

## Bluegrass & The Circuit Riders Rule On September 8th!

The Charlotte Folk Society's September 8<sup>th</sup> Gathering is a **Charlotte Shout!** event. We are proud to be showcasing the talents of **The Circuit Riders** bluegrass band during this concert. We invite you to join us on the second Friday at 7:30 PM in the Bryant Recital Hall of the Sloan-Morgan Building at 1220 Elizabeth Avenue on the Central CPCC Campus.

**"The Circuit Riders.** The name is quite apropos. These gentlemen,

long term veterans of the national bluegrass scene, having ridden the circuit in bands at the highest level of performance, have recently joined forces to create the newest bluegrass supergroup. Their sound is fresh and original, yet decidedly bluegrass. They are fabulous musicians, but also unfailingly polite and well dressed; theirs is a show you'd be able to take your kids or your grandmother to. It is bluegrass played with respect for tradition, but with a modern influence that is starting to bring young people into our extended bluegrass family." – *Dr. Bobby Jones, free-lance writer, Shelby, NC*

**The Circuit Riders'** new CD on Pinecastle Records is entitled **Let**



**The Circuit Riders**

**The Ride Begin.** It contains a baker's dozen of songs and tunes that are original, but in the finest bluegrass tradition. The band's seasoned sound and vocals reflect the years of experience contributed by one each of its five members.

Visit [www.thecircuitriders.com](http://www.thecircuitriders.com) to enjoy sound clips.

**Darin Aldridge**, a native of Cherryville, North Carolina,

toured the United States and Canada with **The Country Gentlemen** for seven years, earning him four nominations for bluegrass mandolin player of the year in Nashville. A stint with the band **Acoustic Syndicate** in the mid-'90s helped him supplement his bluegrass with styles he characterizes as "jazz, blues, and folk rock." Darin's current solo project, **Call It a Day**, on Pinecastle Records landed great reviews and success in the bluegrass and gospel charts. While not on tour, Darin is a music instructor in his home studio and The Gaston School of Arts. As well, he is a

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## Charlotte Folk Society Stage At Festival in the Park September 21-24

The 42nd Annual Festival in the Park will begin at 6 PM on Thursday, September 21, and end at 6 PM on Sunday, September 24. This "grand daddy" of all Charlotte festivals takes place in the relaxed environment of Freedom Park (located in the Dilworth/Myers Park area and accessible from East Boulevard, Park Road, and Princeton Avenue). Shuttle vans running from East Boulevard to the Freedom Park entrance will this year be a welcomed addition.

This is the thirteenth year we have sponsored the Charlotte Folk Society Stage at Festival in the Park. Storytelling, singing, music, and dance performances on our stage will reflect both our regional heritage and the traditions of folks who have come more recently to Charlotte. **Please note that our stage this year is again just over the bridge from the East Boulevard parking lot.** Special features will include "Kid's Day", 9 AM to 1 PM on Friday; a "Contra Dance on the Grass" at 7 PM on Friday; a Gospel Sing at 11 AM on Sunday morning; and a raffle drawing for a \$399 Ibanez EW20QMHT acoustic guitar, donated by the Charlotte Guitar Center. **For a full schedule, please turn to page 5 of this newsletter.** Visit [www.folksociety.org](http://www.folksociety.org) for schedule updates.

*(The Circuit Riders, continued from page 1.)*

producer, songwriter, and does many recording studio sessions.

**Jaret Carter** is a North Carolinian who took up acoustic and electric guitar at an early age and played with several local country/rock cover bands. By age twenty-four, he was touring the east coast with Nashville singer-songwriter Jonathan Birchfield. Thus began Jaret's fascination with the steel guitar. He began with the pedal steel, but love for the resophonic guitar and bluegrass music led him to share stage and studio with the likes of Bryan Sutton, Aubrey Haynie, Charlie Waller, Vassar Clements, Doyle Lawson, Kenny and Amanda Smith, and others. When Jaret is not performing, he teaches private music lessons.

**Greg Corbett**, of Troy, North Carolina, has played banjo professionally for more than twenty years. He toured thirteen years with the legendary **Country Gentlemen**. A fifth-generation banjo player, he was been nominated ten times for banjo performer of the year by the SPBGMA Bluegrass Music Awards in Nashville, and received this prestigious award in 1996. When Greg is not performing, he manages an insurance agency in his hometown.

**Billy Gee** was born and raised in La Plata, Maryland, but now lives in Moravian Falls, North Carolina. His interest in music dates from elementary school and it progressed through high school and college with his membership in numerous bands. Moving to Wilkes County led to friendships with other musicians and his becoming the bassist for **Charlie Waller and the Country Gentlemen**. When not performing, Billy operates his own guitar repair business, Guitar Specialist. He numbers Doc Watson among his many clients.

**Greg Luck** plays guitar and fiddle with **The Circuit Riders**. His resume includes membership in such great groups as **Redwing, Lost & Found, Lynn Morris Band, Bluegrass Cardinals, J.D. Crowe and the New South**, and **IIIrd Tyme Out**. He operates the Riverside Audio recording studio in Mt. Gil-ead, North Carolina and has recorded acts such as **Lou Reid and Carolina, The Chapmans, The Country Gentlemen**, and **IIIrd Tyme Out**. Greg is also a successful songwriter. He penned **The Healing Kind**, which became a triple platinum seller for Leann Womack.

Charlotte Folk Society Gatherings are free and family-friendly public events. Donations, which benefit the performers, are appreciated. After the hour-long concert, we take a refreshment break, followed by both slow and fast jam sessions, and a song circle. Free parking is available in the Faculty-Staff-Theater parking deck on 4<sup>th</sup> Street, between Independence Boulevard and Kings Drive. For details, call 704-563-7080 or visit [www.folksociety.org](http://www.folksociety.org). This Gathering is a Charlotte Shout! event.



## Free Member Ad

**Miniharp by Rhythm Band, Inc. (makers of Chromaharp).** Vintage child's autoharp; made in the '70s (?). Approx. 7" x 15"; 5 chordbars: G7, F, Bb, C, C7; 19 strings. Dark, rich wood w/minor scratches. May need new strings. **\$40.**  
**Black 3/4 Size Guitar by Jay, Jr. w/ Hard Case.** Nice for beginner or young/petite guitarist. **\$65.**  
**Contact Carolyn Zicherman at 704-455-6248.**

## Charlotte Guitar Center Donates Acoustic Ibanez For CFS Raffle

Thanks to manager Scott Magno, the Charlotte Guitar Center, located at 10050 East Independence Boulevard, is generously donating an Ibanez EW20QMHNT acoustic guitar to CFS for our annual fundraising raffle. Valued at



\$399, it is part of the exotic wood series from Ibanez. It features quilted mahogany top, back, and sides with a high-gloss finish. Twelfth fret pearl inlay and chrome die-cast tuners round out this guitar.

Raffle tickets will be available at the September 8th Gathering, as well as at the CFS information table at Festival in the Park. Tickets cost \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. The winning ticket will be drawn at 4:15 PM on Sunday, September 24, on the CFS Folk Music Stage at Festival in the Park. The owner of the winning ticket need not be present to claim his/her prize. Take a chance and support your favorite Folk Society!

## Free Member Ad

**Harke Electric Bass SB-15.** Sells new \$249. **Asking \$150.**  
**Boss DR-670 Drum Machine;** like new with power supply & manual. \$325 list, sells new for \$275, **\$175.**  
**Rick Spreitzer at 704-553-8028 or [Rspreitzer@bellsouth.net](mailto:Rspreitzer@bellsouth.net).**