

LISTON B. RAMSEY CENTER FOR REGIONAL STUDIES



Photograph courtesy of the Bailey Mountain Cloggers.

SUMMER/FALL 2014 VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

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DANCE INTO FALL WITH THE RAMSEY CENTER OLD TIME BARN DANCE!

The Liston B. Ramsey Center for Regional Studies at Mars Hill University is excited to begin the 2014-15 academic year with an old-time barn dance that will celebrate the Bailey Mountain Cloggers' 40th Anniversary. We invite all students, staff, faculty, and community members to gather at 6 p.m. on August 22nd in Chambers Gymnasium for what is sure to be a fun-filled evening of dancing!

In recent years the Bailey Mountain Cloggers have worked closely with the Ramsey Center on several programs, including school group visits, our National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant Celebration, and the annual Bascom Lamar Lunsford "Minstrel of Appalachia" Festival. This barn dance is another opportunity for partnership as we continue to strengthen and celebrate our shared history and commitment to the rich heritage of Madison County and the Southern Appalachian region. The dance will include square dances, big circle dances, alumni recognition, and an awards ceremony. East Tennessee State University's bluegrass band will provide live music for the called dances, the showcase of local



Bailey Mountain Cloggers, Lunsford Festival, 2013.
Photograph by Teresa Buckner.

dance teams, and a special performance by the Bailey Mountain Cloggers.

The Bailey Mountain Cloggers were formed in 1974 by Mars Hill College students. Among the first collegiate clogging teams in the country, they have played an integral role locally, nationally, and inter-

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Performance at the NEH Challenge Grant Celebration, April 2012. Photograph by Mike Thornhill.



ONE TOWN, TWO GREAT FALL FESTIVALS

On Saturday, October 4, 2014, the town of Mars Hill will be transformed into a celebration of traditional music, dance, locally made arts and crafts, and delicious food. While the Ramsey Center celebrates the 47th Annual Bascom Lamar Lunsford “Minstrel of Appalachia” Festival, the town of Mars Hill will host the twenty-year-old Mars Hill Heritage Festival. The Heritage Festival welcomes more than 100 artisans whose booths will line College and Main Streets, offering a wide variety of handmade items. The aroma of apple butter cooking in an iron kettle will draw you toward the University’s Upper Quad, where the Lunsford Festival’s 4-H and craft demonstrations, traditional mountain music, ballad singing, and dancing complement Main Street’s offerings with a touch of fall color under the maple trees.

Making apple butter at the Lunsford Festival, 2013. Photograph by Teresa Buckner.



Highlights of the day on the main Lunsford Festival Stage will be performances by the Mars Hill University award-winning Bailey Mountain Cloggers, the Green Grass Cloggers, and many local musical favorites, including Joe Penland, Kathryn Parham Brickey and Bryce Parham, Jerry Sutton and the Pegtwesters, and the popular youth dancers from the Cole Mountain Cloggers. Among



Young fiddler, Rhiannon Ramsey with Little Creek, 2013 Lunsford Festival. Photograph by Teresa Buckner.

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nationally showcasing and preserving Appalachian dance traditions. They have shared these traditions with fans in countries such as Germany, Ireland, Canada, Mexico, and Austria and throughout the United States. From early on, Mars Hill student cloggers blended the traditional with the modern, creating memorable performances for their audiences. Their success is reflected in the precision with which they perform; their deep understanding of traditional dances; their enthusiasm for innovation; and the ear-to-ear smiles of audience members who come out to see them.



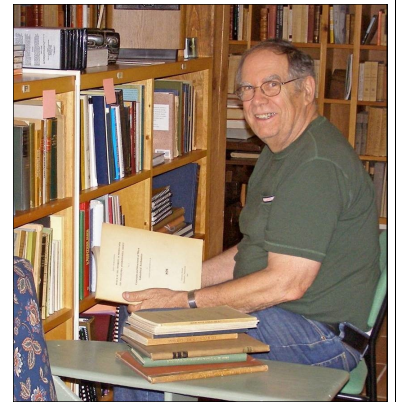
Bailey Mountain Cloggers with Doc Watson. Bailey Mountain Cloggers Collection, Southern Appalachian Archives, Mars Hill University.

The Bailey Mountain Cloggers Collection is housed in the Ramsey Center’s Southern Appa-

lachian Archives and includes photographs, newspaper articles, past programs, and other documents. For more information about the Cloggers, please visit their website: <http://baileymountaincloggers.com/>.

REMEMBERING DR. GEORGE E. STUART

The Ramsey Center, Mars Hill University, and other regional institutions of higher learning lost a dear friend with the passing of Dr. George E. Stuart on June 11, 2014. After a long career with the National Geographic Society in which he made important discoveries in the field of Mayan archaeology, George and his wife, Melinda Young Stuart, moved to Barnardsville, North Carolina near Mars Hill and founded the Boundary End Archaeology Research Center, where George shared his extensive library of books on the Maya with visiting scholars. Over the years George and Melinda generously shared their time and expertise with Mars Hill University students and Ramsey Center program participants, including working with the National Endowment for the Humanities Landmarks of American History and Culture Programs hosted by the Ramsey Center in 2005 and 2006; speaking to classes; and serving on the Ramsey Center Advisory Council. We will miss our friend, his deep knowledge, and his wonderful exuberance in sharing this knowledge with others.



Photograph by Melinda Young Stuart.

ARCHIVES UPDATE

For the second summer in a row, the Ramsey Center partnered with Mars Hill University's Teaching with Primary Sources program, sponsored by the Library of Congress, to host a workshop for primary and secondary school teachers and librarians on Appalachian History. The five librarians who participated in this year's workshop explored Library

of Congress and the Ramsey Center's Southern Appalachian Archives resources, while enjoying field trips and guest speakers. Participants developed lesson plans that they will use with their

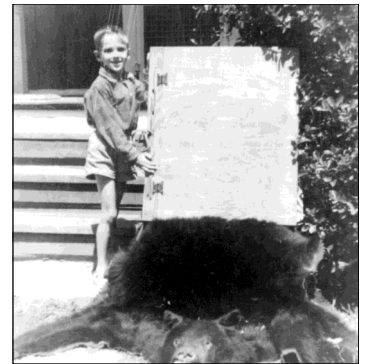


Photograph by Sedley Abercrombie.

students in schools ranging from Raleigh to Franklin and several places in between. We had a wonderful time working with these dedicated educators and hope to see them back at Mars Hill University for future workshops.

The Bascom Lamar Lunsford Scrapbook is now online through DigitalNC: <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/ncmemory/id/135431>. We are seeking volunteers to work on transcriptions and identifying search terms

for the more than four hundred pages of this volume that documents Mr. Lunsford's long career. One of Mr. Lunsford's annotations from page 278 of the scrapbook reads, "People have liked this book. That's why I love it so well." For more information on volunteering, please contact Archivist Karen Paar at kpaar@mhu.edu.



Grandson Kern Lunsford poses with the Lunsford Scrapbook on page 278 of the Bascom Lamar Lunsford Scrapbook, Southern Appalachian Archives, Mars Hill University.

3RD ANNUAL FIDDLIN' 5K TO BE HELD ON APRIL 11, 2015

On April 12, 2014, the 2nd Annual Fiddlin' 5K "Run for the Music" Road Race filled the streets of Mars Hill with the pounding of feet and the singing of fiddles. The Ramsey Center hosted over one hundred and fifty runners and over twenty musicians for the race. After hearing all the positive feedback about the event, we have confirmed the third annual race will be held on April 11, 2015. For updates on the race and registration, visit our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Fiddlin5k>.

"Festival," continued from page 2

other attractions on the Mars Hill University campus will be free music workshops and "kids making pottery," where children can throw a pot on the pottery wheel with the assistance of the University's ceramics students.

The Lunsford Festival will also host special guest and filmmaker, David Hoffman, whose first project out of film school in 1964 was a documentary about mountain music that followed Bascom Lamar Lunsford as he traveled through the region. We will show this documentary during the daytime festival with discussion by Mr. Hoffman.

The Lunsford Festival evening concert showcases some of the most talented musicians in our region. This year's show will bring out some fresh faces as we welcome Carole Rifkin, Sheila Kay Adams, and Jeannette Queen's new trio project. Brooke and George Buckner will join the evening concert with other favorites, including the Stoney Creek Boys, Roger Howell, young fiddler Rhiannon Ramsey, and many more. A full list of performers will be posted in early September on the Lunsford Festival website, www.lunsfordfestival.com. **The Lunsford Festival would like to thank the many dedicated volunteers who give their time and energy. If you are interested in becoming a festival volunteer, please contact Hannah Furgiuele, Director, at (828) 689-1571. Thank you!**



The Cockman Family and the Butterpats perform on the daytime stage. Photograph by Teresa Buckner.



THE LISTON B. RAMSEY
CENTER FOR
REGIONAL STUDIES

Liston B. Ramsey Center for Regional Studies
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UPCOMING RAMSEY CENTER EVENTS

For more information about these programs, see www.mhu.edu/ramsey-center/upcoming-events or contact Ramsey Center Program Coordinator and Lunsford Festival Director Hannah Furgiuele at (828) 689-1571 or hfurgiuele@mhu.edu.

Old Time Barn Dance

August 22, 2014, 6-9 p.m.

Chambers Gymnasium, Mars Hill University Campus

We are excited to partner with the Bailey Mountain Cloggers for this welcome back dance and performance in celebration of the Bailey Mountain Cloggers 40th Anniversary.

“The Migration of Songs and Ballads Across the Atlantic” with Sara Grey, September 10, 2014, 3 p.m.

Ramsey Center, Renfro Library, Mars Hill University

Sara Grey has been living in Scotland and briefly in England for the last 32 years. She has always been interested in the migration of songs across the Atlantic, and it was as a result of a collecting trip to Scotland in 1970 that she moved to the United Kingdom. She has been working with other traditional singers from Scotland and Ireland to look at the movement of Celtic songs and how these songs have changed over time.

47th Bascom Lamar Lunsford “Minstrel of Appalachia” Festival October 4, 2014, All Day, Mars Hill University Campus

An all-day festival and evening concert that feature traditional Appalachian music, dancing, and crafts. The daytime stage on the Upper Quad will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will have music and dance performances. The day will also feature free workshops (registration is necessary), as well as a silent auction and a Ballad and Story Swap from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in Peterson Conference Center. This year we will also be hosting filmmaker David Hoffman and viewing his documentary from 1964 on Bascom Lamar Lunsford. The evening performance begins at 7 p.m. in Moore Auditorium. Please see www.lunsfordfestival.com for more information.

Field Trip to East Fork Pottery, October 22, 2014, 3-5 p.m.

This field trip will take participants to the studios and kiln at East Fork Pottery with artist, Alex Matisse. It continues our exploration of Craft in Southern Appalachia. Advance registration is required; please contact Hannah Furgiuele to sign up.

For Spring programs, please visit our website at www.mhu.edu/ramsey-center/upcoming-events.

TO RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL, PLEASE CONTACT KAREN PAAR AT [KPAAR@MHU.EDU](mailto:kpaar@mhu.edu)