

LEROY DEDMON

MMIX (2009)

Nine years ago we were all talking about Y-2K. It is hard for me to fathom so many folks really believed something terrible was going to happen at the turn of the century. By the time September 11, 2001 rolled around most of us were back at "ease of Zion". The numbers 9-11 suddenly took on a brand new meaning. I received a call from one of the members at the Woodstock congregation. "Have you heard what's happening in New York", he asked. As he began to relate the events as they were taking place, I could hardly believe my ears. "People are jumping out of the building", he was saying. I pointed my browser to a news webpage and stared at the screen as the second tower crumbled to the ground. I called Jane and she confirmed the terrible news as she was watching it on television.

I remember another occasion in 1962, when we gathered around a small TV set at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, AL. The Russians were sending missiles to Cuba and JFK had our ships in place for what we thought might be the beginning of WWIII. We all breathed a sigh of relief when the Russian ships turned around. Our thinking was if we were invaded Redstone might not be a very safe place to be. I can only imagine what the folks in Florida, only 90 miles away from Cuba were thinking.

While I was alive on December 7, 1941, I do not remember the events of the day. However I have heard and read much about it. December 7th became one of those days when folks would say, "I remember where I was or what I was doing when the news of the attack on Pearl Harbor was announced". I do remember August 1945 and the atom bomb. Dad was in the Army and was preparing to go overseas. This changed everything and in a few days we were told the Japanese had surrendered. Dad was discharged from the Army not many days thence....

Another one of those, "Where were you when.....?" events in my life was November 22, 1963. I was walking into the office of Tommy Rosenblum at the Lincoln church of Christ in Huntsville, Alabama. "Have you heard what has just happened in Dallas, Texas?" he asked... Of course, November 22, 1960 was one of the happiest days of my life. On that day I was told, "Mr. Dedmon, you have a boy"... Thus, Gary Dedmon was introduced to the world.



As I am writing this article, the radio has just reminded me today is January 20 and America is getting ready to receive the 44th president of the United States. History is being written as Barrack Obama will take over the Oval Office. I had to stop and think, "How many presidents have served since June 27, 1939?"... The year I was born, FDR, the 32nd president, was in his second term. As you know he is the only president to serve more than two terms. He was elected to four terms, but died early in

the fourth and Vice President Harry Truman took office in 1945. He was re-elected in 1948 in a very close election against Thomas Dewey. In fact most folks including many newspapers believed Dewey had won. Truman could have run for a "third term", but decided against it and his successor was Eisenhower. I remember the "I like Ike" buttons. The first election in which I was allowed to vote was in 1960. JFK defeated Richard Nixon, so I lost my first attempt at electing a president. I lost this one also, but am praying President Obama does a good job...



PERCOLATORS AND COFFEE POTS...

One of my coworkers recently told about finding an old percolator and had begun making his coffee with it. He remarked his coffee had never tasted so good... Did that bring back memories!!! It took a little of the excitement away when I discovered he was talking about an electric percolator. Joe DiMaggio probably never knew what he did to the coffee lovers of this world. Mr. Coffee became a household name and we forgot how to make "real" coffee.

That conversation started me thinking about all the ways I remember making coffee. As far back as I can remember my grandmother always had a coffee pot with hot coffee sitting on the old wood cook stove. Now for you young "whippersnappers", the stove was not made of wood: it was called that because it used wood to make the fire. The pot on my grandmother's stove was made of porcelain, I think. I do know it was not aluminum as it was dark blue in color. There were times when I wondered if the contents of the pot was

I don't think the pot was ever washed. Someone told me washing would destroy the flavor. I remember my grandpa saying something like, "you don't have to go to the stove for your coffee because that stuff is strong enough to walk to the table"...

For a real mind jogger, remember the drip-o-later. For the most part that technique for making coffee is the one most often used today. Then there were those pots that hung over the fire place and the grounds were simply thrown into the pot of water and boiled. Folks were always devising ways to keep the grounds from floating around in the coffee. Egg drop coffee was one of those methods. By breaking an egg into the pot, the egg would then collect the grounds and keep them at the bottom of the pot. My favorite as scoutmaster for the Boy Scouts was to wrap a couple spoons of coffee into a cloth and drop into a pot of boiling water on the fire. When I buy the filter packs I often wonder if the inventor was in my scout troop.

....THEN THERE IS THE PERIOD OF TIME REFERRED TO AS B.C.

How many of you remember B.C.

(Before Cell Phones)? It seems like ages ago, but it really has not been that long. My first portable phone was purchased around 1990. We called them car phones in those days. Mine could have been called a bag phone as it was housed in a case that could be carried away from the car as long as the battery was charged. It looked very much like a "real" phone. I often wonder what we did before cell phones. One thing would be to actually talk and visit with those who are at the table with you in the restaurant. The other day I say four people eating together and each one on the phone. The thought occurred to me they may be talking to each other as the noise level was pretty high. I did use my cell once to call for assistance in the store where I was shopping. I have to say it did get their attention.

I remember the first phone we had installed at our house. It was an eight party line and you had to wait your turn to use it. Somehow we learned how to make all eight phones ring at the same time. The prank lost its usefulness when it was discovered no one cared. They would just answer and talk. I am not even sure some of them

ever realized it was a prank and thought one called the other. It beat the back yard fence when it came to gossiping.

We never received many calls, but when it rang, there was a race to answer it. Today we can sit beside it and let the answer machine get it. As kids we were fascinated by it. I remember once Dad calling from work and talking to each of us. As he was talking to one of my brothers, (I won't say which as it might embarrass him), he said "your shoe is untied"!!! He looked down and of course it was. He thought dad could actually see him. Of course, Tommy's (oops) shoes were always untied...

Touch tone gradually replaced the rotary dial and saved our fingers. It also opened up a world of technology... "Press one for English"... The other day I just realized pay phones were almost, if not already extinct. Well, who needs them as we carry our phones around in our pockets.

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.

Hello to all, Please pardon my joining the Dedmon list when I am not a relative, but I need some historical help. I am trying to find information on Colonel John Dedman (b.. about 1800) and his two sons, Taliaferro (Talefero, Toliver, Talefare, etc., b 1816) and James (b 1817), who were among the earliest settlers in Lee County, Iowa and Clark County Missouri, and did business in Hancock County, Illinois. Does anyone recognize them? Does anyone know of any stories about them, letters, journals, portraits, etc.? Anything that anyone could share would be greatly appreciated. Thank you, Joseph Johnstun, Hamilton, IL

That's OK, Joe. We appreciate anyone who is interested in any facet of the Dedmon family. Who knows, you may very well be related. I just wish I could be of more help to you. Stay in touch.

-- Leroy

Leroy, Hello! I was just catching up on reading the newsletter and thought I would take time to ask a question from an older issue. In the January-December, 2001 #16 newsletter are two pictures. One was labeled Uncle Ike Dedmon and the other Uncle John Mark Aunt Martha James Wm Taylor Ame 1865. Both pictures seem to have been taken in the same place. The older woman is the same, wearing the same dress. If this Ike, who is in the other picture. I do not have John Mark in my database and do not know how he is related to Ike. The pictures could not have taken in 1865 if the one is of Ike and Addie. I have several pictures of Ike when he was older, but none when he was younger so I am anxious to identify these pictures. If you could help, it would be greatly appreciated! In the July 2006 #50 newsletter is a picture of Kevin Dedmon, a minister at Bethel Church in Redding, CA. Kevin is my husband's cousin. Ike's son Justus Ervin Dedmon was their grandfather. Richard Dedmon is Kevin's father and Wanda Mae Dedmon Sheppard is Don's (my husband's) mother. Thank you so much for all the work you do. We really enjoy the website and have obtained so much information from it, Ruth Sheppard, Auburn, WA (washep@comcast.net)

Can anyone help Ruth on this? I don't remember who sent the pictures to me. -Leroy

Hello, I was so excited to see the photo sent by Jackie Bishop (#3 2007). Sorry I can't be of any help identifying anyone. Tillie & John were my GG Grandparents. I can't see the picture well But, I can make out who could possibly be Francis Dedmon, I think my grandfather (Rabin Edgar Dedmon) looked a lot like him. Thanks Leroy and Thanks so much Jackie Bishop Would love to see more !!!!!!!!!! Pamela Dedmon Craig

(My response to Pamela)

Hey Pam, It is good to hear from you and I apologize for the delay in responding to your post to the guest book. I think your Dedmon ancestors go back to Christopher Deadman. We have him traced to England and so have we traced my line to the same place in England. To date we have not found the missing link that would tie us together. I believe we are overlooking the obvious, but so far not seen it. Wanda Colvin has done much research on that line. I have corresponded with a Rabin Dedmon in Arkansas, is that your family? Thanks, Leroy

(Pamela's response to my response)

Hi Leroy, thanks for writing back.. My grandfather Rabin Dedmon was born in Wills Point, TX. May 13, 1904. He lived most of his life in Byers, OK. MC Clain County and passed on Sept. 3, 1990. Rabin is such an unusual name it makes me wonder if the two are connected some how. I don't know why but, my grand dad went by Rayburn instead of Rabin He was quite a character! -Pamela [pdc45@sbcglobal.net]

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The following information was sent in response to some of the inquiries that we have published. I hope the information will help our researchers.

Name: Earl Gene Dedmon

Service Info.: PVT US MARINE CORPS

WORLD WAR II

Birth Date: 4 Feb 1927 Death Date: 30 Jul 1999

Service Start Date: 24 Jul 1943 Interment Date: 3 Aug 1999

Cemetery: Riverside National Cemetery Cemetery Address: 22495 Van Buren

Boulevard Riverside, CA 92518



2008 has been a pretty good year for the Bishops! Quite often going to the nearby small towns for lunch via back roads to enjoy the scenery. Every so often these drives end up at our used-to-be Dripping Springs place for Bishop to drive his tractor & just spend some time there.

In February, Jackie Mae's sisters and nieces had a surprise Birthday party for her at niece, Debbie's home in San Antonio. JM spent a week there and they all really had a good time - great memories! Always so enjoyed going to Debbie's - she always made everyone feel comfortable & welcome.

Bishop and his "Illinois" sister have been sending emails to each other once or twice a week for some time now. In April when she went to Dallas to visit her son & his family they all met us in Waco, TX for lunch. This was really a treat – they'd not seen each other for 10 years, but hopefully it won't be that long between their next visit.

Our Montana cousins & friends, Carol & Dewey, were here in August. They stayed at an RV park just out of Dripping Springs, TX. We picked them up at the RV park every day they were here to eat out, take drives in the country, go shopping, etc. Jackie Mae & Carol worked on their genealogy, while Bishop & Dewey got in lots of visiting – of course, the girls did their fair share of visiting too – surprise, surprise!

In August Jackie Mae's family had a reunion in Fredericksburg, TX. Lots of family members were there and everyone seemed to really enjoy being together, etc. plus plans in the making for another reunion at the same place next year. In case you didn't know it, Fredericksburg is a great place to vacation, go for a weekend or just a day. Of course, an added treat is niece Donna Gay, Jim & Ivy Jean live there, have an art gallery and always so welcoming. This year (thanks to sister June) Jackie Mae was able to go to one of their art shows which JM always enjoys. They spent the night and celebrated June's birthday at Mamacita's with all the family (yes, we are all into Mexican food).

We were able to take our yearly trip in October to the Davis Mountains, staying at Indian Lodge. Yearly since 1981 we've gone plus a few years we went more than once – obviously we like the place what do you think? It's such beautiful country plus such a peaceful & relaxing place to vacation.

Weather permitting, Bishop still enjoys eating his breakfast in the front porch swing plus enjoys the swing in the evenings with Jackie Mae — very peaceful and relaxing. Bishop enjoys a weekly breakfast with the guys on Wednesdays & has been for several years now.

Jackie Mae is still enjoying her quilting class, quilting at home, genealogy, crafts, etc. but misses being able to attend church more often, her involvement, etc. Both of us are avid readers with Bishop always ready when the Library calls indicating a new book by one of his favorite authors is available. Jackie Mae & Carol mail books back & forth for each others reading enjoyment.

We both look forward to emails from family and friends. Jackie Mae's family has a My Family website where they share pictures, news, etc. which they all enjoy. Isn't it amazing how email has helped family & friends stay in closer touch – we both just love those emails!

Love Ya! Jackie [JMBHDB@aol.com]

Thanks Jackie for the update and activities of the Bishop family. It is always good to hear from our Dedmon/Deadman descendents. Maybe this will be the year that we find all the missing links in our families... -Leroy

From: Mary DeJarnatt Subject: My Dedmon Roots

Hi! I'm Mary Dedmon DeJarnatt. My great greatgrandfather was Mark Dedmon. I never knew I had so many Dedmon relatives! My brother is the last Dedmon thru our branch now and he has no children. Dad moved from Durant, OK in 1957 when I was 6. He never talked about his roots and I have always been very curious about his family ties. Your site is such a blessing for me and now I feel wonderful knowing how many relatives I have in the world. God Bless you and thank you for your hard work! [mailto:marystrawberry@juno.com]

I have since corresponded with Mary and she has sent some information which will be used in later editions of the newsletter. -Leroy

From the Mail Bag

From: Kathy Broom

[mailto:kathysfamilyroots@comcast.net]

Subject: Broom family buried at

Old Trion Cemetery

Hello Leroy, You may not remember me but I sent you an email some time ago about trying to locate Old Trion Cemetery .My husband's gr.gr.grandparents are William L. Broom and Caroline Caldonia Dedman Broom. I finally got to Trion on Friday and found the cemetery and the headstones of them. Do you by any chance have a photo of Caroline? Also, I saw where your mother passes away recently. Sorry to read about it. Sincerely, Kathy Broome

Leroy. www.findagrave.com is a neat site. You can type in a name and, possibly find where they are buried. The Dedmon/Dedman cemetery is there also. There are many volunteers that go to cemeteries and take pictures of head stones, etc. I have several relatives that are buried in Hollywood Cemetery and it hasn't been taken care of in many years. You can't even get to parts of it because it is so overgrown. Go to findagrave and see what you come up with! I am looking forward to the newsletter dedicated to your Mother. Thanks Leroy -

Amelia Lehman [mailto:amlehman@mac.com]

Amelia is a descendent of Marcus Lafayette Dedmon, a half-brother to my grandfather. She has been extremely helpful in "clearing up" the confusion that once existed with all the Mark Dedmons. Between her and Tim Dedmon the mystery has been solved. I have already enjoyed the findagrave.com web site. Thanks Amelia

[sharon@dedmonrealestate.com]
I am married to David Dedmon,
we grew up in Uniontown
Maryland. David is the son
of Donald A. Dedmon
(Nancy), son of Marvin and
Daisy Dedmon, and cousin to

Leroy Dedmon (deceased), a former Baltimore city police officer (all of Maryland). Second cousin Lee Dedmon of N.C. Where are you? Have you seen Leroy's Book? Hope this helps. Sharon

Lee Dedmon is another "claim to fame" for the family. He was a N.C. basketball star and later played professional basketball. Thank you Sharon for sending this information. -Leroy

My name is LaRee (Dedmond) Reeves My father does not know much about the family name but I do remember he said our family name years ago was Dedmon and the other "D" was added later. We are of African-American descent if anyone knows more about this email me. My father and his mother were born in Arkansas. He says his family is descendants of slaves and he does not know anything too far back. I live in Georgia and move because of military but I am from Washington State where several Dedmonds reside including my father Van Dedmond.

--LaRee Reeves [laree9296@yahoo.com]

From: Cheryl Frechem mailto:cfrechem@verizon.net] Hi Cousin Leroy, Happy Birthday! You most definitely have my permission to print my emails with you. Thank you for all you do to keep the family line together. I just remembered by father's half brother's daughters' name, Sherry Coffell. I hope she reads your post and contacts me so that together we can figure out how

the brother's were separated. Warmest regards and

best to you and your family, Cheryl (Dedmon) Frechem

Hi Leroy: It's been a long time, very long time, indeed since I visited your website. I have been busy raising two children, a husband and a baby kitty. Kristen just graduated from UCLA. Don't know if you saw any softball games but yep, that's our Kristen. Corey is a young man trying to figure out what life is all about. Giving me gray hairs in the process. They say boys take longer, good thing I'm patient. Jeff and I celebrated our 25th anniversary last year. Lucky Charm is 3 years old and very spoiled. Guess this is our post-softball life; free weekends for me and more golf for Jeff. Jeff's dad, Ernie, is doing well. He is also adjusting to life without softball. Hope everything is well with you and your family. Take care, Wilma Dedmon [wsdedmon@sbcglobal.net]

It was good hearing from Wilma again. For those of you that may not know, she is the wife of Jeff Dedmon, the ex Atlanta Braves pitcher. --(LD)

From: Dedmon@yahoogroups.com
On Behalf Of paintedarrow56
Subject: [Dedmon] Joe Dedmon

Hi, My grandmother was Eula Mae Pitchford. I have pictures of Standley and Aubrey Joe when they were in the navy, also I have a couple of Minnie. I also have some questions about Eula and Joe's divorce. If any one has information PLEASE feel free to contact me. Thanks

In the Mail Bag

Leroy, This picture of Elizabeth BRIDGES, (20 Dec 1810 -14 Feb. 1884). She is buried on line of Madison-Limestone County,

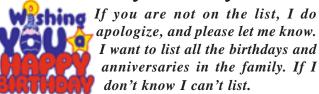


know the dates as her marker was discovered by a farmer plowing. Her husband was Harrall Bridges. Please reply to me if you received to gpreas@swbell.net...

Gerald sent me an email which I published in the last issue of the newsletter asking if I wanted this picture.

Of course I wanted it and Gerald was gracious to send it. Elizabeth was the mother of Louisa Dedmon married Mark Dedmon after his first wife, Rebecca Macon died. Mark was killed by Revenue Officers for making moonshine whiskey. Tim Dedmon has done extensive research on this story which has been published in several previous issues... Thanks Gerald, for the picture.

January Birthdays



John William Henson IV 01/03
LaRee Dedmond Reeves 01/07
Louise Loraine Dedmon 01/08
Carolyn Dedmon Price 01/11
Maye Bell Dedmon Armstrong 01/11
Danny McBee 01/12
Justin Smith 01/22
Craig Dedmon 01/24
Tonya Wales Smith 01/27
Mark Price 01/28
William Dedman Calhoun 01/28
Chance Williams 01/30

I realize everyone does not know who each of these folks are, but those who know them will be able to place them in the tree. If anyone wishes to know more about the kinship of any of them, please let me know and I will send it to you. --Leroy



Dedmon is top county runner at sectionals

HAYWARD — Middletown High School senior John Dedmon finished 31st out of 116 runners in the Division IV field on Saturday during the North Coast Section Cross Country Championships at Hayward High School. Middletown and Upper Lake sent runners to the meet, which features boys' and girls' races in five divisions. Dedmon had the best finish by a Lake County runner, completing the 3-mile Hayward High course in 17 minutes, 23 seconds.

Dedmon runs to win at 3-mile Asti course

ASTI — Heat and hills proved to be no sweat for John Dedmon of Middletown High School on Wednesday. Dedmon held off two St. Vincent runners on a unusually warm October day to win the 3-mile varsity boys' race during a five-team Coastal Mountain Conference meet at Asti, which is located just south of Cloverdale. Also participating in Wednesday's race were Clear Lake, Cloverdale and Laytonville. Dedmon completed the Asti course in 18 minutes flat.

<u>Dedmon brothers earn</u> All-Conference honors

CALISTOGA — Middletown High School brothers John and Jeremy Dedmon finished ninth and 11th, respectively, in the varsity boys' race on Wednesday, the best showing by Lake County runners participating in the Coastal Mountain Conference Cross Country Championships at the 3-mile Calistoga course. This year's host high school, St. Helena, had the winning runners in both race as Brian Cole topped the boys' field in a course-record time of 16 minutes, 22 seconds.

The above articles were taken from the Lake County Record Bee (Lakeport, CA) -2007

Christmas 2008

The fireplace flame had burned down to the last dying ember. The cold was in the air on this dark foggy night in December. As I had sat watching the fire I thought of Christmas years ago. The Christmas tree would set in the corner with lights all aglow.

Strands of icicles placed so gently and evenly on the tree.

The beauty and glory of the tree was there for all to see.

The Christmas balls were placed with love the tree to adorn.

The aluminum covered Star on top was a little tattered and worn.

Popcorn on strands of strings would be placed with care and love. We kids would know Christmas wasn't presents but Love from above. Our mom would tell us the Christmas story and tell us not to forget. That Christ was in her Christmas and that He should be vet.

Christmas isn't about gifts, toys, presents or any other thing. But of the Christ child and salvation we should always sing. I remember my mom and all of the things that brought us joy. None, however, had anything to do with presents, gifts or a toy.

Today I see so many Christmas trees decorated in all their glory. My mind goes back sweetly to remembrances of the Christmas story. How the three Wise Men were directed to Baby Jesus who lay afar. They followed God's path to Baby Jesus by His bright shiny star.

Christmas is one of the greatest days we celebrate on earth.

We were given a present of life beyond death upon Jesus' birth.

We must always remember among the celebration and holiday cheer.

We celebrate the Gift of God during this most precious time of the year.

Christmas comes just once a year but it seems to come so fast. Hold on to the meaning of Christmas each day and make It last. Hold to the memories of Christmas that we have come to know. Hope that each Christmas will be filled with love, joy and snow.

The meaning of Christmas my mom and dad to me taught.

Not through the presents or toys that so lovingly bought.

We grew through understanding the crown of thorns worn.

We gained Life through Christ's birth and death as we were born.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Danny A. McBee, December 20, 2008

Danny is one of or more zealous family researchers. In fact when I first began my project, he called me and offered his assistance. He has always been gracious in sharing the material he has collected.

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This page is dedicated to the "branches" of our tree that are not Dedmons. I will gladly print any information you send me as to your relatives. This includes in-laws, outlaws" and other laws.... (Leroy)

My good friend and kinsman, John Henson sent me an interesting copy of a deed. It shows the sale of property to J.M. Evitt by Joe Dedman (Dedmon). Joe was the grandson of Hannah Dedmon and she was my father's great aunt and my mother's great grandmother. He was the son of John Henson's great grandfather.

While Joe is related to me on a couple of lines both from my mom and my dad, the other interesting thing about the deed is the Evitt connection.

J.M. Evitt was John M. and he was a brother to Martha Frances (Mattie) Evitt. She was my father's grandmother. Mattie married James L. Walker and their daughter, Alice Walker was, of course, my grandmother. I also noticed on the deed one of the witnesses was J.E. Evitt. He was the son of John and Mattie. James Edward (J.E.) married Annie Lee Ward.

This brings us to another interesting bit of information. The Catoosa County Health Department is named for

Annie Lee Ward Evitt. It is located in Catoosa County's 70 acre municipal complex. It is centrally located between Ringgold and Fort Oglethorpe off of Battle field Parkway on Old Mill Road. Other facilities which are located on the campus include the public library, senior citizen's center, adult learning center, civic center with a performing arts theater. Annie Evitt was the wife of my dad's cousin once removed. I think we call that 2nd cousin or something like that.

Joe Hedman) State of Heorgia, Catoosa County. In Consideration of the sum of Seven Hundred Dollars to me, paid I, J. C. Dedman of the County of Hamilton and State of Tennessee do hereby sell and convey unto J. M. Evitt of the County of Catoosa and State of Georgia his heirs and assigns, a tract or parcel of land which is described as follows: The house and lot in the Eastern D Division of the town of Minggoldm Ha,, known as the Felker store-house and lot, on the comme of Rail-road square, now occupied by J. M. Evitt. Also a part of the town lot on the West side of said Felker lot, same fronting 15 feet on Depot square and adjoining said Felker lot and running back of uniform width to Whorley line Both of said parcels lying and being in the town of Ringgold, Catoosa County, Georgia. To Have and to Hold said land and appurtenences unto said J. M. Evitt his hears, executors, administrators and assigns in fee simple. I warrant the title to said lands against the lawful claims of all persons. In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal, this April 26th, 1910. Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of Filed Apr. 26, recorded May 17, 1910 J. E. Evitt Satruedle Clerk. D. A. Trundle, C. S. C.

Joe is seated in a hack in front of the Dedmon saloon on Rossville Avenue in Chattanooga. Rossville Avenue is not to be confused with Rossville Boulevard.



Rossville Avenue is a very short street. The name of the saloon was "The Last Chance Saloon" so named as I understand because it was the last chance to buy alcohol before going into Georgia. (The picture and comments were sent me by John Henson).

The best I can determine the above deed is for some property around the present depot in Ringgold. Of course, the depot is no longer used by the train. There are some entertaining groups attached to it.



The Annie Evitt Health Center, Ringgold, GA