

the GROUNDHOG

VOL. 3—NO. 6—SEPTEMBER 1985 A Publication of the Mentone Area Preservation Association

A Country Doctor With The Right Stuff

In 1949 a young doctor arrived at Valley Head to investigate the community's need for a physician, following the death of Dr. Ritchie. Doc Coleman, who owned the pharmacy at that time, had placed an advertisement in *The Medical Journal* expressing the community's need. "I liked what I saw," Dr. James Quimby related. "I returned home and told my wife, 'Pack our bags. We are moving to Alabama, where I'm going to practice medicine.'"

Thus it was that Valley Head, Mentone, and the surrounding area came to have a family physician — a rare and valuable asset in these changing times. Thirty-seven years later Doc Coleman is partially retired and Donald Morgan operates the pharmacy. The train depot is but a memory. Mr. Bell's grocery store is closed — as are the movie theater, the saddle shop, the saw mill, and other businesses. But Dr. Quimby endures much in the same manner he has for years.

"On that subject," Dr. Quimby stated, "I'd like to make one thing clear. Every so often a rumor circulates that I'm either going to retire or move away. Nothing could be further from the truth. I do not anticipate taking on a younger partner. And as long as I can see, hear, think and otherwise do the job, I'll practice medicine in Valley Head. My burial plot is at the Valley Head cemetery. I don't plan to leave Valley Head — ever. I was one of the original ten doctors who started the hospital in Fort Payne. I'm commit-

(Continued On Page 6)



Text And Photo. By Doc Long

Fire Department Debt Paid Off	Page 1
The Gourdie's Take Flight	Page 3

Petition At Council Opposes Annexation

At the September ninth meeting of the Mentone Town Council, former mayor Ethel Manifold presented a petition of 341 signatures ("... and more to come") of residents around Mentone who do not wish to be annexed. Some twenty-five citizens crowded into the Town Hall room to hear the presentation of the petition and to voice their objections to annexation.

In an unusual procedure, Mayor Rob Hammond reversed the usual order of business in order to "let the crowd speak first." Prior to opening the meeting to Mrs. Manifold, Mr. Hammond said that the town council has never proposed annexation. It is up to the proposed annexed area to come to the council. The mayor was concerned about providing services to the annexed area and also about the possibility of raising taxes to provide those services.

Among those present in opposition to annexation were businesswomen Evelyn McGee and Helena Furgerson. Fire Chief Sammy Cash also voiced his opposition to the plan. The only citizens present in favor of annexation were Mr. and Mrs. Homer Crow. Bernise Crow said that she would like better water and that annexation, she believed, would not raise taxes appreciably. She stated that in Chattanooga when a group petitioned for annexation, their taxes did go up slightly, but that within three years, they had the needed services.

Charlie Bain stated that if he could get town water, he would favor annexation. The mayor said that revenues coming in would be less than expenses for providing services. "There would be six mills more on property taxes, your car tags would be greater, and the business license tax would cost more."

"We have \$4,000 budgeted for roads for next year," Mr. Hammond announced. "It cost us \$5,000 to pave one mile last year."

Mrs. Manifold said that annexation "would bankrupt Mentone." There is no way, she said, that Mentone could keep up the roads in the annexed areas or provide water. "Maybe we need more businesses in the outlying area," she concluded.

Buck Ellis asked, "Who got this up? Where's he at?" At the June third Town Council meeting, attorney John Cooper requested "some sort of zoning laws and control of growth by annexation." Mayor Hammond had appointed a committee of himself, Councilmen Hobson Kirby, Max Cash and Richard Meadows to consider the proposals and to report at the September meeting.

When contacted by **THE GROUNDHOG** Attorney Cooper stated that he missed the council meeting because he was in Birmingham to attend the funeral of Mrs. Margaret Badham of Mentone. "The people I contacted," he said, "did not want to join Mentone. They thought it would just raise taxes and not improve services." He went on to say that his main interest was zoning to preserve the basic character of our town. "I urge everyone to write Senator Lowell Barron and Representative Ralph Burke urging a 5th district for Lookout Mountain."

Further business at the meeting concerned planning for more cold mix to be packed into pot holes on town streets and some bush-hogging alongside roads. Councilman Bill Russell will check into repairing damaged gates at the water tanks. The town purchased a new mower for \$599 and repaired a field line behind Town Hall.

Mr. Hammond and Mr. Meadows of the Finance Committee presented a budget of \$38,940 for the year 1986 which will be considered at a future meeting. Proposed budget for the Water Department is \$52,000.

The council unanimously passed a motion to help Bill Kidder begin his Cable TV company. Mr. Kidder will be charged \$100 a year rental space for his dish at the town water tank property. Mr. Kidder's privilege license will be one, two, and three percent of his gross over the first three years of operation.

Concluding one of the shortest meetings on record, at 7:32, Mayor Hammond adjourned the meeting and reminded those present of the next meeting, October seventh, at 7 p.m. — Jean McGehee

50 Alpine Years



Dick O'Ferrall and Bea Crow.

This past summer Mrs. Leonard Crow, "Bea," was honored for fifty years' service at Alpine Camp. She began by working as a waitress in the dining hall while attending the Berry schools in Rome.

In 1935, Alice MacVicar was director of a girls' camp at Alpine. Since 1959, Dick O'Ferrall has employed Mrs. Crow as dietician for his boys' camp there.

Mr. O'Ferrall says, "Mrs. Crow has been a vital part of Alpine Camp for Boys. Her innate ability in food preparation and her devotion to children have made the Alpine dining hall a special place." Several years ago a counselor wrote a line in a camp song that boys sing lustily, "Thank You, Lord, for Mrs. Crow and her chow!"

When Bea Crow first began cooking at Alpine in 1942, kitchen facilities included a wood stove and an ice box. She remembers once when a large tray of

(Continued On Page 6)

Unlimited Potential Says Wallace Aide

Ken Wallis, legal advisor to Gov. George Wallace, in speaking to members and guests of the Mentone Area Preservation Association at the Mentone Springs Hotel on September third, said that travel and tourism is part of the state's unlimited potential for the future.

Mr. Wallis is state mental health commissioner and is a leader in areas concerned with retardation, child abuse, and conservation. Although Alabama is at or near the bottom of the fifty states in terms of economic status because of inadequate stable revenues, there is hope for the future. In addition to tourism's generating revenues, Mr. Wallis listed natural resources; untapped oil and gas reserves (greater than any states except Alaska and Texas); climate; docks on the Tennessee-Tombigbee waterway and the entire inland docks network; the state trust fund, which will hold all revenues from leasing of oil and gas reserves, which will amount to one or two billions of dollars within the coming ten years; attractions such as the Birmingham race track, the space museum in Huntsville, and the battleship Alabama.

Wallis also spoke of the necessity for redrafting the state constitution which he says is too big and unwieldy. More revenues need to come back to the counties, cities and towns. Also, local governments need greater authority to tax. He repeatedly urged his

(Continued On Page 6)



Ken Wallis in Mentone cap with attorney John Cooper.

Mentone Octoberfest Features Boat Rides, Classic Run, Crafts

The Third Annual Groundhog Classic Run and emphasis on arts and crafts are highlights of the Annual Mentone October Colorfest to be held at Old Hotel Square Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 18, 19, 20. Boat rides from DeSoto Falls up Little River will be arranged to view the foliage.

Festival Chairman Angelo Rosario and his committee on arrangements have released the following schedule:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

7-9 p.m. — Amateur and Professional Story Telling and appearance of ghosts at the Mentone Inn.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

9-10:30 a.m. — GROUNDHOG CLASSIC RUN.
9:00 — Fun Run.
9:30 — Runners depart at Hitching Post.
10:30 — Race Awards.
9 a.m.-5:00 p.m. — Arts and Crafts Displays and sales at Mentone Springs Hotel.
9 a.m.-5 p.m. — Food and Drinks Available.
1-2 p.m. — Hayride and Pony Ride.
2-4 p.m. — Boat Rides at DeSoto Falls.
12:30-4 p.m. — Entertainment by Emcee Tony Goggans, singer-guitarist.
2 p.m. — Costume Parade at Hitching Post.
3:45 p.m. — Costume Contest — Junior.
3:55 p.m. — Costume Contest — Senior.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

9 a.m.-5 p.m. — Arts and Crafts Displays, Sales.
9 a.m.-5 p.m. — Food and Drinks.
12:30-4 p.m. — Tony Goggans Entertains.
1-2 p.m. — Hayride and Pony Ride.
2-4 p.m. — Boat rides up Little River from DeSoto Falls.
4 p.m. — Costume Awards — Junior.
4 p.m. — Costume Awards — Senior.
6 p.m. — Free Marshmallow Roast at Mentone Inn.

Three thousand posters have been distributed. Seventy-one applications have been mailed to arts and crafts people. A permanent file for arts-crafts persons has been established. The Octoberfest committee, in addition to Mr. Rosario, consists of Marty Griffin and her staff at Saddle Rock Camp, who are coordinating the Groundhog Run; Bob Brooks, arranging the solicitation from merchants. Sammy Cash is contacting the Rescue Squad for details on the boat rides. Dorothy Crow, food and drinks. Homer Crow and Art Harris, hay, cornstalks and ghosts. Maggie Cordell, working with Ed Jones in details of the hayrides and pony rides. Amelia Brooks and Shurleen Froehler, marshmallow roast.

Fire Department Debts Completely Paid Off

The entire indebtedness of the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District has been paid off. In making the announcement Fire Chief Sammy Cash says, "I want to thank everyone who's given a penny."

The total amount of the indebtedness was incurred on an entirely voluntary basis in 1979. The truck was \$5,280; over \$15,000 was for the building.

The funds were raised through bake and rummage sales, pledges, road blocks, fish fries and jamborees. For a time the Town Council cooperated with monthly payments of \$200. Last month a gift of \$675 was received from the Alabama State Legislature, disbursed by the DeKalb County Forest Ranger Donald Cole.

The fire district was formed in 1979 when LeGrant Gable, then chief of police, sent mailings to the community, outlining needs for volunteer firemen and the other necessities for beginning a department.

There will be a continuing need for pledges and support to keep the equipment up to date and to maintain such items as heat, lights, and telephone.

In making the announcement on a note of much joy, Chief Cash also reported that there had been no fires during the past month. "We are glad that we have plenty of equipment on hand," he said.

October Meeting

Mentone Area Preservation Association

Regular business meeting, completing Octoberfest arrangements.

Presiding: Amelia Kirk Brooks, Director

Everyone Welcome Refreshments Follow

Mentone Springs Hotel

Tuesday, October 1, 1985

7 p.m.

Moon Lake PTA

Sept. 17 — 6:30 p.m. PTA Open House.

Oct. 1 — Teacher Work Day.

Oct. 8 — PTA Program, Mr. Berry's Room.

Nov. 9 — Harvest Festival.

MAPA Minutes

The regular meeting of the Mentone Area Preservation Association was held at the Mentone Springs Hotel on Tuesday, September 3, with Director Amelia Kirk Brooks presiding. Following reading and approval of the minutes, the treasurer reported a balance of \$5,151.38 as of 9-3-85. As of that same date **The GROUNDHOG** showed a balance of \$886.85.

A discussion of the Lookout Mountain Parkway took place; all agreed that it was a good meeting and Bob Elmore was quite helpful. The triangle corner is going to need more help than was expected. Volunteers are needed to clean it up before Barbara Crow can take over.

Angelo Rosario reported that Octoberfest flyers are now available (See story elsewhere). It was pointed out that Homer Crow had not been paid for his loan to the Centennial Committee. A motion was passed that Homer be paid \$480, the deficit remaining in the Centennial treasury.

A discussion was held about the need of a public phone in Mentone. Progress is being made toward getting one. It was also pointed out that public restrooms are needed. It was suggested that someone bring up this matter at the Town Council.

Guest speaker was Ken Wallis, legal advisor to Governor George Wallace (See story elsewhere). In the discussion that followed a number of MAPA members asked him why the National Guard repaired roads mainly on Sand Mountain when it was MAPA that made the request. He promised to look into the matter.

Condensed from the minutes of Secretary Bill Riedesel.

Groundhog Finance Report

August Issue

Income	
Balance on hand	\$986.05
Ad sales	565.00
	\$1,551.05
Debits	
Donna Bukley, sales & delivery	\$104.75
McGehees, editing plus cassette player ..	125.00
Cindy Pullen, reporting	10.00
Angelo Rosario, photo	5.00
U. S. Post Office	67.70
The Summerville News Co.	351.75
	\$664.20
Balance on hand	\$886.85

Randy In Jamaica



Randy Still, owner and Country Gourmet of Mentone's Cragmere Restaurant, on the week of August 12-22 participated in a work mission of the United Methodist Church, Cleveland District, at Ulster Springs, Jamaica. In the above photo Randy is shown busily shovelling gravel, which will be part of the concrete floor of the Ulster Springs Methodist Girls Training Center. The original building was constructed in the early 1800's. This extension, entirely by mission volunteers, consists of showers, bathrooms, kitchen, and dining room. This is Randy's second trip to the project. "What better way to spend a vacation?" says Randy. While there the Country Gourmet chef conducted a brief course in cooking.

TO MENTONE AREA PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION, BOX 50 in support of the objectives of MAPA, desiring to join with others in preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area, I enclose \$10 for voting membership for one through June 1986.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

The Groundhog

Published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association. 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. Chartered as a non-profit organization by the State of Alabama.

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Donna Bukley, Advertising, 634-4678
Amelia Brooks, Director
Donna Bukley, Associate Director
Bill Riedesel, Secretary
Shurlee Froehler, Treasurer
Homer Crow, Past Director

Brow Briefs

Mentone's checkers wizard Glenn Baty was winner of the 1985 DeKalb County Checkers Championship held at Union Park in Fort Payne. Glenn has been a top contender in state tournaments for a number of years. The county tournament was played under rules of the state checkers association.

The current newsletter of the DeKalb BMC honors Marjorie Berry, a nurse on the surgical floor, as the May employee of the month. Her five years of service have caused co-workers to describe her as friendly, humorous, and a very good worker. She is quoted in the publication as saying: "My career at DeKalb is meaningful because the staff gives personalized patient care and the doctors are excellent."

DeKalb was one of 54 Alabama counties showing a population growth which reflects a tendency of migration from heavily populated centers to rural areas. DeKalb's 22.4 growth increase is reported in a study released by the Center for Demographic and Cultural research at Auburn University.

Walter Sumner starred in the Landmarks Players production recently of "The Sunshine Boys" at Northeast State Junior College.

Continued thanks to Bill Cyr and his Mar-Mill Steel & Supply Company in Fort Payne for sending **The GROUNDHOG** typed address labels for our out of town MAPA members each month. It's a big saving in time and materials.

The GROUNDHOG received correspondence from Homestead Hollow, in Springville, Alabama, inviting Mentone residents to the Pioneer Festival and Sorghum Making on October 5 and 6, from 9 to 5 each day. For more information, call 467-6072 or 467-6285.

Unity Study Group meets each Tuesday at 7 p.m. at DeSoto State Park Lodge. Everyone welcome. Currently studying "The Game of Life and How to Play It," by Florence Schovel Shinn, the group leaders are the Reverend Edwene Gaines and Bert Carson.

Call 634-4734 for information about the Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at Mentone Methodist Church Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

New member of the Moon Lake faculty is Brenda Bobo, who replaces Kim Youngblood as teacher of the combination first and second grades.

Jeff Cook's Station

Now that the Federal Communications Commission has given approval, the new AM radio station in Valley Head is expected to be on the air by the end of the year.

To operate from sunrise to sunset, the station will be located at 870 on the dial and is co-owned by Jeff Cook of the group ALABAMA and Tom Crowe. Located on Fritz Steel Road, the station will operate at a power of 5,000 watts.

American Legion

Mentone's American Legion Post 215 recently completed a fund-raising drive, during which a microwave oven was won by Angela Wilson of Fort Payne. The presentation on August 27 was made on behalf of Post Commander Leonard Shigley by Sammy Cash. Commander Shigley reports that construction of restrooms is now underway at the Legion Hall.

Did You Know?

Little River Canyon, sometimes called "The Grand Canyon of the South," is 24 miles long and from 500 to 700 feet deep.

Mountain Watch

By Charles White McGehee

The summer of 1985 is now past. Mentone, like the remainder of the nation, received the brunt of nature's excesses. The eternal symbols of fire and flood were translated into torrid days of 100 degrees — plus intensity in the early part of the summer and later followed by the incessant rains which seemed to go on forever.

Little River rose to a dangerous torrent, overflowing its banks, roaring over DeSoto Falls, damaging bridges, carrying along docks and boats. The LaHusage area was particularly battered by the waters that rushed down the east fork. Fort Payne was seriously flooded on three separate occasions.

At first it looked as if the heat and dryness would parch the vegetable gardens of Mentone. Then the rains came and there was worry about too much water. Soon, however, there were generous and abundant offers of squash, cucumbers, beans, tomatoes and other succulent vegetables. One person said, "Why do they have to come all at once?"

There was much canning and freezing, especially of soupmix, corn, beans, tomatoes and peas. As time went on I was reminded of a series of wine ads on TV which were built around the theme, "The first time." There were a number of "first times" over the summer. The first time we had tender corn on the cob from Shine McNew's fabulous garden in Valley Head.

Then, the first new potatoes he and Willy B. Langston brought, so delightful when baked, creamed or as hash browns. A huge box of McNew potatoes is now stored under the house, for winter use. Then there was the first time we had watermelon, bought at a roadside stand, first in salted slices, then in fruit salads, along with cantaloupe, peaches and other delicacies.

On and on it could go — the first time we had bell peppers, butterbeans, green onion tops from Jean's garden, especially the cherry tomatoes, such a delicacy this year, the initial okra, fried in crisp batter.

Such a joy it was, the first time we heard the voices from one of the girl's camps, having their Sunday afternoon picnic up at Brow Park, watching the sunset across Sand Mountain. The girls come and go from year to year, but the voices and the songs are the same, a miracle of life's continuity. It was so sad when we heard them singing on their last Sunday afternoon. I thought they sang at one point, "We Are the World."

In the outside world there was the starvation in Ethiopia, the racial turmoil in South Africa, the plane crashes in Dallas, Japan, and England which cost so many lives. Our farmers, too many of them, were fighting off foreclosure; President Reagan's cancer brought concern as did the continuing problems resulting from the assassination attempt on Governor George Wallace.

Then, of course, there was the near-total collapse of the Atlanta Braves, equated by the daily excitement of Pete Rose's drive to equal the record of Ty Cobb.

One day late in summer as I walked around the yard, I heard a chorus of chainsaws, two to the south, one to the north, playing their melody of happiness and diligence as they were obviously cutting firewood for the winter. The fireplaces and wood stoves will soon be performing their duties.

Appalachian Reduction In U. S. Congress

The Appalachian Regional Commission appropriation was cut by one-third in the new Congressional budget, reduced from the present \$150 million to \$99 million. For the fifth consecutive year the Reagan administration proposed elimination of the commission, contending that the region has completed its mission. Appalachian governors believe that the region has suffered from unusually high unemployment and additional assistance is needed for highways, to end isolation in the region.

Adult Education Classes At Moon Lake School

Adult Education Classes are beginning at Moon Lake Elementary School, according to Principal Charles Bell. Classes are held on Thursday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. The courses are free. Books are available for use, although students may purchase their own if they prefer.

Students may enroll at any time simply by attending the class when it meets. They may exit at any time. The time required to prepare for the GED tests will vary from student to student. The same holiday cancellations apply to the adult classes as to the regular Moon Lake holidays.

"Any adult who has not finished high school and wants to prepare for the GED test may attend the class," says Principal Bell. "Also high school students who want to brush up on English and math before entering college, technical school, or armed services may attend. Some adults may be interested in improving their skills in order to assist their children with their school work, or they just may want to come for their personal satisfaction."

Further details may be obtained by calling 634-4113.

Proposed 1986 Town Budget

For the first time in memory Mentone is about to have an operating budget. At the September council meeting the finance committee, composed of Mayor Rob Hammond and Councilman Richard Meadows submitted copies of a budget they have been working on for several weeks. Mayor Hammond states that no salary changes are involved. Citizens are urged to study the 1986 budget and express opinions prior to its adoption.

TAXES	
State Gasoline Excise Tax	\$2,900.00
Ad Valorem Taxes	7,200.00
Motor Vehicle License Tax	2,200.00
Town Gasoline Tax	4,200.00
Tobacco Tax	800.00
City Sales Tax	4,700.00

22,000.00	
LICENSES, PERMITS & FEES	
Privilege Licenses	4,500.00
Meter Installation	650.00
Petroleum Inspection Fee	360.00

5,510.00	
OTHER REVENUE	
Federal Revenue Sharing Funds	3,400.00
Rent	1,800.00
Interest Income	620.00
Fines and Costs	550.00
TVA Money	5,000.00
Miscellaneous	60.00

11,430.00	
TOTAL PROJECTED INCOME	
\$38,940.00	

GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	
Salary — Mayor	\$1,200.00
Salary — Clerk	3,000.00
Council Fees	600.00
Office Supplies	750.00
Utilities	600.00
Telephone	550.00
Miscellaneous	900.00
Donations & Memberships	2,000.00
Insurance	2,500.00
Payroll Taxes	400.00
Legal & Accounting	2,500.00
Travel	0
Cigarette Tax Stamps	0
Election Expense	0

15,000.00	
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POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Police Salaries	8,600.00
Auto Expense	2,800.00
Miscellaneous	160.00
Court Recorders	150.00
Police Annuity Fund	10.00
Capital Outlay	0
Payroll Taxes	580.00
Uniform Allowance	250.00

12,550.00	
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STREET DEPARTMENT	
Street & Road Improvements	4,000.00
Sanitation Expense	600.00
Park Maintenance	400.00
Electricity	885.00

5,885.00	
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TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES	
\$33,435.00	

PROJECTED CONTINGENCY	
\$5,505.00	

PROJECTED REVENUES — 1986	
Water Department Sales	\$52,000

PROJECTED EXPENDITURES — 1986	
Water Department Salaries	6,600
Telephone	380
Reading Meters	840
Supplies	3,000
Maintenance	1,200
Amortization & Interest Expense	6,000
Payroll Taxes	457
Energy Costs	2,500
Purchased Water	27,000
Superintendent Expense	1,500
	\$49,477

Project Contingency	\$2,523
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The Gourdies Take Flight



The Gourdies seem to have gone into orbit. From their birthplace in Mentone's Hitching Post, Sharon Barron's cunning creatures have attained nationwide attention.

Recent developments began with the Sunday, August 18, edition of *The Birmingham News*. Above the page one headlines was a color photo of Sharon and several Gourdies and the caption, "Gourdies: Engaging creations spell S-U-C-C-E-S-S." On page 2, a photo of the artist at work and a story by James H. Kennedy headed "Artistic Woman Turns Her Talent into Business."

Kennedy wrote of the birth of the Gourdies long before the emergence of the Cabbage Patch Dolls, how Sharon began breathing life into ordinary gourds, moving to Mentone, watching the projects and the orders grow into a cottage industry giving employment to local people.

On the day following *The Birmingham News* article, the story was picked up by one of the wire services. From this source, the nationally circulated newspaper *USA Today* developed a page one feature consisting of a color photo of a Gourdie and the following story: "The Gourdies: We've had Mr. Potato Head, Cabbage Patch dolls and Strawberry Shortcake



dolls. And now, here come the Gourdies! Their long-nosed faces are made from, you guessed it, real gourds. Available at southeast USA specialty stores and Carole Stupell's in New York, Gourdies sell for \$35-\$50. Maybe kids should start growing their own. For information write: Gourdies, Box 123, Mentone, Ala. 35984."

On the very day the *USA TODAY* article ran, the Gourdie office received a call from J. C. Penny's central office. The result — an order for 44 dozen Gourdies. At the time Sharon was preparing to leave on a vacation to Savannah and the Bahamas and was in process of moving to Fort Payne for the winter where her daughter Shala is a senior at Fort Payne High School.

Fortunately the inventory was sufficient to meet the Penny order. It required, however, an enormous coordinated effort to secure the proper boxes, arrange the paper work, including insurance, and various other details for such a large order. Jo Whitley handled quality control, with Helen Turner and Eloise Kilgore rallying to the many other tasks. Sharon confidently went on to the Bahamas.

Only five days later, the truck with the J. C. Penny orders left Tuesday, August 27, at 2 p.m., for stores in Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Things continued to happen. Individual orders for the Gourdies increased. A syndicated quiz show wants to give Gourdies as prizes. The *West Palm Beach Globe* requested photographs. Paul Funn Dunn of WSOY, Decatur, Illinois, called for a radio interview. Letters came requesting various information, including how to grow gourds (Sharon sells seed for those interested in becoming part of the project).

"I hope Benny Goss has to hire extra help at the post office to handle all this," said the Gourdies' creator, both pleased and a bit overwhelmed at the momentum.

An article in the April '85 *GROUNDHOG* described the Gourdies as a Mentone cottage industry, in which local persons such as Bonnie and Becky Easler, Helen Turner, Garnett Whitley and Sarina Voigt make the various components at home and bring them to the Gourdie Shop for assembly. Payment for the work is on a basis of each unit. Those interested in this kind of work should call 634-4767.

Sharon Barron is also author of *The "Gourdies" Book*, dealing with Hattie, who sees life through the eyes of a child and the wisdom of the old. Its setting is suspiciously similar to the Mentone Springs Hotel.

Cousins Converge

On August 10th and 11th some thirty-nine Shigley cousins had a reunion in Mentone. Organized by Betty Johnson, Grace Pullen, and Leonard Shigley, the group met at the McDorman home and enjoyed dinner together on Saturday and Sunday. Altogether, some sixty people gathered over the weekend, including eight visitors and thirteen aunts and uncles. The cousins especially enjoyed boat rides on Little River, courtesy of Richard Meadows.

The cousins had such a good time, that despite the work of planning and hosting, they hope to make the gathering an annual event. Unfortunately, no group pictures were taken this year.

The cousins included Mildred Reece Nuckols and daughter Betty Williams, South Carolina; Jim and Maxine Reece Riddle, Florida; Jack and Eloise Reece Price, South Carolina; Carolyn Nuckols Wenige, Maryland; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Warren, Atlanta; Rendall and Mary Warren Cosand, North Carolina; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Shigley, Jr., Tuscaloosa; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Shigley, Indiana; Yewell and Eva Green Clark, Fort Payne; Clyde and Frances Jones Crowe of Clinton, Tennessee; Fred Johnson, Rainsville; Virginia Jones Elder, Macon, Georgia; Joe and Barbara Jones Phillippe, Arkansas; John and Helen Smith Hearn of Carrollton, Georgia; Ellen Williams Hurst of Winder, Georgia; Bobbie Daniel Hilderbrand, Dothan; Quinton and Rebecca S. Black, Pensacola; Marie S. Hulsey, Selma; Marie Crowe Woodall and daughter Karen of Rome, Georgia; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Shigley, Bill and Grace Green Pullen, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Green, Betty Jones Johnson, all of Mentone.

Although the reunion was planned for the cousins, aunts and uncles who met at Grace Jones's and who came by the gathering on Sunday included Edna Jones, Macon; Rona Smith, Carrollton, Georgia; Bill and Nona S. Williams, Winder, Georgia; Ray and Stella S. Silk, Menlo; Charles and Margaret S. Crowe, Lyle; Eunice Shigley, Gadsden; Ruby S. Daniel, Charles and Ethel S. Adams, and Grace Jones, Mentone.



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Sunday Buffet



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- Homemade Bread
- Homemade Desserts
- Expanded Buffet

845-5380

The Hitching Post

**CROWS' NEST
ANTIQUES**

Jean Elrod — Bernise Crow



Mentone Groundhog Classic

SPONSORED BY THE MENTONE AREA PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION
one mile fun run

Preceding Groundhog Classic Run there will be a 1 mile fun run at 9:00 a.m. Pre-registered entrants are guaranteed a t-shirt the day of the race. Late entrants will be mailed a shirt. Times will be called out but no records will be kept.

groundhog classic

Distance: 4 miles

Course: flat to gently rolling hills

Location: DeSoto Parkway

Entry Fee: \$7.00 pre-registered, \$8.50 day of race

Awards: Specially designed t-shirts will be given to all participants. Pre-registered runners are guaranteed shirts the day of the race.

Late registrants will be mailed a t-shirt. First, second, and third place medals will be awarded in each age division.

Splits: Called at half way mark. Water available on the course.

Organized By: All proceeds go toward the goals of the Mentone Area Preservation Association, an organization dedicated to preserving the natural heritage, environment, and other unique qualities of Mentone.

Time: 9:30

Date: Sat. Oct. 19th.

Deadline: Oct. 14th.

Mentone will be celebrating Octoberfest this weekend. There will be a large bonfire on Friday night highlighted by a professional story teller. In addition to the run on Saturday there will be live entertainment all day, delicious food, crafts and boat tours of scenic Little River.

Mentone is located on Lookout Mountain, halfway between Chattanooga and Gadsden on Highway 117. There are exits on I-59 north and south. Follow hwy. 117 through Hammondville, Valley Head, and up the mountain. From the east, Mentone can be reached through Lafayette, Summerville, Georgia, through Menlo to Cloudland to Mentone.

Detach and mail or bring to: The Mentone Groundhog Classic, Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984. Entry fee of \$ 7.00 per run must accompany each application. \$8.50 after October 14th. Make checks payable to M.A.P.A. (Mentone Area Preservation Association).

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Age as of 10/30/85 _____ SIGNATURE _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN _____ If under 18, signature or parent or guardian is required

SHIRT SIZE S M L XL

DIVISION:

() MEN

() 14 & Under

() 15-19

() 20-29

() 30-39

() 40 & Over

() WOMEN

() 14 & Under

() 15-19

() 20-29

() 30-39

() 40 & Over

CHECK RACE(S)

() FUN RUN

() Groundhog Classic



Waiver: In consideration of accepting this entry, I the undersigned, intending to be legally bound, hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators waive and release any and all claims for losses and damages I may have against M.A.P.A. and all other parties and their representatives, successors, and assigns for any; and all injuries suffered by me in said event. I attest and verify that I am physically fit. Further, I hereby grant full permission to any and all foregoing to use photos, videotapes, motion pictures, recordings or any other record of this event for any purpose whatsoever. NO ONE MAY ENTER THIS EVENT WITHOUT SIGNING THIS OFFICIAL WAIVER.

A History Of Mentone, Chapter 8 - Heyday to the Depression PART 2

By Zora Shay Strayhorn

The first store erected on the site of the present Hitching Post was built around 1900 and was called "The Mentone Store," at the corner of Alabama Highway 117, Cutler Avenue, and DeSoto Parkway. The building was designed like a shot-gun and was built by Guy Burgess, uncle of Guy Jones, president of The Citizens Bank, 1985.

The post office was in this building, with Guy Burgess as postmaster from September 9, 1902, until September 10, 1907. G. A. Burgess, father of the owner, was a cobbler who made and sold shoes in the store.

The store was bought by David Lovejoy Jones ("Davey"), born November 8, 1884, in Mentone. He had a complete country store, including a drug store and soda fountain. The old marbletop soda fountain is still in the Hitching Post. During the winter, he cut ice blocks from Moon Lake and shaved the ice for iced drinks in the summertime. Davey Jones built and lived in the Sam Barrett place, and he owned a large share of present-day commercial Mentone. He served as a county commissioner from district four from 1924-1931 and was influential in getting Alabama Highway 117 from Valley Head to the Georgia line.

"Hal" Howe operated the business one year. Albert Ellis and Red Hulan operated the drug store one year and continued the tradition of serving milk shakes and homemade ice cream.

In 1924 the store was sold to Low and Pierce. Bertha Akins was an employee. One year the business was leased to N. B. Haston. In 1930 Sam Graham with partner Fred Huron bought the place and added the upstairs portion. Square dances were held upstairs on a dance floor well undergirded; Joe Husky called the square dances.

Mr. Graham added a room to the building for the post office that in 1985 is the home of Sharon Barron's Gourdie Shop. The post office was moved from a small building below the Hitching Post in 1932 into the new room with Stella Shigley acting as postmistress.

The store was next purchased by Will Davenport. Wayne Baxter operated the drug store and dance hall. Lee and Lottie Davenport worked for Lee's cousin Will Davenport. They rented Will's equipment and ran the Hitching Post for about nine years, from 1932 to 1941. The meat cooler, original cash register, and other items of that period may still be seen there. Ray Perkins and Arthur Hixson worked there for a while; one year Arthur Hixson and Mr. Quillian ran the store.

Sam Graham's daughter Eleanor and husband Bill Glover operated the store after 1941. Their three sons worked in the business: Graham, Alex and Billy. The name "Hitching Post" was given to the Mentone Store by Bill and Eleanor Glover. In the early 1940's

breakfast was served at 5 a.m. for the fox hunters staying at the Mentone Springs Hotel to the accompaniment of excited yapping hunting dogs, followed by the sound of distant fox horns.

After the death of Eleanor Glover, the heirs were John Graham, followed by Alex Glover. For several years different people occupied parts of the building: Rose Brown had a cloth shop, Clyde Lance Jones had a beauty shop, the Blalocks had a woodwork shop.

Fritz and Joanne Smith bought the place in 1975 and sold antiques. Durwood "Doc" and Kyle Long were next to purchase the building in 1977 and owned it for two years.

In 1980 Bernice Crow and her sister Jean Elrod bought the property after having leased it for a year; they added the name "Crow's Nest" and are dealers in antiques.

The original building of the White Elephant Galleries was used as an annex to accommodate the overflow of crowds from the Mentone Springs Hotel. The annex was built by A. A. Chapman, who owned the hotel in 1913 and 1914. The annex housed 24 rooms, many with private baths. In July 1950, H. L. Murphy of Summerville, Georgia, purchased the old annex and renamed it The Sunset Hotel. He and his wife ran the hotel for a time. In the mid-'60s it closed. In 1976 it was bought by Mr. and Mrs. James Rotch and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Young III of Birmingham. The White Elephant Galleries contains unusual works of arts and crafts.

Nippersink, a Cherokee Indian word meaning "Little River," was the name given to the summer lodge built for Mrs. Eugene Taylor of Murphreesboro, Tennessee.

Nippersink was built in 1934 in DeSoto Falls Park, a residential development organized by Phiffer Smith of Baltimore, Maryland, and A. A. Miller of Fort Payne. Arthur Abernathy Miller built the twenty foot high dam above DeSoto Falls in 1920, to operate Little River Power Company, later sold to Alabama Power Company.

The architect for Nippersink was a Mr. Weldon of Birmingham, Alabama. The large building was to be used as a summer home, built among the rhododendrons on the west bank of Little River of native material, except for the huge cedar posts used across the front of the lodge which were shipped by flat car from Lebanon, Tennessee.

Ernest Shigley and Fred Jones were the contractors; Lee Melanie assisted as well as local craftsmen. Lee Crow was the mason for the stone work, including the lodge's huge stone fireplace, one of the finest examples of rock work on Lookout Mountain. The original hickory furniture, handmade by Robert Pullen, is still used.

After the demise of Mrs. Taylor, Nippersink was sold to Annelee Tucker and Elizabeth Lowe in October, 1944, both teachers, who established a mountain summer resort in 1945. For many years the staff of young women was from Berry College, Rome, Georgia.

In January, 1973, Oseloa G. Hauge purchased Nippersink; her husband, a retired naval officer, assisted his wife in the operation until their retirement. In 1977, Nippersink was purchased by Geraldine and Ed Disney.

The great influx of tourists or "summer people" to the newly established resort areas of Mentone in the 1920's was an unwelcome phenomenon to some of the permanent residents. The reasons for the anxiety are revealed in a letter written in 1929. The original letter, signed by a minister and 21 other people, was owned by Mrs. Henry Batty Graves (deceased) of Mentone and was printed in *The DeKalb Legend*, May, 1972:

"We who sign this letter to you, live in Mentone township; we own our own homes here and are trying to rear our children free from the vices which now endanger them. Most of us were born and reared on the mountain in the simply Godly way peculiar to mountain folks. In recent years, and especially in the last year, conditions have so changed with the growth of Mentone that if not checked is certain to affect the lives of our children for evil. We think it best to be specific and state our grievance in a plain way.

"1st. We bitterly resent the parading of young men and women on roads and streets, walking and packed in automobiles half naked.

"Our ideas of common decencies of life may be ancient and crude but they suit us and we know the example is hurtful to our children.

"2nd. Bathing on the mountain which in itself is a delightful recreation has become a moral menace by the extreme to which it is carried. The way in which half naked boys and girls are mixed in the water and sunning on sand banks, is demoralizing and certain to bring evil to any community which tolerates it. The pity and shame of it is that it is worse on the Sabbath day than any other; the shouting and noise from these places are heard in our Sunday Schools and church gatherings.

"3rd. Regardless of our opinions of the modern dance halls, we insist that there are extremes in which they should not be carried. If they are to be run at all in Mentone, they should be so conducted at night that extreme jazz music, shouting and boisterous conducts should not disturb the people of the neighborhood ..."

A Good Idea

Shown to the right is Charles Stuart McGehee, son of THE GROUNDHOG editors, who on a visit with his parents three years ago first suggested the appropriateness of the Groundhog Classic Run. He and his wife Pam, ardent runners, had made the run from the Hitching Post to the DeSoto Falls turnoff and back. His idea was enthusiastically implemented by Marty Griffin and her committee and is now in its third year. Having completed his doctorate in history at the University of Virginia, Stuart is acting head of the social studies department at Bluefield College, West Virginia.



Lookout Mt. Parkway

In a meeting at Rock City Gardens, Tennessee, on August 20th, the following Alabama Directors of the proposed Lookout Mountain Parkway were chosen: Joe Barnes, Danny Crowner, Richard Lindsey, Jackie Weaver, and Kenneth Pennington. Tennessee and Georgia delegates have not been elected. A map of the proposed area of the Parkway was displayed.

Efforts are underway to obtain support of the Alabama Legislature authorizing the marking of the route. The Alabama Travel Council will promote the project. Joe Barnes pointed out such attractions in the Nockalula area as the Museum of Natural History in Anniston, the Talladega 500 Museum, and the Hoke's Bluff Area. It was suggested that the John F. Kennedy Trail would be part of the project.

Attending from this area were Mr. and Mrs. Doyal Bennefield, Kenneth Pennington, and Bernice Crow. Suggestion was made that the next meeting be held at DeSoto State Park.

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A Country Doctor

(Continued From Front Cover)

ted to this community."

Dr. Quimby graduated from the Albany Medical College, Albany, New York, in 1943. But his formal education certainly did not stop there. "I attend at least two seminars yearly for family medicine," he informed **THE GROUNDHOG**. "And although Alabama law does not require it, I regularly exceed expected additional hours of work on a post graduate level."

It's no wonder his patients often remark, "He is as good as any doctor I've ever been to at diagnosing illness."

Before coming to Valley Head, Dr. Quimby served five years in the army and two years with the New York Veteran's Administration. "Three of those years with the army I worked in the Pacific theater. I was battalion surgeon with the 32nd Infantry Division. Most of my work was performed in foxholes — right at the front. I'm still proud that I was awarded the Combat Medical Badge and received a combat promotion to captain."

"I was one of the first five men to land on Kyushu, the southernmost island of Japan. I stood in the center of Hiroshima just two weeks after the atomic bomb was dropped. Whatever you may have read, heard, or seen about the effects of the atomic bomb, just imagine it a lot worse, and you'll be closer to the truth."

People from the big cities are regularly amazed when told we have a doctor who is still willing to make house calls when the need arises. And those same people are shocked when they learn an office visit to the doctor costs only \$5. "When I started my practice here," Dr. Quimby recalled, "Dr. Ritchie had been charging \$2 for an office visit. As everyone knows, expenses have gone up over the years — water, electricity, equipment — everything. We've managed to hold the cost of an office visit to what I consider reasonable."

"But making a lot of money is not what being a country doctor is all about. Medicine is well into the age of specialization, and young doctors are regularly attracted to specialties where they can make lots of money. But there is a fallacy which exists with excessive specialization. Without the family doctor, who will be left to refer patients to the specialists? Being a good country doctor requires a good basic medical education and the desire to be one. You must be dedicated," Dr. Quimby emphasized.

"When I started here in 1949, there was only one blacktop road on Sand Mountain. About 50 percent of my work was house calls so I used a **Jeep**. Often I had to make my own roads, especially in bad weather. On three separate occasions when there has been a flu epidemic, I've worked seven days and nights without

ever going to bed to treat a patient who were ill. On one of those occasions Doc Coleman had to make a special trip to Chattanooga for additional vaccine because we'd emptied his shelves."

"The job had to be done, and we managed. Honestly, I don't know if I could do it again. But I've been extremely fortunate to have the assistance of a dedicated, professional nurse through most of these years. Mrs. Evelyn S. Hunt has been associated with me since 1952. Without her to help run the office and help with the practice, I could never have made it."

Asked whether the daily association with illness and suffering has lessened his sensitivity to pain and suffering, he replied, "Quite the opposite. It really bothers me to see people suffering. I look forward to coming into the office each day. I know I am fulfilling a need in the community and genuinely helping people. I make my rounds at the hospital when I have patients there. I like my work. And after a particularly busy day, I'm glad when the waiting room is empty and I can go fishing or play golf. My favorite leisure activity, though, is reading. I read most anything I can get my hands on."

To the question, "Do you still deliver babies?", Dr. Quimby smiled and leaned back in his chair a moment before answering.

"Delivering a baby is one of the special thrills of being a doctor. I haven't delivered a baby since I became 50 years old, sixteen years ago. I felt it was time for some of the younger doctors to have the experience. But before that I delivered over 2,000 babies in this community, and most of them at home."

"When you deliver a baby, when you hold that little bundle in your hands and hear its first cry, you know you've participated in one of the greatest mysteries of life. You're actually seeing life begin right there in your hands. And you are reminded that it's nothing you did as an individual. You really know that God is right there and you've witnessed His creation."

"There are other high points in being a doctor. Second to delivering babies is saving a person's life. Beyond that, to have a part in the day to day business of relieving suffering is gratifying. But to make it all work, you must be available to your patients. A country doctor cannot simply walk out the door at the end of the day and not expect to be awakened in the night. It goes with the job."

On the subject of continued growth of the community: "In 37 years I've not changed my mind about this being the garden spot of the world," Dr. Quimby mused. "My greatest fear is that a large commercial development would hurt the character of the area. I like it the way it is. The population has increased slightly. With adequate parking we could have had three or four major chains in Valley Head. Regardless, the local businesses which provide employment are of a good type. They haven't hurt the environment or quality of living. I just don't want to see it overdone."

On public services: "The school has continued to improve. My son graduated from high school here in Valley Head. The hospital in Fort Payne is improving yearly. We have better equipment and improved services. It is rapidly becoming one of the best hospitals in the area, and if things continue, will be the best available some day."

On the overall health of the community: "Generally speaking, we have the best fit population I've ever seen in my life right here. Being a farming communi-

ty, the people eat well and properly for the most part. Improvements in water systems and sewage treatment have contributed to the general good health. Upper respiratory and respiratory problems are the single greatest contributors to illness. And as with most communities, as the population lives longer, geriatric problems are commanding greater attention."

If you live in the community bounded by Lookout Mountain and Sand Mountain, from the Georgia line to Collinsville, you will probably have heard of Dr. Quimby. Nearly everyone around Mentone, Valley Head, and Hammondville has his favorite Dr. Quimby story. He has quite a few of them himself, declaring, "Most of them are too strange to be believed or printed." Stories aside, Dr. Quimby has the "right stuff." It's the stuff heroes and legends are made of. And our community is indeed fortunate he decided to make this his home.

A Dismal Warning

In the discussion period following attorney Ken Wallis' talk to MAPA on September third, Mentone resident John Morrison said, "Unless something is done to improve the roads in this area, a school bus could have a terrible accident and everyone will be mighty sorry too late."

Morrison, former MAPA director Homer Crow, attorney John Cooper, and Fire Chief Sammy Cash all spoke about the recent unfair distribution of chert hauled by the National Guard. Because of MAPA correspondence with Governor Wallace, the Guard was requested to haul the chert to improve the deplorable conditions of local roads.

However, 99 percent of the truck loads went to Sand Mountain, stated Mr. Cash. In addition to requesting more aid for local roads, those present inquired of Mr. Wallis about the possibility of a law suit to right the matter. MAPA members also urged Wallis' support for the creation of a fifth district in DeKalb County to insure Lookout Mountain residents adequate representation on the county commission.

Other discussion during the business meeting prior to Ken Wallis' talk proposed the establishment of a public telephone booth in the community and the necessity for public rest rooms.

Members voted to repay Homer Crow \$480 toward his loan to the Centennial Committee. Mr. Crow had lent the committee \$1,000, at ten percent interest. The committee has \$640 to repay him. There are some 32 centennial plates left. At \$15 each, these will eventually generate monies to repay MAPA its \$480.

Bea Crow

(Continued From Page 1)

Jell-O turned over in the ice box just before serving time.

Too, she remembers when girls wore formal gowns for dances with "brother" camps. Nowadays, jeans and shorts are worn. Another way campers have changed is that today their program includes a variety of activities. Formerly, elaborate pageants and formal programs were presented to which the entire community was invited.

Things have changed in the kitchen, also. Whole chickens were bought years ago, with feathers to be plucked. Entire lambs were purchased. Today she uses more mixes, but on the whole, Mrs. Crow believes menus are healthier. "We give them good food and variety," she says.

Her most popular dishes are her chicken pot pie, cheesecake, biscuits and all hot breads. She will bake pies or muffins when boys pick berries, and each boy who celebrates his birthday during camp receives a freshly baked cake.

Achieving satisfaction and enjoyment from her job as dietician, Mrs. Crow credits working with fine directors and their staffs, and compliments from campers. Does she still enjoy cooking? "I really do!" she readily answers.

Mrs. Crow was honored with a surprise dinner including her five children and ten grandchildren this summer. She was presented with a dozen red roses and a jade ring centered with a diamond — Alpine's colors, green and white.

Her husband, Leonard "Top" Crow, passed away in 1976. Off season, Mrs. Crow busily tends a layer house of some 30,000 chickens and enjoys her grandchildren. Her daughter Mary Ann and husband L. A. Smith, agribusiness teacher at Valley Head High School, live with her.

Her other children include Karen Tate (Mrs. Pat) of Fort Payne; Gail Collins, who lives in Louisville, Kentucky; and sons Bob and Gary who live nearby.



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Unlimited Potential

(Continued From Page 1)

listeners to vote for those officials who are idealistic rather than for the demagogues who spout cliches and promises.

The third concern of his talk was the criminal justice system. Because of the number of arrests each year, unless something is done to deal creatively with criminals, it will be necessary to build a new prison each year. Some of the suggestions he discussed were work release programs; supervised intensive restitution; work on public projects, such as DeSoto State Park; home jailing with electronic devices; more probation officers; sentencing guidelines for courts to generate uniformity in sentencing; repeal or reform of the habitual offender act to allow individual sentencing rather than automatically sentencing someone to life for three felony offenses.

In the open discussion period following his talk, Mr. Wallis said that during recuperation from his major surgery, the governor held regular meetings at the governor's mansion and is now coming to his office daily. He appears to be in far less pain than before his operation. Wallis believes the races for attorney general and lieutenant governor will be especially interesting.



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Leftovers

By Jean McGehee

Last month Lee Davenport's mentioning that he had ferried train passengers from Valley Head to Mentone via Model A's and T's brought back fond memories. Many other people drove the taxis up the mountain, but the man who drove me was a Mr. Hall (no relation to Norville, once owner of the Mentone Springs Hotel), father of a lady who clerked for Mr. Bell in his Valley Head grocery.

Although I'd come to Mentone by automobile a couple of times, the first of my arrivals by train was on the morning of my wedding day, 36 years ago. Always as a child coming by train from Chattanooga, I remember Daddy's telling me that the "head of the valley" was just north of Valley Head. "That's the highest point on the Southern Railway," he always said. From that point in either direction, the trains run downhill. An old brochure for Mentone says that Valley Head is "the highest point on the AGS Railway between Cincinnati and New Orleans."

We have snapshots of McGregor's arrival at the Valley Head Depot when he was three and a half. Mother brought him up to rendezvous with Charles, Stuart, and me after a week's vacation. Since I was the source of Stuart's sustenance, I'd had to come along with him and Charles. That's the time we stayed in the famous "oldest house in Mentone," now part of St. Joseph's. Mother celebrated her birthday with us in the restaurant housed where Buck Low lives now.

Although the Valley Head Depot was destroyed, a fine mural of it by Jimmy Frazier can be seen in the back of the former Bell-Miracle grocery store, and prints of the smaller painting Jimmy did may be ordered from him in Valley Head or be purchased at Marjorie's in Fort Payne. The Fort Payne Depot has been purchased by the Landmarks people, and the man in charge of the actual work of the restoration is a Mentone resident, Sam Sutton.

Once when my husband was in graduate school, we came South for the summer because he had a good job at an advertising agency in Birmingham for three months. One Saturday we were asked to go to the Shoals area near Huntsville to visit a struggling fellowship.

Just outside of Birmingham our old Nash broke down. I took the white eyelet cover off my purse and flagged down the train. From the train we went by bus and then by taxi to Decatur, I believe. I can still remember the cinders flying back into our faces on that train. For the return trip on Sunday, Charles flew back to Birmingham, and I returned by bus. There's no more nostalgic sound than the train whistle, and now and then we hear the excursion train as it passes in the valley.

Home On Wheels

Late one afternoon Mentone potter David Mays saw a strange vehicle moving up the mountain, drawn by two mules. He engaged the driver Buck Martin in conversation and was introduced to two dogs, Spike and Tiny. Martin built this self-contained vehicle, a moving residence. In good weather he cooks out of doors. When he must, Martin works as a handy man, 2 or 3 days a week. Usually he just wanders around the country. This time he was headed for Shannon, Georgia, for reasons he did not divulge. Of the mules he said, "The black one is mean; the other one is sweet." The potter and his wife Sunny invited Mr. Martin to spend the night in their yard. The mules grazed around the lawn. When the Mays awoke the following morning, their guest had departed and was probably halfway down the mountain on the Georgia side. (David took this photo in the twilight hours).



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Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Service: 11 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study Group: 6:00 P. M.
Telephone: 635-6561

MENTONE WESLEYAN CHURCH

The Rev. A. C. Clemens, minister
Sunday School: 10:00 A. M.
Sunday Worship: 10:50 A. M., 6:00 P. M.
Wednesday Evening Service: 7:00 P. M.
Telephone: 634-4210

ST. JOSEPH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Robert Blackwell, minister
Sunday School: 10:00 A. M.
Sunday Worship: 11:00 A. M.
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 P. M.
Telephone: 634-4476

MENTONE REVIVAL CENTER

The Rev. Dewey Oswald, minister
Sunday School: 10:00 A. M.
Worship Service: 11:00 A. M., 6 P. M.
Wed. Prayer Meeting: 6:30 P. M.

HOWARD'S CHAPEL

The Reverend Jeffrey Fuller, minister
Tourists and visitors welcome.

Sponsored by Fort Payne Baptist Church. (No services January-February).

10:30 a.m. — 1-845-2015

CAMP ALPINE: Richard O'Ferrall, director; camp for boys; 634-4200. June 1-Aug. 11.

COMER SCOUT RESERVATION: Bob Dunaway, director; Boy Scout camps June 17-July 14, 634-3445.

CAMP DESOTO: Sue Henry, director; camp for girls. June 19-Aug. 15. 634-3411.

CAMP JULIETTE LOW: Kathy Holly, director; Girl Scout Camp in Cloudland, Georgia. June 17-Aug. 11. 404-428-0446.

CAMP LANEY: Rob Hammond, director; camp for boys; June 16-Aug. 11. 634-3561.

LOOKOUT MT. CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER: Anne and John Morrison, directors; 634-3471.

BOYS' CAMP: July 13-Aug. 3. Free Day Camp, Aug. 5-9.

PONDEROSA BIBLE CAMP: Christian youth camp. Glenn Miller, director, 634-3795. June 16-Aug. 11.

CAMP SADDLE ROCK: Marty Griffin, director; girls' camp; June 16-Aug. 11, 634-4608.

CAMP SKYLINE RANCH: Susan C. Hooks, director; girls' camp; June 16-Aug. 11, 634-3201.

VALLEY VIEW RANCH: Nancy Jones, director, Cloudland, Georgia; June 17-Aug. 11, 404-862-2231. Girls.

CAMP WOODMONT: Jane Bennett, director; boys' and girls' camp. 404-284-5369, June 17-Aug. 5.



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