

The Dedmon Connection

SEPTEMBER 2005 - Number 40

(Dedmon, Dedman, Deadman, Deadmon, Dedmond, Dedmond, etc.)



LEROY DEDMON

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

We just returned from a trip to the Springfield, TN area. It was good to visit where we lived for almost fourteen years (1972-1985). We got to spend some time with Gary (our son) and his family. Gary has been married to Diane Toothman for almost twenty two years. Her father, Don Toothman, and I performed the ceremony on November 5, 1983. Don was one of the elders at the Springfield congregation when we moved there. He passed away in 1997. I was one of the preachers at his funeral service. Diane's mother is Faye Dorris Toothman lives next door to Gary and Diane. Her mother and father, Bertha and Russell Dorris, were diligent workers for the Cross Plains congregation where Russell served as an elder 'till his death. It

has been my privilege to conduct several Gospel Meetings at Cross Plains. Bertha was a descendent of the Flatt family that has a rich heritage in the Church of Christ from the Livingston, TN area. There are probably a dozen preachers connected to the Flatt family. There is also a connection to Lester Flatt of the Flatt and Scruggs country music fame. If I remember correctly the Dorris family includes in its ancestry the frontiersman, Davvy Crockett. This bit of news was exciting to the boys and me too!!

The union of marriage between Gary and Diane has produced our two grandsons, Greg and Jonathan. Greg will be 20 on November 4 and Jonathan will be 19 in April. How time does fly!!!! Both boys have completed High School and are enjoying the reality of the world of employment. It seems only yesterday that we were traveling to Springfield to view our newborn grandson. We could not have "hand picked" a better daughter-in-law. She has been a great addition to the family. We truly "did not lose a son, but gained a daughter"!



THIS PICTURE IS A FEW YEARS OLD BUT IS A GOOD ONE OF THE FAMILY: (L R) JONATHAN, GARY, DIANE AND GREG

Our purpose for the Tennessee trip was to conduct a Gospel Meeting at Adams, TN a nearby community, just north of Springfield, on Highway 41, of course (see issue #30 for the Highway 41 story)... The preacher at Adams is a long time friend, Marvin Crouch. Marvin is from Lafayette, GA and his wife, Nina Sprayberry, is from Trion, GA. There is a Sprayberry connection to the family tree. It was a good meeting and we saw many of our friends from yesteryear. Some of you may not be familiar with the fame of Adams, TN, so I will pass on this bit of information. **It is the home of the Bell Witch!!!!** There is quite a bit of info on the internet concerning the story. A good place to begin would be: <http://www.bellwitchplay.com/....> There is also an annual festival called the Bell Witch Festival. It is on the old school grounds, where now is located an antique shop and a quaint little restaurant. I believe they are on the Bluegrass Music tour as well... it is worth a visit....





I am constantly reminded of a Bible verse found in Hebrews 11:4 - "...and by it he being dead yet speaketh". Of course, this is only the last part of the verse and I realize it is talking about Abel. He was one of the first two sons of Adam and Eve recorded in Scripture. I have often used this verse to suggest that Able is still speaking in a manner by saying, "do what God says"...

Do we continue to "speak" after we have gone on to our eternal existence? I am reminded of that almost every day. Last week I was doing some electrical work, (installing switches and receptacles) and Jane asked, "Where did you learn to do that?" I replied, "My daddy taught me"...

As I walk over the farm and through the barns and tractor shed, I see the signs of my dad's existence. We lost him three years ago, but as long as the old farm house and buildings located at 497 Dickson Road exist, so will his "speaking". Dad was not one to hire something done. He was truly a "jack of all trades". We did have a professional electrician living next door for a long time and Dad did use his services on occasion. He was by trade a machinist. He also worked with sheet metal and for a time was what the industry calls a "jig and fixture builder". So you can see, he worked with his hands.

After retirement, he and mom moved to the old home place, where we now live. He began the task of remodeling and "fixing up". While in that process he became acquainted with some of the local building supply companies. I guess that was the contacts that led to employment with them. That was before the days of Lowes and Home Depot. Everytime I visit one of them, I think to myself, "They sure do need Dad to work here". I stopped at a local supplier the other day and the guy who waited on me knew Dad. He said he used to work with him and proceeded to tell me how much he thought of him.

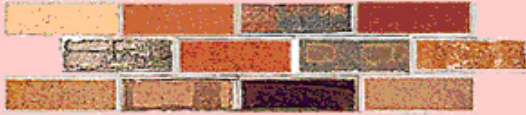
Dad taught me how to work with my hands. This really works well with the training I received as a Design Draftsman. The projects may not have always looked the best, but they worked. Jane used to say I used that as an excuse not to buy things. We would be shopping places like Helen, GA or Gatlinburg, TN and when Jane would admire something, I would remark, "I can make that". She says in retrospect, that I never did make those items..... but I still believe I can... The problem has always been that I never had the right tools for the job. However, my brother, Bill has developed quite a talent and does have some wood working tools. So now I can just say, "Bill can make that".

Several years ago Jane was working with a Carpet store and the owner was having problems finding installers. He had several jobs sold and folks were getting impatient. "What am I going to do?", he asked. I asked him if he knew how to lay carpet. He said he had watched some of the installers do it, but he never had actually laid any. I boasted, "I never have done it, but if it is done with human hands, I can do it".. He had loaned an installer some money, who had left his tools as collateral. We agreed to give it a try!!!

We picked a new house thinking that it would be empty and no one would be around to watch. It went quite well and a new "trade" was added to my list of things I could do, if I quit preaching. For the next several years, I developed into a "renowned installer" at one point I owned a retail carpet store. We also added a cleaning service and then wallpaper. I trained several folks through the years to install both carpet and wallpaper.

It is quite amusing to deal with the public. Almost without exception, the first question asked when you finish with the floorcovering is, "Can I walk on it?" I was always tempted to say, "Yes, in about six months"!!!! People really get "up tight" at what they walk on. I guess my most memorable moment in the floor covering career was the time we were asked by the local Dog Food Company to carpet the walls of their computer office. We did it on Saturday when the office was closed. However, the plant was open, and one of the workers came through the office and stopped in amazement. "Don't you put carpet on the floor?", he asked. The look he gave us when we replied, "It lasts longer on the wall", is still with me.

THE BRICK WALL



I have discovered at least five major Deadman branches that we have not been able to connect. If you have information on any of the Deadman family branches, please submit.

From: "William Lynn"

<ldedmon1@bellsouth.net>

Date: Thu Apr 14, 2005 10:55 pm

Subject: Johnathan Dedmon

Hi Everyone, Does anyone have any info on Johnathan Dedmon? If not here is what I have. Johnathan Dedmon was born January 4, 1808. It is possible that he was born in Georgia, however, I don't have anything to prove this. He died March 1, 1890 and is buried in the Dedmon Cemetary on Walkers Creek in Dekalb Co, Tenn. He married Elizabeth Webster born abt. 1806. Children of Johnathan and Elizabeth Dedmon Matthew L. Dedmon born Sept. 21, 1829 and died May 25, 1904. He is buried beside his father Johnathan. Francis Charles born 1831. Mary Jane born 1832, Adalaide born 1835 and died Feb. 16, 1862. Patterson born Dec. 10, 1843 died Nov. 23, 1919. Johnathan jr. born 1846. I have been to the cemetary in Dekalb Co. Tn. This is where I found the birth and death dates of Johnathan Dedmon. There are only six headstones in the cemetary that I can read. Johnathan and Matthew are the only Dedmon graves that I can find. Others are marked by only flatrocks standing at the head of the graves. Other names in the cemetary are Malone, Balif, Fisher, and Bailiff. I, m not sure how they fit in, but I bet their is a connection. --Cousin Lynn

Thanks Lynn and I bet you are right. There is probably a connection and some of our readers might have the missing information... As many times as I have been in Dekalb County, I never knew there was a Dedmon Cemetery in that part of the country. Another item on the "must do" list. I have preached in that county on a number of occasions and spend several days on Center Hill Lake at Pate's Ford. --Leroy

Haywood County, TN Genealogy

I found this interesting bit of information on some of the West Tennessee Dedmons while surfing the web at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~tnhaywoo/city/allen.htm>. By now I have concluded that this branch of the tree belongs to the Christopher Deadman line. While we still look for the missisng link, it continues to elude us. We are not giving up... --Leroy

Allen Station

Allen is about half way between Brownsville and Bells on Highway 79 and also on the railroad. In the past, as many as six passenger trains a day passed through and four stopped at Allen Station. Sometimes the trips were short ... a few miles up to Bells or over to the county seat at Brownsville. Freight trains were loaded with apples, strawberries, milk and hides. And at one time Allen had two stores, a cotton gin, grist mill, saw mill, barber shop, church and a school. Some families in the area were: Barcroft, Baxter, Clem, Cobb, Colvett, Craig, **Dedmon**, Duke, Edwards, Gardner, Garrett, Harper, Hollingshead, Hooper, Jones, Kirby, Kirkpatrick, Marbury, Norman, Patterson, Smith, Watridge.

Businesses Through the Years:

Mr. Basie's Store: sold to **Will Dedmon**, then Robert Barcroft, he moved store to the highway. It was later run or owned by Kelly Page, Edmond Taylor, David Fleming. **Will Dedmon** opened 2nd store, sold to Charlie B. Jacocks, Harvey Duke, Run by Virgil Patterson. **Broom Making:** George Colvett. **Dairy:** T. O. Lea (sold to Mr. Craig, then to R. A. Kirby), Frank Herring, Irby Rooks. **Cotton Gin:** Sam Baxter and George Jones, sold to Baxter and **Dedmon**, then Allen Gin Co (Barcroft and **Dedmon** owners). Barcroft became sole owner and sold to Finus Davis and Ollie Christmas. Next was Roe Barnes and last was Hollingshead and White.

Men in Service of Their Country

..... Douglas Dedmon, Edward Dedmon, Fred Dedmon, James Dedmon, Paul Dedmon, Smith Dedmon *There were other names in this list, but I only listed the Dedmons. Space would not permit the entire list. -- Leroy*

Dedmon wins NSF research fellowship, aims to tackle Alzheimer's, Parkinson's

By L.J. TOLER
UNC News Services
CHAPEL HILL

Matthew M. Dedmon, a University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill senior from Gastonia, NC, has won a National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship of approximately \$33,000 a year for three years.



MATTHEW M. DEDMON

A biochemistry major with a 3.9 grade-point average (on a 4-point scale), Dedmon will use the fellowship to earn a doctorate in chemistry at the University of Cambridge in England beginning next fall.

"I plan to study a class of proteins implicated in neurodegenerative diseases including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases," he said. "I hope that my research will shed some light on how these terrible diseases operate, and perhaps provide a target for their inhibition."

Dedmon is the son of Lee Dedmon of 1056 Rudd Road, Gastonia, and Jane Propst of 2115 Pleasant Palm Circle, League City, Texas. He graduated from Ashbrook High School in Gastonia in 1998 as valedictorian. He credited his parents and his teachers, especially sophomore biology teacher Brenda Britt at Ashbrook, for "much of the success that I have experienced in my life."

Dedmon won a Carolina Scholars Award to UNC, the most academically competitive of all scholarships sponsored by the university, plus additional scholarships. He studies in the honors program and has been inducted into the Golden Key National Honor Society and Phi Beta Kappa.

"My intense curiosity as a child drove me to understand everything," he said. "I wanted to be the first person to discover why the sky is blue, or perhaps win a Nobel Prize for figuring out why clocks run clockwise."

At Carolina, he quickly advanced from basic science classes and labs to independent research: "I wanted the freedom to develop a novel project and attack it myself."

He has won fellowships with the North Carolina-American Chemical Society and a 2001 Smallwood Undergraduate Research Fellowship, awarded by UNC's Office of Undergraduate Research and funded by the Frances C. and William P. Smallwood Foundation of Ft. Worth, a family foundation that has funded innovative projects in Chapel Hill for more than a decade.

In summer 2000, after his sophomore year, Dedmon was admitted to a research program at the Georgia Institute of Technology, sponsored by the National Science Foundation. "That research experience served as an excellent take-off point for my scientific career, if only because it made me even more hungry for original research."

That fall, Dedmon teamed with UNC chemistry professor Dr. Gary Pielak in the undergraduate research program, "and I haven't looked back since." Dedmon contributed discoveries about the structures of proteins inside living cells and helped analyze proteins associated with Parkinson's disease.

"I've found that once you learn something, the most powerful thing you can do with that knowledge is give it to others," he said. "That's why I plan to become a college professor. I want to strive for excellence in both research and teaching, to make a difference not only in today's scientific community, but also in the scientific community of the next generation."

Budding scientist bound for England

When Matthew Dedmon arrived at Carolina, he knew he wanted to pursue a career in science. He had a natural curiosity and a hunger for knowledge, seemingly a perfect fit for a student with a scientific bent. But at first, it was all square pegs and round holes. For example, a freshman chemistry lab gave him a solid research foundation, but seemed mundane.

The last paragraph seems to leave us wondering what happened. Did he go to England???? Inquiring minds want to know. It seems that Matthew has done quite well. I found several articles that he has written. Some of you out there probably has more information. --Leroy

UCLA edges Cal for 10th softball crown Bruins takes second straight title with 3-1 victory

Updated: 4:24 p.m. ET June 1, 2004

OKLAHOMA CITY - Kristen Dedmon hadn't had an at-bat in more than two weeks. She hadn't driven in a run in a month. The 19-year-old freshman didn't know exactly what she was getting into before delivering the biggest hit of UCLA's season.

Dedmon drove in the go-ahead runs with a pinch-hit, two-run single with two outs in the fifth inning Monday and the Bruins went on to beat California 3-1 for their second straight NCAA softball championship.

The Bruins (47-9) won their 10th NCAA championship and became the first team to win back-to-back championships since Arizona in 1996-97.

Softball Falls to Washington, 2-1

Dedmon's solo home run not enough as Bruins Pac-10 wining streak is snapped

LOS ANGELES - The 10th-ranked UCLA softball team had its five-game winning streak snapped on Sunday afternoon at Easton Stadium, falling to No. 25 Washington by a score of 2-1. All three runs in the game were scored via home runs. With the loss, the Bruins fall to 24-11 (5-5 Pac-10), while the Huskies improve to 22-15 (4-6 Pac-10). The two teams will meet again on Wednesday in Seattle to finish the season series.



Kristen Dedmon had a double and a home run on Saturday.

Washington struck first in the game as Washington right fielder Lauren Greer hit a two-run home run after Sarah Hyatt drew a one-out walk. Greer's home run bounced off of the yellow piping atop the Easton Stadium outfield wall, then into the screen protecting the score board in left field as Bruin left fielder Ashley Herrera was almost able to make a play on the ball. The 2-0 Washington lead held until the bottom of the fifth inning when **Kristen Dedmon** led off the inning by taking a 2-1 pitch over the fence in right center field, hitting the batting cage beyond the fence in right center.

Kristen Dedmon

Hometown: Yorba Linda, CA

High School: Esperanza

Height: 5-7

Position: 1B/DP

Birthdate: 11/19/1985

Bat/Throw: R/R

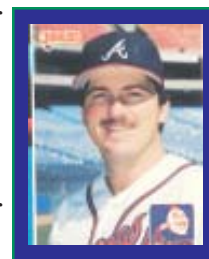


Summer 2004: Played ASA softball with the Hurricanes along with Bruin teammate Ashley Herrera. Team finished fourth at the ASA Women's Major Championship tournament.

2004: Had the game-winning RBI in the NCAA Championship game. Pinch-hit with two outs in the bottom of the fifth inning and singled, scoring pinch runners Tara Henry and Amanda Simpson. That was just her second multi-RBI game of the season. GWRBI in the NCAA Championship Game was her only appearance of the postseason. Rotated in and out of the designated player spot throughout the season. Started at DP in three of UCLA's final four games of the regular season. Had three doubles on the season, last at Stanford on May 9 off of Dana Sorensen. Hit a monstrous 300+ foot home run on Feb. 7 off of Washington's Tia Bollinger on the first day of the season. Only played defense in two games, starting at 1B at the UNLV Classic (Feb. 14 vs. Portland State and Wisconsin).

High School: Named an NFCA third-team All-American as a sophomore at Esperanza High School. Played club softball with the Worth Firecrackers. Team finished third at the 2003 ASA National Championship.

Kristen is the daughter of Jeff Dedmon, the ex-Atlanta Brave relief pitcher. See the May 2005 (Vol. 36) for more information about Jeff. I guess Kristen is a "chip off the old block"...



DEATH NOTICES

(Some of the obits in this issue date back a couple of years, but I am including them anyway as they contain a wealth of info....)

DEAN REESE, 72, died July 12 at Kaiser Permanente Riverside Medical Center. Born in Phoenix, Mr. Reese lived in Riverside 50 years. He was a barber at Ty-Well barbershop in Riverside for 30 years before he retired.

Mr. Reese is survived by a daughter, Linda Hatfield of Tennessee; a son, Jimmy of Tennessee; four grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; two brothers, Richard of Yucca Valley and William of Riverside; and two sisters, Earlene Sieron of Arizona and **Darlene Dedmon** of Needles.

There were no services. Acheson Graham Garden of Prayer Mortuary in Riverside handled arrangements

MOCKSVILLE — Earl Theodore Dedmon, 95, of Junction Road, died Tuesday (Aug. 15, 2000) at Autumn Care of Mocksville.

Born March 21, 1905, in Davie County, Mr. Dedmon was a son of the late Mamie Trollinger and Jesse Dedmon. He had worked with Southern Railway as a depot manager for 25 years and had been a self-employed carpenter. He was a member of Cooleemee First United Methodist Church.

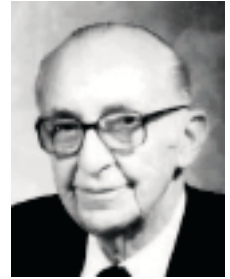
Mr. Dedmon was preceded in death by his wife Dora Bell Ridenhour Dedmon, who died in 1993. Survivors include daughter Dorothy D. Cranford, Mocksville; and two grandchildren.

Services: 2 p.m. Friday, Eaton Funeral Service chapel, conducted by the Rev. Dennis Marshall. Burial, Rowan Memorial Park.

Visitation: 7-9 p.m. Thursday, at the funeral home. Memorials: Cooleemee First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 428, Cooleemee, N.C. 27014; or North Main Street Church of Christ, 600 North Main St., Mocksville, N.C. 27028.

I thought I had published this obit before, but was not able to find it. I also, did not have all the family info in my database. Anyway, I had rather publish it twice than not at all. --Leroy

THOMASVILLE — Charlie Paul Dedmon, 99, Thomasville, died Monday (March 14, 2005) at his home. Born in Gladstone on Jan. 12, 1906, Mr. Dedmon was a son of the late Charlie Pleasants and Stella Wilson Dedmon. He graduated from high school and then attended Weaver College.



During the 1920s, he was employed with Salisbury Motor Car Co., Salisbury, for five years. He later joined his father in a dry goods wholesale business in Cooleemee. In October 1933, he started Dedmon Produce Company in High Point, which he operated until May 1, 1981.

A Shriner, he joined the Salisbury Temple in the 1930s. He became a Master Mason on Jan. 16, 1930, at Andrew Jackson Lodge 576 in Salisbury. He attended First United Methodist Church in High Point, where he was finance committee chairman in 1956.

Mr. Dedmon helped start the House of Prayer and served on the board for many years. He joined the Rotary Club of High Point in 1945 and was a Paul Harris Fellow. He had 30 years of perfect attendance in the club.

Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Ruby Brooks Dedmon, whom he married May 5, 1951; sons Charlie Paul Dedmon Jr., Winston-Salem, and Phillip Brooks Dedmon, Thomasville; sister Margaret D. Rogers, Asheville; and three grandchildren.

Services: 1 p.m. Thursday, First United Methodist Church, High Point, conducted by the Rev. Don Lloyd. Burial at Floral Garden Memorial Park. Visitation: 6-8 tonight, Cumby Funeral Service, High Point.

Memorials: First United Methodist Church, 512 N. Main St., High Point, NC 27260.

My records show Charlie to be Charles Paul Deadmon. One brother, Charles William, spelled his name D-E-D-M-O-N. If my info is correct there were two brothers named Charles. --Leroy

Cowgirl midfielder adjusting to new level of play

Jared Janes, Sports Writer

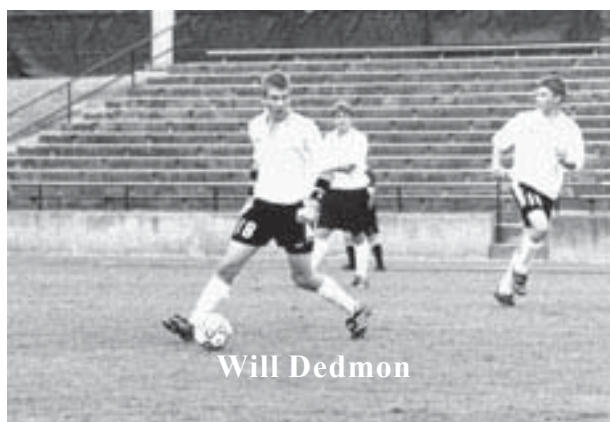
Oklahoma State soccer midfielder **Krista Dedmon** is no stranger to success. Heading into college, she held high school state records for goals in a game (8), season (71), and career (193). Her high school record for season goals ranks fifth nationally and her 193 careers is ranked fifth nationally as well. "I liked high school, but it didn't prepare me for college at all," **Dedmon** said. "College is so much faster than high school and so much more demanding. It's good to have repetition that you practice and always have things to do."

However, **Dedmon** learned quickly and earned Big 12 Newcomer of the Week honors for the week of Sept. 4 last season. She finished her freshman season with three goals and two assists. At the end of the season, she was named to the Region III amateur soccer squad after just her freshman season. "Krista's a good player," Oklahoma State coach Karen Hancock said. "No question—we knew it we would be a jump in the level of play for her, and it has been for her. But she's a good player and she's doing well in college."

Dedmon has done well this season, posting two goals and six assists. She is currently ranked No. 4 on the team in points behind junior Jere Boykin and fellow sophomores Nikki Wojtowicz and Jolene Schweitzer. "Krista's been playing well," Hancock said. "She's really stepped up her play here in the last couple of weeks. Her work effort has just increased tremendously; her work defensively has just shot to a new level."

Dedmon, as well as the entire Cowgirl team, will be put to the test this weekend. They play two crucial games on the road against Colorado and Nebraska with Big 12 tournament spots on the line. The Cowgirls are currently No. 8 in conference standings—only eight teams qualify for the tournament. **Dedmon** said she expects the team to play well in the remainder of the season, but she also said the team needs to win the important upcoming games. "I think we have a great chance," **Dedmon** said. "We'll do fine, I don't think we'll have too many problems." The team will need to play well on both sides of the field the last three games. The offense has struggled against tough defenses lately, scoring only one goal in its past four games. **Dedmon** said she thinks the offense will play well in the last few games of the season.

"We need to get focused and play better passes to our forwards so they can be more successful," **Dedmon** said. "I don't think our offense will be a problem at all. We just need to start working a little harder and play together." Hancock praised **Dedmon** for her work on both sides of the field. "She has great vision of the field," Hancock said. "She's technically very sound. She's one of our more creative players. She has the ability to finish. Combine those things with her increased defensive work and she's become a very good all-around player for us."



Will Dedmon

Area Sports

Shelby boosts soccer record to 2-0

The Shelby High boys soccer team won their second straight game of the young season Wednesday night, downing defending State 3A champion R-S Central, 3-1. R-S, in a rebuilding mode, fell for the second night in a row to a Cleveland County team. Crest downed the Hilltoppers Tuesday. Shelby's Michael Grose scored a hat trick, getting all three goals for the victors. David Spake, Richmond Lutz and **Will Dedmon** were credited with assists. Jonathan Wagner got the winning goal.

It appears that the Dedmon's are sports folks. I have no idea who these people are, but am hoping to hear from those of you who do. As I have said before, traditionally we are highly competitive folks and enjoy most sports. -Leroy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY STEVE

My Nephew, Steve Smith, recently celebrated his 31st birthday on September 19th. His mother, my sister (Ruth Smith) invited the family and friends to help with the celebration. The event took place at her home in Gurley, AL. It was somewhat emotional as Ruth lost her husband (Don Smith) in July. However, we all know tha Don would have wanted us to do it as life must go on.



“You guys are just too funny.. I am not over the hill, I just started climbing”



Steve's grandmother (my Mom) Ruby Dickson Dedmon observes the activity.



Natalie (Steve's daughter)



My sister Ruth and my brother Tommy



Ruth's daughter Amy

There was an interesting activity that seemed to attract attention. The round orange object was full of goodies and you had to burst it with the green bat.



“Ok guys, we gotta do it”



Justin(Steve's son) is giving lessons on how to do it



Seth(Steve's son) is taking his turn. “Ok, stand back and get ready”



The master at work