calif. While in Calif., Rev. Crowe toured the Academy of Science Museum and Aquarium in San Francisco, the Japanese Tea Garden, and saw the lovely beaches. He spent time in Columbia State Park and Casa de Fruta in Hollister, Calif. The Casa had orchards, a bakery, fruit stands, swimming pool, and many other beautiful attractions.

May anniversaries include **Larken and Betty Bell** on May 4, and **Leonard and Louise Keith** (48 years) on May 10. Heartiest congratulations!

May birthdays are plentiful!

- 1st - Larken J (Jr.) Bell
- 2nd - Betty Bell
- 4th - H. P. Goss
- 5th - Slim Easler (70)
- 6th - Phil Harris
- 8th - Connie (Hilliard) Clark
- 9th - Megan Smith, Juanita Hilliard
- 10th - Georgia McKown (91)
- 13th - Blake Hulan
- 15th - Shirley Collins, Ruby Gifford, Tyler Blansit, Trevor Lewis
- 17th - Beth Moore (12), Melissa (Smith) Miller
- 20th - Joyce (Worthey) Tate, Jessica McKenzie
- 23rd - Lynn Owens (35)
- 25th - Jackie Smith
- 29th - Debra (Bell) Cash, Ginger (Bell) Myers

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ONE AND ALL!

I leave you with this thought for May:

Take time to think, it is the source of power--
Take time to play, it is the secret of youth--
Take time to read, it is the fountain of wisdom--
Take time to laugh, it is the music of the heart--
Take time to serve, it is the road to happiness--
Take time to dream, it is hitching your wagon to a star--
Take time to love, it is the highest joy of life!

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THANK YOU!

To all my Mentone friends who had a part in the Bake Sale Benefit for my son, Shane, may I say thank you from the bottom of my heart! Whether you baked, bought, or donated, your efforts were a God-send to our family. May He richly bless you for your compassionate act of caring.

Glenda Ingram



MOON LAKE SPRINGFEST A BIG SUCCESS

By Dr. Bill Berry

Springfest 1995 was a big success and lots of fun. Through everyone's efforts, over \$1,600 was raised. This year's theme is "Firmly planted, forward moving." The logo as shown in the picture above was created by Terri Childers. T-Shirts with this logo are available at the school for \$12.00 each. Those wishing to support Moon Lake's progress may contact the school to purchase the T-Shirts.

At the Springfest, several photos were on display showing the following accomplishments:

Our children have always gotten off to a great start in Kindergarten. Things are even better now—tables and chairs, a two-way intercom system provided by the county, and new carpeting donated by Shaw. New blinds for the office and teacher's lounge were donated by a nice individual.

Some of the most needed and greatly used improvements have been to our library: new carpeting (donor), paint job (DeSoto Campers), lighting and ceiling (county). Thanks to a very successful Book Fair, organized by Mrs. Barkley and the generosity of numerous donors, plus money from the county, we have added many new books to our shelves.

Thanks to scores of volunteers who worked many, many hours, our most ambitious project to date—the playground—is near completion. The majority of the funds were provided through the 1994 Springfest. Thanks MENTONE!

The ever-expanding computer lab temporarily housed in the gym classroom, will help to launch our children into the 21st century. Funding for the computers was by private and corporate donors, and the county.

For four weeks this spring, our children benefited from art classes funded by the Moon Lake PTO and Big Wills Art Council. The resident artist was Sissy Crider.

Landscaping and signs have brought beauty and color to our school, compliments of the Rhododendron Garden Club.

Proposed Eco Center is to be provided by the Rhododendron Garden Club and present our children with the opportunity for some real hands-on educational experience.

Thanks to efforts of one very big Moon Lake supporter and the generosity of some area corporate donors, plans are under way for a totally new library. The biggest obstacle? Where do we put it? The acquisition of land adjoining the school property has long been a dream of the PTO and the school office. Achieving this dream would answer a lot of questions that are currently being posed. In Dr. Berry's words, "We're working on it."

Goals—because of a very wise decision Moon Lake is finally getting another teaching unit (no more split classes!). When this decision was made, the problem of where to put this class also arose. Solution—put the class in the existing cafeteria and build a new one. Plans are under way to do just that. The county will provide a new cafeteria building along with covered walkways from the cafeteria to the main building. Your generosity during the Springfest and throughout the year, will provide us with the funds to have covered walkways connecting all the buildings.

MOON LAKE SCHOOL STUDENT PARTICIPATION

MOON LAKE PERFECT ATTENDANCE Seventh Month

<u>Mrs. Saratt's Kindergarten</u>	<u>Mrs. Hughes' 3rd/4th Grade</u>
Barnabas Bettis	Kim Brisendine
Wil Blackburn	Emmy Corey
Logan Chambers	Justin Dingler
Elizabeth Childers	Beth Easler
Mark Corey	Bobby Elkins
Glenn Hansen	Joshua Hughes
Robert Johnson	Niki Johnson
Jacob Meadows	Ashley LaBuda
John Meadows	Adam Manning
Casey Sammons	Ashley McSpadden
Justin Scott	Mason Plunk
Justin Smith	
Kelly Swindall	
<u>Mrs. Robert's 1st Grade</u>	<u>Mrs. Smith's 4th/5th Grade</u>
NOT AVAILABLE	Josh Baker
	Tiffany Bare
	Tessie Baty
<u>Ms. Lehman's 2nd Grade</u>	Jennifer Blalock
Colby Baty	Jerry Lee Brisendine
Rachel Bryan	Ashley Brown
Ashley Clark	Ben Corey
Clark Crow	Jana Goss
Paul Davis	Corey Kirby
Nick Floyd	Eddie Manning
Amanda Johnson	Kerri McMunn
Fawn Kitchens	Matthew Prestwood
Andrew McCole	<u>Dr. Berry's 6th Grade</u>
Brigitte McNutt	David Chaney
Jessica Meadows	Tracy Coots
Keith Miller	Davey Goodwin
Emily Platt	Ashton Jones
Heather Plunk	Holly Kitchens
Shannon Sammons	Nathan Owen
Andrew Smith	Joseph Smith
Joshua Smith	James Tipton
Kelly Wright	

Olympic Awards given during the Springfest: Kindergarten, 1st grade & 2nd grade

50 yard dash - Rob Childers (1st), Tyler Harrison (2nd), Sarah Hurt (3rd)
Relay Race Team: Andrew McCole, Clark Crow and Matt Hawkins (1st); Tyler Harrison, Rachel Bryan, Heather Plunk (2nd); Sarah Hurt, Paul Davis, Nicklas Floyd (3rd)

Limbo: Shannon Sammons (1st), Ashley Clark (2nd), Tyler Harrison (3rd)
Jump Rope: Heather Plunk (1st), Rachael Bryan (2nd), Sarah Hurt (3rd)
Football Throw: Joshua Rogers (1st), Paul Davis (2nd), Rob Childers (3rd)
Sack Race: Sarah Hurt (1st), Shannon Sammons (2nd), Rachael Bryan (3rd)
3-Legged Race: Rachael Bryan & Shannon Sammons (1st), Clark Crow & Rob Childers (2nd), Joshua Hughes & Nicklas Floyd (3rd)
Long Jump: Rob Childers (1st), Tyler Harrison (2nd), Paul Davis (3rd)
Egg Toss: Andrew McCole & Andrew Smith (1st), Laura Floyd & Shannon Sammons (2nd), Tyler Harrison & Paul Davis (3rd)

Best all around athletes: Girls Rachael Bryan; Boys - Rob Childers

3rd & 4th Grade

50 yard dash: Corey Kirby (1st), J. R. Patterson (2nd), John Fischer (3rd)
Relay Race Team: Coby Harrison, Corey Kirby, John Fischer (1st), Kelly Owen, Mason Plunk, Stuart Hurt (2nd), Ashley LaBuda, Joshua Hughes (3rd)
Limbo: Kelly Owen (1st), John Fischer (2nd), Tiffany Bare (3rd)
Jump Rope: Stuart Hurt (1st), Tyler Harrison (2nd), Ashley LaBuda (3rd)
Football Throw: John Fischer (1st), Kyle Hooks (2nd), Coby Harrison (3rd)
Sack Race: Coby Harrison (1st), Tiffany Bare (2nd), Stuart Hurt (3rd)
3-Legged Race: Kerri McMunn & Tiffany Bare (1st), John Fischer & Corey Kirby (2nd), Emmy Corey & Ashley LaBuda (3rd)
Long Jump: Corey Kirby (1st), John Fischer (2nd), Tiffany Bare (3rd)
Egg Toss: Corey Kirby & John Fischer (1st), Coby Harrison & Stuart Hurt (2nd), Ashley LaBuda & Emmy Corey (3rd)

Best all around athletes: Girl: Tiffany Bare; Boy: John Fischer

5th & 6th Grade

50 yard dash: Peter Hurt (1st), Matt Hilliard (2nd), Jared Fischer (3rd)
Relay Race Team: Jared Fischer, Peter Hurt, Matt Hilliard
Limbo: Jared Fischer (1st), Ashley Brown (2nd), Jennifer Blalock (3rd)
Jump Rope: Ashley Brown (1st), Ben Corey (2nd), Peter Hurt (3rd)
Football Throw: Peter Hurt (1st), Jared Fischer (2nd), Alan Hawkins (3rd)
Sack Race: Peter Hurt (1st), Ashley Brown (2nd), Jared Fischer (3rd)
3-Legged Race: Peter Hurt & Jared Fischer (1st), Cassie Hooks & Jana Goss (2nd), Jennifer Blalock & Ashley Brown (3rd)
Long Jump: Peter Hurt (1st), Matt Hilliard (2nd), Alan Hawkins (3rd)
Egg Toss: Peter Hurt & Ben Corey (1st), Jared Fischer & Ashley Brown (2nd), Corey Kirby & Matt Hilliard (3rd)

Best all around athletes: Girl: Ashley Brown; Boy: Peter Hurt

Horseshoe winners: Troy Brown & Mark Schrader

MOON LAKE HONOR ROLL Fifth 6 Weeks

ALL A'S

Jared Bare
John Baxter
Sarah Hurt
Emily Tipton

ALL A'S & B'S

Mrs. Mosley's 1st Grade

Laura Floyd
Katie Gray
Melissa Harrison
Brandy Manning
Kirby McMunn
Kellye Phillips
Cayla Voils

Ms. Lehman's 2nd Grade

NOT AVAILABLE

Mrs. Hughes' 3rd/4th Grade

Emmy Corey

Kim Brisendine
Kyle Hooks
P. J. Humphrey
Niki Johnson
Ashley LaBuda
Ashley McSpadden
Kelly Owen

Mrs. Smith's 4th/5th Grade

Stuart Hurt
Jana Goss
Kerri McMunn

Tiffany Bare
Tessie Baty
Jennifer Blalock
Brandy Browder
Ben Corey
Alan Hawkins
Peter Hurt
Eddie Manning
Kiley Young

Dr. Berry's 6th Grade

Ashton Jones

Emily Collins
Holly Kitchens

Flower Show Awards were:

Kindergarten through 3rd Grade Division

1st - Sarah Hurt - "Forest of Dreams"
2nd - Rachael Bryan - "Garden Bouquet"
3rd - Ashley Brown - "Nature's Beauty"

4th through 6th Grade Division

1st - Kyle Hooks - "Jurassic Period"
2nd - Cassie Hooks - "Cat Corner"

Adult Division

1st - Bessie McSpadden 2nd - Vickie Blackburn

Pet Show Awards were:

Best Cat and Best Personality - Buddy owned by Kelly Wright
Most Patriotic - Beethoven owned by Katie Herndon
Best Dresser, Most Talented, and Best of Show - Gabe owned by Cassie Hooks
Most Obedient - Penelope owned by Andrew McCole
Most Handsome - Erath owned by Kyle Hooks



DeSoto Rescue Squad table at Springfest

MOON LAKE SCHOOL IMPORTANT DATES

Kindergarten graduation is at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, May 25, in the school gym.

6th grade graduation date to be announced.

6th grade valedictorian: Ashton Jones

6th grade co-salutatorians: Emily Collins and Holly Kitchens

VALLEY HEAD WOMAN'S CLUB COMMEMORATES 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING



L/R: Jane Pruitt Brooks, President, Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs; Maurine Donahue; Velma Hammond; and Dot Blackburn, President of Valley Head Woman's Club



L/R: Leslie Bunch, Adelaide Biddle, Bonnie Jones and her daughters, Rebecca and Megan



L/R: Jane Pruitt Brooks, President, Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs; Martha Gibson, hostess; Teresa Cooper, Registrar; Mary Holleman, Historical Exhibit; Susan Hooks; Gerry Disney.

Pictured below, L/R: Sadie Cooper and Bess Bauerle

Spring skipped lightly into Wills Valley on Sunday, April 9, 1995, as the Valley Head Woman's Club commemorated the 65th anniversary of its founding and the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs with a tea at the home of Martha Gibson in Valley Head.

The president, Dot Blackburn, and the hostess, Martha Gibson, greeted the guests at the door. The president of the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs, Jane Pruitt Brooks, was the guest of honor.

A vase of apple blossoms, beautiful and fruitful, the club's flower, was centered on the registration table. The registration book was in the form of the club yearbook. Teresa Cooper registered guests. Sue Hamilton made plaques denoting these occasions. On the 65th anniversary plaque she painted apple blossoms, and on the 100th anniversary plaque she painted the iris, flower of the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs. On the "In Memorium" plaque was "To live in the hearts we leave behind is not to die" by Campbell.

Mary Holleman had charge of the historical table in the den. The display of yearbooks beginning with 1931 was from the collection of Mrs. C.E. "Katie" Bell and was donated to the club

by her daughter, Evelyn Bell Bansard. The club scrapbooks were on display. Also featured were pictures of charter members, Mrs. D.C. "Lotta" Alexander and Mrs. W.B. "Sallie" Thompson. Marion O'Dell, granddaughter of Mrs. Alexander, and Mary England, daughter of Mrs. Thompson, were guests. Also among the guests were Jane Davenport of Nashville, Tennessee, and Lucretia Rifai of Berea, Kentucky, daughters of Mrs. Paul "Edith" Davenport and granddaughters of Mrs. J.B. Holt, both of whom were charter members. Especially welcomed was Vivian Ellis of Summerville, Georgia, a former member.

Three daughters of charter members are presently members of the club. Adelaide Biddle and Mary Holleman, daughters of Mrs. J.W. "Maria" Ellis were present. Mary Alice Campbell, daughter of Mrs. Anderson Maxwell, was unable to attend.

A beautiful arrangement of purple iris graced the punch table. Refreshments were of infinite variety as each club member brought her specialty.

It is the sincere desire of club members that guests be able to see in them the working of the club motto: "To Be, Rather Than To Seem."





Pictured above are just a few of the items to be offered at the auction. Not shown is a pig donated by Larry Gray.

2nd ANNUAL AUCTION & SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Sponsored by Valley Head High School Band

To be Held May 20, 1995

Spaghetti supper begins at 4:00 p.m. in school lunchroom.

All proceeds go to the purchase of new band uniforms.

Auction begins at 6:00 p.m. in school auditorium.

If you would like to donate items for the auction,

please call Cathy Robertson at 997-9848

or Larry Gray at 634-4635

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L M P



(1) LOG CABIN ON BROW, MENTONE-DESOTO PARKWAY. 2 bdrm, 2 bath, fireplace, completely furnished. Large deck to view the sunsets. Log storage building and Satellite Dish. A lovely fountain pool accents the landscaped yard. Home sold with 3 lots (300 ft. of brow frontage). A steal of a price, \$150,000. Call for appt. 205-634-4169, L.M.P. Angela Wood.



(2) PERFECT COUNTRY SETTING - Describes this cedar and stone home. 4 bdrm, 3 baths, Jacuzzi and Jenn-air Range. Ceramic tile and carpet throughout. View your back yard through large picture windows from the Great Room with Fireplace, CHA, Bonus room and Rock patio. Sold with 4 acres for \$125,000. With more acreage available. Close to DeSoto State Park and Little River.



(3) AUTHENTIC POLE LOG CABIN - Perched on the rim of Little River Canyon, and surrounded by 5 acres. 2 bdrm, 1 bath living-dining combo, and Stone fireplace. Small log cabin at entrance of driveway, plus a large concrete work shop w/Elec. and satellite dish. Great "Getaway" from everything. \$71,900.



(4) WHAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF - Located on the Brow(West) DeSoto Parkway Mentone city limits. 4500 sq. ft. Rock w/5 BR's, 4 baths, lg. great rm, glassed patio, rock & maple floors throughout. Separate 2-bdrm efficiency in the house w/CHA. \$350,000.



(5) EAST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER. 3-acre tracts, with 200 ft. of river frontage to the middle river. Perfect for rafting or swimming. \$21,000 Owner financing available

OTHER PROPERTIES

(6) KNOTTY PINE CAMPGROUND Contains 13.4 acres. Plus office, bath house, rest rooms, 3 rental cabins, 14 R.V. sites - (4) with sewer. 10 Tent sites. Trails, and sits in the heart of DeSoto State Park. Location can't be beat. \$150,000. Reduced to \$145,000.

(7) SURROUNDED BY DESOTO STATE PARK Lovely but rustic Cedar Home, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, pine floors throughout. CHA, open living and dining area, approx. 1,900 sq.ft. Carport and large storage barn. Includes 27 acres for \$129,000. Reduced to \$129,000.

(8) 20 ACRES ADJOINING STATE PARK partial pasture, hardwoods & creek with a great place for a lake. Horse owners would love this tract. \$46,900.

Purchase Campground, home & acreage for \$315,000. A great buy for expansion with 60 acres total.

(9) ALSO AVAILABLE East brow tracts, Little River Canyon tracts, minimum 5 acres. Wooded acreage from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per acre. Also, large tracts with river frontage. Call for more info.

(10) AVAILABLE Building lots in Mentone City, on DeSoto Parkway toward State Park, 1 to 3 acres starting at \$7,500 to \$27,000. Call for more information. All with city water.

(11) BROW LOT ON DESOTO PARKWAY, just minutes from DeSoto State Park and Mentone. 100x300 lot with view of Fort Payne Reservoir and spectacular sunsets. \$22,500 reduced to \$18,500.

"Lookout Mountain Properties" is looking for Listings on Lookout Mountain and Mentone. If interested in renting, leasing or selling, please call Angela Wood.

Have A Happy and Safe
Memorial Day.

RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB

By Marie Dillenbeck



New District II Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.,
Officers for 1995-1997

Joyce Bollinger 1993-1995 Director of District II; with incoming officers: Marie Dillenbeck, Corresponding Secretary; Ann Wright, Parliamentarian; and Dr. Pat Seymour, District Director, after having been sworn in at the District II Spring Meeting in Jacksonville, Alabama

The Rhododendron Garden Club met Tuesday, April 11, 1995, at 10:00 a.m., at the Mentone City Hall. It was a workday at Ed Mason Park next to the City Hall. The theme for the month: "Plant A Trail." After working in the park, cleaning up debris, and planting, the members enjoyed a sack lunch. The hostesses were Mickey Gough, Gail Gaylord, and Sue Schwarz. A short business meeting followed.

The president announced that three members had

attended the Spring meeting of the District II Garden Club of Alabama that was held in Jacksonville, Alabama, on Thursday, April 6, at the 1st Baptist Church. Those three members were Dr. Pat Seymour, Ann Wright, and Marie Dillenbeck who were installed in District II offices as shown above.

Also, on Saturday, April 8, the same three members and Linda Brown attended the DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs Annual Spring Luncheon held at the Western Sizzlin. Dr. Seymour installed the new officers.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9, at 12:00

Dr. Pat Seymour installing the new 1995-1996 officers for the DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs at the Annual Spring Luncheon held on Saturday, April 8, at the Western Sizzlin: L/R: President Annette Orr, First Vice President Pat Shippey, Second Vice President Linda McCurdy, Third Vice President Ann Wright, Fourth Vice President Reita Grant, Recording Secretary Linda Brown, Corresponding Secretary Diane Decker, Treasurer Ann Houston, Historian Lucette Dix, and Parliamentarian Mildred Cochran



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EIGHT YEARS OLD

Carrie Patty celebrated her eighth birthday recently. She is the daughter of Lisa Smith, Cloudland, and Randy Patty, Lyerly. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Hampton, Cloudland, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Patty, Lyerly.



SIX MONTHS

Mason Schrader is the six-month-old son of Mike and Starla Schrader, Cloudland. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Autry, and Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Schrader, all of Cloudland.



ON TOURNAMENT TEAM

Clay Sanders played on the Queen City Lakers 11-year-old Amateur Athletic Union basketball team that represented Hall County in the Georgia Association state championship March-April 2. He started in all three games the team played. He is the grandson of John and Bobbie Smith, Mentone.



SMILES

Jacob Corey Hutchins is the son of Ethan and Angela Hutchins, Menlo. He is the grandson of David and Beth Romine, Trion, and Ricky and Mary Green, Menlo. He is the great-grandson of W.A. and Sarah Hutchins, Menlo; Duel and Ann Romine, Summerville; and Minnie Wardlaw, Trion. He is the great-great grandson of James and Blanche Jones, Summerville; Lily Dooley, and the late George Romine and Floyd Dooley.



BROTHERS

Stephen Teems, 7, William Koonce, 5, and Calvin Koonce, 4, are the sons of Gregory and Charlene Koonce, Berryton. Their grandparents are Charles and Barbara Stephens, Cloudland; G. W. and Jo Koonce, Berryton; and the late Betty Koonce. Their great grandparents are G. W. Stephens, Berryton, and Flora Koonce, Berryton.



JOSEPH SWORDS

Joseph Swords, member of Boy Scout Troop 245, was presented the following awards at the Boy Scout Banquet on Feb. 18: Camping Award, Service Project Award, Uniform and Attendance Awards with perfect attendance in both. He also received the second annual Robert L. Jackson Outstanding Scout Award. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Swords, Menlo. The award is based on attendance, advancement, leadership, ability to work with others, and the scout spirit. Swords is the leader of the Beaver Patrol.



GREAT-GRANDSON

Christopher David Fagg is the four-month-old great-grandson of Clifford and Betty Jean Mountain, Cloudland; Myrtle Smith, Knoxville, Tenn., and the late Allen and Mildred Ballenger. He is the son of Chuck and Teresa Fagg, Loudon, Tenn., and the grandson of Buddy and Faye Ballenger, and Mrs. and Mrs. Charles Fagg, all of Loudon.



SEVEN MONTHS

Madison Cortney Stoner is the seven-month-old daughter of Kristy Stoner, Trion. She is the granddaughter of Randy and Melody Mitchell, Trion, and the great-granddaughter of Harry and Shirley Peace, Trion, and Truman and Betty Mitchell, Menlo. She is the great-great-granddaughter of Dora Anderson, Trion, and the niece of Debbie, Tammy, and Jon Mitchell.



CONTEST WINNERS

Kristi Wilcox, second place, and Nikki Hawkins, third, both of Menlo School, are two recent winners of the Summerville-Trion Optimist Club oratorical contest.



The Menlo News

BY OVIE "BO" BLALOCK

•• Menlo students named to the Dean's List at Floyd College are Katherine D. Ballard, Beth H. Hall, Tara E. Hawkins, and Lisa Gale Cordell. Charles Harris, also of Menlo, was named to the President's List at Coosa Valley Technical Institute. Michael L. Sellers Jr. was placed on the Dean's List at North Georgia College. Congratulations all around to these scholars!

•• The Chattooga County Library, and Mrs. Michael Allison, has released its storytime schedule: "Reason for a Flower" will be May 4 at 3:30 p.m. in the Menlo Library.

•• Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Wentz announce the engagement of their daughter, Karen Elizabeth Hankins, to James Scott Whitlock, Subigna. The wedding will be May 23 in the Subigna Baptist Church.

•• DARE role models recently visited students at Menlo School. DARE is the acronym for Drug Abuse Resistance Education.

•• Stan Brown, Commander of VFW Post 6688, presented a \$600 check to Tommy Pledger for the Menlo Recreation Department. The donation will help with activities at the Menlo organization.

•• A "Renaissance Fair" was held at Menlo School in April. Displays were made as part of a study of the middle ages by sixth grade students of Teresa Patterson, Barbara Reese, and Gail Beck. Students were judged based on their display board and visual aids, presentation, costume, and information. Some projects dealt with medieval chronology, Joan of Arc, monks and cathedrals. First place winners were Lena Payne, Chris Wood, Nicholas Price, Jonathan Pearce, Josh Wooten, and Sarah Kerce.

•• Deepest sympathy to those families who lost loved ones in April: of the recently deceased:

Charles Woods Jr. - brother of Christine Burke, 58, who died April 26

Robert H. Hammond Jr. - son of Robert H. Hammond Sr., 80, who died April 11

Bob Kane - son of Mary Emma Little, 89, who died April 4.

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SPELLING BEE WINNER

Jeremy Flood, a sixth grade student at Menlo Elementary School, finished second in the District 1 Spelling Bee. Jeremy is the son of Peggy and Kenneth Flood, Summerville.



VALLEY HEAD HONOR ROLL

Six Weeks:

ALL A HONOR ROLL

- 12th Grade: Adrienne Hall, Petra Ledergerber, Dwayne Porter, Jody Wagner, Tony Willbanks
 11th Grade: None
 10th Grade: Tammy Camp, Wendy Hyde, Christy Ferguson
 9th Grade: None
 8th Grade: Ashley Blalock
 7th Grade: Jeffrey Bullock

ALL A & B HONOR ROLL

- 12th Grade: Toni Johnston, Michelle Chappell, Nicole Hatfield, Lisa Smith, Christina Tillman, Leah Willbanks, Gerry Bain, Kirby Smith
 11th Grade: Kayla Bell, Evie Morgan, Rhonda Owens, Chrissy Terrell, Julia Yates, Shaunathan Bell
 10th Grade: Kerry Blalock, Misty Ferguson, Angie Hunt, Josh Woods
 9th Grade: Rene Brendle, Teri Campbell, Kim McElhane, Heather Wilbourn, Chad Mosher, Paxton Harper
 8th Grade: Tabitha Brisendine, Star Hayes, Shelly Ingram, Nancy Jeffery, Josh Pullen, Jason Owen, Toby Crider, Eric Crane
 7th Grade: Amanda Hall, Stephanie Watkins, Nathan Strickland

VALLEY HEAD PURPLE AND GOLD NEWS

On March 9, 1995, the Valley Head Senior Beta Club began its journey to Birmingham, Alabama. The 55th annual Beta Convention was there ready to greet our smiling faces. We arrived at our destination around 10:00 with eleven Beta members, including: Shaunathan Bell, Coley Morgan, William Lee, Kim McKinney, Evie Morgan, Jennifer Robertson, Haley Johnson, Adrienne Hall, Michelle Chappell, Lisa Smith, Suzann Fletcher, Patsy Sax, sponsor, and Patti Ray, Chaperone. After unloading at the Sheraton Hotel, we set out for a full day of adventure!

There were many activities held during that weekend. Our club entered a few arts and crafts projects. William Lee placed second in the state on his black and white photography entry. Lisa Smith also placed second on her counted cross-stitch entry. There was also a scrapbook entered by Suzann Fletcher and Michelle Chappell.

William Lee, Lisa Smith, Michelle Chappell, Kim McKinney, and Shaunathan Bell participated in the Quiz Bowl.

We listened to approximately 20 candidates give their speeches and skits, in hopes we would choose them as an officer. The 1995-96 Alabama State Officers are: Jon H. Patterson, President; Lance Brown, Vice President; and Jennifer Carwile, Secretary.

We watched many wonderful talents, also. There were some great inspirational and motivational speakers present who entertained us, as well. The guest speaker Friday evening was Mr. Bob Moore from Columbia, South Carolina.

During our free time, we ate, slept, and went to the mall! Friday night, the 1995 Beta Convention came to a close with the Annual Beta Club Dance. Saturday morning, March 11, we loaded up and headed for home. We arrived home around noon tired, but filled with lasting memories.

Congratulations to Jody Wagner and Krystee Tillman, Mr. and Miss Beta 1994-95.

Student Council

By Tammy Camp

The Valley Head Student Council recently sold suckers as a fund raiser to raise the money which purchased the new door mat that has been placed in the front hall. The Student Council is also working on a dance for the last week of school due to the cancellation of the Spring Dance. (The guys had a baseball game.) Elections will also be rolling around soon.

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A PRAYER

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older, and will some day be old.

Keep me from getting talkative, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details--give me wings to get to the point.

I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains. Help me to endure them with patience.

But seal my lips on my own aches and pains--they are increasing and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint--some of them are so hard to live with--but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all--but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Anonymous

Submitted by Jo Anne Johnson from a 1962 Southern Baptist Sunday School Lesson Book.

NO ORDINARY BIRDBRAIN

Because crows and ravens are scavengers, some people mistakenly believe them to be lazy, content with roadkill rather than hunting for their own food.



Raven

Rick Knight, Colorado State University biology professor, begs to differ. He says scavenging is a sign of high intelligence in animals, since they have learned how to find food without risking injury or expending huge amounts of energy. In fact, crows and ravens are believed to have the highest degree of intelligence among birds.

The National Audubon Society's *Encyclopedia of North American Birds* reports captive crows are proficient at solving puzzles and quickly learn to associate various noises and symbols with food. Members of the crow family learn to mimic calls of other birds and animals to obtain food; and, in captivity, they even mimic the human voice.

Because they are such graceful, acrobatic flyers, ravens have been called the dolphins of the avian world. They fly about for extended periods, though they seldom just glide for more than a couple of seconds.

JOURNEY IN TIME

By Jean Gauld

Thirty years ago, a young Dutch man by the name of Brother Andrew started smuggling Bibles into Russia to strengthen the church behind the Iron Curtain. A great woman of God, Corrie Ten Boom did as well, and many others have helped. Today, I am happy to report the church in Russia is alive and well! Through all the persecution and deprivation, they are strong in the Lord!

Most homes have no T.V., no plumbing or phone. Water is drawn from a well. They have no transportation except by horse and cart or on foot, yet they are full of joy, praising God, and their churches packed out!!! Imagine, no TBN, no Christian book store, or seminar to go to; and yet, at night, all the family, including married children, get together to worship God with a great variety of instruments! The church is the focal point of their life, staying all day.

The evangelistic team, of which I was part, ministered in 3 services in one day. What a joy--like it used to be 200 years ago in America. Some of the pastors told of many of their brethren being put in jail for the gospel's sake during the Communistic reign. They are working very hard while it is day, for they know the night is coming when no man can work. They fear very soon the wall will go back and a military government will be in control again. "We went to strengthen what remains!" With a team of over 50 nurses and evangelists, we combined humanitarian aid with spiritual ministry. Crates of donated medications, along with 700 Romanian Bibles, 1100 Russian Bibles, and 1600 Russian tracts were distributed by 5 teams going to remote villages in and throughout Moldavia!

A heartfelt "Thank You" to all who contributed to this mission of "loving our neighbor as ourselves"...even if we had to travel 7,000 miles to reach them. I have heard so often, "But we have a mission field right here in America;" and, to be sure, that is true. But is it fair to preach the Gospel to those who have heard it hundreds of times and rejected it, and not preach to those who have never heard it once, and are totally hungry to receive it? The churches were packed out everywhere we went. Children were hanging over the balcony listening to every word and song, crowding around us after service, sticking to us like "white on rice!" What a joy to see their hunger for God!

We visited orphanages, schools, hospitals, and a new Bible School in Kishniev, the capital of Moldavia. It is a country on the Romanian, Ukraine Border, near the Black Sea. It was chosen because of the extreme poverty and need, yet our stay in the Russian homes was very pleasant, always a warm and clean room. For breakfast, we would have mashed potatoes and eggs, and sometimes with pickled tomatoes and hot tea to drink. For lunch and sometimes dinner, also, we had homemade bread, eggs, and borscht (homemade noodles, cabbage, potatoes, and chicken.) With lunch or dinner, we also had a delicious fruit drink that they make from their fruit orchards called, Compote. We always had an interpreter with us, and fellowship was very pleasant. Children were well behaved, and the older children watched after the younger. The ladies wore flowered head scarves and dresses in church; and, not wanting to offend, we did likewise.

In one village, when we got off the bus, we were greeted at the front door by the pastor and elders. He presented us with a beautiful "Friendship Loaf of Bread," resembling a crown. On the top of the bread was a small cup of salt. Spread beneath the bread was a lovely hand-woven altar cloth. This is an old Russian custom of greeting a guest by offering them their necessities of life. It was an unforgettable service!

On top of regular hardships, this community had suffered a devastating flood where 20 persons were drowned. Land and water in low lying areas were contaminated, yet their love and enthusiasm seemed undaunted! All of us agreed, while it seems we prosper in America, none of the mission team wished our lifestyle on Moldavia! The salary of the average person there was \$10.00 per month, and in these simple country villages, teenagers were working and helping in the home and church. No TVs and cars to entice...it's true, in larger Russian cities, crime and alcohol are on the increase due to extreme poverty, but God's children are being preserved in a wonderful way!

Teenagers don't need another Pizza Party (though we are all for fun). If they ever got a taste of SOUL WINNING in a foreign mission, their boredom would be over forever! "Carpenters For Christ" may be offering just such a mission this summer. Fulfilling Matthew 28:19 - "To go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost" is the greatest joy you will ever experience. We were treated like Kings and Queens...as AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST!!

For more information about mission trips, please contact: Jean Gauld, P.O. Box 365, Mentone, AL 35984; (205) 634-4191.



MORGAN DRUGS

Donald R. Morgan

Valley Head 635-6812

PRESCRIPTIONS



Enchanted Gardens & Gallery

By Evelyn Graves

Heather Nicely, who with her husband, Lyle, own and operate The Enchanted Gardens on Highway 117 east of Mentone, says the gardens are the fulfillment of a dream of her father, Dewey Harrison, who is now deceased. He always dreamed of developing gardens where people could walk and enjoy the beauty of them. She caught a glimpse of this dream, and, after his death, it became a reality—not merely for retail purposes, but with the thought of cultivating eye-appealing, beautiful things from nature that many people might enjoy. She has done just that, and a visit to the gardens and nursery leaves one feeling refreshed and a little bit closer to the Creator of all nature.

Enchanted Gardens provides 150 types of perennials, 125 Conifer varieties, 40 varieties of Japanese Maple, 15 ornamental grasses, and 10 species of hardy ferns. Landscaping services are provided to the customer upon request; a consultation concerning the most appropriate plants or shrubs for your particular needs is available, or you may just choose at random from the many outdoor plants and rocks that are on display. Heather is able to help you plan and build your rock gardens and water gardens. (Picture #1 above is a beautiful example of a rock and water garden. The scene in picture #2 is the entrance to the gardens. #3 features an interesting miniature of Howard's Chapel perched on top of a rock garden.) Lyle does the irrigation, lighting, and all the technical parts of the business, and he shares Heather's enthusiasm for this intriguing venture. They are switching from indoor plants to all outdoor planting. They sell rock, including feature rocks. Inside the gallery are found regional fine arts and crafts. Heather summed it all up with this statement, "We encourage people to have a more beautiful life through art, plants, and other forms of nature."

Enchanted Gardens & Gallery

Unusual Plants
Fountains
Landscaping
Irrigation Systems

84277 Alabama Hwy 117
Just East of Mentone, AL 35984
(205) 634-4777





Southern

Properties

Agency, Inc.

845-6000

302 Gault Ave. S., Fort Payne



(1) ANOTHER BROW BEAUTY - 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 baths, formal living and dining, den with stone fireplace, screened porch overlooking valley below. Call today for your appointment.



(2) JUST OFF DESOTO PARKWAY on 1.3 acres, this 100-year-old renovated log cabin has pine floors, fireplace, full front porch and lots of charm. Reduced to \$69,500.



(3) SOMETHING FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY - Living/dining combo, large eat-in kitchen with skylight-den-mudroom-3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 mountain stone fireplaces, large screen porch and a screened beach house for entertaining, all on a beautifully landscaped lot with Lake Lohasage frontage. \$150,000.



(4) 2-STORY BRICK HOME ON BEAUTIFUL CORNER LOT IN VALLEY HEAD. This 3 bedroom, 3 bath house has an enclosed porch, pine and hardwood floors, a rock patio, storage basement, detached garage, fruit trees, nice landscaping, and many other extras. \$68,500.



(5) BRICK BUNGALOW in Valley Head located on dead end street. Two bedrooms, 2 baths, sunroom, central heat and air, and 14x20 workshop. \$38,000.



(6) LOFTY CONTEMPORARY on the Brow of Mentone. Offering 3 or 4 bedrooms - 2 baths. Fully equipped kitchen—pine floors—dressing room, and solar room. Floor to ceiling glass in the 2 story living room produces a feeling of openness to the outside from both floors. Appointment only. \$225,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

- (7) BROW LOT IN MENTONE - Adjoins Crasgers Manna with 20 acres between you and the peaceful valley setting below. Build your weekend getaway on this beautiful property. \$35,000.
- (8) 2.8 ACRES WITH 21' S O L D ~ROW, DeSoto Parkway. \$27,000.
- (9) THE WEST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER flows quietly by these 3-acre wooded lots with 300 feet of River Frontage. Restricted for property owner's protection. Prices starting at \$20,000.
- (10) START YOUR DREAM HOME TODAY on this 3-acre wooded lot with 200 ft. on Lake Lohasage. Restricted for owner's protection. \$30,000.
- (11) 13 BROW LOTS with additional acreage across the road for a mini-farm. Just over the Georgia line. Restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty.
- (12) 10 ACRES IN DOWNTOWN MENTONE. Heavily wooded with a fantastic view of open pasture. City water available. \$20,000.

845-6000

Susan Collins Residence--634-4695
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Graduates Have More Class!

MENTONE DIXIE YOUTH BASEBALL'S 25TH SEASON

By Charles Bell



1974 Mentone Dixie Youth Baseball Team

The Mentone Dixie Youth Baseball Team in its fourth year of existence, completed the 1974 Baseball Season with a 17-1 record: Dade County American League Championship; and "Sportsmanship" Trophy for play during the annual Dade County Tournament for National and American League Teams. Those playing for Mentone were: **Kneeling (L/R):** Steve Hawkins, David Hunter, Marty Crow, Marty Johnson, Jon Hawkins; **Standing (L/R):** Phil Owens, Russell Wright; **Carl Jones, Kent Kerby, Joey Thomas; Back Row (L/R):** Tony Crider, Thomas Meadows, James Jones, Michael Bridgeman, Dudley Easler. **Manager—Charles Bell (inset)**

Photo provided by Moon Lake School

Mentone Dixie Youth Baseball was organized in 1971 by Charles Bell with the support of the community and valuable assistance from the following:

Mr. and Mrs. Ovie Blalock
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wright
Mr. and Mrs. Max Galloway
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Meadows
Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Bob) Glenn Baty, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Max Cash
Mr. and Mrs. James T. Johns

The population of Mentone in 1971 required players ages 7-12 to form a team that would compete within a league for ages 11 and 12.

The first game in Mentone Dixie Youth Baseball history, on April 17, 1971, was a 17-7 victory over Durham, Georgia, at Durham. Those that contributed to that victory were Tony Galloway, Cheely Hunter, Richard Fuller, Rodney Foster, Philip Cash, Raymond Blalock, Tony Tipton, Fred Johnson, Mark Galloway, Alan Keith, Joe Blalock, Russell Wright, Thomas Meadows, Carl Jones, and Jon Hawkins.

In 1972, Mentone won 10 and lost 5 to produce the first winning season. They also played the first extra inning game on May 16, 1972, in Rising Fawn, Georgia, beating Rising Fawn 5-2. The game was played in the late evening on a field without lights. In the top of the seventh, the Rising Fawn

pitcher asked for a new white ball. Danny Collier hit that ball for his first home run of the season with Russell Wright and Jeff Holleman on base. Other members of that team were Raymond Blalock, Mark Galloway, Tony Tipton, Thomas Meadows, Kent Kerby, Tony Crow, and Jon Hawkins.

The first league championship was captured in 1974, when Mentone won the Dade County American League Championship with 17 victories and only one loss. Members of that team were Russell Wright, Thomas Meadows, Jon Hawkins, Kent Kerby, Phil Owen, Carl Jones, Michael Bridgeman, James Jones, Marty Johnson, Dudley Easler, Tony Crider, Marty Crow, David Hopper, Danny Browder, and Joey Thomas.

Russell, Thomas, and Jon had been playing since that first season and were instrumental in producing a record of 42 victories against 26 losses.

In 1975, Felicia Cox started the season to become the first girl to play for Mentone Dixie Youth Baseball. Cindy Holbrook joined the team for the last four games of the season.

Mentone Dixie Youth Baseball has expanded with the increasing population of the area. In 1975, a Mentone Farm Team was organized for those 8-10. In 1980, a Mentone T-Ball Team was organized for those 5-8. In 1983, the Mentone T-Ball League was formed composed of 3 teams.

For this season, Mentone Baseball has enrolled 15 for the 11

1972 Mentone Dixie Youth Baseball Team

The Mentone Dixie Youth Baseball Team in its second year of existence, completed the 1972 Baseball Season with a 10-5 record and second place in the Dade County National League. Those playing for Mentone were: **Kneeling (L/R):** Thomas Meadows, Russell Wright, John Hawkins, Kent Kerby, Mark Galloway, Jeff Holland; **Standing:** Jeff Holland, Tony Tipton, Charles Bell—Manager, Tony Crow, Dannie Collier, Raymond Blalock

Photo provided by Moon Lake School

and 12, 17 for the 8-10, and 56 for the 5-8.

Mentone has been a member of 5 leagues. They are:

Dade County, Georgia	1971-1974
DeKalb (Rainsville and Fyffe)	1975-1976
Mento, Georgia	1977-1980
Valley Head-Mentone	1981-1989
Fort Payne	1990-1995

Others who have served as the manager or coach through the years are Eddie Kirby, Reggie Tate, Hobson Kirby, Bo Scott, Sam Collins, Nelson Stallings, Billy Cash, Tony Blalock, Ronald Durham, Raymond Blalock, Ronald Baggett, Allen Crow, Joe Smith, and Eric Kirby.

Bob Baty served as the first Director/Treasurer. Others who served are Joan Harrison, Betty Blalock, Raymond Blalock, and Charles Bell.

Pioneers of 1971 and their children who have played for Mentone are:

Raymond Blalock	—Adam Blalock
Richard Fuller	—Richard Fuller and Candace Fuller
Jon Hawkins	—Greg Hawkins, Alan Hawkins, Matthew Hawkins

Carl Jones — Ashton Jones.

The Mentone Dixie Youth Baseball League, coaches, and parents would like to thank: Fritz Structural Steel, Inc.; Moon Lake P.T.O.; Mentone Crafts Festival; and Dr. Pat Seymour, who gave generous cash donations to Dixie Youth Baseball League, which provided things they needed in order to be functional. We are most grateful to all of these contributors.



1988 Valley Head Dixie Youth Baseball Team

(Picture at left) (L/R): Jason Goss, Jamie Phillips, Heath Blalock, Lisa McMahan, Duane Blalock, Brent Haney, Jody Wagner, Chrissy Norman



1968 Valley Head Dixie Youth Team

Standing: Tony Guinn, T. C. Blansit, Doug Morgan, Steve Smith, Richard Hamoond, Gary Carmichael, Vann Cooper; **Kneeling:** Waylon Hastings, Tony Woods, DeWayne Pierce, Larry Kirby, Cecil Cox, Danny Hatfield

Photo provided by Eugene Smith

HISTORY OF VALLEY HEAD DIXIE YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE

May 1995 Issue/ The Groundhog/ Page 13

By Eugene Smith



1974 Valley Head Dixie Youth Baseball Team

Kneeling (L/R): David Smith, Scottie Hatfield, John Clopton, Jeff Crider, Joe Smith

Standing (L/R): Tommy Gregory, Bill Hatfield, Ronald Coots, Ken Hammond, Danny Brown, Phillip Bain, Eugene Smith, Coach

Photo provided by Eugene Smith

Play ball! It's that time of the year again. I'm not talking about the major leagues, but Dixie Youth baseball—where the youngsters play for just the fun of it. As you drive around Mentone and Valley Head these days, you see boys and girls practicing baseball, getting ready for the new season. When I see this, my mind goes back a few years to Mentone and Valley Head baseball. The teams from these two communities joined together in 1981 and formed the Valley Head-Mentone baseball league. Let me tell you a little of the history of these teams before the league was organized.

In the mid-sixties, until the early seventies, Valley Head played baseball in the Dade County, Georgia, league. There were always some players from Mentone on these teams. The coaches were Frank "Big Rabbit" Williams and his brother Robert "Little Rabbit" Williams. These names often confused me, because "Little Rabbit" was bigger than "Big Rabbit." Other teams in the league were Trenton, North Dade, Rising Fawn, New Salem, Cedar Grove, and Bryant, Alabama. In 1971, Mentone organized a team and joined the league. During tournament time, the teams traveled to places like Rossville, Chickamauga and Fort Oglethorpe. For the players who were on the All-Star team that won the tournament, there was the trip to the championship tournament.

These experiences were a lot of fun, especially for the parents—the Mentone and Valley Head teams always were very competitive. Valley Head remained in the Dade County League through the 1979 season. In the meantime, Mentone played in the Rainsville League during the 1975 and 1976 seasons. In 1977, Mentone joined the Menlo League and played there through the 1980 season. Some of the early coaches for Mentone and Valley Head were Charles Bell, Eddie Kirby, Jimmy Phillips, Roger Sharp, Larry Smalley, Gary Gray, David Smith, Tommy Gregory, Judy McMahan, the late Roy Blansit, and "Big Rabbit" Williams and "Little Rabbit" Williams. (I still hesitate to use these names, but the men told me that was all right, because they always were called by those nicknames.) "Big" and "Little" Rabbit were excellent coaches and loved working with youth, as well as anyone I know.

In January 1980, the coaches and directors of the Valley Head team decided to organize their own league. They met in the old Ellis garage, which was behind the Triangle Service Station. Some of the ones who attended the organizational meetings were Larry and Gail Smalley, Roger Sharp, Joe Gregory, Gail Jones, Norma Wells, Jimmy Phillips, Judy McMahan, Jerry Freeman, E.D. Smith, and the late Jack Gregory. These meetings continued every week through February. Thurman "Skin" Johnson, District 8 director, met with us at the time. Around March 1, 1980, Valley Head Dixie Baseball was accepted into Alabama Dixie Youth Baseball District 8, by Mr. Johnson. At that time, there were four teams in the league. There were two minor teams, which included

age 8-10. There were two

major teams, which included ages 10-12. I'm telling you this thing of playing each other several times got old!

In 1981, Mentone, under the leadership of Charles Bell, joined with us. Mentone came in with one minor and one major team. This gave us a total of six teams. The games were played on the old high school field through the 1983 season. Then, in 1984, to make room for the high school team, the games were played on the old football field in downtown Valley Head. At first, they played on the west end of the field, then the northeast, and then on the northwest end. We kept moving around trying to find a smooth infield. This field served well for two years.

In 1985, the league's board of directors began communicating with the Hammondville City Council concerning using the ball field in the city park. After laying some ground rules, the Hammondville Recreation Board was organized. The field was not suitable for Dixie Youth baseball. The field needed improvements, which would require finances. Under the leadership of Mayor Dot Blackburn, her council and attorney Pat Tate, a meeting was arranged with then Governor Wallace in Montgomery. The recreational board included Eddie Kirby, Jimmy Phillips, Charlie Campbell, Gail Smalley, Larry Smalley, and Eugene Smith. Some of the board members attended the meeting with then Governor Wallace. He promised the town of Hammondville a grant to improve the field. In addition to the grant, funds were raised through fish fries, candy sales, and road blocks. The Mentone Craft Festival made donations to the league. In return, the league helped with the parking during the festivals. To give you an idea as to the improvements made on the field, consider this: 84 loads of chert were hauled in to build up the field, fencing all the way around with two dugouts and a backstop and a concession stand and lights. After two years of planning and hard work, the field was ready for use in April 1986. The individuals who assisted in getting the new field ready are too many to name. I'm afraid someone would be left out. The list would include coaches, directors, parents, ballplayers, and council members.

As has already been mentioned, the league began playing on the new field in April 1986. Those of us who were there remember it as if it were only yesterday. It was, and still is, a nice baseball field. Coaches in the league then included Charlie Campbell, Eddie Kirby, Betty Blalock, James Busby, Roger Haney and Gary Gray. The umpires were usually Roger Sharp and Jimmy Phillips.

One of the highlights of the league was hosting the 1987 District 8, Area H, All Star Tournament. This goal was set about four years earlier. Teams in the tournament, in addition to Valley Head, included two teams from Piedmont, two from Cherokee County and Fort Payne. Fort Payne won this



1988 Valley Head Dixie Youth Baseball Team

Kneeling (L/R): Matthew Hulkan, Chip Johnson, Seth Norman, Josh Goss, Joe Gray, Jim Phillips; Middle Row Standing (L/R): James Cox, Adam Blalock, Daniel Vest, John Baggett, Andy Phillips, Jason Guinn; Back Row (L/R): Coaches: (L/R) Gary Gray, Jimmy Phillips, James Busby

Photo provided by Eugene Smith

tournament. Valley Head's All Stars were coached by Betty Blalock, Roger Haney, and Eddie Kirby. The visitors were very complimentary of the field, especially the infield.

In 1988, the recreation board continued to complete the concession stand by purchasing a microwave oven and hot water heater. This year, it became evident that interest in baseball through age twelve was decreasing. By the spring of 1989, there were not enough teams to continue the organization; therefore, the Valley Head Dixie Baseball, in name, dissolved. Jimmy Phillips and Cecil Cox enrolled a team and joined the Fort Payne League. They continued to coach the team through 1991. Then, Oscar Harrison and Charles Brown coached the team through the 1993 season. After this year, Valley Head did not field a team in the Dixie Baseball League age. In the meantime, it was still going strong in Mentone. Mentone joined the league in Fort Payne, being coached by "Cotton" Baggett, Joe Smith, and Eric Kirby. The director is Charles Bell.

In Dixie League Baseball, as in most everything else, there is quite a bit of expense. The following businesses and organizations were so loyal to sponsor the teams: Coleman and Morgan Drugs, Cooper Appliance, Town of Mentone, Town of Valley Head, Moon Lake School P.T.O., Valley Head School P.T.O., Citizens Bank, and the town of Hammondville. The Mentone Crafts Festival always donated generously to the league for helping with the parking. The operating expenses were supplemented by parents who operated a concession stand.

Why do so many individuals devote so much time to youth baseball? One reason is for just the joy and pride it brings in seeing the youth grow and learn new skills. Another, and the main reason, is to give the youth something constructive to do during the summer. In 1986, the league enrolled 165 ball players. This included the major, minor, and T-ball teams. Another reason is it gives the parents, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, and grandparents, someplace to go hoping to find, or see, something to brag about. The writer of this article has two sons coaching, and three grandsons playing in Dixie Youth Baseball today. My wife and I just don't miss their games, not even a practice, if we can help it.

In writing this article on the history of the Valley Head-Mentone Baseball League, I have tried to be as exact on the dates as I could be. They might be off a little, but not by much.

The baseball field in Hammondville is still there, as good as ever, just waiting to hear the command, "PLAY BALL!" I'm ready, if you are. Let me hear from you!

MORE OF THE GRANNY DOLLAR SAGA

By Ernest H. Smith

It seems there's still a great deal of interest in Granny Dollar, and no end to the stories to feed that interest. Now, here am I, standing up to be counted.

Where will it all end? Will there be a movie? If so, who might play the part of Granny? I've no suggestions.

As to her dog, "Buster," there'll be no problem there. The streets are full of mangy, ill-tempered mongrels. Any of these could play that part perfectly. It might even win an academy award.

Oops! I don't believe they give those things to dogs. I just remembered hearing them say: "That movie was a dog. It won't be nominated." Sorry, Buster.

The purpose of my story is to add the little bit I know about Granny and to ponder what I've read and heard from others, concerning her life.

My mother remembers seeing the Dollars, briefly, in the summer of 1919, when she was working as a waitress at the Mentone Springs Hotel. They had stopped by to ask for money from the working girls. Granny did all the talking. She said that Mr. Dollar was sick and unable to work. They asked for money, not for food.

The girls were about to chip in when the manager's wife took notice and told them not to do so. She said that they were beggars and would only come back and be a nuisance.

At this time, the Dollars were living about four miles north of Mentone in some rent-free shack. I'm told that the exact location was where the Clinton dam was later built on Little River. It was said that they did some patch farming, kept chickens and a milk cow.

The summer of 1919 is the earliest that I've been able to document them in the Mentone area. Some have said that they were seen on the streets of Chattanooga sometime earlier.

They probably came here with the idea that the summer people would help them. In the teens, the hotels were going full tilt all summer. It is unlikely that they came here to engage in farming. Our hilly rocky land is not known for its bounty.

At this time, I'd be remiss not to say that there were no public assistance programs for the needy in those days. It's sure they needed help and had no one to turn to but the people of the community.

I've never heard of the Dollars stealing. How more admirable it is to ask than to take.

Nelson Dollar died in 1923. I've always assumed that he died at the place north of Mentone. If so, this place was so isolated that Granny would've had trouble getting by. I don't mean to say that she would've been afraid. I don't think Granny was ever afraid of anything.

Apparently, she moved in this same year to the Ned Jackson place, south of Mentone. This is where she walked from the Master School in 1923, according to the date given by Col. Milford Howard.

To say that the Dollars were treated kindly and with respect by everyone in the Mentone area would be a complete fabrication. They often met with verbal abuse. Some people in the community had no respect for them, whatever. I suppose that most people in this area would've preferred that they moved on.

I never heard of the Dollars being physically abused. They were fortunate that people in those days were far less violent.

Granny was not one to turn the other cheek, but she was smart enough to know that they stood alone against most of the community. She knew that they must endure this kind of treatment, or move on. They had nowhere else to go.

My father became acquainted with Granny in 1929, when he was in the River Park Community selling Watkins Products. He'd stop by on his monthly rounds to see if Granny needed anything. She'd usually buy some small item.

After a time, she asked my father to bring his family down to visit her. We did go one Sunday afternoon and then again and again. It became a regular Sunday afternoon event to stop by and see Granny for an hour or two.

Granny would meet us on the porch and always seemed



Photograph of Collectible Art Card, Series #1, No. 3, a Sketch of Granny Dollar and Buster done by Winnie Yates, © 1995 All Rights Reserved, Winnie Yates, Portraits & Native American Art, with permission of Winnie Yates to print in The Groundhog

pleased to see us. She'd quickly invite us in and ask us to sit.

There were only chairs for our parents, other than Granny's chair in the right hand corner of the fireplace. We children would remain standing about. (We don't recall seeing the rocker Col. Howard supposedly gave her.)

Granny's old black cur, "Buster," never seemed to show any interest in us, whatever. He'd lie at Granny's feet snoozing, opening one eye when she moved a foot or twisted about in her chair. When she did get up for some reason, his eyes would follow her about the room. If she left the room, so would he. My mother remembers that Granny told us not to pick at the dog, because he was not used to children.

The interior of the cabin was primitive, containing only the bare essentials for frontier-type living. The one large room with the fireplace contained her bed, the two or three rickety old straight chairs with various materials for bottoms and little else.

I remember the dried red peppers, herbs, and other strange-looking things, hanging from string stretched about the room. In the small kitchen at the opposite end of the house from the fireplace room, we could see a small box stove and a homemade table.

Granny did all of her cooking at the fireplace in winter.

This cabin was built by a man from Valley Head when he first married in the 1880s. His son told me, more than twenty years ago, that his father made one crop in that rocky place. The results set him on a different course for life. He took a job with the Alabama Great Southern Railroad and was a conductor for more than forty years.

When Granny moved to the cabin, it was the property of Col. Howard, founder of the Master School.

On the occasion of each visit, after a few pleasantries were

exchanged, my father would ask her to tell us a story. She always seemed eager to oblige.

She would pounce on the story, acting out some of the parts to give emphasis or feeling.

She would definitely have the floor and was off and running. Sometimes my father would try to inject something and was completely ignored. It was like firing a pop-gun in concert with a cannon blast.

Granny did have enormous lung power. She would've made an excellent hog caller.

Her stories were often interspersed with the expression, "child, it was this way or the other." She would tell of fighting in different wars, always shooting from horseback. Sometimes she would tell of hiding out during the great roundup of the Cherokee, for the long march west. At other times, she told of treating herself for snake bite; of times when her hunger forced her to go into the woods and eat with the critters; of her Indian upbringing with a goodly mixture of the white man's ways. Whatever the story, Granny was always the heroine.

My parents believed that there might have been some truth in some of her stories, with a great deal of fantasy thrown in to make the story more interesting. Perhaps we got just what we asked for, a story.

However, on one occasion, her story was proven on the spot. She had told my father that she had a pet rattler underneath the floor, near the hearth. He doubted this and told her so. She got up, walked over to the left side of the hearth, stamped her bare foot a time or two, and we heard that unmistakable rattle.

One would think that she would've been less tolerant, having been bitten by one and losing a big toe as a result.

Sometimes, Granny would tell little animal stories for the entertainment of my father's children. Of course, we don't remember the exact wording of the stories, but the gist of the story usually presented a lesson in deportment.

She would tell of critters not behaving as they should've been, and the wrath they brought down on themselves as a result; the buck that did some dastardly deed and was cast from the herd to seek repentance; the wolf that wouldn't share his food and was driven from the den; the rabbit that hopped about stirring up trouble and in the end was himself in trouble; the bear that boasted of his strength, and was punished by becoming a weakling.

She would tell these stories in such a manner that we were a little frightened. She was, at times, boisterous, gruffy, or jabbing a finger in our direction to bring home a point.

We don't remember that we enjoyed these stories very much.

Granny was an imposing figure, almost regal. She would sit erect, dressed in her shabby clothing with her bare feet plainly visible. She never made any excuse for her manner of dress or seemed to take any notice of it. We were always reminded of her great dignity in company with her adverse circumstances.

She was a generous soul, always wanting to divide something. Some thought there was an ulterior motive in these acts of generosity: expecting a larger gift in return. We never believed this. She truly enjoyed people and wanted so much to be a friend. These things are hard to fake.

We never gave her any money, but did give her some things from our garden. She would want to return the kindness by offering my mother two or three eggs from her clutch on the bed. My mother never accepted these by truthfully telling her that we had plenty of eggs at home.

Incidentally, my mother wondered why she kept the eggs on the bed, but decided that it was probably the coolest place in the house during the heat of the day.

(Continued on next page.)

Granny Dollar Saga

(Continued from previous page.)

On one occasion, she told us to pick some wild muscadines in back of the house, near a big rock. We did take some of these home. Granny had a bumper crop that year.

Here, it might be appropriate to correct an error, made by some writers, regarding the burial place of Granny's dog, "Buster." I can assure you that the dog wasn't buried beside Granny in Little River Cemetery. I've always been told that the dog was buried in back of Granny's cabin, near a big rock.

Granny did have a sense of humor few people were aware of. This is obvious in her dealings with the Mentone gold diggers. She could be hilariously funny in some of her shenanigans, while at the same time, presenting a countenance of great concern and sincerity. These incidents must have taxed her composure to the limit, even though she did consider all business a serious matter.

Some people thought that Granny was clairvoyant and possessed some kind of super-natural powers. I can only say that she did seem to have a special knack for seeing through some pretense, ruse, or skulduggery. This may have been, in part, due to her difficult life, which has honed her earthly faculties to a razor's edge. Whether or not she possessed any special powers, I can't say.

It does, however, bring to mind a story I've often heard. It seems that some party was trying to hoodwink Granny in some kind of horse trading and was in the end himself the victim. I don't believe for a moment, that she would've taken advantage of an innocent person. She probably knew this party by reputation and just happened to have the right dose of medicine for them.

Apparently, Granny was now beginning to see the end of her life of independence, as she had known it. She became possessed of a fear of spending her last days in the poorhouse.

It seems that Indians, more than any other race, fair poorly under restricted living conditions. I suppose that they're by nature free spirits, a trait passed down through the genes, since ancient times. Living in any form of confinement is, for them, a fate worse than death.

While we are all delighted to know that Granny dodged the poorhouse, many fine DeKalb Countians weren't so lucky.

My father continued to be persistent in dragging us down to visit Granny every chance he had. He seemed to be fascinated by her stories and was afraid he would miss something. My mother was never too keen about visiting. We children didn't care to go at all. I was about six at that time and being the youngest, Granny would pick at me and scare me half to death. I believe, with a choice, I would've opted for a thrashing instead of a visit. I was never quite sure whether I was more afraid of Granny or the dog.

Soon, our visits began to taper off and then stop. The stories had become repetitive and somewhat boring. Apparently, my father had decided that he had heard it all. This would've been about midyear 1930.

We did hear of her illness a short time later, and all too soon of her death. We were always respectful toward Granny when she was living. We are now no less generous in our respect for her memory.

My family considered her to be neither a saint nor a sinner, but a lonely, destitute, old Indian woman, who had kept her courage throughout the long journey of her life, even unto the end.

Col. Howard was her friend and benefactor. He not only showed her great kindness, but was largely responsible for her acceptance by the River Park Community.

Some of the older people in the area, who knew Granny, thought that the Granny Col. Howard wrote about was a figment of his imagination. He did have a theatrical flair in everything he did.

Some went so far as to say that he exploited her. If this is true, she was most obliging and always seemed to come out on the better end of the stick.

Granny had been a shrewd business woman. She had known that the publicity would eventually bring more people to her door and thereby increase her income through donations.

The people of the River Park Community came to care for Granny and to accept her for who she was. This was proven by the care they administered to her in her final days. This should never be forgotten.

Many people now wonder who Granny Dollar really was. Soon, there'll be no one living who knew her personally. There'll be only the written stories to tell of her life. In time, the name of Granny Dollar will seem as mythical as the Great Cherokee Nation she loved so much.

It probably makes little difference now what the true facts are, concerning her life. Granny has now become a legend and the many stories about her are well entrenched in the lore of Mentone and the surrounding area.

I suppose most legends have their beginning in this way; a lot of mystery and fantasy with just a dash of truth.

REFLECTION

Some called her an old beggar. We took her home and lands and cast her out. Then, we called her a beggar.

Some called her an old Indian witch. She was following in the ways of her people.

Some called her an old "Rag Bag." Who among us walked in splendor and trod upon such need of others?

Some said she dined on acorns, chewed roots and grasses and such. Who among us gorged our bodies and knew not the pangs of hunger? Surely there must be some reward for a life so filled with pain and sorrow.

In the words of her fathers: "The aged old doe has fallen from the herd, to lie down to dream in the long sleep. In time may her spirit be rejuvenated, and again roam the crest of some beautiful mountain, for all eternity."

(Read about Granny and the gold diggers in next month's issue.)

Granny Dollar

Submitted by Ernest H. Smith -
Clipping from Birmingham News-
when first published, 1931

River Park, Ala. Jan. 22, 1931,
Dear Editor--This is not
intended as an obituary notice,
but rather a tribute to the oldest
woman in the county, who has
paid the debt to the flesh and
gone to her reward.

I am speaking of Mrs. Nancy
Dollar, known all over Alabama,
in Georgia, and Tennessee, as
"Granny Dollar."

Her spirit left the body at
midnight last Sunday night and
her mortal remains were
interred beside her husband,
Nelson Dollar, who preceded
her by several years.

Rev. J. M. White of Valley
Head conducted the devotional
service, with Collins and Smith
in charge.

Granny Dollar was more than
a hundred years old, perhaps
one hundred and ten, and a
most remarkable character.

Her father was a full blooded
Cherokee Indian and her
mother a beautiful white
woman, as is shown by her
photograph.

I could write at great length
about Granny, but I will sum it
all up in a few words by saying
that she came as close to living
up to the injunction, "do unto
others as you would have others
do unto you" as any one I have
ever known.

In other words, she was a
Christian who lived and
practiced her Christianity. She
was the most glorious soul I
have ever known. She wanted to
give something to every one
who visited her and in season
she insisted on giving fruit and
vegetables to all who came to
see her.

Our little community at River
Park loved Granny, and during
her last illness which lasted
several weeks, she was sur-
rounded and attended day and
night by loving hearts and
gentle words.

She was ready to go on the
great journey, talking about it
joyously. In her last moments
she was seen to clap her hands
together, while a look of rapture
lit up her wonderful old face.

I have never seen a nobler
face in death than hers, the face
of a great Indian Chief or
woman. For, indeed and in
truth, she was a woman who
fought life's battles bravely and
well, and now she dwells in that
land of our dreams, we call
heaven, but her Indian ancestors
called it "The Happy Hunting
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Happy Mother's Day



The River Watch

By
BILL SCHWARZ

CONGRESSIONAL TERM LIMITS

Every now and then, something comes up in the world of politics that really sets me off. This time, it's term limits. Now, don't get me wrong, I'm not opposed to limiting the amount of time a representative (rep) and/or senator spends as an elected official; what I do object to is a legislated limit. That route to a limit is not the best for the country or for any given individual. What that does to you and me is to limit our choices of whom we select to represent us. I, personally, resent that heartily! Congress!! DO NOT infringe upon my rights to elect those who will represent me in congress. If he/she is doing a good job, keep 'em there. If he/she is doing a poor job, throw the rascal out.

Now, the question becomes what constitutes a good or a poor job? Based upon what our reps actually do when congress is in session and what they are supposed to do, that becomes a very sticky question. Whether folks want to admit it or not, a "good job" is defined by how much federal money can be shoveled into the state or district in order to support the maximum number of people and do it in a fashion that is in keeping with each person's favorite boondoggle or "beneficial project," depending upon how you view it. If it is yours, it's a "beneficial project;" if it is not yours or you oppose it, then, it is a boondoggle sponsored by an outrageous, self-serving, special-interest group of screaming bleeding heart liberals/mouth-foaming conservatives (choose one).

Now, that we've defined "good job," let's consider how an elected rep in congress gets to do a "good job." Doing a "good job" depends on getting the proper number of votes in the right places, at the right time. That is, of course, the elected politicians' job. Congress' only job is to enact legislation (read that as taxes) and spend money.

How does a politician (elected rep in congress) get to the point where he can round-up the proper number of votes in the right place at the right time? He/she gets to that point by being on a "powerful" committee where vote trading can be invoked. (I'll vote for your "project" if you'll vote for mine.)

Getting on a "powerful" committee depends upon the party in "power" (controlling the votes), but, more importantly, upon being elected time after time. The more times a congressman is elected, the more "powerful" the committee he/she is appointed to. And, as we said earlier, getting re-elected depends upon how much money gets shoveled into the state or district. Thus, it all becomes a vicious cycle—the more money the politician shovels in, the more times he/she gets elected; the more times elected, the more powerful the committee; the more powerful the committee, the more money the politician can shovel.

There you have it, all of politics (good and bad) condensed into one sentence. It's all a power grab. Remember, power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. All congressmen understand this.

The House of Representatives attempted to break this cycle by amending the constitution to limit the number of terms a person could serve. That would, in fact, break the cycle, but I have already expressed my objection to that route. I've tried always to live by the rule...never object to a plan unless you have a viable alternative to offer.

There is no need for term limits in order to break the cycle, there is no need for a constitutional amendment, there is not even a need for a law. Congress itself can break the cycle merely by changing the way it handles committee appointments and determines chairmanships. I suggest changing the composition of each committee every two years and do it as soon as congress convenes after the election. Not only does each committee change, but the selection of new members is by a random draw. Into one drum goes the name of each rep on a piece of paper. In another drum go slips of paper, each with a committee appointment. Draw a piece of paper from each drum, and you have a new committee appointment; each committee elects its own chairman.

This way, maybe the definition of "good job" will change, and the country as a whole will be better off. Maybe this would change Ben Franklin's mind when he said "the country is never in so much danger as when congress is in session."

Gosh, I can hear the congress screaming now. There will probably be a "Lynch Schwarz" committee formed, 'cause I've suggested destroying one of their sacred cows.

Thanks for your time and patience, folks. I do hope you got an amused chuckle out of that. However, just maybe, there is a kernel of truth there. See you next month.



Dessie Newberry, shown holding her certificate as The Best Cook in DeKalb County 1995.

On April 29, 1995, Dessie Newberry, owner of Dessie's Kountry Chef in Mentone, was presented a Certificate of Award by Ben Shurett, publisher of The Times-Journal declaring her to be the Best Cook in DeKalb County 1995 based on The People's Choice. From some five hundred entries, Dessie was chosen. Congratulations, Dessie!



The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

It is time to dust the pollen off the porch and enjoy being at home in one of the world's loveliest spots. I have been experimenting with eggplant parmesan. My granddaughter, Gwen (4) tells me it is not as good as "Johnny's" (her favorite Italian eatery), but it is very satisfying to Bill and me as a substitute for the traditional fried-first version. I also found a good salad-dressing you can put together from ingredients you probably have in your cupboard. The third recipe is for Pico DeGallo Salsa. This is good with Mexican food or beans.

Eggplant Parmesan

- 1 eggplant, peeled & sliced in 1/2" slices
- 1-1/2 C prepared spaghetti sauce
- 1 C grated part skim mozzarella cheese *
- 1/2 C parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 350°. Bring 2 quarts of water to boil in a large kettle. Boil eggplant for 2 minutes - do not overcook at this point. Drain eggplant slices. Oil a 2-quart baking dish, put 1/2 C of spaghetti sauce in bottom of baking dish. Layer 1/2 eggplant, then 1/2 cheese and 1/2 C spaghetti sauce. Repeat with remaining eggplant, cheese, and sauce. Top with parmesan cheese and bake until bubbly and eggplant is tender. (About 20 minutes.) *If you need to further reduce fat intake, you can use some of the non-fat products. They don't melt as nicely as regular cheese, so I sometimes use half non-fat and half part skim.

French Dressing

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1/2 t salt | 1 T sugar |
| 1 t paprika | 1/4-1/2 t black pepper |
| 1 T prepared mustard | 1 t Worcestershire sauce |
| 2 T catsup | 4 T vinegar |

Combine all ingredients in jar and shake well.

Pico DeGallo Salsa

- 1C tomatoes, peeled, seeded and diced finely
- 1/4 C finely chopped red onion
- 2 T minced jalapeno pepper
- 1 T chopped fresh cilantro (or parsley)
- 1 T fresh lime juice
- salt to taste

Combine all ingredients, mix thoroughly, and season to taste with salt.

I thank my lucky stars
that we still have water today
But when I'm thinking 'bout tomorrow,
I just can't help but say,
We need to save water and do it fast,
We need to save water to make it last.

Rachael Hamilton, Clearwater, Florida
Age 9, Grade 3, Dunedin Academy
Grandparents: Bill & Sue Schwarz
Mother: Chris Hamilton
Father: Stan Hamilton

44th Biennial Convention of Woodmen of the World

Lodge #0436 makes perfect score of 400

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1



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William "Ovie" Blalock was elected "Alabama Jurisdictional President" of Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society at the 44th Biennial Convention held in Mobile on April 7-9, 1995. Ovie is President of local lodge #0436. He was Alabama "Fraternalist of the Year" in 1992 and was elected "National Representative" in 1993. Delegates attending from "Lodge 436" were Raymond and Becky Blalock, Roger and Henrietta Wilbanks, Robert and Anita Berry, Peggy Bentley, and Ovie and Barbara Blalock.

Woodmen of the World is a nonprofit fraternal benefit society, which provides insurance and fraternal benefits to nearly one million members nationwide. In addition to providing scholarships to worthy recipients, Woodmen lodges conduct fraternal projects and programs of benefit to communities in which they reside. These projects include the presentation of equipment to fire departments, rescue squads, homes for senior citizens, the handicapped, and orphans.

The most popular fraternal program is the presentation of United States flags. Woodmen of the World is the second largest purchaser of United States flags, surpassed only by the United States Government.

Lodge #0436 participates in the "Make-A-Wish" drive for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Alabama, which grants wishes to children suffering from life threatening illnesses.

The cutlines for the above pictures are:

1. Raymond and Becky Blalock, Barbara and Ovie Blalock, John G. Bookout, National President, Roger and Henrietta Wilbanks, and Anita Berry. Lodge #0436 accepts "Fraternal Challenge Award" from National President John G. Bookout for a perfect score of 400. Lodge #0436 is the only one in the nation to achieve a perfect score.

2. Raymond and Becky Blalock, Roger and Henrietta Wilbanks, Barbara Blalock, John G. Bookout, National President, Peggy Bentley, Robert and Anita Berry. Lodge #0436 accepts 1st Place Awards for scrapbook, which will now be entered in national competition.

3. Outgoing President Gordon Everett and President-elect Ovie Blalock.

4. Donna Brantley with Make a Wish Foundation, presents a "Make-A-Wish" award to Becky and Raymond Blalock for their fundraising efforts (raised \$2,500); and Donna's assistant



GOLF TOURNAMENT

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MOM thanks, **MOM**



Things are alive and moving in our area as we prepare for summer business and activities. The grass and weeds have grown so fast, we are having a hard time keeping the mowing and weed pulling done, but that's normal.

The big thing with MAPA now is planning for the Rhododendron Festival, which comes upon those of us procrastinators too soon. Much organization must go into anything that is successfully executed. And everything has bloomed so early this spring we just hope we have some rhododendron in bloom the third weekend in May for the festival.

The pollen has been bad for a month now, but we have had strong winds and heavy rains and just maybe that will relieve us sneezers. The trees are leafed out in fresh, lush greenery and the little seedy flowerets that cover our decks and driveways--and card will soon be gone. Hurrah for spring. It's wonderful, anyway.

I have added another novelty teapot to my collection. It's a snow skier. Ruby was having a yard sale recently, and I found this one that reminded me of Homer learning to ski in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Today, it's cool enough to heat the pot, put in a tea bag or two, add boiling water, and enjoy a spot of hot tea with cookies. My heart still yearns for a tearoom in Mentone, complete with gourmet teas, cakes, and scones. It might not have enough customers, but coffee could be served to men who would scorn a dainty cup of tea. It would be good to serve light fruit plates and salads for lunch that would be nice for those of us who need to eat lighter cuisine. Wonder who would do this? We could do it upstairs at the Hitching Post with a little work done on the place, and we would have to serve packaged foods, I suppose. Mrs. Vinnie Pierce said she had the first tearoom in Mentone in the twenties or early thirties. It would interest me to find out who and if anyone would be interested in that sort of shop. It would be nice for bridge parties, bridal teas, and numerous things. If I could light a fire under Homer and me, we just might do it, if enough people were interested.

We are beginning to have more visitors in our shops with beautiful weather now. The winter has been slow, but it gave us a much-needed rest. We had a couple at the Crow's Nest who were driving to Holland, Michigan, to the tulip festival. They live in Central, Fla., and were taking their time driving through interesting places; and, of course, Mentone, was one of them. They say the tulip festival is very nice, lasting almost two weeks, complete with crafts, entertainment, and a grand parade. This is an event I would love to attend. There are acres and acres of blooming tulips, which would be worth the trip, much like they grow in the Netherlands.

The easter weekend was nice. The weather was perfect. We began Easter Sunday early, with the sunrise service at the home of Chester and Lucille Crowe. The setting is ideal because of it being the highest elevation in this area. The platform used by the Ministerial Association, who sponsors the service, is the base of an old cistern and it makes a good stage. Beyond the platform, one could see the bright beautiful greens of Lil Mole golf Course, and how lovely it was. It seems so meaningful for representatives of all churches in the area to join in worship early in the day, because Christ arose early from the grave makes it very significant. Later, we had a good sermon by Rev. Robert Childers a St. Joseph's Episcopal Church and beautiful lively music, which made us feel that Christ indeed was risen and was alive.

The air was nice, clear, clean, and brisk last night, reminding us that it was probably the last of the "winters." This one was probably blackberry winter. It was cool enough for frost here on the mountain, but maybe the breeze kept it away. Everything seems to be blooming, and it would hurt to see them frosted.

The mountain is very beautiful at this time of year. There is nothing anywhere to surpass our fresh greenery, lovely assortment of wildflowers, and the many species of birds we have, especially the eastern bluebird.

We are growing lettuce, radishes, squash, and cucumbers in a raised bed. This is fun, and not such hard work as the huge garden we did for several years. It even looks pretty in the middle of the flowers.

Come on girls and send in your entry form for the beauty pageant. It is fun to be a part of the festivities, even if you don't win. Come join our celebration.



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Paige Nicolette Weber

celebrated her 3rd
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Weber of Mentone.

Grandparents are
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Welcome Wings

(This seasonal article and others to follow are from a scrapbook belonging to long-time Mentone resident, Mary Weigand. The large scrapbook of her favorite seasonal articles by various authors was found recently in a storage chest at "Madaperca" by Don & Yvonne Brock.)

Again the birds come crowding back
Along the midnight's starry track,
Wild wings again are dropping down
Into the tree-tops of the town.
And fields and woods awake again
To the bluebird, sparrow, lark, and wren.

Once more the spring-tides overwhelm
The robin rocking in the elm,
Warblers are hidden among young leaves,
The phoebe darts from under eaves,
The bluebird probes the pear-tree bole,
Each orchard holds an oriole.

Barn-swallows brush the breezy clover,
Streams glass the goldfinch plunging over,
In willowy swamps the grackles stammer,
In green glades laughs the yellow-hammer.
And all the glee that heart can think
Is vocal in the bobolink.

From dawn to dark bird-song goes up
Like bubbles bursting in a cup
Or like the sunlit song that shakes
From ripples racing windy lakes,
And all day, holy in the hush,
Rises the poem of the thrush.

This is a thing to dream upon,
That they should come from Amazon,
From Ecuador and the Argentine,
Only because our hills are green,
Our fields are fair, our woods are home.
O, welcome back, wild wings that roam.

O thanks, and thanks, and thanks again,
Dear singers, all American,
Dear bringers of all vernal joy
To Maine, Vermont, and Illinois!
What need have we of human words
To hail the spring? We have our birds.

--Odell Shepard

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A Friendly Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

Ah, May, my favorite month. I have never seen flowers more beautiful. It makes every one want to travel far and see as much as possible.

Mary and Ted Holleman, Elizabeth and Nelson Ellis, Adelaide Biddle and Frances and Bill Ellis enjoyed being together for several days in Gatlinburg.

Adelaide Biddle spent Easter with her daughter, Mary Lou Carmichael, and family in Dallas, Ga. On Tuesday, April 18, she went to Huntsville to a Council on Aging Advisory Board meeting, then to Birmingham on Wednesday, to the Civic Center for a meeting of the Southeast Gerontology Society.

Ed Ringer was visited by his brother, Dr. Robert E. Ringer and wife, Myrtice, from Marianna, Fla., and later, by Gamet Hartline from Columbus, Ga.

Nancy Hawkins came from Birmingham April 23, and spent a week with her mother-in-law, Vesta Hawkins, and aunts, Velma Hammond and Geneva Smith. Nancy's children, Lyn and Paul Roberts and Charlie Hawkins came on Sunday and all of them had dinner together to celebrate Vesta's 91st birthday. May you have many, many more happy, healthful years, Vesta.

Charlene and E. M. Blevins and daughter, Melissa, from Rising Fawn, Ga., spent Easter weekend with Charlene's mother, Jewell Palmer.

Lisa Ann Raif and Charles Ethan Acres were married at the Graceland Wedding Chapel, in Las Vegas, Nevada, on Sunday, Feb. 26. Both are attending the University of Nevada. May they have a long, happy life together. Charles is Frances Longshore's grandson.

The Sunshine Club met at the home of Leona Chadwick, April 27. Those present were Violet Barker, Glenda Savage, Geraldine Hawkins, Gladys Cobble, Jewell Palmer, Anna Daniel, and Eloise Brown.

Laura Margaret Allison visited her daughter Ansley and John McGinnis in Florence, S.C. She came back by Aiken, S.C., where Oline Roberts was visiting her daughter, Martha Joan Killian. The Killians brought Oline and Laura Margaret home.

Marie Clayton is recovering at home after surgery at Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga. Barna Fischer is also recovering at home after surgery in Chattanooga. Evelyn Clark had knee surgery recently. Frances Longshore suffered a painful fall at her home recently. Cindy Meadows had surgery at BMC-DeKalb. Robert Johnston is recovering from back surgery. We wish for all of them a quick and complete recovery.

The Valley Head UMW met at the home of Adelaide Biddle, Tues. afternoon, April 25. Present were Mary Holleman, Geraldine Hawkins, Elizabeth Coleman, Velma Hammond, Frances Longshore, Leslie Rogers, Eloise Brown, and Venna Livingston, who led the program, with others taking part. The subject was "Families" from the program book, "Cycles of Hope."

Venna Livingston had all of her family home for Easter weekend and attended Valley Head Methodist Church.

Venna and I (and many others) enjoyed the Valley Head Band's Concert at the school Sunday afternoon, April 23. Several awards and recognitions were given: Alison Meadows and Michelle Chappell were selected for the Jacksonville Honor Band; County Band members are Alison Meadows, Michelle Chappell, J.L. Gibson, Haley Johnson, and Sarah Tucker. Campbell Smith, band director, also presented plaques to the following seniors: Suzanne Fletcher, Kim McKinney, Leah Willbanks, Adrienne Hall, Christy Blevins, Michelle Chappell, and Sarah Tucker.

Congratulations to Christy Blevins! She won first place in a typing competition at Vocational Tech School at Rainsville, recently.

Scott Meadows, Darrin Smith, Rhett Freeman, Toni Johnson, and Brent Haney attended the Hank Williams Jr. and Leonard Skynard Concert at U.T.C. arena in Chattanooga, Friday night, April 28.

Happy Mothers' Day and reunions to everyone.

MAY, HOW CAN EARTH BEAR THEE?

May, how can earth bear the wonderful rare
ecstasy you bring in beauty's wild fling?
Gems of emerald green sparkle on the scene,
Oaks and Willows wear golden tassels fair,
Pines both high and low, hold candles aglow;
buds burst as they swell, exuberance tell,
In colors so bright, they seem to take flight.
In lacy, cool shade, where gay shadows played
blissfully dew pearled, graceful ferns uncurled.
Waking from their sleep, elfin flowers peep,
shyly lift their heads from their velvet beds.
Honeysuckles bloom, with fragrant perfume.
Birds joyfully sing and dance on the wing,
mating and nesting, no need for resting;
by the rippling pond, frogs call accents fond;
twilight brings the thrill of the Whippoor
Will.

Beautiful fragrant play day of vagrant
nature as it feels like kicking up heels,
May, your perfection is Heaven's selection--
How can earth bear thee--beauty's ecstasy--
the joy that you bring with the heart of Spring!

GOD BLESS ALL MOTHERS

God, bless all mothers in the world today
Turn their thoughts to Thee so they'll humbly pray
For wisdom and patience to live each day
as examples for their children to see
of what all Christian citizens should be--
True to principles and trusting in Thee.
May they be loving and always be kind
Firm, dependable, and gently remind
Of the helping hand they can always find
Leading and guiding in the right way--
Give them strength and courage,
God we pray:
Bless all mothers in the world ev'ry day.

--Eloise M. Brown

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GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

According to the March issue of *Progressive Farmer*, it should be a wet, mild spring due to the presence of the weather phenomenon known as EL NINO.

EL NINO is the name given to a periodic warming of ocean temperatures in the Eastern Pacific off the coast of South America. When the warm waters shift east, weather changes in much of the world. In recent years, meteorologists/climatologists have traced the records of earlier El Ninos going back to the beginning of the 20th century. Those records reveal patterns of regional weather events that usually accompany El Nino. El Nino is in its fourth year now--the longest it has ever stayed, and it seems to be strengthening.

Once again, I will play the old tune, EPSOM SALTS--the wonder for roses regenerating new roots. Well, what it does for roses it also does for other plants. The magnesium in the salts is the trick. The sources say that, if you put a teaspoon of it in the hole before planting your tomatoes, you will get a bumper harvest of big tomatoes. For other veggies, I like it, too. Dissolve an ounce in a cup of hot water, then add it to a gallon of water, and spray your veggies about once a month. The magnesium promotes more root mass, which is good for vegetables.

PREPARING SOLA BEDS

Such a fancy name for something so simple and easy and not to mention, CHEAP!--if you are planning to make a new flower or veggie bed. All you need is cardboard or some heavy plastic sheets. You wet the patch that you have picked, and set the cardboard or plastic down on the wet patch. Use something to anchor it, be it stakes, or stones, or whatever. Once that is done, cover the cardboard with some mulch or grass clippings; and, then, wet that down, too. Leave it that way for two weeks or longer, then, it's ready to use. If you used cardboard, you can push your trowel through it, and plant directly. Solarizing beds with plastic is the best as the treatment kills bugs and weeds and weed seeds.

SUPERSTINK SHUFFLE



If provoked, the striped skunk will arch its back, raise its tail, stamp its front paws, and shuffle backward. If that warning isn't heeded, it may be too late to take cover. Skunks can spray you from up to 23 feet, though they can aim accurately for only 6 to 12 feet.

The spotted skunk, on the other hand, will actually do a handstand, raising its hindquarters into the air to take aim at its source of irritation. The spray is even more acrid than that of the striped skunk.

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National Sports at a Glance

By Phil Harris

BASEBALL: First off, let's admit it, baseball is back; and deep down most of us are glad to see it. I may not spend the money to go see the Braves in Atlanta, but I'll be the first to turn on TBS or ESPN to see what's happening. Maybe, the baseball strike will let all sports figures understand that the fans are the lifeblood of all sports. People use sports and leisure activities to pass time. Hence, baseball is called America's pastime. Owners and players have toyed with fans and lost. Fans will be back, but the scars are still there.

Enough of the bad, now for the good. There are a lot of questions as baseball is in full swing. Can the Braves finally win a world series? Can the Chicago Cubs win the National League pennant? Has George Steinbrenner bought a world championship for the Yankees? Can the newest members of baseball, the Marlins and Rockies, compete for the playoffs? Can Toronto make it three in a row? Maybe the White Sox are ready for prime time? Are the Dodgers back? Questions are going to be answered over the summer, including when are the regular umps going to return?

I'm going to give you my guess picks:

NL East: Atlanta Braves	AL East: NY Yankees
NL Cen.: Cincinnati Reds	AL Cen.: Cleveland Indians
NL West: LA Dodgers	AL West: Seattle Mariners
wildcard: Montreal Expos	wildcard: Chi. White Sox
NL Championship: Atlanta vs. Cincinnati	
AL Championship: NY Yankees vs. Chicago White Sox	
World Series: Atlanta vs. NY Yankees	
World Champs: NY Yankees	

SORRY BRAVES, MAYBE NEXT YEAR!!!

COLLEGE BASEBALL: Auburn, LSU, Tennessee, Florida, Alabama, and Ole Miss have been ranked in the top 25 in college baseball most of the season. Tennessee is leading the eastern division, while Auburn is leading the west. The SEC has emerged as the top baseball conference in the collegiate ranks. It seems like the SEC leads the nation in a lot of sports. Football, baseball, women's basketball, and men's basketball seem to always be on top.

BASKETBALL: Well, it's NBA playoff time again. It will last from now until sometime in June. Basketball lasts entirely too long for most of us, but it's the only time you see pro basketball players play with emotions. On paper, the Orlando Magic and San Antonio Spurs are the favorites. Well, Michael Jordan is back, and a lot of experts expect the Bulls to win it. I don't think so. Will Perdue and Luc Longley are not Bill Cartwright and Horace Grant. Jordan and Scottie Pippen are outstanding players and will have to carry Chicago's hopes. Fatigue will take its toll.

The Spurs have an outstanding bench, plus David Robinson. The Magic have a great one-two combination in Shaquille O'Neal and Penny Hardaway. The New York Knicks have Patrick Ewing and arguably the best playoff coach in Pat Riley. The Phoenix Suns can light up the scoreboard with Dan Marjerie and Charles Barkley. Still, keep your eye on the Bulls and last year's world champions, the Houston Rockets. I am going with the Spurs and Knicks in the finals. Then, I believe, the San Antonio Spurs will win it all.

AUTO RACING: Mark Martin finally won a race this year. A big win, indeed, for Martin at Talladega. Jeff Gordon and Dale Earnhardt have been running up front all year, while Martin has been playing second fiddle. Sunday's Winston Select 500 was another exciting race: Earnhardt, Gordon, Martin, Rusty Wallace, and pole sitter Dale Jarrett ran up front all day. Thanks to Jarrett's fading as usual in the end, Wallace running out of gas, Gordon's coming from the back of the pack (to finish second, I might add), and last, but not least, Earnhardt's questionable wreck on the last lap (watch the tape). Martin finally got to take that checkered flag.

Dale Earnhardt is now trying to win his record eighth Winston Cup points championship. Jeff Gordon, who is quickly becoming one of NASCAR's best drivers, will have something to say about that. Mark Martin and Rusty Wallace will be considered darkhorses for the points championship. Racing has become a very popular and intense sport, indeed.

HOCKEY: The National Hockey League has had the same problem as baseball. The players strike almost cost hockey its season. Owners and players finally came to their senses and settled their differences. The season has been shortened and the playoffs are about to begin. Just like the NBA, the NHL playoffs last for an eternity. Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Quebec, Detroit, St. Louis, and Calgary have been the best clubs through the regular season. The Detroit Red Wings are probably the team to beat.

OLYMPICS: As you know, the Olympics are coming to Atlanta next summer. As the date draws near, some people may be interested in attending the event. Ticket request forms are now available around the Chattanooga and surrounding

areas. Most grocery stores (Food Lion, Bi-Lo, Winn Dixie, Foodworld, etc.) have ticket applications next to Coca-Cola displays. Chances for tickets to the most popular events are not very good. Nonetheless, attending any event, even if it's a soccer match in Birmingham, would be something to remember.

TRIVIA QUESTION: World Series game seven, bottom of the ninth, bases loaded, two outs, three balls and two strikes on the batter. The team batting is down by a run and you're the umpire. The pitcher goes into his wind-up, and the batter requests time, but you don't grant it. The batter steps out and the pitcher suddenly stops his motion. What do you call? Answer later.

May is now upon us. Hot weather is on its way. It's time for swimming, skiing, playing a little golf, or just sitting around by the air conditioner. And, since baseball has returned, it is time to get chopping again. GO BRAVES!! Answer to trivia: According to the rule book you ring the batter up, STRIKE THREE!!!

Sports on the Scene

By Phil Harris

Baseball and Softball at a glance; Ashley Blalock and Angie Wheat look for state honors.

High School Baseball has just about come to a close. Only one team from DeKalb Co. remains in the playoffs. Geraldine (6-5) is the lone team left after the first round. The Bulldogs knocked off Fyffe (14-5) to advance to the second round on May 3rd. Plainview (15-12) was eliminated by Pleasant Valley on Sat. (10-9). DeKalb Co. Tournament Champ Collinsville (19-12) didn't ever qualify for the playoffs. Ft. Payne ended a dismal year with only seven victories. Inexperienced pitching staff and late inning collapses kill the wildcats. Valley Head showed signs of life early in the year, winning one game in the county tournament. Coach Mark Hale's Tigers (with only one senior) just couldn't get any momentum going. Watch out for Hale's Tigers next season, if he can keep the team together.

The DeKalb Co. Softball is set for the weekend at the Ft. Payne Sports Complex. Pre-season favorite Plainview is really being pushed by Fyffe and Collinsville. The Lady Bears were upset by Fyffe last week. The Lady Red Devils could be the favorite going into the tourney. Still, Plainview has a lot of tournament experience and should make a run for the title. Sylvania is probably the darkhorse along with Crossville. Valley Head, Geraldine, Ft. Payne, and Ider will have to pull off some surprises to get into contention.

Congratulations to Ashley Blalock and Angie Wheat. The two Valley Head athletes earned state track meet berths for 1A-2A. The state meet will be held May 5-6 at Athens. Blalock, an eighth grader, won the 200 meter run and finished third in the 100 meters to qualify in two events. Wheat finished third in the 1600 meters. The sectional meet was held at Talladega.

Summer league baseball has gotten underway at the Ft. Payne Sports Complex. Opening day was a wash out, but the teams swung into action this past week. In the 9-10 year-old division: the defending champion Mentone got off to a fairly good start. Corey Kirby hit two triples, scored two runs, and pitched two scoreless innings as Mentone came from four runs down in the last inning to tie the Athletics 6-6 at Sawyer Field. Coaches Eric Kirby, Alan Crow, and Jeff Harrison had to be pleased with the tie.

Mentone's 11-12 year olds are also the defending champions. Coach Joe Smith's team won two games last week and look to have a very strong club. Nathan Owen pitched six scoreless innings in Mentone's 5-0 win over the Rangers Friday night. Mentone opened the season with a 15-7 win.

Hopefully, sometime this month, we will be able to get team pictures and rosters for the June issue. Next month, I will try to publish records and individual stats, as well.

League softball has become as popular as apple pie, again. The sports complex has a record number of teams for men's, women's and co-ed divisions. Mentone and Valley Head's men's team CBS is looking for another trophy. Coaches Tommy Harrison and Alan Smith have had a few minor problems. Hopefully, they will go back to having fun and have another banner year.

Well, that does it for me once again. It's time to go umpire and see first hand what's going on. Have a safe month, and we'll see you in June, God willing.



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NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

By Gail Worthey Chambers

Hello and Happy 1995 from the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department in Mentone. Although it is well into the year, we wanted to send our greetings and hopes for a year of great expectations for everyone.

It has been a while since the Fire Department let the citizens of Mentone and the surrounding areas know of the activities and needs of the volunteer fire fighters. Also, we would like to answer some of your questions as to where the funds received from our fund raisers and donations are used.

In the past, the Fire Department has been very fortunate to be able to raise the funds that are needed to keep the department in operational order. However, 1994 was not a very prosperous year. The fund raisers did not net the profit that we had hoped for. The Fire Department received many donations, for which we are most grateful, but there just wasn't enough to meet all of the needs. The department receives a grant from the Forestry Department each year, but this is used to pay the insurance on the fire trucks.

It takes a sizeable amount of money to keep a volunteer fire department in operational order. Most people do not realize what is involved. A lot of people volunteer their time and work very hard to keep the department operating. Without this fire protection in our town, the public would have to call fire departments from other towns for help. This would mean lost time that could mean the difference of loss of property or even loss of life.

The Fire Department needs to update some of the standard equipment used to fight fires. If we could do this, it would reduce the rating of the town of Mentone from a #9 to something much lower. This would result in saving you money on your home owner's insurance premium.

The department is in need of new or better used equipment. The volunteers need more "turn-out" gear. This includes coats, liners, helmets, boots, and gloves. The ones used now are old and worn out. More air packs are needed. Air packs are used to enable the fire fighters to breathe and see when they enter a smoke filled environment. Fire rakes and leaf blowers are needed for use at woods fires. More hand-held radios are needed. New gas heaters are needed for the fire hall. The present ones are not vented and could be very dangerous. The building has to be heated in winter months so that the hoses and valves on the truck won't freeze and the trucks will crank in the event of fire. The fire hall is in need of some repairs. Most of all, a newer model fire truck is needed. Repair bills on the present trucks can be quite expensive, and parts for the older models are getting hard to find.

The Fire Department is very proud that we now have the "Jaws-of-Life" extrication equipment in our area. Funds were raised in record time to purchase this equipment. This tool can be used to free a victim trapped in an automobile during an accident. Mentone no longer has to call for this equipment from another town. We are trying to make a difference.

In 1994, the fire department responded to only a small number of structure fires and woods fires. Unfortunately, there were some losses, but most were saved with only minimal damage. If the need occurs, the Volunteer Fire Department is ready to respond.

The volunteer fire fighters in our area do a wonderful job. They are to be commended for the effort that they put forth. They give of themselves sacrificially and go that "extra mile" to look after you, your family, your friends, and your neighbors. They actually "lay their lives on the line" every time they answer the fire call to try to preserve lives and properties in this community. These fire fighters not only answer fire calls, they also respond to automobile accidents to help in any way they can. They help in other situations where the lives and well being of the community are in danger. They volunteer because they care.

The North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department operates on a strictly volunteer basis. No one in this organization receives any compensation for the work they do. Their reward comes from the smiles and thanks of the people they have helped and the good feeling of knowing that they have made a difference.

If you would like to volunteer your services in any way, please contact any member of the Board of Directors or any Volunteer Fire Fighter for information. We welcome any input from you, the community. We want to put forth a new image and get the community more involved with the Volunteer Fire Department.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for any contributions to the fire department in the past. Without the community's support, we would not be able to keep the department in operational order.

If you would like to make a donation to the fire department,

please make checks to: THE NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, P.O. BOX 154, MENTONE, AL 35984.

Below is a list of our Volunteer Fire Fighters and the members of the Board of Directors. If you have any questions or input for us, please contact any of these.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS

Jim Roberts - Chief	Rusty Chambers, Assistant Chief
Dale Kerby	Sanford Hartline
Sam Whitley	Milton Chambers
Donnie Voiles	Jimmy Worthey
Robert Green	Barry Sadowski
Eric Kirby	Kevin Worthey
John Chambers	Keith Hadley

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gail W. Chambers, Chairman		
Chester Crowe - Assistant Chairman		
Bob Baty	Dessie Newberry	Leonard Shigley

OFFICERS

Pat Tate - Attorney	Linda Brown - Secretary
Eleanor Tate - Treasurer	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 6 - Bake Sale & Yard Sale at Fire Hall in Mentone - 8 a.m.
Available until May 21 - Tickets for \$100 to be given away at
Rhododendron Festival - Donation \$1.00
May 20 & 21 - Booth at Rhododendron Festival
Gospel Singing - Date to be announced
Open House at Fire Department - Date to be announced

We have several other ideas, but they're still in the planning stage. They will be announced at a later date also.



**NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**
P.O. BOX 154
MENTONE, AL 35984

I am pleased to make the following donation for the year 1995:

Amount: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____



1st Row (L/R): Sarah Hurt, Elizabeth Childers, Kory Knopps; 2nd Row: Katie Gray and Jared Bare

PARTICIPANTS AND WINNERS IN THE 1995 GROUNDHOG EASTER COLORING CONTEST

There were 36 entries in the coloring contest. The winners are shown above with their Easter Baskets. Every participant not winning an Easter basket received a certificate for a free hamburger at Burger King. The list of those participating is:

KINDERGARTEN: Barnabas Bettis, Wil Blackburn, Emily Bowman, Elizabeth Childers (honorable mention), Mark Corey, Melissa Crane, Erica Cryer, Glenn Hansen, Alex Hazell, Julie Ingram, Robert Johnson, Loren Kean, Whitney LaBuda, Phillip McNutt, John Meadows, Heather Phillips, Jed Platt, Samantha Rhodes, Justin Scott, Justin Smith, Casey Swindall, and Kelly Swindall.

FIRST GRADERS: Jared Bare (winner), Laura Floyd, Katie Gray (winner), Melissa Harrison, Sarah Hurt (winner), Tyler Huskey, Logan Jackson, Brandy Manning, Keliye Phillips, Joshua Rogers, Emily Swindall, Emily Tipton, and Cayla Voils.

THIRD GRADER: Kory Knopps (honorable mention).

MANY USES OF WOOD

Wood is one of the most versatile materials known to man. It can be shaped, split, painted, glued, and nailed. Each species of tree supplies wood with unique qualities in color, strength, weight and durability. Can you match the trees below with their specific uses?

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Hickory | A. Pencils |
| 2. Cedar | B. Gun Stocks |
| 3. Sycamore | C. Artificial Limbs |
| 4. Ash | D. Golf Club Heads |
| 5. Persimmon | E. Butcher Blocks |
| 6. Willow | F. Church Pews |
| 7. Osage Orange | G. Flooring |
| 8. Black Walnut | H. Bows |
| 9. Butternut | I. Baseball Bats |
| 10. White Oak | J. Ax Handles |

Answers: 1. J, 2. A, 3. E, 4. I, 5. D, 6. C, 7. H, 8. B, 9. F, 10. G.

NOTICE FROM THE MENTONE POSTMASTER

Vandalism of mailboxes is a violation of the Federal law, Title 18 U.S.C. §1705.

Anyone having any information concerning mailboxes vandalized on April 16, 1995, please call the Mentone Post Office at 634-4588, or your local police department (Mentone is 634-4444).

HUNTIN' & FISHIN'

Compiled by Dr. Pat Seymour

THE RIGHT STAFF: Turkey hunters do well to use a hiking staff, with modifications to make it a useful safety tool. The right staff should be as long as you are tall. Paint or tape the top two feet hunter orange and sharpen the bottom slightly. When you're set up with your back to a tree, push the staff upright into the ground in front of you. It can serve as a gun rest if needed, and the orange top will be visible to other hunters.

To carry your bird out, put it in an orange bag, tie its feet together, then slip the staff between the feet, and tote it over your shoulder.

TURKEY SENSE: Spring turkey hunting is one of the fastest-growing outdoor sports, with the number of turkey hunters up by 20 percent in the past five years, according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation. As many as 5 million dedicated and enthusiastic turkey hunters may take to the woods this spring.

There are, however, certain safety rules and guidelines—unique to turkey hunting—that must become second nature to every hunter. The following safety rules are recommended by the National Wild Turkey Federation.

1. Never wear any combination of blue, white, or red clothing (socks and underclothing included).

2. When setting up to call, be sure to sit against a tree trunk that's wider than your shoulders.

3. Never wave or stand. If another hunter is approaching, remain still and call out in a loud voice or use a whistle.

4. Select a calling site where you can see 50 yards in all directions.

5. If you bag a bird, always pack it out covered.

6. Never assume you're the only hunter in a given area, even if you have sole permission to hunt it.

7. Never assume that what makes noise and calls back is a turkey.

HUNTING & FISHING TIPS:

✓**TURKEYS:** If turkeys grow quiet just after dawn on spring hunts, try shock calls to locate them. Crow, predator, hawk, and even pileated woodpecker calls will sometimes startle a gobbler into answering. Then you can set up and work the bird in with hen talk.

✓**DEER:** Try to do most of your preseason scouting during midday. Bucks often bed down then, and you'll be less likely to spook them. If you scout early and late, do so from a distance with binoculars, so you can monitor game movement without spooking the quarry.

✓**CATFISH:** Good spots to find catfish include dropoffs, deep holes, steep bluffs, humps, bars, points, the edges of islands, ripraps near dams and the mouths of tributaries. Fishing can be good both day and night in these areas.

✓**CAMOUFLAGE:** Match your camouflage to the habitat and time of year you're hunting. Wear white-background camo in the snow, green-leaf or traditional camo in the late spring and early fall, and tree-bark designs when leaves have fallen.

DEAR HUNTING DIARY: People are always talking about the good old days of hunting and fishing, when there were no restrictions on bag limits and game abounded. But when you consider the deeds of Lord Malmesbury of England, who kept a meticulous hunting diary from 1798 to 1840, it seems that hunters and fishermen have come a long way.

In 42 years of hunting, Lord Malmesbury's total of game taken was as follows: 10,744 partridges; 7417 rabbits; 8862 pheasants; 5211 hares; 4694 snipe; 1080 woodcock; 145 rails; 50 quail; 8 geese; 6 golden plover; and 3 swans. Altogether, he hunted 3645 days, walked a total of 36,200 miles, and fired more than four tons of shot.

At about the same time (1840), the United States government was setting out to exterminate its buffalo population, with the help of well-intentioned hunters. We're still paying for their good old days.

DOGS ABOARD: When transporting your hunting or field dogs, make sure your trailer or cargo compartment is well-ventilated and completely free from exhaust fumes. Also:

✓ Use warm bedding during winter travel.

✓ Secure portable kennels with rope or elastic cords so they don't shift during the drive.

✓ Travel with only one dog to a kennel.

✓ Stop every hour to let your dogs relieve themselves. Then give them small, quick drinks of water.

✓ In hot weather, park your vehicle in cool shade, and frequently check your dogs for signs of heat exhaustion.

WEATHER CLUES

Though no one has proved that any of the indicators are factual, the weather clues from nature are at least as accurate as those from human forecasters. Some wild animals do seem to have a sensitivity to impending weather changes, particularly the approach of weather that might pose a threat to them. For example, when weather forecasters predict an approaching winter storm, they know they're right if the birds are stocking up on seed and suet at the feeders. It seems logical that songbirds would have a sensitivity to the approach of severe weather. They have to eat every day or die, and if a storm is going to restrict their intake of food, they may need to anticipate it in order to survive.

HOW COLD?

• The wider the black bands on a woolly bear caterpillar, the harsher the winter will be.

• If squirrels are laying in large stores of nuts, or if a turkey's feathers are unusually thick by Thanksgiving, expect a hard winter.

• If the woodchuck sees its shadow on February 2, there will be six more weeks of winter.

STORMY WEATHER:

• If gulls stay on the beach, fishermen should do the same.

• When dew is on the grass, rain will come to pass; when grass is dry at night, look for rain before the light.

• When a cow bellows three times without stopping, a storm will come a-hopping.

• When ants travel in a straight line, expect rain; when they scatter, expect fair weather.

• When the rooster crows late at night, he tells you that a rain's in sight.

• Fish and flies bite most just before a rainstorm.

GAINS IN THE RAIN:

Most anglers find that fishing improves in a light rain, but few can explain why. Several factors come into play here:

First, a gentle rain brings a change in the surface, which sparks a fish's interest.

Second, rain usually cools the surface water temperature in the summer and fall.

Third, rain brings discoloration and stirs up the tiny organisms baitfish eat.

Fourth, the gentle beating of the rain increases the oxygen level at the surface.

Fifth, rain clouds cover direct sunlight, which most fish find uncomfortable and avoid.

WEATHER OMENS Believe Them...Or Not

Prior to modern meteorology, farmers and hunters relied on their own readings of nature—and even superstition—to forecast the weather. Some historical examples:

★ Crickets are said to be accurate thermometers. Count their chirps for 15 seconds, then add 40. You now have the temperature of wherever the cricket happens to be.

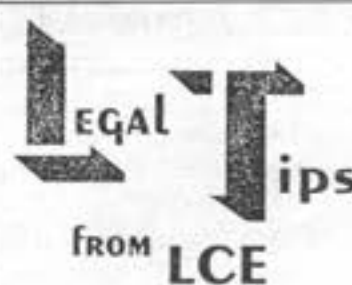
★ If you see a robin entering a barn, expect a heavy downpour.

★ Maine fishermen used to cast their lines in accordance with this saying: "Wild geese going out to sea—all fine weather we will see."

★ The Zuni Indians believed that "when chimney swifts cry and call, they speak of rain."

★ According to an old superstition, "The chill is on from near and far in all the months that have an R."

Here's a more practical way to predict the weather: Many times, birds will feed heavily just before a rain, so it's possible to foretell the weather by watching your bird feeder.



LEGAL TIPS FROM LCE

Submitted by
Sherman Gough,
Legislative
Chairman of AARP
Chapter 221 in
Ft. Payne

Q: My frail, elderly mother is going to move in with us. What should I do to plan for this major change in all our lives, especially because my mother and husband do not get along?

A: Most older persons enjoy rich, interactive lives with their adult children. In some cases, family dynamics may present difficulty when multiple generations live together. Closely examine your family's ability to provide long-term, in-home care. Your responsibilities will be many. Discuss your plans with friends, neighbors, and other sources of support so your responsibilities do not become a burden. Ask for their understanding and emotional support. Discuss with your mother her wishes regarding health care and financial decisionmaking in anticipation of her potential incapacity. Use sources of help such as chore services, home-delivered meals, senior recreation, adult day care, respite care, and transportation services.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call your local area agency on aging or the Eldercare Locator (800-677-1116) for information about services for older persons. Contact Senior Center, medical, law enforcement, and protective services professionals should there be a possibility of abuse or neglect. Order *Domestic Mistreatment of the Elderly: Towards Prevention: Some Dos and Don'ts*, Stock Number D12885, from:

AARP Fulfillment

EE0767

601 E Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20049

Legal Counsel for the Elderly, a department of AARP, is a national support center specializing in the delivery of legal services to older persons.



MIGHTY MITES

Entomologists estimate there are 3000 mosquito species worldwide, 160 of them in the U.S. Here are some "biting" facts about these tough little insects.

Some species have remarkable longevity; the female can live up to five months or more. Others live only about thirty days.

Only the female bites. Some may bite six times during a lifetime, more if a bloody meal is interrupted. After each complete meal, usually obtained with a single bite, the female lays up to 200 eggs. She can repeat this process as frequently as every three days. If optimum breeding conditions were to persist for a two-month period, an initial population of 1000 female mosquitoes could grow into the millions.

Mosquitoes can sense a person from up to 20 feet away. They are attracted mainly by heat, moisture, and carbon dioxide, and avoid direct sunlight, smoke, and wind. Activity peaks at dawn and dusk.

A mosquito can cover up to 300 miles in its lifetime.



GIRL SCOUTS

Troop #1012 will be having its annual awards ceremony on Saturday, May 13th, at 4:00 p.m., at the Valley Head Baptist Church. Proceedings will include recognition of sponsors, presenting pins and badges, and refreshments. Dr. Pat Seymour, a former Girl Scout of Troop 13 in Selma and a state Girl Scout board member, will be the guest speaker. Everyone is invited to attend. Please support your GIRL SCOUTS! They need you.

The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



The UMW of the Valley Head United Methodist Church met at the home of Adelaide Biddle on Wednesday, April 26. Venna Livingston did the program. The fifth Sunday night community service was held at Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church with Jeff Adkins bringing the message. Every Thursday morning at 9 o'clock, Sharon Lee is teaching a Bible study, which everyone is really enjoying. Eloise Brown will host the UMW on Wednesday, May 28, with Geraldine Hawkins as co-hostess. Leslie Rogers will do the program.

The senior adults of Moon Lake Baptist Church will be in charge of the worship service on the first Sunday in May. They will provide choir music. On the second Sunday, Mother's Day, there will be a special service honoring the mothers. On the fourth Sunday, May 28, a puppet show is planned for Children's Day. The children will be singing, and the focus will be on children for that service. The J.O.Y. group will be going on a fishing trip on May 4, at DeKalb Lake at Sylvania. They will be leaving from the church at 8:30 a.m. Come and join this fun group for a fun day!

The Mentone Wesleyan Church is having a revival April 30-May 3. The evening services on May 1-3 are at 7 p.m. Dr. Jimmy Johnson, District Superintendent of Delta Wesleyan Churches and a nationally renowned speaker, is bringing the messages. The public is invited to attend these services. Easter Sunday showed a record attendance at the Wesleyan Church, and everyone is excited about this. There will be a special Mother's Day emphasis on May 14.

The Episcopal Church Women of St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church hosted the Mountain Convocation of Women on Saturday, April 29. The program was given by Dr. Rebecca Wright, Old Testament professor from Swannee University. On May 21, church will be held at Camp DeSoto, followed by a covered dish dinner. Communion is still being observed each Wednesday at noon.

May 7 is Membership Day at the Mentone Church of God. Members will be accepted on that date. On May 14, Mother's Day, Phillip Bain will be preaching in the morning service. May 31 will be Youth Night, and Michael Carter will be speaking in the service. A group from the Collinsville Church of God will be doing a contemporary musical drama in the service.

Sunday morning worship services at Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church are at 9 a.m. You are cordially invited to join the worship.

The monthly Gospel Singing at The Church of God of Prophecy is Sunday night, May 7, 1995. The singing begins at 6:30 p.m. and will feature special guests, The Stephens Trio. Everyone is invited to attend this Gospel Singing on the first Sunday night of every month.

Pastor Brock has met a challenge to preach from the roof of the church since a new attendance record was set.

Anyone interested in joining the church softball or volleyball teams, please call Donna Brock at 634-4164.

Pastor Brock is directing the Alabama Men's Retreat May 5-6, 1995, at Camp Boothe near Birmingham. All men, age 16 and up, are invited to attend. Call the church at 634-4459.

A very special program is planned at the church for Mother's Day, May 14. Everyone is invited to attend.

The Union Hill Baptist Church is proud of the new sanctuary and will have a dedication ceremony soon. May 7 is Homecoming Day at the church with a special morning service followed by a covered dish lunch. There will be no guest singers this year, but there will be special singing by members. There will be no evening service on that day.

The second Sunday evening in each month is always singing night, and everyone is invited to attend. The singing is at 6 o'clock.

The Youth Choir sang at the Moon Lake School Spring Fest.

Everyone is invited to tune in to the Mentone Revival Center radio broadcast every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. on AM870.

On Thursday, May 11, the UMW of the Mentone United Methodist Church will meet at 2:00 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall. Hope Walker has the program, "Blessed Are Those." Carrie Ruth Kirby is the hostess.

The Administrative Council will meet Sunday, April 7, at 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The spirituality class meets at 5 p.m. each Sunday night in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend.

Community Christian Fellowship Church meets at the Promenade Hall in Valley Head on Sundays, with Sunday School from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., and church services from 11 a.m. until. Sunday night services begin at 6 p.m. The public is welcome.

The "Good Fridays" Youth Ministry meets every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Promenade Hall in Valley Head. "Good Fridays" is not a church or a denomination. Youths come from a number of different churches and denominations. It is a ministry for youth, where they can get together, hear the word of God, watch Christian videos, pray together, express their talents, have fun, hang out, and get radical for the Lord Jesus Christ!!!

For more information about "Good Fridays," call Candy Hansen at 634-4607, Ken and Carol Busby at 635-0225, or Pastor Randy and Janice Turner at 635-6467.

Eighteen members of the Valley Head Baptist Church returned from Eureka Springs on Sunday night, April 30, after seeing the passion play. Everyone had a wonderful time. On May 30, at 6 p.m., there will be a hotdog supper as a youth fundraiser. The plates will be \$3.00 each to eat in or take out. The public is cordially invited.

J.O.Y.

The next regular meeting of J.O.Y. will be on the second Thursday, May 11, at 11:30 a.m., at Moon Lake Baptist Church. Please bring a covered dish and enjoy the meal and the fellowship. Invite a friend who is not now attending. Everyone is welcome!

NORTH DEKALB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The North DeKalb Ministerial Association meets at 8:00 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at the DeSoto Room at DeSoto State Park. All ministers are encouraged to attend.

The National Day of Prayer Services will be held on May 4, at Brow Park at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to the services.

The Baccalaureate Services will be held at the Valley Head Baptist Church on Sunday, May 21, at 2 p.m.

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805 Wade Gap Rd. NW
Valley Head, AL 35989

National Day of Prayer Services

Thursday, May 4, at Brow Park in Mentone, at 7 p.m.
Everyone is invited to the services.
Bring lawn chairs to sit on and bring a friend.



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Don't miss the LARGE Yard Sale!
May 5, 6, 7 & May 12, 13, 14



The Musical Mountain In Springtime RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL



Entertainment by
Mentones Troubadour
The One and Only
Tony Goggans

**NO ADMISSION
CHARGE**

**Saturday & Sunday,
May 20th & 21st**

Mentone Alabama - On Lookout Mountain Parkway

View Rhododendrons From River Boat Rides at Desoto Falls Tickets \$2.50

- ♦ Music, Stories, Bonfire--Friday, May 19th at 7:00 PM
- ♦ Parade on Saturday, May 20th at 2:00 PM
- ♦ Clogging--Quilting--Arts & Crafts
- ♦ Rhododendron Queen Contest Saturday,
May 13th at 8:00 PM at the Hitching Post

Good Food -- Ice Cream -- Popcorn -- Cotton Candy

*Chance On Hand-Made Quilt to Be
Given Away at 4 p.m. Sunday
\$1.00 DONATION*

RHODODENDRONS -- NATIVE HYBRIDS ON SALE BOTH DAYS

All Atop Lookout Mountain in Mentone, Midway From Chattanooga to Gadsden

On Highway 117, Exiting Off I-59, Exit 231

Sponsored by the Mentone Area Preservation Association

-- A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION --



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. Eph. 6:2-3

May 14 is Mother's Day, a special day to honor the one who really loves you. If your mother is living, take time to let her know you love her. She may be lonely. "Cheer her up" that it may be well with you, and you have a longer life here on earth.

Happy Mother's Day.

\$100.00 BILL

to be given away
Sunday, May 21

at the Rhododendron Festival
Sponsored by the North Lookout
Mountain Fire Protection District
Volunteer Firemen, Mentone, Alabama
All proceeds go for equipment.
\$1.00 Donation

You do not have to be present to win.
Contact any volunteer fireman or
Board member to purchase your ticket.
Tickets will also be sold both days
Saturday and Sunday, May 20 and 21,
at the Festival.



TO BE GIVEN AWAY LABOR DAY 1995

1929 GAZELLE REPLICA SSK KIT CAR, with Ford chassis, 2300 cc Ford engine, automatic transmission, 2-door convertible (with top stored in trunk), wire wheels, leather interior, beige and brown, with approximately 1,000 miles.

This beautiful car was titled in 1969 and can be seen at Tim Hegwood Motor Company on Highway 48 in Menlo, Georgia. The Chattooga County Shrine Club is accepting donations in the amount of \$10.00 for each opportunity to be the proud owner of this 1929 automobile.

George Payne, a member of the Yarrab Shrine in Atlanta for 17 years, and a charter member of the newly-formed Chattooga County Shrine Club, is shown standing by this intriguing car. Labor Day 1995 is the date this car will be given away, and all the proceeds will go to Community Center, Inc., and the Scottish Rite Children's Hospital. One does not have to be present to win.

4th ANNUAL

Wildflower Saturday

May 6 & 13, 1995

Desoto State Park Nature Center



Hikes & Programs begin at 8:30 am.

Meet at the DeSoto State Park Nature Center, located next to the Country Store. Parking available in the Picnic Area across the street from the Nature Center.

Wildflower Saturday Activities

8:30 am - Orientation & Welcome - Nature Center

9:00 am to 11:30 am - Wildflower Hikes

11:30 am to 1:00 pm - Lunch (bring your own or eat at the Lodge)

1:00 pm to 3:30 pm - Wildflowers Hikes

Field Trip Leaders.

Ken Thomas - Naturalist DeSoto State Park (May 6 & 13)

Dot Threlkeld - Wildflower Identification (May 6)

Bill Threlkeld - Wildflower ID & Photography (May 6)

Terry Hethcote - Wildflower Identification (May 6)

Paul Franklin - Wildflower ID & Photography (May 13)



For more information contact DeSoto State Park at 205-545-0051

BAKE SALE & YARD SALE

Saturday, May 6th

8:00 a.m. til 6:00 p.m.

at the Firehall in Mentone.

Please start cleaning out your closets, basements, garages, and out-buildings in search of good, usable items that we can use for the yard sale.

If you would be willing to donate baked goods for the bake sale,

contact Eleanor Tate at 634-4913.

If you have yard sale items, contact Gail Chambers at 634-4307, for a time to deliver the items to the Firehall or if you need them to have the items picked up.

Proceeds from this sale will go towards purchasing equipment for the Volunteer Fire Department.

Sponsored by the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District.