

CLINCH MOUNTAIN TRIPITE

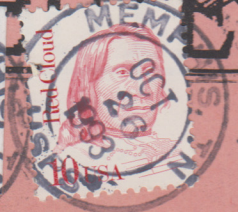
September/October

Mini Newsletter

Dr. Ralph Stanley Fan Club

3368 Guernsey Ave

Memphis Tn 38122



DR. RALPH STANLEY

IN 1946 RALPH AND CARTER, THE STANLEY BROTHERS
PIONEERED THE SOUND OF BLUEGRASS MUSIC
AFTER CARTER'S DEATH IN 1966, RALPH WENT
ON TO BECOME A LEGEND IN BLUEGRASS



Clinch Mountain Tribute

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Hi everyone! Once again it's time for another newsletter. Hope everyone had a great summer and that you got to go to all the bluegrass festivals that you wanted to go to. Hope most of them were to see Ralph.



SPECIAL NEWS - CONGRATULATIONS TO RALPH STANLEY ON RECEIVING THE RECORDED EVENT OF THE YEAR AT THE IBMA AWARDS IN OWENSBORO SEPTEMBER 23RD FOR THE SATURDAY NIGHT - SUNDAY MORNING CD.

It was a exciting time in Owensboro, KY for the International Bluegrass Music Awards. Ralph was on hand to perform at the luncheon during the International Bluegrass Music Awards Show for a standing room crowd only and he was accepted really well. The show was a great success with everyone having a great time enjoying the playing and singing by Ralph & The Clinch Mt. Boys. It couldn't been any better as the best was on hand to perform for them.

Later on that night Ralph performed at the Awards Show and for his song he performed Mountain Folks, which is an excellent choice and one of my favorites.

About a 3rd of the way into the Awards Show the winner

of the IBMA's Recorded Event of the Year was awarded to Ralph Stanley for the Saturday Night - Sunday Morning album. There is not a better man in the business that deserves it better. It's about time that a man of his stature receive the honors that he deserves. I know everyone that was involved is very proud and wish Ralph their best!

Later on in the evening Ralph was on hand to help give out the Hall Of Honor Award. As most of you remember this is the one Ralph received last year for the Stanley Brothers.

Dick Freeland, of Freeland Records received an Award of Merit of the project Saturday Night - Sunday Morning. I know that he is very pleased. Of all you who don't know Freeland Records is who produced the project Saturday Night - Sunday Morning. This is also who Ralph is recording his material with now. Our hats off to Ralph Stanley for being the best and his outstanding job on the project. A salute to Dick Freeland for an outstanding job on producing the project.

There has been a lot going on since the last newsletter. Ralph and The Clinch Mt. Boys have been busier than ever. I have to say it takes a exceptional man to keep a group together like Ralph does, keeping those boys on their toes and in fine tune. No one else does it better than Ralph. His excellent leadership, singing, playing,

and determination to do his best, and to give the people what they expect. He expects the best from his boys and he keeps a firm hand on them. Making sure they do they work hard to keep the music fresh and alive in keeping in the Stanley Style that has brought Ralph his position in the music field.

I want to say that Ralph II is doing an excellent job of singing and playing. His singing is becoming more and more mature and he is giving more feeling to songs that he is doing with his father. He has a great teacher in his father. Ralph takes the time to show him the way. I wouldn't be a bit surprised that in a couple of years we will be seeing Ralph doing more and more of the singing. It will be like seeing the Stanley Brothers all over again except it will be Like Father, Like Son.

Now on to the news. Ralph's banjo tour -The Masters Of The Banjo Tour - that I have been telling you about started the last of October through November. The list of places that he will be appearing will be at the end of the newsletter. I have included times as well as the places when they were available. Ralph will really be busy those 3 weeks. He will be traveling in Ohio, Washington DC, Tenn., PA., Maryland, North Carolina, Kentucky and various other places. Be sure to go see these if you can and show your support. We all know who the best is, the master of the banjo himself, Ralph

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Stanley. It will really be a treat.



KVOO in Tulsa, OK has Saturday Night - Sunday Morning listed at #10 for the month of August.

National Bluegrass Survey has "Down Where The River Bends" at number 14 and Miner's Prayer at number 25. Saturday Night - Sunday Morning is #7 on the National Bluegrass Survey Top Ten Albums.

Here is some interesting news, Dwight Yoakam has really been telling everyone about Ralph's new CD and pushing really hard for Ralph.

WNGR Radio in Grundy, VA has been given Ralph's CD a lot of airplay. There number to call is 703-935-2967.

Also WAMU in Big Stone Gap, VA is giving Ralph's CD a lot of airplay. I don't have there number but a lot of our members live in that area and I'm sure they will be calling in to request.

Speaking of Ralph and Dwight the cut "Down Where The River Bends" had been release on CDX the week of Sept. 6th to 2700 country music stations. So be sure to call up your local radio station and request this song as much as possible.

The National Bluegrass Survey has "Down Where The River Bends" by Ralph and Dwight Yoakam at number 13 for the month of October, and also "Miner's Prayer" at number 21. Ralph's Saturday Night - Sunday Morning album is at number 6 on the Top 10 Bluegrass Albums.

FESTIVAL NEWS

Faye and Homer Elam, who have been friends with Ralph for many years reports that the Roundeye Park festival in Painter's Creek, OH. August 21st was a great success. Ralph and The Clinch Mt. Boys stopped by their house for a nice visit and rest the night before going out to the festival the following day.

They weather was really nice and the crowd was good. Ralph and The Clinch Mt. Boys put on two great shows to a very receptive crowd.

Nestled in the Smokie Mountains just over the Tennessee border is a little town called Cherokee, NC. That is where the Ralph Stanley bus was spotted playing a festival there on August 26th.

Ralph's first set was filled with all our Stanley favorites like "Room At The Top Of The Stairs", "Mt. Folks", "Who Will Call You Sweetheart", and many, many others. The gospel part was outstanding as only Ralph Stanley can do. That old mountain harmony singing is hard to beat and

Ralph is the best at it.

Ralph's second show was full of requests like "Rank Stranger", "Take Me Home Tonight In A Song", "Man Of Constant Sorrow", and many other fine tunes. He finished the set out with his famous clawhammer tunes that drove the crowd wild.

Another member was found traveling with Ralph on two more festival this summer.

Friday Sept. 3rd found Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mountain Boys at the Salem County Fair Grounds, Woodstown, NJ, site of the 22nd Annual Delaware Valley Bluegrass Festival. Ralph was scheduled for only one mid-evening 40 minute show. The first day crowd was a bit on the small side, but as Ralph's 9:15 appearance time drew near the crowd became larger. Ralph and The Boys led off with "Cotton Eyed Joe" and the crowd got into it. The group received enthusiastic applause as each selection was very well received by the audience.

Immediately after the show Ralph and The Boys boarded the bus and headed west toward West Virginia and the next days show.

The temperature on Sat. Sept. 4th was much cooler and more pleasant than the previous day as The Ralph Stanley Bus arrived at Aunt Minnie's Farm near Stumptown, WV. Ralph was scheduled for 2 shows that day at 4 and 11pm. The turnout was fair for an early Saturday afternoon. There had been quite a bit of heavy

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rain overnight and into the early morning and the grounds were muddy.

The crowd had grown some by 4pm and the first show went very well. Tape sales were brisk with Ralph providing many autographs for young and old alike.

The crowd was much larger by second show time. Ralph and The Boys gave a memorable performance and went several minutes over the allotted time to satisfy the crowds wishes. Then it was back on the Bus and headed for home after a job well done.

Ralph and The Clinch Mt. Boys were yet spotted at another festival. This time it was the Poppy Mt. Bluegrass Festival in Morehead, Ky. on Saturday, 18th. This place is set up on a large Mt. with lots of acreage with plenty to do besides listing to music. Hay rides, horseback riding, and fishing.

The majority of the crowd turned out to see Ralph Stanley and The Clinch Mt. Boys perform and they got what they wanted. Ralph and the boys were in fine form and they put on 2 excellent shows. "White Oak On The Hill", "Room At The Top Of The Stairs", "Pretty Polly", and "Little Maggie" to name a few of the songs. Ralph was dazzling them with his exquisite banjo playing (like no one but Ralph can do), and excellent mountain singing. They boys were doing their favorites in singing and playing. Ralph and the boys were in perfect tune with the wonderful harmony singing in

the gospel as well as the standard songs. Ralph and The Clinch Mt. Boys were the only group during the whole afternoon and evening shows that was called out for an encore. Now that's what I call knowing who you want.

In between shows Ralph was spotted taking a buggy ride with Melvin Goins taking a tour around the festival grounds. See! you have to keep your eyes open, you never know what you might see!

Ralph was kept busy signing autographs and spending time talking to all his fans that turned out to see him. After the final show it was off to yet another bluegrass show in another part of the country.

Once again our fan club members spotted the Stanley Bus in the foothills of the Smokies. This time at Maggie Valley, NC October the 8th. Ralph performed at the Maggie Valley Opry House, which from what I understand is the brainchild of Raymond Fairchild. Ralph & The Clinch Mountain Boys performed to a standing room only crowd with the crowd getting more than they expected.

Ralph and the boys did a excellent show with all the Stanley favorites like, "Cotton Eyed Joe", "Carolina Mountain" and many, many more. Ralph and Ralph II kept them begging for more with "Just Because" and "Down Where The River Bends". The crowd was extremely delighted when Ralph stepped

up to the mike and showed off his clawhammer pickin".

Raymond Fairchild also came upon the stage to do a couple of numbers with Ralph also. "Molly and Tenbrooks" and "White House Blues".

The Stanley Bus also make it's way to Blue Ridge, Ga. October the 9th to put on a terrific show at Sugar Creek Park. From what I am told this too was a great show and the people really had a great time. Once again Ralph really outdid himself for the people and they showed how much they enjoyed his singing and playing for them. They really comment on his gospel singing. It's the best they've ever heard.

Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mt. Boys performed at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville, Tn. October 15th. They were performing on the Early Bird Bluegrass Show that is held every year during Country Music Month in Nashville. Ralph also was performing along with Ricky Skaggs Picking Party at the Grand Palace Theater in Branson, MO. October 17th. From what Ralph said it is a beautiful place that holds about 4500 people. He played 2 shows there to a great crowd, and even got together with Ricky Skaggs to do a few numbers like old times. I'm glad to see that so many of our fan club members turn out for these shows and that they send me these reports and pictures to share with all of us in the club. It's almost like being there.

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Thanks everyone.

OTHER NEWS

Don't forget to get a copy of Ralph's New CD/Tape, CHRISTMAS TIME WITH RALPH STANLEY. This is another great recording by Ralph with a great collection of Christmas songs done in the Stanley tradition. This is the first Christmas album that Ralph has ever done in his 47 years of music. Ralph never lets us down with fine masterpieces that he brings out of the studio. Be sure to put this on your list to buy your favorite Stanley music lover for Christmas. And if by some strange chance they haven't been turned on to the great Ralph Stanley buy them a copy anyway and they'll be hooked. Once a Stanley Fan always a Stanley Fan. Matter of fact buy two. One for them and one for yourself to listen to. Take it to all those parties that you will be invited to. Or if you're like me just sit back under the headphones with a hot cup of whatever, in front of a fire and just listen till your heart's content. If you don't have a fireplace put a picture of one on the TV and pretend. It's great music anytime of the year. Even old Santa likes Ralph Stanley too! You can buy these from Ralph or through the fan club. The cost of the tape is \$10.00 and the CD is \$15.00 plus \$2.00 shipping.

Songs on the new project are:

1. Christmas Praise
2. The Christmas Spirit
3. Don't Make Us Cry On

Christmas Day

4. Jesus Christ is Born
5. Bright Morning Star
6. That's Christmas Time To Me
7. Christmas Time's A'Comin'
8. Beautiful Star Of Bethlehem
11. Just A Moment Now To Pray

County Sales has the Stanley Brothers 4 CD Boxed set of 1958-1961 King/Starday cuts out. There are suppose to be 109 songs on this 4 CD collection. A must for all Stanley collectors

Sept. Issue of Bluegrass Unlimited reviewed Ralph's Banjo Video "The Banjo of Ralph Stanley From Old Time to Bluegrass, taught by Ralph Stanley. They did a nice job on the write up for it.

Ralph has a great line up for the 24th Annual Memorial Blue Grass Festival May 26-27-28 up on the Mountain next year. Besides our favorite person Ralph Stanley and The Clinch Mt. Boys, there will be appearing also Blue Grass Echoes, Hary & Anita with Verlin Sanders, The Larkin Family, Bill Monroe, Charlie Sizemore, Blue Grass Strangers, Traditional Grass, Wild Wood Girls, Sam Wilson & Band, Jimmy Martin, Issacs Family, Larry Sparks, Vince Combs, Bricker Brothers with Dale Kenndy, Goins Brother, East Ohio Grass and Jeannie Stanley. This years special guest will be Doc Watson for 2 days, Friday and Saturday.

It's never too early to make plans to attend. There are

area motels plus camping on the grounds of the festival. If you've never been this is the time to go. Plenty of music, jammin' and clean mountain air. This will be held at the old home place at the Hills Of Home Park on Smith Ridge between Coeburn and McClure, Va. Don't miss it! The best in Bluegrass Music!

Ralph celebrated his 47 years in Music this past October. Keep up the good work Ralph!

Now for some very interesting news. Dick Freeland has told me that he, Ralph, B. Town and Doc Watson have reached an agreement for the theme for the Merl Wastson Memorial Festival. It will be Saturday Night Sunday Morning after Ralph's CD. They plan on making this the best festival possible. I also here that Ralph will be playing there in 1994.

ARTICLE NEWS

The September 23rd issue of The Wall Street Journal and a fantastic write-up on Ralph and the Saturday Night - Sunday Morning project. It was written by Nat Hentoff who is a writer and jazz critic in New York. He states in his column "Ralph Stanley is a subtly resourceful banjo picker, Stanley's singing had been described by Bill Malone - the premiere historian of these forms - as one of the most unmistakable rural

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voices in country music - a haunting, almost sepulchral voice." He goes on to tell about the Stanley Bro. and then on to Ralph and the CD. He discusses some of material on the CD like "Heaven's Bright Shore", "Banks Of The Ohio", to name a few, and his feelings on them. He tells how all the singers on the album pay Ralph tribute by the integrity of their won music. The whole column was done very nicely and in very good taste.

Ralph's new book *Traveling The Highway Home - Ralph Stanley and The World of Traditional Music* by John Wright is now available. I have included in this newsletter where you can get this book. Ordering information will be on the back cover of the newsletter. I have read this book and John has done a great job in bringing it all together. This is a must have reading material. It is also filled with some great pictures. Be sure to put this on your list also with the new CD/Tape to buy for the long cold winter. What better way to spend the winter listening to Ralph Stanley on the stereo and reading all about this great and wonderful man.

STANLEY BANJOS

Ralph still has a few of the 40th Anniversary Banjos for sale. I think that 5 have been sold already. These are a high quality banjo designed and crafted by Frank Neat. They have that Stanley Sound

that you can't find in any other banjo. They are gold plated with engraving on the arm rest and on the flange of the banjo. They have Ralph's name on the headstock and 40th Anniversary on the fingerboard. They are really a collectors item. If you are interested in one of these fine banjos contact Ralph at this address: RT HCO5 - Box 576, Coeburn, VA 24230.

BANJO VIDEO

Smithsonian/Folkways has produced a video called *THE BANJO OF RALPH STANLEY* taught by Ralph himself. This tape starts with the first tunes that Ralph learned from his mother in the old time clawhammer style. There are about three different clawhammer styles that he shows us. Ralph also shows us his two finger style, that Ralph now plays. This is not just an instructional tape, it is full of great music too. Some of the tunes on the tape, along with the Clinch Mt. Boys- even Ralph II is helping on a few of these - are Little Maggie, Hard Times, Dickenson County Breakdown, Little Birdie, Shout Little Lulie, Clinch Mountain Backstep, Train 45 and many many more. This is a 90 minute tape of classic Stanley Music. If you are a banjo picker like me you definitely want to get one of these. If not you still will want one of these in your video library. The music alone is worth the cost of the tape. It's not often that you get to see

Ralph on tape playing that great Mountain music that he make famous. Ralph will be selling these on the road and you can also purchase one through Ralph at this address: Ralph Stanley, RT HCO5, Box 576, Coeburn, VA 24230. If buying through the mail the cost of the video tape is \$40.00 plus \$3.00 shipping.

UP ON THE MOUNTAIN

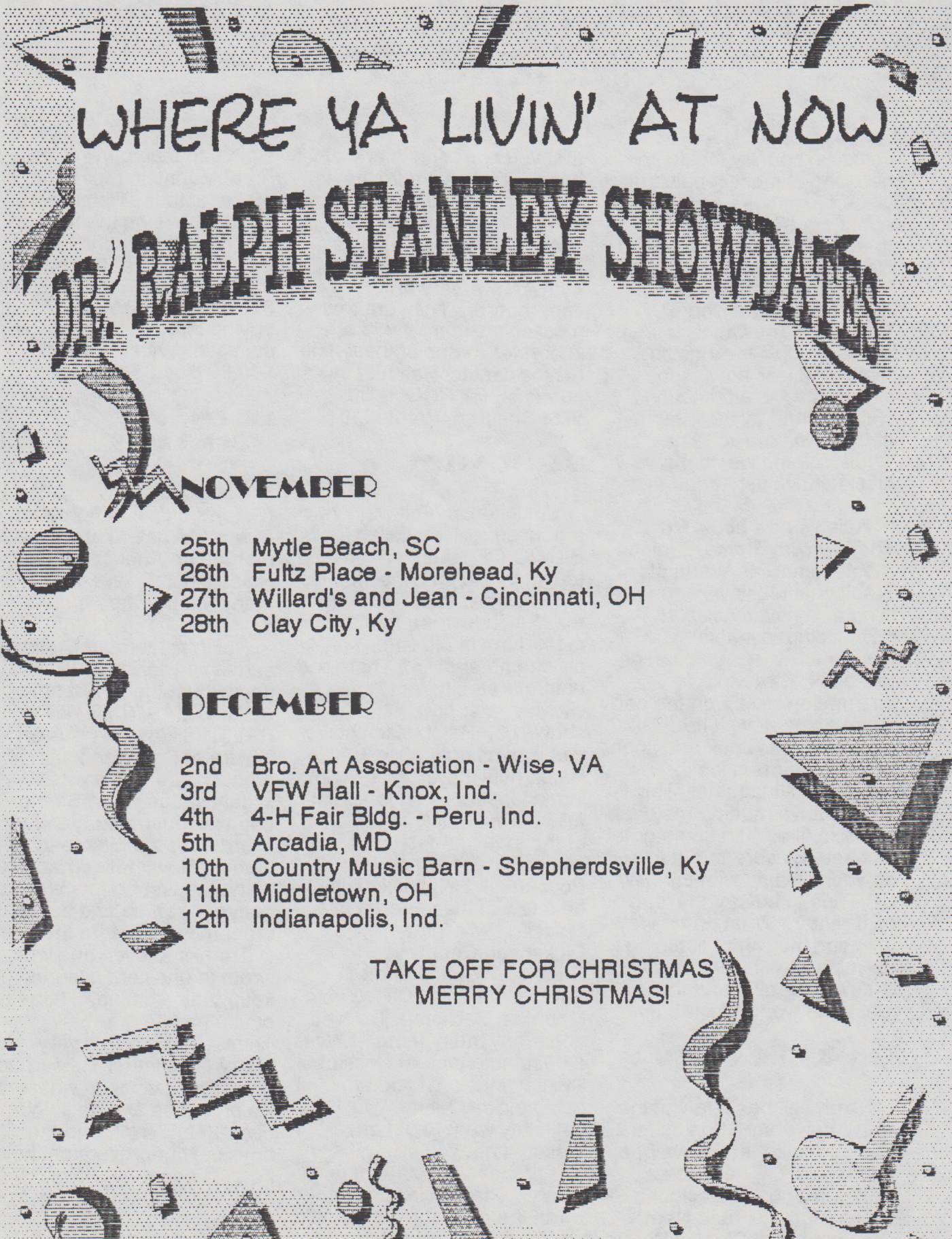


Congratulations to Lisa (Ralph's oldest daughter) and Brian Marshall. They were married on August 13th at Ralph's home. We wish them many happy years together.

Ralph celebrated Christmas early this year, in July! The new album that is out now, *CHRISTMAS TIME WITH RALPH STANLEY*, has a picture of Ralph and his grandchildren on it was taken in July of this year. So the tree was put up early this year in order for the picture to be made. Now that's what I call being the first on the block to get your tree up and put your order in early before the rush.

Thanks to everyone who wrote in and sent pictures keep them coming. I hope all of you have a great Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas! Be sure to check the listings of where Ralph will be and go if you can. Keep Ralph and the boys in your prayers so they'll be safe and may all your hopes and dreams come true for Christmas.

Cheryl



WHERE YA LIVIN' AT NOW

DR. RALPH STANLEY SHOW DATES

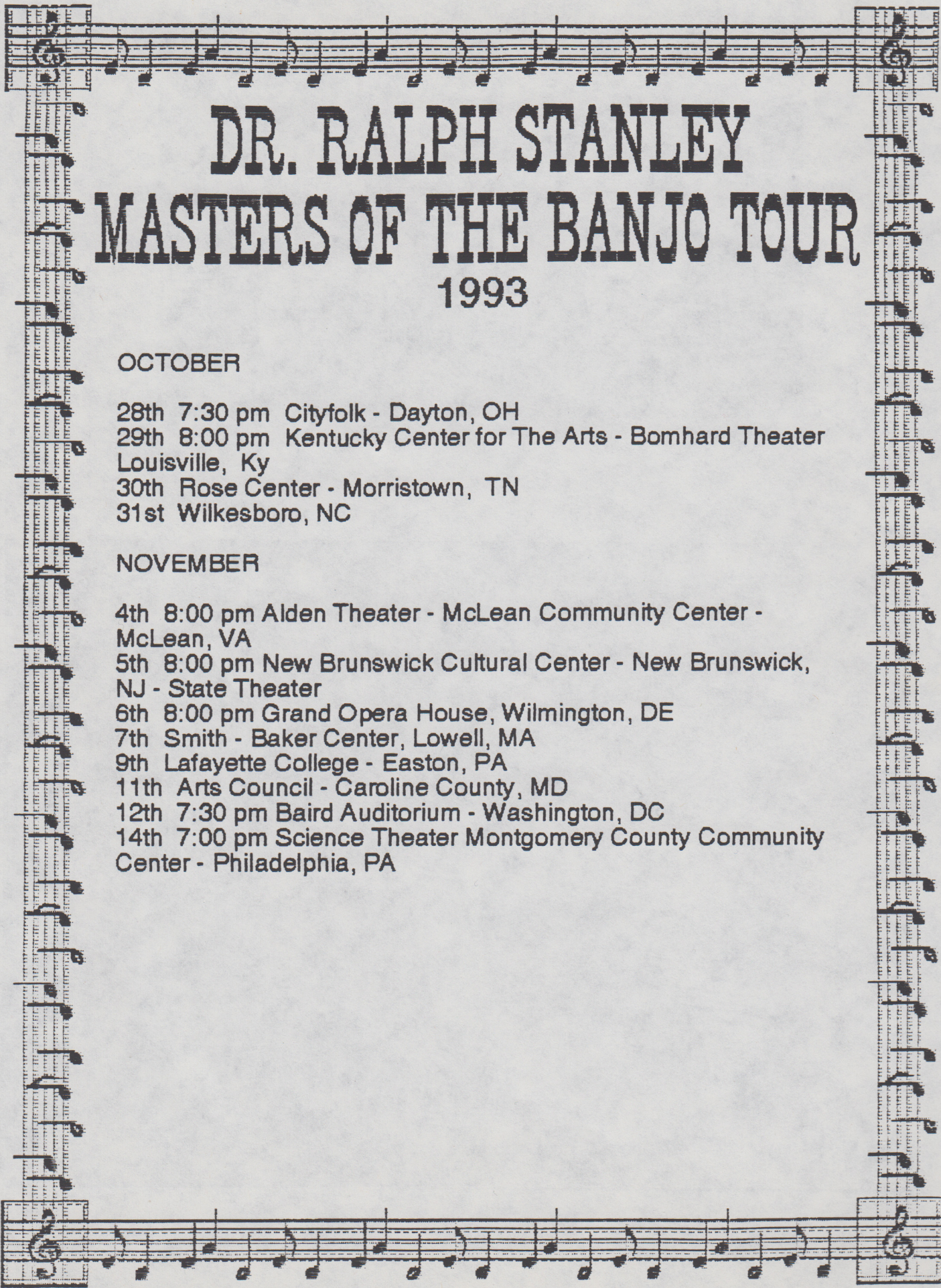
NOVEMBER

- 25th Mytle Beach, SC
- 26th Fultz Place - Morehead, Ky
- 27th Willard's and Jean - Cincinnati, OH
- 28th Clay City, Ky

DECEMBER

- 2nd Bro. Art Association - Wise, VA
- 3rd VFW Hall - Knox, Ind.
- 4th 4-H Fair Bldg. - Peru, Ind.
- 5th Arcadia, MD
- 10th Country Music Barn - Shepherdsville, Ky
- 11th Middletown, OH
- 12th Indianapolis, Ind.

TAKE OFF FOR CHRISTMAS
MERRY CHRISTMAS!



DR. RALPH STANLEY

MASTERS OF THE BANJO TOUR

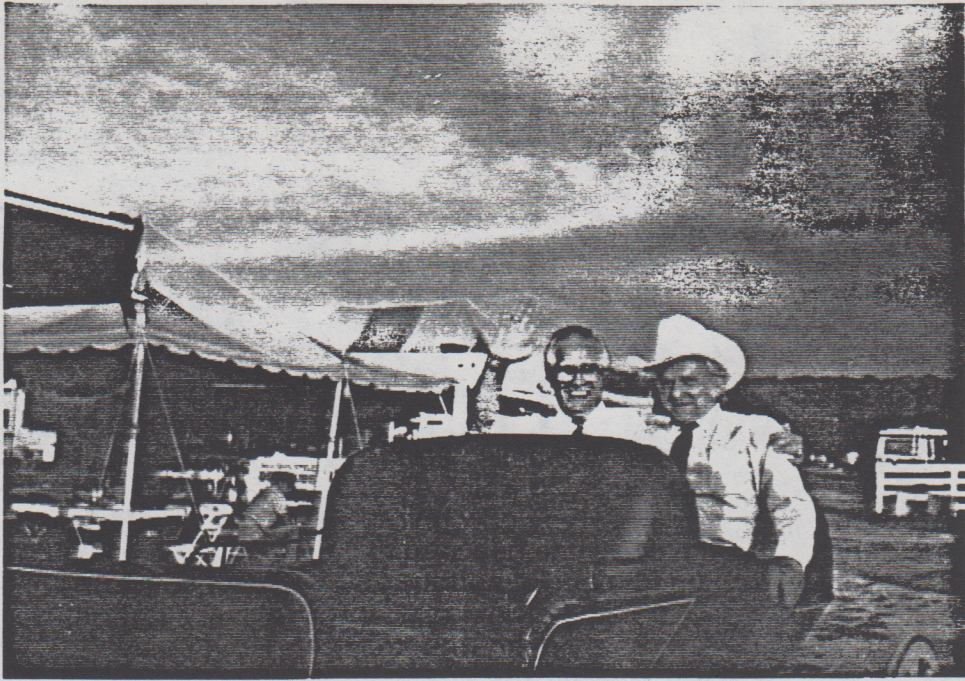
1993

OCTOBER

28th 7:30 pm Cityfolk - Dayton, OH
29th 8:00 pm Kentucky Center for The Arts - Bomhard Theater
Louisville, Ky
30th Rose Center - Morristown, TN
31st Wilkesboro, NC

NOVEMBER

4th 8:00 pm Alden Theater - McLean Community Center -
McLean, VA
5th 8:00 pm New Brunswick Cultural Center - New Brunswick,
NJ - State Theater
6th 8:00 pm Grand Opera House, Wilmington, DE
7th Smith - Baker Center, Lowell, MA
9th Lafayette College - Easton, PA
11th Arts Council - Caroline County, MD
12th 7:30 pm Baird Auditorium - Washington, DC
14th 7:00 pm Science Theater Montgomery County Community
Center - Philadelphia, PA



Ralph Stanley

Presents the 24th Annual

Memorial Blue Grass Festival

At the Hills of Home Park (Old Home Place) on
Smith Ridge between Coeburn and McClure, VA



DIRECTIONS: From Coeburn, take 72 North about one mile, turn right on Rt. 652, go about 6 miles, turn left on Rt. 643, leads to Festival. From McClure, take Rt. 63 to Nora, turn right on Rt. 652, go about 3 miles, turn right on Rt. 643, leads to Festival.

Thursday ~ Friday ~ Saturday May 26-27-28, 1994

Starts Thursday at 6 p.m., Friday at 2 p.m., Saturday at 12 Noon

~ *Featuring* ~

THURSDAY: Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mountain Boys, Blue Grass Echoes, Gary & Anita with Verlin Sanders, The Larkin Family.

FRIDAY: Ralph Stanley, Bill Monroe, Charlie Sizemore, Blue Grass Strangers, Traditional Grass, Wild Wood Girls, Sam Wilson & Band.

DOC WATSON ~ Special Guest Friday and Saturday

SATURDAY: Ralph Stanley, Jimmy Martin, Issacs Family, Larry Sparks, Blue Grass Strangers, Vince Combs, Brickey Brothers with Dale Kennedy, Goins Brothers, East Ohio Grass, Jeannie Stanley (daughter of Carter Stanley)

Sound: Blue Grass Strangers

MC's: Willard Hall, Gary Rakes, Bob Smallwood, Clyde Varney
Concessions on Grounds, Electric Hook-Ups

3 day ticket \$35 • 2 day ticket \$25 • Thursday only \$12, Friday or Saturday, 1 day \$15

AREA MOTELS: Holiday Inn - Super 8 Motel - Park Motel - Jefferson Motel, Norton ~ The Inn, Wise ~ Buck's Motel, Clintwood ~ 3-Way Motel, Coeburn ~ Village Motel, Castlewood ~ Gate Way Motel, Breaks ~ Country Inn, Big Stone Gap ~ Ramada Inn, Duffield.

25th Annual Memorial Blue Grass Festival, Same Place, May 25-26-27, 1995

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