

Barn Lights

Remembering the barns and farms of our heritage



The Best Concert Ever!!

If you walked into the Ebbs Chapel Auditorium during the concert, you could just feel the energy generated in the August 23rd Barn Raisin' Concert. Matthew Curry & the Carolina Two headed up the show. Hearing that Johnny Cash voice come out of the mouth of a 22-year-old blond-haired young man was amazing, and the talents of his backup—Dwight Arrington and especially 16-year-old Logan Clark, who could make that bass guitar talk—were an added plus.

Then, the wow factor continued after the break with the reunion of Susi Gott with the Lewis brothers, Marty and Donny. They shared songs of our heritage as well as a Madison County song written by Susi, who also wrote a song just the week before about the old barns. (Does that give the ABA a theme song?) And, to top off the afternoon, Ralph Lewis joined the group. The rousing finale with all of the musicians from both sets ended what was a truly enjoyable afternoon concert in the beautiful historic setting of the Ebbs Chapel Auditorium.





From our President...

I could not have been more proud to be a member of the Madison County community than at our August concert. The deep heritage of the music combined with the commitment to raise money for preserving our agricultural heritage created an energy that just filled the air.

And, it was very clear that all who were there--either performing or attending --just love what Madison County has. It is such an honor to be a part of this organization that has such great support from all of you who love and respect our barns. The talented lineup attracted enough ticket sales that, when combined with our successful Barn Day in May, has brought us within striking range of matching the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area grant of \$7000.

Our researcher Taylor Barnhill is close to completing the documentation of the fourth of the eleven townships. The work on Laurel Township should be completed by the end of September and you can look for a self-guided tour of the historically significant barns in that area by the end of October. Taylor made some valuable contacts at the concert to take him to the next geographic area for his work.

A heartfelt thanks to all who attended and to those of you who support our efforts with all you do. Look for our special invitation to our Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 15. This year we will combine it with a reception to honor all of the people who have both shared their barns and helped Taylor with his research.

It promises to be a wonderful gathering.

...Sandy Stevenson

2015 Annual Meeting

**Recognition of Barn Owners
and Update by Taylor Barnhill**

**Sunday, November 15 3pm to 5pm
Cooperative Extension Office
258 Carolina Lane, Marshall**

**Mark your Calendars &
Watch for the Email Invitation**

Submit your Photos to the Historic Barns Photo Contest

For the 4th year, The Appalachian Barn Alliance is sponsoring the Annual Historic Barns Photo Contest (with a grant from the Madison County Tourism Development Authority) as part of the Madison County Fair. We have found that this is a great way to spread interest in the barns and our organization.

Entrants are asked to submit a picture of a barn built before 1960. The two age groups—Youth (4th through 12th graders) and Adults—can win cash awards of \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place and \$50 for third place. Winning photos will be posted on the Barn Alliance website (www.appalachianbarns.org) after being awarded at the Fair on September 24, 25, and 26.

Contest rules and Entry Forms are available in the Madison County Fair Booklet which can be picked up at the County Extension office or the Madison Country Libraries or downloaded from appalachianbarns.org. If you have questions, please call Sandy Stevenson at 828 380-9146.



Last year's Youth winning photo
by Morgan Willett

Another Photography Workshop and Nothing but Barns...

Join us for a "barn" good time to benefit the Appalachian Barn Alliance, offering field work, guidance, and critique from Don McGowan of earthsongphotography.com with some historical background from the Barn Alliance's researcher, Taylor Barnhill. Dates are October 2-4, 2015. Tuition is \$150 or \$125 for ABA members. Full details are on a link from the home page of appalachianbarns.org or contact Sandy Stevenson: (828)380-9146. Improve your photography skills while having lots of fun and supporting the Appalachian Barn Alliance.



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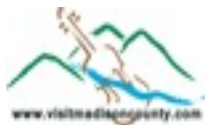
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Donations to our organization are always welcome.

Checks to Appalachian Barn Alliance, PO Box 1441, Mars Hill, NC 28754