



TROOP TREATED — The leaders of Boy Scout Troop 356, which is sponsored by First Baptist Church, treated the boys to a Christmas party in the church fellowship hall Monday night. Special guests of the Scouts were members of the new Cub Pack sponsored by First Baptist. Scoutmaster Jimmy Foster (in the attractive apron at left) was in charge of the service. The menu consisted of hot dogs and hamburgers with plenty of the fixings and plenty of soda pop to wash it all down. Working with Foster in the party preparations were J. R. Cagle, Graham Barnhardt and Willis Shumake, all leaders in the scout unit.

DRIVE CAREFULLY Bad Weather Just Around Corner

Piles of sand dot the shoulders of highways and secondary roads throughout Irredell and neighboring counties. These sand piles are grim reminders that highway officials responsible for keeping highways safe and traffic moving do not expect the mild weather this section has enjoyed this fall to continue. In fact, they believe there will be many bad weather days, when cars will stall on hills or skid from the highways.

Sand has been piled along the highways so that it can be spread on traffic lanes quickly when the first hard freeze arrives. Nobody can tell just when that will be. The Safe Winter Driving League has come out with a reminder that hazardous weather probably is just around the corner and motorists should be prepared.

The league offers 10 tips for safe driving in winter months which have been developed by the National Safety Council's committee on winter driving hazards.

The tips are as follows:

1. Install anti-freeze after cooling system is flushed out and checked for leaks.
2. Have good tires. See that tires have good treads, whether snow tires or regular. Front wheels also need good treads for "cornering."
3. Always carry reinforced tire chains. Insure your ability to "go" on ice or in deep snow with reinforced tire chains. They are far superior for severe conditions such as deep snow and slippery hills.
4. Be sure wipers work. Be sure windshield wiper blades are in good condition and with arm pressure of at least an ounce for each inch of blade.
5. Use your defroster. Keep windshield clear of ice and interior fogging.
6. Make sure all lights work. Headlights, stop lights, tail lights and directional signals should be tested frequently.
7. Be sure you can start. Have engine tuned for sure starting in cold weather and have spark plugs and distributor points checked.
8. Be sure you can stop. Have brakes adjusted frequently, linings checked and free from grease.
9. Check battery frequently for proper charge and make sure it is always full of fluid.
10. Have exhaust system in order. Muffler and tail pipe should be checked frequently to avoid leakage of exhaust gases into car when windows are closed.

Greetings FOR Christmas

Because we realize how much our success is due to you, we are most sincerely appreciative.

The CONNOISSEUR RESTAURANT

Miles And Gregory Pappas

MAY ALL THE Blessings OF Christmas BE YOURS

Peace and Happiness

As the Star shone on the Babe of Bethlehem, so may the peace and promise of His wondrous message shine brightly on you and yours this Christmastide, bringing happiness in abundance.

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Mazeppa News

By WANDA POSTON

—Mr. and Mrs. Roy Brown visited his mother, Mrs. E. B. Brown, Sunday afternoon.

—Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Freeze were Sunday dinner guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Olin Edwards.

—Tammy and Danny Church of Statesville, spent the week end with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wagner.

—We would like to welcome to our community Mr. and Mrs. David Sloop, who have recently moved into the community.

News Items Of Cleveland

By MRS. W. S. BECKER

—GA meeting Monday afternoon at 3:30 at the Cleveland Baptist Church.

—West Rowan Senior Citizens Club's Christmas Party was held Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock at the Episcopal Church.

—The Christmas program and treat will be held Sunday evening December 22, at the Cleveland Baptist at 7:30.

Brother Gene McCreary of West Corinth Baptist Church, will conduct the morning and evening services on Sunday on Foreign and Home Missions.

—The Adult Men's Sunday School Class entertained the officers and the Mattie Tolbert Sunday school class Saturday evening to a fried chicken supper. Around 30 members and their families took part.

—Mrs. G. M. Fleming's Sunday School Class had its usual Christmas party with Mrs. Clara Turpin, as hostess.

—The WMU members of the Cleveland Baptist Church attended prayer service for five mornings last week.

—Jack and George Morrison of Statesville, visited with Mrs. E. L. Lowery and Norma Jean Sunday evening.

—Christmas program and treat will be held at Christ Episcopal Church Sunday evening at 7.

—Sympathy is extended to Mrs. E. L. Lowery in the death of her brother, John G. Morrison, of Fork, last Monday night.

—Mrs. Lucille Simmons is recuperating at the home of her sister where she is living and getting along fine of a recent illness.

—Mrs. Helen Davis, who has been a patient of Rowan Memorial Hospital, for a week now remains there and underwent surgery on a finger.

—Mrs. Iva Kesler is doing very well at her home. Mrs. Gladys Moore, a nurse, is with her.

—Miss Lizzie Barber remains a patient of Rowan Memorial Hospital, but plans to enter Lynn Haven Nursing Home in Mocksville.

—Miss Norma Jean Philbeck arrived home Friday from Butler to spend Christmas holidays with her mother, Mrs. E. L. Lowery, of Mimosas street.

—Mrs. E. H. Konnerly, who has been a patient of the Baptist Hospital, returned to her home Saturday.

—John Steele, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Steele of Maple street, arrived home from Mayville, Tennessee, Wednesday to spend Christmas holidays with his parents.

—Mr. and Mrs. Bobbie Williams and Mrs. Graham of Mooresville, and John J. Williams, route 1, and Mrs. W. G. Wood of China Grove and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Becker of route 1 visited Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Becker of Glen Raven Friday.

—Mr. and Mrs. Ben Becker and son of Salisbury, visited his parents Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Becker of route 1.

—Miss Jo Laverne Bowles of Greensboro, officiated at the double ring ceremony Saturday evening at 6 o'clock.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Thurman Bowles of Cooleenue. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Holder of Barber. They will make their home at 38 Main street in Cooleenue.

—Carlee Wilhelm, who was a patient last week of Davis Hospital, has returned to his home very much improved.

—Horace Dry of Academy street remains a patient of Veterans Hospital but is slowly improving.

—Floyd Snider of route 1, remains a patient of Rowan Memorial Hospital.

—Mrs. Clyde Steele, a patient of Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, has been moved to Davis Hospital, Statesville, and is getting along as well as could be expected.

—Mr. Robert Barber of Winston-Salem, formerly of Cleveland, underwent surgery in City Hospital, Winston-Salem, last week.

—Bonnie Ray of route 1, underwent eye operation last week in Rowan Memorial Hospital.

—Mr. and Mrs. James McCauley and children of route 2, Mount Ulla, left Sunday for Salem, Va.

—Brent Kesler of Winston-Salem, visited with his mother, Mrs. Iva Kesler Sunday.

—Other visitors were Rev. Don Frazier and T. L. Kesler.

Cascade Community News Briefs

By MRS. FLORENCE BROWN

—Mrs. J. F. Cook has returned to her home at 304 Burke Lane after spending a week with her daughter, Mrs. Junior Kierker, and Mr. Kierker in the Concordia community of Rowan county.

—Davis Grocery Store on Cascade street announces that it will be closed a day Christmas Day.

—Harrell Little and John Berg visited T. E. Dalton, a member of Jones Memorial Methodist Church, who is a resident at Hill Haven Rest Home, route 2, Statesville, Sunday.

—Mr. and Mrs. Canell Brown of the birth of their son, Richard Cyrus, at the Irredell Memorial Hospital in Statesville on Thursday, December 12.

—Mrs. Brown is the former Patricia Bager of Cornelius.

—The Sunday School program will be given at Jones Memorial Methodist Church on Sunday evening at 7 o'clock. There will be a Christmas tree and treats for the children. Santa Claus is expected.

—Mr. and Mrs. Bill Greene entertained at the annual Christmas party of the Burgess family at their home on Sunday December 15.

—Luncheon was served at the noon hour and there was a period of fellowship and the exchange of gifts.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Burgess and children and Mr. and Mrs. Max Burgess and son all of Avoisdale, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Wheeler and son of Fort Mill, S. C., Mr. and Mrs. Paul Patterson and daughter of Roxboro, Mr. Lloyd Honeycutt and son of Columbia, S. C., Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Greene of Cliffside, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jenkins of Caroleen, Mrs. Bertha Greene, Mr. and Mrs. John V. Waghorn and Pam, and Miss Judy Greene of Mooresville.

—Mrs. C. W. Radford and Mrs. Vichard Cooke were hostesses at a shower honoring Miss Barbara Cabo, bride-elect of January, in the Irredell Room of the Rowan Dairy Bar Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Delicious refreshments were served and the honoree was presented with a shower of lovely gifts.

—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. McCaskill visited his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Faulkner, in Charlotte Sunday.

—Mr. and Mrs. Matt Mabe visited their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Mabe, in Charlotte Sunday.

—Phillip Mabe of Mitchell College in Statesville spent Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Mabe at 288 West McNeely avenue.

—Mrs. Mildred Morse, Ricky and Johnny visited her brother, Bill Johnson, and Mrs. Johnson, in Charlotte, Sunday.

—A good football was dragged into the yard of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Rogers, Sr., last week. Mrs. Rogers will be glad to return it to the owner, if they call at her home.

—The WSCS Christmas party was held in the Fellowship building Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. After the president, Mrs. Catherine Honeycutt, had welcomed those present, Christmas Carols were sung, and Mrs. Florence Brown led the devotion, using as her topic, "The Christmas Meaning Of Christmas."

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Good Wishes FOR Christmas

It is the season when we pause to say "Thanks" to you, our friends, for our pleasant association during this past year. Merry Christmas!

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CHOWHOUND CHOIRBOYS — Members of the Mooresville Optimist Boys Choir literally sang for their supper Monday at the War Memorial. Following the regular weekly practice, the Optimist Club treated the boys to a Christmas party, complete with bags of goodies. Ask a kid at Christmas, or anytime, what he would like to eat, and chances are he'll say hot dogs. So hot dogs it was, and these youngsters coming through the serving line made short work of them. The Choir Mothers, mothers of choir members who assist in social activities, served the food and treats provided by the club. Mrs. T. C. Raby, chairman of the Choir Mothers, is at left, and Mrs. Hugh Sloop, wife of the choir director, is at right.

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Spirit Of Christmas Rules In Community Celebrations

It's Christmas time! Everywhere, glad sights and sounds reflect the spirit of the season, as this community celebrates the joyous holiday.

The spirit of Christmas is seen in gaily decorated streets and stores, in homes aglow with light and festive with evergreens, in churches where the manger scene tells anew the wonderful old story of a holy babe who was born in Bethlehem nearly two thousand years ago.

The spirit of Christmas is heard in bells ringing out from street corner to steeple, in happy voices singing all the songs of the season, from old familiar carols to the more solemn, but at the same time joyful, anthems, cantatas and oratorios.

The spirit of Christmas is felt, as last minute preparations for the big celebration are made. There are always, it seems, some packages still to be wrapped, some final trimmings to be put on the tree, some part of the Christmas pageant or choral program that needs just one more rehearsal.

Some extra touches to make the Christmas feast absolutely perfect.

In the midst of the bustle and bustle, the spirit of Christmas shines through in all its many meanings.

The spirit of Christmas means laughter and joy — best expressed, perhaps, by the faces of children, eager and smiling as they wait for Santa, full of reverent wonder as they hear the Christmas story and see the manger scene.

The spirit of Christmas means giving, with love wrapped into every package. And it means sharing — the riches of thoughtful consideration and genuine interest, as well as time and money — with the aged, the ill, the needy and unfortunate.

The spirit of Christmas means a warm renewal of family ties and close friendships, and an enjoyment of traditions treasured through the years — the special customs each family creates for itself, as well as traditions garnered from the lore and legends of Christmas.

As a holy day and a holiday, Christmas means both prayerful worship and festive merry-making. The holy meaning of the day is expressed in its name.

The Latin name for Christmas translates as the Feast or Birthday of Our Lord. The English Christmas means the Mass of Christ, a meaning which is closely paralleled by the Dutch "Kerstmis." In German it's "Weihnacht," or sacred night.

The French "Noel" has several possible meanings — news, birthday or a "shout of joy." Whatever the exact origin, there's no question that Noel now means Christmas.

When the German prince Alfred married Queen Victoria, he carried the custom of the Yule tree to England, and from there it spread by imitation and immigration to the United States and Canada.

The German origin is appropriate, since it was in Germany that the English missionary St. Boniface, formerly a monk named Winfrid, first instituted the decorated fir tree, tribute to the Christ Child, as a replacement for the sacrifices made to the oak which was sacred to the pagan god Odin.

With the joyful strains of "Silent Night," "The First Noel" and other beloved carols, today's carolers carry on a meaningful Christmas custom that originated centuries ago.

As early as the fourth century A. D., a musical poem was sung in honor of St. Basil and his victory in the fight for Christianity over the Byzantine emperor Julian. In Greece, legends of St. Basil were later put to music and sung at Christmas and the New Year.

The first real Christmas carols, however, were probably sung in the Italian mountain village of Greccio when St. Francis of Assisi created the first manger scene in 1223. He and his brethren led the villagers in singing hymns of praise to the Christ Child.

Giving gifts at the Yuletide season has many precedents. In years before Christ, Romans gave branches of laurel, olive and myrtle to each other at the Saturnalia, a pagan festival that occurred about the same time as the present date of Christmas. In England and Northern Europe, Druid worshippers tied gifts on trees during the Yule festival held at the winter solstice.

Roman emperors often demanded Yule gifts of clothing, gold and silver from their subjects, and so did the kings and queens of medieval England. It is said that Queen Elizabeth I gained most of her wardrobe through these compulsory gifts.

In later years the idea of giving in a spirit of kind-hearted generosity developed.

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