

the GROUNDHOG

Newsletter of MAPA
Mentone Area Preservation Assn.
P. O. Box 50
Mentone, Alabama 35984

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NOVEMBER MAPA MEETING

Tuesday, November 2, 1982

MENTONE SPRINGS HOTEL

7 p. m.

Again we gather about the huge fireplace at the old hotel, to discuss implementation of the goals established last month and to hear a special presentation by Garry Trotter, "Thee Chimney Sweep" arranged by Marianne Schroeder. All Mentone citizens are welcome to attend, enjoy the program, and express their views on the Goals. It's a town meeting approach. Actual voting is only by dues-paying members. There will be plans for Christmas festivities, evaluation of the Color Fest, and other matters. Bruce Bon Fleur presides. Refreshments are by Michael Robins, the new Cragmire Manna chef.

HOLIDAY POTLUCK: Marianne Schroeder, program coordinator, asks you to mark on your calendar the meeting of MAPA on Tuesday, December 2nd, with a holiday potluck at the regular meeting. This will be a real social occasion. Notification will be made later concerning what dishes to bring.

NEAT MEETING: Local musicians Rufus Colquitt Jones, Glenn Baty, Leonard Keith, and Ernest Baxter performed at the meeting of NEAT 5 at the Mentone Springs Hotel Thursday evening, October 20th. Food was provided by Cragmire Manna. This new organization includes Chamber of Commerce and tourist representatives from the Northeast Alabama counties of Cherokee, Etowah, Marshall, Jackson, and DeKalb. Some forty members of the NorthEast Alabama Tourist Association and their wives were present.

AUTUMN SKETCH: As the leaves turn, we year-round Mentonians settle down to preparations for another heavy winter. At a time of nation-wide unemployment, our builders and construction workers are apparently busy. Several houses are under construction. The new businesses seem to be evolving into their routines. Cragmire Manna has reopened with a talented new chef, Michael Robins. The Garden Club's project for planting rhododendrons through town has resulted in sixty orders already. You can still call Mrs. James McCary (634-4478) to arrange a plant as a gift or memorial.

MORGAN DRUGS

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MAPA MEMBERSHIP LIST

Bruce Bon Fleur (4767)	Log Cabin Deli (Lee & Barbara Boyd, 4560)
Amelia Brooks (4108)	Lookout Mt. Nursery (May Hilburn, 4461)
Donna Bukley (4678)	Mrs. Clarence McDorman (4190)
*Sammy and Clara Cash (3745)	Kathryn McDorman (4190)
*Cloudmont Ski & Golf (Jack & Olive Jones, 3841)	Charles McGee (4786)
Anne Climer (4202)	*Charles and Jean McGehee (3737)
Patricia Coppedge (4107)	*Mentone's Country Charm (Billy & Ellene Lee, 4801)
Homer and Bernise Crow (4664)	Ruby O'Rear (4159)
Crow's Nest Antiques (Jean Elrod, 4543)	Sonny Pokorski
*Ed and Jeri Disney (Nippersink, 4255)	Sandra Padgett (4741)
Graham Glover (3342)	Donald Porch (4808)
Ferne Fitzgerald (4743)	Rhododendron Garden Club (4108)
*Milton and Grace Howard (4506)	Marianne Schroeder (4881)
Beverly Hoyt (4769)	Marie Shadgett (4542)
Harold Jenkins (4451)	Milton Shinbaum (4240)
Mabel Kirk (4108)	Mrs. Hubert L. Taylor
	Mary Wiegand (3175)

* one vote

ACTION ON GOALS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Discussion at the October meeting resulted in general approval. If you are interested, for or against, in any of these proposals, contact the persons listed who volunteered to coordinate information and action.

LONG RANGE PROPOSALS: (1) Obtain official designation as a historical district and explore endowments and grants for restoration projects. (Graham Glover)

(2) Construction of the covered bridge as a foot bridge on Old Menlo Road. (Anne Climer)

SHORT RANGE PROPOSALS: (1) Obtain non-profit status. (Charles McGehee)

(2) Work with local government on traffic safety in downtown Mentone on highway 117. (Sammy Cash, Bernise Crow, Lee Boyd)

(3) Establish better communication between City Council and citizens by having MAPA members attend council meetings. (Ed & Jeri Disney)

(4) Survey possible land/space acquisition for community facilities. (Sandra Padgett)

(5) Develop and publish a public information piece with map--tourist oriented. (Sis Martin, Homer Crow, John Morrison)

(6) Develop a Mentone, county, state, and federal information sheet directory. (Marie Shadgett)

(7) Landscape the triangle at the Mentone Superette. (Graham Glover, Marie Shadgett)

(8) Recognize local businesses and homes for most improvement and beautification by a monthly Groundhog Award: 1 Garden Club member, 1 City Council member, 1 MAPA member.

(9) Secure recognition sign on highways 59 and 11. (Sammy Cash)

(10) Active participation in Garden Club rhododendron planting project.

AT THE OCTOBER MEETING: Director Bruce Bon Fleur asked for volunteers to coordinate the projects listed above. In the discussion of downtown traffic safety, John Morrison stressed the need for a walkway from the Post Office to the Hitching Post. Ed Disney suggested a caution sign at the yellow blinker at the top of the mountain. Lee Boyd gave a colorful report on plans for the October Color Fest. He expressed thanks to Ed Jones for the horses and wagon for the hayrides to the Falls, and the horses for rides for the children on the corner at the Hitching Post; to Glenn Baty for reading the Mentone history on Saturday morning; to Clyde McNew for 10 pumpkins for the Saturday pumpkin carving contest; to Marie Shadgett for the Canadian T-shirts and Sandra Padgett for the Coca Cola T-shirts to be used as prizes. Ed Disney stressed the need for more information about calling police and emergency services. (digested from minutes of Bernise Crow, secretary-treasurer)

PUBLICITY: Representative David Stout recently said that everyone may not have been to Mentone, but just about everybody has heard about it. Our fame grew over recent days. Libby Wann of the Fort Payne Times-Journal produced two excellent front page articles on the color festival and the role Sandra Padgett is playing in the restoration of the Mentone Springs Hotel. The Chattanooga Times had a good story on the color festival. A new edition of Mountain View magazine for visitors is about to be issued.

HISTORIC REGISTER: On Thursday, October 27th, the Mentone Springs Hotel was visited by James Stell of Montgomery in connection with placement on the Alabama Historic Registry. This would be a major step to acceptance on the National Registry, providing tax and other incentives. With Mr. Stell was James Kuykendall, a founder of Landmarks of DeKalb County, who spoke to MAPA at the August meeting.

A time to give thanks