**About Cannonville:**

Please add your thoughts to any of the topics below that speak to you. I left a few ideas I had as starters. If you have any dates for when these activities started and who started them, that will help tremendously. What do you remember about the topic?

When you have completed your contribution, please email your form to chalton@bellsouth.net. Target date: March 2021.

**Cannonville**

A wonderful community in which to raise a family. There were several large dominant families in Cannonville. We attended church with some members of the Cannonville community and later learned that we were distant relatives to a few of the residents. The parents in Cannonville pulled together to keep us active. One or two parents would take us to practice and drop us off and pick us up from recreational sports. We played recreational basketball and football at Center School on Westpoint Road. There were some great athletes in Cannonville. I will admit to not being one of them, but I was decent in any sport I chose to play. We played backyard basketball and tackled football with no pads. I can think about it and still recall some of those hits.

Another favorite community pastime was **Fishing**. It was not uncommon when you got to the fishing spot to see neighborhood cars. This was something the men and the women enjoyed. I loved to fish when they were biting. If the fish weren’t biting, I loved to play and throw rocks into the water, not around the fishers, of course. My Mom always packed some sardines, potted meat, and crackers. We would stop at the corner store to buy crickets and bait for Fishing. For me, I knew I would also get a drink and possibly candy. As much as I loved catching fish when it came to cleaning them, it was a different story. But as soon as they made it to the frying pan, I forgot all about cleaning them.

**Friday night spades**

Playing was also a community favorite. Several families came together each Friday night for food, fun, fellowship, and card playing. The Friday night showdowns were often at the home of Tom and Rosetta Cox. These were pro games. If you couldn’t hold your own, you wouldn’t last long at the table. There were a few people that you had to keep your eye on due to their creativity.

**Troup County Parks and Rec Summer Program**

During the Summer, we were privileged to enjoy sack lunches and structured activities through Troup Co. Parks and Rec. We met at Mildred’s store in Cannonville and sometimes the ballfield owned by Mr. Edward Baker. Mrs. Wilma Jackson was our instructor.

**Train Tracks**

Less than a quarter-mile down the road was a train track. It was fun to walk the rails and climb the banks along the tracks. From time to time, you would find a loose peg, and it became a great tool to dig the bank and climb. From time to time, the train would sneak up on you, and you had to stay at the foot of the bank while the train passed. It was safer than trying to climb to the top of the bank and risk falling.

There was always to pick up a basketball game going on in the Cameron field. In that same field, we played tackle football without pads.

**Cannonville Bee’s**

The community baseball team.

**Ladies Softball Team** ( I don’t recall the name of the Team)

The ladies would play softball on the ball field against other communities.

**The Ball Field**

The ball field was the gathering spot for many community events on a Sunday afternoon.

**Halloween (Trick or Treating)**

Often we would meet up together to trick or treat as a group. Most of the time, it was homemade costumes.

**Christmas Caroling**

Each Christmas season, we would go from house to house singing Christmas Carols to Seniors and the Sick and Shut-in. We would gather back at Mildred’s Place for Cake and Hot Chocolate.

**Thankful Baptist Church – Vacation Bible School**

During the Summer, we would go to Thankful for a week-long Bible Learning experience that included activities and crafts.

**Prayer Band**

The community ladies started a prayer band and each week met in a different home to pray for the community.

**Community Fun Day**

Ricky Ward envisioned the community coming together for a Fun Day. He and Tim Cox would do the cooking with everyone contributing.

**Easter Sunrise**

Each Easter, several of the community churches would come together and rotate Easter Sunrise Services. It was held at 6:00 a.m. Easter morning and ended with breakfast.

**New Year’s Eve**

New Year’s Eve services were held by several of the community churches. It would rotate around each year. The service began at 10:00 p.m. and lasted until midnight, and ended with a breakfast meal.

**Wings of Faith**

Several of the men in the community belonged to a male singing group called the Wings of Faith. They would go from church to church near and far singing gospel music.

**The Spiritual Sisters**

Several of the ladies in the community belonged to a female singing group called the Spiritual Sisters.They would go from church to church near and far singing gospel music.

**Mr. Roy Tatum’s paper route**

Mr. Roy Tatum would deliver the local newspaper daily.

**Street racing**

From time to time, there would be a little street racing. I don’t recall who all would do it. I remember Rufus and Connie participating.

**Foot racing**

There was always a friendly competition as to who was the fastest runner in the community. I remember Correy Tatum was a fast runner.

**Pacman Game, Nintendo, Mario, etc.,**

Many nights we would sit playing PacMan all night. Rosetta Cox and Christine Askew worked the third shift, and we’d be playing when they left for work and when they returned.

**St.Paul C.M.E. Church**

One of the community churches. Services were held on 2nd and 4th Sundays back in the day.

**Thankful Baptist Church**

One of the community churches. Services were held on 2nd and 4th Sundays back in the day.

**Friendship Baptist Church**

One of the community churches. Services were held on 1st and 3rd Sundays back in the day.

**Zion Hill Baptist Church**

One of the community churches. Services were held on 2nd and 4th Sundays back in the day.

**Maggie’s Dreamboat**

Maggie’s Dreamboat was a gathering spot for the community and others. Of course, this changed with each generation. Alfred Woodyard said they use to watch drive-in movies at Maggie’s Dreamboat back in the day. There was a pool table in the building

**Edward Baker’s Place (I don’t recall the name of his club)**

**The Cannonville Tutorial Program:** This program was developed to pour back into the lives of the children of our community to help prepare them for their future and motivate them academically to help link their present learning with their future desires. The Tutorial program began with the fall school term of 1994 and continued to grow and expand for ten years.

**Cannonville Community Breakfast:** Due to our fast-paced world in which we live and our busy schedules, we only get to pass our neighbors on the highway headed towards the next “event.” The Community Breakfast was an effort to sit us down in front of each other for fellowship to share a smile, a hug, a warm embrace. Many community-based events were hosted through this community movement. Breakfast began October 21, 1995, and continued strong for five years.

**Men’s/Community Prayer Group:**

This effort began to emphasize the importance of men coming together for corporate prayer. God’s instructions were to start a men’s prayer group. I said, “God, If you show me the men, then I will ask them.” God showed me six men to start with, and I asked them, and all six agreed to meet for prayer. This effort migrated to community prayer and lasted faithfully until January 2001.

**Community Choir**: Due to the various Benefit/Praise Services being held for multiple community members, a community choir was formed to provide music ministry for these events. The choir was invited to Indianapolis, Indiana, and thus expanded to include other community members. Upon returning from the trip, the choir decided to continue singing the good news in song under the direction of Rudene Woodyard, minister of music. The choir was later named the Troup County Community Choir.