

Legend and Legacy: Home Craft Days Festival 40th Anniversary

Here is a list of performers who will appear on the **Legend and Legacy** 40th Anniversary recording:

Tentative: Doc Watson and Richard Watson *Deep River Blues* by Doc Watson HFA D01890 Hillgreen Music

Confirmed:

Damned Ol' Piney Mountain (2010) was written by Craig Johnson, a friend of Joe Newberry's who lived in the Raleigh, NC area but who was originally from Michigan. He passed away in 2010.

I'm Getting Ready to Go (2010) was recorded in 1934 on Bluebird Records by blind guitarist and singer Riley Puckett, who played with Gid Tanner and the Skillet Lickers, a Georgia string band who helped bridge the gap between folk and popular music during the 1920-30's. Featuring Tanner and Clayton McMichen on fiddles, and Fate Norris on banjo, and, the band recorded over 200 songs and tunes.

Craver, Hicks, Watson, and Newberry is comprised of Mike Craver, on piano and guitar, Bill Hicks on fiddle, Jim Watson on mandolin and guitar, and Joe Newberry on banjo. Their four part harmonies and driving old-time repertoire reflect the early association of Craver, Hicks, and Watson, with the late Tommy Thompson, as members of the Red Clay Ramblers, an innovative string band in the piedmont area of North Carolina from 1972-1981.

Nowhere Train (2008) is a metaphorical exploration of living without purpose, but with the possibility of personal redemption. Dale is following in the footsteps of his grandfather, A.P. Carter, and his mother, Janette, as a songwriter. **Dale Jett** is the son of Janette Carter and grandson of A. P. and Sara Carter, who helped shape musical history as the Carter Family. Dale plays guitar and autoharp and wrote the song *Nowhere Train*. His distinctive, powerful, soulful singing combines with **Hello, Stranger**, which includes his wife, Teresa, on bass and vocals and long time compatriot, Oscar Harris, on guitar, autoharp, mandolin, and vocals. Todd Meade sits in on fiddle. Dale's unique style of playing a standard guitar left-handed, which means upside down and backwards, was inspired by Elizabeth (Libba) Cotton, of *Freight Train* fame, who played the same way and encouraged Dale to do so.

Three Men Went a'Hunting (2008) shows its British roots, contrasting stereotypical world views of the practical Irishman, the negativistic Scotsman, and the creative Welshman. It was recorded in 1929 by Byrd Moore, who was from Norton, in Wise County, VA, and the *Hot Shots*, a band consisting of Clarence "Tom" Ashley, who lived in Mountain City, TN and fiddler Clarence Greene. . Moore was an itinerant musician who traveled around the mountains, playing and recording with some of the greatest old-time musicians of the region, including "Fiddling" Cowan Powers, of Castlewood, in Russell County, VA and fiddler, Melvin Robinette. **Doug Dorschug and Pam Randolph** live in Johnson County, TN, near Mountain City. Doug was a member of Ithaca, NY's popular Highwoods String Band during the 1970-80's. He is also a sought after sound technician. Pam is a graphic designer as well as an old-time musician.

Deep River Blues (2009) was recorded as *The Big River Blues* in 1933 by Elkmont, AL brothers, Alton and Rabon Delmore, aka the Delmore Brothers. Doc Watson learned the song and adapted it to a single guitar after he picked up a lick from Merle Travis' playing. Doc's 1971 recording has become the definitive version. *Ready for the Times to Get Better* was written by Allen Reynolds and became a #1 hit

in 1978 for Crystal Gayle, daughter of country songbird, Loretta Lynn. Like many informally trained musicians, Doc and Jeff adopt repertoire from a broad spectrum of traditional and contemporary music.

Under the Double Eagle (2008) (Public Domain) was written as “Unter dem Doppel-Adler” in 1903 by Josef Franz Wagner (1856-1908), an Austrian military bandmaster and composer. The title refers to the double eagle in the coat of arms of the Austro-Hungarian empire. John Philip Sousa recorded it three times.

Whiskey Before Breakfast (2008) (Public Domain) is a very popular fiddle tune, played widely for dances, jams, and concerts. It shares characteristics with Canadian (*Spirits of the Morning*) and Irish (*Liverpool Hornpipe*, *Speed the Plow*) tunes, but it is probably an amalgam of many such tunes.

Jeff Little, the Piano Man from the Blue Ridge, grew up in Boone, NC, where he started playing at the age of 14. His piano and harmonica playing, along with his vocals, enable him to be a one-man variety show. Jeff is equally at home with bluegrass, old-time, country, blues, jazz, and rockabilly. He is sometimes joined by his father, **Gerald**, who plays 4-string banjo and rhythm guitar. In between gigs, Jeff directs the Music Industry Program at Guilford Technical Community College in Jamestown, North Carolina.

Wayne Henderson is a renowned luthier and award-winning finger picking guitar player from Rugby (Grayson County), VA. In 1995, he was awarded the National Endowment for the Arts Heritage Award, the highest honor for a traditional artist. Wayne specializes in traditional Appalachian music but he is equally adept at swing and early jazz. *Under the Double Eagle*, *Whiskey Before Breakfast*

Helen White is an award winning fiddler, singer, and guitar player from Grayson County, VA. She founded the Junior Appalachian Musicians (JAM) program which introduces children in the southern Appalachians to their musical heritage and is regional director for programs in 3 states. She has composed music for soundtracks, plays, and numerous weddings and celebrations. *Under the Double Eagle*, *Whiskey Before Breakfast*

Point of No Return (2007) was written by Rhonda Rucker. It demonstrates a thread of topical social commentary that is consistent with many folk performers. The Ruckers perform for a wide variety of audiences, from public schools to political rallies to large folk festivals. They have a unique ability to teach without preaching, although Sparky sometimes sets forth on a good natured “sermon” in creating context for a particular song or story. **James “Sparky” and Rhonda Rucker** live, when not on the road, in Maryville, TN, near James “Sparky’s” hometown of Knoxville, where he developed his early interest in folk music. Rhonda grew up in Louisville, KY, completed medical school after she and Sparky married and, after a few years of medical practice, went back on the road. Their unique blending of African- and Appalachian-influenced music is complemented by Rhonda’s songwriting.

Little Sadie (2006) (Public Domain) is an American bad-man ballad from the late 19th or early 20th century. There is no shortage of songs of this nature, including *Bad Lee Brown* and *Cocaine Blues*. The song appears in numerous written collections, including *Bad Man Ballad* in *Alan Lomax’s* “*American Ballads and Folk Songs*.” *Little Sadie* was recorded on *Rough Ways* records in 1929 by North Carolina old-time musician Clarence “Tom” Ashley and again in 1930 on *Columbia*. Ashley and Doc Watson were the

sources of this song for many of the old-time musicians currently playing. Although versions vary, the murder supposedly took place in North Carolina, with the sheriff from Thomasville apprehending the killer in Jericho, SC. Reed Island Rounders is award-winning fiddler, Betty Vornbrock, guitarist Billy Cornett, and singer/banjo player, Diane Jones. They have played together since 1993, when Betty & Billy formed a band to compete at local fiddlers' conventions. Diane joined the band in 1998. They have found a mutual love for the old-time music of West Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina and Southwestern Virginia, where Betty & Billy make their home on a Christmas tree farm. Diane lives on a family dairy farm on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

Old Plank Road (2009) (by Robin and Linda Williams HFA O12751 *The Dubs, Inc. dba Songs for Dixie*) is a rousing show-stopper that anticipates a hoedown "down an old plank road." Plank roads were popular in parts of the U.S. during the 19th century as a way to traverse muddy or soft terrain. **Robin and Linda Williams and Their Fine Group** have performed in various configurations since the early 1970s. Their command of traditional and original repertoire, soaring harmonies, and crisp instrumental picking is unsurpassed. Robin plays guitar and harmonica; Linda plays guitar and banjo. Trusty veteran sidemen, Jim Watson, on bass and Jimmy Gaudreau, on mandolin, round out the band with solid picking and spot-on harmonies. Robin and Linda live in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, near Staunton.

Come Along, Buddy, Don't You Want to Go (Public Domain) is from the repertoire of Uncle Dave Macon (1870-1952), the legendary Dixie Dew Drop, who started his professional career and a vaudeville performer at the age of 51. He became one of the first stars of the Grand Ol Opry, playing from 1926-1951. He recorded 170 songs. **Ada and Jimmy McCowan** live in Hardy, Pike County, KY. As a young boy, Jimmy learned to play guitar and sing from his parents. After he and Ada were married, he taught her to play guitar, and Jimmy expanded his skills on fiddle and banjo. He is a prize winning fiddler and banjo player, nowadays playing on a 6-string banjo (added low "C" string). They teach and play at numerous local, regional, and national festivals each year. They learned this song from fellow KY banjo picker, Dave Dougherty, a big fan of Uncle Dave.

Red Rocking Chair (2007) (Public Domain) is related to *Honey Babe Blues*, recorded by Clarence "Tom" Ashley on "Old Time Music at Clarence Ashley's (Folkways, 1961); *Sugar Baby*, recorded by Dock Boggs (Brunswick 118B, 1927); and *Red Apple Juice*, recorded by Bascom Lamar Lunsford (1927). Frank Proffitt (1913-1965), a well-known musician from Reese, NC, recorded it on fretless banjo as *Got No Sugar Baby Now* ("Memorial Album," Folk Legacy, 1968). **Big Medicine** is from the Raleigh, NC area, although members reflect wide ranging influences, from the Ozarks to the far West and across the Appalachian Mountains. Members are Joe Newberry on banjo, Jim Collier on guitar, Bob Head on bass, and Kenny Jackson on fiddle. All the band members sing.

C-h-i-c-k-e-n (2008) (Public Domain) has been recorded, in various versions, by Sam and Kirk McGee (1927), *The Tobacco Tags* (1939), *Mississippi John Hurt*, *Fiddling Doc Roberts Trio*, *Red Clay Ramblers*, and others. A possible source of the song is "Dat's the Way to Spell Chicken," written by Sidney Perrin and Bob Slater in 1902. **Boozy Creek String Band** is from Scott County, VA, where they drew much of their inspiration from tradition bearers in the surrounding communities, including the Carter Family, fiddlers Beachard Smith and Uncle Charlie Osborne, banjo masters Will Keys and Scott Boatright, and many more. Members are fiddler Jeff Winegar, banjo player Jacob (Jake) McMurray, guitarist Gerry Davidson,

bass player Steve Davidson, and hammer dulcimer player Scott Reed, who takes his inspiration from former Scott County resident, John McCutcheon. They are joined by Jeff and Amy Benedict on guitar and vocals.

Rubber Dolly (2007) (Public Domain) evolved from Jens Bodewalt Lampe's (1869-1929) piano rag, *My Creole Belle*, which was published in Detroit, MI in 1900. The Georgia Yellow Jack Hammers, a white band, recorded a version of it with a black fiddler named Andrew Baxter, which was released on an anthology entitled "Folk, He Sure Do Pull Some Bow!: Vintage Fiddle Music 1927-1935, a study of early black country fiddlers. The song was recorded by Ella Fitzgerald. It also evolved into *Back Up and Push*, a well known fiddle tune. **Appalachian Dream Spinners** include Marianne Roberts, vocal and bass; Anita Gibson, lead vocal and guitar; and Dwight Bishop, who plays a unique 4-string clawhammer banjo style. Earl Taze Farmer, who passed away in 2009, plays fiddle on this song. All are from Scott County, VA.

Wreck of Old 97 (2009) (Public Domain) chronicles the tragic 1903 wreck of Southern Railway's engine number 1102 as it tried to make up speed between Monroe, VA and Spencer, NC. Engineer Joseph A. (Steve) Broady was under orders to make up more than an hour in a 166 mile stretch of grades and turns. The train jumped the track near Danville, VA, killing nine people, including Broady. The ballad, attributed to Fred Jackson Lewey and co-author Charles Noell, was first recorded by G. B. Grayson and Henry Whittier. Vernon Dalhart released his version on Victor in 1924 and it became the first million-selling recording in America. **The Sheets Family Band** includes Debra and Randy Sheets and their daughter, Kelly Sheets Snider. Debra and Randy have been performing together for the past thirty years. They have roots in Grayson County, VA but now live in the Bethel community of Watauga County, NC. They specialize in family harmony singing on traditional and originals songs but, with Debra on guitar, Randy on banjo, and Kelly on fiddle, they can hoedown with the best.

Band Box (by Eddie Lynn Snodderly HFA B3044P Bug Music OBO Southern Melody Publishing Co.) celebrates the joy of playing music. Band box is a **Eddie Lynn Snodderly** lives in Johnson City, TN. He is a songwriter who plays guitar, dobro, fiddle, mandola, and harmonica. He was inspired as a youngster by country artists including Flatt & Scruggs and the Wilburn Brothers. Eddie has played professionally since 1970, performing with music and theater groups. He is joined by Todd Meade on fiddle.

Ring of Fire (2006) (by Merle Kilgore and June Carter HFA R48400 Painted Desert Music Corp.) was a signature June Carter and Johnny Cash song. June said she wrote it while she and Johnny were both married, but not to each other. June's sister, Anita, recorded a folksier version called *Love's Fiery Ring* before Cash's 1963 version, with Mariachi horns, became one of his biggest hits. **Home Folks Band** includes singers Joy D'Elia and guitarist/singer Tommy Bledsoe, bassist Michael Pease, banjo player Eric McMurray, and fiddler Joe Good. The band formed in 1974, shortly after the first Home Craft Day festival, with fiddler Beachard Smith, banjo legend Will Keys, lead guitarist Paul Davis, and guitarist/singer Bledsoe. Good, Pease, and McMurray live in Scott County, VA; D'Elia and Bledsoe live in St. Augustine, FL.

Banks of the Ohio (2006) (Public Domain) is an American murder ballad, similar in theme to *Pretty Polly*, *Poor Ellen Smith*, *'Omie Wise*, and others, about a man who murders his girlfriend. It was first recorded by Red Patterson's Piedmont Log Rollers on Victor in 1927. The Blue Sky Boys, Bill and Earl Bolick, from

*Hickory, NC, recorded it in 1936 and it has been reissued on compilation recordings. Olivia Newton-John recorded it in 1972, with a female murderer. **Glenn Roberts and Friends** include Glenn on guitar and vocals, Albert Elliott on mandolin and vocals, and Darrel Stapleton on bass and vocals. Glenn lives in Wise County VA. He led "The Rolling Firestones," a popular bluegrass band in the 1970-80's. Albert Elliott shared the stage with many bluegrass greats, including a stint with the Stanley Brothers.*

***Brown's Dream** (2007) (Public Domain), aka John Brown's Dream, was one of the first tunes recorded by Russell County, VA's Fiddlin' Cowan Power and Family for Victor Recordings in 1924. It was also recorded by Da Costa Woltz's Southern Broadcasters in 1927 and many times since then, including on a 1985 JuneAppal Recordings, "Relics and Treasure," JA049 featuring Johnny and his father, Uncle Charlie Osborne. **Todd Meade** grew up in Scott County, VA hearing his great-grandfather, Uncle Charlie Osborne, play fiddle. Todd took lessons from Scott Gould, learning to read music but retaining the ability to learn by ear and improvise old-time and bluegrass licks. He has played every HCD festival since he was 8. When he was 18, he toured with Ralph Stanley for a year. He is enrolled in ETSU's traditional music program and performs with Twin Springs Bluegrass Band, Carolina Road, Appalachian Trail, Dale Jett & Hello, Stranger, and teaches fiddle, banjo, and bass. He plays on *Nowhere Train and Planes, Trains, and Automobiles*. **Johnny Osborne** (1922-2009) was the youngest son of Uncle Charlie Osborne of Russell County, VA. Johnny learned banjo and performed with his brothers, uncles, and father before moving to Baltimore, MD to work. He recorded on both of Uncle Charlie's JuneAppal Recordings, "Relics and Treasure" in 1985 and "100 Years Farther On" in 1990. He returned to Russell County after his retirement in 1999, playing regularly until his death in 2009. His elegantly simple banjo style is perfectly complemented by his great-nephew, Todd Meade's, fiddling.*

***My Old Kentucky Home** (2009) (Public Domain) was written by Stephen Foster and published in 1853 as *Poor Uncle Tom, Good Night*. While Foster on occasion visited relatives in Bardstown, KY, it has been speculated that Harriett Beecher Stowe's book "Uncle Tom's Cabin" inspired the song. It became the state song of Kentucky on March 19, 1928. **Lee Sexton** is a retired coal miner and a legendary banjo player and fiddler from Letcher County, KY. His unique, hard-driving two-finger and clawhammer banjo styles, along with his singing, have brought him wide acclaim as a true tradition bearer. **Jack Adams** is a young protégé, diligently and faithfully learning Lee's style and repertoire. He performs alongside Lee at many regional festivals. He was 14 when this cut was recorded. Doug Dorschug plays fiddle; Rich Kirby plays guitar.*

***When We Get Home** (2006) (Public Domain) was written by Eden Reeder Latta (1839-1915) and published in 1885. Latta was born in Haw Patch, IN and died in Guttenberg, IO. He taught public school in Colesburg, IO and wrote over 1,600 songs. This is a favorite song for giving comfort and hope to mourners at the many funeral services attended by the Lee Smith Singers. **Lee Smith Singers** are a gospel music group from Scott County, VA. Lee Smith, his wife Dorcas, daughter Arvella Smith Lane, son Aaron Smith, and long time side men, Kenneth Davis, Lawrence Winstead and Dal Marshall are but a few of the musicians that play with the group. Their traditional gospel delivery and Lee's down-home personality contributes to their popularity.*

Rose Hill Train** (2006) was composed by Joe Frank Smiddy to tell the story of the train that brought news of soldiers to the Lee County, VA town of Rose Hill, where the Smiddy family lived in the 1940s. **Papa Joe

Smiddy and Reedy Creek Band have been entertaining audiences for well over 30 years. Papa Joe, banjo, was Chancellor of Clinch Valley College (UVA) for 27 years. His son, Joe Frank, guitar and vocal, who wrote this selection, is a physician in Kingsport, TN. Other members of the band include Sam Mallory on mandolin, Crystal Shipley on fiddle, and Randy White on bass.

Arkansas Traveler (2010) (Public Domain) is an enduring classic for old time musicians, having been in oral circulation long before being written down in 1847. It contains a vocal repartee between a traveler through the wilds of Arkansas and a wise-cracking fiddler. The first instrumental recording was made in 1916 by fiddler Don Richardson, claimed by some as the first country music recording. The first vocal recording was by Dan Hornsby and fiddler Clayton McMichen, in 1919. **Adam Hager and Dan Kessinger** are both former West Virginia State champions: Adam on guitar and Dan on fiddle. Adam also has trophies from KY and OH; Dan from PA, OH, and MD. Adam was 19 when this recording was made. Dan is a great-nephew of fiddling legend, Clark Kessinger, whose innovative style is reflected in Dan's fiddling style.

By the Mark (2009) by David Rawlings and Gillian Welch HFA B07449 Irving Music, Inc. was released on Gillian Welch and David Rawlings' debut 1996 "Revival" album on Acony Records. Welch and Rawlings met at Berklee School of Music and shared their mutual love of acoustic instruments and sparse, sometimes stark, arrangements. **Generation Gap** includes Tyler Hughes on mandolin, Ron Short on fiddle, David Jervis on guitar and vocal, Vernita Jervis on autoharp and vocal, and David Meade on bass. Tyler, who plays mandolin, banjo, and guitar, began his musical education by learning banjo in the MECC Summer Music School.

Blackest Crow (2008) (Public Domain), aka *My Dearest Dear, True Lovers Farewell, et al*, has roots in English folk song. The song has been traced to 17th century England and, although it appears in many collections, including those of "song catchers" who came into the mountains in the 1930's, the earliest audio recording release was by Jean Ritchie, a native of Perry County, KY in 1955 on "Shivaree," on Esoteric label. Jean's version departs from a common pentatonic melody. **Molly Slemp and Ron Short** perform a traditional love ballad. Molly lives in Wise County, VA. Ron is a well-known playwright, songwriter, and performer who is a mentor to many young musicians through the MECC Summer Music School.

Handsome Molly (Public Domain) is a branch of "Irish Girl/Farewell to Ballymoney" branch of songs. This version, with the exception of the last verse, was recorded by G.B. Grayson and Henry Whittier on Victor 21187. The third verse, a floating verse that they heard during their touring days, was added by Bledsoe and Kirby. **Rich Kirby and Tommy Bledsoe** have played together since 1973. Rich grew up between Cynthiana, KY and New York City and learned to play during the 1960's. He has an encyclopedic knowledge of traditional Appalachian music. Tommy grew up in Scott County VA and learned to play as a teen. Both teach, produce recordings, and write about traditional music.

Cumberland Gap (2008) (Public Domain) is a well-known song and tune throughout the southwestern Virginia mountains because of the proximity to the gap, an important gateway into Kentucky and Tennessee. The verses recount events before the American Revolution (Dr. Walker explored the gap in 1750s) and the Civil War (1862- Union General George Morgan's troops occupy the gap before Braxton Bragg's army moves in, later to relinquish control to Gen. Burnside in 1863). This version of the song is

unique in its vocal transitions back into the instrumental break at the end each verse. **Rich and the Po' Folk** includes fiddler Rich Kirby, vocal and banjo Shane Hall, guitarist Roy Tackett, and bassist Nathan Polly. Rich live in Wise County, VA; Shane, Roy, and Nathan live in eastern KY. They have one recording, "When the Whistle Blew," released in 2010.

Good Woman's Love (2006) was written by California songwriter, Cy Coben (1918-2006) G55840 Bug Music OBO Delmore Music, who wrote hundreds of songs that became hits for artists as diverse as Hank Snow, Peggy Lee, Johnny Cash, and Liberace. Bill Monroe and the Bluegrass Boys had a hit with "Good Woman's Love," certainly the inspiration for this version. **Peters Brothers and Lee County Grass** includes James C., on banjo, and Arthur Peters, vocals and guitar, of Pennington Gap, VA, fiddler Billy Baker, Earl Grigsby on bass, and the late John Engle on guitar. The Peters Brothers have played most of the HCD festivals, although the other members of the group have changed frequently.

Between a Rock and a Hard Place (2006) was written by Richard Phillips. It explores the paradox of living in the mountains. **Richard Phillips** plays guitar and sings on this original song about growing up in the mountains. In his day job, he is Vice President of Academic and Student Services at MECC. **Ron Samples** plays guitar and works as a mine inspector. **Jeff Burleson** plays bass on this cut. At the time of this recording, he was an Instructional Technologist at MECC.

I'll Live in Glory (2006) (by Jim Thomas HFA I3844I, Shelby Singleton Music, Inc.) has been recorded by the Oak Ridge Boys, Charlie Monroe, and many others, including an acapella version by the gospel group, Acapella. It features a contrapuntal vocal line, sometimes echoing the lead, sometimes adding to it, a characteristic often found in country gospel music. **The Sherman Family Band** is from the London, KY area. Delois and David Sherman sing and play guitar and fiddle, respectively. Other band members are Wayne Combs, bass, Pam Perry Combs, mandolin and vocal, and Ethan Ebersole, banjo and vocal.

Drink Up the Cider (2009) (Public Domain) is a classic tavern song that has experienced wide variations through the folk process. Some credit English musician Alan John (Adge) Cutler (1930-1974) with composing the song in 1958. Cutler's band, The Wurzels, recorded "Drink Up the Zider" in 1966 and it went to #45 on the UK charts. **Vincent Ringrose** plays Irish music that he learned as a youngster growing up in the northeast. His family were friends with Tommy Makem, a popular Irish performer. Vinny's voice, demeanor and repertoire are true to his family's Irish heritage. He plays banjo and guitar. Joining him on this cut are Tommy Bledsoe on bass and Jeff Blackburn on guitar. *Vinny became acquainted with Tommy Makem and heard him sing the song with the Clancy Brothers.*

Last Train from Poor Valley (2010) (HFA song L15910 Norman Blake, Nannor Music) was written by Norman Blake, a native of Sulphur Springs, GA, who made his mark as a backup musician before embarking on a career as a songwriter and performer. The song title was inspired by Maybelle Carter, who lived on the south side of Clinch Mountain near Hiltons, VA, sometimes called Poor Valley. **Moccasin Gap** is a Scott County, VA band comprised of Luanne McMurray on bass and vocal, Eric McMurray on mandolin and lead vocal, Bob Blackstock on guitar and vocal, and Daniel Houseright on banjo. The band has been playing together since 2001. Both Eric and Daniel started playing as pre-teens and play multiple instruments. Luanne is a Social Services supervisor; Eric works as an engineering technician at Tennessee Eastman (ECPI).

Pretty Girls, City Lights (2010) (by Walden John Dahl HFA P2090F, Dog Butler Music) This song was released by Ralph Stanley II on a 2000 Rebel Records album of the same name. Scott County, VA native Kenneth Davis was lead singer for Ralph senior's band for two years, during which Ralph II was honing his craft. **Scott County Boys** are Kenneth Davis on guitar and lead vocals, Steve Edwards on fiddle and vocals, David Roller on banjo, and Andy Blevins on bass. Kenneth's distinctive bluegrass vocals landed him a two-year stint with Ralph Stanley's Clinch Mountain Boys in the 1990's. Steve is a versatile fiddler and violinist.

Catfish John (2006) (HFA C21120 Universal- Songs of Polygram International, Inc.), written by Country Music Hall of Famer, Bob McDill, was a 1972 hit for Johnny Russell and it helped propel McDill to renown as a songwriter. The east Texas native said, "Catfish John was a real person. He was a friend of my dad's. I resurrected him." The song became a bluegrass standard for the Country Gentlemen, Mac Wiseman, and others. **Ken Childress (1942-2011) and Jimmy Mullins** are from Dickenson County, VA. They have performed a signature blend of bluegrass, old time ballads, blues and storytelling together for over forty years. Kenneth passed in July 2011. He was recognized as an active humanitarian, a scholar, a musician, a genealogist, a comedian, a pastor and a friend to all.

Sunny South by the Sea (2007) (Public Domain) shows the vocal dexterity of Bill McCall, whose smooth delivery is punctuated by crisp yodeling, something not often seen on mountain stages. He is a big fan of Jimmy Rodgers, the Carter Family, and gospel music. **Bill McCall and Southern Country** are from Abingdon, VA. Bill is well known for his smooth vocals and yodeling. He is joined by Jimmy Carter on banjo-mandolin, Igeary Piercy on fiddle, and Benny Simcox on bass. They are favorites at local festivals and community dances, specializing in Jimmy Rodgers songs but also playing hoedowns, blues, and early country selections.

Hot Dog Daddy (2010) was written by Anndrena Belcher, who loves to dance, tell stories, and dress up. **Anndrena Belcher and the Wild Boys** play original songs written by Anndrena, a native of Pike County, KY who grew up in Chicago and returned to settle in Scott County, VA. Her song subjects range from playful and feisty to melancholy, as she paints word-pictures of her experiences. The Wild Boys are Phil Leonard on drums, Roger Rasnake on Dobro, and Todd Meade on fiddle. Anndrena plays guitar. She is a well known story-spinners, performing across the US.

Wait for the Wheels to Hum (2009) was written by Charlie Engle about his grandfather, who lived in VA and traveled to KY on the train for work. **Charlie Engle and Big Red Rug** includes Charlie on vocals and guitar, Megan Clay on guitar and vocals, Chris Clay on banjo, Marty Jenkins on mandolin, and Tommy Jenkins on bass. Charlie lives in Wise County, VA, where he works as a librarian. Growing up in the coalfields helped shape the music he creates.

Columbus Stockade Blues (2007) (Public Domain) was recorded in 1927 by Thomas P. Darby and Johnny J. Tarlton, who lived near Columbus, GA. Darby wrote the song because his brother "spent about half of his time in the stockade." Although the song later became a commercial success, the duo settled a flat fee of \$150. **Roan Mountain Moonshiners** are from Unicoi County, TN, near the North Carolina border. They are Rhodyjane (Nancy Meador Collins) on lead vocals and autoharp, T. V. Barnett on fiddle, Mary Mays on guitar and vocal, Danny Teague on bass, and Donna Teague on washtub bass. Taylor Collins sits in on banjo. T. V.'s unique sawing bow strokes and the bands traditional repertoire are their hallmark.

Red Apple Rag (2006) by Fiddlin' Arthur Smith HFA R20784 Glad Music Publishing & Recording LLP is attributed to Fiddlin' Arthur Smith (1898-1971), a Tennessee fiddling champion who started playing on the Grand Ole Opry in 1927. His band, the Dixie Beeliners, included Sam and Kirk McGee and his daughter Lavonne. Smith retired for a while in the 1950's but he made a comeback after Starday Records released "Rare Old Fiddle Tunes" in the 1960's. **Fred O'Quinn and Bluegrass Travelers** are a family band from Dickenson County, VA. Fred, on banjo, is joined by his sons, Keith, on fiddle and Kyle, on mandolin. Rounding out the band are Hansel Edwards on guitar and Randy Stiltner on bass. Fred plays both clawhammer and 3-finger bluegrass banjo. Keith learned the fiddle from Herb Bowman, who played with the band for 20 years until his death in 2005.

Little Birdie (2007) (Public Domain) is a popular hoedown banjo tune around the Kentucky-Virginia border. The simple melody is enhanced by syncopation by banjo players like George Gibson. It is usually played in a C tuning- gCGCD. **George Gibson** is a native of Knott County, KY, who now lives in St. Cloud, FL. He plays an extensive repertoire of traditional eastern Kentucky songs and tunes, using several rare tunings. Besides being an excellent player, George is a scholar of banjo history and has published several articles, his latest presents evidence that the banjo was in the mountains much earlier than some musicologist believe. He has found evidence of banjo playing well before the Civil War.

Pretty Polly Ann (2010) (Public Domain) is a tune Jerry Correll learned from an Ozark fiddler, Lonnie Robertson (Southern Missouri). It did not have words, so Dale Morris wrote the verses he sings. The fiddle is tuned C# A E A. **Wolfe Brothers** are not brothers, nor is either named "Wolfe." After first forming during the mid 1970s, the group reunited in the early 1990s to become one of the finest old-time bluegrass bands in southwestern Virginia. The band's repertoire ranges from rarely heard traditional songs and tunes to their own original material. Founding members are Jerry Correll on fiddle and Dale Morris on banjo and vocals, along with Casey Hash on guitar and vocals and Donna Correll on bass.

Planes, Trains, and Automobiles (2010) (maybe written by Dave Gibson HFA P40918 EMI April Music, Inc obo EMI Music Pub. Ltd.) **Twin Springs Bluegrass Band** has been together since 2001, when Todd Meade and fellow Twin Springs (Nickelsville, VA) High School student and banjo player, Matthew Cruby, kicked it off. The band now consists of Vicky and Tom Austin on vocals, bass and mandolin, respectively, Todd on fiddle, Matthew Bright on guitar, and Mark Marshall on banjo. It is somewhat a family band, as Todd, Vicky, and Matthew are cousins.

Thinking Tonight of My Blue Eyes (2008) (by A.P. Carter HFA I56490 Peer International Corporation) was recorded for Victor in 1929 and became one of their most popular songs. Janette Carter, daughter of A.P. and Sara, claimed that it was their top selling recording. **Change of Pace** is singer/guitar/autoharp Heather Pace and husband, Mike, mandolin, who are joined by Paul and Macy Brummitt on guitar and vocals, and Dennis Horton on bass. Heather comes by the song naturally, having been raised in Scott County, VA, home of the Carter Family. Her father, Oscar Harris, plays in Hello, Stranger with A.P. and Sara's grandson and Janette's son, Dale Jett.

Keep My Skillet Good and Greasy (Public Domain) was probably a minstrel song before it became a Vocalion "hit" for Uncle Dave Macon in 1924. It contains floating verses and, in Macon's version, vernacular words, like "I'se" and "gwine," connect it to the minstrel era (1840-1910). Macon's source

was an old African-American man who worked at the Readyville Mill, near where Macon worked. Others who recorded it included Henry Whittier, Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, and Doc Watson.

Whitetop Mountain Band, originated in the 1940s by legendary fiddler, Albert Hash, who died in 1983, continues with Albert's brother-in-law, Thornton Spencer, on fiddle, and Emily Spencer on vocal and banjo, along with their daughter, Martha, on guitar, banjo, and fiddle, Debbie Bramer on bass, and Jackson Cunningham on mandolin. They are highly sought after for festivals, traditional music camps, and events featuring authentic mountain music. They have toured the US, British Isles, Ireland, and Australia.

***Far Side Banks of Jordan** (2007) (by Terry Smith HFA W10971 Warner-Tamerlane Pub. Co.) was written by Terry Smith around 1972. It was first released as a Columbia single by Johnny Cash and June Carter and on Cash's 1976 "The Last Gunfighter Ballad" album. Since then, it has been recorded by dozens of bluegrass and gospel groups. **Jim and Alberta Stanley** have played at many Home Craft Days festivals. They live in Appalachia, VA, where Jim farmed and worked around the coal mines and Alberta worked as a cook. Their son, Randy, joins them on guitar; Ron Short plays fiddle.*

***They Can't Put It Back** (2009) was an anti-strip mining anthem written by West Virginia musician Michael Cline and released on a 1971 album of the same name that included Home Craft Days music coordinator Rich Kirby. While it is a powerful song, the devastation of the mountains to glean the last bit of coal at the cheapest price to the coal companies continues at an even faster rate with the practice of "mountain-top removal." **Erle "Jack" Wright** is a native of Wise, VA who now lives in Athens, OH, where he recently retired from teaching film and media at Ohio University. Jack started June Appal Recordings at Appalshop, Inc. in the early 1970s, to preserve and support traditional music.*