

Celebrating
17 Years
in Print

THE

GROUNDHOG

•Mentone • Valley Head •Hammondville •Cloudland •Menlo

Provided FREE
Since 1982
By M.A.P.A.

Volume 17, No. 10

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

October 1999

"COLORFEST"



1999

OCTOBER 15-16-17, 1999 Mentone, Alabama

Colorfest 1999 17th Annual Colorfest

Friday night, October 15, kicks off the weekend with a bonfire in the town square at 7 PM. The Good Witch Bernise, along with other storytellers, will be there to entertain us. What could be more fun than hot cider, roasted marshmallows, and ghost stories.

Hometown celebrity, Jack Jones, author of Come Sit A Spell, has agreed to be our Master of Ceremonies and the Grand Marshall of the Colorfest Parade that begins at 2 PM on Saturday, October 16.

Musical Mountain talent will feature some of the best local musicians in the state.

On Saturday and Sunday, vendors will be set up from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pontoon boat rides will be at DeSoto Falls.

On the back page is a flyer. On pages 12 and 13 is a map of the Brow Park area where the festival will be located and crafts, exhibitors, food, and entertainment can be found.

MAPA President, Marilyn Mathews, in her column, states, "Lately, we have had a hint of fall in the air and some of the leaves are beginning to change colors. Hopefully, there will be enough moisture to give us our lovely autumn colors this year. This brings to mind Colorfest which is held the third weekend in October. For the next few weeks, we will be concentrating our efforts on getting the festival plans finalized. Our chairperson this year is Betty Bain and already she has devoted a lot of

hours and hard work to making this year another success. We are again giving away a lovely hand-made quilt, stitched by one of our local quilters, Lola Mae Blalock. The quilt is full/queen size, and it is reversible: one side is the nine patch pattern and the other is a small black print on wine fabric. (See photo on page 12.) Each \$1.00 donation to MAPA will entitle you to one chance to win. The drawing will be October 17, at 4:00 p.m. You do not have to be present to win. If you would like an opportunity to win this beautiful quilt, please contact one of the MAPA members. The quilt is on display at Dessie's Kountry Chef in Mentone."

Continued to page 12 and 13.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Sunday, Oct. 3, 2 PM - 33rd Annual DeKalb County Marching Festival, Geraldine High School Stadium
- Oct. 4-9 - 4th Annual DeKalb Co. VFW Agricultural Fair, Fort Payne
- Monday, Oct. 4, 7 PM, Mentone Council Meeting, Town Hall
- Tuesday, Oct. 5, 7 PM., MAPA meeting, Dessie's Kountry Chef
- Tuesday, Oct. 12, Columbus Day
- Tuesday, Oct. 12, 6:30 PM American Legion Meeting, American Legion Hall, Mentone
- Monday, Oct. 11, 6:30-8:30 PM, Discover your School, Moon Lake School

•COLORFEST, October 15, 16, 17 sponsored by Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA)

- Friday, Oct. 22, "Southern Heart" Movie begins playing at Hamilton Cinemas, Ft. Payne
- Oct. 31 - Halloween
- Sunday, Oct. 31, Daylight Savings Time ends
Turn back your clocks
- Saturday, Nov. 6- Moon Lake School Harvest Festival

To Subscribe to the Groundhog,
See Page 2.

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THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984



Published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, MAPA was first conceived on Groundhog Day, 1982, and organized April 6, 1982, for the purpose of preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment, and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area, and is chartered as a non-profit organization by the State of Alabama.

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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Contributing Editors.....Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Eloise Brown, Madeleine Bullock, Marilyn Campbell, Bernise Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Dowe Foreman, Evelyn Graves, Phil Harris, Lisa Moore, Sue Schwarz, Jennifer Smith, Laura Catherine

MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Marilyn Mathews
Vice President.....Dot Crow
Secretary.....Marie S. Dillenbeck
Treasurer.....Dessie Newberry
Parliamentarian.....Homer Crow
Member-At-Large.....Rovene Truett
Member-At-Large.....Betty Bain

In case of errors in advertisements, The Groundhog assumes liability only for the actual space that is incorrect in the advertisement. Call Evelyn Graves at 634-4390 for advertising.

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

The deadline for all material for The Groundhog is the **15TH DAY OF THE MONTH** preceding publication. The Groundhog is due out by the end of each month.

--PUBLIC NOTICE--

MENTONE PLANNING
AND ZONING COMMISSION
Meeting dates for remainder of 1999

December 16

All meetings are held in the town
public meeting room at **4 p.m.**
and are open to the public.



Dr. Bill Berry, Principal of Moon Lake Elementary School, speaker at the MAPA meeting on September 7, giving an update on Moon Lake School. "Firmly Planted, Forward Moving" is the school motto.

THE GROUNDHOG

Publication Notice

The NOVEMBER issue will be
published on October 28
(the last Thursday of October).

Those submitting photos,
please get them to us by October 18.
Articles are due October 20-25.

Thank you!



MESSAGE FROM

THE MAPA PRESIDENT

By Marilyn Mathews

There is an old adage which says "Haste makes waste." In my case, haste always makes

errors. My article last month was written in haste and I made an unforgivable mistake. I failed to mention that Betty Bain and Homer Crow were invaluable to us in getting the MAPA booth set up for the Yard Sale. On Wednesday afternoon Betty helped us get sale items moved from the MAPA booth to the booth site and to set them up so we would be ready the next morning. Homer spent part of two days helping Betty get the tents ready and set up. Betty and Homer, I hope you will accept my sincere apology, as well as my thanks for your help.

Our speaker for the September 7, meeting was Dr. Bill Berry, principal of Moon Lake School. It was a pleasure to meet Dr. Berry, and to hear about the progressive methods of education used at Moon Lake. (See photo on this page.) After hearing his speech, I can well understand the immense pride which everyone here feels for Moon Lake and the intense effort to keep it open for the children who have the privilege of growing up in Mentone. It is a pleasure to know that Moon Lake is one of MAPA's ongoing projects.

We welcomed Brenda Hall as a new member, and look forward to having her work with us in the future. If you are a member of MAPA, and are interested in joining, please contact any member or come to our next meeting October 5, 7:00 p.m., at Dessie's.

Lately, we have had a hint of fall in the air and some of the leaves are beginning to change colors. Hopefully, there will be enough moisture to give us our lovely autumn colors this year. This brings to mind Colorfest which is held the first weekend in October. For the next few weeks, we will be concentrating our efforts on getting the festival plans finalized. Our chairperson this year is Betty Bain and already she has devoted a lot of hours and hard work to making this another success. We are again giving away a lovely handmade quilt, stitched by one of our local quilters, Lola Block. The quilt is full/queen size, and it is reversible: one side is the nine patch pattern and the other is a small print on wine fabric. (See photo on page 12.) Each \$5 donation to MAPA will entitle you to one chance to win. The drawing will be October 17, at 4:00 p.m. You do not have to be present to win. If you would like an opportunity to win this beautiful quilt, please contact one of the MAPA members. The quilt is on display at Dessie's.

Our project for town improvement this year is a plaque to be placed in the Brow Park. Jim Lyday and I requested, and received, permission from the Town Council to proceed with our plans. We hope to include a map of the area viewed from the brow, identifying points of interest and a short history of some of them. We will be reporting more on this as we finalize plans and present them to the Council for approval.

Hope to see you at the Colorfest, the third weekend in October, October 15, 16, and 17.

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ASSOCIATION (MAPA)
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1/6 Page	\$ 60.00
1/8 Page	\$ 40.00
Business Card Size	\$ 25.00
Classified Ads (minimum of 3 lines)	\$ 1.00 per line
Set up charges	
Photos: \$5.00 initial shot	
No charge if the ad is camera-ready	
Changes: \$2.50 up depending on the extent of the change	
We will negotiate prices for a long-term contract on ads.	

Mentone Council Notes

The Mentone town council met on September 15 and discussed water issues, authorized the purchase of a new copier, and heard a request from the Mentone Area Preservation Association to install an historical plaque at the Brow Park. Several items were set over to the October 4, 1999 meeting at 7 p.m.

Bids on the ARC project to install an 8" line from Tutwiler Gap to Cutler Avenue, and to upgrade the pumping station, were advertised in The Times-Journal on Sept. 15, 21, 28. All bids are due by 10 AM, October 5, at which time they will be opened at the Mentone Town Hall.

SPORTS AFIELD

By
PHIL HARRIS



NATIONAL SPORTS AT A GLANCE

Auto Racing: Mark Martin won the MBNA Gold 400 at Dover, Delaware. Martin dominated most of the race. Dale Jarrett still leads the NASCAR points championship. Martin and Tony Stewart are within striking distance. They need some misfortune from Jarrett to have a chance.

Baseball: The Atlanta Braves have clinched the National League east championship. The Braves have battled through injuries that would put most teams into a tail spin. Destiny comes to mind, when thinking about the 1999 Atlanta Braves. A World Series title makes them the team of the nineties. What a great decade for Braves fans after years of frustration.

Pro Football: The NFL has been turned upside down. Last year's elite have become the great pretenders. Atlanta, Minnesota, Denver, and the New York Jets have combined for one win in three weeks. St. Louis, Dallas, Indianapolis, Washington, Miami, and Tennessee are among the early season surprises.

College Football: National champion Tennessee fell in the swamp against Florida. The Gators are tough, yet beatable. Florida State looks to be the only team that's near unbeatable. Penn State and Michigan are too slow for the likes of Florida and Florida State. Tennessee may be in the national championship mix, if they win out.

The SEC has been topsy-turvy. Alabama lost to Louisiana Tech to put Mike Dubose on the hot seat. Then, they turned around and surprised Arkansas. Tennessee fell to Florida and then nearly lost to Memphis. Auburn drilled LSU and lost at home to Ole Miss. Vanderbilt is 3-1, yes Vandy is 3-1! Mississippi State has a chance to be 11-0. They will not see Tennessee, Florida, and Georgia. The Tide needs a good showing at Florida, if they plan to challenge Miss. State in the west.

Groundhog Top Ten: 1. Florida State 2. Florida 3. Penn State 4. Tennessee 5. Nebraska 6. Texas A&M 7. Michigan 8. Virginia Tech 9. Georgia Tech 10. Georgia.

SPORTS ON THE SCENE

The 1999 DeKalb County prep football season has hit the midway point. Same ole story: Plainview is on top and Valley Head is on bottom. Here is a brief look at area races around the county.

1A Area 14: Collinsville (4-1) is well on the way to an 8-1 season. They need to defeat Gaylesville (1-4) and Cedar Bluff (2-3), and will, in time. The Trojans and Tigers play for second place in the next to last game.

2A Area 13: Geraldine (4-1) is a big surprise. Once a doormat, now the area favorite. Sand Rock (3-2) and West End (4-1) make up the three teams playing for two area spots. Cleveland is destined to finish last.

2A Area 14: Fyffe (4-1) is 2-0 in area play. The Devils are a pleasant surprise. Paul Benefield just reloads, instead of rebuilding. Section (4-1) is looking for a first winning season since 1991. They need to win over Ider and Valley Head for the area runner-up spot. They lost to Fyffe 20-14. Ider (1-4) picked up win number one over Valley Head (0-5) last week. The Tigers have to beat Gaylesville or it's 0-9. Valley Head's other three opponents--Geraldine, Collinsville, and Section are a combined 12-3.

3A Area 10: Ashville (4-1) is the class of the area. Crossville (3-2) and Litchfield (1-4) face off the final week for the area runner-up spot, probably. Saint Clair County (3-2) is better. Sardis (0-5) owns the state's longest losing streak.

3A Area 16: Plainview (5-0) is at it again. Coach Dale Pruitt was supposed to have a down year. The Bears have a shot at 10-0. Sylvania (4-1) is 2-0 in area play, and gets Plainview at home the final week. If Plainview knocks off Pisgah, the Rams and Bears play for the area title. Pisgah (2-3) still plays New Hope (2-3) and North Sand Mountain (0-5).

Wins mean at least third place. The Eagles must beat Plainview to keep playoff hopes alive this week.

5A Area 15: Johnson and North Jackson are 2-0 in area play. Scottsboro (4-1) and Buckhorn are 1-1, and Fort Payne and Hazel Green are 0-2. Scottsboro lost to Johnson and needs to win out to make the playoffs. North Jackson and Johnson tangle next week for area supremacy. Fort Payne (2-3) and Hazel Green can spoil playoff hopes for others.

Big games coming up:

OCTOBER 1:

Collinsville vs. Cedar Bluff (1A Area 14, title on the line)

Fyffe vs. Sylvania (Benefield faces former team, Rams are tough)

Pisgah vs. Plainview (Eagles must win to keep playoff hopes alive. Bears could go 2-0 in area)

Fort Payne vs. Scottsboro (Always a great game)

OCTOBER 8:

Sand Rock vs. West End (Winners get leg up in area race)

Fyffe vs. Ider (Fyffe goes for area title)

Crossville vs. Ashville (Tall order for Lions, area title on the line)

Johnson vs. North Jackson (5A area 15 title may go to winner)

OCTOBER 15:

Gaylesville vs. Valley Head (If VHL loses, it could be first winless season in school history)

West End vs. Geraldine (The Dogs can prove they are for real)

Plainview vs. Fyffe (Neighbors that are not neighborly)

Idler vs. Section (Area runner-up goes to the winner)

OCTOBER 22:

Gaylesville vs. Cedar Bluff (Winner makes playoffs in 1A)

Sand Rock vs. Geraldine (2A area title may be decided tonight)

Scottsboro vs. North Jackson (May decide playoff berth, great rivalry)

OCTOBER 29:

Geraldine vs. Cedar Bluff (Shapes up to be a good one)

Crossville vs. Litchfield (3A playoff berth on the line)

Plainview vs. Sylvania (3A area 16 title to the winner)

The Valley Head Pee Wee Tiger teams have two games remaining on the regular season schedule: at home against Pisgah on October 2nd, and on the road against North Sand Mountain October 9th. The 9-10 year old team is 2-3. The 11-12 year olds are 1-4.

Mentone's mens softball team is fairing pretty well in the fall softball league. They are 5-3 going into the 1st half of the season. Team members are: Jason Goss, Leslie O'Tinger, Kevin Worthey, Bobby Browder, Chuck Flannigan, Chris Smith, Van Battles, J.J. Wigley, Phil Harris, Charlton Bell, Tommy Harrison, Jeremy Keith, and Steve Hester.

That does it for another month. God Bless!



Happy Birthday



Austin DeFur

Austin DeFur celebrated his 3rd birthday on July 19th. His parents are Perry and Jennifer DeFur of Harrison, TN. Austin's grandparents are Benny and Barbara Palmer of Valley Head and Bob and Barbara DeFur of Harrison, TN. Some friends attending Austin's party were Miranda and Will Smith, Sam Cartee, and Taylor Lovelace.



Frank Kirk, Robert Kirk, and Roy Kirk
ROBERT LEROY KIRK
1926 - 1999

By Amelia Kirk Lolli

Robert Leroy Kirk (nickname Roy), was born to Robert Lee Kirk and Lola May, on September 13, 1926, in Douglas Bisbee, Arizona. His mother died when he was 9, so his dad raised him until he finally met his half brother, Frank Kirk, in 1942. Robert moved his son to San Diego after Mabel finally located Frank's dad. If you have followed the story of Frank and Mabel Kirk (May 1999 issue of *The Groundhog*), you will remember Frank was an orphan and finally met his father in 1942.

Roy was a handsome 6'4", with a beautiful smile and personality, and Amelia thought she had a hunk of an uncle. Roy stayed in San Diego and worked part time as a bell hop at one of the hotels. After that, he decided exactly what he wanted to do--be part of the Hotel Management program. As soon as he graduated from San Diego High School, he moved to San Francisco and started school, working at nights as a bell hop. Roy worked through the years at the Holiday Lodge on Van Ness, The Palace Hotel, The Fairmont Hotel, and ended up as the manager of The Mark Hopkins Hotel.

He met so many people all those years. He worked the spot lights in the Venetian Room at the Fairmont to earn extra money. Through the years, Roy met Marge and Gower Champion, Tony Bennett, Wayne Newton, Peggy Lee, Frankie Avalon, George Murphy, Ida Lupino, Ethel Merman, Gene Kelly, Jack Webb, Rudy Vallee, Eddie Cantor, Marie Callas, Eddie Fisher, and the Emperor of Japan--Hirohito, just to name a few.

Roy's biggest hobby was OPERA. Until this past 2 years, he had heard and seen every opera ever performed and by all the different stars. He loved talking to Beverly Sills and Pavarotti. Roy traveled all over the world and especially loved New Orleans and THE MARDI GRAS--he went practically every year! Several times, Roy traveled to the Mardi Gras in Rio De Janerio.

Roy was interested in everything. He read book after book and remembered all he read. He could come up with all the names and dates--it was amazing. His main love was collecting antiques--mostly Oriental items; and he knew the history and everything behind them.

He loved to eat and I felt very honored when he took me to so many wonderful restaurants that I would have never known about if it weren't for him. I asked him one time why he never married. His answer was that he had dated a lot and one of his most frequent dates was Miss Peggy Lee; but he felt that, with the job he had and the traveling around, he didn't want the responsibility of a wife and perhaps children. "In the hotel business," he said, "you never know if you are going to stay or be let go if a new owner comes in."

Roy was a wonderful uncle--I'll never forget his love of life and positive attitude. He always had many stories to tell, but I could never get him to record all the things of interest that went on--that only he would know.

After fighting cancer for 2 years, Robert "Roy" LeRoy Kirk passed on July 22, 1999. He was buried at Little River Cemetery next to his brother, Frank, and sister-in-law, Mabel.

Mentone Grapevine II

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

The movie "Southern Heart" will be showing at the Hamilton Theater in Fort Payne, beginning Friday, October 22. See photo with the Moon Lake School News and the movie poster elsewhere in this issue.

Lydia Speed, affectionately known as Ma Speed to many here in Mentone, has now returned to the mountain. She previously resided at Alpine Camp and was involved with many of the early Mentone happenings. After selling her home here, she moved to Huntsville to be near her daughter, Pat Johnson, and Pat's family. Upon reassignment of Pat's husband to Germany, Lydia moved to the Fountains in Fort Payne. After 7 months there, she moved back to the mountain to be with another of her daughters, Mary Jay, and her husband, Bobby, who retired here from Indianapolis, IN. Lydia's current residence is 740 County Road 848, Mentone, on the East brow. Welcome back, Ma Speed!

Condolences to **Jo Beaubé** whose sister, **Obera Sullivan**, 71, passed away in Copper Hill, TN, on Sept. 14. Jo said, "She went to sleep and didn't wake up." Obera was living in the same nursing home as Jo's mother, Minnie Sullivan, who is 89.

Sam Franks has been busy since he moved to Signal Mountain, TN. He is currently teaching English to some Vietnamese families on Tues. and Thurs.; working at a retirement center on Mon., Wed. & Fri., in addition to all the other volunteer work he does for others because he cares. Sam also comes back to Mentone to visit. Sam, we miss you.

Seen visiting a recent Sunday buffet at Decatur County Club were retired **Lt. Col. Welborn and Jean Matthews**. They were joined by their granddaughters, Danville residents **Carrie and Katie Matthews**, and Jean's uncle, Arab resident **Dr. Ralph C. Hammond**, Alabama Poet Laureate Emeritus. The Matthews live at historic Winston Place (c. 1831), Jean's family home in Valley Head and at Harborview.

A few years ago, **Carrie and Katie Matthews** were named pages to the Kentucky Children of the American Revolution Convention. They are members of Jackson, Kentucky Chapter C.A.R., which is named for their ancestor, Phillip Hammond.

Becky Smith, daughter of Mr. Campbell Smith, returned to Jacksonville to finish her last year of college there. Becky is getting her teaching degree.

It is so sad to hear about the **Fischer house burning**. With lots of help and prayers from their many friends, they can put their lives back together after this awful tragedy.

Ed Ringer has been on the sick list, lately. He has been having problems with his hearing and has had to visit the doctor a couple of times this month. Remember him in your prayers.

Continue to keep the following on your prayer lists: **Kathryn Jones and Herman Jones, Rovene Truett, Arline Fowler**.

Sue and Bill Schwarz made a trip to Oakland, MD, to celebrate **George and Ruth Porter's** 60th anniversary (Sept. 17). Sue reported that her parents received many cards from their friends.

Congratulations (belated) to **Jack and Clara Coats**, who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on Sept. 27.

Thann Owens recently went through surgery for a knee problem. Hopefully, he will be back to his regular self soon and be able to return to school and to work. Thann is in the 11th grade at Sylvania High School and he works part-time at Quincys in Fort Payne. He is the cousin of Beth Moore.

Kerstin Formhals celebrated her 17th birthday on September 3rd. Kerstin sent an E-mail to her special sister, Beth Moore, informing her that she was very anxious to come back to the United States for a visit in the Spring of 2000.

Adriana Miranda, Beth's other special sister, also celebrated her birthday on September 24th.

Happy Belated Birthday to **Louise Harrison**, who celebrated her 29th (again) on September 29th. We hope she had a wonderful birthday.

The **Valley Head Band** is planning to march in the upcoming October Colorfest Parade in Mentone on October 16th.

Come out and join us in the parade.

Congratulations to young weather artist, **Chloe Griffith**, 7, of Mentone, whose drawing appeared in *The Times-Journal* on August 31.

Deepest sympathies to the families of the following who have passed away:

- Donny (Don) Wayne Castleberry, 57, Mentone, 9/3;
- Jerry Tishaw, 43, Mentone, 9/3;
- Robert "Bob" W. McCord, 74, Ft. Payne, 9/6;
- Troy Blevins, 72, Valley Head, 9/11;
- Mrs. Terry Susan Douthat, 53, Mentone, 9/12;
- Gertrude Virginia Stalvey Daniel, 66, Valley Head, 9/15;
- Mrs. Hattie Beatrice (Honey) Tishaw, 71, Pisgah, formerly of Mentone, 9/19;
- Rev. Dennis Mays, 78, Mentone/Fort Payne, 9/27.

There was a beautiful memorial service on the brow in Mentone for **Terry Douthat**, wife of Richard Douthat of Mentone, who lost her fight with cancer on Sept. 12. A song sung at the service was "Wish You Were Here." Terry is indeed in a better place; and it is so beautiful and so comforting in that place she wishes we could all be there with her.

The North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Department was called out to the fire at the old **Luther King Sr. house** on Cove Road (County Road 648) near Taylor's Ford on September 14. Both fire trucks were there, as well as members of the DeSoto Rescue Squad, trying to contain the fire. Despite their efforts, and due to the dry weather and the age of the house, it burned to the ground. No one was living in it at the time. Pluma King had also lived there prior to going to a nursing home. The house was over 100 years old.

Naomi Potts is still in DeKalb BMC following her admittance for an inner ear infection and related problems. We wish you a speedy recover, Naomi.

Happy belated 3rd Anniversary wishes to **Jason and Angie Goss**, who celebrated on September 28th.

Jean Gauld has moved to Birmingham to be with her son. We will miss you, Jean.

Erma McAdams returned from a 17-day trip through 11 states (TN, KA, MO, IA, IL, NE, ND, SD, MN, CO, WY) and into Winnipeg, Canada. She and her mother, Fay, of Chattanooga, took the trip together. Erma said, "It was absolutely wonderful and breathtakingly beautiful." They experienced snow while in Jackson Hole, WY. There were so many different birds and animals, including a "begging burro." Erma not only captured some of her trip on film, but also videotaped it. While Mentone was experiencing 90 degree weather, they were enjoying temperatures in the 50s and 60s.

Happy October Birthdays/Anniversaries to: •1- Ethan Hunt, Buddy Burnett, Katie Browder; •2- Lucille Knopps, Walt Pullen, Mandy Wells (16); •3- Hope Walker, Tammy (Hawkins) Pilson; •4- Elanor Glover; •5- Mack Flannigan, Tyler Harrison, Stephanie Hester, Anna Kirchbaum; •6- Lee Anne Parkison, Charles Hunt, Melody Whiserant; •7- Amber Hunt, Justin Pelletier; •8- Linda Brown, Millard McNutt, Kathryn Jones, Laura Pullen; •9- Audie Beason, Tom Tipton; •10- Allie Rhodes, Jimmy Worthey; •11- Jeff Cooper, Jeremiah Robertson; •12- Gertrude Cox, Ronnie & Kathy Robertson (Anniv.); •13- John Foreman, Treana (Davis) Lacey; •14- Ashley Blalock, Tina Langston, Robert Hall; •15- Barbara Weber, Polly Chambers, David (Tater) Hopper, Lanita Allen, Robert Hall, Tina Langston; •16- Shannon Rains; •17- Renae Langston, Alisha Busby; •18- Joe Gregory and Ethel Manifold-Gregory, Alisha McElhane, Ken Busby, Holly Kitchens; •20- Harry Hopper; •21- Raymond Brown, Rodney Moore; •23- Joey Dillenbeck, Edith Dean, Kathy Robertson; •25- Jo Bain; •26- Jeff Harrison, Jon Whisenant, Dennis & Sherry Lewis (Anniv.); •28- Wesley Frost, Paul Achley, Florence Mays; •29- Mrs. Louise Harrison; •30- Nell (Kent) Reed, Jennifer Hester, Elisabeth Evans; •31- Paul Blalock, Billy Clark, Aubrey Cash, John Dean, Danny (Oyder) Smith.

A wonderful gift has been pledged to the Moon Lake School for the new library. A donor has pledged to match funds up to \$50,000 for the construction of a new library. Ideas are needed to raise the funds. See the flyer elsewhere. Anyone wishing to make a donation may do so by sending it to Moon Lake School, New Library Fund, P.O. Box 166, Mentone, AL 35984. Contact the school to help with the raising of these funds. Let's match the \$50,000 and raise even more to construct this library that will serve the entire community, not just the school. Let's put the amount over the top!



In Loving Memory of Dr. Pat Seymour

This is the 3rd anniversary (October 6, 1996) of the death of Dr. Pat Seymour. Your friends want you to know that you are missed and we wish you were still with us. Many things have happened in Mentone since you were called home. You are rejoicing with many of the loved ones who also have been called home. We know you wish we were all there, too.

While you were here on earth, you spent your life teaching everyone that they are somebody and that God loves them. You inspired people to read, read, read. Before your untimely death, you had hoped to see a new library constructed at Moon Lake School to replace the trailer that has served as the library for many years. You already know that a generous donor has pledged a sum of money to be used exclusively for the new library at Moon Lake. When the community raises \$50,000, this donor will match it. Where are you when we need you to give us ideas to raise money for this worthy project? You dedicated your life to teaching people of all ages. You were a master at inspiring people and raising funds for worthwhile causes. God gave you many talents, and you used them wisely--a good and faithful servant, indeed (Matt. 23: 21,23).

We do miss you and thank you for the encouraging words that you so freely bestowed upon all those about you. You will never be forgotten by those you have touched.

"Thanks for being there!"

We need your help!

Moon Lake School & PTO needs your help on ideas to raise funds needed for our new school/community library. We have someone who will contribute \$50,000 but we must match this amount! If you have any ideas on how to raise this money, please contact:

Dr. Bill Berry
Moon Lake School
P.O. Box 166
Mentone, AL 35984
(256) 634-4113

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About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



I seem to be just like a bad penny. I keep returning. When Marie realized that the camping season at Camp Laney was over, she asked me if I had an article ready. As always, I said no. I never have them ready when she needs them. The summer was a great one for me. The season at camp was a good one. I really enjoyed my new home and especially my yard and garden this year. With Carol and Bobby's help, I now have three flower beds and various shrubs planted everywhere. We found that we developed flower beds much like my grandmother did, we just put things in the ground. No rhyme or reason to it. You know, it looked pretty good. In a few places, the higher plants overshadowed the smaller ones, but I will move some things next year.

Do you remember the line from the movie, "Field of Dreams," that states, "If you build it, they will come." This summer I found that, "if you feed them, they will come" is also true. I'm talking about humming birds. We have three feeders hanging among some lantanas on the back porch. We first had two or three hummingbirds stopping by. Next thing we knew we had so many we could not keep the feeders full. We have counted (as close as you can count hummingbirds) at least fifty on some of the hot summer days. We are now back down to two or three. I suppose they have left for Mexico or wherever it is that hummingbirds go in the winter.

Mentone just keeps moving along at a slow leisurely pace. Sometimes so slow that we don't realize we are progressing and growing. All of the new water lines are now in place and operating. We did not run out of water this summer. I understand the tanks were very low some days and we were very close to having the water turned off for a while. Thanks to Jimmy Worthey for the great job he is doing with the water department. I'm sure it was through his efforts that we were able to have water without interruption this summer.

So many things are happening that it's hard to keep up with all of them. The Town of Mentone has applied for a grant to construct a walking trail and a walking bridge across Little River. We may not get the grant and it may never happen, but we could not see any harm in trying. The original idea was for a walking trail to begin where the present sidewalk ends and continue to the Community House. We quickly found that the grant would not cover the trail and a bridge across the river. We applied for a grant for the bridge and a portion of the walking trail, this year, and will apply for the remainder of the

trail at a later date. Some people in town had some opposition to the trail. Their main concern was that it would be hard to maintain and would be on their property. If there is ever a trail, it will be only on the state right-of-way on Highway 117, and it will be maintained by the town. Others raised the question as to why we didn't apply for the grant and use the money to widen or improve the present bridge. Those of you who have had experience with grants know that you use the funds only for what you stated in the application. Highway 117 is a state highway and no agency except the State of Alabama has the authority to repair, replace or change that bridge.

A question of rezoning a portion of Highway 117 was recently considered by the Mentone Zoning Commission. The request was to change the zoning requirements from residential to business. After much discussion and soul searching, the commission's decision was to leave it as it is. But, there may come a time that we do have to allow more room for growth in the town. We hope if and when that time comes we can do it without disturbing the quaint charm that is Mentone's legacy. Many people seem to think that all of the agencies that operate in the town are set up against the majority of the citizens. Nothing could be further from the truth. These agencies are all composed of people who live in Mentone and who are very concerned with doing what is best for all concerned. None of these positions have any pay attached (with the exception of Mentone Town Council—the pay for that is \$10.00 a month, if you attend the meetings!) The next time you are tempted to criticize someone or some actions of these agencies, stop and ask yourself if you are willing to serve in that capacity.

I've heard enough complaints by now to know that some of you say, "Why don't they let everyone do exactly what they want to do?" If we did, Mentone might be the ones now fighting to keep hog raising operations from developing in your backyard. We might be fighting to keep a garbage dump from being established in your backyard. The list is endless. Just remember that you don't own the land next to yours and you can't control what the owner does with it. I would like to see some zoning done by DeKalb County, but I don't know enough about this to know if that is possible. This might stop some of the bad things that happen to those who do not live in the corporate limits of any city.

Can you believe how dry it is? I can't remember the last time it rained. My grandchildren have a kitten who is half grown and he has never seen rain! Everyone who has cattle or horses has been feeding hay for about a month now. This should not have to be done until at least November. All of the yards and gardens have dried up and died long ago. There seems to be a high pressure system sitting on top of us and, until it moves, we will not get rain. I don't like to complain because the crisp, cool days are so enjoyable, but I also know how stressed all of the trees and plants are without water.

I am glad to be back writing this article and if you have a subject or question you want discussed, let me know. I'll research it and give it a try.

I love you, Mimi.



The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ



I was looking for ideas for this column this month (September) and decided to share two recipes that I have enjoyed and which take advantage of some of those wonderful peppers that are so plentiful this time of year. Please remember to be careful in handling hot peppers. If you are dealing with a lot of them, use latex gloves because the peppers will really burn. One is a Pear Relish, which is good with meats, but I really like it with beans, especially pintos or field peas of any kind. The other recipe is for Hot Pepper Jelly. I especially enjoy it as a snack with cream cheese and triscuits or any favorite cracker. The best pears for the relish are those nice old fashioned ones that are coming on like gangbusters soon. Enjoy them and enjoy this beautiful time of the year.

PEAR RELISH - Anita Lippitt

4 pounds pears (4 cups)
6 medium onions, chopped
3 cups sugar
12 green peppers, chopped
3 cups vinegar
5 hot red peppers (chopped)
3 cups vinegar
2 T salt
1½ teaspoons celery seeds
whole allspice

Combine all ingredients in a large pot and bring to a boil. Simmer 30 to 40 minutes, stirring often. Ladle into hot jars and seal. Makes 6 pints.

HOT PEPPER JELLY - Mrs. Hugh Papy

6½ cups of sugar
1½ cups vinegar
1 bottle Certo
a few drops of green food coloring
¼ cup green bell peppers ground in a blender with juice. (Use at least 6 bell peppers, seeds and all and let the juice drain before measuring the ¼ cup.)
¼ cup hot peppers ground (about 8 hot peppers such as jalapeno or if you are really adventurous you can try some of the others.)

Add the bell peppers and the hot peppers together and grind in the blender. What you want remaining is one cup of juice after you have strained the pulp out through a strainer. To this one cup of juice, add the vinegar and sugar. Bring to a full boil and let boil for only 2 MINUTES. Remove from stove and let stand 10 minutes. (Skim off scum) Add 1 bottle of Certo and a few drops of green food coloring. Let stand 10 more minutes and then pour into jars. After jelling, seal each jar with wax. Makes 7 half pints.

(Editor's note: column submitted too late for Sept. issue.)

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The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

The last week of summer seemed to be the best one of the season. It finally got a little cooler and we had a little rain. Our potted plants have seemed to take a second growth and bloomed profusely after the weather cooled. The Impatiens and Geraniums are especially colorful. Their beautiful colors help to brighten the day.

Our little great grandson, Alex Whitley, is a lively four-year-old who brightens the morning with his chatter. The minute he awakes he is talking to his Mom about whatever comes to his mind. He loves to peep down through the railings upstairs and call me to tell me something. He makes what would be an ordinary day a bright cheerful one. Older people need the presence of children to cheer them with their sweet innocent little minds. It would be good for little ones to go with adults to visit those people in the nursing homes. Programs could be arranged so that their bright little faces could bring some bit of joy to those who are lonely and sad.

Alex is all boy, and he tolerates me pretty well, but he adores his Papaw and follows him just like a shadow. He wants to help him, be it driving a nail, shoveling sand, watering plants etc. One day he had helped his grandfather unload a pickup truck load of sand that Homer was going to use to mix cement. He used the shovel just like a man and told me he was helping Papaw work. I looked out a little later and he was carrying the shovel up on his shoulder and marching across the yard saying "Hup, Two, Three, Four! He had been drafted! Alex goes to a day care center in Ft. Payne every day so his Mother can work, and he is ready to go early each morning. He doesn't seem to mind the early hour at all, and he enjoys his friends at the center. He learns a good deal there. He came in one day singing "Row Row Your Boat" He loves the outdoors, big trucks, big machinery, and anything with wheels. Maybe he will become a mechanical engineer, if the love of machinery means anything. So tell me about your grandchildren.

It seems like such a short time since I was reading stories to his mother. Now we are, she and I, reading some of the same

stories to the next generation.

Homer and I have been "saleing", which seems to take most of our spare time. For the past month estate sales have kept us busy every week-end. It is fun to purchase small useful things we can use at home, anywhere from kitchen utensils to beautiful embroidered linens and bathroom towels. My shop is pretty well stocked in preparation for more tourists during October. Our Colorfest brings many people and some of them buy from our local shops. It is hard to determine what people will purchase but we keep trying to find things that will suit different tastes. In an estate sale one never knows what will be offered because each household is different. The person's lifestyle is the key to what is offered for sale. My main interest is beautiful china, cut glass and crystal, or a good piece of antique furniture. People who are involved in sports would not have the type of things I like, but some would like golf clubs or old fishing lures....

This month is full of activity. The weather is nice--cool at night and warm during the day. There are county and state fairs in many places, auctions, music festivals, football games, etc.

I haven't gone to Virginia to the apple country yet, nor even to Eljay, Georgia, which is near us, and has all sorts of good apples. It is a wonderful scenic drive through this north Georgia territory and on to Helen where they have a big Octoberfest, much like they would have in the Bavarian country in Europe. All along the road leading to Helen there are fruit stands with all sorts of produce to sell and big black pots of peanuts boiling are enticing. David Baker had boiled peanuts at The Shed here in Mentone and perhaps he will offer them again and add hot cider to go with them. It is time for a journey to other territory. You can see that I am running out of material. Maybe next time some inspiration will seize me and better stories.

Stop by & chat with Bernise at

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Donnie "Don" Wayne Castleberry
April 6, 1942 - September 3, 1999

By Bernise Crow

My brother, Donnie Wayne Castleberry, passed away September 3. It has left a sadness in my life that is very hard to overcome. Don was much younger than me and I always thought of him as my baby brother until he retired from the Navy and came back home to Mentone. He did so much repair work on the Hitching Post that is a memorial to me. Everywhere I look, I see his handiwork. He planted flowers for me every spring and they were always carefully selected and were beautiful. He did gardening and landscaping for many people in this area, including Sam Franks and Bobby Lee Cook. We will all miss him.

Don was born here at Mentone, went to school at Moon Lake and graduated from Valley Head High. He attended Berry College two years, and then joined the Navy. While in the Navy, he finished college with a degree in psychology. He spent 25 years, most of which was on submarines, before retiring with honor. His last two years were spent teaching other men to do his type of work.

Don was always happy to get back to the mountain when visiting his parents, Fred and Tennie Castleberry. He said, when he started up the mountain, a load seemed to lift off his shoulders, and he felt light and free.

Don was a great lover of nature from his early childhood. I can remember when he had what looked like a laboratory in the woods near his home. He used one of mother's old dressers to put terrariums on and boxes or whatever he could find to place various sized containers full of plants or small animal life. He carefully watched and studied them. I shall never forget how neatly he kept this little hideaway of his. He would never destroy any animal life. He carefully guarded and protected them. He studied birds and could recognize them by their song or by their colors. I miss him so much when an interesting bird comes to the feeder that I cannot identify. He loved hiking the woods and studying the many varieties of wildflowers at trees. We used to walk in the pasture area at the Raven Hove which was his home for several years, and he would tell me about every plant growing there--many wildflowers. He at Terry Hutcheson used to walk the Appalachian Trail in the Smokey Mountains, and how he loved to do that! Don loved the quiet simple life that so many visitors to Mentone enjoy. He did not care for crowds, but loved to converse with a few friends who shared his interests.

After his retirement from the Navy, he seemed mature; a difference in our ages didn't seem so great. I thoroughly enjoyed my brother and was very proud of him. He was a good listener, which made one enjoy being with him. He was an avid reader and kept a book near him at all times. He would borrow them from the Book Room at the Hitching Post, like Mrs. Je. Whitehead used to do. It was ironic that the day he peacefully went to sleep in his chair at home, from which he did not wake, the book, For Whom The Bell Tolls, was lying on the table beside him. I thought of the quote in the book by Ernest Hemingway, "For whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee."

The memorial service held at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church was beautiful and uplifting. It was a celebration of his life. I sang southern gospel songs that he loved. Sam Franks gave eulogy well, commenting on Don's landscaping work he had done for him and about the great friendship between them. I drove him to Birmingham for many of his treatments.

May you rest in peace, dear brother, and be free to enjoy beauty of things you have read about.

LETTER TO MY FRIENDS

Dear Friends,

By now I'm sure that most of you know that my husband, Don Castleberry, passed away on Friday, September 3, 1999. He died at our home here in Mentone where I feel sure he preferred, rather than at a hospital hooked up to IVs and monitors.

Don was diagnosed with esophageal cancer in January of this year and, after 9 weeks of intensive chemotherapy and radiation treatments, we thought we had it beat. But another small tumor appeared in the lymph node in his neck, and this time the cancer grew and spread so fast to other parts of his body that there just wasn't time to get it under control. From the time he noticed soreness in his neck until his death was only a matter of about 6 weeks.

To those of you who did not know about the arrangements for his memorial service in time to actually attend, I'm sorry. Don passed away at the beginning of a holiday weekend, so it delayed things getting in the paper. Also, we had to wait to plan the service until we knew when his daughter, Leah, would be arriving from Maine.

The purpose of this letter, besides letting you know the generalities of his battle with cancer, is to thank you. Since Don retired from the Navy and we moved here in 1987, I have felt accepted and welcomed into this little community. I have grown to appreciate and love Mentone as much, I think, as anyone can. I have made a lot of friends over the last 12 years. Just how many, I have become acutely aware of in the last few weeks. Since Don's death, you all have been here in support for me and our children. You have freely given food, money, words of comfort and sometimes a shoulder to cry on. And even before his death, during all of his medical treatments, you have been there. Between making sure our kids got picked up from school, or occupying them for several hours on a Saturday or Sunday when I had to take Don to the hospital, to actually taking Don to Birmingham for doctor appointments, tests and treatments when I couldn't—you have been there. And I can't thank you enough.

And for letting me know that, even though your native son Don is no longer with us, this "darn yankee" and her kids are welcome to stay here and continue to call Mentone home, again—I can't thank you enough. To even come close to naming all of you, I would have to get the Mentone phone book out and just list the names. And that still wouldn't cover everyone. There are those people I work for and Don worked for who are not year round residents of Mentone. And I can't forget to mention the members of my Church family at St. Joseph's on the Mountain Episcopal Church. To each and every one of you who have so unselfishly given your support to me, our children, his children and his family—Thank You from the bottom of my heart!

Here, I also have to inject a personal thank you to Sam Franks and Ben Hardy who God gave the unenviable task of being with Don when he passed away. Sam was going to come visit Don on Sunday but something or someone, and I believe it could only have been God, told him he needed to come now. And when Ben called and Sam told him how sick Don was, he came right over. I will always regret not being here myself, but I am ever so grateful that Don had two of his closest friends with him.

And also a personal thank you to Sam, Ben and Terry Hutcheson for the kind and uplifting words spoken about Don at his memorial service. Don's memorial service was beautiful thanks to them and several others—Coy Crow, Barry Crow, Doreen Waters, LouAnne Johns and Al Cherbonneau—all came together to make a sad occasion special.

Don died too young. He was only 57. And I know when he retired from the Navy 12 years ago his dream was to return to Mentone and have a home place he could enjoy for many years to come. Little do any of us know, though, when God will call us to our real home with him.

Though he is gone from us, his memory will live on—through his children and, as Sam, Ben and Terry said at his memorial service, through the tree half way up the mountain that is a sign it's time to plant in the spring, and in the many beautifully landscaped yards he put his touch to. As for me, when I see the red buds along the road coming up the mountain start to pop out every spring, his memory will be very strong. He waited and watched every year for those glorious little pink flowers to make their entrance. He loved spring.

Winter is upon us. Perhaps it is fitting that Don passed from this world to the next at the beginning of winter. For now, all of us who cared for him must, like the earth, go through a dormant period. A period of mourning for the one we loved. And perhaps in the spring, as the earth begins to renew itself, so we, too, will begin to heal and renew. Perhaps when the red buds begin to appear. Perhaps.

With Love and Gratitude, Lynn



DeKalb County Superintendent of Education, Charles Land, Dr. Bill Berry, Moon Lake Elementary School Principal, and State Representative Todd Greeson. Representative Greeson presented a \$2,000 check to Dr. Berry for use as needed. The funds will go toward the completion of the PTO project—the gym entrance and sidewalk.

MOON LAKE SCHOOL NEWS

On Monday, October 11, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, everyone is invited to Moon Lake School to participate in the state-wide "Discover Your School" program. All local citizens are encouraged to explore Moon Lake and make some new discoveries about the school and its activities. The evening will feature a scavenger hunt, displays of student work, food, and fun.

Thursday, October 21, Kindergarten and first graders will be visiting a pumpkin patch where they will enjoy a nature hike, a cookout, and a hayride, and each student will bring home a pumpkin.

As the gym renovation project draws near to completion, Moon Lake is shifting its focus toward

making plans for its new library which will serve students and other citizens of Mentone.

A generous donation up to \$50,000 has been offered for the construction of a new library. The donor will match funds up to \$50,000 that are raised for the new library. The school is very thankful and thrilled by this generous pledge. Everyone is encouraged to spread the word and to help raise the funds to make the new library a reality very soon.

Anyone wishing to make a donation may do so by sending it to Moon Lake School, New Library Fund, P.O. Box 166, Mentone, AL 35984.

The annual Harvest Festival will be Saturday, November 6. Other information concerning the festival will be given later when plans are finalized.



We need your help!

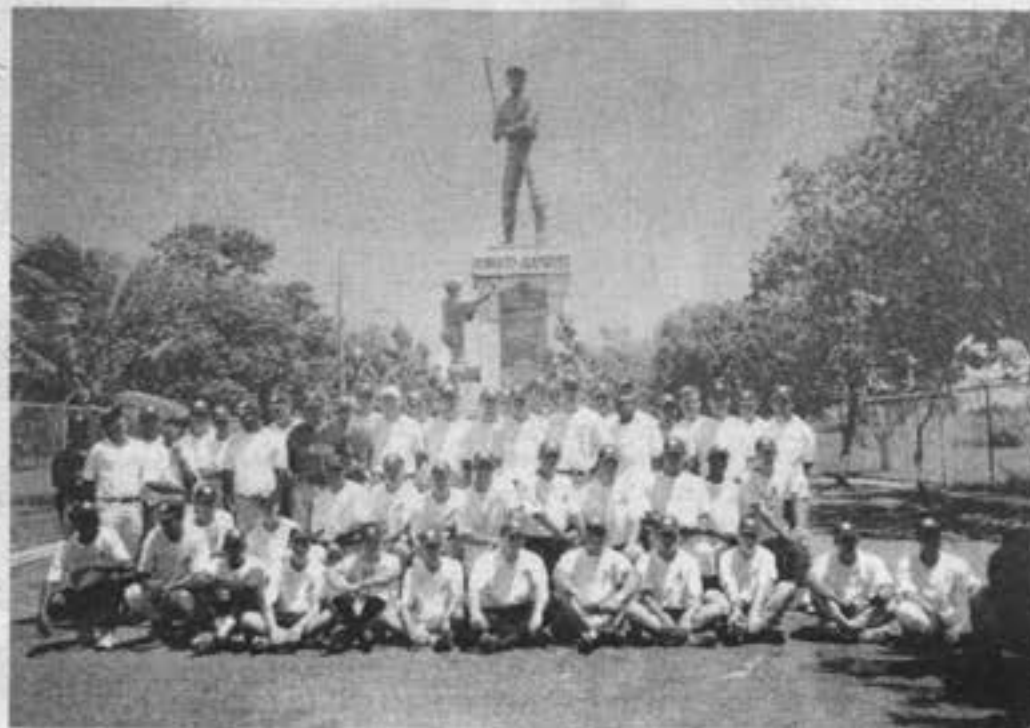


Moon Lake School & PTO needs your help on ideas to raise funds needed for our new school/community library. We have someone who will contribute \$50,000 but we must match this amount! If you have any ideas on how to raise this money, please contact:

**Dr. Bill Berry
Moon Lake School
P.O. Box 166
Mentone, AL 35984
(256)634-4113**



Valley Head's James Wells and Greg Hawkins Represent U.S. Against Puerto Rico's Top Baseball Teams



James Wells

James Wells of Moon Lake Elementary School recently returned from the ultimate road trip—seven days competing with the Roberto Clemente All-Stars against some of Puerto Rico's toughest amateur teams.

After meeting his All-Star teammates in San Juan on August 1, Wells, 11, took part in a rigorous training and game schedule that included instruction from former major leaguers and top college coaches. Wells traveled to remote mountain villages, bustling cities, and seaside towns to test his skills against his Latin peers. He even got the opportunity to

train at one of Puerto Rico's premier Astroturf fields, Hiram Bithorn Stadium.

The local competition was strong, yet Wells's team, made up of 14 players from across the U.S., went 2-3. Not bad, considering that they played against squads whose alumni include Ivan Rodriguez, Bernie Williams, and Juan Gonzalez. During the week, Wells received high praise from his coaches for his excellent contributions on the field.

After some games, the All-Stars spent time with the local players and their families, ate authentic cuisine like "arroz con pollo," (rice with chicken) and learned about the island's rich history and distinct culture.

When they weren't playing ball, the players toured famous sights like historic Old San Juan and 500 year old El Morro Fort, and participated in a series of seminars and goal-setting workshops.

During the trip, the players learned about Clemente's life first-hand from seven-time Gold Glove first-baseman, Vic Power, and former Baltimore Orioles scout and teammate of Clemente on Puerto Rico's national team, German

Rivera. The pros spoke to the All-Stars about Clemente's tremendous humanitarian spirit and how his influence is still felt throughout the world even 27 years after he was tragically killed flying emergency supplies to Nicaraguan earthquake victims.

Roberto Clemente, who is regarded as the greatest right fielder to ever play the game, won the National League batting title four times, collected 12 Gold Glove Awards, hit .317 lifetime, and led the Pirates to a world championship during his 18-year career (1955-1972). But it was Clemente's accomplishments off the field that inspired the All-Stars to name this program after him.



Greg Hawkins

Greg Hawkins of Valley Head High School, recently returned from the ultimate road trip—seven days competing with the Roberto Clemente All-Stars against some of Puerto Rico's toughest amateur teams.

After meeting his All-Star teammates in San Juan on August 8, Hawkins, 18, took part in a rigorous training and game schedule that included instruction from former major leaguers and 16 top college coaches. Hawkins traveled to remote mountain villages, bustling cities, and seaside towns to test his skills against his Latin peers. He even got the opportunity

to train at two of Puerto Rico's premier Astroturf fields, Hiram Bithorn stadium and Sola Morales Stadium.

The local competition was strong, yet Hawkins's team, made up of 13 players from across the U.S., went 3-2. Not bad, considering that they played against squads whose alumni include Ivan Rodriguez, Bernie Williams, and Juan Gonzalez. During the week, Hawkins received high praise from his coaches for his excellent contributions on the field.

Clemente dedicated his life to helping those less fortunate. He provided free baseball clinics for children, worked tirelessly to organize relief efforts for disaster victims, and helped build bridges of friendship and understanding between the people of Puerto Rico and the world.

The Roberto Clemente All-Stars offer trips to Puerto Rico for 10-19 year old baseball players during spring, summer, and winter school vacations. Players are selected at regional tryouts or by college coach recommendations. To receive more information, interested players should call 800-723-6398 or visit www.clementeallstars.com



Jacob and Matthew Terrell attend University of Alabama

Jacob and Matthew Terrell, sons of Mike and Barbara Terrell of Valley Head are both students at the University of Alabama. Jacob is a junior majoring in International Business Management and the Japanese language. He plans to study in Japan next year at Kan Sai Gai Dai University in Osaka, Japan. He has a knack for languages as evidenced by the fact that he is also studying Korean and Arabic this year. After returning to the states, he hopes to attend law school. Matthew is a freshman also majoring in International Business Management and minoring in Personnel Administration. He plans to study the Chinese language while at the University. Both of the Terrell brothers are graduates of Ft. Payne High School.



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(6) COUNTRY SOPHISTICATION! One look is all it will take for you to fall in love with this custom built home in the mountains. Only 4 years old with 3 BR, 2 baths, CHIA, 2 car garage, deck, built-in appliances, custom made cabinets and much more! Call today. Only \$129,000.



(7) EVERYTHING YOU COULD WANT IN A MOUNTAIN HOME! You'll fall in love with this house at first sight. Beautiful pine floors, Mountain rock fireplace, screened sleeping porch, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, central heat and air, and lighted decks going all the way down to the river. Don't miss your chance! \$175,000.



(8) ALMOST NEW CHALET - 2 bdrms - 2 baths detached garage - cable, just minutes from Valley Head School. \$53,500.



(9) CHECK YOUR OPTIONS in this 3 bedroom, 3 bath home featuring living room, dining room, 2 dens, sunroom overlooking L-shaped in-ground pool and 3 car garage with storage room, and fenced yard. Attractively priced at \$150,000.



(10) OVER 100 YEAR OLD FARMHOUSE - offering 5 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces, large eat-in kitchen, wrap-around porch and 3 out buildings. All on 18 acres with creek, pasture and woods \$88,000.



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(12) OWNER ARE ANXIOUS TO SELL. A magical moment happens when you enter this wonderful 4-year-old log home close to DeSoto State Park. Secluded in the woods, you can enjoy the large porches, the pine floors, solid wood walls, high ceilings with spacious loft room, and beautiful landscaping. A perfect get-away location, but only minutes from town. Enter today. \$159,500.



(13) LAKE ON THE BROW - Panoramic view of the valley and at one point Lake Weiss. Three bedroom, 2-1/2 bath custom built home with stacked rock foundation and fireplace with inside wood storage. Pella windows, corian counter tops and sink, skylights, track and recessed lighting, professional landscaping...too many extras to list. Call today for all the details. \$368,800.



(14) PARADISE FOUND—Privately situated on 26 acres, this rustic home has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, a beautiful in-ground pool, rock fireplace, screened porches, large basement, a three-car garage with spacious garage apartment, and gorgeous landscaping. Close to Little River Canyon—the property has a creek running through it and plenty of places for hiking and enjoying nature. \$175,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

- (15) WEEKEND OR WEEKLY RENTAL available. 3 bdrms and 2 baths will accommodate 8 people. For more information, call Susan Collins.
- (16) 10 ACRE TRACTS - gently rolling-heavily wooded-with creek. Close to downtown Mentone on private road. "Lightly" restricted. \$25,000.
- (17) MAKE THE MOVE TO MENTONE! Building lot on DeSoto Parkway - 200 feet of road frontage. \$10,000.
- (18) LAKE ON BROW - two great building lots. Over 1 acre Lake lot \$27,500. 1.4 acre Brow lot \$45,000.
- (19) TWO - 3 1/2 ACRE BROW LOTS just minutes from DeSoto State Park. \$40,000 each.
- (20) CANYON VIEW FOREST - 3 1/2 acre lot on the rim of Little River Canyon - Creek and Waterfall on property. \$34,500.
- (21) 1.75+ ACRES IN WEST FORK SUBDIVISION. \$28,500.
- (22) WEST FORK SUBDIVISION - Over 3 acres in West Fork Subdivision. This property is wooded and has a spring. Lightly restricted. \$15,000.
- (23) BROW PROPERTY - 2.64 +/- acres on the West Brow of Lookout Mountain. Located less than one mile from downtown Mentone. \$45,000.

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**A Friendly—
Valley
View**

By
ELOISE BROWN

Once more Summer has flown by with unbelievable speed before I seemed ready to receive and enjoy it. It seems Summers are getting shorter every year—but then—so are the weeks.

My cousins, **Bill and Blanche Fuller**, from Madison, AL, spent Sunday, Sept. 5, with me. We were joined by **Emily and Barry Brown** for dinner at the DeSoto Park dining room, then went by to see **Michelle and little John Robert Brown** and to see their and Robert D.'s house. We spent the rest of the afternoon at Barry and Emily's. "Little" Robert B. brought six big rattlesnake skins he had processed to show us.

Sue and Suzanne Mosley from Loganville, GA, and **Marilyn and Jamie Mercer** from Ringgold, GA, spent Labor day weekend with **Venna Livingston**. She is able to drive and go now, after suffering a broken hip.

Adelaide Biddle and **Mary Lou Carmichael** came from Dallas, GA, and **Elizabeth and Nelson Ellis**, from Rainsville. Mary Lou brought a birthday cake to help **Mary Holleman** celebrate her birthday. Their son, **John**, is spending three months with **Ted and Mary** while they are not well.

Norma Hulan's birthday gift from her husband was a Julene bus tour for herself and her mother, **Christine Brooks**, to Branson, MO. They saw several shows and had a great time.

Sue Cooper visited her daughter, **Marguerite and Steve Wilson** in Hixson, TN, for a few days. She later visited her daughter, **Peggy and Johnny Gray**, in Dunlap, TN.

Martha and "Hoot" Gibson spent a week with **Jane and Mark Gibson** and children in Dallas, TX, recently. While there, they celebrated grandparents' day with the children at school.

Becky Stott took **Gladys Cobble** to visit her sister, **Mae Kane**, in Columbus, GA, recently.

Virginia Adams spent the day, recently, with her half sister, **Sadie Cooper**, and they ate lunch at **Dessie's Restaurant** at Mentone.

Lillie Bowden, **Karen and Mark Freeman** and children, **Matt, Luke, Katie**, and **Ben** and friends, **Rebecca, Lee**, and **Suzana**, enjoyed several days at Santa Rosa, Florida Beach, recently.

Charlie Ingle is recovering from heart by-pass surgery and **S.B. Stinson** has had a long stay in the hospital. We hope they will have a complete recovery soon.

The **Michael Shelleys** are moving from Hammondville to Houston, TX. We hope they will be happy in their new home.

Virginia Livezey is at Collinsville Nursing Home. It is hoped she will be content and have better health.

Laura Margaret Allison is now out of Rehab and recovering from her broken hips. We hope she will soon be completely well.

Edith Dean is recovering after a few days in BMC DeKalb. Hopefully her recovery will be complete.

Gracie Brown's mother, Betty Butler, passed away at her home in Cartersville, GA. Her funeral was Thurs., Sept. 23. Those, from here, who went for visitation at the funeral home on Wed., were **Cindy, David, Scot and Alison Meadows**, **Ashley Blalock** and **A.J. Brown**. Those attending the funeral were **Gracie and Chris and Dillon Brown** and **Amanda, Emily and Barry Brown**, and myself, **Betty Blalock**, **Jason Meadows** and **Pattie Ray**. The funeral was at the Sam Jones Memorial Methodist Church at Cartersville. After the very impressive service, the ladies of the church served a nice dinner at the church. It was a beautiful service for a very lovely lady.

Billy Wallace suffered an injury to his eye by a ball at school. Thankfully, the doctor said no permanent damage.

A group of ladies from the **Sunshine Club** enjoyed lunch together at Western Sizzlin, Thurs., Sept. 23. Attending were **Joy Hurt, Gladys Cobble, Billie Harper, Susie Clark, Ruth Pickett, Lillie Bowden**, and **Evelyn Clark**.

Howard Hawkins will have a birthday Oct. 16. It would be nice and thoughtful and I'm sure, deeply appreciated, if his friends would each send a card. The address is West Gate Village, Inc., P.O. Box 49, Brewton, AL 35427.

Adelaide Biddle is recovering at St. Joseph's Hospital in Atlanta, after having a stint inserted in an artery to her heart, Sept. 22. She can't be kept down—she attended the Braves' ball game a few days before.

The leaves are showering down and the breezes are cold, but we have been so fortunate despite the drought, and grieve for North Carolina and other places that have had such terrible tragedies. So, let's enjoy what we have while we have it and be grateful.

Beautiful October Days

Beautiful October days
Earn a poet's truest praise—
Azure skies so serene and clear
Unite earth with Heaven near,
Teasing breezes gently blow
Ideal weather to bestow
Fruitful harvest from the land
Unto every willing hand.
Lavish in all of her ways,
October's beautiful days.
Colors so glowing and bright,
Trees whose leaves are a delight,
Over all the golden sunshine
Beckons to this heart of mine,
Embracing my soul that sings,
Rapture that perfect beauty brings.
Days that dazzle with lazy lassitude,
And inspire sincere praise and gratitude
Yielding to Autumn's colorful time
Summer surrenders to cooler clime.

—Eloise Brown

Valley Head Woman's Club

By Flo Kirby

The Valley Head Woman's Club held its September meeting, at Nippersink Lodge on a beautiful, windy fall day. Each year, this meeting is hosted by **Gerry Disney**, owner of Nippersink, and two of our marvelous cooks, **Sue Hamilton** and **Maxine Wright**. We all look forward to sampling their delicious refreshments and they were scrumptious as always.

The devotional was given by **Jan Wilkinson**. Her topic was "Laughter-Its Healing Qualities." People who laugh a lot are happier and healthier than those who are negative and have long, sad faces. We should all remember this!

President **Evelyn Graves** called the meeting to order and asked **Dot Blackburn** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. **Velma Hammond** led the recitation of the Collect. The roll was called and minutes of the last meeting read by our recording secretary, **Judith Hammond**.

Our corresponding secretary, **Dallyne Jones**, read correspondence from **Elizabeth Bauerle** and **Adelaide Biddle** requesting they be put on the Associate membership list. A letter was also received from **Dr. Bill Berry** thanking the Club for the contribution to Moon Lake School in memory of his father, **Mr. Jim Berry**.

Doris Carmichael, Chairman of our Project Committee, gave an update on her research regarding the pecan sales campaign for this year. **Sue Hamilton**, Chairman of the Education and Special Projects Committee, said she and committee members will do the February program same as last year—part oratorical and part essay. The subject will be "Family."

Maurine Donahue wrote a note of commendation for the 5th grade teacher at Moon Lake, **Joyce Smith**, when she retired. **Dot Blackburn**, Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, reported on plans for our Christmas Party. It will be at **Caldwell's Restaurant** (Mentone Springs Hotel) on December 10.

Members will miss **Judy Shelley** as she is moving to Texas. Therefore, our October meeting will be held at **Helen Longshore's** home. A motion was made and seconded that President **Graves** appoint someone to finish **Judy's** term as 1st Vice President.

Our theme for September was "Medical Alternatives." The program "Healing with Nature and Plants" was presented by **Patti Bryan**, registered nurse, teacher, and mother. She has been in the medical field for 30 years and is very knowledgeable about plants and herbs and their many uses for healthful living. It was a very interesting and informative program.

VALLEY HEAD PTO

By Lisa Moore

It's time to join Valley Head PTO again. The dues for the 1999/2000 school year are due now. If you wish to join, you may send your dues to the school or see **Carol Busby, Judy Windom, Sherry Lewis**, or **Margie Daniels**. Dues are: \$5.00 family or \$3.00 single. All the money goes to the PTO and is put back into the school in different projects. Open House will be held on October 11th.

You may pay your dues there, also. The PTO is working hard to work with you and your children. Please attend the meetings and help with the projects in order to help your child's education.

October 11th is "Parental Involvement Day" and the school and PTO have special plans for that day. Come to the meeting and discover their plans!



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By Ernest Smith

Old Silas raised truck on his five-acre plot. He always planted pumpkins, turnips, and a few gourds. The gourds were grown for dippers and birdhouses. Some folks didn't like the taint of metal in their drinking water and, of course, a martin preferred a gourd over anything else.

Everybody seemed to be about equally divided on whether or not Old Silas was worth killing. Some said that he could get more out of land than anybody. They were the pumpkin and turnip lovers. Others said that it was the biggest waste of good land that you could think of. These were the bean and potato eaters. Old Silas didn't give a hoot what they thought as long as he could sell enough "punkins" to buy his moonshine. Now, Old Silas once had a wife, but no one knew exactly what happened to her. If you asked him, he'd only say, "She's gone...gone," leaving the impression that she was dead. Those who claimed to be in the know said that she was very much alive. It was just that she finally came to her senses and left the bum.

The pumpkin and turnip season began in early October and lasted well into November, and even December, if the weather held good. Old Silas would make two or three trips a month to Lookout Mountain until the end of the season or he ran out of pumpkins, whichever came sooner.

On the night before his planned trip, he'd load his one horse wagon with pumpkins, turnips, and a few gourds. The next morning he'd hitch-up his old mare, "Ruby," and leave before good daylight. This gave him plenty of time to travel the five or six miles to Lookout and arrive about the time people were up and about.

When he topped the mountain, he'd begin hawking his wares by calling out, "Hey, good people. What do ye say? Want ye buy a 'punkin' today?" He'd continue on down the road until he got a nibble.

In passing the stores, near the top of the gap, the loafers would usually taunt him. Sometimes he'd give them tit for tat and other times he'd just ignore them. They seemed to enjoy the old man's spunk.

One crazed old man seldom missed following him down the road asking for cumquats. Old Silas usually ignored him, but sometimes he'd threaten to hit him with a pumpkin. The old man would continue to follow along in a slow trot until he got tired. Then, he'd just stop and stand there with a dazed look.

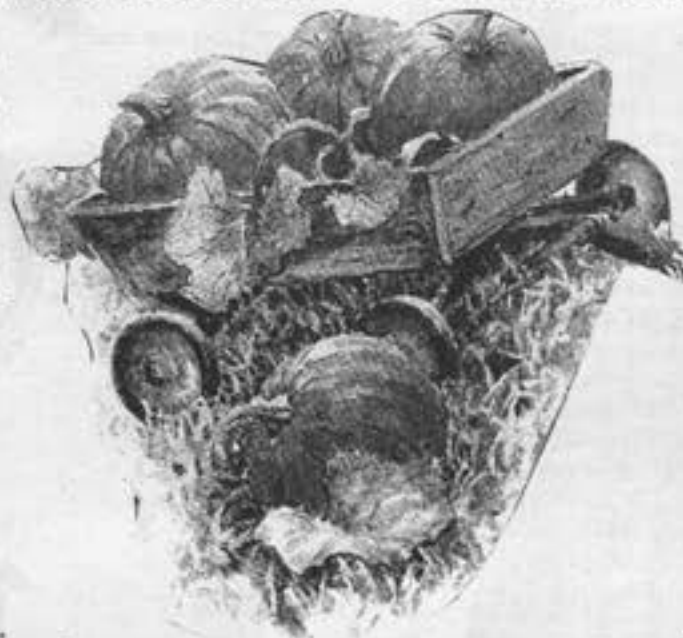
The Old Spinster, farther down the road, had turned out to be a "Jim-Dandy" "punkin" customer. She never failed to buy one and it was always one of his "biggies", too.

Her name was Hortense. Some said that they put the hick-ey on her when they gave her that name. But even the name "Angel" wouldn't have bettered her lot, and, with a face like hers, it would've been blasphemous, to boot.

Now there's nothing wrong with the name Hortense. Many women can handle it well. It's just that it didn't seem to do much for this "punkin" customer.

Not everyone found these slurs amusing. As a matter of fact, some thought them to be very cruel. Especially so, since they were directed at someone who'd played no part, whatever, in their lack of good fortune.

These people wouldn't listen to any derogatory remarks



"Punkin" Fever

about Hortense, even though they knew, perfectly well, that she made a play for the circuit preacher and frightened him so badly that he changed his route. But, they certainly had the right spirit by refraining from idle gossip, true or otherwise.

On this particular run, Old Silas had already spied his bird, waiting by the roadside, in the shade of the chinaberry. She was wearing a tight black dress with a generous cut above her knobby knees. Her head was bound in a red bandanna. The whole effect reminded Old Silas of one of those Indian head peckerwoods.

As he drew near, Hortense waved a dainty little handkerchief while cooing, "Over here, if you please, Mr. 'Punkinman'." (I can't resist saying that it would've been more appropriate for her to wave a veil in front of her face). Old Silas steered the old mare in her direction, mumbling to himself, "My how that woman loves 'punkin'."

Old Silas told her that he had two kinds of pumpkins and wanted to know if she was thinking on a Jack-O-Lantern. Hortense replied, "Goodness no, Mr. 'Punkinman'." I was thinking on baking more tarts." Old Silas then said, "That sounds real tasty. I have a plenty of pie 'Punkins' and I'm always glad to oblige a lady."

Hortense was now running the palms of her hands over the smooth skins of the pumpkins, making a hissing sound through her teeth. Old Silas didn't seem to notice for he was already thinking about the pint he'd buy with her money.

She finally selected her pumpkin and, acting rather coyly, asked him to carry it to her porch. Her demeanor was not unlike that of a witch sizing up her next victim. But Old Silas was glad to oblige. He accepted her fifty cents for goods delivered. In leaving, he tipped his hat to her and was rewarded with a smile. It reminded him of someone gnawing on a sour apple.

Later Hortense's neighbor told a strange tale. She said that Hortense hadn't baked any tarts and had no intentions of doing so. She simply rolled the pumpkins through the house and added them to her growing pile on the back porch.

Apparently, the long and short of it was, that her eye was never on the "punkin".

Old Silas now cracked the reins across Old Ruby's rump and yelled, "Move out." The old mare lunged forward and then settled down to a steady trot. Pumpkins had rolled back and forth like marbles, but Old Silas had paid no heed, for he had more important things on his mind. He knew that his bootlegger would be waiting for him down the road. He was waitin' to get his "punkin" money. This pleased Old Silas just fine. The bootlegger was providing a service that he was in the market for and now had the money to pay for. Moonshine was the elixir of Old Silas' life. It was the only thing that made it worthwhile for him to get up in the morning.

By late afternoon, Old Silas had finished his rounds and his bottle as well. He now appeared to be in danger of falling out of the wagon, leaning way over to one side, like a puppet with a broken string.

For the return trip, he'd turned the navigation over to Old Ruby. She was now holding the middle of the road, ambling along at her own pace. Although they were now on their way home, she didn't have much to look forward to, except, maybe, that it would be a down-hill-go off the mountain.

As they reached the head of the gap and began their descent, the sun was sinking low over the distant ridges beyond the valley below. One of the loafer onlookers was heard to say, "There goes three worthless things: an over-the-hill old mare, a bum, and a shittail load of 'punkins'."

But all and all it had been a good run. Old Silas had sold a little truck, bought a bottle of elixir, and later three more, to tide him over until the next trip. And, his "punkin" money helped the bootlegger to feed his family. Old Ruby had done her duty. She could now enjoy a few days of pasture. Old Cumquats had his trot and could now rest-up for the next go-round. Sweet Hortense had her little thrill and increased her "punkin" pile. She'd have to deal with all of those pumpkins soon. And, now, it was time to take his rest and enjoy a sip every now and then.

For the rest of the 1930s, not much changed for most people. Old Silas continued these pumpkin runs right up until he went to his reward. Without passing judgment, I think it would be fair to say, that wherever he is, he no longer craves his elixir. Of course Old Ruby went to that place where faithful mares go. She certainly earned her reward by pulling countless pumpkins up the side of Lookout Mountain. As for Hortense, some said that she just shriveled-up like a wart, pulled her blinds and never ventured out again. She's remembered as having run a good race, but never quite caught her man. They always seemed to find their second wind and get away.

Now, these many years later, if you ask some of the old timers about the "punkinman", they'll get a far away look in their eyes. Perhaps they're taken back in time and are hearing the old peddler's cry, "Hey, good people. What do ye say? Want ye buy a 'punkin' today?"

(Note: This article was submitted by Ernest Smith along with other articles some time ago, and is being printed at this time when the pumpkins are in plenty.)



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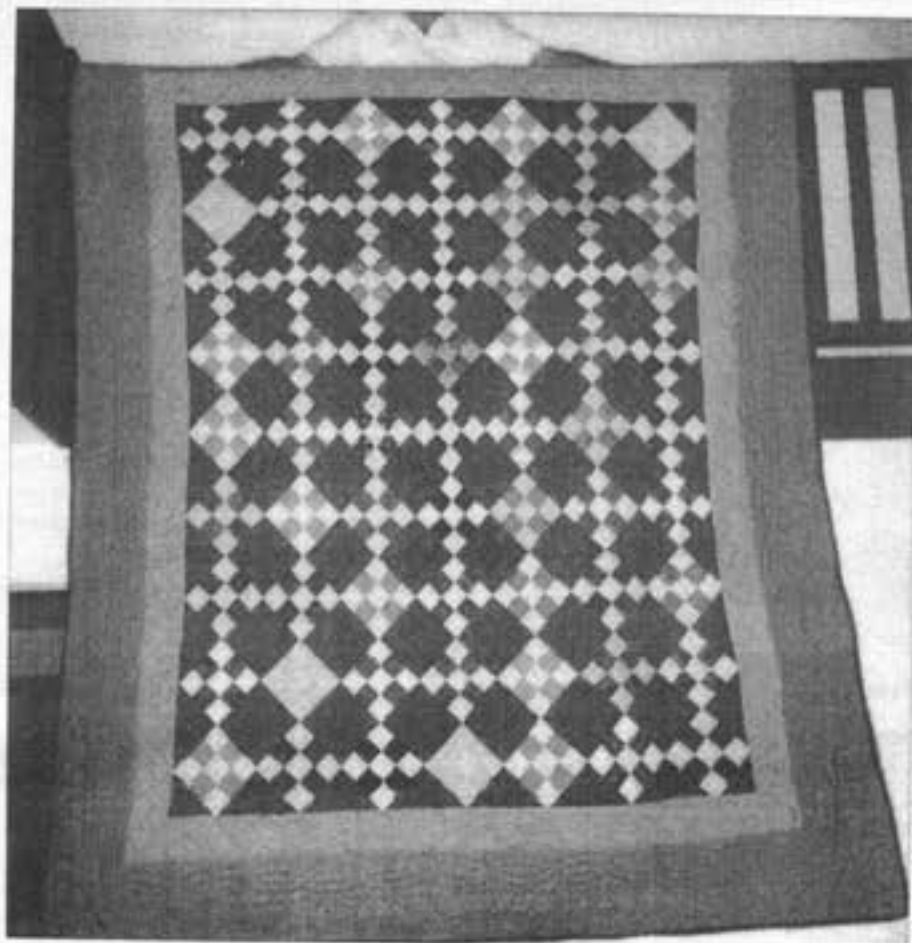
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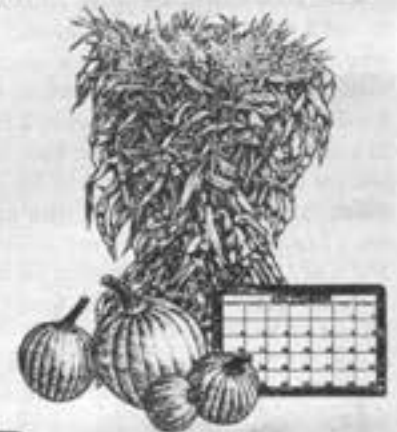
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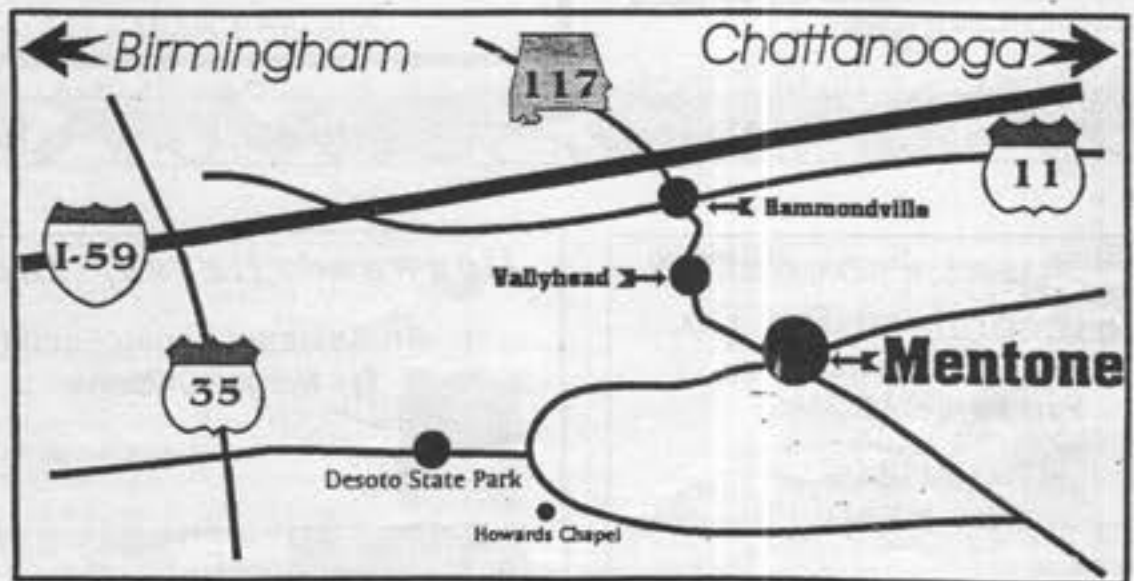
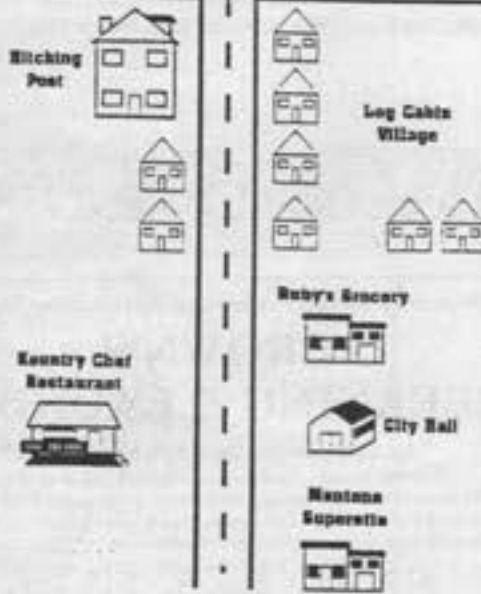
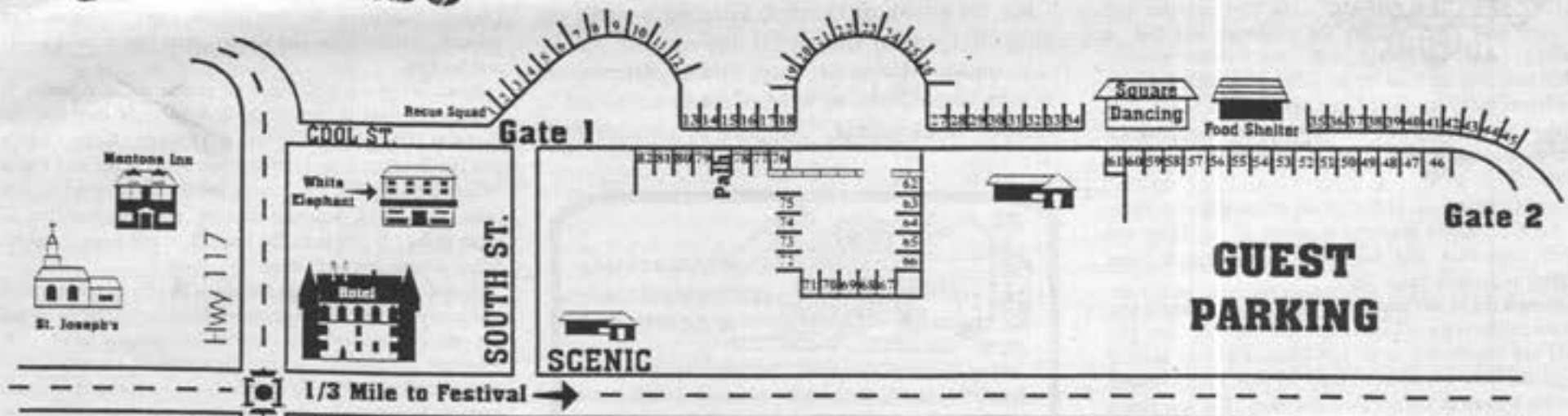
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Mentone



Brow Park Exhibitor Locator Map



GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

Fall, time for all growing things except for deciduous plants to begin preparing themselves for the darker, colder months ahead, a sad time and also a happy time as we know that they are strengthening themselves to put on another spectacular show for us.

It is now also time to spray your lawns and flower beds with the twice yearly (spring & fall) application of Bt to infect the grubs of Japanese beetles and various other grubs that tend to feed off the roots of the vegetation.

Here in NE Alabama, the grubs of the Japanese beetles ought not be so bad as the previous years as grubs thrive in moist soil, and this part of the country has been quite parched for the last month as we have not had much rain.

I attempted once or twice to dig the holes for the various trees and shrubs that I purchased at the summer end sales, only to have the shovel bounce back, as the ground is rock hard from lack of moisture, so I guess that, for now, I will keep them well mulched, watered and fertilized until I am able to get that shovel into the ground.

It is a good time to dig up the oriental lilies and scale them to make new plants from the scaling, and for those of you who did not manage to read my article on it, I will give a brief run down: dig up the oriental lily bulb when the foliage has died back (now) and peel away a few of the little garlic-like scales, re-plant the mother bulb, take the fresh scaling and put them in a shady place to dry for 1-2 days so that a callus forms. Fill plastic bags with moistened vermiculite, use a pencil to poke several vent holes in the bag. Add several scales to each bag, then store the bags in a warm (70 F) dark place. By the end of the winter, bulblets the size of green peas will have formed on each scale. Put the scales and bulblets in the fridge for 10-12 weeks, then plant them outside in light shade. Making new oriental lily plants this way has one small drawback, the new plant will not bloom the first year but the next, to me it is all worth while.

Also, don't forget that over crowded bulb beds result in poor or no blooming. So, if you have bulb beds that are over-crowded, dig them up and separate them.

CORN - FUTURE FABRIC: Corn, long used for feed and food, and more recently for sweetener and fuel, is becoming a source of fiber, as well. New technical processes turn corn into artificial fibers. Although similar to petroleum-based polyester, these fibers come with a bonus—they are much more biodegradable than polyester, which makes it a highly marketable trait in an environmentally conscious world.

Kaneb Golsen, Ltd., (100 year old Japanese textile factory), has successfully produced a variety of test fibers and fabrics from PLA and has given the trademark name **Lactron** to the corn-based fiber.

Although not in full scale production yet, corn-based textiles are on the verge of becoming a real business. How else would one explain big name agri-business players such as Cargill and Dow Chemical recently forming a joint venture company known as Cargill Dow Polymers. The new firm's purpose is to commercialize the use of polymers made from corn. In addition, Cargill has just added a lactic acid plant to its Blair Neb., corn wet milling complex.

MOUNTAIN MAMAS ARTISTS

By Barbara Lieu

The artist we'd like to highlight this month is **Elizabeth Guy** from Holland, Indiana. She creates walking sticks for our store, and this is her description of the process:

"Walking sticks are formed when a honey-suckle vine wraps itself around a small tree. As the small tree grows, so does the vine. Eventually the vine will kill the tree before it ever gets close to becoming a full size tree. As the vine tightens its grip around the tree, the tree forms 'knots' which cause it to look spiral shaped.

"Most of the 'walking sticks' I've found are sassafras, a soft wood. Although, virtually any kind of tree is susceptible to a honey-suckle vine or even a wild grape vine.

"Late winter is the best time to look for and to cut sticks. They are easier to spot with no foliage and there is less possibility of the wood splitting after it is debarked.

"What I look for when I'm searching for walking sticks is straightness and size. Within a few days of cutting a stick down, I strip the bark off. Usually, I wait several days after I debark it to start sanding. I start with medium sandpaper and then I resand with fine sandpaper. I want the wood to be smooth, and not pitted or rough. Finally, I'm ready to stain the stick and spray it with a clear gloss sealer.

"Each stick is unique, in that no two sticks are alike. Some have more knots than others, different kinds of wood, etc."

For the month of October, Elizabeth's sticks are 20% off. Come by and see her fine work.

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LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN NATURAL HEALING: PASSION FLOWER

By Laura Katherine AKA Moon

Last month, I wrote about stress, but left out one of the most beneficial herbs of Lookout Mountain - Passion Flower.

I enjoy walking through the woods and discovering herbs that are unknown to me as a way of healing stress. Passion flower is one of my favorite discoveries to this day. Every time I see this climbing vine, the flowers unique beauty stands out above and beyond any of the other wild woodland plants and trees.

Passion Flower - also known as maypop or apricot vine - is a non-addictive mild sedative. Its sedative properties are beneficial in treating insomnia and sleeplessness due to distress and backaches. Passion flower's sedative properties also help with hysteria, anxiety, tension, headaches, hyperactivity, and irritability. Passion flower is known as an aphrodisiac—hence the name—as well as an antispasmodic, which helps with epilepsy and convulsions.

Last, but not least, passion flower is useful in treating muscle cramps, neuritis, asthma, palpitations, and high blood pressure.

Passion flower's leaf is the main medicinal part used. However, the unique flower is also known to be medicinal. The leaves are mainly used in a tea form. To make passion flower tea, boil one cup of water in a glass or enamel pot, then steep a heaping teaspoonful of the leaves in a glass enamel or ceramic cup. I recommend 2 cups of tea for the full sedative effect. Passion flower can be taken internally in tincture or pill form, as well. It can also be placed in bath water for a relaxing experience.

To discover passion flower in the wild, look along the edge of the woods or in areas of the woods that get plenty of bright but not direct sunlight. The vine grows up to 30 feet. It has leaves with three lobes and a round oval-shaped fruit in the summer. When the fruit is squishy ripe, it can be easily opened to find seeds covered in a fleshy substance. You can eat or suck off this sweet citrus tasting substance that is distinctive to the passion flower. Keep the seeds to grow your own vine.

The most distinctive aspect of the passion flower is the purple and white flower. It blooms in early to late summer. Passion flower's bloom has been connected with representing Christ's crucifixion: the five stamens representing the five wounds, and the white and purple colors representing purity and heaven.

Passion flower is plentiful in the southern United States. If you do not want to harvest the herb yourself, then you can find it at "Once Upon A Time" in Mentone. Kathy Loud and her daughter Lianna have a new shop in the Log Cabin Village between The Ivy Cottage and the Log Cabin Deli that sells some herbs, beautiful wreaths, and an assortment of other items. If you want the tincture or pill form, it can be found at most any herb store.

If you are pregnant, use this herb in very small amounts and consult your healthcare provider before doing so. I do not take chances with any possibly questionable herbs while pregnant, even though passion flower is not known to have any side effects. You should always consult your healthcare provider before medicating yourself for a serious condition introducing something new into your health care regimen.



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(2) **60 ACRES.** Atop Lookout Mtn. Mentone. Fenced pasture land, established Lake, 2 barns, 3 outbuildings, SPRING HOUSE over year-around creek. The old homestead is surrounded by huge Oaks, and a view over the land and surrounding mtn. ridges. Access from Bankhead Rd., and Hwy 117S. Opportunity for one of the prettiest spots on Lookout awaits. \$175,000.



(3) **THREE STATES CAN BE SEEN** from these Tracts located on the West Brow, in Dade County, Ga. Minutes from Chattanooga. (1) 13 acres \$70,000; (2) 19 acres \$70,000. Hwy 188, Lookout Mtn. Parkway.



(4) **ADORABLE FURNISHED COTTAGE.** MENTONE. 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath, Pine Floors, Rock Fireplace, 2 wooded lots. Just bring your overnight bag, and stay awhile. Located on Hwy 117, Downtown Mentone. \$78,500.



(5) **EAST BROW, CLOUDLAND, GA.** What a view from these 2 to 3 acre lots located off Hwy 157 North. Rock formations, wooded, private with 100 to 250 ft. of breath-taking edge of the world view. Starting at \$32,000. Owner financing.



(6) **WONDERFUL OL' FARMHOUSE** with 4 acres, garden area, two outbuildings, on paved road, Mentone. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, large country kitchen for canning and a cellar for storing. \$55,500.



(7) **WILD RIVER COMMUNITY.** 100x300 ft lots on the East Fork Little River. Secluded and Scenic. \$10,000 each. ALSO AVAILABLE: 3 acre tracts-EAST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER, secluded, with natural deep swimming hole and rapids. Wild and Scenic beauty surrounds you. \$30,000 each.



(8) **WALKING DISTANCE TO MENTONE.** Adorable 2 Bedroom Cottage, CHA, New Carpet and Vinyl. Large Deck, Rock Patio, on two lots, located on S. Cool St. (Huckleberry Lane) \$62,900.



(9) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES** Phase 1 & 2 now open. 3 to 5 acre tracts on the middle Fork of Little River. Located off Lookout Mountain Parkway, 4 miles from downtown Mentone and 2 miles from the Ga. line. River front tracts starting at \$27,500, and 4-15 acre wooded stream tracts.



(10) **PICTURE YOURSELF ON THE COVERED PORCHES,** overlooking the large pond stocked with fish, small creek lined with perennial beds, and immaculate 2 Bdrm 2 bath cedar home with CHA, large open Living and Kitchen, with all updated appliances. All this, plus 8 acres of pasture, woods, and garden area with fruit trees. \$143,500.



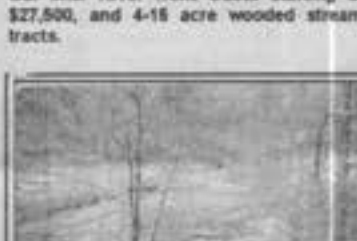
(11) **ADIRONDACK STYLE (1890'S) LOG LODGE** sitting on 2 private acres in downtown Mentone. Complete with Dog Trot separating the Kitchen with Fireplace and Living Area with Fireplace. Unique 4 Bedroom, 2 Bath. Screened Breezeways, and Porches. Wood Floors, and Tin Roof. Separate Guest Cottage. City Water, along with Hand pump Well. Step back in time with this One-of-a-kind FURNISHED HOME. \$225,000.



(12) **60 ACRES, LOCATED IN CLOUDLAND, GA.** Great Farm with 20x40 Barn, Large Workshop, 3 outbuildings, Garage, 4 wells, year around spring, 3 garden areas, Grape Arbors, Approx. 5 acres cleared. Beautiful Hardwoods. 12x70 Mobile Home with Rock Foundation. Many more amenities. \$165,000. Show by APPT. Only.



(13) **INDIAN TRAILS** over 3 acre tracts on the highest point on the Brow overlooking North Fort Payne valley, to the Cumberland Plateau. City water available, access to and overlooking private lakes. Private access. Off Citadel Rock Rd. Restrictive covenants. \$35,000 each.



(14) **THE BIG WOODS, EAST FORK RIVER.** 75 acres M/L available with access from Paved Road, and County Water. Over 600 ft. of River, 3 springs, wet weather cascading water fall. Also, part of the Historical Dinky Line Railway. \$248,000.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(18) **WEEKEND/WEEKLY RENTALS,** available on the Brow and Downtown Mentone. 1,2,3 Bedrooms. \$85.00 and \$125.00 nightly. Call for more info, Angela Wood.

(19) **COUNTY ROAD 633, WOODED TRACTS** from 18 acres and up, ranging \$2,000 to \$2,500 an acre. Owner Financing to qualified buyers.

(20) **OAKWOOD ESTATES** - 3 plus acre wooded and Pasture tracts available. Located in Mentone, County Road 106. Restricted Covenants. For permanent or Vacation Residential Homes. \$12,500 each.

(21) **ALPINE AREA, RIVERSIDE DR.,** 2 WEST FORK Riverview lots, city water available. Access to deep water for canoeing. \$45,000.

(22) **LAUREL CREEK LAKES SUBDIVISION.** Wooded lots starting at \$8,500. Lakeside (2 left) and pasture lots (2 left) starting at \$12,500. Mentone area, County Road 106. Common areas for hiking and fishing Restrictive covenants. Owner financing available.

(23) **R. Lee Crow Subdivision** - 8 lots (approx. 4 acres) UNRESTRICTED, with Lake frontage. \$16,000.



(15) **WEST BROW MENTONE.** Over 3 acres located on DeSoto Parkway, minutes from Mentone and DeSoto State Park. City water available. \$90,000.



(16) **MAGNIFICENT VIEW** - from this TOPSIDER



(17) **RUSTIC NEW LOG CABIN,** 1 mile from Downtown Mentone. Hand-Hewn logs. 1 Bdrm and Loft. Exposed

TOO MANY PROPERTIES TO LIST THEM ALL.

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L.M.P.R. will find what you're looking for.

L.M.P.R. is licensed in Georgia, as well as Alabama.

L.M.P.R. covers more of Lookout Mountain, to offer

a wider range to choose from.

Want to sell or looking to buy that special place
in the mountains?

Garden Club of Alabama Exacts Loyalty and Hard Work from Appointees by Marilyn Blanton Campbell

On the morning of August 24, 1999, Mrs. Dot Mapes, the new President of the Garden Club of Alabama, met with that organization's board in Montgomery. The local garden clubs of DeKalb County and Cherokee County area are all part of the Garden Club of Alabama's District II and representation of this area of the board is the responsibility of Co-Chairmen for Ways and Means, Mrs. Ann Houston, who is President of the Rainsville Garden Club, and Mrs. Marilyn Blanton Campbell, who is former Secretary and presently hard core faithful for the Rhododendron Garden Club at Mentone.

Ways and Means is literally a big job in that it demands that the ladies in charge pack up the wares of the Garden Club of Alabama, haul all the t-shirts, sweatshirts, plant rooters, gloves—both dry and wet proof, sleep shirts, pins of various ilk, note paper of more than one kind, inspirational books, mailbox flags, tote bags, jackets, brass butterflies, and a lot more to the many meetings, and unload all that stuff only to display it to its best advantage in limited spaces and in surroundings that were never meant to accommodate selling anything to anybody. To be a Co-Chairman for Ways and Means requires having a curious mixture of Job's patience, a stevedore's ability to load, unload, and transport heavy boxes with proficiency and without complaint, and the resourcefulness of a whole army of serious inventors to do it well.

By the end of each group's tenure in the job as Co-Chairmen of Ways and Means, the ladies involved are so glad to pass the position on to the next group that they hand over the merchandise without comment fearing that anything they could possibly say would be interpreted as discouragement. Therefore, each new group in that position has to start over at the very beginning only to learn how difficult it is to find it necessary to dress like a lady, work like a longshoreman, and behave like a meticulous shopkeeper all at the same time while being the first to arrive, the last to leave, and lucky to even pretend to eat.

It is the responsibility of the Co-Chairmen for Ways and Means to attend all eight district meetings, set up their merchandise, and sell as much as possible at each of those gatherings. Seriously translated that means these ladies must attend eight district meetings over an eleven day period with said assemblages being located all over the state. By the time they have finished, the map of Alabama has been zigzagged by their travels and reminiscent of old men's checkboards with kings jumping from place to place.

The cardinal is the emblem chosen by Mrs. Dot Mapes, the new President of the Garden Club of Alabama, to represent her administration, and the t-shirts, as well as the sleep shirts, have the cardinal design on the back as well as the front. Those are really quite attractive and 50 per cent cotton blend, so they should not shrink. In addition to the new cardinal merchandise, the Ways and Means ladies have a backlog of the butterfly t-shirts and sleepshirts from last year upon which the prices have been reduced for clearance. What woman can resist a bargain? Ladies, see what the Co-Chairmen of the Garden Club of Alabama's Ways and Means have to offer. This beautiful merchandise that will make such wonderful Christmas presents.

Among the teenagers and young people today, there is something of a fashionably paradoxical desire to wear a t-shirt in the manner of everybody else's, but they want their t-shirts to say something different on them. Therefore, this would be a wonderful opportunity for you garden club ladies to purchase unique t-shirts for your grandchildren, because these Garden Club of Alabama t-shirts are not sold in stores. Furthermore, there is nothing about cardinals and butterflies to transgress on anybody's school dress code governing printed matter on t-shirts.



Rhododendron Garden Club Meeting Sept. 14, 1999

By Christina Wise

The September meeting of the Rhododendron Garden club took place on the 14th of the month at Nippersink Lodge, where President Dallyne Jones called the meeting to order around 12:30 p.m. The lodge belongs to Gerry Disney and her husband, and is part of Mentone's rich heritage. The setting, with the rustic rock and woodwork of the house, sitting as it does amidst the tall trees and greenery lining Little River, provided a most fitting backdrop for the day's program.

Jo Beaubé delivered the devotional, which was very inspiring. She read from the 27th Psalm and went on to compare life to a game. A game of juggling in which we all have five balls to keep in the air, namely work, family, friends, health and spirit. Work, she said, can be compared to a rubber ball—drop it and it will bounce right back. The others, however, are of a more fragile nature, more like balls made of glass. Drop one and it will chip, crack or break. It will never be the same again. Her message was that we should all strive to achieve balance in the various facets of our lives and try not to dwell on the past or worry too much about the future. Rather, we should live one day at a time, considering each one a gift from God—for that is why today is called the present. Mrs. Beaubé also led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The hostesses were Gerry Disney, Mary Ellen Fielder and Mickey Gough. Everyone was delighted to see that Gerry Disney is continuing to recover well from the broken arm and hip which had incapacitated her for the past many weeks. The buffet lunch of finger food was enjoyed by the club members.

The speaker of the day required no introduction for the club's past president, Jan Wilkinson, was on the podium. Her topic was "English Country Gardens", and she held her audience spellbound with a slide show and narration on English country gardens that she and her husband had visited last year.

England offers its stately homes and gardens open to the public and of these the Wilkinsons visited 16. Jan gave the assembled group a synopsis of the horticultural feast she had enjoyed from Kent to the Cotswolds.

Jan explained that the common themes running through these gardens were those of the layered look and garden rooms. The former is achieved by the clever use of plants of differing textures, colors and height, and the latter by engineering "rooms", the walls of which are of architecturally trimmed yew hedging. These walls then serve to enclose a variety of secret gardens, which are revealed to delighted visitors as they pass through the hedgerow gates. Pretty rose

gardens, water gardens and rock gardens are most likely to be found in these open air "rooms."

Jan particularly enjoyed the plentiful clusters of cypripediums, spurge and standard roses with under plantings of lamb's ears. One point of note was that, in the spring, England's gardens have an array of rhododendron and azalea which are almost as pretty as those of Mentone!

Under old business, it was reported that the litter pick up the mile of highway adopted by the club had taken place, with fewer volunteers than originally expected. Sherry Hessel informed members that work on the garden area at the junction of Tutwiler Gap and County Road 89 had been postponed until after the first good rainfall of the autumn. The ground is presently too hard to work. The Rhododendron Garden Club is in joint venture with Sand Mountain Electric Cooperative on this project.

Jan Wilkinson reported on the proposed building of a raised rock planter beneath the Mentone Community Home sign. After careful inspection of the site, she considered it may be more suitable to simply plant a bedding area, as she felt that the sign was too low to the ground to accommodate a raised planter. Such a construction, she thought, would obscure the sign. Members were asked to survey the site and report their opinions at the next meeting.

Ann Wright reported that the remaining work days in preparation for the October Flower Show in Fort Payne would be on Sept. 21 and 28, and encouraged members to come down to the fairground and help with the organization. It was also reported that the demonstration/practice session in flower arranging held in preparation for the flower show at the Valley Head center on Aug. 10 had gone well. The experience had, in fact, inspired some club members to enter individual exhibits for the first time.

Under new business, members were asked to volunteer to man the registration desk for the flower show on Sat. 2 Oct. and Sun. 3 Oct. The point of contact for this mission is Christina Wise.

The Treasurer's report was given by Peggy Roark. The door prize was won by Dorothy Cyr.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 hrs.

The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., Deep South Region; the Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., Garden Club of Alabama District II; and the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs.



UGF CAMPAIGN AT 28% OF \$330,000.00 GOAL

At the first Report Meeting of the 1999-2000 United Garden Fund Campaign held on Wednesday, September 29, plans and contributions totaled just over \$93,000.00.

The Industrial Division (Linda Sterling, Chairman) reported \$63,210.00 for 29% of their goal. The Commercial Division (Pam Gibson, Chairman) reported \$4,637.69 or 1% of their goal. The Professional & Special Gifts Division (Houston, Chairman) reported \$11,834.00 or 4% of goal. The Public Service Division (Jackie Pettit, Chairman) reported \$3,000 or 3% of goal. The Town & Country Division (Virginia Wright, Chairman) reported \$10,699.20% of their goal.

Just prior to the reporting, volunteers enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by the Lookout Mountain Homemakers Club. UGF has worked out a special arrangement this year with the Club to cater meals for the three campaign report meetings. Sponsors were obtained by UGF to cover the cost of a meal (except for \$1.00 that each volunteer pays.) Lookout Mountain Homemakers Club President, Sue Wills, says the project will provide funds to be used by the club for various community projects. UGF felt this would be another way to put funds back into the community to benefit local residents.

The second Report Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 13. The campaign is scheduled to run through the end of October.

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"Atop Lookout Mountain"
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Reservations Necessary Friday and Saturday

CABIN FOR RENT

1 bedroom, fully furnished cabin for rent.
Fishing on premises.
\$45.00 nightly.

For more information, please call Donna Hill at
256-634-3633 (after 6 PM and on the weekends)
or 256-845-8515 (between 8 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays)

50th Wedding Anniversary



Robert and Ruth Hammon
Robert and Ruth Hammon
will celebrate their
50th Wedding Anniversary
on Sunday, October 24th, 1999,
from 2 -4 PM
at the Minvale Life Center
in Fort Payne, AL
No Gifts, Please.



Benny Goss, Mentone's Postmaster, receiving recognition for his 30 years service to the United States Government. Linda Copeland, United States Post Office Operations Manager in the Huntsville, office, presents Benny with a certificate.

Benny Goss, a postmaster who really cares about people, and about the quality of his calling, was presented with a 30-year certificate on August 18. For this recognition of service, Benny also received a pin, a desk pen/clock set with nameplate and letter opener. His service with the United States Post Office began August 18, 1973. His service with the United States Coast Guard began on January 6,

1969, and ended Jan. 5, 1973. The combined total of his service reached 30 years on August 18, 1999.

Benny's wife, Brenda, was present at the ceremony, and said that she is proud of his devotion to his work, even when it means they are unable to take a vacation because there is no one to take Benny's place while he is away.

Thank you, Benny, for all you do!

Howard Finster's

Paradise Gardens



Paradise Gardens

A Folk Art Haven

The world renowned folk artist, Reverend Howard Finster, first began his creation of Paradise Gardens around 1961. These sacred grounds have become one of Georgia's top ten tourist attractions. Thousands of visitors come each year to wander through the three acre paradise of mosaic cement paths, which leads to unusual sites. Renew yourself in the meditation buildings as you read scripture messages. View the gardens and bicycle towers from the L-shaped ramp, six feet above ground. It leads you to the bicycle museum building and down the stairs to the tomb of the unknown body. Rest on one of the old church benches or theater seats. See the giant cement boot beside the old antique barn yard. Next, you will enter the Mosaic land of Howard's sculptures where the garden originated. The inventions of mankind like the old John Deere tractor, a heart machine, wooden wheels, and unusual art relics of the world all rest in the

gardens of paradise. They are long forgotten items from another time gone by. Walk around the old gallery and view the Reverend's original people mural, a favorite of reporters and photographers. The breathtaking cement sculptured bed of roses and flowering plants holds a majestic Mosaic cross. Layered like a huge cake in the sky, you will never forget the World's Folk Art Church Museum. After your tour, roam around the Finster Folk Art Gallery and view the folk art and collectables of the Reverend Howard Finster and other notable artists. It will be difficult to leave without one. You may stumble on a group of students, a wedding, or even a baby dedication. You may even meet the Reverend Howard Finster himself on a Sunday from 2 til 5 PM. He has never met a person that he didn't love. A trip to Paradise Gardens is a memory you will treasure forever.

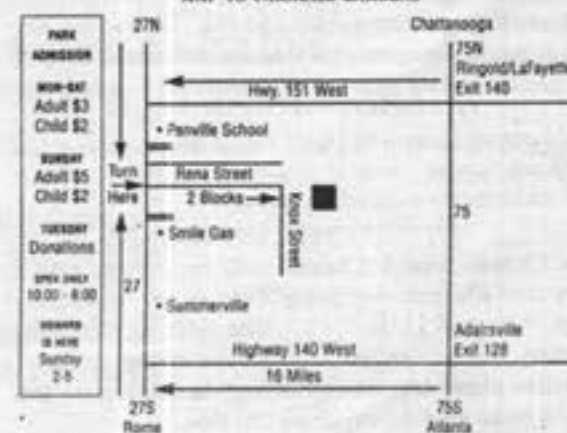
Stay Overnight at the Paradise Suite

\$60 per night and up.
Free Coffee and Cocoa

**Don't miss the
Annual Howard Finster Festival!
Second Saturday in May, Dowdy Park**

For more information, call 706-857-2926 or write to Finster Folk Art, Inc., P.O. Box 413, Summerville, GA 30747. To receive a price list or to place an order, call 1-800-FINSTER. Items for sale range from postcards to mugs, ties, prints, art and other collectables.

MAP TO PARADISE GARDENS



The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



Sunday morning services at Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church are held at 8:15 AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Reverend Jerry Davis and Reverend L. A. Smith are alternate speakers for these services.

The Valley Head United Methodist Church Sunday School is at 9 AM each Sunday and Worship is at 10 AM.

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

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

The Mentone Revival Center and Pastor Alfred Chambers and his wife Polly, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10 AM. Wednesday evening worship begins at 6:30 PM.

The Harmony Grove Baptist Church invites everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on Co. Road 259 (Hawkins Road). Sunday School is at 9:45 AM; Morning Worship is at 11 AM; Evening Worship is at 6 PM; Wednesday Night Prayer Service is at 6 PM.

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

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church-LCMS, 112 First Street, SW, Fort Payne, invites you to attend Sunday Worship at 8 AM, School at 9 AM, & Tuesday Bible Study at 6:30 PM.

Pastor Rev. Gerhard Grau invites the public to attend the Presbyterian Church worship service at Cloudland, which begins at 10 AM, (EST), and the Menlo service which begins at 11:15 AM (EST).

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 north of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School at 10 a.m., Worship service at 11 a.m., Wednesday night youth meeting with snacks, lessons, and activities at 6 p.m., and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30 pm.

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter, invites you to visit with us each Saturday morning. We are currently having services in the Woodman of the World Hall in Valley Head. Song Service & Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 AM; Worship Service - 11:00 - 12:00. Wednesday night Bible Study/Prayer meeting 6:30-7:30 PM. We've been having lots of outdoor picnics after services each week. Drop by and eat and fellowship with us. All are invited.

The Mentone United Methodist Church services are at 11 AM each Sunday. Sunday school is at 10 AM. Pastor Linda Tucker invites everyone to attend.

Lee's Chapel Baptist Church, will be starting Awana Ministry for Children beginning Oct. 6, on Wednesday evenings, from 6:15 to 7:45. The 67th Homecoming Anniversary will be Oct. 10, with a large service at 10:30. There will be dinner after the service, and the public is invited. There will be no evening service on that date.

Mentone Wesleyan Church is committed to being a Bible teaching community church where all peoples of all races, social standing and diverse church backgrounds are welcomed and loved. In recent months, we have installed an audio visual system, baptized 12 and welcomed 8 new members. God is really working and we give Him the glory. Sunday School 10 AM, Worship Service 10:45 AM, Youth Ministry Sunday afternoons 4:30 PM; Bible Study Wednesday 7 PM. Pastor: Randy Addison - 634-4210.

The Valley Head Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 10 AM, Worship Service at 11 AM, Evening Worship at 6 PM; and the Wednesday night prayer and Bible study. The church is still collecting cans to apply the proceeds on their building fund.

Mount Calvary Baptist Church will be having the Greensons from Chickamauga as their guests for the month of October on the 23rd. Singing will be at 7 PM EST. At 6 PM, preceding the singing, there will be a covered dish supper. This will be the last singing for Mount Calvary for this year, until next spring. James Braddy, Pastor, welcomes everyone to our services every Sunday morning --Sunday School begins at 10 AM, followed by worship hour at 11 AM, evening services at 6 PM, and Wednesday services are at 7 PM. All times are EST. All visitors are welcome and we encourage you to come worship our Lord, Jesus Christ, every opportunity available. Mount Calvary is located behind the Lookout Restaurant at Cloudland.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church services are Sunday at 10:30 AM, with Sunday School at 9:30 AM. Small groups meeting on Sun., Tues. and Wed. nights. A "Super Saturday" event --a mini-Vacation Bible School with a circus theme, is planned for one Saturday each month. A prayer and praise service one Sunday night each month. Contact the church at 634-4476 for more information on any of their events or services. Everyone is welcome.

Union Hill Baptist Church Sunday School is at 10 AM, Worship is at 11 AM, Adult Choir practice is at 4:30 PM, Discipleship Training is at 6 PM, and Evening Worship is at 7 PM. Wednesday evening at 5 PM is Youth Choir practice with GA's and RA's meeting on alternate Wednesdays at 5 PM. Each 2nd Sunday evening, the church has a singing at 6 PM. Everyone is invited for the singing.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 9:45 AM and morning worship at 11 AM each Sunday. The Youth Choir meets at 5 PM on Sunday under the direction of David and Marcia Tucker. Discipleship Training is also at 5 PM, and Evening Worship is at 6 PM on Sunday. Youth Fellowship is after Evening Worship on the third Sunday of each month. On Wednesday at 6:30 PM, Adult Prayer Service is held and Youth Bible Studies and Children's Choir meet.

The Mentone Church of God of Prophecy wants to invite you to attend their services. Sunday School is at 10 AM, with Worship at 11 AM. Evening services begin at 6 PM. Rev. Charles Flannigan invites everyone to attend.

My Pills

A row of bottles on the shelf
Caused me to analyze myself.
One yellow pill I hope to pop
Goes to my heart so it won't stop.
A little white one that I take
Goes to my hands so they won't shake.
The blue ones that I use a lot
Tell me I'm happy when I'm not.
The purple goes to my brain
And tells me I have no pain.

The capsules tell me not to sneeze
or cough or choke or even wheeze.
The red ones smallest of them all
Go to my blood so I won't fall.
The orange ones are big and bright
And stop leg cramps in the night.

Such an array of brilliant pills
Helping to cure all kinds of ills.
But what I'd really like to know
Is what tells each one where to go?

Submitted by
Carl and Ruth Conner,
Mableton, GA

Remember--

Old folks are worth a fortune...
Silver in their hair,
Gold in their teeth,
Stones in their kidneys,
and Lead in their feet.

Submitted by Carl and Ruth Conner,
Mableton, GA

SENIOR CITIZENS ARE THE BIGGEST CARRIER OF AIDS!!

Hearing aids	Visual aids
Band aids	Roll aids
Government aids	Walking aids
Medic aids	

~THANK YOU~

Thank you to everyone who sent food, flowers, or cards to me when I had my surgery; and for all the prayers. May God Bless each one of you.

Gail Crider

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Innkeeper: Sarah Wilcox

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EXCELLENT SELECTIONS FOR ONE-OF-A-KIND
CHRISTMAS GIFTS

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AL 35984; (256) 634-4112 OR FAX: (256) 634-8046

YOU REMEMBER THE REAL AMERICA

If you can remember...

When riots were unthinkable.
When you left front doors open.
When socialism was a dirty word.
When ghettos were neighborhoods.
When the Flag was a sacred symbol.
When criminals actually went to jail.
When you weren't afraid to go out at night.
When taxes were only a necessary nuisance.
When a boy was a boy, and dressed like one.
When a girl was a girl, and dressed like one.
When the poor were too proud to take charity.
When the clergy actually talked about religion.
When clerks and repairmen tried to please you.
When college kids swallowed goldfish, not beer.
When songs had a tune, and the words made sense.
When young fellows tried to join the Army or Navy.
When people knew what the Fourth of July stood for.
When a Sunday drive was a pleasant trip, not an ordeal.
When you bragged about your home town, and home state.
When everybody didn't feel entitled to a college education.
When people expected less, and valued what they had more.
When politicians proclaimed their patriotism, and meant it.
When everyone knew the difference between right and wrong.
When things weren't perfect—but you never expected them to be.
When our government stood up for Americans, anywhere in the world.
When you knew that the law would be enforced, your safety protected.
When you considered yourself lucky to have a good job, and proud, too.
When the law meant justice, you were in awe at sight of a policeman.
When you weren't too embarrassed to say that this is the best country.
When America was a land filled with brave, proud, hardworking people!

Submitted by Carl and Ruth Conner, Mableton, GA

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LAUREWOOD - On the Brow - Wonderful view - Private location - 95% complete 2400± sq. ft. 2 story, 1st floor 2 BR, 1 Bath, Living rm w/Min Stone FP, Kitchen/Dining Comb, both leading to large screened in porch overlooking the valley. 2nd floor - 2 BR, 1 Bath, storage. Basement w/fin to suit.



"A VIEW FROM THE TOP" Prime is proud to announce our affiliation with "Laurewood". Brow lots and homesites atop Lookout Mountain. Imagine, your own mountain acreage, waking each morning with the sun as it highlights your spectacular valley view. The perfect spot for summer or permanent home—private community. Owner financing with terms to suit your needs. Plots available.



MRS. ROBBIE GREEN ESTATE - once in a lifetime opportunity. Approx. 2± acres - 1500 sq. ft. Original Mountain Home features Sun Room, Living room with stone fireplace, Dining Room, 3 BRs, hardwood floors, kitchen, 1 bath - much, much more - Located at the intersection of Hwy 48 and 157. Potential, Potential with the best location on the mountain. Reduced to \$69,000.00.



CLOUDLAND - IN THE PARK, needs a little TLC. On the market - Oct. 4. Listed at \$44,500.00.



GET AWAY FROM IT ALL - 80± acres - Panoramic view from 1800 sq. ft. Mountain Home and full basement. Two fireplaces, hardwood floors, much more, private and secluded - Chattooga County - \$210,000.00.



"THE VICARAGE" - Southern Queen Anne Victorian charm & grace radiates from this fine period home. Featuring kitchen w/fireplace, formal dining, sitting room, formal entrance from veranda, formal sitting room, master suite, family room. Second level features bedroom, bath, sitting room. 3rd bedroom are only a few of the amenities. A MUST SEE! Priced to SELL at \$199,000.00.



CLOUDLAND - Golf Course Road, original mountain home, offers sun room/kitchen, dining room/great room overlooking patio, 3 BR, 1 bath, breezeway, utility room, guest cottage/game rm.; also on property MH with 2 BR, kitchen, living rm., 1 bath, large lot 150x400. Cloudland water & well. \$89,000.00. (No. G-22)



MENTONE - County Road 106. Enjoy the magic of the mountain. 1996 modular featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen/great room. Extended carpet wideck overlooking 13+ acres w/pond. Central HVAC w/propane backup. Outbuilding. Good buy at \$69,500.00. Fl. Payne water available. (No. A-18)

EAST BROW - SCENIC VIEW LOTS All our lots offer uncluttered views - watch the sun and moon rise in elegance.

- **Outlook Properties** - Hwy 157 - Cloudland; Lot 10 - 1.28 acres - 150 ft. of brow — \$27,500. Restricted with easy access to Hwy. 157. Great view of valley and surrounding mountains.
- **Hwy 157** - 10 acres backs to State property on two sides. \$3,000 per acre. Sold as a whole.
- **Hwy 157** - 3 AC, 200 ft of Brow. Easy Access. \$47,500. Breathtaking view.
- **31.5 acres on Hwy. 48 near Menlo**. Creek, pasture, and planted pines.
- **Cooper Ridge** - Teluga Creek traverses northern boundary of this 92± acre tract of rolling hills with beautiful view of Lookout Mountain. Private entrance, county water available. \$2400 per acre. No subdividing. (No. G-44)
- **Cloudland** - 1175 - State Line Road; T-2 - 44± AC - small lake open to wooded - Some frontage on Hwy 117. \$2000 per acre.
- **Lake Lausage** - T-1 - 7.8 AC with lake frontage; T-2 - 6 AC with lake frontage.
- **PRISTINE HIGH IN THE CLOUDS** - Gadsden Avenue/Cloudland. You have always admired it. You have imagined yourself living there in its quiet serenity. PRIME is proud to offer this beautiful brick rancher with 2.5± acres of majestic beauty. Home features living room, kitchen, den w/brick fireplace, two bedrooms, 1-1/2 bath, sun room, utility room, 2 car garage, outbuilding, central heat/air, gas back-up. Cloudland water system. Additional 7± acres available. Convenient to park and restaurant. (No. 27)

Christmas and Home Interior Grand Opening at The Shed



Photos of the Christmas and Home Interior Store located in The Shed

"The Shed has done it again," said Cheryl Baker. "We went 'all the way' for your Christmas and home interior." Just back from a designer show, Cheryl said, "There was so much there I could not believe my eyes. I wanted to bring back a little of everything, but I could not. My store just is not big enough—although I did bring back some wonderful things and beautiful things. No more shopping through catalogs or the Internet and paying those outrageous shipping prices. I have brought them to you."

"October 9th, there will be a showing—beginning at 1 P.M. - 4 P.M. I will begin by taking groups through the store, and there I will talk about the new colors for the Millennium and show you many of the wonderful collectable wind up items (working). I will also speak about decorating and the lighting of a tree. Each group will spend 1 hour at a time in the store. I will be serving hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Following that, there will be door prizes to be given away that

night. The Christmas and Home Interior store will open for shopping from 8:00 P.M. - 12:00 P.M.; it will be a shop-till-you-drop sale 20% - 35% off. That night, we will also be showing and talking about the lights and what all you can do with them."

"It is not just Home Interior items, it is anything and everything to do with Christmas. Here are a few items to give you a clue:

Angels—many types and varieties
Lights (Icicle & clear)
Garland
Tree Toppers
Gift Bags
Noah's Ark Collectibles
Santa Clauses several varieties
Miniature Indoor Water Fountains
Indoor/Outdoor Wreaths
(Live Wreaths near Christmas)
Candles & Candle Holders
Outdoor Christmas Flags
Outdoor Sleighs
Villages

Swags
Fiber Optic Trees & Wreaths
Ornamental Kale & Cabbage
Pansies
Bradford Tree Sale
Shrubs located in back
Mulch, Potting & Top Soil is in
Several Christmas Ornaments

"There is much more to see than what is on the list. So, come and enjoy the fun at The Shed on Oct. 9th from 1 PM- 4 PM for the Show; then from 8 PM -12 PM for the Sale.

"All this month:

- Mums are in many colors and varieties to choose from
- Pumpkins and Gourds till the end of this month
- Fall Decorations & Hay till the end of this month

"Don't forget about the Fall Festival. It is time to decorate for the fall.

Thank you."

Cheryl Baker, 256-634-4038



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"TO THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE AN INTERNET CONNECTION"

By Jim Gaylord

For a year now, I have been contacting servers of Internet trying to get Mentone and Valley Head local Internet service. It seems that these large companies are not interested in establishing service to a small amount of customers because of the cost of equipment—there would not be room for them to make a profit. Also, technology is changing so fast that, to invest in an area this small, they don't feel it would be a good investment for them.

I would like to thank John Corey, Lisa Moore and Marcia Palmer for helping me to get almost 200 signatures of local people who are interested in local Internet service. Also, thank you to all of you who signed the petition. I will continue to try to find an interested company that would set up local service for us.

If anyone would like to add their name to the petition or needs assistance getting area wide calling service to Fort Payne, please don't hesitate to call me at 634-4535, or stop in at the Mini Stor Mall Office behind the Mentone Post Office and I'll try to help you out.

A Voice Spoke to Me

Once I walked on a dark and dreary road,
Within my heart I bore a heavy load.
Look up, I heard a sweet voice say,
You know I have made you a better way.
The Devil said, "He will not let you in,
For he will not cleanse your heart from sin."

I called on the Lord from the depths of my soul
I wanted him to cleanse me and make me whole.
Then I heard Jesus' sweet voice say to me,
"From all your sins you can be made free.
For I gave my life on Calvary's dark cross
So you might not ever suffer great loss."

I believed just what my dear Savior said
And soon my heart was free from all dread.
I surrendered my heart to Him that wonderful day
And began walking in a bright new way.
When I grow weary of the toils and strife
That we have down here in this busy life

I think of how He saved me by his wonderful grace,
And someday I will see my Lord face to face.
I know He is preparing me a place over there,
And soon I will be free from all trouble and care.
He said that He would come for me some day
To take me to Heaven, where I will forever stay.

I want to be a witness to all the lost souls I meet,
I hope I will have some sheaves to lay at His feet.
I want to be faithful and hear him say, "Well done,
And as I promised, a Crown of life you have won."
I will meet my precious loved ones who have gone on before
There we will live together forever on Heaven's bright shore

—Selected by Christine Brool

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Jamie Hendrix Collins shows children at Moon Lake School on Friday, September 24, still pictures from her long-awaited movie debut in the film, "Southern Heart," that was filmed in Mentone and Valley Head in 1997. She stars in the movie with Peter Deluise. The movie will be shown in the Hamilton Theater in Fort Payne beginning Friday, October 22.

Photo courtesy of Steven Stiefel of *The Times-Journal*

Rainsville native returns to DeKalb County to promote her upcoming film 'Southern Heart'

This is a special time for Jamie Hendrix Collins, a native of Rainsville. Collins returned to Mentone Friday to speak to children at Moon Lake School about her soon-to-be released movie, "Southern Heart."

The film was made in Mentone and features many local people as extras or supporting players. As Collins mentioned the long list of the Mentone and Valley Head landmarks featured in the movie, the children could hardly contain their excitement over their hometown being "in the movies."

She showed them short clips of the movie and passed around still pictures. Behind her was a sophisticated movie poster with her likeness on it.

It is a special time for Collins because the release of her movie is finally nearing with so many years of hard work she put into it paying off. "Southern Heart" was very well received at premieres held in New York and Atlanta.

"It just amazed people in New York because this movie captures a lot of our culture on film, our sayings, our way of life, and that's unfamiliar to them" said her sister, Karen McGee.

It will arrive at the Hamilton Cinemas on Oct. 22, she said. It will also be shown in Gadsden and Birmingham, among other places.

She and Collins have also visited Plainview, Fyffe, and Sylvania this week, and they hope to visit more.

McGee said plans call for field trips for local drama students to see the movie.

The story, as Collins described it during filming two autumns ago, deals with a land developer from the big city who becomes marooned in the small southern town at the heart of a business arrangement when his truck breaks down.

The man, portrayed by Peter Deluise (the son of Dom Deluise), is charmed by the townspeople and the simple pace of rural life. Collins plays a counselor at a summer camp for handicapped kids who who he falls in love with.

"People won't believe how beautiful the cinematography of Mentone and DeKalb County is," McGee said as her sister spoke.

Collins and her husband live in Huntsville and also have an apartment in New York City.

(The Groundhog staff regrets that they were not informed of the appearance of Jamie Collins at Moon Lake School on Friday, September 24. A member would have been present during that time to cover such a special event since it pertained to the movie "Southern Heart" that was filmed in Mentone and Valley Head in the latter part of 1997, and also used several students from this area as extras in the movie. The write up by Steven Stiefel that appeared in the Saturday, September 25, issue of The Times-Journal, is printed above.)

Editors' note: The movie was a great hit in Montgomery, too. The new innkeeper (Daisy

Anne Elliott) at the Mentone Inn saw it three times in Montgomery. The following is from an article in the September 1999 issue of *The Groundhog*.

"Daisy said she had seen an advertisement on Frazier FC TV with Jamie Hendrix Collins talking about the movie, "Southern Heart" that was filmed in Mentone. Daisy went to the theater and saw the film, and went back two additional times, taking her sister June Brown with her the second time.

A framed poster for the movie, "Southern Heart" can be seen at the Mentone Inn."



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Woodmen of The World Lodge 436



"Habitat For Humanity" House, Conway, Arkansas



Barbara Blalock, Jeannie (recipient of "Habitat For Humanity" house), and Ovie Blalock

Ovie and Barbara Blalock, Johnny and Melinda Miller, and Roger Willbanks, members of Woodmen of The World, Lodge 436, attended the "Southeastern Regional Conference" in Little Rock Arkansas, August 27th and 28th. National

President John G. Bookout presented Barbara the "Alabama Fraternalist of the Year" Award. Barbara is the 3rd member of her lodge and family to receive this award. Husband Ovie received it in 1993 and daughter, Barbie Hester in 1996.

Ovie and Barbara went to Arkansas before the Conference and worked on a "Habitat for Humanity" house in Conway. (See photo above.) A young mother (Jeannie) with 2 sons, ages 3 and 5, will move in the house right away.



Woodmen of The World National President John G. Bookout presents "Alabama Fraternalist of the Year" award to Barbara Blalock at the Southeastern Regional Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas.



Barbara is the 3rd member of her lodge and family to receive this award. Husband Ovie received it in 1992, and daughter Barbie Hester in 1996.



Ovie Blalock President of Lodge 436 Woodmen of the World presents Gail Chambers with check for the New Fire Truck Fund



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Pardon our errors

In the Catherine Brown Bailey article in the September 1999 issue, the following corrections need to be made. The Groundhog staff apologizes for the errors and omissions on pages 10 and 11.

In naming Mrs. Bailey's 17 grandchildren, Eddie, Adam and Brandy Manning should have been shown as children of Sandra Manning Blalock, wife of Jimmy Blalock.

Her great great grandson's name should have read Caden Duane.

Under a picture cutline listing Carrie Ruth Kirby, Raymond Brown, Sarah Harris, Mary Murdock Gilbreath (1st cousin from Florida), Carlton, and Catherine Bailey, the remainder of the cutline should have read: (Gerald Hammon Brown was killed in France in World War II.)

In the paragraph about Catherine's retirement, she officially retired in January 1997.

GOOD NEWS

Right after the article came out, Mrs. Catherine Bailey received a phone call from one of the students she had taught during 1955 to 1959. He told her he had just read the article in The Groundhog about the teacher who was responsible for him going into teaching, and wanted to know if he could come visit her. Mrs. Catherine said they had a great visit. He told her that he had recently retired as a college professor and was living in Cloudland. He wanted her to know how much she meant to him.

What a wonderful surprise! Wouldn't it be nice if we would all take time to call or write that special someone who made a difference in our life, and let that person know how much he or she was appreciated? It would mean so much, not only to the writer or caller, but especially to the one who made a difference.



The Rev. Dennis Mays

Rev. Dennis Mays, 78, of Fort Payne, died Sunday, Sept. 26, 1999, at his residence.

The family received friends on Tuesday, Sept. 28, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Wilson Funeral Home.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, Sept. 29, at the First United Methodist Church with District Superintendent Gerald Champion and Dr. Mark Lacey officiating and burial followed in Glenwood Cemetery.

Rev. Mays was born in DeKalb County on June 6, 1921, the son of the late Christopher Columbus (Lum) and Ora Allen Mays. He was a member of the North Alabama Conference of the United Methodist Church from 1946 to 1983, serving churches in the Albertville, Anniston, Birmingham, Florence, Gadsden, Roanoke and Tuscaloosa districts. He was district superintendent of the Roanoke District for six years.

For the past five years, he was pastor emeritus of Fort Payne First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Florence Coker Mays of Fort Payne; daughter and son-in-law Ann and John Bowles of Huntsville; son and daughter-in-law Coker and Julia Mays of Opelika; son David Mays of Mentone; son and daughter-in-law Vernon and Carol Mays of Raleigh, N.C.; daughter and son-in-law Denise and Warren Fowler of Florence, and eight grandchildren.

The family has requested that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the building fund of the First United Methodist Church or to a favorite charity.



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- **OPEN HOUSE**: Our annual open house will be Sunday, November 7, from 1:00 until 4:00 PM. Come and see all the new items for Christmas.
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God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven.

Matt. 5:16

Darkness, in the Bible, represents sin. As you look at the condition of the world today, you can see that darkness has covered the earth and gross darkness the people. If the people of God don't let their light shine, how can the people in darkness find their way home? So, keep your light trimmed and burning.

Let It Shine!

33rd Annual DeKalb County Marching Festival

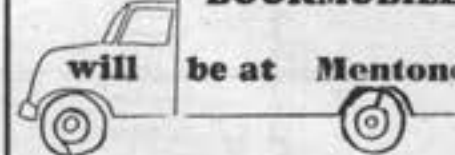
Sunday, October 3, 2 PM

Geraldine High School Stadium

The 33rd Annual DeKalb County Marching Festival will be held on Sunday, October 3rd at the Geraldine High School stadium. The event will begin at 2:00 p.m., and high school bands from DeKalb County will be performing. Valley Head's band will be the 3rd band performing this year. Awards are scheduled to be presented at 4:00 p.m. Admission at the gate is \$2.00 per person. Pre-school children are admitted free. Come show your support to outstanding group of musicians and students from DeKalb County. They all deserve your support for their hard work and dedication each year. This will also give the football team of each school a chance to catch the show they never get to see at the football games. You will enjoy it.

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