

**Celebrating  
13 Years  
in Print**

# THE GROUNDHOG

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**Provided FREE  
Since 1982  
by M.A.P.A.**

Volume 13, No. 9

*"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"*

September 1995

## A GLIMPSE INSIDE THE BERRY PATCH

By Evelyn Graves

May 18, 1902

My dearest Rebecca,

I would feel as tho' this day had been poorly spent if I failed to write to you....the whole object of my life now is to come home as soon as possible, marry you and begin life with you to help, cheer, and comfort me in times of prosperity and adversity. My heart goes out in deepest love and affection for you, and I always pray to our Father in Heaven for His blessings upon us all during our earthly lives that we may make the world better, happier and brighter for having lived in it. I will never be satisfied or contented away from you and I trust that if there ever arises anything in our future lives, which will only be grim death, to cause our separation that I will be taken first for without you I don't care to live. This is rather a selfish spirit, but truly Rebecca, I feel that no one else living could ever take your place in my affections....it will be the happiest and proudest day in all of my existence when I can call you my wife. I will struggle until my dying hour henceforth to make you proud of me and glad of the day when you consented to be mine....it is you only who can influence or inspire me to all things that are noble, true and good...I am going to win the battle of life for your sake....

Yours lovingly,  
Thomson



Dr. William Thomson Berry (3/17/1897)



Rebecca Cecil Berry

This is a homesick letter written by young Dr. William Thomson Berry to his fiancée, Rebecca Cecil, who was living in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr. Berry was serving a 12-month residency as a surgeon in New York at the time. Dr. Berry was the only child of William Everett Berry and Cecile Thomson Berry. He was born and reared in Okalona, Mississippi. He received a "degree of Doctor in Medicine" from Vanderbilt Medical School, and various degrees in surgery. His wife, Rebecca Cecil Berry, grew up in Columbia, Tennessee, and was educated in a girls preparatory school. They married in Birmingham in June 1902. Their marriage was based on the premise of the letter sent to Rebecca prior to their marriage.

They loved each other with an abiding love, and she was a strong influence and inspiration in his life as he performed his duties as a general practitioner and surgeon. He touched the lives of many people during his years as a physician in Birmingham. As medicine became more specialized, he was able to conclude his general practice and do what he loved best--general surgery.

Ten children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Berry: William Everett Berry, b. 1903; Cecile Berry Hardy, b. 1905; Rebecca Cecil Berry Stephan, b. 1907; William Thompson Berry, b. 1908; Robert Cecil Berry, b. 1911; Mary Hughes Berry Stewart, b. 1914; Corrine Berry Wolcott, b. 1915; James Alexander Berry and John Franklin Berry, twins, b. 1925. John Franklin died at 9 days old.

Mrs. Berry was a renowned Bible scholar and teacher and was strong in Baptist work in the Birmingham area. In 1948, she was featured on the cover of the Royal Service, the mission

magazine for Baptist women across the entire country. As she loved and reared her nine children, she longed for a place in the country to take them in the summer. She always felt the city was no place to rear children. Dr. Berry had a patient named Cosby who was a partner in the Cosby-Hodges Milling Company, and who owned the existing Berry Patch property. He was heartbroken because his only son had drowned in Little River while ice skating, and because of his sorrow, Mr. Cosby did not feel that he could return to Mentone. Dr. Berry and his brother-in-law, Gordon Cecil, purchased the property from Mr. Cosby in 1918. At the time of the purchase, the house, now occupied by Jimmy and Marjorie Berry, was a 2-room Civil War log cabin with a dog trot between the two rooms. (See picture on page 5.)

(Continued on Page 5.)

### Schedule of Meetings, Events, and Other Dates

• Tuesday, September 5, 7 p.m.  
MAPA Meeting, Mentone Town Hall

• Monday, September 11, 7 p.m.  
Mentone Council Meeting

• Tuesday, October 3, 7 p.m.  
MAPA Meeting, Mentone Town Hall

• Tuesday, October 15, Valley Head  
Volunteer Fire Department Fish Fry

• Grandparent's Day,  
September 10

• First Day of Autumn,  
September 23

• Columbus Day, October 10  
(observed on October 9)

• October Colorfest

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, October 20, 21, 22  
Plan to attend the Friday night campfire.  
(See flyer on back page.)

Look on Page 7 for a new series:  
Authentic Civil War Stories  
from the collection of Grady Hammond.

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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

Editor.....Evelyn Graves  
Associate Editor/ typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck  
Contributing Editors.....Ovie Blalock, Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Eloise Brown, Madeleine Bullock, Bernise Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Maurine Donahue, Richard Douthat, Evelyn Graves, Ilene Green, Phil Harris, Charlyne O'Rear, Lisa Moore, Bill Schwarz, Sue Schwarz, Pat Seymour, Kim Worthey

## MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Bernise Crow  
Vice President.....Jim Lyday  
Secretary/Treasurer.....Mickey Gough  
Parliamentarian.....Homer Crow  
Member-At-Large.....Ed Disney  
Member-At-Large.....Donna Bouldin

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 22nd day of the month preceding publication. The publication is due out by the first Tuesday of each month.



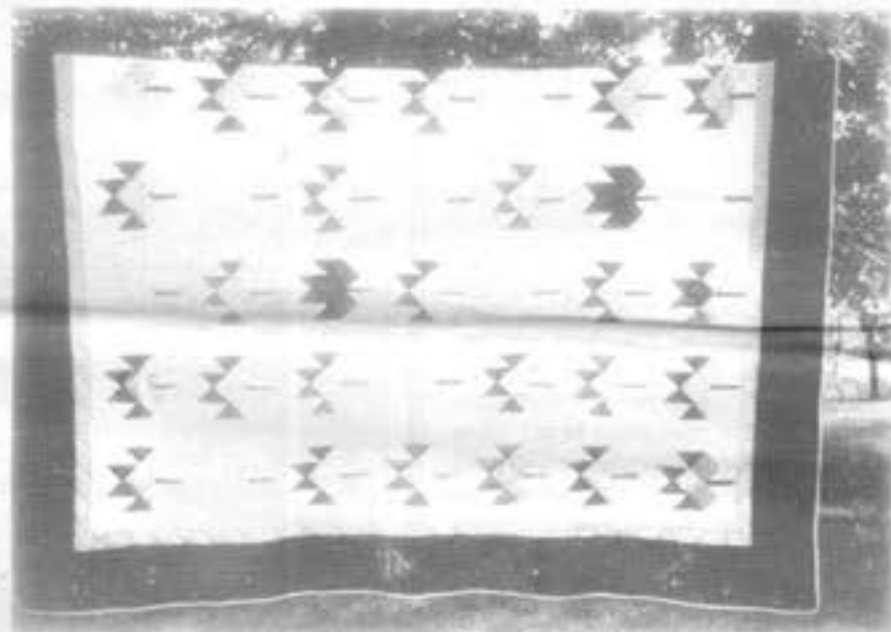
## MESSAGE FROM MAPA PRESIDENT, BERNISE CROW

We are all busy planning and thinking about the October Colorfest. We hope everyone will work with MAPA to make this one a good one. We learn something every time we do a festival and hopefully use the knowledge for making a more successful one. Charlyne O'Rear is chairing the event and has sent out letters and fliers to potential vendors. We need a good entertainment chairman to make things interesting and lively. Linda Kilgore is handling publicity, and I know she will do it well. Donna Bouldin will handle the Groundhog Classic Run, and she needs help. Please do not be afraid to volunteer your services. It takes all of us to make a success.

We are not a closed-door organization. We welcome you to our meetings. If you are not satisfied with the way we are doing things, come and join us and put in your opinion. We want to cooperate peacefully with everyone. God bless all of you.



**STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Clay Sanders is a member of the Queen City Lakers, who recently competed in the AAU State Championship Baseball Tournament in Savannah. The team placed fourth in the state. Clay plays shortstop for the 11-year-olds' team. He is the grandson of John and Bobbie Smith, Mentone, Ala.



The MAPA quilt to be raffled off at the 1995 October Colorfest is the maple leaf design, with a maroon border. Lola Mae Blalock, expert quilter, made this quilt. Donations are only \$1.00 each for this beautiful hand-made quilt. Contact Mickey or Sherman Gough, Mentone, Ala., to get your name in the drawing. You don't want to miss a chance on this quilt.

## Don't Run Around Looking for It...



Have *The Groundhog* delivered to your mailbox.

Still Just \$10/ per year for individuals, and \$15/year for husband and wife.  
Send check today payable to:

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ASSOCIATION (MAPA)  
P.O. BOX 50  
MENTONE, AL 35984



Your membership/subscription is tax deductible

NARFE Chapter 1868 will meet Thursday, September 21, 1995, at 8:30 a.m. at the St. Paul United Methodist Church parking lot in Ft. Payne to go to Guntersville to hear Margaret Baptiste, Region III Field Vice President. This is a dutch treat luncheon meeting. The group will go in two vans.

The *Groundhog* now has a map of the Billy Jones Cemetery furnished by Clara Green Cash, identifying the dead buried there. For those who are interested, you may get in touch with Evelyn Graves at 634-4390.

**For sale:** 8 pot bellied pigs, 3 weeks old, ready to bring home for pets. \$50 for females and \$45 for males. Contact Luke Crouch at 1-706-375-2255 or Gail Chambers at 634-4507 and leave a message. Also for sale, two sows and a boar, \$150 for sows and \$100 for boar. Going out of business due to health reasons, only.

NORTHWEST GEORGIA FAMILY PRACTICE  
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# VALLEY HEAD SCHOOL NEWS

## NEW TEACHERS

Christy Brothers  
Jerry Brown  
Angie Broyles  
Norma Hulan  
Carolyn Stephens  
Debra Talley

## HOMETOWN POSITION

Crossville 5th Grade  
Valley Head History/Coach  
Rainsville Speech Therapist  
Valley Head Librarian  
Crossville 6th Grade  
Sylvania English

## 1995 CLASS OFFICERS

### \*Seniors

President - Jennifer Robertson  
Vice-President - Alison Meadows  
Secretary - Seth Norman  
Treasurer - Angie Wheat  
Student Council Reps - Ingrid Vik  
Daniel Vest

### \*Freshmen

President - Valerie Chappell  
Vice-President - Robert Johnston  
Secretary - Emily Frazier  
Treasurer - Kyle Freeman  
Student Council Reps - Candace Fuller  
Josh Baggett

### \*Juniors

President - Jim Phillips  
Vice-President - Matt Hulan  
Secretary - Misty Ferguson  
Treasurer - Heath Watson  
Student Council Reps - Brian Blalock  
Christy Ferguson

### \*8th Grade

President - Alisha Busby  
Vice-President - Buck Strickland  
Secretary - Kevin Webb  
Treasurer - Andrew Monroe  
Student Council Reps - Candace Fuller  
Josh Baggett

### \*Sophomores

President - Tim Harrison  
Vice-President - Richard Fuller  
Secretary - Jared Peace  
Treasurer - Teri Campbell  
Student Council Reps - Rene Brendle  
Zac Corbitt

### \*7th Grade

President - Becky Mays  
Vice-President - Laura Martin  
Secretary - Eric Battles  
Treasurer - Slade Carden  
Student Council Reps - Mary Pearson  
Nathan Owen

## 1995 FOOTBALL ROSTER

### \*Seniors

Nathan Alcorn #75  
Jon Baggett #33  
James Cox #86  
Shaun Flannigan #9  
Anthony Grisham #70  
John Lawton #42  
Seth Norman #11  
Chad Smith #2  
Tim Smith #7  
Trevor Strickland #54  
Brian Turner #24  
Daniel Vest #4

### \*Juniors

Brian Bond #79  
Dewayne Grisham #64  
Matthew Hulan #61  
Jim Phillips #6  
Heath Watson #8

### \*Sophomores

Kenny Busby #52  
Richard Fuller #62  
Tim Harrison #10  
Nathan Keith #20  
Jason Meadows #65  
\*Freshmen  
Robert Johnston #10  
Patrick McKinney #63

### \*Coaches

Jon Tidmore  
Jerry Brown (assistant)  
Mark Hale (assistant)

### \*Managers

Slade Carden  
Craig Hulan  
Derek Talley



## Tigers Override the Trojans

By Stephanie Hester

The Valley Head Tigers opened their season against the Gaylesville Trojans. They were ready the moment they set foot on the Trojan field. The Tigers knew this game would be the first step toward the championship.

From the opening kick off, Valley Head took control of the game. The Tigers drove to the ten yard line and turned it over on downs. The first touchdown of the game was made by Chris Tallet, a Gaylesville Trojan. That didn't get the Tigers down, it only made them realize they had to play harder. On the opposing kickoff return, Daniel Vest scored the first touchdown for Valley Head with an 85-yard run, and Seth Norman added the extra point. The score stood Trojans 6 and Tigers 7.

Valley Head played great defense and forced the Trojans to punt, and, on the ensuing possession, Shaun Flannigan scored the second TD of the night. The score was Tigers 13 and Trojans 7. That didn't stop the Trojans just yet. Tallet scored the Trojans second and final TD of the night. Gaylesville tried for the two point conversion. It was successful and gave them a 14-7 lead, but only for a short time. Valley Head would strike quickly when Tim Smith intercepted a pass and returned it to the Gaylesville one yard line. The very next play, Flannigan scored to put Valley Head up 19-14.

Vest had a total of 132 all purpose yards with 47 rushing yards. Flannigan had seven carries for 17 yards. Tim Smith had 10 carries for 56 yards. "We played as a team, and it was in their hearts to win this area game," said the coaches.

The defense played with intensity and swarmed the ball like a band of hornets. It was an outstanding job from the Valley Head Tigers. The next game (Sept. 8th) will be played at the new field behind Valley Head School; so, come out and support the Valley Head Tigers as they oppose Fyffe.

## VALLEY HEAD TIGERS

### 1995 Football Schedule

Sept. 8 Fyffe Home  
Sept. 15 Sand Rock Away  
Sept. 22 Cedar Bluff Home\*  
Sept. 29 Ider (HIC) Home  
Oct. 6 NSM Away  
Oct. 13 Crossville Away  
Oct. 20 Geraldine Home  
Oct. 27 Collinsville Home\*  
Nov. 3 Section Away

\*Area Games (HIC) Homecoming  
Head Coach: Jonathan Tidmore  
Asst. Coach: Mark Hale, Jerry Brown  
Principal: Gary Talley  
All home games will be played on the new field behind the High School.

## 1995 VOLLEYBALL ROSTER

### \*Seniors

Kayla Bell  
Stephanie Hester  
Jennifer Robertson

### \*Juniors

Christy Ferguson  
Misty Ferguson  
Wendy Hyde  
Heather Jackson  
Nikki Smith

### \*Sophomores

Rene Brendle

### \*Freshmen

Haley Alcorn  
Ashley Blalock  
Brandy Jackson  
\*8th Grade  
Jennifer Brubakers  
Crystal Valentine

### \*7th Grade

Emily Collins  
Holly Kitchens

### \*Coach

Kelly Maddox

## 1995 CHEERLEADERS

### \*Seniors

Sarah Hatfield (co-head)  
Allison Meadows  
Angie Wheat (head)

### \*Juniors

Amanda Bethune  
Wendy Hyde

### \*Sophomores

Teri Campbell  
Heather Wilbourn  
Crystal Wright

### \*Mascot

Rene Brendle

### \*Sponsor

Debra Talley

## 1995 BAND MEMBERS

April Aldridge  
Matt Alexander  
Marlana Beasley  
Ashley Blalock  
Jennifer Blalock  
Lee Bullock  
Alisha Busby  
Shannon Chappell  
Valerie Chappell  
Shirley Collins  
Crystal Davis  
Derek Davis  
Karen Davis  
Jon Farmer  
Josh Farmer  
Justin Fischer  
Christina Fitzgerald  
J.L. Gibson  
Ginger Gray  
Andrea Grisham  
Krissey Guess  
Annie Harrison  
Effie Harrison  
Star Hayes  
Tina Hester  
Ashley Holcomb  
Jeff Hopper

Yon Hopper  
Casey Hudgins  
Juanita Hunt  
Brandy Jackson  
Haley Johnson  
Josh Johnson  
Angie Lancy  
Jennifer Lancy  
Jessica Lee  
Laura Martin  
Becky Mays  
Beth Moore  
Heather Moses  
Alisha McElhane  
Rhonda Owens  
Loribeth Peace  
Mary Pearson  
April Pierce  
William Poe  
Laura Pullen  
Tracie Pullen  
Adriane Robertson  
Jennifer Robertson  
Shelia Tishaw  
Tonya Turgeon  
Stephanie Watkins  
Lee Ann Wooten

## From Between the Counters

By  
BRUTUS



These are terrible times for the magnificent one, with the tourists, the cameras, the autograph seekers, and the admirers slowed down by the end of summer. As if these undeserved hardships weren't enough, Big foot Al shoved moi, and I naturally disciplined him with a deep growl from my flawless throat. Can you believe Pop struck moi? Unkindest cut of all! In the future, watch those big feet, compost breath.

Kim Deal was just in bragging on her 5-year-old Lab flea bag Samson. How it amazes moi to have visitors to the Superette try to compare mere canines to the stupendous one.

Lookie, lookie, lookie! Here comes Cochise wanta-be, Don Ingram. Does he share any treats? Acknowledge the radiant English bulldog at his oversized feet? NOT! It's not nice to ignore the dog-without-equal, squaw boy! Maybe a well-gnawed ankle would improve your manners.

The Carol Hazell gang just busted in with adorable Kayla making a bee-line to give sugar to Mentone's finest, moi. Brother Alex is a little hesitant to pet my exquisitely formed head. It seems mother Carol slammed his sweet little hand in the car door, and the limb is very tender. (Has this lovely lass of a mother never heard of the child abuse hot line where the lad can report her??)

Well, Connie "Balloons-Are-Me" Bell is in the Superette to pay for gas. Moi bears customers say that Tiger's Inn, where Connie works, was filled with the heliums for her birthday last week. (Are there balloons in the Superette in honor of one (moi) far more famous and stunning? NOT! (Get busy, adoring ones!)

Now, that things are slowing down with moi's flatlander drooling worshippers, it's regulars like Susan Noel who are coming in to pay homage to the great one. (Hateful Al says it's the videos she's after, but then we all know the flower boy cannot handle the way women love me.) Has ANYONE ever seen ANYBODY stroking HIS head? NOT!

An update on the hated diet: the dry diet food is beginning to taste good! It's truly time to start worrying.

Stay happy till next time, loyal readers, and please get moi's Halloween treats ready!



Next to the Little River National Preserve -

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## BURT FUNERAL HOME

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Frank and Linda Denham, Atlanta, Georgia, say they're big fans of The Groundhog. It seems Linda was a schoolmate of Kirby Disney many 71 years ago in Atlanta. Now, Linda's parents own a summer home just across the road from the entrance to Nppersink Lodge. Small world after all!

Christina Orr, wife of Tommy, is scheduled for back surgery at Princeton in Birmingham soon. Doctors are waiting for an infection to clear up before operating.

Sam and Barbie Easter are the parents of a baby girl, born Saturday, August 19, at BMC. Summer LaShay was 22 inches long and weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz. at birth. Grandparents are Slim and Bonnie Easter and Brenda and James Hall, all of Mentone.

Sue Schwarz hosted her weavers group from Huntsville on Wednesday, August 16, at her lovely home on the river. Attending were six members of the Huntsville Fiber Guild who (believe it or not) enjoyed our cooler (than Huntsville) weather.

Some local ladies have organized a beginner's swimming group and are being taught by Jayne Ross in her home pool. The class is composed of Charlotte Rice, Nancy Rector, Jimmie Sue Beason, Annette Orr, Jewel Collins, and Inez Gaffey. The class began in mid July and will end the first week in September. All ladies report they're swimming well!

A big, happy belated birthday to Robbie Collins on August 15. Hope it was a good one, big guy!

Ransom Wilkinson, John Cooper's young law clerk, has returned to school at Cooley Law Institute in Michigan. Ransom's parents are John and Jan Wilkinson, who have built a lovely new home close to Rick and Betty Chapman and George and Jo Beaubie.

Harol Skehon is resting comfortably at home after hip replacement surgery at Montclair in Birmingham. He is up on a walker and gaining strength each day. Several friends are looking after him.

Lamar King is one lucky mountain man! It's not enough that he is a master deerhunter, but he has now won \$100 and a beautiful new T.V. Some guys have it all. Congratulations!

Mary Jane Barge and daughter, Cathy, are regulars down at the Rock Castle Cafe in Hammondville. Mary Jane often helps out Mussy White when extra hands are needed. Mary Jane is head of the kitchen at Lookout Camp for Boys, and Cathy is employed by the Garrens Co., makers of children's clothing in Rainsville.

Popular Tiger's Inn waitress/cook Frances Scripps recently lost her sister, Ruth Cordell, of Trenton, Ga. Deepest sympathy, Frances, from your many friends.

For readers interested in acquiring pieces of Tupperware, Jewel Collins is a licensed consultant. She may be reached at Hey Hey's Boutique (634-4903) Thursday-Sunday, at home (635-0229), or at 635-6234, seven days a week.

New owner and manager Joy Bester announces that the Tiger's Inn Cafe in Valley Head will be open seven days a week, beginning Saturday, September 9, from 5:00 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Robert and Nene Green and Kenneth and Gail Chambers will be attending the Gold Wing State Rally September 22-24. Held in Fletcher, N.C., the rally is entitled "Wings Over The Smokies." Both couples own Honda HXK Gold Wing motorcycles and will ride them to the conclave in North Carolina.

Marshall and Annette Orr recently spent 12 days in Indianapolis, Ind., visiting with Marshall's father and mother, sister-in-law, nephews, niece, and their families. Both enjoyed quality time with family, bowling, and attending the Indiana State Fair. Marshall likes the Harness Races and Annette enjoys the exhibits and shopping, as well as watching the Harness Races with Marshall. Marshall did some golfing

with nephews, but always ended up on the losing end. Too bad, Marshall!

If you haven't seen Scottie Hulgian's new home on the Lea Chapel road, it's worth a ride in the country to view the house. He and wife, Nita, are justifiably proud of their new place.

Yvonne Blalock is just about her old self after recent gall bladder surgery at BMC. She is recovering nicely at home.

Jean Gauld is busting her buttons over a new grandson, Luke Eveland, born August 5 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Parents are Todd and Pam Gauld. Baby Gauld weighed 9 lbs. 15 oz. at birth. Tom Gauld of Mobile is the paternal grandfather.

The BIG annual Gregory union was held the last weekend in July with approximately 300 relatives attending. The event is held each year in Hammondville Park. After the family gathering, Jennifer Brubaker, 13, daughter of Steve and Debbie Brubaker, were home with her aunt and uncle, Kathy and Larry Sonstel, Pasadena, Texas, for a two-week visit.

Young Valley Head artist, Crystal Bethune, 10, submitted the weather art printed in the Times-Journal on August 12-13. Congratulations to a talented young lady!

Best wishes to Tammy Traffanstedt and Jason Wilks who were married on August 19, 1995, at Minvale Baptist Church in Ft. Payne. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Tim Traffanstedt of Valley Head, and Mr. and Mrs. Rex Wilks of Ider.

All sorts of military honors are coming to area individuals.

James W. Hulgian, son of Danny C. and Norbud B. Hulgian of Valley Head, received practical work in military leadership at the ROTC advance camp at Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, N.C., this past summer.

Marine Pvt Nathan A. Webb, son of Gregory A. and Rose M. Webb of Valley Head, recently completed the 11 weeks of intensive training required to earn the title, "Marine." The training was conducted at Parris Island, S.C.

Navy Seaman Recruit William M. Lee, son of John E. and Cindy K. Gilbert of Valley Head, recently completed the U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois.

Cathy Gray is at home after having three heart valve bypasses. She is feeling much better and getting stronger daily.

Mabel Kirk recently had cataract surgery and an implant in her left eye at the Eye Foundation Hospital in Birmingham. She said there was no pain at all. Wednesday, Sept. 6, Dr. Callahan is doing the same procedure on her right eye. You really can't keep a good woman down!

Rick and Betty Chapman celebrated their 50th August wedding anniversary with a renewal of vows at their lovely brow home, with Rev. Jerry Davis, Ft. Payne Presbyterian Church presiding. Many family and friends witnessed the event, which was followed by a reception in their home. As an anniversary gift, Rick will be taking Betty on a cruise through the Greek islands. Does this guy know how to sweep a gal off her feet, or WHAT? Congratulations to a pair of real winners!

Amelia Kirk is truly excited about her upcoming move to relocate in San Francisco, Ca. She told friends at the recent DeKalb County Tourist Association Board meeting that the apartment she has rented has a gorgeous view of the Bay Bridge. Amelia will be employed at one of the restaurants on Fisherman's Wharf, known for its superb cuisine throughout America.

Betta Ivy, who works at Citizens Bank in Valley Head, brought her new baby daughter to town for everyone to see. The baby is beautiful! Betta isn't ready to leave her yet to come back to work, though.

Tim Carden is slowly improving after he was severely injured at work at EarthGrains Saturday, August 26. He still needs a lot of prayers to undergo what lies ahead. He has already had two surgeries to graft skin and muscle onto his right arm that was pulled into the machine he operated, and his family is not sure, at this time, how many more may be required. The accident could have proved fatal without the quick action taken by Mentone's Alan Johnson who turned off the machine before it could do further damage. Tim is Connie Bell's son-in-law.

Jewel Collins and her family spent the long Labor Day weekend attending a family reunion in Kentucky!

L.A. and Lisa Smith proudly announce the birth of a son on August 9, 1995, at BMC in Ft. Payne. Daniel Leon Smith weighed 7 lbs. 11 oz. and was 20-3/2" long at birth. Proud grandparents are Katherine Smith, Menagar, and Hinton and

Bonnie Wilmon, Hayden Ala., Daniel's big brother is Gregory, 10.

Local students keep piling up academic honors. Carla King, Jerome Keith, and Norma Bare - Gadsden State. Congratulations to each of these young scholars.

George and Jo Beaubie attended the recent Ross Perot convention in Dallas, Tex. For three days, they heard speeches by the leading presidential candidates from both parties. Sen. Dole, Pat Buchanan, and Newt Gingrich were particularly impressive, the Beaubies said. The couple also had their daughter, Jan and her family, Terry, and Rachael, 11, visit for the Mentone BBQ on Saturday, September 2. Granddaughter Rachel was recently voted "Most Polite" in her Gadsden public school's "Who's Who." (Do I sense some proud adults here?) Later in the weekend, daughter Georgia and Danny Stevens came for a visit. They brought their children, Pete 3-1/2, Robin, 5, and Samantha, 8, to enjoy the holiday. Pete and Granddaddy, George provided the fish, caught in the Beaubie's pond, for a big fry.

John "Snake" and Bobbie Smith are adding more landscaping and a new deck to their new home on Cove Road. The home is across the road from Charles and Mary Flannigan, who are also fixing up their new homeplace. Talk about making a beautiful neighborhood! These two couples are doing just that!

Maureen Hammond is back home and feeling much better after surgery for emphysema in a Pittsburgh, Pa., hospital. She remained in the hospital for over a week after the operation. You can't keep a good woman down!

All of their Mentone friends are delighted Vic and Frances (Rosario) Bliz are back in town. Vic has had some health problems that delayed their return to the mountain. Welcome home, folks!

Ken and Flo Kirby are planning a wonderful cruise to Alaska. The weather should be ideal in a few weeks. They plan to fly to Vancouver and board ship there.

Norma Williams is back home "in stay," she says. After so many weeks in the hospital, one of Mentone's favorites is through with hospitalization—good news for her many friends. Husband Buddy has put some rules on his car between here and Birmingham and is VERY glad to be back in his own bed!

Lyle and Heather Nicely have closed their Enchanted Gardens gallery to concentrate on landscaping. If you haven't seen their beautiful grounds, you need to treat yourself to a tour to view examples of their sculpture and scaping.

The Valley Head band is selling chances on \$1,000 to be given away at the homecoming game, Valley Head/Ider, on September 29. Chances are \$25.00 each and can be purchased from any band booster.

Doris Dean Chamberlee, who has had some medical problems, has returned from her doctor with a great report. Prayers have been answered, and she is doing great!

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Howell Jr., Valley Head, announce the engagement of their daughter Willow Jade Howell to Carl Christopher Carfagno, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred John Carfagno, Levittown, New York. The wedding is planned for Saturday, September 16, 1995, at 3:30 p.m. at Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Birmingham. A reception will be held at the Botanical Gardens in Birmingham. All friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Deepest sympathy to Teresa and Vann Cooper on the death of her father, Charles "Doc" Cook, 60, on August 4, 1995, at DeKalb BMC. Condolences also to the family of Clarence F. Terrell, 75, of Valley Head, who passed away Aug. 10, 1995, in the VA Hospital in Birmingham.

Joann Keef drove Joe Stephens to Talladega, Ala., to visit his son, Michael, on Sunday, August 27.

Congratulations to Richard W. Rockenbach II. He was conferred the degree of Juris Doctor from the University of Alabama School of Law. The ceremony was attended by his father and stepmother, Richard and Helen Rockenbach of Valley Head on May 13, 1995. Richard has joined the law firm of Stockham and Stockham in Birmingham.

Pastor Williamson will be conducting a revival at the New Bethel Church of God September 10-13. Pastor Williamson will be preaching Sept. 8-9 at 8 p.m. as part of the Revival in Union Park. The event begins at 5 p.m.

Vickie and Richard Powell will take children 4-12 years on a trip to the Exotic Animal Farm in Menagar, on September 9. A picnic at Sylvia Lake will follow. All children in this age group are invited to attend and should meet at the church at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 9.

(Continued on Page 5)

# The Berry Patch

(Continued from page 1.)

This cabin was, of course, not large enough to accommodate a family of eleven, to say nothing of the nine guests allowed the children. Each child was allowed to invite one friend to accompany him or her to the mountain. In 1919, Dr. Berry built a cottage behind that one that was large enough to accommodate them.

Mrs. Berry had a vision for what the Mentone property could mean to the family in years to come. It has been the place to gather for good times and bad. In the 1950s and 1960s, all the Berry family members had an annual family reunion. As each family grew, they began to hold their own reunions. Their friends have also enjoyed vacations and week-ends at The Berry Patch. The in-laws of the family members are now holding reunions. Bill Berry expressed it well when he said, "It is like the gift that keeps on giving." Much of what the Berrys do is in this same spirit. Gordon Berry started an educational trust fund administered through the Moon Lake Baptist Church, which grants loans to young people of the church for college educations. He, along with other members of the family, as well as the church itself, contribute to this fund to keep it going. This, too, was a gift that keeps on giving.



**Dr. W. T. Berry and  
Rebecca Cecil Berry  
(1937)**

There are now several homes in The Berry Patch: Jack and Lillian Watson; Gordon and Christine Berry; Jimmy and Marjorie Berry; Richard and Cynthia Powell who purchased a house from Nancy Erwin, stepdaughter of Gordon Cecil who was a brother to Mrs. Berry (Mr. Cecil, known affectionately as "Unk" to all the Berry clan, also had a home converted from a barn); and Corrine Berry Wolcott, own the existing houses. The summer cottage is shared by the entire family. "Unk" Cecil gave his house to Gordon Berry who was his namesake.

In 1949, Jimmy Berry and his mother moved to Mentone to live permanently. Dr. Berry was still performing surgeries in Birmingham three days a week, and he joined them for the weekends. In 1951, Jimmy married Marjorie Jones, and they lived in the garage apartment for a while; and, after his parents' deaths, he bought the main house. Dr. Berry's wish was granted when the Lord saw fit to take him first.

The Berry Patch holds many memories for the Berry children. As teenagers, it was alive with laughter as they and their friends enjoyed a summer of fun and recreation, but they all shared in the work that needed to be done. Their friends were also assigned chores. The friends all called Mrs. Berry "Mother Berry." Every time they came to the table to eat, each person was expected to be ready with a Bible verse from memory. Before the summer was over, all the young people had



**Marjorie and  
Jimmy Berry (1953)**

grown spiritually as they searched their Bibles for verses to share. When the grandchildren came along and spent their summers at Mentone, Mrs. Berry extended her hospitality into the community as she welcomed me and many other young people to parties and "candy pullings" in the summer kitchen. If you have ever been a guest of Jimmy and Marjorie, you know hospitality at its finest.

The Berry family is a very close knit family. They love each other devotedly, and display a great deal of affection toward each other. There are only four of the ten children still living, but the memories live on. The sound of laughter is still heard as grandchildren and great grandchildren play on the grounds at The Berry Patch. The family has gathered for sad times, as well. The hearse has three times entered the gates to carry the bodies of Richard Drew Wolcott, Richard Drew Wolcott Jr., and Richard Drew Wolcott III to their final resting place in the cemetery within The Berry Patch.

Jimmy has suffered two very serious accidents which almost cost him his life, and could have left him paralyzed, but because of his will to live and his and Marjorie's perseverance, he enjoys life today. The family is a strong family, and they depend upon the strength from the Lord at such times because their lives have been built on a firm foundation. They, like Dr. and Mrs. Berry, have aspired to those things that are "noble, true, and good." And they, like Dr. Berry, have "won the battle of life" through love, generosity, and an unselfish, caring spirit toward others. They have truly "made the world better, happier, and brighter for having lived in it."

*Editor's Note: All pictures were from the Berry album, except where noted.*



**L/R: William Taylor Jones; Emma Tabitha Day Crow Jones;  
Nettie Ann Jones Green; Leonard Maheny**

The house where Jimmy and Marjorie Berry live was the original house in The Berry Patch. Emma Day and Lewis Crow married and built the log cabin just prior to his leaving for the Civil War. He died with typhoid fever and never returned. They had one daughter Almeda. After Almeda was grown, Mrs. Crow married William Taylor Jones, and her daughter, Almeda, married his brother, Thomas Jones. William and Emma had three children: David Lovejoy, Nettie, and George. (Nettie married Lonnie Green, and they are the parents of Clara Green Cash.) Almeda and Thomas Jones had seven children: Ernest, Fred, Emma Lou, Herman, Eldridge, Hardy, and Joe Jones. Marjorie Berry is the youngest child born to Fred and Bertie Brown Jones. The existing house was built around the original Civil War log house.

*Photo courtesy of Clara Green Cash.*



**Front row: Mary Berry Stewart, Cecile Berry Hardy,  
Rebecca Cecil Berry, Rebecca Berry Stephan,  
Corrine Betty Wolcott**

**Back row: Thompson Berry, James Berry, Gordon  
Berry, Robert Berry, and Everett Berry**

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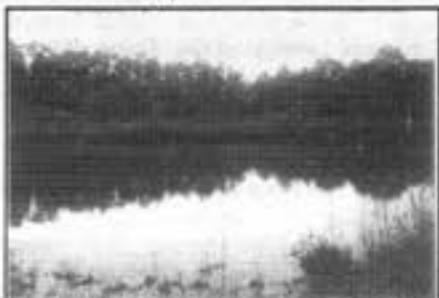
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## OTHER PROPERTIES

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



## PEACE ROSE

Submitted by Ann Wright

Did you know that the Peace Rose is 50 years old? This year, nations around the world are paying tribute to the 50th Anniversary of the end of World War II. This same year also marks the 50th anniversary of the Peace rose--born amidst the destruction of the war.

The Peace rose was hybridized in France in 1937, but was not sold until almost 10 years later. Budwood was smuggled out of France when Germany invaded during World War II. The rose was given out at the United Nations meeting in San Francisco in 1945. PEACE marked the end of the war. It was the first rose to be "World's Favorite Rose," and is called the "Rose of the Century."

In commemoration, the AARS (All-America Rose Society) sponsored a special Peace rose garden at the War Memorial in San Francisco, site of the original United Nations conference.

The following information was taken from a video hosted by Audrey Hepburn, entitled "Gardens of the World: Roses and Rose Gardens."

*"Few things are lovelier to me than a full-blown rose when it opens its heart."* - Audrey Hepburn

Pale gold pink and ivory petals blending to a lightly ruffled pattern, the Peace Rose has been called the "Rose of the Century." Bred in France from a single untested seed, it was smuggled in a diplomatic pouch onto the last plane leaving France before the occupation. At the end of the war in 1945, it was christened "Peace." Like all roses, its beauty is a total temptation to the gardener as well as the poet. During the war, when Peace had no name, T.S. Eliot compared the rose to destiny when he wrote:

*"Footfalls echo in the memory, down the passage we did not take, toward the door we never opened, into the rose garden."*



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# From the Collection of Grady Hammond AUTHENTICATED CIVIL WAR STORIES

September 1995 Issue/ The Groundhog/ Page 7

## The Grapevine

(Continued from page 3.)

Marilyn Blanton Campbell has had many visitors during July and August - her aunt and uncle, Carrie and Newton Wagner, from Rome, Ga.; Mike, Judy, and Micheal Canerdy of Myrtle, Miss.; Carol, Kayla, and Alex Hazell of Mentone; and her mother, Mary Blanton, and her brother, Daniel C. Blanton, both of Rome. Marilyn has also traveled during this time, attending the wedding of Janet Chism and Steve Thompson in Corinth, Miss.; spending a week in Oxford, Miss., attending the Faulkner Yoknapatawpha Conference sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture on the campus at "Ole Miss;" visiting her aunt, Mrs. Hazel Towe, in Henagar, and journeying to Atlanta on 8/17, to Fort McPherson for the Change of Command Ceremony for her friend U.S. Army Colonel Kent Percy, who handed over the dental clinic to his replacement. On August 23, Marilyn had major surgery at Noble Army Hospital at Fort McClellan, Alabama. She is recovering quickly under the watchful eye of her mother, Mary. We expect to see Marilyn back going her usual "full-speed ahead."

Bill Reidesell, Steve Bussman, and Steve Everett went to Oskosh, Wisconsin, where Bill received a major award for outstanding service. They flew in Steve Bussman's Air Commander. He has rebuilt airplanes and helped young people. 850,000 were in attendance at the event.

Bill and his wife, Bobbie, took a trip to Europe. They also took Bobbie's niece, Misty Lane, age 14, from Fort Payne, with them on the 16-day tour. There were 50 other people from all over the world in the group. Some of the places they traveled to were London, White Cliffs of Dover, Paris, Baune, Leserne, Switzerland, Milan, Italy Rome, back to Florence, Venice, Rome. They had an Italian guide, Tivoli; fancy dinners everywhere they went, balladiers, Barona, Enurich, Munich, Heidleberg, Rhine, Amsterdam.

The Reidesells were recently involved in a property line dispute. Bud Plotts, who originally owned the Mentone Inn, is selling his property. Bill had built a garage to house his antique car; and, according to the previous surveys (plat revised January 3, 1937), it was on Bill's property. However, with the new survey, it was determined that this garage was 17" on Bud's property. In the area where he lives, Brow Park Subdivision, there are approx. 56 lots on the brow and 50 lots on the other side near the Comer Scout property. Property lines in this area are not as they appear.

Here are some August belated birthday wishes:

•15th - Cheston Green •29th - Kayla Bell  
September Birthdays: •1st - Connie Bell, Treva (Cox) Lindsey, Bob Baty (54); •2nd - Mrs. Kenneth (Gail Chambers); •4th - Vance Carden, Markettia (Goss) Crane; •5th - Allen Scott, Trenton Green (1); Halie Westbrooks (3), Joey Combs (20); •7th - Mrs. A.J. Lindsey, Jewell Palmer; •8th - Mary Crowe; •10th - Pam Blevins Ogle; •11th - Mathew Williams; •13th - Calvin Blansit; •16th - James Bradshaw; •17th - Lynette (Lindsey) Tolbert, Angie (Bell) Carden; •18th - Jimmy Owen; •19th - R.B. Blalock; •21st - Jorene Nelms; •25th - Nicole Stott; •26th - Amy Harrison, Kenny Busby; •27th - Scott Baty (26), Alfie Chambers; •29th - Rusty Chambers; •30th - Howard Hester, Ethan Lewis.

September anniversaries: •11th - Calvin and Marie Blansit (1st); •14th - Chris and Stacy (Baber) Warden; •16th - J.J. and Mary (Battles) Wiggle (1st).

I leave you with this thought as school starts again:

**A HUNDRED YEARS FROM NOW --**

...it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove...

...but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child!

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## DEVIL ON THE RIVER

**Maj. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest with Morton's Battery  
at Johnsonville, Tennessee, November 4, 1864**

*Editor's note: Grady Hammond of Ft. Payne started in 1988 collecting Civil War stories. His interest in the Civil War prompted him to become a collector of Civil War Art. He is the largest private collector of Rick Reeves' Civil War Art, having 22 prints in his collection. Look for other prints and their stories in future issues of The Groundhog.*

It was November 1864 and, for the Confederacy, the war continued its turn for the worse. Tennessee and now Georgia, along with other sections of the Southern Heartland, had fallen to the invading Union forces. Atlanta had been lost and General John Bell Hood and his still proud Confederate Army of Tennessee were working their way north, back into the state of Tennessee, with the hope that, once again, the Southern forces could gain the offensive initiative.

At the same time, massive Federal forces under command of General William Tecumseh Sherman prepared for the infamous march to the sea, which would, as Sherman stated, "make Georgia howl." His army required vast, continuing supplies. A major line of supply was by water up the Tennessee River to Johnsonville, Tennessee, and then by wagon train to his army. Johnsonville was the critical supply depot in this supply line.

Sherman had earlier quipped that he could whip the Southern infantry, but that the Confederate calvary was another story. Led by Maj. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, operations conducted to the rear of the Union lines by the Confederate cavalry reaped devastating results. Forrest was not just a thorn to prick the side of the Union juggernaut, but more like an Enfield bayonet that could open gaping wounds, any one of which might just bleed its victim to death. Forrest intended to open such a wound at Johnsonville.

Moving north from Mississippi under orders from General Richard Taylor, Forrest, with a total force numbering less than 3,000 men, reached Johnsonville on the 3rd of November. The Federal supply depot was located on the right or east bank of the Tennessee River, about 75 miles northwest of Nashville. The position was protected by a fort and various dug fortifications and defended by about 2,000 Union soldiers. The garrison consisted of acres of stacked supplies, filled warehouses, and loaded transports and barges.

Early on the morning of the 4th, Captain John W. Morton, Forrest's Chief of Artillery, consulted with Forrest on the selection of the site for the placement of his artillery. Morton had realized that an up-river position was an outstanding location to engage the fort, as well as the gunboats. The position proved to be elevated enough and at such an angle that the gunboats

could not raise their guns to reach Morton's position, and the fort on the opposite bank was so elevated that its guns could not be depressed enough to effectively duel the Southern cannons.

At the ordered time, the Confederate artillery opened fire on the unsuspecting Union garrison. In forty minutes, the artillery cannonade transformed the entire bank on the Union side into a solid sheet of flame. The gunboats were bombarded so badly they had to be run aground and deserted. Although the fort returned the fire, it proved ineffective. In two short hours, the attack was over, and Johnsonville ceased to exist. Forrest had destroyed in addition to the garrisons, 3 gunboats, 8 transports, and 17 loaded barges. Standing on the west bank, Forrest told Morton, "John, if they would give you enough guns and me enough men, we would whip Sherman off the face of the earth."

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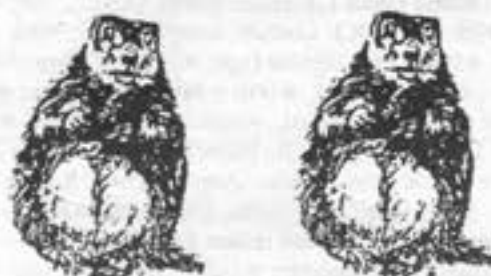
## HEAVEN'S GATE

One night I came to Heaven's gate  
I saw all those beautiful things in heaven.  
I gazed in amazement at the brightness of heaven;  
Suddenly a great disappointment came to me—  
I couldn't go in, I wasn't ready.  
Heaven's gate was closed to me.  
Sadly I stood alone, my heart did break—  
I was turned away from that beautiful place.

I have gambled away my soul, I thought  
"Oh my God, am I forever lost?"  
"Have I put off too long my soul's salvation?"  
What a fool I've been with no thought of God  
Or where I was going.  
I have missed my last chance to go to Heaven;  
If I had just accepted my Savior's grace,  
I would not have missed this beautiful place.  
Then I returned to Earth to the bed where I lay—  
I awoke to find it was a dream.  
I cried and prayed to God above—  
Please forgive me, Lord, have mercy on me,  
I cannot go to that terrible place  
Where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth;  
He heard my prayer and pardoned me.  
I've made peace with God and now I'm free.

The next time I come to Heaven's Gate  
I won't have to worry and weep, my conscious is clear,  
Heaven's gate will open for me.  
This world cannot hold the worth of a soul  
"What would you give for it, if you lost it?"  
Friends, don't risk your soul 'til it's almost too late,  
Prepare to meet God, so you can go in at Heaven's Gate.  
—Eugenia B. Dowiat

*This is a true story. My uncle in California dreamed he went to Heaven and saw all these beautiful things; but he wasn't ready, and the gate was closed to him; but I wrote it as tho' it happened to me. After this dream, he got ready to meet God, and died.*  
Eugenia B. Dowiat



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## OLE JOHNNIE

By Bill Bryant, Cloudland, Ga.

I was looking for a camper when I saw it parked in the shed. It was a faded, dented, scratched-up 1975 Chevy pickup. I was at Mr. Johnnie B. Tate's place, just about straddle of the Georgia-Alabama line on Lookout Mountain (commonly just known as the "Mountain"). Mr. Johnnie lives in a trailer with several outbuildings: a barn, a couple of open sheds, and some smaller, somewhat dilapidated buildings.

Mr. Johnnie is a very sprightly 92 years old. His walk is still brisk and nimble, and he still does most of the chores on his small farm. His hearing and vision are still reasonably intact, and his hands can still manipulate spark plugs into a truck engine. He spends a lot of time sitting in his other truck, a 1985 Chevy, reading the paper and sometimes dozing. He drives himself anywhere he wants to go, but says that his next truck (the 1985 Chevy is currently for sale), will be an automatic, because he is tired of shifting gears at "his age."

I just walked down to the shed to look at the '75 pickup. It was just what I wanted: a three-speed on the column (although it now sports a floor shift), and it had a 350 V8 engine. The body condition was poor to fair. Mr. Johnnie admitted that he had "run into a tree or two" while driving around the farm. The interior was OK. There was a small yellow throw rug covering the driver's side seat bottom, although the seat was intact under the rug. The seat itself didn't appear to be the original (as indeed it turned out later not to be), the dash was faded and cracked, and the windshield was cracked, but not in the driver's viewing area. All in all, it was perfect, all that remained was to "fire up" the engine.

I got into the truck and inserted the ignition key, pumped the gas pedal a few times, and gave it a crank. The motor spun over several times, coughed once or twice, and sputtered into life. I couldn't help but notice that some smoke (blue...oil) was exiting the tailpipe. I let the truck idle for few minutes and the smoke dissipated somewhat, but the motor continued to run roughly. Mr. Johnnie was standing beside the driver's door.

"Sure is running rough," I said to Mr. Johnnie. Mr. Johnnie was looking intently at me, "Sure is running rough," he said. It was then that I surmised that Mr. Johnnie's hearing may not be as acute as I had thought. "Yes, sir," I replied. "Sounds like the plugs or points," I said...loudly. Mr. Johnnie, still looking at me, didn't answer. I checked out the radio (didn't work); windshield wipers, heater controls, and gauges (three out of five worked—the most important three: oil pressure [home installed], temperature, and fuel). I shut off the engine and climbed out.

I walked around to the front of the truck and opened the hood. The motor was reasonably clean, and there was a new battery. Probably needs a tune-up, "I said to Mr. Johnnie. "When was the last one?"

"I keep the oil changed," said Mr. Johnnie, "But it needs plugs and points."

We walked around the truck. A few rusted out spots and bad tires, but still just what I wanted. "Needs tires," I said to Mr. Johnnie. "These tires are old and cracked," Mr. Johnnie said, "Needs new tires."

"Yes, sir," I said. "If you will get it tuned up, I will come back and drive it next week," I told Mr. Johnnie as I left.

"I'll tune it up," Mr. Johnnie said, "and then you come back." "Yes, sir."

I went back the next week. Mr. Johnnie and I walked down to the shed to take the truck for a test drive. Mr. Johnnie handed me the keys. I climbed into the truck. Boy, was I surprised! The motor "fired" right up and purred as smoothly as a fat cat on a sunny window ledge. "Put plugs and points in it," Mr. Johnnie said. "Yes, sir," I answered, "you sure did."

Mr. Johnnie climbed in, and I backed it out from under the shed and drove through the field out to the road. The truck ran very smoothly—the gears shifted without any problems, and the cab was "tight" and quiet.

"Shift it up to high," Mr. Johnnie said, as we approached a small hill, "and see how it pulls."



Johnnie Tate  
(September 1992)

Yes, sir," I answered as I shifted up to high gear. The truck pulled the hill, but, in doing so, it revealed a problem: the clutch was slipping. I looked over at Mr. Johnnie, "The clutch is slipping pretty bad," I said. Mr. Johnnie, looking intently at me repeated, "The clutch is slipping." "Yes, sir," I replied.

The truck did "run-out" very good. The motor was vigorous and healthy, and the rest of the drivetrain (transmission and rear-end) seemed fine. The smoking that I had observed before wasn't visible.

"How much?" I asked as I began the price negotiation procedure. "Eleven hundred dollars," Mr. Johnnie said. "Needs tires and new clutch," I replied. "Eleven hundred dollars," Mr. Johnnie rejoined. Not sure if he had heard me, I said more loudly, "I'll give you a thousand for it." The answer from Mr. Johnnie was the same, "Eleven hundred dollars."

Seeing that further "negotiation" was futile, I told him that I would give him a hundred dollars to hold it for a couple of weeks until I could get the rest of the money. "Just two weeks," were Mr. Johnnie's last words, as I left.

I returned the next weekend on a Saturday, a cold, wind-swept day. I couldn't find Mr. Johnnie anywhere. I looked all around his farm and drove around the surrounding area, but he and his truck were not to be found. I was going down the road to Mentone to get a cup of coffee at Mrs. Dessie's when I spotted his truck out in the field. I let myself in the gate and drove over to where he was. He crawled out from under the truck (he was changing oil), just as I pulled up.

"I've come for the truck" I said. He looked at me with red, watery eyes. "Can't sell it," he said, "already promised it to another boy." "That's me, I said, "I gave you a hundred dollars to hold it for me." "Oh, Yea," he replied, looking at me closely.

We went up to his trailer to get the papers to the truck so that I could write him a check. Inside the trailer, as he was looking through some kitchen drawers, I saw an old photograph laying on the table. Picking it up, I saw the caption at the bottom: "Miami Beach, Florida, July 18, 1925." Mr. Johnnie had walked over to me, "Do you see me in it?" he asked. "No, sir," I replied. Taking the photograph from my hand he pointed himself out. "That's me, right that," he said. And sure enough it was. Even though almost seventy-odd years had passed, the face in the photograph was Mr. Johnnie's. I gave Mr. Johnnie the check for One thousand dollars.

We went back outside on the porch and shook hands. "Well, I guess I better go get some new tires," I told Mr. Johnnie. "Ya need to get some tires on that thing," Mr. Johnnie said. "Yes, sir."

I thought about naming my truck Rocinante, which you know was the name of Don Quixote's trusty steed (and because John Steinbeck is my favorite author). But, after some consideration, I named my truck, "Ole Johnnie."

## The Cemetery

Their dwellings are precise, mostly grays—a few white.  
Colorful flowers only emphasize their plight.  
Differences are not great

Only a few are ornate

The rows are statements of conformity.

The apocalyptic scythe has brought about a final normality.

Willie Culberson

6/6/95



## RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB

By Marie Dillenbeck

The Rhododendron Garden Club met Tuesday, August 8, 1995, at 2 p.m., at the home of Jo Beabe. Hostesses Jo Beabe, Betty Chapman, and Frances Rosario Blix served delicious refreshments, including a fruit bowl and Betty Chapman's specialty, pazzels.

Marie Dillenbeck, president called the meeting to order. The collect was led by Marilyn Campbell, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Diane Kuehl.

In the absence of Mickey Gough, who was ill, the president requested that Frances Blix read the minutes from the previous meeting and take the minutes of the August meeting. The minutes were read and approved with one correction. Flo Kirby gave the treasurer's report, which was approved.

Corresponding secretary, Marilyn Campbell, said she had written notes to Ruby Daniel in the loss of her sister, Nona Williams.

Ann Wright, Flower Show Chairman, distributed copies of the 1995 booklet, "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow," the theme for this year's flower show, which is presented by the DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs the first week in October, at the DeKalb County VFW Agricultural Fair. She informed the members of the registration date for entries in the show--September 24, and discussed the members participation in the flower show.

Under Special Projects, Ann Wright gave the members and update on the sidewalk on Hwy. 117 and the need for mulching and weeding. Russell Wright agreed to do the work. She and her husband, Bill, have worked to keep the Bermuda grass out of the triangle and the area around city hall, as well as the area at Moon Lake School.

Patti Bryan, also on the special projects committee, volunteered to teach an educational class about plants, microbe, bugs on Mondays at Moon Lake School coordinating with the eco-teers and those children at school who are interested in working on different projects throughout the year.

Flo Kirby, ways and means chairman, announced that we made \$30.00 on today's project, and Virginia Bassage was the winner.

The president reported on the planning committee for the 1995 Fall District II Garden Club meeting, which the Rhododendron Club is hosting. The committee met on July 27 at Ann Wright's home to discuss the plans for the September 21 meeting at Promenade Hall in Valley Head. Decorations: Ann Wright stated she, Linda Brown, and Barbara Blalock were ready with their decorations. Food: Flo Kirby, stated that her committee consisting of Mickey Gough, Jo Beabe, Penny Lyday and herself, had discussed the menu and were ready. Barbara Blalock and Linda Brown will be at the registration table. All plans are proceeding favorably.

There being no further business, in the absence of the vice president, the president introduced the speaker, Dr. Pat Seymour, who presented the program, "Flowers and Trees of the Bible." Trees and flowers have been an important part of this world from the beginning and are referenced in the Bible.

There being no further business, the president thanked the hostesses for the refreshments. The meeting was adjourned, and it was announced that the next meeting would be at Nippersink. Roll call is to name a conifer in your garden. Lynette McCary has the devotional. Aileen Brown from Chattanooga, will be presenting the program on Flower Show Arrangements to get us ready for the Flower Show set for October 2-7. The hostesses will be Gerry Disney and Mickey Gough, and one other.

In the Rhododendron Garden Club article in the August 1995 issue, there was an error in the paragraph about the speaker, Mr. Jim Hyland of the Alabama Forestry Commission. Mr. Hyland showed a video and explained the damage various insects and diseases cause to our trees. dog-wood Anthracnose leaflets were passed out to the members. The program was very interesting and many questions were asked of Mr. Hyland by the members and guests. The Rhododendron Garden Club was honored to have Mr. Hyland as a speaker, and Mr. Donald Cole, DeKalb County Forester, as a guest.



Kathryn Elizabeth Johnston was born on July 8 at Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga, TN. Her birth weight was 7 lbs, 10 oz; she was 20-1/2 inches in length. The proud parents are Julie and Jeff Johnston of Chickamauga, Ga.

Grandparents are Robin and Sherry Ellis of Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga., and Butch and Nancy Johnston of Anniston, Ala. Great Grandparents are Jim and Elizabeth Ellis of Mentone, AL-la, Venice Boss of Chickamauga, Ga., and Olean Scherer of Anniston, Ala.



### 9 Months Old

Jacob Brown is the son of Tonia and Gary Brown, and the grandson of Tish and Howard Whitte of Hixson, Tenn.; and Betty and the late Dale Brown of Valley Head.





## The Menlo News

BY OVIE "BO" BLALOCK

**City of Menlo Election:** Candidates may qualify from September 11 to September 15, 1995 - 9:00-4:30. Election will be held on November 7, 1995. Offices open for election: Mayor, Recorder, Council Seat No. 1, Council Seat No. 2. Qualification FEES: Mayor - \$18.00; Recorder - \$8.25; Council Seats - \$5.40.

Tommy and Deborah Prince, Menlo, were re-married on August 4, 1995, at 8 p.m., at Macedonia Chapel, Teloga. The Rev. Ralph Wright performed the ceremony.

Deepest sympathy to the families of those recently deceased: •James Tommy Farrow, 51, who died July 29, 1995; •Shirley Belle Roberts, 60, who died August 5, 1995; •Alvis C. Davis, 63, who died August 21, 1995; •Bonnie Cole, 81, who died August 23, 1995.



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# Moon Lake School News

By Evelyn Graves



1st row: Karen Prestwood, Donnis Barkley  
2nd row: Joyce Smith, Denise Roberts,  
Nancy Pendergrass  
Back row: Mitzi Hughes, Phyllis Sarratt, Dr.  
Bill Berry, LaJanet Troxtel



Debbie Padgett, representing Citizens Bank, presenting Dr. Bill Berry with the Outstanding Citizen plaque that will be awarded at the graduation ceremonies in May 1996.



Cathie Crow, owner of Fort Payne Best Western, presenting Dr. Bill Berry with the valedictorian and salutatorian plaque that will be awarded at the graduation ceremonies in May 1996

Moon Lake School, for the first time in its history, has a teacher for each grade. In addition to regular classroom teachers, there are other staff additions. The slate of teaching staff consists of the following:

|                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Kindergarten - Phyllis Sarratt | 4th Grade - LaJanet Troxtel |
| 1st Grade - Denise Roberts     | 5th Grade - Joyce Smith     |
| 2nd Grade - Donnis Barkley     | 6th Grade - Dr. Bill Berry  |
| 3rd Grade - Mitzi Hughes       | Principal - Dr. Bill Berry  |

Title I Teacher - Karen Prestwood  
Instructional Aide - Nancy Pendergrass  
Librarian - Pat Schoen (2 days a week)  
Counselor - Linda Lawton (2 days a week)  
Special Education Aide - Ashley Elliott (2 hours a day)  
Special Education Teacher - Rosie Swain (part-time)  
Speech Therapist - Regina McAbee (2 days a week)  
Teacher of Gifted Children - Richard Land (part-time)  
Japanese Teacher - Yumika Muramatsu (full-time)  
Indian Education Teacher - Linda Abernathy (2nd 6 weeks)  
Lunchroom Manager - Becky Blalock  
Lunchroom Assistant Manager - Brynda Hopper  
School Secretary - Roberta Kirby  
Custodian - Sible Hopper  
Bus Driver - Billy Cash.

The Japanese teacher will be staying the first half of the term with Larry and Susan Hooks and the second half with Frances Waller. She will be teaching Japanese culture, language, calligraphy, origami, tea ceremony, etc.

The Kindergarten class is enjoying the new Kindergarten building built by the DeKalb County Board of Education. They also recently purchased 2.1 acres of land, bringing the school total to 4.3 acres. On the new property, the county will begin construction of a new lunchroom and kitchen facility. The playground construction continues toward completion. Carl Jones, Rusty Chambers, and Dale Kerby came several days before school started and volunteered their services with the playground construction.

School enrollment is 135 this year, which is the highest it has ever been. The Boy Scouts painted Mrs. Joyce Smith's 5th grade classroom as a service project. The school will continue the Monday morning assemblies to recognize achievement in academics, citizenship, extracurricular activities, and attendance, and to recognize community members as Moon Lake Heroes. Two Adopt-a-School participants recently helped with a wall of honor in one of the school hallways. Fort Payne Best Western donated a plaque honoring this year's valedictorian and salutatorian. Citizens Bank donated a plaque that will honor the Outstanding Citizen each year, which will be given at graduation. The Rhododendron Garden Club is still planning the butterfly garden around the gym. This project is spearheaded by past garden club president, Ann Wright.

Boy Scout Troop 106 was recently awarded a financial grant by MetLife through the assistance of local agent Doug Crow. It is for the purpose of constructing bird feeders and bat houses for the butterfly garden.

The 5th graders will soon begin the D.A.R.E. program. Carol Hazel will edit *The Laurel*, Moon Lake's yearbook, this year.

## NEW FIRST GRADE TEACHER

Denise Roberts is the new first grade teacher at Moon Lake School. She graduated from Fyffe High School in 1978, and worked as an aide in Head Start 1984-86. She graduated from Athens State College in the fall of 1992. She replaced Mrs. Mosley, last year's first grade teacher, for seven weeks while Mrs. Mosley was on leave. Mrs. Roberts is married to Mardie Leon Roberts (son of former County Superintendent of Education, Leon Roberts), has two sons, Joshua 14, and Johnathan, 12. She and her family live at Grove Oak near Buck's Pocket State Park.

## NEW FOURTH GRADE TEACHER

LaJanet Barron Troxtel is a graduate of Sylvania High School and Jacksonville State University. She taught fourth grade at Geraldine before coming to Moon Lake. She is married to Dennis Troxtel, and they have two children, Alex, 15, and Julia, 13. Mrs. Troxtel and her family reside at Whiton near Geraldine.

## INSTRUCTIONAL AIDE

Nancy Bruce Pendergrass is a graduate of Fort Payne High School, Northeast Junior College, and a graduate summa cum laude from Jacksonville State University with a B.S. degree in Elementary Education. She received her practice teaching at Gaston Elementary School and Mitchell Elementary School in Gadsden, Alabama. She is married to Lonnie Pendergrass, and they reside in Fort Payne.



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**FRANCES W. WALLER,  
NEW OWNER OF  
THE MENTONE INN**  
By Dr. Pat Seymour

Twenty-five years as a professional social worker seems hardly the preparation you would assume as necessary for success as a bed and breakfast inn keeper. Frances W. Waller, new owner of the Mentone Inn, holds exactly these credentials. A native of Coffee County, Frances recently retired as a social worker with the Alabama Department of Human Resources. She worked in Coffee, Covington, and Montgomery Counties and in New Orleans, Louisiana, as a protective service worker, supervisor of child support, adoption and family and children's services policy writer. Frances is married to Karl Waller, who is employed as a communications technician with the State Department of Public Safety.

Frances is the mother of four children, Jim Byram, 29, groundskeeper at the Inn; Pete Byram, 25; Tara Waller, 19, a student at the University of South Alabama; and Philip Waller, 7, a second grade student at Moon Lake School.

Frances Waller's mother was Joe Catherine Campbell from Woodville, Alabama. She, too, was a professional social worker with the Farm Security Program. Mrs. Campbell was a wonderful cook and artist, so Frances has named the Inn's restaurant in her mother's honor: Catherine's Wildflower. The decor includes her hand printed china and photographs of her as a child and as a young woman.

When asked about the transfer of ownership, Frances said, "Amelia, Grace, Mabel, and Dorothy have welcomed me with such kindness and thoughtfulness that the transition could not have been achieved more smoothly. We are especially grateful to them for their friendship."

Stuart Parins is the chef and business manager of the Inn. The exciting plans for the restaurant will be found in the October issue of *The Groundhog*.



**About  
Our  
Town**  
By  
LINDA BROWN

Have you ever seen a town change so much in one season? I'm referring to Mentone, of course. Not only do the colors of nature change dramatically, but the number of people must increase three or four times what it is in the winter. The summer camps increase the number by several hundred at any given time. The people who own "summer homes" are usually here; and always Nippersink, Mentone Inn, and the other bed and breakfast places are filled with visitors. All of these people make Mentone a totally different town in the summer.

Everyone is commenting on how fast the summer went by. I have tried to think of a logical explanation for this, but so far I have not. It was a hot summer. There were a lot of bugs and most of them were of the biting or stinging variety. The Japanese beetles ate everything they could find that was green. It was humid, and lots of days it was just miserable; so, why did it seem to go so fast?

There are still some "eye sores" around town. The most obvious is the triangle at the Mentone Superette. The Rhododendron Garden Club landscaped this little place even though no one is sure who owns it or should keep it clean and tidy. Then, when the Zoning Commission was established, some signs were "grandfathered," that means they were there before the zoning laws were, and they could stay in place. Other signs were given a limited time to stay up by special permission of the Board of Adjustment. BUT, no one said what should be done when the signs blew over or fell down. Wouldn't it make sense for someone to clean them up and throw them away? Why is everyone waiting on someone else to do it? And all of this time our town looks shabby to all of the summer visitors and to those of us who live here as well. Please, if you put a sign up for a limited time, take it down when you are supposed to. If you have permission to put one up, and it falls or otherwise looks bad, take it down or repair it. Let's have some pride in Mentone!

Isn't the new paving of Highway 117 just great? Maybe this surface will not be as slick when it rains and snows this winter. Of course, we have had to put up with some inconveniences, but that is always the case when you get something worthwhile. My experience with the crew that was doing this has been very pleasant. They were very understanding and patient. Many times, when I would come into the highway at the post office or the hardware store, I would be in the middle of a line and often on the wrong side of the traffic flow. They were always patient, and tried to help me to not get run over. At least, no one ever called me a name to my face anyway!

Can you believe all of the things happening at Moon Lake School? It is growing by leaps and bounds, and sometimes by gallops! There is a new kindergarten building, and one of the other grades now meets where they have been. This is the first time that no room or teacher has two grades to contend with. The county board plans to start a new lunchroom any day now. More land has been purchased. So, with the help of the county and state, many improvements should be in sight for the future. The plans for a butterfly and bird sanctuary are progressing very well. I have heard the possibility of a courtyard discussed. This will be a hands-on learning center for the students. We must teach them to preserve and conserve the earth. Who else is there to do it? I hope they do a better job than my generation has. Too often, we have had dollar signs in our eyes.

One event that always brightens my life is the DeKalb County VFW Fair. It will be time for another one before long—the first week of October. There are categories for everyone to enter. Some of the categories that you can enter are: vegetables, canned food, hand sewn items, machine sewn items, baked goods, flowers, photographs, art work, craft projects, cows, goats, chickens, sheep, and many others. If you have it, you can probably enter it in the fair. Every person who applies

for an entry card gets one free pass to the fair for any night except Saturday. I work in the Flower Show each year. So, if you are down registering something, come through that room and say, "Hello." Several members of the local garden club will be there this year.

I have missed talking to you through this column this summer, but I should be back until next May. If you have anything that you want to discuss or just get off your chest, call me or write *The Groundhog* a note. I would like to know what YOU want to see written here. This is really your column, I just do the typing. Thanks to all of you who tell me that you enjoy reading this drivel. I try to write as though I were sitting in your living room discussing the events of the day. Tell me if you like it, or do you want me to discuss national politics, religion, and the meaning of life? Just kidding, but let me know what you like.

**Thought for the month: People who are wrapped up in themselves make a very small package.**



## Salute to Mr. Ellis

Submitted by  
Mary Holleman

To Robert Nelson Ellis we extend congratulations and best wishes. As of July 31, 1995, he is officially retired!

For the past seventeen years, Mr. Ellis has been principal of the Fyffe School - both Elementary and High School. He is highly respected and greatly appreciated across DeKalb County.

Born and reared in Valley Head, Mr. Ellis is a graduate of Valley Head Elementary and High Schools. He did both his undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga.

After graduating from the University, he spent two years in the Military. He was stationed in New York and was assigned to a Military Police Unit. After his Military Service, Mr. Ellis worked three years for the Dupont Company in Chattanooga.

In 1961, he began his educational career in DeKalb County. His first position was in the Fort Payne High School as teacher and coach.

From the Fort Payne School System, he transferred to Jones Valley in Birmingham. From there, he came to Fyffe as Coach. He went from Fyffe back to Fort Payne as Head Football Coach. The next stop was to Sylvania and then to Geraldine as Head Football Coach. From Geraldine, he came back to Fyffe as Principal, where he has served with distinction for the past seventeen years. He is loved and honored by the school system and, especially, by the City of Fyffe.

Born and reared in Valley Head, Nelson married Elizabeth Henderson, who grew up in the same community. They have two sons and one grandson, Drew. Drew is the son of Robert, a Banker in Rainsville. The younger son, Paul, is a Football and Baseball Coach at Fort Payne. Paul has just recently married.

Though Mr. Ellis has worked in education since 1961, he has thirty-five years of credit. One year of that resulting from accumulation of unused sick leave. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis live in Rainsville. How grateful we are that they will continue to be a part of the Fyffe United Methodist Church.

Written by his Pastor, Rev. Warlick, Nelson was also honored by his fellow teachers at the end of the school year with a plaque and gift at a retirement party. Elizabeth is still teaching in Fyffe Elementary School.

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## The River Watch

By  
BILL SCHWARZ

### SOME THINGS TO PONDER

Have you noticed that there is an ever so slight hint of fall in the air? I know, it's 85° here on the mountain and well over 90° in the cities. But, still there it is--fall in the offing. Mornings are a little slower in arriving, and evenings are a mite shorter. The sun is working its way south along the eastern and western horizon at dawn and at sunset. Shadows are a little longer, and the spiders are more instant with their webs and egg cases. Wipe them out, and they're right back the next day. Crab grass is desperate to make seeds, so it can bedevil us next spring. My ornamental grass (maiden grass) is starting to put out its seed pods--feathery, long, tawny growths on the ends of tall, graceful, spire-like stalks. It's neat!

A brilliant crimson leaf has appeared on my burning bush, a harbinger of beauty to come as fall gathers strength. Yes, fall is in the air!

Here is something barely worth pondering, it sort of ranks in there with the old saying "If it's not worth doing, it isn't worth doing well." Why is it that no matter what color the clothing you put into the clothes dryer, the lint always comes out mauve? Why do it happen?

Silly, really ignorant, ad copy is sometimes worth a ponder or two. Consider advertisements which boast of a product that is more unique or most unique. Now, there's a product you better stay away from. About the kindest thing you can say concerning the ad is that the writer failed 6th grade English. Unique stems from the Latin word for one, *uno*, and means "one of a kind," "having no like or equal." So, how can the product be more unique or most unique? Therefore, the whole ad is false, and the product highly suspect.

I have never really liked big cities, and Huntsville is the largest city in which I have ever lived. Huntsville is not really a big city, but it has gotten too big to be my first choice of a place to live. However, it would be vastly superior to mega-cities like New York, Detroit, Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, Atlanta, and Miami. I used to think there was little or no excuse for the existence of such places, that the kindest thing you could do for humanity was to cut the anchor chain and let New York drift out to sea.

Now, however, I have matured, I have become philosophical in my old age. In my lately-acquired infinite wisdom, I now recognize the ultimate value of large, mega-cities. They are places for people, humanity holders. Some folks really enjoy living in metropolises. Here's something to ponder. What would happen to all of those people if their cities did not exist? They'd be elsewhere on the planet, and some of them would crowd-up Alabama and Mentone. No more quiet, peaceful, relaxed Mentone. There, you see, cities do serve a useful purpose.

Thanks for your time, folks, I'm honored by your attention. Ponder on the imponderable, and I'll see you next month.

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## The Recipe Corner

By  
SUE SCHWARZ

The long, hot days of summer are too quickly coming to an end, but I am giving you a really good squash recipe that Bill and I have been enjoying, in case you still have squash. The second recipe calls for grouper, but it would probably be good with haddock or cod or other firm fleshed fish.

### Squash Casserole adapted from Family Secrets

4 medium yellow squash (about 2 pounds)

1 medium zucchini squash

1/2 C chopped onions

1 small green pepper, chopped

1 large egg (or egg substitute)

1/2 C milk

1/2 C mayonnaise (low fat)

1 C cracker crumbs

Salt & Pepper to taste

1/2 C grated reduced fat sharp cheddar cheese

Steam squash, onions and pepper, 'til tender. Combine egg, milk, mayonnaise, 1/2 C of grated cheese. Add steamed vegetables and put into 1-1/2 quart casserole. Bake at 350° for 20 minutes. Top with remaining crackers and cheese and bake another 10 minutes. Yield 6-10 servings.

### Baked Grouper Piquant

3/4 lb grouper fillets

Juice of 1/2 lemon

1 t olive oil

1 t Dijon mustard

Course, dry bread crumbs

Preheat oven to 400°. Place fish in lightly greased baking pan. Sprinkle the fish with lemon juice and rub on olive oil and mustard. Sprinkle the bread crumbs over the fish. Add a little water to the pan. Bake 12-18 minutes until flaky, depending on thickness of fish.

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## SPORTS ON THE SCENE

By Phil Harris

Trivia: Which NFL team has the highest winning percentage of all times?

High school football is here again. A full slate of season games was scheduled for the past weekend. Valley Head opened the season with a key area win over Gaylesville (19-14). These young men need to be congratulated. The Tigers need all the support they can get, FOLKS!!! Coach Jon Tidmore's squad plays Fyffe at home this Friday. Valley Head has not beaten the Red Devils since 1986. You heard it here first: this could be the best team since 1988. That year, Coach Jim Kirby's squad finished 8-3 and lost to Courtland in the quarter finals of the State playoffs.

Here are some predictions on area teams of interest.

### 1A Area 16

1. Collinsville 2. Valley Head 3. Gaylesville 4. Cedar Bluff  
The Panthers are very strong this season. The Tigers will not have to travel to Courtland this time, probably Donoho.

### 2A area 14

1. Ider 2. Section 3. Fyffe  
Section will be better, but not good enough to challenge Ider. Ider and Fyffe are rebuilding, especially, Fyffe.

### 2A area 13

1. Crossville 2. Geraldine 3. Sand Rock  
Crossville and Geraldine will fight it out for the area title. The Lions have fewer question marks.

### 3A area 14

1. Sylvania 2. Plainview 3. Pisgah 4. NSM  
Sylvania is the power of DeKalb County once again. Pisgah might be a contender. Plainview's offense and defensive lines will give the Bears a good opportunity for the runner up spot.

### 5A area 12

1. N. Jackson 2. Scottsboro 3. Ft. Payne 4. Albertville  
Give the Chiefs the nod, tradition is in their favor. Scottsboro, Ft. Payne, and Albertville will battle for the runner up spot. Scottsboro will probably have the most potent offense in the area.

See the 1995 Valley Head Tigers Football Schedule in the School news.

Local softball teams, CBS and Mentone, have opened fall league play at the Ft. Payne sports complex. CBS is currently 1-2. They defeated Cherokee and lost to DeSoto and Kurts. Alan Smith, Tommy Harrison, Shane Ingram, Kevin Cash, Charles Hammon, and Shane McMahan lead a solid group. CBS should be one of the top three teams in the league.

Mentone had gotten off to a rugged start. They have opened with losses to FP Speedway and Clark Timber. This will be a learning experience for the young team, but a lot of potential is there. Team members are: Scott Burke, Scott Mount, Kevin Smith, Kevin Worthey, Dale Kirby, Chris Smith, Rusty Chambers, Dean Freeman, John Chambers, Brent Haney, Rhett Freeman, Phil Harris, J.J. Wigley, and Duane Blalock.

Schedule for the month of September (Softball)

|          |                      |                      |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Sept. 5  | Mentone vs. Indian   | CBS vs. Vulcraft     |
| Sept. 7  | Mentone vs. DeKalb   | CBS vs. Coopers      |
| Sept. 12 | Mentone vs. Desoto   | CBS vs. Rons         |
| Sept. 14 | Mentone vs. Cherokee | CBS vs. Outlaws      |
| Sept. 19 | Mentone vs. Kurts    | CBS vs. Johnsons     |
| Sept. 21 | Mentone vs. Vulcraft | CBS vs. Valley Joist |
| Sept. 26 | Mentone vs. Coopers  | CBS vs. Clark Timber |
| Sept. 28 | Mentone vs. Rons     | CBS vs. Wheels       |

For times of games, please contact team members.

Finally, if you are not doing anything on football nights, tune your radio to KEA country (98.3 FM) out of Scottsboro. Listen in to some exciting high school football action. Ron Livinggood, Robby Copenlaver, Randy Cunningham, and I will bring you an exciting game every week. High school football scoreboard show immediately follows the broadcast on Friday nights.

Here is a schedule for the first month of the season.

|          |                                 |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| Aug. 31  | Section vs. Plainview           |
| Sept. 1  | Guntersville vs. Scottsboro     |
| Sept. 8  | Plainview vs. Scottsboro        |
| Sept. 15 | Sparkman vs. Scottsboro         |
| Sept. 22 | Scottsboro vs. Gordon Lee (Ga.) |
| Sept. 29 | Scottsboro vs. Emma Sansom      |
| Oct. 5   | Plainview vs. Pisgah            |
| Oct. 6   | Scottsboro vs. Boaz             |

Well, that will do it for another month. God willing, I will see you next month.

Answer to trivia: The Chicago Bears (596-392-42).



## The Country Journal

By  
BERNISE CROW

Time is moving on, summer is almost gone, harvest time is near, and local schools have opened for the year. The children are having to brace themselves for a hot ride on the buses, but it won't last long.

The 450-mile-long yard sale has been a huge success, it seems. We had more people in Mentone than we have at our festivals. We met people from many different states who were taking advantage of sales all the way from Cincinnati to Noccalula Falls. One truck stopped by our place, loaded to the hilt. They had things of all kinds heaped high and were still looking. They were from Fort Walton Beach, Florida, and I hope they made it home without losing some of their goodies.

Greg and Linda Frith traveled the entire route of the sale last year and loaded their station wagon, but I believe they just shopped locally this time. I saw them browsing at Jim and Penny Lyday's place where three families displayed their wares. This sale gives us the opportunity to clean out closets and attics and let others haul off the stuff for us. (I loved Bill Schwarz' article on "Stuff" some time ago.) We all have it, but some of us are pack rats and have more stuff than others. Of course, old stuff keeps some of us in business.

My cousin, Andy Lea, stopped by and his grandson, little Andy, was showing him old things for sale. Andy said "Son, I don't want to look at this stuff, because I remember when these things were new!" Anyway, the stuff that would be plain trash to some people is a treasure to others who are collectors.

Thank the Lord for rain and some blessed relief from the heat.

Our tearoom is going to be a reality. Work should be starting on it the first of October. It may not be in operation until spring, but getting ready for it will be exciting. I will introduce you to the fellows who will be running the tea room a little later. They are excellent cooks and will serve gourmet teas and coffee and homemade breads and soups—something light and fantastic and new. I can hardly wait! It will be at the Hitching Post. Will keep you posted.

We miss Amelia Kirk running down to the Hitching Post to chat with Wanda, Janette, and me, but she was ready to move on and do other things. We hope she is enjoying a rest away from the phone for a while. She always carried her little portable phone with her when she came.

The owners of the Mentone Inn are lovely people, very friendly and nice. I have met Frances Waller, owner, and the restaurant manager, Stewart, and was very impressed with them and their plans for serving meals to the public in the near future. There will be more news about the inn shortly. We could certainly have used another restaurant during the big yard sale.

My visitors of the month were Charlie and Edwina Hall from Anniston. Charlie is the grandson of Charlie Hall who used to own the Mentone Superette. Charlie said his grandfather used to own the whole section of Mentone from the Hitching Post to the Post office, on the south side of Hwy. 117, and that he had stables behind the Hitching Post. He has a plat of the area and will give me one when he gets it reproduced. Sounds interesting.

Bruce Bon Fleur wrote us a beautiful letter recently and reported that he and Marsha are doing well, the children are growing and keeping them busy. It's always good to hear from them. I hope they keep up with Mentone activities through *The Groundhog*. It seems to me that Bruce was given a lifetime membership. Bruce works for Sunrise Graphics Design, Inc., in Daytona, specifically marketing and advertising. Sounds like something suited for his many talents. He sent a nice column from their newspaper—*The News Journal* in Daytona Beach, Florida, entitled "What I did on summer vacation," written by Catherine Klasne, who had visited Mentone and

picked blueberries at the U-Pick farm off Hwy. 117. It was a wonderful article. The paper also contained an article about tea rooms, titled "Steeped in tradition."

I would like to close with a little poem written by our grandson, Lee Cooper:

### Summer

Summer's here, spring is gone  
It's time to turn the air conditioner on.  
People uncover pools far and wide,  
So when they get hot they can take a dive.  
It's cool and refreshing I'm pleased to say,  
I like to go swimming every day.

And he did most every day while he was with us.

Stop by & chat with Bernise at

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CLOUDLAND - Lower Brow - Needs Work and TLC - Restore this beautiful mountain rock home and make it your dream house. This home, built in 1940, features 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, partial basement, dining room, kitchen, breakfast room, screened porch, living room with fireplace, garage, gas heat, city water, and several outbuildings, all on a nice lot with 120' of brow frontage. Priced at \$157,000.

MENTONE BROW- SPECTACULAR VIEW - Beautiful, unique, unusual describes this furnished home which offers 3 bedrooms, 1 full bath (with Jacuzzi), 2 one-half baths, great room with wet bar and fireplace, kitchen area features ceramic countertops, an island with custom hood, range, disposal, dishwasher, and refrigerator. A two-car garage, glass-enclosed octagon-shaped casual pool with patio overlooking pool sauna, shower area, recreation room with pool table, hot tub, and decks are just some of the amenities. All this and approximately 700' of brow frontage! Shown by appointment only to qualified buyers. Priced at \$295,000. Co-Broker of Southern Properties, Inc.

CLOUDLAND - Six Small Acreage Tracts of Land located on State Line Road. Wooded, level, and fronting on paved road. Owner financing available. Call for information.

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CLOUDLAND - nice residential building lot in good neighborhood containing approximately 1/2 acre. \$8,000.

DADE COUNTY - 10.26 acres of level, wooded mountain land with approximately 800 ft. of paved road frontage, and priced at \$25,500.

LAKE LAHUSAGE - Great getaway cottage on Lake Lahusage. 3 BDRM, 1 bath, with screened porch and deck, fireplace, separate guest room and game room. Beautiful stone work and 150 ft. of lake frontage. Only \$75,500. Co-Broker of Southern Properties.

MENLO - Approximately 12 acres just outside Meno City Limits, level and wooded. Priced at 43,000 per acre.

MENLO - Great neighborhood - Close to School - This pretty, well-kept brick rancher features living room, kitchen/dining, 3 nice size bedrooms, one large bath, carport, laundry room, deck and paved drive, all on a 100' x 150' lot. Shown by appointment and REDUCED TO \$46,500.

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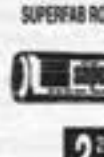
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**HUNTIN' & FISHIN'**

Compiled by Dr. Pat Seymour

**GETTING THERE:** Turkeys can fly well for short distances, but prefer to walk or run.

**AN APPLE A DAY:** A hunter who has a deer stand in an apple orchard kills his scent by dousing his clothing and stand with apple cider from a spray bottle. This trick works in the woods, too.

**MONEY MATTERS:** Slush funds were originally the personal funds of ship cooks, who earned them by skimming off the fat, or "slush," from the ship's meat, and selling it when the ship came into port.

**SHUN THE SUN:** Because fish have no eyelids, almost all species normally shun bright sunshine. They seek any available shade—an overhanging bush, a weedbed, a dock, the shady side of a stream or channel or rock. The slight shade afforded by a stub or a few reeds will also attract fish, and fish will even follow a lure and then linger in the shade of your boat. So, always make your first cast on the shaded side of structure.

**UNEXPECTED PROTECTION:** Cooling off. You probably know that wearing sunscreen helps prevent sunburn and skin cancer. But, a new study conducted at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon, says it could also enhance your performance when hiking, fishing, or hunting.

Researchers found that sunscreen lowers your skin and body core temperatures during exercise. And, since a cooler body can send more energy-boosting blood to your muscles, you can hike farther, row faster—and so on.

Study authors believe the moisture in sunscreen cools by convection, in effect, like "wind chill." That draws internal body heat to the skin's surface where it dissipates, helping you make it over that next ridge on early-season hikes or fall hunts.

When you combine this new benefit with sunscreen's other positive effects, using the stuff becomes way cool.

**TRUST KEEPS LAND FOREVER WILD**

A constitutional amendment passed just two years ago is living up to its promise to keep Alabama Forever Wild.

The Forever Wild Land Trust has already purchased more than 2,000 acres of land for hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, and other outdoor sports.

The amendment allows interest from offshore oil and gas royalties to be set aside for the purchase of lands important to fish-and wildlife-based recreation. Many Alabama sportsmen consider its passage critical because, as wildlife values have soared, the state has seen hundreds of thousands of acres removed from public lease programs.

In one year, the Forever Wild Program has acquired:

(1) The 210-acre Monsanto Tract adjacent to Guntersville State Park. From the tract, visitors can see bald eagle resting sites.

(2) The 320-acre Coon Creek Tract adjacent to Yates Lake in Tallapoosa County. The property includes diverse wildlife habitat, as well as a boat ramp, which provides the only public access to Yates Lake's outstanding bass fishing and duck hunting.

(3) The 1,200-acre Wehle Tract in Bullock County adjoining Barber Wildlife Management Area. Owner Robert Wehle's property includes eight fishing ponds and a mixed hardwood-pine forest with an abundance of wildlife. Plans call for the property to be used as a field-trial area.

"We're eager to have anyone nominate property they feel is special and worthy of protection by the Forever Wild Program," said Kent Hanby, the state lands forester.

For more information on the Forever Wild Program, contact the State Lands Division, Dept. FS, Room 464, 64 N. Union St., in Montgomery, AL 36160.



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(1) OWN YOUR OWN WEEK-END PARADISE with 150 feet on the East Fork of Little River. 3 bedroom, 1 bath cottage and detached garage with upstairs room. Fish from your own private dock or canoe down Little River. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty. \$75,500.



(2) BRING YOUR BOAT AND COME RIGHT OVER TO THIS ALMOST NEW HOME ON WEISS LAKE. Three acres on the water surround this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with large living room, separate den, a storage basement and dock and boat ramp. Kitchen has oak cabinets and island with stove top. Front porch and back deck. \$149,900.



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



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



(5) COZY COUNTRY COTTAGE - 1 acre wooded lot on East Lake Drive. Less than 2 years old. 2 Bd, 2 Bth, large living dining & kitchen. Fireplace. Front & Back porches, 2 car carport & detached garage. \$84,900.



(6) LIKE NEW-LOW MAINTENANCE BRICK HOME with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large eat-in kitchen and fireplace with insert. Room for expansion in the 3/4 basement with full bath. Sitting on a low maintenance lot with adjoining land available. \$75,000.



(7) WATCH THE SEASONS CHANGE IN THE VALLEY BELOW from in front of the rock fireplace of this 3 bedroom, 2 bath custom log home. Fully equipped kitchen, pine floors, exposed beams in living room and central heat and air on a 7.2 acre brow lot above Mentone. Ready to move into and start enjoying the fantastic view from the large deck where you can spend many lazy afternoons. \$150,000.



(8) 3-bdrm, 1 bath FARM HOUSE on 40 acres. Hardwood & Pine Floors, Rock Fireplace - 2 car garage - equipment shed & Greenhouse. \$78,500.



(9) MENTONE BROW- Spectacular View- Beautiful, unique, unusual describes this finished home which offers three bedrooms, one full bath (with Jacuzzi), two one-half baths, great room with wet bar and fireplace, kitchen area features ceramic countertop and an island with custom hood, range, disposal, dishwasher and refrigerator. A two-car garage, glass-enclosed, octagon-shaped casual pool with patio overlooking pool, sauna, shower area, recreation room with pool table, hot tub, and decks are just some of the amenities. All this and approximately 700' of brow frontage! Shown by appointment only to qualified buyers. Great for a restaurant. \$295,000.



(10) THE PERFECT WEEKEND RETREAT FOR SUMMER AWAITS YOU. Come see this 1 bedroom, 1 bath home with living and dining areas. Located on an acre lot with its own boat dock at Weiss Lake. \$35,000.

## OTHER LISTINGS

(11) THE WEST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER flows quietly by these 3-acre wooded lots with 300 feet of River Frontage. Restricted for property owner's protection. Prices starting at \$20,000.

(12) START YOUR DREAM HOME TODAY on this 3-acre wooded lot with 200 ft. on Lake Lahusage. Restricted for owner's protection. \$30,000.

(13) 13 BROW LOTS with additional acreage across the road for a mini-farm. Just over the Georgia line. Restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty.

(14) 10 ACRES IN DOWNTOWN MENTONE. Heavily wooded with a fantastic view of open pasture. City water available. \$20,000.

(15) OVERLOOK THE BREATHTAKING GEORGIA VALLEY from this 3.76 acre West Brow lot, about 10 miles north of Mentone. Lightly restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty. Only \$22,000.

(16) LAKE ON THE BROW - Where else can you find magnificent sunrise and lake views in the same place? Only at Lake on the Brow. Restricted building lots 10 minutes from town. NOW OPEN-PHASE II - Look now while the choice is prime-starting at only \$12,500.

(17) NON-RESTRICTED LAND. Beautiful wooded and cleared lots located at Little River Canyon. Lot sizes ranging from 1-acre tracts and larger. Priced starting at \$5,500. Owner financing available.

845-6000

Susan Collins Residence--634-4695

Sara Quinn Residence --845-1881



The photo of Mrs. Wolcott is from the Berry family album and was taken when she was a teenager.

## Corrine Berry Wolcott

By Dr. Bill Berry

When I was born in the summer of 1957, my Aunt Corrine was present. Since my paternal grandmother had passed away three years earlier, this aunt, known to me affectionately as "Rinnie," has always stood in my heart and in my mind as an adopted grandmother. I share with many others a deep respect for her and for the life she has led. For this reason, I was among the fortunate who joined the celebration of her 80th birthday on the first Sunday afternoon of August.

Rinnie has been a part of Mentone since 1919, when the Berry family began spending summers at Berry Patch. (See related article on Page 1.) Though the ministry of her late husband, Drew Wolcott, took Rinnie far from Mentone, including their 27 years in Mexico, most summers found her atop Lookout Mountain. Upon retirement in 1983, the Wolcotts moved to Mentone, where she made a home in the house known as The Wolcottage.

Over the years, she raised six children and taught many others in elementary schools. Her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren continue to make the pilgrimage to Mentone at every opportunity. The birthday celebration, held at Moon Lake Baptist Church, was just such an occasion.

A piano concert performed by daughter-in-law, Sylvia Harden Wolcott, opened the festive afternoon. This was the second in a series of four concerts required for the completion of Sylvia's Masters degree at Wichita State University in Kansas. Featured were compositions by Bach, Brahms, and Chopin.

A birthday reception, attended by approximately 100 people, followed the concert. Sons Roger (with wife Maria), Monterry, Mexico; and Robert, McPherson, Kansas; daughters Connie Beauchamp, Cloudland, Georgia; Carolyn Hendon (with husband Roland), Mentone; and Cathie Barrett, The Woodlands, Texas; and daughter-in-law Marj Decker, Atlanta, (wife of son Dick, deceased) led the festive occasion. Granddaughters served the refreshments.

Other relatives attended the celebration, including brothers and sisters-in-law Will and Carolyn Wolcott, Nashville; Gordon and Christine Berry, Atlanta; Lloyd Berry, Birmingham; and Jim and Marjorie Berry, Mentone; and nieces Susie Ghering, Wilmore, Kentucky; and Crissie Carswell, Atlanta.

Many friends from Mentone, pastorates in Birmingham and Tuscaloosa, and The Fountains in Fort Payne also joined the festivities. Closed in a time of worship and reflection, the event became a celebration not only of a birthday, but of the life and faith of a very special lady.

## GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

When we moved here a few years ago, my husband remarked on the total quietness of the place—it was missing something. Then he realized what it was: the lack of birds singing or chirping. We did hear the tapping of a couple of woodpeckers; and, once in a while, an owl hooted. That was all. And, of course, nobody could miss the crows chowing down on the numerous road kills.

I am glad to say that this year we have seen quite a few different birds around our place, and we are pleased about that. Apart from the beautiful singing and chirping, they are a very necessary part of a garden. They have been keeping the Japanese beetle population down. Another bird that has been of great value around here has been the very strange KILL-DEER or plover. I call them strange because of the bird's habit of laying its eggs on the ground. In fact, we had one lay its eggs on the edge of our drive in a shallow hollow that it fluffed out with its wings. I could not believe a bird would be so stupid (hence, perhaps, the word "bird-brained"), as my yard is teeming with dogs, cats, a couple of geese, and lots of bats.

Now, to get on with the garden hint for this month. It's on **saving seeds and the different methods needed to be successful.**

Essentially, there are two types of seeds: wet and dry. **Wet seeds** are those that are embedded in wet flesh (melon, eggplant, cucumber, magnolia, and dogwood to name a few.) To save wet seeds, you have to extract them from the surrounding wet tissue. Some plants, like tomatoes, need to be fermented before you can do this. **Dry seeds** are those that are enveloped in pods, husks or seed heads, instead. Dry seeds may need to be threshed or winnowed before storage.

Seeds that are enclosed in fleshy pulp (tomato, etc.) need special treatment before they'll store properly. You need to separate the pulp from the seeds by **FERMENTING** the fully ripe or rotting vegetable.

**FERMENTING:** Slice the vegetable down the middle, scoop out the seeds and pulp, put them into a clean wide-mouthed glass jar, and discard the shell. Add about a quarter cup of water to the jar, let the jar sit for a few days at room temperature or higher. Stir the mixture a few times a day, if possible. A layer of mold will form, and it will give off a strong odor. When you see bubbles rising and when the mold grows to a dense layer or when most of the seeds have settled to the bottom, stop the fermenting process by adding water to double the mixture. Stir well—good seeds will sink to the bottom and pulp and plant debris will float. Skim off the debris, stir, and skim a few more times until only good seeds are left. Rinse the seeds and place them on a glass plate or screen to dry.

Don't wait too long before separating seeds from debris, as the chemical in the pulp that inhibits germination will wear away, and the warm, wet condition will make the good seeds start to sprout.



### The WINNERS ARE--

At the North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Department (NLMVFD) 3rd Annual Bar-B-Q, the winners of the ten (10) One Hundred Dollar bills drawn during the afternoon of September 2, were: Bubba Holland, Lula Blalock, Stubby Anderson, Allen Hairell, Kim Crumbley, Sible Sandowlin, Don Aldidge, Kisha Powell, Bubba Holland, Camp Laney.

The NLMVFD wishes to thank everybody who participated in the 3rd Annual Bar-B-Q.

### THANK YOU

The DeSoto Rescue Squad thanks all those who donated items to the Rescue Squad yard sale, and also those who purchased items. It was a great success. Thanks, again.



## "Lord, Send Me"

(Isaiah 6:8)

By Jean Gauld

Why on earth would anyone want to travel to Kobe, Japan—10,000 miles away from quiet Mentone? "Some want to stay within the sound of peaceful chapel bells; I want to run a rescue ship one inch from hell!" And so we did. We were surrounded by the Mafia on one side—their headquarters were a stone's throw from us. The Mormons were working very hard to make converts—and the Gods of Buddhism, Shintoism, and materialism were everywhere. But God was mightily at work: pulling down and rebuilding.

You remember Kobe—it was the site of the Great Hanshin earthquake where over 5,000 perished. Even now, 6 months later, over 17,000 remain homeless. Our doors would open at 11 a.m. Coffee and dessert were served by volunteers, as we ministered natural aid (clothing and supplies). The Gospel of Christ went forth, as well, to hurting, desolate folks. Most had lost their homes, sometimes loved ones, as well. They found Buddha couldn't do a thing for them! Jesus knows where to put the nets down, and he was ready to save! Many surrendered their hearts to the Lord. We think nothing of jumping and shouting over a dead pigskin at a football game, but when Jesus rescues the perishing into the big arms of safety, that's worth jumping and shouting about! That's joy unspeakable... "bringing in the sheaves!"

I hear this so often, but we have a mission field right here—yes; and we have plenty of laborers here, too! The laborers that can go and will go to the mission field are few. Yes, we had to sleep on the floor and take risks, but God met all our needs gloriously! Japan is the most expensive country in the world in which to travel. For instance, melons were \$8.00 a piece; apples \$3.00 for one. Yet, every day, fresh fruit and lovely dinners were brought to us by the saints and friends of the church.

Right after the Great Hanshin earthquake, campus crusades came in and did a great job of feeding over 400 per day, and building shelters for the homeless. Youth with a Mission (YWAM) did likewise. Even though the judgments of God were going forth on a heathen nation (only 2% Christian), God's mercy and compassion were ever drawing souls to Him. Isaiah 26:9 "When thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness."

One day, several of us went to the tent area for a concert to encourage the folks. As I was singing, a man dressed in some type of priestly garb came running up to me and asked me to sing, "Jesus Loves Me," again. He even sang it with me and told of singing in a mission school when he was a little boy. He pulled off his head dress to show his shaven head and told me he was a Buddhist Priest, even though, "He believed in Jesus." I said Jesus was Lord over all Lords and King of all Kings and He was the only King whose grave is empty! He threw his bottle of alcohol away at this point; and as we left, he took our tracts, being well watered by the word and Spirit of God. As I was leaving, someone told me he was a wicked man. But I thought of Paul, consenting to Stephen's death, and knew God could save to the uttermost. After all, hadn't I asked Him "to give me the heathen for my inheritance?" (Ps. 2:9) He didn't come for the righteous, but sinners... isn't that great? That lets you and me in, too.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the expense of the next mission may send it to P. O. Box 365, Mentone, AL 35984.



## A Friendly— Valley View

By  
ELOISE BROWN

For the first time, I think that I shall welcome September with its cool breezes—hopefully, not too strong.

August has been a popular month for birthdays: • **Jason Meadows** celebrated his 16th birthday and his sister • **Alison** had her 17th birthday. Cindy and David Meadows are their parents.

• **Timothy Ray Ogle** celebrated his 1st birthday, Aug. 26. He is the son of Ray and Staci Ogle of Henagar and grandson of Wanda Ogle of Valley Head, Steve Chitwood of High Point, and Glenda Blackwell of Ider. His great-grandmother is Mamie Chitwood of High Point. He had a party at Henagar Park.

• **Adelaide Biddle** celebrated her birthday Aug. 20, at the fellowship hall of Valley Head Methodist Church, with a family dinner. Those present were Julia and Ronnie Hickey and children, Jason and Scott, from Chattanooga; and Starla and Hunter Hickey from Chattanooga; Mary Lou and David Carmichael and children, Tara, Josh, Kellie, and Melissa from Dallas, Ga.; Allen Biddle of Atlanta; Lisa Mann from Birmingham; Elizabeth and Nelson Ellis from Rainsville; John Holleman from Huntsville; Brent Biddle from Fort Knox, Ky.; Frances and Bill Ellis from Summerville; Marsha and Marty Biddle and children, Jessica, Matthew, and Nicole; and Mary and Ted Holleman and son, John, from Huntsville. There were two birthday cakes, as Adelaide's brother, • **Bill Ellis**, had a recent birthday and shared the honor with her.

• **Linda and Mickey Cobble** came from Chattanooga, and Becky Stott and family brought a birthday dinner for **Gladys Cobble** at her home. She had three birthday cakes!

• **Randall Hawkins** from Chattanooga, spent the weekend with his parents, Geraldine and Howard Hawkins. The 25th was **Geraldine's** birthday. He brought supper and a new dress for Geraldine. On Sunday, a group of us from Valley Head Methodist Church: Venna Livingston; Frances Longshore; Melinda and Jeff Adkins; Randall, Geraldine, and Howard Hawkins; and I, and Sharon Johnson from Nashville and her fiancé, Barry Kay, ate lunch together at Henagar's Steak House. Barry had played and sung so beautifully at our morning worship service.

**Debra and Robert Johnston** celebrated their 19th wedding anniversary, recently. They had as their guests, her mother, Mary Campbell; her brother, Jerry; and her nephew, Brian, from Shelby, N.C.

**Doris and Jim Carmichael** had a family gathering recently at their home. Those enjoying the occasion were: Betsy Kopecky and Sue Bethea of Birmingham; Elaine Johnson and children, Steven and Madeline, from Iowa City, Ia.; and Emmy Ricketts and children, Lucy, John, and Polly, from Tuscaloosa. Missing were Linda, Bob and Katy Thomas. They had gone to help their son, William, move to the U of A at Tuscaloosa, for his sophomore year.

**Vicki and Ray Baxley**, from Auburndale, Fla., are spending some time at the Raymond McElhane farm, which they bought. They plan to build their retirement home there.

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** had a "bash" at Sequoyah Cave. Nearly one hundred people enjoyed games, cake walks, moon walk, and "deacon dunking" (poor deacons)—much fun!

**Tracy Freeman**, daughter of Ruth and Al Freeman, came from Memphis, Tenn., and bought the C.E. Bell house, where she is living with her two daughters, **Ashley**, age 8 and **Whitney**, age 6. Welcome to Valley Head!

**Louise and Charles Hammond** have returned home after a visit with their son, Tim, in Aberdeen, Washington. They also enjoyed seeing Mt. St. Helen.

**Venna Livingston** and her family spent a week in Panama City, Fla. Venna said, "I can't believe that I let them talk me into going para-sailing." I'll bet she enjoyed it!

There is a "Terrific Tuesday" program at the Valley Head Methodist Church every Tuesday afternoon after school for the children.

**Helen and Larry Longshore** went to Idaho and had the opportunity to share in the "Wilderness Program" with their daughter, Laurie, who is beginning her senior year at the Moscow University, there. Then, they went to Washington state for several days. They report a temperature of 32°!

The **Valley Head United Methodist Women** met August 1, at the home of Jane Kirby, with Mary Crow as co-hostess. Melinda Adkins led the program, "Children Making the World Safe for Us." Those present were Mary Holleman, Adelaide Biddle, Venna Livingston, Frances Longshore, Ann Kirby, Geraldine Hawkins, Gladola Holleman, and I.

**Laura Margaret Allison** enjoyed a week's visit with her daughter, Ansley McGinnis and husband, John, in their new home at Eatonton, Ga., a very interesting place. It was there that Joel Chandler Harris wrote his Uncle Remus stories. There is a statue of Br'er Rabbit on the courthouse lawn. She reports that it is a beautiful town.

A lovely shower was given at the home of Amanda Gray, on Aug. 27, for expectant mother, **Debra Rhodes**. Those present were Venna Livingston, Myra Lanier, Edith Cox, Glenda Laws, Gina Laws, Charlene Smith, Pam Dean, Kim McElhane, Kathy (McElhane) Carson, Edith Dean, Catherine and Doris Chamlee, Kelly H. Broyles, Amanda Gray, Melanie Greene, Cindy Keith, Lottie Ingle, Ann Wright, Denise and Sarah Haushalter, and Eloise Brown. That will be one of the most completely and beautifully outfitted little ones around. May it be healthy, good, and wise!

Enjoy these beautiful days—safely and happily! The landscape is lavishly sprinkled with gold, purple, lavender, and white, each weed a flower, indeed!

## Labor Day

Be ye steadfast, for as much as ye know  
that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.  
1 Corinthians 15:58

Labor Day means Summer's end  
Time to rest and celebrate;  
Time to play with kin and friend,  
For the time is growing late.

It is time for one last fling  
Before Winter closes in,  
To the last warm breezes cling—  
Go to the places never been.

The weary workers have earned their rest,  
The loafers go on the same;  
The workers have passed the test,  
The lazy just played a game.

Their duties and tasks they shirked,  
While others carried their load,  
How rest when they never worked?  
How reap harvest never sowed?

Labor day—day of appreciation,  
for the laborer great or small,  
Well earned weekend vacation  
Before settling down to Fall.

—Eloise Brown

## September Days

September days  
Erase Summer's ways,  
Present a haze  
To shroud the gaze,  
Enjoys a maze—  
Mixed somber grays,  
Brown, fading rays,  
Empty bouquets  
Relaxing craze.

Dark clouds fade  
Autumn's bright blaze,—  
Year's flying days—  
September days.

—Eloise Brown



## Robert Barry Brown II

Robert Barry Brown II is pictured with the rattlesnake that he killed with his trusty (?) BB gun. He is nine years old, the son of Patti and A.J. Brown, the grandson of Emily and Barry Brown, and great grandson of Eloise Brown. He has a sister, Amanda, and a brother, Justin. The snake was 54 inches long, with 15 rattles!

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# The Church News

By  
EVELYN GRAVES



The Mentone Church of God will have a revival September 3-8, with Reverend Ken Stroup from Tuscaloosa as the evangelist. Beginning September 10, the church will be starting a Children's Church on Sunday mornings. Doug and Karen Powell will be in charge of this. On September 30, the young people will be taking a trip to Six Flags Over Georgia. Every Monday night, a non-denominational prayer meeting is held at the church. Everyone is invited to attend this meeting.

The Moon Lake Baptist Church had a special youth service on Sunday evening, September 3. On September 7, Churchwide Visitation will begin. The JOY group will meet for the first time during the new year on Thursday, September 14, at 11:30 a.m. There will be an election of officers for the forthcoming year at that time. Sunday, September 17, is Care and Concern Sunday. JOY plans a trip to Ellijay, Ga., sometime in September. The date has not yet been decided. Please call Jim Ellis at 634-4427 or Rev. Russell at 634-4176 after September 14 to confirm the date. There will be a fellowship meal on Wednesday evening, September 6, at 6:30 p.m. with a business meeting following. Rev. Russell is teaching, "Christians Confronting the Cults," on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. Questions such as "Where do these cults come from?" and "How do I witness to a cult member?" will be addressed.

There will be a church-wide singing at 6 p.m. on September 24 at the Valley Head Baptist Church. The time for Discipleship Training will be changed to 5 p.m., and the time of the worship services will be changed to 6 p.m., beginning September 3.

The UMW of the Valley Head United Methodist Church will meet at the church on September 26, at 3 p.m. This will be a Pledge Service and election of officers. Leslie Rogers is doing "Terrific Tuesday" each Tuesday afternoon for the children with a Bible story, games, and refreshments. Sharon Lee will start another study soon. The date has not yet been announced. Sunday School is at 9 a.m. and worship is at 10 a.m. each Sunday. Everyone is invited to attend.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church will have a swim party at the home of Bernise and Homer Crow for the children on Saturday, September 9, as a kickoff for starting Sunday School again. The church is in the process of searching for a new minister. Meanwhile, Oscar Hussel is serving as interim. The bishop will come on September 20 to meet with the congregation, and a potluck dinner will be served at that time. On Sunday, October 1, there will be Church in the Camp at Camp DeSoto. This will be an inner generational learning experience with a potluck dinner.

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church each Sunday morning at 9 a.m.

The Mentone Wesleyan Church is holding board meetings discussing an addition to the parsonage and planning for improvements on the church building. No special services are planned for September. The children's service held on August 27 was a great success, followed by a party at McDonalds. The church has had a good past year, both numerically and financially. Increases were shown in both areas.

The Union Hill Baptist Church provided the music at the annual homecoming at Asbury Methodist Church on Sunday, August 27. There will be a weekend youth revival on September 16-17, with Reverend Steve Lucy conducting the

services. There will be a cookout on Saturday afternoon, September 16, and a youth session prior to the service that evening. The service will begin at 7 p.m. The youth choir has been invited to sing at the Mentone United Methodist Church during a revival on Tuesday evening, September 19. September 10 will be Pastor Appreciation Day. Rev. Jimmy Graves will be completing seven years as pastor. Family Sunday will also be observed on that same date. The monthly singing will be that evening at 6 p.m. Since September 1, 1994, there have been 48 additions to the church. A new college and career class has been organized, and the youth Sunday School class has grown to around 35 members. The RAs have a white water rafting trip to Ocoee planned for September 23. Exciting things are happening. You are invited to be a part of it. Sunday School is at 10 a.m., morning worship is at 11 a.m., discipleship training at 6 p.m., evening worship at 7 p.m., and Wednesday night prayer service at 6:30. RAs, GAs, and Acteens meet every other Wednesday at 5 p.m., and youth choir practice is the alternate Wednesday at 5 p.m. The GAs and Acteens are in the process of doing Christmas in August for foreign missionaries and their families. This project will be completed sometime in September.

The Mentone United Methodist Church recently had their steeple repaired. See pictures elsewhere. The UMW will meet on Thursday, Sept. 7, at the Fellowship Hall. Maxine Wright has the program, "Understanding Missions." Sue Schwarz is the hostess. The church will have a revival September 17-20. There will be different speakers and music each evening. Sun. - 17th - Rev. Ralph Wooten of 1st Baptist Church in Tennville, Ga., and singers from St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church. Mon. - 18th - Rev. Bill Harper, Silura Baptist Church, Alabaster, Ala., and singers from Mentone Church of God of Prophecy. Tue. - 19th - Rev. Calvin Shaw, Good Hope United Methodist, Wilsonville, Ala., and singers from the Union Hill Baptist Church. Wed. - 20th, not confirmed yet, with singers from St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church.

The Mentone Revival Center has moved its 6:30 p.m. Tuesday night service to Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. This will avoid conflict with many Tuesday community meetings. September 22-23, a ladies' spiritual retreat will be held in LaGrange, Ga. Attending from the Mentone Revival Center will be Theresa Buckles, Brenda Williamson, Tammy Parris, Vickie Davis, Angie Bagley, Lula Blalock, Becky Benefield, and Doris Fleming.

The Mentone Revival Center has been given a large number of boy's and men's blue jeans. If anyone needs work or school wear, please call Brenda Williamson at 634-4247, and leave a call back message. The jeans are free.

## NEWS RELEASE

William O. Blalock, 159 County Road 946, Mentone, Ala., attended a meeting of Woodmen of the World/Omaha Woodmen Life Insurance Society's National Fraternal Committee, August 19, at the Hilton at Walt Disney World village in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Those attending reviewed the Society's New Membership Drive, Fraternal Challenge Program, and various other fraternal projects and activities conducted by Woodmen lodges across the United States. Attendees also suggested new projects, and changes and updates to the society's fraternal program.

Woodmen of the World, founded in 1890, is one of the largest fraternal benefit societies in the United States, and offers insurance protection with fraternal benefits. Insurance products include whole life, universal life, term and hospital supplement insurance, and annuities.

The Society's 856,000 members, who hold more than one million certificates, belong to nearly 3,000 lodges throughout the United States. Woodmen lodges across the country conduct fraternal projects of benefit to people and their communities. These projects range from the presentation of U.S. flags to the donation of equipment to fire departments, rescue squads, and hospitals; and assistance for senior citizens, the physically impaired, and orphans.

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### Rev. James Maxwell

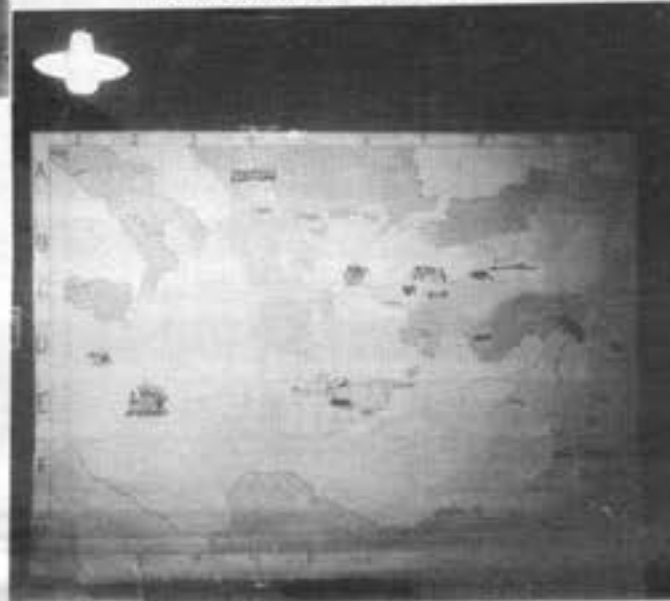
The Mentone United Methodist Church called a new pastor on June 14, 1995. Coming from the Mount Tabor UMC where a youth program was begun, Rev. Maxwell says, "My goal is to help our youth be more and more Christlike. I will use learning and play to build each youth into well-rounded workers for our Lord Jesus Christ. I feel that with my background and knowledge, I would be able to help lead youth to find God's will in their life. Youth need to know God has a plan for them and that they are needed in God's plan. They are special, no other individual can do what God wills for them."

Rev. Maxwell is presently attending Asbury Theological Seminary, in Wilmore, Kentucky. He has worked as a volunteer with Special Olympics on the local and state levels, and has worked with youth in the Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF). The first week he was in Mentone, he hosted a group of young people from Mt. Tabor.

Since arriving in Mentone, Rev. Maxwell has begun a youth fellowship (MYF) and has planned several trips for the youth. Their first trip was on July 29 to Birmingham for a movie and to do some shopping. Future trips include the football game with Vanderbilt on September 23, and a ski trip to North Carolina in January 1996. The youth will be having fundraisers (car washes and yard sales, etc.) and



The church recently had the steeple repaired and used Dennis Construction out of Rainsville.



The map of the area where the disciple Paul ministered to the many churches.

will be asking for contributions to help them pay for their trips. During the month of August, the youth have begun working with puppets, having game tournaments, crafts, etc., and studying the Bible. As a requirement for the ski trip, the youth are to participate in the program and the activities. The first part of the MYF meetings each Sunday night, they spend time on puppets, drama, and music.

Under the direction of Rev. Maxwell and Barbie Hester, director, and Carol Hazell, assistant, the 1995 Vacation Bible School held during the week of June 26-30, had as its theme, "Turnabout Paul," and it was a great success. Marilyn Blanton Campbell was in charge of cartography, and each class participated in completing a map that was hung on the fellowship wall. A real benefit to the week was the student participation in the completion of the map. (See picture on this page. The map continues to hang in the fellowship hall.) Coordinating the searches outside, Marilyn taught each class to read compasses and to follow directions to specific places.

Rev. Maxwell has contacted several ministers to participate in the revival at the church, which will be September 17-20. There will be singing each evening. See related item in the church news. Everyone is welcome.



### Happy Anniversary

Doug and Renee Peek of Fort Payne, celebrated their August 5th anniversary with a trip early this year to Gatlinburg, Tenn. They have two children, Zackary (3), and Kayla (1).



### HERE'S A BLAST FROM THE PAST!

Can you guess who that hip dude is with the afro? It's our good friend Bill Miracle, who was enjoying a visit with his brothers sometime during the early 1980s. Don (Jesse Crabtree's favorite PUNCHING BAG), Bill, and (baby brother) Bobby Miracle grew up in Harlin, Kentucky, during the coal mine boom. Don now resides in Hamilton, Ohio; Bill in Valley Head; and Bobby in Corbin, Kentucky.

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## God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small. Prov. 24:10

Adversity comes to everybody sooner or later. It slows all of us down for a while; it knocks many down. Some get up, others stay down and get trampled. The person who gets up is the person who wins. Take heart, meet trouble with a will to win. God is always there to take your hand.

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The merchants in the - Bud Simmons; Log Cabin White Elephant Gallery; Mentone area are looking forward to the Octoberfest. Back Door treasures - Collette Kerby; Village Boutique; Ruby's In the craft village can be found: The Clock Shop - Gloria Ballenger. Others in Variety - Phyllis and Jim Charlie Rogers; Something the Mentone area are: the Roberts; Ruby's Country Special - Nellie Crowley Heritage Hotel; Lawn Corner - Ruby Stalvey; and Jessie Crow; Granny's Furniture; Phil Howard Mentone Inn - Frances and Panties; Hey Hey's - Rustic Furniture; Gourdie Karl Waller; Little River Charlyne O'Rear; Country Shop - Sharon Barron; Hardware - John Corey; Store - Marsha Hair; Bud's Crow's Nest - Bernise Mentone Superette - Al Store - Marsha Hair; Bud's Crow; Village Boutique; Blackburn.