

Celtic/American String Wizard Robin Bullock at CFS April 8th

The Charlotte Folk Society's next Gathering on Friday, April 8th, features Robin Bullock, described by the Baltimore *City Paper* as "a Celtic guitar god." The public is invited to join us at 7:30 PM in the warm and beautiful listening room of the Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Avenue, for a rare and special Charlotte concert. Doors open at 7 PM.

Monthly Folk Society Gatherings are family-friendly and free. Donations, which are essential to the presentation of the second-Friday monthly series, are greatly appreciated. Easy access for physically impaired visitors is available through the ground-level door on the parking lot side of the building. Free surface parking is available adjacent to the Stella Center. The arm of the nearby parking deck goes up for the weekend at 7 PM. Visitors who pick up tickets on their way in won't be charged if they leave after 8 PM.

A short refreshment break follows the hour-long concert. Afterwards, join a song circle or a jam session – slow or fast – listeners welcomed. The Charlotte Appalachian Dulcimer Club meets after the concert,

as well; visitors are invited to play on a "loaner" instrument.

Robin Bullock is a prolific composer and virtuoso multi-instrumentalist interpreting the ancient melodies of the Celtic lands and their vigorous Appalachian descendants on acoustic guitar, cittern, and mandolin. The 17th-century harp tunes of legendary Irish bard Turlough O'Carolan, the spirited jigs and reels of rural Ireland, the haunting ballads of southern Appalachia, and evocative original compositions all find a common ground in Robin's music, where lightning-fast finger-work one moment is perfectly balanced with tender, quiet intimacy the next. A



Robin Bullock

warm, friendly presence onstage, Robin effortlessly creates a magical world for the audience with his instrumental wizardry, taking them on a journey to the heart and soul of Celtic and American traditions. Visit www.folksociety.org to sample Robin Bullock's performances.

Originally rising to prominence as a founding member of the innovative acoustic world-music trio **Helicon** (winners of the Association for Independent Music's prestigious

(Continued on page 3.)

Smallpiper Dick Hensold Plays April 2nd House Concert

Dick Hensold makes his living as a piper. Not playing the loud pipes – the quiet ones. A brilliant specialist in a uniquely versatile and sophisticated instrument, Hensold is the leading Northumbrian smallpiper in North America and has performed and taught throughout North America and overseas.

The Charlotte Folk Society and Mark and Bethli Clemens will present Dick Hensold in a house concert in Cornelius on Saturday, April 2nd. Concert time is 7:30 PM. Guests are invited to bring a dish to share and the beverage of their choice at a potluck dinner at 6 PM. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for those under 18. Advance reservations and payment are required; space is limited. Directions will be given with reservations. Contact Bethli at emie-scher@bellsouth.net or 704-892-4914. Tickets may also be purchased online at www.folksociety.org.

The Northumbrian bagpipe is from the "quieter," bellows-blown pipe family, which includes the Irish uilleann pipes (as played by **The Chieftains**), Scottish smallpipes, and baroque musette de

(Continued on page 3.)

Charlotte Folk Society Mission

The purpose of the Charlotte Folk Society, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and an Arts & Science Council grant recipient, is to promote the ongoing enjoyment and preservation of traditional and contemporary folk music, dance, crafts, and lore.

Hire Musicians For Your Next Event

The Charlotte Folk Society has extensive resources to help you with your special event or conference – anything from just a taste of this region’s Appalachian musical heritage to a full evening of music and dance with audience participation. Call Karen Singleton at 704-364-5433 to arrange for entertainment and/or instruction at reasonable rates.

CFS Member Discounts

Please support these merchants who offer Charlotte Folk Society members a 10% discount on their purchases. Present your membership card at the time of purchase:

- AC Accounting (Allen Cooke)
- CD Warehouse
- The Violin Shoppe
- Wax Museum
- Rob Webster, Santa Cruz Guitars



The musician's friend,
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Folk Calendar Contributors

Thanks to Robin Bullock, Dennis Frost, **The Steel Wheels**, and the **Charlotte Observer** for photos provided this month. Thanks to Bill Cooke for putting together the dance calendar. We appreciate Hat and Dan Thompson for labeling and stamping the newsletter to get it in the mail each and every month.

Charlotte Folk Society Annual Membership Fees

- Individual \$25
- Student \$15
- Family \$35
- Senior Individual (62+) \$20
- Senior Family (62+) \$30
- Sustaining \$50
- Sponsor \$100
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- Affiliate Organization \$35

CFS Folk Calendar

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Charlotte Folk Society website
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(Robin Bullock, continued from page 1.)

INDIE Award for Best Seasonal Recording), Robin's solo career has won him multiple Washington Area Music Association WAMMIE Awards, a Governor's Award from the Maryland State Arts Council, and a feature broadcast on National Public Radio's hugely popular Celtic music program, **The Thistle & Shamrock**. His recorded work includes eight critically acclaimed solo CDs and numerous collaborations, including **Celtic Guitar Summit** with California fingerstylist Steve Baughman, which was honored by **Acoustic Guitar Magazine** with an "Editor's Pick" as one of the top CDs of 2003.

Born in 1964 in Washington, D. C., a major focal point for both bluegrass and Irish music, Robin began playing guitar at age seven, initially inspired by Doc and Merle Watson, Norman Blake, and John Fahey. Robin's apprenticeship years were spent at fiddlers' conventions, bluegrass festivals, and Irish sessions, mastering the subtleties of a half-dozen instruments in both American and Celtic styles. Today, Robin is recognized as one of the few musicians who can so successfully blend the ancient airs and dance tunes of the Celtic lands with the roots music traditions of the "New World," winning praise from publications as diverse as **Classical Guitar** ("A musician whose technical skill and stylistic expertise are second to none"), **Folk Roots** ("Celtic flatpicking hero... a spectacular display of virtuosity and musicianship") and **Bluegrass Unlimited** ("Brilliant... inventive interpretations filled with grace and charm and warmth and insight"). Visit Robin's website at www.robinbullock.com.

In 2000, Robin relocated to France, and now lives in the tiny village of Tripleval, on the River Seine north-

west of Paris. He continues to tour and record on both sides of the Atlantic, solo, in duos with guitarist Steve Baughman and flute player Michel Sikiotakis, and as touring sideman with American folk legend Tom Paxton. In solo concert, he shares his remarkable gifts on guitar, cittern, mandolin, and piano, combining Celtic and American ballads, airs and dance tunes into one magnificent vision.

"Breathtaking...brilliant technique, always in service of the music."
- **Guitar Player**

"Uncanny ability to combine precision, virtuosity and soul...his reputation as one of the best folk instrumentalists in the business is well-deserved." - **Sing Out!**

"A rare combination of technical virtuosity and emotional nuance... Robin Bullock has a deep appreciation of the power of music to touch people's hearts, and the skills to make that happen when he plays."
- **Dirty Linen, The Magazine of Folk and World Music**

"A musician whose technical skill and stylistic expertise are second to none... a time-served folkie of the highest calibre." - **Classical Guitar** (United Kingdom)

CFS Gatherings are made possible, in part, with funding from the Arts & Science Council and the North Carolina Arts Council, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, and the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.



(Hensold Concert, continued from page 1.)

coeur. It is a most engaging sound that "pops" out tunes in a detached (staccato) fashion. You may have heard it used by the prolific Kathryn Tickell, John Renbourn groups (**Pentangle**, etc.), and the **House Band**. On his excellent CD, **Big Music For Northumbrian Smallpipes**, Dick features tunes from Scotland, Ireland, Northumbria, and his own compositions. Northumbria borders Scotland in Northeast England. The Northumbrian repertoire often features tunes with amazingly intricate variations. The concert will feature Hensold on Northumbrian smallpipes, reel pipes (an indoor version of the Scottish Highland pipes intended for Scottish dance music), seljefløyte (Norwegian willow-flute), säckpipa (Swedish bagpipes), pibgorn (Welsh hornpipe), and several other instruments. He will play music in several traditional and historical styles, with particular emphasis on Cape Breton, early Scottish, and Northumbrian music, but also including Scandinavian, medieval, Irish, and original music. The program also includes a couple of songs, neither of them in English, and a limited amount of dancing while seated.

Join us for an intimate musical evening with one of America's finest and most unusual traditional bagpipers. You're sure to be charmed by the sounds, the stories, and the diversity. In the words of fellow piper Matt Seattle, he is a "piper with vision," who imaginatively and effortlessly communicates his love of the music and the tradition with a clear and open heart. Sample the sounds at www.folksociety.org. Visit Dick Hensold's website at <http://dickhensold.com>.

Willow Grove Old-Time Jam Session April 2nd

Bill Williams invites all to join in and come on out on the first Saturday of every month from 2-4 PM in the Activities Room at the Willow Grove Retirement Center, located at 10043 Idlewild Road, Matthews, NC 28105. **The next jam will take place on Saturday, April 2nd.** For information, call Bill Williams at 704-573-6154 or 704-517-2822 (cell).



Ruth Shumway & Bill Williams

Charlotte Appalachian Dulcimer Club April 8th

The Charlotte Appalachian Dulcimer Club meets after every CFS Gathering with a beginner-friendly jam. Loaner instruments are available if you want to try your hand. The Club also has a weekly Friday morning Dulcimer Jam in the Arboretum area if you're interested. So, start the year off right. Bring your dulcimer to the April Gathering and stop by the Dulcimer Jam room. We'll get you tuned up and playing your dulcimer in no time. For more information, contact Mark Willingham at 980-254-8059.

CFS Old-Time Acoustic Jam April 10th

Monthly Charlotte Folk Society Old-Time Acoustic Jams take place on second Sundays, 2 PM to 4 PM, in the Asbury Care Center Living Room at Aldersgate, 3800 Shamrock Drive (between Eastway Drive and Sharon Amity Road) in east Charlotte. **The next Jam will be on Sunday, April 10th.** Jams are free and open to all musicians and listeners. If you have questions, please contact Jam Coordinator Tom Kelleher at 704-366-9441.

Directions: Traveling from Eastway Drive, make a right turn from Shamrock Drive into Aldersgate at the traffic light at Tipperary Place. Stop at the Guard Gate and say that you're going to the Asbury Care Center to the Folk Society jam session. The guard will direct you to the correct building and the receptionist in the Asbury Care Center will direct you to the Living Room.

Tales Thru Time Free April 2nd Storytelling Event

Tales Through Time, a free storytelling event, is presented from noon to 3 PM on Saturday, April 2nd, by the Gaston County Museum, 131 West Main Street, in Dallas, North Carolina. Admission to the museum is free. For directions and to learn more about the Gaston County Museum, visit www.gastoncountymuseum.org/index.asp

Tales Through Time showcases three master storytellers from diverse backgrounds. **Orville Hicks** comes from a long line of Watauga County storytellers, and keeps the tradition of Jack Tales alive. These Appalachian stories with English and German roots feature Jack, the underdog, who always outwits his brothers.

Chetter Galloway began telling stories of African lore at Colonial Williamsburg. He honed his craft at East Tennessee State University's Master storytelling program. He has released several recordings of African stories.

Chief Donald Rogers tells traditional Catawba Indian stories and tales. He is Chief of the Catawba Nation who have been in South Carolina for several thousand

Lake Norman Jam Session April 21st

CFS member Ralph Gettings coordinates an acoustic jam group in the Lake Norman area. **The group is currently meeting in a member's home at 7 PM on the third Thursday each month. The next date is April 21st.**

The group operates on the principle that everyone - from beginning to advanced musicians - benefits from the experience of playing with others. The only requirements for membership are patience, tolerance, and laughter. The group plays in traditions presented by the Folk Society and is open to all types of instruments. All are welcome.

Contact Ralph Gettings at 704-892-7415 or ralphcrn9@aol.com for information.

Sensoria: A Celebration of the Arts

April 8-16 at CPCC

CPCC presents **Sensoria: A Celebration of the Arts** to the community this year April 8-16. Visitors can enjoy a broad spectrum of events from diverse fields – culinary arts, history and culture, music, literature, visual arts, and film – all on the College’s beautiful Central Campus. **See the complete Sensoria schedule at <http://sensoria.cpcc.edu>**. Please note that many events are free, but some are ticketed. Following are a few highlights from the week’s musical events.

A rough cut screening of the film **Redneck Roots** takes place on Saturday, April 9th, in Tate Hall (Overcash Performing Arts Center) at 3 PM. General admission is \$7. The movie was filmed in Stanley, North Carolina, and centers around a beautiful young woman who grew up in a small southern town, but moves away to the city to pursue her dreams. When she returns home, she learns about the charm of her community and the people through her boyfriend’s eyes. If you attended the March **Jonesalee/Channeling Granny** concert, you’ll recognize Gina Stewart in the role of Estaleen Dowdy, “a good Christian woman with a devil of a tongue.” As well, the song **I’m Gonna Lean**, written and performed by Earleen Hicks and Heidi Dove (**Channeling Granny**), along with Ken Fuquay and Dohn Bower, is featured early in **Redneck Roots** when the quartet sings in church. To listen to the song, visit www.facebook.com/video/video.php?v=1420088619927.

On Wednesday, April 13th, the **Early Music Consort** presents a free concert in Tate Hall (Overcash

Performing Arts Center), 12:30-1:30 PM. If you enjoyed **The Charlotte Waites’** performance at last year’s December potluck, you’ll want to attend this concert. You’ll see several familiar faces – CFS members Sara Spencer, John Trexler, and Christine Van Arsdale. You’ll see instruments that are likely not familiar – shawms, dulcians, ser-pents, sackbuts, violas da gamba, as well as harps and recorders. The **Consort** performs music from the earliest era of Western music through the Renaissance.

The festival culminates with a signature event – **Sensoria Saturday** – on April 16th. **Sensoria** partners with Charlotte Clean and Green and the City of Charlotte’s Neighborhood Symposium for this special all-day event that promises something for everyone, including live concerts, theater, artisans, hands-on art activities for the kids, food, and more on the Central CPCC Campus.

John Tosco will host the **free Sensoria Saturday Stage** on the lawn of the Overcash Performing Arts Center, off Kings Drive, between Fourth Street and Elizabeth Avenue. Performances will begin at 10 AM and end at 4 PM. The Charlotte Folk Society kicks off Saturday’s entertainment with an outstanding band – the **Flat Possum Hoppers**. See a flat possum on the road? Hop over it; don’t squish on through. That’s the advice of Tom Estes, (banjo), Mark Helms (mandolin), John Cone (guitar), Tom Hanchett (fiddle), and Ruth Kee Wherry (bass). You’ll smile to hear their pre-bluegrass stringband sound, harking back to the 1940s when Miss Ruth was a child-

singing star on Charlotte radio.

CFS members Maddie Shuler and **The Cloers** perform at 11:25 AM and 12:25 PM, respectively. Fifteen-year-old guitarist/singer/songwriter Maddie Shuler has impressed us since the first time she set foot on a CFS stage several years ago and she just continues to grow and mature musically. Husband-and-wife singing/songwriting duo John and Cate Cloer blew us away during the 2009 CFS Members Showcase with both their lyrics and delivery. But don’t take our word! **The Cloers** were proclaimed Best Singer/Songwriters of 2010 at the Charlotte Music Awards.

Sensoria Saturday Stage Schedule

10:00 AM Charlotte Folk Society:
Flat Possum Hoppers
 11:05 AM Derek Fulton
 11:25 AM Maddie Shuler
 11:50 AM **Sweetbriar Jam**
 12:25 PM **The Cloers**
 1:00 PM Christie Lenee
 1:30 PM **Barnaby Bright**
 2:05 PM **HuDost**
 2:40 PM Janet Robin
 3:20 PM **Jessy Carolina & The Hot Mess**

The **Sensoria ArtsFest** goes out on a high note with the **Tosco Music Party** on Saturday, April 16th, 7-11 PM, in the Dale F. Halton Theater, CPCC Overcash Academic and Performing Arts Center, 1206 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte. General admission tickets are on sale now. Shows regularly sell out – so, buy your tickets early. Costs are \$15 (adults), \$12 (adults 65 years and older), and \$8 (fifteen years and younger). Buy tickets by phone; call 704-330-6534. Purchase online at www.carolinatix.org or in person at the Overcash box office. Tickets are for general admission; doors open at 6:30 PM. Free parking is
(Continued on page 6.)

(*Sensoria*, continued from page 6.)

Theatre Deck on Fourth Street, between Kings Drive and Charlotte-town Avenue (formerly Independence Boulevard).

The *Wall Street Journal* captured the Tosco Music Party well:

“What started 20 years ago as a jam session in John Tosco’s living room in Charlotte, N.C., has bloomed into one of the region’s most unique musical events – and a coveted gig for emerging artists. About 20 unsigned acts take the stage, performing two songs each in a revue of varied styles, from folk to classical, bluegrass to funk . . .”

The upcoming TMP lineup includes: **Barnaby Bright** (acoustic/folk/Indie duo), **Jessy Carolina & The Hot Mess** (jazz/American pop/roots), **Reeve Coobs** (Charlotte/singer/songwriter/guitarist), **Karla Davis** (acoustic country), **Derek Fulton** (teen guitarist), **Ari Hest** (singer/songwriter), **HuDost** (experimental/Indie/world/rock group), **Vadim Kolpakov** (Russian Gypsy 7-string guitarist), **Christie Lenee** (singer/songwriter/guitarist), **R. B. Morris** (Knoxville poet/singer/songwriter/musician), **Janet Robin** (pop/rock singer/songwriter/guitarist), **No Storm Is Too Strong** (jazz and urban instrumental), **Sweetbriar Jam** (teen bluegrass band), **The Broadcast** (powerpop/rock), **Tik Tok** (swing), **Chris Trapper** (roots/pop/singer/songwriter), sing-alongs and more.

Visit www.toscomusicparty.com for links to performers’ websites and for updates on scheduled performers.



Don Vappie & The Creole Serenaders April 17th

Don Vappie and the Creole Jazz Serenaders perform in concert at the Diana Wortham Theatre in Asheville at 7 PM on Sunday, April 17th. Tickets are \$35. Anyone fortunate enough to see Don Vappie’s virtuosic banjo improvisation during our Black Banjo Reunion Concert will appreciate the opportunity to see him perform again in North Carolina.

Don Vappie’s **Creole Jazz Serenaders**, a sextet, incorporate the musical legacy of the New Orleans Creole culture, a society that sprang from the mixture of French, Spanish, African, and American Indian people with strong ties to the Caribbean Islands. *Offbeat Magazine* chose the **Creole Jazz Serendaers’** debut CD, **Creole Blues**, as one of Louisiana’s 100 Essential CDs of the 20th century. Recent appearances include Carnegie Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Sheldon Concert Hall (Missouri), Whitaker Center (Pennsylvania), the Playboy Jazz Festival, and the Bix Beiderbecke Festival (Iowa).

His family’s musical heritage was recently explored in **American Creole: New Orleans Reunion**, a PBS documentary. As a result, he was honored with a Louisiana Creole Society Award for his promotion of the Creole culture of New Orleans in music and film. With his wife, Milly, Don co-founded “Bring it on Home,” an organized effort to help New Orleans musicians displaced by Hurricane Katrina find work and return to their hometown.

Michael Reno Harrell Charlotte Concert April 16th

Michael Reno Harrell will share his original country and Americana songs and Appalachian stories in a concert on Saturday, April 16th, at 7 PM in the Lexington Commons Clubhouse, 8916 Hunter Ridge Drive, in Charlotte. The suggested artist donation is \$10. Seating is limited; reservations are required. Contact Dan Rushing at 704-614-2130 or danrushing@carolina.rr.com. Guests are invited to bring a dish and beverage to share for a potluck at 5:30 PM.

Michael’s recordings top the Americana Music Association charts year after year. His original songs and stories have been described as “Appalachian grit and wit” but, as his writing shows, Michael’s awareness is much broader than the bounds of his boyhood home or even the Southern Experience. Having toured throughout the British Isles and much of Europe, as well as most of the United States, the songs he writes and the stories he creates reflect an insight into people’s experiences that catch the ear like an old friend’s voice.

Michael’s natural knack for storytelling, in print, song and spoken word has earned him praise from not only the music community but from the literary and storytelling worlds as well, having had the honor of being a Featured Teller at the National Storytelling Festival, as well as performing at major music events like MerleFest and the Walnut Valley Festival. Visit Michael’s website at www.michaelrenoharrell.com.

A Sweet Evening With Jazz Vocalist Cindy Thomson May 14th

Enjoy a concert by jazz singer Cindy Thomson in Nancy Howe's rustic log cabin at 7:30 PM on Saturday, May 14th. The home is at 2107 Mandarin Boulevard, near the intersection of Monroe Road and Sharon Amity Road. Accompanying Cindy will be Jim Riley on guitar and Ron Brendle on bass.

Admission is \$15 for adults; children under 12 are free. Seating is limited. Advance reservations and payment are required. Make yours by contacting Cindy at cindythomson@att.net or 704-442-2915. Make checks to "Cynthia Thomson" and mail to Cynthia Thomson, 307 Meadowbrook Road, Charlotte, NC 28211.

Cindy released her first album last fall - ***The Sweet Things in Life*** - the title taken from the lyrics of ***Life Is Just a Bowl of Cherries***. It's full of jazz standards guaranteed to make you feel good - songs like ***Blue Skies, On the Sunny Side of the Street, Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams, Pick Yourself Up***, and more.

You may have read about Cindy - a Folk Society member - in the ***Charlotte Observer*** last December. Tommy Tomlinson described how she chased her dream after losing her job as an accountant: "She was always singing. One of her first memories is singing for a little crowd in an old drugstore in Southport. She sang ***Pennies from Heaven*** in a fifth-grade show at Eastover Elementary. Her dad, Ed "Shorty" Thomson, had been a drummer with the ***Duke Ambassadors***. Her mom, now Judy Nisbet, sang with the ***Oratorio Sing-***

ers. There was always music in the house. Cindy has a three-octave range - when she sings in the choir at the Unitarian church on Sharon Amity Road, she's a soprano - but she grew up loving the "cool jazz" singers of the '50s and '60s, like June Christy and Chris Connor,



Cindy Thomson (Photo by John D. Simmons, courtesy of the Charlotte Observer)

women who sang smoky and slow. . . Cindy doesn't have an 'American Idol' voice. She doesn't leap for the high notes or skitter up and down the scale. She's calm and controlled, like the jazz she was drawn to growing up."

These days, most all of us could use a sweet evening to help us feel better. Treat yourself. Join us in Nancy's log cabin on May 14th to hear Cindy sing:

*The sweet things in life
To you were just loaned
How can you lose
What you never owned. . .*

To read Tommy Tomlinson's column ***The Accountant's Song***, visit www.charlotteobserver.com and search "Tommy Tomlinson The Accountant's Song." Purchase ***The Sweet Things in Life*** at <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/cynthiagrahamthomson#>

Free Showings Roots Music Films April 10th & May 8th

On Sunday, April 10th, the PineCone Council of Traditional Music will offer a free showing of a documentary film, ***Step It Up and Go***, 3-4 PM, in Daniels Auditorium of the North Carolina Museum of History, 5 Edenton Street, in Raleigh. Nurtured in fields and factories and honed at house parties, Carolina blues music transcended hard times and today represents a proud tradition of African American creativity and artistic eloquence. Enjoy performances by and interviews with musicians Joe and Odell Thompson, Etta Baker, James "Guitar Slim" Stephens, and others in this film, which was produced by Dr. Glenn Hinson, Associate Professor of Anthropology, at UNC-Chapel Hill. The documentary first aired on UNC-TV in 1997.

On Sunday, May 8th, PineCone will host a free showing of ***Sprout Wings and Fly*** in Daniels Auditorium, 3-4 PM. This touching tribute to Appalachian culture by Les Blank profiles legendary, old-time fiddler Tommy Jarrell. His unpretentious folk wisdom is interlaced with family scenes and reminiscences, plus plenty of old-time music. Musician Alice Gerrard and Appalachian State English Professor Cece Conway will introduce the film.

These films are presented as part of the PineCone Music of the Carolinas Series. For more information, call 919-807-7900 or visit www.pinecone.org.

Native American Studies Week April 11th-14th

Beginning Monday, April 11th, the University of South Carolina at Lancaster Native American Studies Program will host its sixth annual Native American Studies Week. Since 2005, USCL has hosted a week of events each spring focused on the rich history and cultural traditions of South Carolina's indigenous peoples. This year's program includes screenings of films; lectures on Native American history, archaeology, and powwow culture; a day of storytelling; and an exhibit of Native American art from the Carolinas.

The week kicks off on Monday, April 11th, with a focus on Native American powwows. These Native American gatherings, which have grown in popularity in recent years, feature drumming and dancing contests, traditional regalia, and a host of other activities celebrating Native American culture. A number of these traditions will be discussed and demonstrated in USCL's Carole Ray Dowling Community Center. Elon University professor and author of *A Dancing People: Powwow Culture on the Southern Plains*, Clyde Ellis will discuss the origin and history of powwows. He will be joined by performers fresh from the weekend's Catawba Powwow in Rock Hill. Monday evening will include a screening of the award-winning film *Tap Out*, which explores environmental, economic, philosophical and spiritual issues surrounding the Catawba River from a Native and non-Native perspective, and an exhibit opening featuring Cherokee and Catawba Indian artwork.

Archaeology, history, and art will

be the topics of discussions and presentations Tuesday, April 12th, as archaeologists Johann Sawyer of USC and Dennis Blanton of the Fernbank Museum of Natural History and Paul Grady, Professor of History at USC Upstate, examine pre-colonial and colonial history in the Carolinas and Georgia, and South Carolina State Museum Art Curator Paul Matheny, ETV filmmaker Lynn Cornfoot, and Catawba potter Margaret Robbins discuss traditional, folk, and outsider art in South Carolina. Cornfoot's film, *Uncommon Folk*, which spotlights six diverse South Carolina artists, all traditional or self-taught, will be screened at 5:30 PM.

The history of Catawba women will be highlighted the morning of Wednesday, April 13th, with a lecture by Catawba Indian and historian Brooke Bauer. Later that day, leaders from South Carolina's various tribal groups will be on campus to discuss issues important to their respective communities, and at 2:30 PM, the campus will host a public meeting of the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs Native American Advisory Committee.

Events conclude on Thursday with a day focused on storytelling traditions appropriate for all ages. Storytellers from several Native American communities will share traditional myths, legends, and tales, as well as personal and family stories from 10:30 AM to 3:00 PM in USCL's Carole Ray Dowling Community Room.

USCL's Native American Studies Week events are free and open to the public. USCL's Native American Studies Program is supported, in part, by grants from Duke En-

ergy; the Humanities Council, SC; and the South Carolina Arts Commission.

For more information, contact Dr. Stephen Criswell, Director of Native American Studies, at 803-313-7108 or by email at criswese@gwm.sc.edu. For links to a complete and detailed schedule of events, visit <http://usclancaster.sc.edu/nas/index.html>.



Fiddles & Folklife Festival Warren Wilson April 23rd

Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, North Carolina, will host **Fiddles and Folklife**, an Appalachian festival and old-time fiddle, banjo, and stringband competition on Saturday, April 23, from noon to 5 PM. The festival will feature an old-time music contest with cash prizes for old-time fiddle, banjo, and stringband. New this year is a youth category in all contests for musicians sixteen years and younger. Registration fee for fiddle and banjo contests is \$5; fee for stringband is \$10. Other activities will include old-time music jams, food and craft vendors, folk-life demonstrators, and an old-time square dance and cakewalk (4-5 PM), with music provided by the first-place band.

Fiddles and Folklife is free and open to the public. For contest rules, registration and other information, visit www.warren-wilson.edu/~fiddlesandfolklife or contact Phil Jamison at 828-771-3722.

Calendar

All calendar listings are subject to change and should be verified.

VENUE INFORMATION

The ArtsCenter, 300-G E. Main St., Carrboro, NC. 919-929-2787; www.artscenterlive.org

Belk Theater, Blumenthal Performing Arts Ctr., 130 N. Tryon St., Charlotte. 704-372-1000; www.blumenthalcenter.org

The Comet Grill, 2224 Park Rd., Charlotte. 704-371-4300

Cook Shack Concert Series, The Cook Shack, Union Grove, NC. Exit 65 off I-77 North; turn west; travel 2 miles; sits on left of road. Reservations required; email cookshack-shows@roadrunner.com or call 704-539-4353. <http://uniongrovemusic.voila.net/index.html>

Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place, 2 Pack Place Square, Asheville, NC. 828-257-4530; www.dwtheatre.com

Don Gibson Theatre, Theatre, 318 S. Washington St., Shelby, NC. 704-487-8114; www.DGshelby.com

The Double Door Inn, 218 E. Independence Blvd. Charlotte, NC. 704-376-1446; www.doubledoorinn.com

The Evening Muse, 3227 N. Davidson St., Charlotte. 704-376-3737; www.theeveningmuse.com

Fairview Ruritan Club Concerts, Fairview Rd., SR821, Galax, VA. 276-238-0376; www.fairviewruritan.com

Fiddle & Bow Society Series, Community Arts Café, 411 W. 4th St., Winston-Salem, NC. 336-724-9393; www.fiddleandbow.org NEW SITE

Grey Eagle Tavern & Music Hall, 185 Clingman Ave., Asheville, NC. 828-232-5800; www.thegreyeagle.com

Knight Theater, 430 S. Tryon St., Charlotte, NC. 704-372-1000; www.blumenthalcenter.org

McGlohon Theatre, Spirit Square, 345 N. College St., Charlotte, NC. 704-372-1000; www.blumenthalcenter.org

The Neighborhood Theatre, 511 E. 36th St., Charlotte, NC. 704-358-9298; www.neighborhoodtheatre.com

Old Rock School, 400 Main St. West, Valdese, NC. Call 828-879-2129; visit www.bluegrassattherock.com

Orange Peel, 101 Biltmore Ave., Asheville, NC. 828-225-5851; www.theorangepeel.net

Ovens Auditorium, 2700 E. Independence Blvd., Charlotte. 704-335-3100; www.ovensauditorium.com/default.asp?ovens=11

Puckett's Farm Equipment, 2740 W. Sugar Creek Rd., Derita, NC. 704-597-8230; www.puckettfarm.com

Purple Onion, Hwy. 176, Saluda, NC. 828-749-1179; www.purpleonionsaluda.com

Ri-Ra Irish Pub, 200 N. Tryon St., Charlotte. 704-333-5554; www.rira.com

Rodi, 245 W. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia, NC. 704-864-7634; www.rodiorworld.com

Summit Coffee, 128 S. Main St., Davidson, NC. 704-895-9090; www.summitcoffee.com

The Sylvia Theater, 27 N. Congress St., York, SC. 803-684-5590; www.sylviatheater.com

The Visulite Theatre, 1615 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte. 704-358-9200; www.visulite.com

CALENDAR LISTINGS

THRU MAY 10, Andrew Linton Pottery Exhibit, Red Sky Gallery, 1523 Elizabeth Ave., Ste. 102, Charlotte. 704-377-6500; www.redskygallery.com/html/home.asp

APR 1-2, 2nd Annual Darin & Brooke Aldridge Music Festival w/ Darin and Brooke Aldridge, The Grascals, Balsam Range, Harris Brothers, and Catawba Valley Music Revival Youth Band, Unspoken Tradition, Coot Williams Rd. Festival Grounds, Cherryville, NC. <http://darinandbrookealdridge.com>

****APR 2, CFS House Concert featuring North America's premier smallpiper Dick Hensold**, home of Mark & Bethli Clemens, Cornelius, NC. Concert 7 PM; Adults \$15, Under 18 \$10. Potluck 5:30 PM; bring a dish to share & your favorite beverage. Reservations & pre-payment required. Make reservations online at www.folksociety.org or contact Bethli Clemens at emiescher@bellsouth.net or 704-892-4914.

APR 2, Tales Through Time w/storytellers Orville Hicks, Chetter Galloway & Chief Donald Rogers, Gaston County Museum, 131 West Main Street, in Dallas, North Carolina, Noon - 3 PM, Free. Visit www.gastoncountymuseum.org/index.asp

APR 2, Gospel Singing w/Deeper Shade of Blue, The Wishons, The Accidental Trio, and The Parables of Christ, A. L. Brown High School, 415 E. 1st St., Kannapolis, NC, 7 PM, Donations at the door; doors open 6 PM. Concert to benefit Cabarrus County Law Enforcement Officers' Association.

APR 2, Hagood Mill House Concert featuring J. C. Owens Band (SC Folk Heritage Award recipient & fiddler) and singer & guitarist Gregg "Buffalo" Barfield, Hagood Mill Visitor Bldg., Historic Hagood Mill Site & Folklife Center, 138 Hagood Mill Rd., Pickens, SC, 12-1:30 PM; Free; limited seating. 864-898-2936; www.co.pickens.sc.us/CulturalCommission/HagoodMill/default.aspx

APR 2, The Snyder Family, Locust Presbyterian Church, 607 W. Main St., Locust, NC (about 12 miles east of I-485 from the Al-bemarle exit, on NC 24/27. 7 PM, Free. www.snyderfamilyband.com

APR 2, New Found Road Bluegrass Concert,

Tri-County Technical College Amphitheatre, 7900 Hwy. 76, Pendleton, SC, 6-9:30 PM, Free. Limited seating. 864-646-1507; www.tctc.edu

APR 2, Blue Highway, Fairview Ruritan Club, 7:30 PM, \$20.

APR 2, Delbert McClinton, The Neighborhood Theatre, 8 PM, GA \$35, VIP \$50; dance floor open.

APR 2, Willow Grove Old-Time Jam Session, Willow Grove Retirement Ctr., 10043 Idlewild Rd., Matthews, NC. 2-4 PM. Call Bill Williams at 704-417-2822 (cell).

APR 3, Charlotte Blues Society's 18th Anniversary Party w/Roy Roberts and The King Bees, Double Door Inn, Music 8 PM; Doors open 7 PM; Non-members \$8. <http://charlottebluessociety.org/home.htm>

APR 3, "Ring the Banjo: From Africa to Appalachia" w/Randy Wilson, Alvarez Student Union, Room 900, Davidson College, Davidson, NC, 4:30 PM, Free. Wilson has performed extensively at music and storytelling festivals, including the Great American Dulcimer Festival, the KY Folklife Festival, and the Smithsonian Appalachian Festival and is Folk Arts Director at the Hindman Settlement School in the mountains of eastern Kentucky.

APR 3, Traditional Irish Music Session w/ Jason Dulin, Monty Monaghan, Jon Singleton & John Trexler, RiRa Irish Pub, 7-9 PM.

APR 3, 20th Annual Lowcountry Cajun Festival w/J. J. Caillier & the Zydeco Knockouts (1 PM & 3:30 PM) and Lil Pookie & the Zydeco Sensations (2:15 PM & 4:45 PM), James Island County Park, 871 Riverland Dr., Charleston, SC, Noon- 6 PM, \$10 adults; 12 & under Free. Jambalaya, alligator etouffe, andouille sausage, crawfish, Lowcountry seafood, BBQ. Crawfish eating contest (2:30 PM), craft market, rides, inflatables & kids' games. Pets and coolers not allowed. 843-795-4386; www.ccprc.com/cajun

APR 4, Open Bluegrass Jam, hosted by Anthony Scruggs, Belmont Soda Shop, 31 N. Main St., Belmont, NC, 7-9 PM, free; beginners to advanced and listeners welcomed. Contact Anthony Scruggs at scruggsopryhouse@yahoo.com.

APR 4, Find Your Muse Open Mic, The Evening Muse, 7 PM, \$3.

APR 5, The Felice Brothers, The Visulite, 9 PM, \$13-16.

APR 5, Red Rocking Chair (Michael Reno Harrell, Jack Lawrence, Tom Kuhn & Dale Meyer) (Tuesdays), Comet Grill, 8:30-11:30 PM.

APR 6, Tosco House Party, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$2.

APR 7, Levi Lowrey, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$10-12.

APR 7, Jay Ungar and Molly Mason, New-

Calendar, continued

berry Opera House, 1201 McKibben St., Newberry, SC, 8 PM, \$20. 803-276-6263; www.newberryoperahouse.com

APR 7, Stacey Earle & Mark Stuart, Cook Shack Concert Series, 7:30 PM, \$16; advance reservations required; write CookShack-Shows@roadrunner.com

****APR 8, Charlotte Folk Society Gathering Concert & Jams presents Celtic String Wizard Robin Bullock**, Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte, 7:30 PM. Free; donations appreciated. Refreshments, song circle, slow & fast jams follow concert. Doors open 7 PM. Free parking. 704-563-7080; www.folksociety.org

APR 8, Charlotte Appalachian Dulcimer Club, Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte, following the CFS concert, approx. 8:30 PM, free. Call Mark Wilingham for information: 980-254-8059.

APR 8, Scott Ainslie, presented by Iredell Arts Council, The Old Jail, 203 S. Meeting St., Statesville, NC, 8 PM, \$15. Tickets: 704-873-6100.

APR 8, Junior Brown, The Neighborhood Theatre, 8 PM, GA \$20, Gold Circle \$30; fully seated show.

APR 8, Fiddle & Bow Society presents John McCutcheon, Community Arts Café (new location), 411 W. 4th St., Winston-Salem, NC. 8 PM, \$20.

APR 8-9, 8th Annual Cash Bash w/ Truckstop Preachers, The Tremors, The Defilers, Skye Paige, J.T. & the Dragpipes, The Straight 8s, The Bo-Stevens, John Howie, Jr. & the Sweethearts, Kelley & The Cowboys, and Hearts and Daggers, Puckett's Farm Equipment.

APR 8-16, Sensoria: A Celebration of the Arts, Central Campus Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte, NC. Free and ticketed events. Culinary arts, history & culture, music, literature, visual arts, and film. Schedule of all events at <http://sensoria.cpcc.edu>

APR 9, Blues & Slide Guitar Workshop w/ Scott Ainslie, Iredell Arts Council, The Old Jail, 203 S. Meeting St., Statesville, NC, 10 AM-Noon, \$25. Space limited; registration required. Call 704-873-6100.

APR 9, Sensoria: Rough Cut Showing of Film Redneck Roots, Tate Hall, CPCC Overcash Performing Arts Ctr., 3 PM, \$7 general admission. Tickets: 704-330-6534; <http://tix.cpcc.edu>

APR 9, Carrie Newcomer, The Davis Theatre, 65 Union St., Concord, NC. 8 PM, \$32. To buy tickets, call Cabarrus Co. Arts & Science Council box office at 704-920-2753. <http://cabarrusartscouncil.org/davis>

theatre

APR 9, Rob Ickes and Jim Hurst, Americana Stage Series, Jailhouse Gallery, Burke Arts Council, 115 E. Meeting St., Morganton, NC, 8 PM, \$20. To reserve seats, contact Clint Bernard at 828-368-0381 (H), 828-443-2544 (cell) or americanastage@charter.net. www.burkearts.org/whats-happening/americana-stage

APR 9, Carolina Gator Gumbo, Rodi, 8-10 PM.

APR 9, Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder, Newberry Opera House, 1201 McKibben St., Newberry, SC. 3-5 PM & 8-10 PM, \$45. 803-276-6263; www.newberryoperahouse.com

APR 9, Cherryholmes, Fountain Inn Civic Center, 315 N. Main St., Fountain Inn, SC, 7:30 PM, \$20-30. 864-409-1050; www.ficiviccenter.org

APR 9-MAY 29, New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music (Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibit), Gaffney Visitors Center & Art Gallery, 210 W. Frederick St., Gaffney, SC. 864-487-6244; www.gaffneynewharmonies.com

****APR 10, CFS Old-Time Acoustic Jam**, Asbury Care Center Living Room, Aldersgate, 3800 Shamrock Dr., Charlotte, 2-4 PM, Free. Call Tom Kelleher at 704-366-9441.

APR 10, Pam Tillis, Don Gibson Theatre, 7 PM, \$32.50.

APR 10, Step It Up and Go (film featuring Carolina blues artists Joe & Odell Thompson, Etta Baker, James "Guitar Slim" Stephens & others; first aired on UNC-TV in 1997) Pine-Cone Music of the Carolinas Series, 5 E. Edenton St., NC Museum of History, Raleigh, NC. 3-4 PM; Free. 919-807-7900, www.pinecone.org

APR 10, KingPup Radio Show Log Cabin Series w/Michael Reno Harrell, Jack Lawrence, and Black Bottom Biscuits, Log Cabin at Harmon Field, Harmon Field Rd., (on banks of Pacolet River), Tryon, NC. 4-8 PM, Free; donations appreciated. Picnic shelters, shaded areas, and kids playground. KingPup Radio Show concert recording, plus open mic and all-level jam session. www.radiour.com/KPconcerts.html

APR 10, Traditional Irish Music Session w/ Jason Dulin, Monty Monaghan, Jon Singleton & John Trexler, RiRa Irish Pub, 7-9 PM.

APR 11, Derek Trucks & Susan Tedeschi Band, McGlohon Theatre, 7:30 PM, \$24.50-69.50.

APR 11-14, 6th Annual Native American Studies Week, Univ. of South Carolina at Lancaster, Lancaster, SC. Powwows, archaeology, history, art, Catawba women's history, storytelling. Detailed schedule at <http://usclancaster.sc.edu/nas/index.html>. Contact

Dr. Stephen Criswell at 803-313-7108.

APR 12, William Fitzsimmons, The Evening Muse, 9:30 PM, \$15.

APR 13, Taj Mahal Trio, The Neighborhood Theatre, 8 PM, GA \$35, Gold Circle \$55; fully seated show.

APR 13, Sensoria: The Early Music Consort, Tate Hall, Overcash Performing Arts Ctr., Central CPCC Campus, Charlotte, 12:30-1:20 PM, Free.

APR 14, Slaid Cleaves, The Grey Eagle, 8:30 PM, \$2-15; fully seated show.

APR 15, Storyteller Antonio Rocha, Wachovia Playhouse, ImaginOn, 300 E. 7th St., Charlotte, NC, 7-8:30 PM, Free. 704-416-4600; www.imaginon.org

APR 15, The Assads (Brazilian classical guitarists explore rhythmic similarities of Middle Eastern & Brazilian music), Dale F. Halton Theater, CPCC Overcash Academic & Performing Arts Center, 1206 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte, 8 PM, \$40-55. Tickets: 704-330-6534; <http://tix.cpcc.edu>

APR 15, The Vespers, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$10-12.

APR 15, Martha Bassett Band, Hanesbrands Theatre, Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts, 209 N. Spruce St., Winston-Salem, NC, 8 PM, \$15. Tickets: 336-747-1414; www.rhodesartscenter.org/category/now-showing

APR 15-17, High Lonesome Strings Camp 'N' Pick, Hagan-Stone Park Campground, 5920 Hagan-Stone Park Rd., Pleasant Garden, NC. www.highlonesomestrings.org

APR 15-17, 18th Annual Rural Hill Scottish Festival & Loch Norman Highland Games, Rural Hill, 4431 Neck Rd., Huntersville, NC. Details & festival ticket information at www.ruralhillscottishfestivals.net; 704-875-3113.

****APR 16, Sensoria Saturday Stage w/Flat Possum Hoppers, Derek Fulton, Maddie Shuler, Sweetbriar Jam, The Cloers, Christie Lenee, Barnaby Bright, HuDost, Janet Robin and Jessy Carolina & The Hot Mess**, Overcash Performing Arts Center, Central CPCC Campus, Kings Dr., between Elizabeth Ave. & 4th St., 10 AM-4 PM, Free.

APR 16, Ari Hest, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$12-14.

APR 16, Riley Etheridge, Jr., The Evening Muse, 10:30 PM, \$10-12.

APR 16, Nashville singer/songwriter Patrick Davis, The Sylvia Theater, 9 PM, \$12-15.

APR 16, Wanda Jackson, The Visulite, 7:30 PM, \$15-18.

APR 16, Michael Reno Harrell Concert, The Clubhouse at Lexington Commons, 8916 Hunter Ridge Dr., Charlotte, NC 28226, 7 PM Concert, \$10 suggested donation. 5:30 PM Potluck; bring a dish & a beverage. Advance reservations re-

Calendar, continued

quired; limited space. Dan Rushing at 704-614-2139 or danrushing@carolina.rr.com

APR 16, Tosco Music Party w/Barnaby Bright, Jessy Carolina & The Hot Mess, Reeve Coobs, Karla Davis, Derek Fulton, Ari Hest, HuDost, Vadim Kolpakov, Christie Lenee, R. B. Morris, Janet Robin, No Storm Is Too Strong, Sweetbriar Jam, The Broadcast, Tik Tok, Christ Trapper,

Dale F. Halton Theater, CPCC Overcash Academic & Performing Arts Center, 1206 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte, 7-11 PM, \$15 Adults, \$12 (seniors 65+ yrs.), \$8 (15 yrs. & younger). Tickets: 704-330-6534 or www.carolinatix.org

APR 17, Don Vappie & the Creole Jazz Serenaders, Diana Wortham Theatre, 7 PM, \$35.

APR 17, Hayes Carll, Stage Door Theater at Blumenthal PAC, 130 N. Tryon St., Charlotte, 7 PM, \$13; limited seating. Tickets: 704-372-1000; www.blumenthalcenter.org

APR 17, Dan Navarro, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$15-17.

APR 17, Traditional Irish Music Session w/ Jason Dulin, Monty Monaghan, Jon Singleton & John Trexler, RiRa Irish Pub, 7-9 PM.

APR 21, Lake Norman Jam Session, Lake Norman area, 7 PM. Open to all. Contact Ralph Gettings at 704-892-7415 or ralphcrn9@aol.com for directions.

APR 21, Songwriters in the Round w/Mark Mandeville & Rianne Richards (MA), Richard Eidman, and host, Rob McHale, Summit Coffee, 8 PM, Free.

APR 22, The Boxcars, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$14.

APR 22, Alejandro Escovedo & the Sensitive Boys w/Jesse Malin, The Handlebar, 8 PM, \$17.

APR 23, Amos Lee (Singer/songwriter folk, soul & jazz) & The Watson Twins, The Knight Theater, 8 PM, \$19.50 & up.

APR 23, Fiddles & Folklife Old-Time Fiddle, Banjo, and Stringband Contest, Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC. Competition, jamming, dance, demonstrations, square dance & cake walk. 828-771-3722; www.warren-wilson.edu/~fiddlesandfolklife

APR 24, Irish Music Session w/The Merrows, RiRa Irish Pub, 7-9 PM.

APR 24, Irish Session with ClannDarragh, Dandelion Market, 118 W. 5th St., Charlotte, 5-7 PM. 704-333-7989; www.dandelionmarketcharlotte.com

APR 26, Catawba River Bluegrass Assoc. Jam, 1st Presbyterian Church Activity Bldg., 512 Old Mount Holly Rd., Stanley, NC, 7 PM, Free. Contact Robert "Rye" Billings at 704-

249-5538.

APR 27, Dale Brittain & Friends, Leatherwoods Opry, 4837 Fallston Rd., Fallston, NC. 7 PM, \$10. www.liveatleatherwoods.com

APR 28-MAY 1, MerleFest, Wilkes Community College, Wilkesboro, NC. Concerts, workshops, children's events, dance. 800-343-7857; www.merlefest.org

APR 29-MAY 1, "Dare To Be Square" Square Dance Calling Weekend w/callers Michael Ismerio, Phil Jamison, Will Mentor & more, Homestead Farm, Riner, VA. For novice & experienced callers, dancers & musicians. www.daretobesquare.org

APR 30, Dances of India, Halton Theater, Overcash Performing Arts Center, CPCC, Kings Dr. between 4th St. & Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte, 4 PM, \$10 Adults; \$5 school-age children. http://tix.cpcc.edu/featured-performances/dances_of_India

APR 30, Mac Arnold & Plate Full O' Blues w/ USC-Spartanburg Music Dept., 5th Annual Cornbread & Collard Greens Festival, The Handlebar, 8 PM, \$11.

CONTRA DANCES

Charlotte Dance Gypsies, Chantilly Community Bldg., 2101 Shenandoah Ave., Charlotte. Potluck 6:30 PM, lessons 7:30 PM, dance 8-11 PM, \$8, students \$5. Gretchen at 704-537-1377 or Dean at 704-361-6387; www.charlottedancegypsies.org

APR 20: Wednesday Waltz; Band & Caller TBA (Free).

APR 30: Band & Caller TBA.

Charlotte Country Dancers, Chantilly Community Bldg., 2101 Shenandoah Ave., Charlotte. Every Monday evening. Lesson 7:30 PM. Dance 8-10 PM, \$7. Call Nancy Howe at 704-536-9594. www.charlottedancegypsies.org

APR 4: Global Warning w/Dean Snipes.

APR 11: Eat More Chicken w/Lesly Bowers.

APR 18: Sons of the Full Moon w/Gretchen Caldwell calling.

APR 25: Tonal Recall w/Dean Snipes.

Catawba Valley Contra Dance, Lincolnton Cultural Ctr., 403 E. Main St., Lincolnton, NC. 2nd Fridays, 7:30 PM. \$7. Lesson 7:30 PM. Dance 8-10:30 PM. www.lifeflowersfarm.com/catawba-valley-contra-dance.html

APR 8: Sons of the Full Moon w/Lesly Bowers calling.

The Grey Eagle, Haywood Rd. & Clingman Ave., Asheville, Mondays, 8 PM, \$5. Call 828-232-5800 for details; visit www.oldfarmersball.com.

APR 4: Rhythm Method w/Beverly Smith.

APR 11: Morning Coffeew/ AnneMarie Walter calling.

APR 18: Dancing Bears w/Fred Park.

APR 25: Steam Shovel w/Laurie Fisher.

Boone Country Dancers, Old Cove Creek School, Sugar Grove, NC. Lessons 7:30, dance 8 PM, \$7.

Bob Oelberg at 828-265-2627; www.boonecountrydancers.org.

APR 9: The Rainmakers w/Connie Carringer calling.

Carolina Song & Dance Assn., Carrboro Century Ctr., Greensboro St., between Weaver & Main, Carrboro, NC. Lessons 7:30 PM, Dance 8-11 PM, \$8. Call 919-967-9948 for directions. Visit http://csda-dance.org/index.htm

APR 2: Footloose/Contrazz Dance; \$9.

Great Bear Trio w/Shawn Brenneman.

APR 15: Buz Lloyd Dance; Band & Caller TBA.

Columbia Traditional Music and Dance, Arsenal Hill Park Bldg., Laurel & Lincoln Sts., Columbia, SC. Lessons 7 PM, Dance 7:30-10:30 PM, \$8. Call 803-796-8935 or visit www.contracola.org.

APR 16: Bonne Terre w/Marolyn Floyd.

Fiddle & Bow Country Dancers, The Grange, Guilford School Rd., off I-40 E, Greensboro. Lessons 7:30 PM, Dance 8-11 PM. Call Carol Thompson at 336-272-3245 or email George Segebade at gsegebade_80@msn.com. Visit website at http://feetretreat.com.

APR 16: Ted Ehrhard & Friends w/ AnneMarie Walters.

Fiddle & Bow Country Dancers, Vintage Theatre, Vintage St. & S. Main St., Winston-Salem, NC. Every Tuesday; Dance 8-10 PM, \$6; \$4 students. See contact info above.

APR 5: Rhythm Method w/Beverly Smith.

APR 12: Rich & Tolly w/Dean Snipes.

APR 19: Steam Shovel w/Joy Greenwolfe.

APR 26: Big Home Band w/ Connie Carringer calling.

Harvest Moon Folk Society, River Falls Lodge, near Marietta, SC, Set up 5 PM, Potluck 6:30 PM, lessons 7:30 PM, dance 8-11 PM, \$8, Children free. Call Terry Pizzuto at 864-639-6113 or email tpzzt@clemson.edu; www.harvestmoonfolk.org.

APR 2: Dry Ridge Runners w/Margaret Mathews calling.

APR 9: Appalachian Storm w/ AnneMarie Walters calling.

APR 23: Waxwing w/Hank Morris.

Harvest Moon Folk Society CityDance, Landmark Hall, 156 Landmark Dr., Taylors, SC. Lessons 7:30 PM, dance 8-11 PM, \$8, Children free. Call Terry Pizzuto at 864-639-6113 or email tpzzt@clemson.edu; www.harvestmoonfolk.org.

APR 22: Jamie Laval & Laurie Fisher w/ Harvest Moon Folk Society Collective calling.

Old Farmer's Ball, Bryson Gym, Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC, Thursdays, Lessons 7:30 PM, Dance 8 PM, \$6. Beginning & intermediate music jam

Calendar, continued

Thursdays, 7:30 PM. Information: 828-299-8823/828-298-7821 or visit www.oudfarmersball.com.

APR 7: Wildcat w/Terry Doyle.

APR 14: Blue Ridge Rounders w/Barbara Groh calling.

APR 21: Firefly w/Mark Langner calling.

APR 28: Open Band w/AnneMarie Walter emcee.

Triangle Country Dancers, Carrboro Century Ctr., Greensboro St., between Weaver & Main, Carrboro, NC. Lessons 7:30 PM, Dance 8-11 PM, \$8. Dance hotline: 919-286-6624; questions 919-220-8411. www.TCDancers.org

APR 8: Big Celtic Fun w/George Segebade calling.

Triangle Country Dancers, Reality Center, 916 Lamond Ave., Durham, NC. Lessons 7:30 PM, Dance 8-11 PM, \$8. Dance hotline: 919-286-6624; questions 919-220-8411. www.TCDancers.org

APR 29: Advanced Dance w/Skylark and Bree Kalb calling.

Triangle Country Dancers & Friends of the Senior Center, Central Orange Sr. Ctr., 515 Meadowland Dr., Hillsborough, NC. Lessons 7 PM, Dance 7:30-10 PM, \$8. Hotline: 919-286-6624; questions 919-220-8411. www.TCDancers.org.

APR 1: Great Bear Duo w/Linda Cooper.

DANCE WEEKENDS

APR 8-10, Palmetto Bug Stomp, Felix Davis Community Ctr., 4800 Park Circle, N. Charleston, SC. **Footloose** and **Floorplay** with **Beth Molaro** and **Tom Hinds** calling. www.ecmmbiz/contra/BS_11_web.pdf.

APR 22-24, Spring Dance Romance, Camp Sertoma, near Danbury, NC. **The Figments** and **Contrazz w/Lise Greenleaf** and **Robert Cromartie** calling. www.tcdancers.org

APR 29-MAY 1, Appalachian Spring III, Old Cranberry High School, Elk Park, NC. **Contrarians** and **Toss the Possum.**; **Callers TBA.** www.warrendoyle.com

MAY 12-15, Spring LEAF. Camp Rockmont, Black Mountain, NC. **Crowfoot** and **Land of Sky** w/**Louie Cromartie** and **Seth Tepfer** calling. www.theLEAF.com

ONGOING EVENTS

MONDAYS

Find Your Muse Open Mic, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$3.

1st MONDAYS

Open Bluegrass Jam, Belmont Soda Shop, 31 N. Main St., Belmont, NC, 7-9 PM, free; beginners to advanced and listeners welcomed. Contact host Anthony Scruggs at scruggsopryhouse@yahoo.com.

4th MONDAYS

Wilkes Acoustic Folk Society, Wilkes Heritage Museum, 100 E. Main St., North Wilkesboro, NC, 7 PM; www.wilkesfolks.com.

TUESDAYS

Charlotte Scottish Country Dance Society, Selwyn Ave. Presbyterian Church, 2929 Selwyn Ave., Charlotte, 7:30-9:30 PM, donation. Call 704-366-9260 or 704-333-6917.

Community Singers, Friends School of Charlotte, 7001 Wallace Rd., Charlotte, 7-8:30 PM, free. Contact Carol Raedy at 704-367-2536 or carol@communitysongleaders.org.

Mineral Springs Music Barn Open Mic Jam Sessions, 5920 Eubanks St., Mineral Springs, NC (4 mi. east of Waxhaw, on Hwy. 75, by RR tracks), 7-10 PM. Black Hat Auctions: 704-668-1689.

2nd TUESDAYS

Nashville Songwriters Assoc. International, Workshop Meeting, The Well, 220 Main St., Pineville, NC, 7 PM. Call Fiona MacAllister at 704-483-1671; www.NSAICharlotte.com.

LAST TUESDAYS

Catawba River Bluegrass Association Jam, First Presbyterian Church Activity Bldg., 512 Old Mount Holly Rd., Stanley, NC, 7 PM. Open jam; all welcome. Contact Robert "Rye" Billings at Charlottefloods@yahoo.com or 704-249-5538.

WEDNESDAYS

Philosopher's Stone String Band (Chris Sekerak, Pam Englebert, Josh Campbell & Michael Plumley), Philosopher's Stone Tavern, 7th & Caswell Sts., Charlotte, 7 PM, no cover. 704-350-1331.

Bluegrass, Puckett's Farm Equipment, 2740 W. Sugar Ck. Rd., Derita, NC. 9-11 PM. No cover. 704-597-8230; www.puckettsfarm.com. **Bluegrass, Old-Time Country, Folk & Gospel Jam Session**, Cabarrus Co. Senior Ctr., 331 Corban Ave., SE, Concord, NC. 6-9 PM. Open to the public and free. Call 704-920-3484.

High Lonesome Strings Bluegrass Jam Session, The Cultural Arts Ctr., Room 100, 200 N. Davie St., Greensboro, 7-10 PM. 336-420-0238.

1st WEDNESDAYS

Tosco House Party (open mic), The Evening Muse, 3227 N. Davidson, Charlotte, 8 PM, \$2. Host John Tosco. www.toscomusicparty.org.

THURSDAYS

Open Mic, Puckett's Farm Equipment, 2740 W. Sugar Ck. Rd., Derita, NC. 8 PM.

1st & 3rd THURSDAYS

Bluegrass Thursday Night, Allison Creek Presbyterian Church, 5780 Allison Creek Rd., York, SC, 6:30-9:00, free; concessions available. 803-684-5875. www.allisoncreekbluegrass.com

2nd THURSDAYS

Storytellers Guild of Charlotte, Arboretum Barnes and Noble, 3327 Pineville-Matthews

Rd., Charlotte, 7:30 PM, free. Storytelling first hour of meeting; public welcomed. Call Ramona Moore-Big Eagle at 704-568-6940.

3rd THURSDAYS

Lake Norman Jam Session, Lake Norman area, 7 PM. Open to all. Ralph Gettings at 704-892-7415 or ralphcrn9@aol.com for directions.

Songwriters Round, hosted by Rob

McHale, Summit Coffee, 128 S. Main St., Davidson, NC. 704-895-9090; www.summitcoffee.com

FRIDAYS

Charlotte Appalachian Dulcimer Club, home of Carol Rousey, 9 AM-Noon. Call Carol at 704-321-2020 for directions.

English Country Dance, Matthews Orthodox Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 2701 Rice Rd. (off Idlewild Rd.), Matthews, NC, 7-9 PM. Free. 704-309-7649 or Jason-Mauney@gmail.com.

2nd FRIDAYS

****Charlotte Folk Society Gathering**

(August-June), Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte. Concert, song circle & jams. Free & open to the public; donations appreciated. 7:30 PM. 704-563-7080; www.folksociety.org.

Charlotte Appalachian Dulcimer Club, Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte. After Folk Society concert, app. 8:30 PM. Mark Willingham at 980-254-8059.

2nd & 4th FRIDAYS

Boots-N-Slippers Square Dance, Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, 7407 Steele Ck. Rd., Charlotte. 8-10 PM. Call 704-525-1940.

SATURDAYS

Morning Jam Session, Cook Shack, Union Grove, NC. Exit 65 off I-77 North; turn west; travel 2 miles; sits on left of road. Call Pal Ireland at 704-539-4353 for directions.

Bluegrass Jam Session, Pat's Gourmet Coffee Shop, 166 North Main St., Mooresville, 9 AM-1 PM. Call 704-662-6299.

Old-Time & Bluegrass Jam Session, Dixie's Coffee Roasters, 102 S. Main St., China Grove, NC. 9 AM- Noon. Contact The Rev. Greg Yeager at 704-754-6288.

Alleghany Jubilee, Spartan Theater, N. Main St., Sparta, NC. Live old-time & bluegrass bands; dancing. 8-11 PM; \$4. 336-372-4591; <http://alleghanyjubilee.com>

1st SATURDAYS

Willow Grove Old-Time Jam, Willow Grove Retirement Center Activities Room, 10043 Idlewild Rd., Matthews, NC, 2-4 PM. Call Bill Williams at 704-573-6154 or 704-517-2822 (cell).

3rd SATURDAYS

Old Time Square Dance (Traditional Appalachian style), Denton Civic Ctr., W. Salisbury St., Denton, NC. Bluegrass & old-time bands, 7-10:30 PM, \$5 adults. 336-472-2802; www.dentondance.net/dentondance

(Continued on page 13.)

Queen City Beginners Bluegrass Jam

The Queen City Bluegrass Jam meets every other Saturday at the Asbury Care Center at Aldersgate, 3800 Shamrock Drive, in Charlotte, between the hours of 2 PM and 4 PM. For the exact meeting dates each month, contact Jerry Leonard at jerryleonard999@yahoo.com. Or, join the group at www.meetup.com in order to keep current. Search on that site for "Charlotte Beginner Bluegrass Jam."

Catawba River Bluegrass Association Jam

The Catawba River Bluegrass Association sponsors a jam at 7 PM the last Tuesday of each month in the First Presbyterian Church Activity Building, 512 Old Mount Holly Road, in Stanley, North Carolina. **The next jam takes place on April 26th.** Contact organizer Robert "Rye" Billings at Charlotte-floods@yahoo.com or 704-249-5538 with questions. The association has pages on both Facebook and Meetup.com. From the group's Meetup.com page:

*Our group is searching for the perfect jam. We are bluegrass enthusiasts and practicing musicians. If you are a fan of the **Blue Grass Album Band**, if you sing Doyle Lawson in your sleep, if your truck is named "Widow Maker," and if you take your hat off whenever you hear Earl, Lester, or Bill, this is your place. We shall follow the Jam Commandments and we will treat*

everyone with respect from the beginner to the young, gun slinging, guitar hero with attitude.

The purpose for setting up this group is to begin a regular jam session – no strings attached. Come when you can, have a good time.

Interested In A Clogging Workshop?

Allen Cooke is organizing a clogging workshop and is especially looking for younger dancers who are interested in learning the style of his **Skyline Cloggers** from about 30 years ago, with the object of forming a team. The **Skyline Cloggers** danced precision routines to fast music. The workshop would be open to all ages. If interested, contact Allen at 704-366-3334 or warehambr@aol.com. You can watch a **Skyline Cloggers'** rehearsal online at this link: www.youtube.com/user/warehambr

Final Notes

We extend deepest sympathy to Marti Sams on the recent passing of her mother.

Clyde Davis lost his battle with cancer on March 14th. We extend our deepest sympathy to Pammy and their children and their families on the loss of their husband, father, and grandfather. Clyde was known for his instrument repairing and collecting, restoring, and showing single-axle camping trailers.

David Deese, one-time **Bluegrass Boy**, banjo player with Arthur Smith's **Crackerjacks**, and, more recently, part of the **WBT Briarhoppers**, passed away on March 13th.

Recruiting Refreshment Volunteers

Refreshments Volunteer Coordinator Justine Koch needs some more folks to join her committee. This group of folks seems to always be having a good time. If you enjoy shopping or baking and meeting our visitors, please consider helping with this important aspect of hospitality for our Gathering guests. **Please contact Justine at koch1@bellsouth.net if you would be interested in joining this committee. Please put "FS Refreshments" in the subject line.**

(Calendar, continued from page 12.)

Folklife Demonstrations and Traditional Artists & Musicians, Historic Hagood Mill, 3 miles N of Pickens, SC, off Hwy. 178, on Hagood Mill Rd. www.co.pickens.sc.us. **EVERY OTHER SATURDAY**
Queen City Beginners Bluegrass Jam, Asbury Care Center Living Room at Aldersgate, 3800 Shamrock Drive (between Eastway Drive and Sharon Amity Road) in east Charlotte, 2-4 PM, free. Contact Jerry Leonard at jerryleonard@yahoo.com for meeting dates or search "Charlotte Beginner Bluegrass Jam" at www.meetup.com.

SUNDAYS

Live Celtic Music at Ri-Ra, The Irish Pub, 208 N. Tryon, 7-9 PM, food available, no cover. 704-333-5554.

1st SUNDAYS

Charlotte Blues Society, Double Door Inn, 218 E. Independence Blvd., Charlotte, 8 PM, \$5. Concert & open mic blues jam. 704-455-5875.

2nd SUNDAYS

****CFS Monthly Old Time Jam Session**,

Asbury Care Center Living Room at Aldersgate, 3800 Shamrock Drive (between Eastway Drive and Sharon Amity Road) in east Charlotte, 2-4 PM, free. Call Tom Keller at 704-366-9441.

English Country Dancers meet at 7:30 PM. Call Nancy Howe at 704-536-9594 for location (east Charlotte).

3rd SUNDAYS

Dixieland Jam Sessions, Fraternal Order of Police Hall, 1201 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, 6-9 PM, free. Dinner & bar service available.

Summer Workshops

20th Annual Blue Ridge Old Time Music Week: June 5-11, Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, NC. Instructors: Carole Anne Rose, Travis Stuart, Helen White, Beverly Smith, Curly Miller, Adam Tanner, Billy Cornette, Wayne Henderson, Margaret & Lloyd Wright, Bill Paine, Greg & Jere Canote, Alice Gerrard & more. Workshops; jamming. 828-689-1646; www.mhc.edu/oldtimemusic

7th Annual Peach Bottom Farm Fiddle & Strings Camp: June 13-17, Independence, Virginia. Instructors: Shane Cook, April Verch, Stanley Widener, Judy Hyman, Brandon Davis, Brian Grim & Kyle Dean. All ages & levels of strings players welcome. Information & registration: email Patti at PeachBottomFarm@yahoo.com or call 276-773-2181. Visit www.peachbottomfarm.com for details.

Dulcimerville: June 6-11, YMCA Washburn Ctr., Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, NC. Instructors: Lois Hornbostel, Ken Bloom, Linda Brockinton, Don Pedi, Doug Berch, Paul Andry, Randy Adams, Nina Zanetti, Stephen Seifert, Jim & Phyllis Gaskins, Betty Smith, Mike Anderson, Joseph & Marie Shelton, Homer & Laura Phillips, Gary Gallier, Bing Futch, Neal & Colleen Walters, Heidi & John Cerrigione, Ehukai Teves, Terry Duggins, Rosy DeVane, Flora MacDonald Gammon & John Huron. Workshops, jamming, open stage. www.dulcimerville.com

Steve Kaufman's Acoustic Kamp Old-Time & Traditional Week: June 12-18, Maryville College, Maryville, TN. Old-Time Banjo, Mountain Dulcimer, Flatpicking, Fingerpicking, Old-Time Fiddle, Bass, and Songwriting. Visit web-

site for list of instructors. 800-352-7425; www.flatpik.com

Steve Kaufman's Acoustic Kamp Bluegrass Week: June 19-25, Maryville College, Maryville, TN. Flatpicking, Bluegrass Banjo, Mandolin, Bluegrass Fiddle, Singing, Dobro, and Bass. Visit website for list of instructors. 800-352-7425; www.flatpik.com

3rd Annual Bluegrass in the Blue Ridge Mountains: June 19-25, Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, NC. Instructors: Jerry Sutton, Bobby Anderson, George Buckner, Natalya Weinstein, Dave Talbot, Bryan McDowell, Diane Brooks, Steve Kilby, Jack Lawrence, Wayne Erbsen, Roland White & Stacy Claude. www.mhc.edu/bluegrass

Mountain Dulcimer Week: July 17-22, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC. Instructors: Janita Baker, Jim Miller, Steve Eulberg, Bob McGowan, Marsha Harris, Sarah Elizabeth Musgrave, Larry & Elaine Conger, Joe Collins, Karen Mueller, Dave Haas, Wayne Seymour & Gary Sager. 828-227-7397; www.wcu.edu/5046.asp

Connie Regan-Blake's 6th Annual Summer Storytelling Workshop/Retreat: July 17-23, Asheville, NC. Contact Connie at 828-258-1113 or connie@storywindow.com. Details & registration forms at www.storywindow.com.

Swannanoa Gathering Folk Arts Workshops: Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC. Visit www.swangathering.org
Traditional Song Week, July 3-9
Fiddle Week, July 3-9
Celtic Week, July 10-16
Old-Time Week, July 17-23
Contemporary Folk Week, July 24-30

Guitar Week, July 24-30
Dulcimer Week, July 31-August 6

Augusta Heritage Summer Workshops: Davis and Elkins College, Elkins, WV. Visit www.augustaheritage.com

July 10-15: Cajun/Creole Week, Early Country Music Week, Guitar Week, Augusta for Kids, Craft & Folklore Classes

July 17-22: Blues Week, Augusta for Kids, Craft & Folklore Classes
July 24-29: Irish/Celtic Week, Augusta for Kids, Craft & Folklore Classes

July 31-August 5: Bluegrass Week, Swing Week, Augusta for Kids, Craft & Folklore Classes
August 7-14: Dance Week, Old-Time Week, Vocal Week, Augusta for Kids, Craft & Folklore Classes
August 12-14: Augusta Festival (traditional dance, crafts and music)

6th Annual Little Windows Vocal Camp: September 4-9, Hart's Retreat, near Independence, VA. Instructors Mark and Julee Glaub Weems offer workshops in Songwriting, Finding Your Voice & Making a Song Your Own, Making a CD, The Emotional & Spiritual Wealth of Traditional Music, Increasing Your Traditional Repertoire, Vocal Care, Singing with Bodhran, Fiddle & Banjo. Visit www.littlewindows.net/camp.html. Contact Julee at 919-477-2780.

John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC. Year-round week-long and weekend classes in traditional crafts, music, dance, and foodways; includes Elderhostel classes. Visit www.folkschool.org for schedule of classes. Request a catalog online or by calling 800-365-5724.

Cuz's Corner

By Dennis Frost

Well folks, I would like to welcome you to the April edition of Cuz's Corner. This time of the year really gets me to thinking just how fortunate we are to be in the Carolinas. I don't think there is a prettier place on earth when Charlotte is in full bloom. It's really good to be back with you after Cuz's two months in exile. To be honest, losing another radio show to another programming format change took a bit of Cuz's groove away. Not only is there precious too little roots music on the radio, but as you radio people know, the idea of playing the music you love and turning folks on to their musical heritage is a bit addictive. Oh well, this article isn't about how Cuz lost his groove, so let's get on with it, shall we?

As usual, our area is blessed with an abundance of festivals through the spring and into the summer. If you missed the fantastic **Darin & Brooke Aldridge/ Balsam Range** show at the Stella Center in February, you have another chance April 1 - 2, just outside of Cherryville, at the **Darin & Brooke Aldridge Music Festival**. Featured performers include **Darin & Brooke, Balsam Range, The Grascals**, and the **Harris Brothers**. What a great way to not only catch some of the best in bluegrass and Americana, but to also support local and regional music. (www.darinandbrookealdridge.com)

Seems every time one turns around, **MerleFest** is right around the corner. As you know, listing all the performers would probably take up the rest of this article, but this year's highlights include **Lyle Lovett**, Louisiana slide guitarist **Sonny Landreth**, and the Ameri-

cana incarnation of **Robert Plant and The Band of Joy**, featuring the likes of **Buddy Miller, Patty Griffin, Darrell Scott**, and others. It will be interesting to see what the traditional tent is like this year, being that the festival management took over this stage from **Alice Gerrard** and our **Old Time Herald** friends - fingers crossed! Although this festival features more great music than you can possibly see in four days, it's big, crowded, and a bit tiring - so start popping those vitamins! As usual, **MerleFest** starts the last Thursday of April in Wilkesboro!

One of my annual rites of spring is a trek to Black Mountain and the **LEAF Festival**. I think LEAF is the ultimate family festival and the perfect escape from the fast paced "me, me, me" world we live in. The music and dancing are always good, but it's always the sense of community and higher consciousness of this festival that brings me back year after year. **John Doyle, Ricky Skaggs**, the **Voice of the Wetlands All-Stars**, and many others headline this year's festivities. (www.theleaf.org)

Much like a larger version of LEAF, **FloydFest** celebrates its 10th year anniversary with simply an amazing lineup. A few of this year's performers include **Taj Mahal, Del McCoury, Sam Bush, David Grisman Sextet, Old Crow Medicine Show, Hot Tuna, Carolina Chocolate Drops, Peter**

Rowan Bluegrass Band, Tony Rice Unit, Donna the Buffalo, Dirk Powell Band, Red Stick Ramblers, Robert Randolph Family Band, and many others. In addition, there is non-stop traditional music from the Crooked Road and music from all around the world. This festival is tops on my list these days and I wouldn't miss it! **FloydFest** takes place July 27th-31st up on the mountain and right off the Blue Ridge Parkway near Floyd, Virginia. (www.floydfest.com)



Mr. & Mrs. Cuz in New Mexico

Two more great Virginia festivals - the annual **CFS Old-Time Jam Weekend** on the Phlegar Farm, right across the holler from FloydFest, July 22-24, and the

Wayne C. Henderson Music Festival June 18th up at beautiful Grayson Highlands State Park featuring **The Boxcars, April Verch**, and more! (www.waynehenderson.org)

As Monty Python always said, "and now for something completely different." One of the most fascinating books about music I've read recently is **Life** by none other than the **Stones' Keith Richards**. Not only did I find it to be an honest account of the sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll life these guys lived, but, more importantly, a history of the British Blues Invasion. For instance, I always wondered why the British were so taken with American blues in the late '60s. The answer, according to Keith, is that most of these musicians came along not that long after the horrible bombing of London in the Second World War and consequently

identified with the human condition that was at the heart of the blues in this country. So, **Life** is an entertaining history lesson in not only the life and times of the **Rolling Stones**, but also, indirectly, a history lesson on the journey of American roots music to Europe and back again. Be warned that this book contains a frank account of the horrors of heroin addiction and may not be for the faint of heart, but this is a story that, too, must be told! That said, by the end of the book I had a respect for his honesty and dedication to the music. Keith Richards is a textbook of American roots music and I'd truly love to sit down and talk music with the man. This is a great read!

There is a huge stack of CDs on my desk that I would highly recommend, so I think I'll just list them with a brief description and five-star rating system - here we go:

1. We Still Love Our Country by **Carrie Rodriguez & Ben Kyle** - Marvelous country duets from silky-voiced Ben Kyle and Carrie, a rising Americans star. ★★★

2. Daybreak by **Sierra Hull** - It's been years since I have heard a person this young with this much talent. This whiz mandolin prodigy has morphed into a class vocalist. With the likes of Brian Sutton, Stuart Duncan, and Dan Tyminski backing her up, this CD is a keeper! ★★★

3. I'll Never Get out of This World Alive by **Steve Earle** - This mostly acoustic effort is his best since **Train A Comin'**, proving he is still one of America's most important songwriters. Steve is mellower these days, but still writes songs with societal impact as with **Gulf of Mexico**, which addresses the oil spill through the eyes of both a fisherman and a longshoreman. ★★★★★

4. Majestic Silver Strings by **Buddy Miller** - Arguably Americana's premier musician teams up with stellar guitarists like Bill Frizell and others with help from vocalists Emmylou Harris, Patty Griffin, Lee Ann Womack, Shawn Colvin, and Julie Miller, Buddy's wife, for one of his famous living room sessions. I just wish there were more Buddy! ★★★

5. City of Refuge by **Abigail Washburn** - This **Uncle Earl** alumnus has single-handedly created a new genre of music. This is old time, classical, blues, and Chinese chord structures fused together into something I haven't heard before. I really can't explain it, so you will just have to listen! ★★★★★

6. Help My Brother by **Gibson Brothers** - Fantastic bluegrass and brother harmonies from two of the best in the business. This is a beautiful CD with a Joe Newberry tune to boot! ★★★

Well, that's it for this month. Have a pleasant spring, go catch a show, and don't miss our next CFS Gathering, April 8th, with Celtic guitar whiz Robin Bullock - see you there!

Cuz

To share thoughts about your favorite music, festivals, or concerts with Cuz, write him at dcmfrost@mindspring.com or call 704-532-8846.

SERFA Conference (Southeast Regional Folk Alliance)

May 18-22, 2011

Montreat Conference
Center, Montreat, NC
www.serfa.org

New & Renewed 2011 Members

We extend a warm welcome to our new members and thank them, as well as those renewing, for choosing to support the Charlotte Folk Society. **The names of new members appear in bold below.**

The Charlotte Folk Society is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donations are deductible as charitable contributions under applicable tax law.

We deeply appreciate donations above your basic membership and employer matches, as they enable us to continue to meet our mission and to offer scholarships for adults and young people to the Swannanoa Gathering Folk Arts Workshops. Our Gathering series is supported by memberships, donations, and grants. All three are essential. With budget cuts on both the federal and state level and the resulting uncertainty of grant funding, your support becomes even more important.

Individuals

Leonard Fitzsimons
R. B. Hughes
Ann Marsh
Mary McNeal
Patricia Stephens
Marie Reid

Families

Lauren and Michael Baine
Bruce and Claire Danielson
Carroll and Joyce Gray
Paul Gustafson and Lauren Hatcher
Carl and Jean Johnson
Stephen and Deanna Richie
Robert and Cynthia Rogers

Sustainers

Ilene Burstein and Mike Sessoms
Laurie and Don Koster

2011 Spring Gatherings

Our second-Friday Gatherings at the Great Aunt Stella Center (GASC), 926 Elizabeth Avenue, are family-friendly and open to the public. The front doors of the GASC open at 7 PM; concerts begin at 7:30 PM and last one hour. Refreshments, jams, song circle, and Appalachian Dulcimer Club follow. Gatherings are free; donations are appreciated. Parking adjacent to GASC is free.



The Steel Wheels singing a capella

May 13: Trent Wagler & The Steel Wheels are truly an Americana band, rooted in musical styles that explore the territories between blues and bluegrass, old-time sing-alongs, and foot-stompin' fiddle tunes - subtle innovators who respect the past but whistle their own tunes, layering in rich textures and decidedly modern energy to forge a new sound. This Shenandoah Valley band is a musical force to be reckoned with! www.thesteelwheels.com

June 10: The WBT Briarhoppers first hit the airwaves in 1934. Early country music superstars, they received 10,000 fan letters each week. Today, Dwight Moody, Tom Warlick, Trent Moody, Alana Flowers, Hannah Flowers, Dillon Flowers, and Richard Hollis carry on the **Briarhopper** tradition, making the band the longest performing group of country and bluegrass musicians

still active today. <http://wbtbriarhoppers.blogspot.com>

CFS Gatherings are made possible, in part, with funding from the Arts & Science Council and the North Carolina Arts Council, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, and the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

Jake Krack Fiddle Workshops May 14th

Twenty-six-year-old champion fiddler and instructor Jake Krack is teaching Fiddle Workshops and performing in concert on the Bibi Freer Farm in Tryon, North Carolina, just off Highway 74 on Saturday, May 14th. He will lead a Beginners' Workshop from 9 AM to 12 Noon and an Intermediate/Advanced Workshop from 1 PM to 4 PM. The fee for each workshop is \$50. Workshops are limited to ten participants each, so sign up early. Krack will play in a house concert at 7 PM; admission is \$15. To RSVP for the concert or to sign up for workshops, write bfreer@windstream.net. To read the incredible resume of this old-time fiddling phenomenon and to listen to select tunes from his repertoire, visit his website: www.jakekrack.com/index.htm



Rosedale Arts Festival May 7th

The annual **Arts Festival at Rosedale**, a pottery and craft sale, takes place on Saturday, May 7th, 10 AM to 4 PM, on the grounds of Historic Rosedale Plantation, 3427 North Tryon Street, in Charlotte. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and students ages 5-18. Children four and younger are free. Passes for immediate family members are available for \$25. Early access to the sale is available by purchasing tickets to a preview breakfast, 9-10 AM, for \$75 per person or \$500 for a table of eight. This event will take place rain or shine. Tickets are available online at www.historicrosedale.org.

The artisans offering pottery and crafts for sale are among North Carolina's finest. They include Cloister Honey, Copper Creations, woodworkers Mickey Furr and Reuben Hufham, Tomoo Kitamura, Michael Mahan and From the Ground Up Pottery, Suzanne Mellichamp, Hat (Thompson) Underground, Leftwich Pottery, J. K. Moyes Pottery, JLK Jewelry, New Salem Pottery, Turtle Island Pottery, and more. A sweet grass basket maker will also have wares for sale. Reenactors in period dress will give demonstrations throughout the day. Visitors may take advantage of free tours of the house and the newly renovated historic garden. Lunch is available for purchase on the grounds. Children can experience hands-on historical activities such as using a pottery wheel, yarn doll making, and tin punching. There will be free pony rides, a storyteller, and a Carolina Raptor Center demonstration, as well. For more information, call 704-335-0325 or visit www.historicrosedale.org.

Member Ads

Serving Your Real Estate Needs Since 1972: Reid Shoemaker, Jr. with Keller Williams Realty.
South Park. Call 704-602-0242

Celtic Harp For Sale: Timothy Niamh-27 strings; C below middle C to A. Full CAMAC levers, guitar strap, performance stand, deluxe Colorado case, & spare string set. Curly maple with red cedar soundboard. \$2150. (Retail \$2660 Canadian.) **Janet Hince at 704-365-2761 or jfhince@carolina.rr.com**

In-Home or In-Office Discount Tax Service By Allen R. Cooke DBA "AC Accounting." Individuals, Partnerships, Corporations, LLCs & Not-For-Profits. Degreed accountant. Gift certificates for referrals. **Call 704-442-4054. Visit www.ac-counting.com.**

Free: Bamboo – either cut poles or dig out plants. Call Marilyn Price at 803-548-5671 prior to going.

Great Aunt Stella Center Lost & Found

If you've lost an item while attending a concert at the Great Aunt Stella Center, please contact Mark Ponischil, the Facility Manager. Call him at 704-944-6014 and leave a message. His earliest opportunity to look into your inquiry will be the Tuesday following our Gathering. Please do not simply come to the Stella Center to ask about lost objects, as there is no one else in the building who would be aware of what has been found and Mark is not on site daily. He will arrange with you a time to come and pick up your found items.



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Next Month . . .

MAY 13TH: RISING AMERICANA BAND THE STEEL WHEELS

Charlotte Folk Society
PO Box 36864
Charlotte, NC 28236-6864
www.folksociety.org



ROBIN BULLOCK
Celtic/American String Wizard

Friday, April 8, 2011, 7:30 PM

Great Aunt Stella Center

926 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte 28204

