

Elvenia Cox talks about her life as daughter Janie Catledge looks on. Catledge hosted a party for her mother Saturday.

Elvenia Cox has seen many changes during her 90 years

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER Staff Writer

Mrs. Elvenia Cox has watched Cleveland County change over the past 90 years. When the Kings Mountain resident was born in 1914, textile mills dominated the economy, oil lamps illuminated homes and blocks of frozen water, delivered door-to-door, cooled ice boxes.

Mrs. Cox credits hard work, her grandmother and God for her longevity. Saturday she celebrated her 90th birthday.

"It was the way my grandmother doctored us. We didn't have colas,

candy," she said. Mrs. Cox' grandmother would make biscuits each morning while her grandfather ground the coffee. Once baked, the family put pan drippings and molasses on the warm bread.

"We didn't know what butter was," she said. Her grandmother also

brewed sassafras tea for the family. They often dined on sweet potatoes which had

slowly cooked all day beneath banked fireplace

Adults would give children colorful tags from Hound Dog and Brown Mule tobacco. Much prized, these were kept in Prince Albert pouches until the neighborhood youngsters gathered together to compete. Each child laid his or her tags out then another child blew on the collection. The ones that flipped were surrendered.

"If you had a real pretty one you didn't want to give it up," she said.

After Mrs. Cox' grandfather suffered a stroke, she had to give up childhood and enter the textile mill. At age 12 she handled rolls of cotton taller than herself. Mrs. Cox was responsible for 14 weaving looms.

Through friends she met Jimmy Cox, the man who would become her husband. They married when she was 18. The couple moved often

They had four children, Leonard Cox, Janie Catledge, Gloria Miller and

Scarlett Lynn Cox. Scarlett died at age 37 from diabetes.

Miller and Cox live in Cleveland County. Catledge lives in Henderson, NV. Mrs. Cox visited her there a decade ago to celebrate her 80th birthday.

She has seven grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Today, she tends flowers on her front porch and cares for Bunny, her mixed pug bulldog. She named the canine for the holiday when she arrived. Neighborhood cats often visit for a snack. Birds eat the crumbs she throws out.

"I don't like to waste food," Mrs. Cox said.

Janie Catledge says her mother enjoys jokes.

"I'll call and she'll tell me 'let me tell you a joke.'

Many of the jokes come from Rev. Gene Griggs, Mrs.

"He's been very good to Mama," Catledge said. Faith is central to Mrs.

'Trust in the Lord. He'll take care of you."

Local Lions celebrate achievements

Ten Kings Mountain Lions Club members have received pins from Lions International Headquarters in Oak Brook, Illinois. The range in years is from 65 years to 10 years.

Lion W. H. "Billy" Mauney received his 65th year service pin. He joined on the invitation of the first President Howard Jackson.

Lion Mauney said, "The food, fun and fellowship are what has kept me attend-

He does not forget the primary purpose of Lions work of service, especially for persons with vision problems.

Lion Odus Smith received his 45th year service pin. He was club president in 1963-64. He has served on many committees, helped raise funds for Lion Projects and promoted Lionism in Kings Mountain as well as on his travels with his wife Joan.

Lion Howard Bryant received his 40th year service pin. He commented that he has now been a Lion for half of his life. He was club president in 1967-68 and in 1982-83. He was club secretary for a decade and has been Tail Twister almost that

He enjoys delivering 100H food/fruit baskets to blind at Christmas time and collecting money on White Cane or Candy Days. He said, "The people of Kings Mountain are so wonderfully generous."

Lion Johnny Reavis received his 35th year service pin. Johnny joined the Kings Mountain Lions Club

Reavis said, "After joining the Lions Club I can readily say that I became truly involved in all that the Lions had to offer. Most of all I have enjoyed participating in district, state and International activities as the friends we have made are the best and they are truly our extended family."

He also enjoys working to get people to sign an eye and organ donor card. Lion C. A. "Connie"

Allison received his 30th

year of service pin. Lion

Allison describes his service in the Lions Club as follows:

"I was enticed to join the Lions Club after learning about the many good deeds that the World Wide Organization is involved in.

The motto 'We Serve' really stuck with me when I started thinking about the local and world wide things that I would be a part of.

"Time does change things, as our membership has declined over the years, but we are glad and proud to still have the dedicated and faithful members that we have, carrying on the work that we have committed to do. When I make a commitment I try to stay with it."

Lion President and Past District Governor Don Crawford received his 25th year service pin.

He expresses his growth of devotion to the Lions Club as follows: "Lionism entered my life while domiciled at the Outer Banks of North Carolina with the National Park Service. Ben Creef, a native of Manteo, worked for me and asked me to join in 1975.

The club had over one hundred members. We had strong fellowship and funds to help the visually impaired of the area and throughout the state.

"The Lions Club has given to me more than I feel I have given to the needs of the community. I visit with the old and new members at state gathering and visit the club meetings. I joined International Association of Lions Club to help people who have a need, so they can help themselves and have a better quality of life. That is what makes this service organization meaningful to me. "Today our club accepts the

challenge of our motto—We

Lion Howard Avnet was

awarded his 20th year service pin. When Lion Avnet joined the Lions Club in New York City he did so because he wanted the chance to help others, especially the sight impaired. He did not realize that he was to become legally blind him-

Lion Larry Hamrick, Jr. was awarded his 20th year service pin. His service time includes the time as a

Lion Hamrick was invited to join the Lions when he aged out of the Jaycees.

He said, "The comradery is important but I think I most enjoy knowing that we are helping people in Kings Mountain with their sight issues."

Lion Hamrick has served as Treasurer for several vears and is also the Liaison Lion for the school guidance counselors. He was the Club President in 1993-94.

Lion Sam Schiavo transferred to the Kings Mountain Lions Club from California where he had served as president. He believes strongly in the 'We Serve' motto.

He faithfully works on all the projects of the club and tries to recruit new members and interesting programs. He received his 10th year service pin.

Lion Johnsie Reavis, wife of Lion Johnny Reavis, received her 10th year service pin. She was club president in 1996-97. Her work in The Kings Mountain Womans' Club and the Southern Arts Society have been very helpful for the Kings Mountain Lions Club.

Although Lions Phillip Hager and Warren "Bo" Goforth have not been members long, enough to receive a service sward pin from Lions International the local club recognizes their value to the club.

Cleveland County food inspections for week of June 11

Cleveland County Health Department inspected the following food handling facilities during the week ending June 11.

**Denotes 2 extra points when an employee attended an approved food handling course.

Restaurants

St., 96**

BB's Pizza & Sub, Main St., Grover, 99. Barnettes Restaurant,

North Post Road, 93.5 Bojangles, Cleveland Avenue, 95** Bridges BBQ Lodge, East

Dixon Blvd., 98.5** Bulldog Quick Snak, Boiling Springs, 97.5** Chick Fil A 2, E. Dixon

Blvd., 92** Copeland Cafe, E. Dixon Blvd., 97.5 Dairy Queen, S. Dekalb

5 East, E. Marion St., 93** Kelly's Seafood, 94.5** Kentucky Fried Chicken, Grover St., 95.5** Kings Mountain Country

Club, Kings Mountain, 94.5 McDonalds, East Dixon Blvd., 95.5**

New House Grill, New House Road, 97 Pizza Hut, Kings Mountain Plaza, 93.5 Shelby Cafe, S. Lafayette

St., 98.5** Shirley's Kitchen, Carla Drive, 97.5

Steak N Hogie, S. Lafayette St., 95.5 Stockyard Restaurant,

Wallace Grove Road, 96 Subway, Fallston Rd., 96.5 The Bear Cafe, 97 Waffle House, York Road,

Kings Mountain, 90.5 Walmart Radio Grill, E. Dixon Blvd., 98** Watts Store and Grill, N.C. Food stands

Angelos Pizzeria, S. Post Rd., 95.

Bleeka's Catering, Countryside Rd, 100. Jo's Catering, Pine Hollow,

Kathryns Cakes and Catering, McCurry Rd., 98 Macs Grill, North Piedmont Ave., Kings Mountain, 90

One Stop 125, Shelby Rd.,

Blvd., 99.5** Winn Dixie deli, Earl Road, 97

Winn Dixie deli, Kings Mountain Shopping Plaza,

Winn Dixie seafood, Earl

Winn Dixie seafood, Kings Mountain Shopping Plaza,

Village Mini Mart, N. Post Rd., 95.5 **Meat Markets**

Stage Coach Market, 97.5 Winn Dixie, Earl Road, 98 Winn Dixie, Kings Mountain Shopping Plaza,

Elderly Nutrition Sites Alterra Sterling House,

Walmart Seafood, E. Dixon East Marion Street, 95 Carillon Assisted Living, Charles Road, 90.5 Crawley Memorial Hospital, Boiling Springs,

> White Oak Manor, Kings Mountain, 98*

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