

The Dahlonega Nugget, Apr. 5, 2006

Bear on the Square returns to Dahlonega

The tenth annual Bear on the Square Mountain Festival will be held Apr. 21-23 in historic downtown Dahlonega, Georgia. This annual event celebrates and showcases the music and traditional culture of the Georgia Mountains and the southern Appalachians, and features bluegrass and old-time music, authentic mountain crafts, a country auction, storytelling, dance, children's events, non-stop jam sessions, concerts, workshops, and lots more!

Performers will include Dry Branch Fire Squad, Polcat Creek, The Lovell Sisters, Gold Rush with Neel Pender, The Georgia Potickers, The Tune Dogs, and Jerry Harmon, and The Pea Ridge Ramblers. Many of these

musicians will be performing free workshops as well as performing during concerts on the Bear on the Square Mainstage at Buisson Music Hall. Corporate sponsor banjo.com will be showcased in a workshop on Saturday. Friday jam sessions will be led by Ed Teague and the Georgia Mountain Boys and Estill Nicholson and Friends.

The Georgia Mountain Marketplace, sponsored by the Appalachian Studies Center at North Georgia College and State University, will feature traditional mountain artisans and folk artists and the new Nick Pender Lumpkin County Stage will showcase regional musicians and children's music as well as "Lies and Pies," with its tall tales and a contest for the best pie in the county. Children's activities include a Teddy Bear Picnic and the play, "Goldilocks and the Three Bears on

the Square." Doc Johnson's Traveling Miracle Medicine Show and late-night Appalachian folk tales for adults will round out the program.

Some free demonstrations or workshops include:

- World's Fastest Flatpicker Playing the World's Best Guitars, featuring Martin Guitars from 1934-1944
- Bluegrass Lead and Rhythm Guitar
- Honky Tonk Singing
- Yodeling, John Lilly

Concert tickets may be purchased by calling 706-867-0050 and will also be available at the box office before each concert. All outdoor events are free. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.BearOnTheSquare.org. For accommodations information, call the Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Chamber of Commerce at 800-231-5543 or visit www.dahlonega.org.



Calling all Cooks! Enter the 10th annual 'Lies and Pies' contest

During this year's Bear on the Square festival, come and enjoy an afternoon of traditional Storytelling, Music and Tall Tales as local cooks compete for top honors in an old-fashioned pie baking contest. Traditional Storytellers, Donna Butler (Center, Ga.) and Mary Louise Stark (Lawrenceville, Ga.) will team up to share some of the many stories and tales that they have been collecting and telling for over 20 years. The contest will be held Sunday, Apr. 23, 12:30-2:30 p.m. on the Nick Pender Lumpkin County Stage in Hancock Park.

Rules for Pie Baking Contest

General Rules

All pies will be combined into a single category, but judged according to the rules listed under the types of pies below.

- Fruit pies (single or double crust) must contain pieces of fruit, home canned or fresh. Judged on crust, taste, texture and overall appearance. Upper crust may be decorative.
- Custard and non-fruit pies, including; pumpkin, pecan, butter/nilk and key lime.

Specific Rules

- All entries must have contestant's name and phone # on the bottom of the plate or pan, so that it is not visible to the public or judges.
- Entries must be accompanied with a recipe and a list of ingredients without the contestants name on it.
- All entries should be made from scratch. No purchased crusts, mixes, icings, or canned fillings are allowed.
- Pies should be in a disposable container with one slice pre-cut for the judges. Pies may be donated after the contest if the contestant so desires.
- No refrigeration is provided.
- No commercial bakeries or restaurants are allowed to enter.
- Prizes will be awarded for First, Second and Third Place.
- All entries should arrive between 12:30-1:15 p.m. Awards Ceremony at 2:15 p.m.

Little Mountain featured at next MM&M Show

Some of Georgia's best bluegrass gospel, and old-time bands will be highlighted at the Apr. 8 episode of the Mountain Music & Medicine Show. Don't miss the unique fun of radio theatre and music found in the number one live radio show in Georgia! Tickets are available by phone at 706-867-0050.

The Master's Bouquet

You will be charmed by the angelic harmony singing of The Master's Bouquet. This trio formed in 1994 with a shared love for the harmony singing traditions of gospel, early country, and folk music. From their hometown of Athens, GA, their popularity has grown throughout North Georgia. The trio - Daisy, Lilly, and Rose - perform with happy hearts and beautiful harmonies. Their appearance on the April 8, 2006 episode of the Mountain Music & Medicine Show will feature some of the finest trio harmony singing to be heard anywhere.

Little Mountain

Little Mountain is well known for their bluegrass gospel style influenced by the traditional sound of Bill Monroe as well as more contemporary sources like the Seldom Scene. Some of their favorite songs are the old-time gospel greats from the Baptist church song books. Natives of the Lumpkin-Dawson County region, the band members are: Randy Fausset on bass fiddle; Ted Bearden on dobro, banjo, and guitar; Richard Prow on mandolin; and Keith Chester on guitar.

The Pea Ridge Ramblers

The Pea Ridge Ramblers have captured and unleashed the essence of old-time mountain music. Alternately rowdy, sentimental, sacred, and irreverent; they shout the blues and the gospel, saw the strings and crack the jokes. Nowhere else will you find better performances of the mountain tunes and songs



Little Mountain

that gave birth to bluegrass and found international acclaim in "O, Brother, Where Art Thou?" The Pea Ridge Ramblers will have your toes tapping, your belly laughing, and your heart warming to old time mountain music.

Mist On The Mountain

Some of Dahlonega's favorite singers and pickers gathered in 2005 to create Mist on the Mountain. Featuring the powerful harmony vocals of Melanie Pruitt and Elaine Holubitsky, the band also boasts some solid string bending by Clyde Gaddis, Doyle Butler, and Joe Matteson. The band boasts a broad repertoire of traditional mountain music including gospel, bluegrass, and old time favorites that

keep audiences clapping and singing along.

Doc and the Stories

Doc Johnson's Traveling Miracle Medicine Show is back along with "The Players," the cast of characters who tell the stories of the Lumpkin County area through legend and lore. Presented live on stage at the Buisson Arts Center in Dahlonega, the Mountain Music & Medicine Show has won three GABBY Awards from the Georgia Association of Broadcasters for best locally produced live radio show in the state.

Presented once each month, the content of each show is new and different. You can be a part of the live audience. All shows are preserfed at the Buisson-Arts Center Music

Hall one of North Georgia's finest concert venues (formerly the old Dahlonega Baptist Church building), South Chestate Street, across from the Smith House. The doors open at 7pm and the pre-show entertainment starts at 7:30. The live broadcast show starts promptly at 8pm. General admission tickets are \$10, reserved seats are \$15. For ticket sales, contact the Buisson Arts Center box office, 706-867-0050.

The setting of the Mountain Music & Medicine Show is the Dahlonega Public Square in the era between Gold Rush days of the early 1800s up to more modern times of the early 1950s. Doc Johnson's Traveling Miracle Medicine Show has come to town and set up on the Square in front of Nix's Store, the hub of local commerce and the social center of the area. Doc brings musical acts with him as well as his own brand of humor while he exhorts folks to buy his "Wizard Water" elixir to fix their aches and ills. Folks come from all around to see Doc Johnson and hear the music. His fast-paced style and rapport with the crowd keeps toes a-tapping and things moving briskly along. The scene occasionally shifts to short theatre stories where local people comment on the goings-on of the day. These stories mix local history, culture and humor in the unique Southern Appalachian style of the time period. This is all presented in a live old-time radio broadcast. Take a trip back in time with the Mountain Music & Medicine Show.

WUGA FM in Athens, Georgia records the live show and rebroadcasts the performance from their station in Athens, including internet-streaming worldwide.

Contact The Mountain Music and Medicine Show at 678-617-1169 or visit www.mmmshow.com.

Local sponsors of the Mountain Music & Medicine Show are North Georgia College & State University Appalachian Studies Center, and The Smith House.