

APPALACHIAN HIGHLANDS MUSIC ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER

Volume 12 Number 2

February 2010

Dedicated to Promoting the Heritage of the Appalachians

Our Goal: Promote, Preserve and Foster Bluegrass and Old-Time Music



I'd like to apologize to any of our members who didn't get the information that our January show was cancelled. We decided that the weather was just too harsh to expect our two bands to travel the distance they had to, and also too cold and windy for us to load and unload sound system, concession supplies, etc. Hopefully the worst is over with our weather, and this won't have to happen again!

A note from our former AHMA President:

I want to thank all of the volunteers and members who have stood by me for the last five years that I have been president of this association. I hope everyone will support

Peggy as well as you have me. I'll still be around, so stay in tune and keep it blue, and I'll see you soon!

Ted Hatfield, AHMA President 2005-2009

Hi, Folks!

Most of you already know me, but for those of you who don't, I just want to say hello. I'll be the AHMA President this year, and I'm hoping for a very good year for the association. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please don't hesitate to talk with me at our monthly shows or call me at home (my phone number is at the end of this newsletter). I appreciate all the help you can give me and our Board of Directors. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Ted for all the work he's done with the AHMA; I appreciate his continued support.

Thanks!

Peggy Hartman

Our **February 6th** show will feature *Black Diamond* and *The Whites of WV*. *Black Diamond* is a very talented Bluegrass band featuring Eddie Marris, Donnie Marris, Rodney Riffe and Scott Patrick. If you enjoy smooth vocal harmonies and up-tempo instrumentals, these guys are among the very best. *The Whites* are a family group whose harmonies on those wonderful gospel tunes are outstanding. They are a charter member band, and we've had the privilege of watching the girls grow into lovely, talented young

women. With the addition of Russell and Pat Synan, they've added a dimension that is just fun to share!

We have two outstanding bluegrass bands traveling to our area to perform

for us on **February 20th**. *Big Country Bluegrass* was formed by husband and wife Tommy and Teresa Sells in the late 1980's and took its name from Tommy's coon-hunting buddy Jimmy Martin's instrumental, Big Country. Tommy Sells, Teresa Sells, Alan Mastin, Jeff Michael, Lynwood Lunsford, and Johnny Williams all live in the Galax, VA area. They have developed a large and devoted following all over America and now in many foreign countries. They have been nominated for nine SPGMA awards including bluegrass album of the year, guitar, banjo and fiddles performers of the year, male vocalist of the year, instrumental group of the year, song of the year, and entertaining group of the year.

The Hagar's Mountain Boys were formed on October 13, 2006. Ricky Stroud, Blake Johnson, Mike Johnson, and Cliff Smith are from the Roxboro, NC area. They have played with Rhonda Vincent, Lonesome River Band, Grasstowne, Ill'rd Tyme Out, The Grascals, The Country Gentlemen, The Lewis Family, and Lost and Found, to name a few. The fourth weekend of March, 2009, the guys were the band competition winners at RenoFest Bluegrass Festival in South Carolina, the largest bluegrass festival in South Carolina.

See the ad on the following page for times, location, etc.

Saturday – February 6th- 6:30pm Black Diamond & The White's



Black Diamond is West Virginia's Bluegrass Band of The Year,



**Both Shows will be held
Princeton Middle School, Princeton, WV -
Show starts 6:30 pm
Doors and concessions open 5:30**

Saturday -February 20th – Big Country Bluegrass and The Hagar's

Mountain Boys



Big Country has been nominated for nine SPGMA Awards, including Song of the Year, Fiddle and Guitar Players and Tenor Singer of the Year!



Admission \$6.00 or AHMA Membership

Annual Dues-

\$28 Family

\$22 Single

12 Shows & Special Events!

**Appalachian Highlands Music Association – Our Goal is to Promote, Preserve and Foster
Bluegrass and Old-Time Music**

***Thanks, Cindy, for a great ad lay-out!

For more great bluegrass, old-time and bluegrass gospel tunes, tune into J&J
Bluegrass Classics
on FM 106.3 or FM 107.7 on Sunday evenings from 7:00 p.m. 'til 11:00 p.m.

AHMA website: ahma-online.org

Contact via phone: 304-384-9807 (Peggy) or 304-325-9414 (Cindy)

Board of Directors:

President, Peggy Hartman

Treasurer, Dora Earnest

Band Scheduling, Amos Bailey

Concessions, Cindy Romano

Vice President, Cindy Romano

Secretary, Elizabeth Bailey

Scholarship Activity, Dora Earnest

Junior Billings, Larry Cox, Loretta Cox, Richard Cox, Dwayne Ernest, Will Frazier,
James Grubb, Jimmy Martin, Janet Snow

Happy
Groundhog Day!

