

OLD HARP



Number 25
Millennium Issue

*The
New Harp of
Columbia
Newsletter*



OLD HARP SINGING

by the Old Harp Singers of Eastern Tennessee

(Record Album cover) ©1958 Folkways Records FA 2356

MANY THANKS

Many thanks to **Brent Cantrell** and **Karan Dotson** for their part in keeping the Old Harp tradition alive. Brent is looking into getting a grant to produce an Old Harp tape and, maybe, even a teaching tape. Karan keeps our mailing addresses updated and handles our mail for us through out the year.

Through email, **Sharon Hjerpe**, **Lois Luebke** and **Virginia Douglas** have contributed in the editing. **Ann Strange** has again done the formatting and creative part of this newsletter. Other contributors are **Bruce Wheeler** for sponsoring the music "Europe" to be put into Swan's seven shape notes by **Karen Willard** of Buckley, Washington. Thanks to **Sharee Rich** for her article on Bruce Wheeler. Thank you **Bill White** for your research on the history of Old Harp. Thank you **Sharon Kellham** on keeping us posted on the Christian Harmony Singings over the mountain in North Carolina. **Alice Strange**, thank you for the many mailings that you have worked on to get this letter out on time. Also many thanks to all the people on the contact list who constantly update me on the Singings dates, time changes, and member passings. We are grateful that you all are a goodly part of the community.

GREENE COUNTY STARTUP

We must give extra applause to **Jeff Farr** and his wife **Nancy** for getting together a group to practice Old Harp in Greene County, Tennessee and forge out to have their own formal Singing this year.

Please make an extra effort this year, Saturday, March 11, at 2:00 P.M., to attend and get them "winging" into a firm Old Harp tradition.

Note also the 4th Saturday of the month are practice sessions for the Greene County singers.

IN MEMORIAM

We have had the passing of some singers since the last newsletter. **Velma Owenby Lamon**, wife of **Reford Lamon** passed away. Velma sang alto and made just about every Singing far and near. Her brother-in-law, **Wiley Lamon**, a wonderful bass singer, also passed away. Wiley, born on Big Dudley, had been singing Old Harp since he was 6 years old. When they passed on, at both graveside services, the families asked Old Harp Singers to help sing and send them on their paths.

Also **Luke Cornette** who assisted **Charlie Clabo** in the **Headrick's Chapel Singing** passed away this February. Luke was Charlie's son-in-law, a preacher, and a fine singer in his own right. Luke also had his own Quartet.



NEWSLETTER NOTES

As you may have noticed, this is a very large newsletter. The expenses for this edition will be about the same as the two yearly editions. We WILL NOT do a fall edition this year.

There are approximately 550 people on the mail list. 900 of these newsletters will be printed, some for publicity purposes. It is very expensive to mail these. If you are not interested in receiving future issues, please let me know.

Printing this issue will be close to \$800, plus stamps, envelopes and miscellaneous costs of \$720. Contributions would be appreciated. Please make checks out to OLD HARP and also mail to Jubilee Community Arts.

We have changes throughout the year to our schedule. If you want to be put on a list for notification about funerals or additions to the schedule, please send your name and address to OLD HARP NEWSLETTER, c/o Jubilee Community Arts, 1538 Laurel Ave, Knoxville, TN 37916-2016. Thank You.

Larry Olszewski

UPCOMING SINGINGS — 2000

GREENE COUNTY OLD HARP SINGING — Saturday, March 11, 2:00 P.M. at New Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Directions: From Knoxville take I-81 to Rte. 11E. Turn right on Rogersville Hwy. (11E) towards Greeneville. The church is 3.6 miles on left. The church is a white wood clapboard 2-story affair that was built before the Civil War. For more information call Jeff Farr at 423-639-8211 or email at jefffarr@usit.net.

History: This is the first traditional Harp Singing for the group which has been meeting and practicing for about a year now. Jeff Farr and his wife Cheryl have been working hard to cultivate the Old Harp in this area. The singings in this area go back at least to before the Civil War. People retiring to the big city in the 1920s got together a yearly convention and had big singings of 200-300 people. They recreated the Harp Singings that they had attended in their youth.

From the *Encyclopedia of East Tennessee* by Stokely & Johnson, a Reverend Bandy produced a special periodical called *The Harp Singers Review* which contained portraits of the Singing Masters and reports of the local singings. Supposedly, there were church conferences with like theology that would also have an Old Harp Singing. Each church (there would be eight to ten in a conference) would host an Old Harp Singing as part of their program. I believe much of this early history was lost when Mrs. Thelma Teffeteller passed away as she was the last secretary to the Knox County Old Harp Singers.

JUBILEE FESTIVAL PRESENTATION — Friday, March 24, 6:30 P.M.

Directions: The festival is held every year at the old Fort Sanders Presbyterian Church, later on called Epworth, at the corner of 16th and Laurel Ave. Take I-40 into Knoxville and take the 17th Street Exit. On 17th turn south towards the University of Tennessee. At Laurel Ave., turn left one block, Church on the right. For information on the Harp Singing, call Gideon Fryer at 865-524-3136. For more information on the Jubilee Festival call Jubilee Com-

munity Arts at 865-522-5851.

Janie Wilson, the director of JCA after the roof of the Old Fort Sanders Presbyterian church burned and then the building restored, asked that the Old Harp Singers open the festival with their traditional Folk Hymns. According to Kathleen Mavournin, we reopened the building with the refrain *the year of jubilee has come* (#42 Lenox).

Brent Cantrell is now the Director of JCA and is sponsoring the Old Harp Singers by allowing us to use their mail address. He is also working on grants to produce an Old Harp teaching tape and maybe a promotional tape. Karan Dotson, also of JCA, has kept our mailing lists for many years and does our updating and printing of labels.

EPWORTH OLD HARP SINGING — Sunday, March 26, 11:00 A.M.

Epworth Old Harp Singing at the Old Fort Sanders Presbyterian Church at the corner of 16th and Laurel Ave. (Directions above) Contact people are Gideon Fryer at 865-524-3136, Terry Faulkner at 865-584-3659, Kathy Jones at 865-690-3906 or E-mail Kej@knoxnews.infi.net. There is a potluck dinner at noon. The building is as wide as it is long as it is tall and is an unique place for singing. The old wooden chairs that had Harp Singers names on them have been replaced by new padded folding chairs

History: In the thirty years the Epworth Old Harp Singers have been in existence, over a hundred singers have been "noted" under these eaves. Most, being college students, have moved on. We need to thank Rich Kirby, John McCutcheon and Jon Sundell for giving us our start. Ron Peterson and Candra Phillips did extensive research on the history of Old Harp and had the University of Tennessee issue a reprint of the book when the last of Phil Tabor's red book reprint ran out of stock. There is a pool of 20-30 singers that we now draw from for our critical mass. They also sponsor a second Sunday of the month practice sessions in the basement.

UPCOMING SINGINGS (CONT'D)

OLD HARP WORKSHOP—Tuesday, April 4, 7:00 P.M., May 2, and June 6 (call first to confirm) at Roger and Lois Luebke's place.

Directions: From Maryville (traveling Pellissippi Parkway) take the Kingston Pike Exit. Turn right on Kingston Pike and go approximately 1/2 mile (3 rd light) and turn right on Triplett Lane (located beside the Italian Market at the Franklin Square Shopping Center). It is approximately 1/2 mile to the top of Triplett Hill. House on right (surrounded by large trees).

From Knoxville take Pellissippi Parkway exit from I-40 and take the second exit to Kingston Pike (first exit is wrong direction on Kingston Pike). Follow the above directions.

Phone for Roger and Lois is 865-693-9292 or email LuebkeL@aol.com Also Kathleen Mavournin can be called at 865-691-9506 or email at kmav@icx.net.

History: At the end of the Singing school we had last year with Gene McCammon, some of us thought it would be a good idea to hold practice sessions for everyone to have a chance to learn new parts, new songs and practice leading a group. We plan to tailor the workshop to suit the needs of all. Beginners most welcome and encouraged. Lois is a traditional singer many generations down the line and is a retired Knox County librarian. Her husband is also retired and sings bass. We will have extra books on hand for use and books for sale (until we sell out).

OLDHAMS CREEK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH SINGING — Sunday, April 16, 1:30 P.M.

Directions: From Pigeon Forge on Rte #441 head south towards Gatlinburg. After about two miles, turn left over the river and cross the other two lanes onto Kings Branch Road. Take Kings Branch Road to the end. Turn right on Boogertown Road, church is 100 yards on the left. Hal Wilson has taken over the Old Harp Singing from his brother Tom who is pastoring another church. His phone number is 865-436-2590. Veta King, his sister, is the other contact person. Her phone is 865-428-1375 Email Dvatking@bellsouth.net.

History: This area has always been a hotbed for Old Harp Singers throughout the ages. Tom Wilson asked me over ten years ago to sponsor an Old Harp Singing. He eventually got Henry Morton and Mr. Clabo to teach them the Old Harp. Later on, we had a more formal Singing School taught by Gene McCammon with over twenty people in the class. There have been times the elders of the area singings have found out about the quartets formed from the congregation and have ask them to present to the class a "lesson" or two outside of the Old Harp.

EASTER SUNDAY TUCKALEECHEE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SINGING — Sunday, April 23, 2:00 P.M.

Directions: From Knoxville take Alcoa Hwy. (Rte 129) past McGhee Tyson Airport. Bear left at the fork towards Townsend. Take Rte 321 into Townsend 20+ miles. You will see a bill board saying Tuckaleechee Caverns Turn Right here. The church is a mile on the left. John Wright Dunn is the host. His phone number is 865-448-6445. Tom Taylor is his assistant for this singing. His phone is 865-984-8585 or email TTaylor706@aol.com.

History: This is a continuation of the Blount County Singing that used to be held at the Odd Fellows Hall in the 1890s and later held at the First Baptist Church in Maryville. At one time, it was also called the Easter Sunday singing, but was moved to the 4th Sunday in April. This does fall on Easter this year and is also the ending activity for the Blount County Dogwood Festival. Many years ago, Charlie Clabo, John Wright Dunn and Burl Adams taught a singing school at the ranger camp at Treemont. Tom and Nan Taylor were two of those students. Kate Headrick was the cook. Kate Headrick is the real host for the Dollywood Singing where she works.

EASTER SINGING — Sunday, April 23, 5:30 P.M. at Bill Gooch and Meg Mabbs house at 5:30 P.M. (Please note that this is not an error. There are two Singings on this date.) Their place is at 4401 Alta Vista Way.

UPCOMING SINGINGS (CONT'D)

Directions: The house is off Kingston Pike. From Western Plaza just outside of Sequoyah Hills, head towards downtown Knoxville (East). The first stoplight is Alta Vista. Turn Right or South. The house is the last one on the right. For more information call Bill or Meg at 865-522-0515.

History: For 5 years, they have invited us to their place for this Easter Singing. There is a potluck first and we sing after. Meg is a music teacher and also sponsors the local Balkan Singing and area Swedish Folk Dancing. With luck, we can get her to lead Easter Anthem again. We usually have 30 people or more attending. The community is invited.

OLD COLLEGE SINGING — Sunday, May 21, 2:30 PM. Traditional Old Harp Singing, 2nd floor of Old College Building, Tennessee Wesleyan College, Athens, Tennessee. Refreshments and social after. This singing is hosted by Carroll Ross: phone number 423-745-4505. For other information, call Sara Hamilton weekdays at 423-745-7504.

Directions: From I-40, take Exit #49. Go east 3.6 miles on Route #30. Turn right on Coach Farmers Drive. Parking on left, sing on right.

History: Singings after the Civil War abounded between Knoxville and Bellefonte, AL, as Swan taught singing schools between his new home and upper Tennessee. Carroll Ross, now a Circuit Court Judge in his district, got together some civic minded folks, including music teachers and choir directors from the community, to start practice sessions of the Old Harp as the book was available at that time. Eight years ago, a formal singing date for a traditional Singing was established. This is a good transition singing with former members of the Sacred Harp and Christian Harmony partaking in the Old Harp Traditions. Please look at #47 *Promised Land* as it will certainly be sung. Also in the older Harp tradition, a second verse will be added from #26. I really had always thought that one verse was too short. There are usually 60 or more singers who show up for this event.

BEECH GROVE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH SINGING — Sunday, June 18, 11:00 A.M.

Traditional Old Harp Singing. Potluck dinner at noon. Contact people are Sharee Rich 865-429-5877, Trackisme4@aol.com; and Shirley Henry at 865-453-5983.

Directions: From Pigeon Forge heading toward Gatlinburg on Rte #441, take the first right onto Caney Creek Rd. There will also be a sign for Beech Grove Primitive Baptist Church. The church is situated two miles or so up on the left.

History/Background: The preacher, Shirley Henry, turns the church service over to his niece, Sharee Rich, promptly at 11:00 to conduct the Old Harp Singing. If there ever was a church or a community that is steeped in the Old Harp, it is the Beech Grove Community. Families like the Trenthams, Elliots, Clabos, Claboughs, Shields, Huskeys, Henrys, Whaleys, Lamons, Perrymans, Owenbys, Adams, are just the few who were part of the early beginnings of Old Harp since the Civil War. (I will include the rest I have forgotten in next years Old Harp Newsletter from the irate letters of kinfolk that I have forgot.)

Mr. McCarter was president of the East Tennessee Old Harp Singers. Mr. Elliot was the last president of the Knox County Old Harp Singers. Mr. A. B. Shields had a hand in the reprint of one of the early editions of the *New Harp of Columbia* from the Methodist printing house in Nashville. Charlie Clabo was the host of the Headrick's Chapel Singing for over 30 years. Will Perryman was a school teacher that taught from Pittman Center to Little Greenbriar as well as an Old Harp Singing School Master. Burl Adams became moderator of the longest continuous running Old Harp Singings in Wears Valley that is still going on to this day. Wiley Lamons told stories of singing off of "shouting Rock" after his family moved into the community when he was a youngster.

This is a singers sing. Every one entitled to carry a bucket is welcome.



UPCOMING SINGINGS (CONT'D)

CADES COVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

SINGING — Sunday, August 20, 2:30 P.M.

A traditional style Old Harp Presentation at the Cades Cove Missionary Baptist Church. The host for many a year, is the retired Postmaster of Townsend, John Wright Dunn. John can be reached for more information at 865-448-6445

Directions: From Knoxville take Alcoa Hwy. past the McGhee Tyson Airport and take the left fork into Alcoa. Stay on this road as you enter Maryville and continue south on what is now #321 towards Townsend, Tennessee. Continue straight through Townsend into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. At the fork of the river (the "Y") turn right towards Cades Cove. The Cades Cove ranger station has the last non primitive facilities before you return from the singing. Take the Cades Cove Loop. The Missionary Baptist Church is the third church on the loop. Whatever time that you figure on getting to the church, you will need to add one hour after you get your final answer.

History/Background: Before the Civil War, *Sacred Harp* and the *Harp of Columbia* were books that were used here. The unavailability of the original *Sacred Harp* in this area led to the revised *New Harp of Columbia* printed by Swan being used. Families or people using the *Sacred Harp* or tunes from the *Harp of Columbia* were then deemed "Old Harp Singers" as they used the old books at the Harp Singings. There were stories of ten or more people huddling over the one remaining book to sing their family's favorite lesson.

TJ Lawson, one of the elders of the Cades Cove Community, taught his family and taught singing schools at the Primitive Baptist Church. TJ Lawson is Thomas Jefferson Lawson and he was a brother to Rhoda Jane Lawson Headrick, Luke Headrick's Grandmother. He was the Singing School Master that used the "drone" to keep his students in line. A quartet harmonized a lesson in the center of the classroom and the drone was of the students marching in time around the class hold-

ing on to their note of the first chord (this per an interview with Charlie Clabo).

Dorothy Horn, who is an ethnomusicologist and was a music theory teacher at Maryville College, agrees it was most likely a time tested way of controlling students energy while improving individual capabilities of the class in harmonization. This is a grand little Singing. Everyone will get a chance to lead a lesson or two. Some people have been known to take off up Rich Mountain Road afterwards, the back way to Townsend, and find a place to have a late lunch and sing some more. Come one, come all.

WEARS VALLEY SINGING AT THE UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH — Sunday, September 10, 2 P.M.

Old Harp traditional singing. Henry Lawson will host. He can be reached at 865-453-7638.

Directions: From Townsend turn left or east on Rte. #321 over into Wears Valley. The Methodist Church is about 10 miles on the left.

Background/History: About 10 years ago, Uncle John O. Clabo came back to roost near his old home place in Wears Valley after spending years coal mining in Kentucky. He asked the Old Harp Singers to hold a traditional Singing at the Methodist church. Since he passed away, this is sort of a memorial singing to the memory of Uncle John O. Clabo. The Methodist Church still retains rights to one Sunday a month to conduct services at Headrick's Chapel where the next Singing is held.

HEADRICK'S CHAPEL SINGING — Sunday, September 24, 11 A.M.

Traditional Old Harp Singing at Headrick's Chapel. Potluck dinner at noon. Larry Olszewski at 865-584-6633 or larryoharp@aol.com and Lois Luebke 865-693-9292 or Luebkel@aol.com are the contact people.

Directions: From Townsend, Tennessee, take the turn onto Rte #321 east to the Sevier County line. 100 yards past the line is Headrick's Chapel on the right.

UPCOMING SINGINGS (CONT'D)

History/Background: Many intermittent singings were held at this community chapel. None were established as yearly events until Charlie Clabo moved the Singing over from Coker Hill Primitive Baptist Church in Townsend. I can remember several times Charlie and his daughter and two granddaughters would get up near the end of the Singing to sing in a quartet. About eight years ago, Charlie Clabo got together with John Wright Dunn and Luke Headrick to interview Larry Olszewski to conduct this singing. Lois Headrick Luebke has co-hosted this Singing since then. A singers sing. People have been known to retire to the mountain retreats to clean up the leftovers and sing some more.

WEARS VALLEY SINGING AT VALLEY VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH — Sunday, October 1, 2:00 P.M.

Traditional Old Harp Singing at Valley View Baptist Church, hosted by Dr. Bruce Wheeler 865-974-5421 days or at bwheeler@utkux.utcc.edu and by Henry Lawson 865-453-7638.

Directions: From Townsend, Tennessee take the turn on Rte #321 east into Wears Valley. When you pass Headrick's Chapel on the right you will have to go about eight to ten miles to Valley View Rd. (after an "s" turn) Church will be about one mile at the fork in the road.

History/Back ground: This is the oldest continuous Singing in East Tennessee. (See additional history on page 11 of this newsletter.)

MUSEUM OF APPALACHIA HOMECOMING SINGING — Saturday, October 14, 10:30 A.M & 12 NOON

Old Harp presentation at the Museum of Appalachia Homecoming. 30 tickets are given out to the singers for this yearly event. For more information call Lois Luebke at 865-693-9292 or luebkel@aol.com or Larry Olszewski 865-584-6633 or larryoharp@aol.com. Tickets are usually available at the Wears Valley Singings.

Directions: Exit I-75 at the Clinton/Norris

exit. Head east and one mile on the left is the Museum.

History: The Homecoming Festival is all about East Tennessee traditions and history. There are few better places outside a formal singing to showcase our traditions. The log church with wood slab benches makes for great harmony. Time and harmony in a bottle.

DOLLYWOOD SINGING — Sunday, October 15, 2:00 P.M.

Presentation at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge Tennessee. For information, October 15, 2000, Sunday 2:00 P.M. Presentation at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge Tennessee. For information call Martha Graham at 865-453-3276.

Directions: Follow the signs to Dollywood in Pigeon Forge. Tell the parking attendant that you are singing at the church today, show them your Old Harp book (*New Harp of Columbia*). Take trolley to main gate. Show ticket taker on the left side your Old Harp book and tell them you are singing at the old church today. Proceed to church.

This Old Harp presentation has been going on since the days of Silver Dollar City. Bill Cody has asked us back ever since. We have 35 to 50 singers every year. Many people stop in to listen.

I remember that this was the first place I went other than informally singing with the Epworth Old Harp singers. I walked in the back of the church with Reford Lamons and Martha Graham presiding. "You there young fellow who just walked in here with the book, get up here and leads us a lesson or two." My reply surely indicated that I was new to all of this and couldn't even read music. "Don't you never know mind! Come up here and we'll help ya!" They seemed to know what they were doing. I had been fascinated with #18 and #143, both minors.

In the informal Singings at Helen Hutchinson's house, there were wonderful tenors like Lynn Neely, Ron Peterson, Cenda Price and Nancy Olsen. They made it sound wonderful and easy. The only problem was that, two

UPCOMING SINGINGS (CONT'D)

songs and five verses later, there were no lead singers. I was it! "Young fella, what is your name? Come back again. We will teach all of you how to sing!" I was determine to know how to sing before I came back.

It did not turn out that way, but I (Larry Olszewski) came back. If there is a reason to come back to Old Harp singing, it is because the traditional singers genuinely want new singers to come and sing with them.

They loved their singing, they loved the harmonies, the love the giving and sharing, they loved the bantering from knowing people for many years, they felt it was important to share what they inherited with any who came. Some might say my return was preordained.

MARYVILLE COLLEGE SINGING — Sunday, October 22, 2:00 P.M.

Traditional Old Harp Singing at Maryville College. Contact people are Tom and Nan Taylor. They can be reached at 865-984-8585 or by email at Ttaylor706@aol.com.

Directions: From Knoxville, head south on Alcoa Hwy., Rte #129. A half mile past McGhee Tyson Airport, take the left fork into Alcoa and Maryville. Stay on this road. In Maryville this becomes Rte. #321. At Lamar Alexander Parkway, turn right and then take an immediate left into Maryville College. The Singing will be held in the campus' middle building, the old Post Office.

History/Background: Ethnomusicologist Dorothy Horn taught music theory for 16 years at Maryville College. She wrote *Sing To Me Of Heaven*, a book on Old Harp, Sacred Harp, Southern Harmony, and the New Harp of Columbia. She still lives a block away from the college and is a mentor to those who sing.

The Singing is held in the old Post office whose second floor center is exposed to the lower gallery which makes for some interesting acoustics. Rumor has it that our touchstone harp singer, Sharee Rich, has applied to this college for next year. I believe refreshments might be provided and socializing is in order afterwards.

EPWORTH THANKSGIVING EVE SINGING — Wednesday, November 22, 6:30 P.M.

Thanksgiving Eve Old Harp Singing Community Celebration at the Laurel Theatre in Knoxville. This is located at 16th and Laurel Avenues in Fort Sanders near the UT campus. For more information, call Gideon Fryer at 865-524-3136, Kathy Jones at 865-690-3906 or Kej@knoxnews.infi.net, or Terry Faulkner at 865-584-3659.

History/Background: The old Fort Sanders Presbyterian Church became the Epworth Congregation and is now Jubilee Community Arts. Old Harp Singings have been going on for 30 years. The building has a stained glass memorial to the North and South on the West Side of the church. The East Side stained glass window was featured in Old Harp Newsletter #5. Mr. Bates Elliot, the last President of the Knox County Old Harp singers, attended church here before World War II. This is a traditional effort to meld the UT students, Fort Sanders community and Old Harp Singers by breaking bread and making harmony together.

SUGARLANDS VISITORS CENTER SINGING — Saturday, December 9, 10 A.M.

Old Harp Singing Presentation in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Directions: From Pigeon Forge, go through Gatlinburg on Rte #441 about three miles. The Visitors Center is just inside the park boundary. Bruce Wheeler will preside. He can be reached at 865-974-5421 days or bwheeler@utkux.utcc.net or contact Martha Graham at 865-453-3276.

History/Background: The church, Evans Chapel #1, was a stones throw from the Visitor Center. In Gladys Trentham Russell's book *Call Me Hillbilly*, it says "The choir leader always insisted on volume. The louder the nasal voices, the better the singing. The choir leader would tap his tuning fork, listen to it, and then instructed the choir to sound their Do's. After singing the shaped notes, he would say to sing the words." Carl Whaley will bring out the shape note gospel hymnals and we will sing out of them as well. It is a joyous occasion.

THE NEW HARP OF COLUMBIA CALENDAR — 2000 SINGINGS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>DINNER?</u>	<u>INFORMATION (CONTACT PEOPLE)</u>
March 11	Saturday	2:00 PM	No	Greene County Singing at New Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church (W)
March 19	Sunday	6:00 PM	Yes	First United Methodist Church, Gatlinburg, Stoplight #7. (O) (see page 16 for more information)
March 24	Friday	6:30 PM	No	Open the 30th annual Jubilee Festival, Laurel Theatre (D)
March 26	Sunday (4)	11:00 AM	Yes	Epworth Old Harp Singing, Laurel Theatre, 16th & Laurel Ave., Knoxville. Potluck at noon. (D) (H) (S)
April 4	Tuesday	7:00 PM	No	Old Harp Workshop #1, 311 Triplett Lane, Knoxville (B)
April 16	Sunday (3)	1:30 PM	No	Oldhams Creek Singing, (end of Kings Branch Rd.) Sevier County (N) (P)
April 23	Sunday (4)	2:00 PM	No	Tuckaleechee Methodist Church Singing, Townsend (C)(K)
April 23	Sunday (4)	5:30 PM	Yes	Easter Singing, Gooch-Mabbs Residence, 4401 Alta Vista Way, Knoxville (T)
May 2	Tuesday	7:00 PM	No	Old Harp Workshop #2, 311 Triplett Lane, Knoxville (B)
May 21	Sunday (3)	2:30 PM	No	Old College Singing, Tennessee Wesleyan College, Athens, TN. Refreshments after. (U) (V)
June 6	Tuesday	7:00 PM	No	Old Harp Workshop #3, 311 Triplett Lane, Knoxville (B)
June 18	Sunday (3)	11:00 AM	Yes	Beech Grove Primitive Baptist Church Singing, Sevier County (G) (A)
August 20	Sunday (3)	2:30 PM	No	Cades Cove Missionary Baptist Church Singing, Great Smoky Mtns. National. Park (C) (K)
September 10	Sunday (2)	2:00 PM	No	Wears Valley Methodist Church Singing, Hwy. 321 (Wears Valley Rd.), Sevier County (J) (R)
September 24	Sunday (4)	11:00 AM	Yes	Headrick's Chapel Singing, Hwy. 321 (Wears Valley Rd.), Sevier County (B) (O)
October 1	Sunday (1)	2:00 PM	No	Wears Valley Singing at Valley View Baptist Church, Valley View Road off Hwy. 321, Sevier County (J) (L) (F)
October 14	Saturday (2)	10:30 AM and Noon	No	Museum of Appalachia Homecoming Singing, Norris, TN (B) (O)
October 15	Sunday (2)	2:00 PM	No	Dollywood Singing presentation (I) (E)
October 22	Sunday (4)	2:00 PM	No	Maryville College Singing, Blount County (K) (C)
November 22	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Yes	Thanksgiving Eve Potluck & Old Harp Singing, Laurel Theatre, 16th & Laurel Ave., Knoxville (D) (H) (S)
December 9	Saturday	10:00 AM	No	Sugarlands Singing, Sugarlands Visitors Center, Great Smoky Mountain National Park (I) (E) (L)

Second and Fifth Sundays, 7:00 PM,
Laurel Theatre, Knoxville, (Call first) (D) (H) (S)

Last Saturday of each month, 7:00 PM, Central Christian
Church, 118 W. Summer St., Greeneville, TN (W)

CONTACT PEOPLE

★★★ Unless otherwise noted, area code for phone #s on this list is 865. ★★★

NAME	PHONE	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP	E-MAIL ADDRESS
(A) Sharee Rich	429-5877	829 Gnatty Branch Rd.	Sevierville, TN	37876	Trackisme4@aol.com
(B) Lois Luebke	693-9292	311 Triplett Lane	Knoxville, TN	37922	LuebkeL@aol.com
(C) John Wright Dunn	448-6445	7937 Old Hwy. #73	Townsend, TN	37882	
(D) Gideon Fryer	524-3136	509 11th St. #2006	Knoxville, TN	37916	VLPDSINGS@aol.com
(E) Martha Graham	453-3276	210 Conner Hts. Rd.	Pigeon Forge, TN	37863	
(F) Luke Headrick	453-2407	3007 Headrick Dr.	Sevierville, TN	37862	
(G) Shirley Henry	453-5983	1850 Little Cove Rd.	Sevierville, TN	37862	
(H) Terry Faulkner	584-3659	4178 Ridgeway Rd.	Knoxville, TN	37919	
(I) Kathleen Mavournin	691-9506	344 S. Seven Oaks Dr.	Knoxville, TN	37922	Kmav@icx.net
(J) Henry Lawson	453-7638	3538 Wears Valley Rd.	Sevierville, TN	37862	
(K) Tom & Nan Taylor	984-8585	138 Stanley.	Maryville, TN	37803	TTaylor706@aol.com
(L) Bruce Wheeler (weekdays)	974-5421	P.O. Box 1049	Pigeon Forge, TN	37863	bwheeler@utkux.utcc.edu
(N) Hal Wilson	436-2590	950 Wilson Hollow Way	Sevierville, TN	37876	
(O) Larry Olszewski	584-6633	1232 Forest Brook Rd.	Knoxville, TN	37919	Larryoharp@aol.com
(P) Veta King	428-1375	313 Wickcliffe Court	Sevierville, TN	37862	dvatking@bellsouth.net
(Q) Joel Kasserman	(901) 756-6184	1608 Stable Park Court	Cordova, TN	38018	
(R) Warren Massey	453-8286	3032 Ogle View Rd.	Sevierville, TN	37862	
(S) Kathy Jones	690-3906	9121 Garrison Rd.	Knoxville, TN	37931	Kej@knoxnews.infi.net
(T) Bill Gooch, Meg Mabbs	522-0515	4401 Alta Vista Way	Knoxville, TN	37919	Goochbill@aol.com
(U) Carroll L. Ross	(423) 745-4505	P. O. Box 1356	Athens, TN	37371	
(V) Sara Hamilton (weekdays)	(423) 745-7504	TN Wesleyan College	Athens, TN	37371	
(W) Jeff Farr	(423) 639-8211	530 Morgan Rd.	Greeneville, TN	37745	jeffarr@usit.net
(X) Bob Richmond	691-9506	344 S. Seven Oaks Dr.	Knoxville, TN	37922	RSRichmond@aol.com

INTERNET ADDRESSES OF INTEREST

<http://www.kornnet.org/jca/> <http://web.utk.edu/~tkoosman/oldharp/> <http://www.fasola.org/>
 Jubilee Community Arts (home of the Laurel Theatre and Epworth Old Harp Singers) Old Harp Singing Home Page This site is a starting point to help you find information related to the tradition of Shape Note singing.
 (Thanks to Toby Koosman, webmistress!)

ON OLD HARP

I have been getting the "Old Harp Newsletter," for two years or more and enjoy it very much. I have in hand now *The New Harp of Columbia*, which had been given to me to use until she asked for it, by Ruth Johnson, at the death of her mother Nancy (Owenby) Whaley. Nancy's sister Velma Owenby Lamons had given it to her in 1974. So you see this book has been around for a while.

The reason I was glad to get the book to use because I was acquainted with *The Old Harp* when I was a child at Huskey's Grove Methodist Church. As I remember, an Old Harp Singing was scheduled at the little church around Easter time. Looking back, it was one of the favorite

events of the year. It brought visitors from far and near who loved the Old Harp music. The women of the church would prepare to feed the singers. It took quite a bit of work, but

we had good cooperation among our families to have plenty of food prepared.

As I remember, at 10:00 A.M. everyone took their places in the church in the cushionless homemade pews. The Singing was called to order with an opening prayer. One of the several song leaders of the day, would lead songs from the Old Harp (*New Harp of Columbia*) with the shaped notes. The shaped notes were rectangular, diamond, half diamond, right triangles, half notes, circles and ovals. I learned that the shaped notes were invented close to 1800 by singing school teachers seeking a way to make the read-

ing of the notes easier. The singers were divided into parts, soprano, treble, alto and bass.

My uncle and aunt Beecher and Blanche Huskey were very faithful in attending these scheduled singings in various places. My dad Pickney Clabo loved Old Harp music too and we would gather with my brother and sister and sing quite often. Then my Dad and Mother moved to Knoxville and then to St. Petersburg, Fla. He ended up buying a farm in Farmville, WI. There people had never heard of the Old Harp but that did not stop us from gathering in our home to sing. Mother and Dad are gone now but we still remember what a good time we had together as we talked about the bye-gone days



THE PICTURE IS ONE OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO CAME TO GATLINBURG FOR A HOMECOMING, JUNE 20, 1999, ON THE SATURDAY BEFORE WE PLANNED TO GO TO THE OLD HOME SITES, ONE OF THEM BEING HUSKEY'S GROVE WHERE THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN AT THE CEMETERY.

and the different people who had a great part in keeping the spirit uplifting among the neighbors and friends.

Among those we remember are Arthur Blaine Shields, Will Perryman, Henry Clabo, Haskew Trevena, Nancy Perryman, Victory King, Beecher and Blanche Huskey, and Reford Lamons. I now live in Alcoa TN. and plan to attend the singing at Maryville College.

Thank you all for keeping the tradition alive.

This is from a letter dated Sept 19, 1999 from Marjorie Gaylon who now resides in Alcoa.

JOHN WRIGHT DUNN

John Wright Dunn has been singing regularly the Old Harp since the 1970s. He was the Postmaster of Townsend, TN, for 25 years. Part of his route was Cades Cove, where he went twice a week and covered 85 miles.

John attended a Singing in Wears Valley at Headrick's Chapel and got hooked on the Old Harp and he wanted to re-establish a Singing in Townsend. The Singing at Coker Hill had moved into Sevier County to Headrick's Chapel and he thought a yearly Singing should be brought back to the southern part of Blount County.

That first Singing was December of 1970 and located in the basement of John's unfinished house. There were over 60 singers there. Cory Adams, Burl's cousin, said this was the best Old Harp Singing she had ever attended. The Singing soon moved to Tuckaleechee Methodist Church in Townsend and has been tied into the Blount County Dogwood Festival since. The Singing is on the 4th Sunday in April and this year is at Easter.

John also sponsors another Singing at Cades Cove Missionary Baptist Church the third Sunday in August and has assisted Tom Taylor at the Maryville College Singing. John Wright Dunn, Burl Adams and Charlie Clabo once helped Ralph Reed conduct a Singing school at the Ranger Camp at Tremont in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

I believe Tom and Nan Taylor got their start as well as Liz (Cox) Crawford and Ann Bridges in singing the Old Harp. From the stories that I remember from Tom Taylor, that is where Burl lowered the pitch of many of the tunes as the altos were often screeching at times to many of the lessons being sung. This was to make the harmony more pleasing and singable to these new singers.

I believe Kate Headrick was also at that camp as she was the cook at that time. You will find Kate dressed in the bonnet outfit at Dollywood now as a greeter, a "voice crying out in that wilderness."

John's homeplace is in nearby Dry Valley and his father was considered the finest tenor in the county and was choir director at his

church. Calvin Dunn, his brother and his cousin, George Davis, also can be found at the Singings.

When Burl Adams was alive, he seemed to call John up to the front of the class and lead "Ocean" almost every time. John says it is still one of his favorite tunes. We need to be thankful for John Wright Dunn as being a cornerstone of the Old Harp Singings in East Tennessee and that he has allowed us to become part of him.

From an interview with Larry Olszewski

BRUCE WHEELER

Bruce Wheeler's interest in Old Harp Singing did not begin when he was young. He had heard it then but did not care for it. It wasn't until attending a Singing in Knoxville while living there that his love for Old Harp singing began. One singer that he remembers meeting at that Sing is Gideon Fryer. No one else comes to his mind. When he began to sing in the 70's, most Singings were held at peoples houses and most Singings were led by John McCutcheon.

Bruce Wheeler led his first song three or four years after he was introduced to the music. I found this interesting since my grandmother says he was the first one to make me get up and lead a song all by myself for the first time.

When I asked him how harp singing has changed, he said, it has changed a lot since the 70's. People used to dress up. Women wore dresses and men wore suits and ties. Also he remembered a man by the name of Frank Carter who had a tuning fork that he would use to bang the tune on his leg and sing the note Do. Now we use the pitch pipe and almost everyone has one. We sing songs faster now, he says, and a lot more different songs.

In earlier years maybe 20 different songs at most were sung. Now we are capable of singing 40 or more songs. Still, many songs that used to be sung are not at today's Singings such as; "The Easter Anthem," "Christian Contemplation," and "Parting Hand." "Amazing Grace was the closing song, but now we use number 11, "Old Hundred."

BRUCE WHEELER (CON'T.)

Another way harp singing has changed is the youth of the singers. Singers used to be older. It used to be a well talked about topic that harp singing would die out. However, Bruce Wheeler says the people Larry Olszewski has brought into harp singing from all around the country has insured a future of Old Harp. I asked what he thought Old Harp would become and he told me he believes the new book will bring more people to the music.

Nearly all of the Singings used to be all day with dinner on the ground. Now many are just limited to around two hours in the afternoon. The size of Singings have changed. Beech Grove Primitive Baptist Church Singing has grown in size while Headrick's Chapel and Valley View have stayed around the same minus a few here and there.

Old Harp singing is a tradition that needs to grow. The future of it depends on what the younger generation carries on of what they know of the older generation.

Note: Bruce Wheeler was named co-chairman of the Wears Valley Singing at Wearwood School by Burl Adams about 10 years ago and has been a pillar of that Singing ever since. That Singing has been moved to Valley View Baptist Church. Bruce is also a UT History Professor and as part of his Early American class had commissioned Karan Willard of Washington to put three tunes of William Billings to our seven note font. The tune Europe is included in this newsletter as a text of political protest in the time of the Revolutionary War.

From an interview with Sharee Rich

Europe C.M.

Wm. Billings?

Wm. Billings
The New England Psalm Singer, 1770

1. Let Whig and Tor - y all sub - side, And Pol - i - ticks be dumb;

2. O praise the Lord with one con - sent, And in this grand de - sign,

A no - bler theme in - spires our Muse, And trills u - pon our tongue.

Let Bri - tain and her Col - o - nies U - nan - i - mous - ly join.

BRUCE WHEELER, UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE HISTORY PROFESSOR COMMISSIONED KARAN WILLARD TO TRANSPOSE THIS SONG INTO OUR 7-SHAPED NOTES. IT WAS PART OF HIS CLASS PUTTING POLITICAL JINGLES OF THE 1770S INTO CATCHY TUNES THAT WOULD STAY IN PEOPLES MINDS.

WEARS VALLEY OLD HARP SINGING HISTORY

There were many groups of people singing traditional harp music in the mid to late 1800's and early 1900's. Rev. John Henry Trevena was born in Cornwall, England and came to America in 1853. According to family traditions, he brought his Harp Book. He taught Harp Music in the 1860-1870's in the Sevier County area. He was a Methodist Minister in the Wears Valley Society, Little River Circuit. His descendants have carried on this tradition.

He is the grandfather of John O. Clabo and the great grandfather of Lena Brewer Headrick; Henry Lawson; Ada McPherson; Johnnie Autrey. Uncle Newton Haskew Trevena was his grandson and he was a well known "Old Harp Singer." It is said that he knew every song in the Harp Book by memory. All you had to do was ask for the song by number and he could sing it.

Uncle Haskew Trevena always attended the annual Harp Singing in Wears Valley. He was living on Middle Creek at this time and would walk or hitch a ride into Wears Valley. (Until the early twenties, the only route into Wears Valley was through Little Cove and over Pine Mountain.)

The Wears Valley Old Harp Singing is the oldest continuous Singing in the area and there is no record of the first Singing. This first date was around 1919 (according to Johnnie Lawson Autrey). Several deacons of the Church, including J. T. Headrick and William Jasper Lawson, decided to try to get some of the Old Harp Singers together. The Tuckaleechee Singers were contacted and they first met on the last Sunday in October.

The next year there was snow on the ground and it was decided that this date should be changed. On the 26th day of October, 1921, the congregation of the Wears Valley Baptist Church set aside the first Sunday in October for an annual Singing. T. W. McCarter was appointed the moderator. Luke Headrick was a young boy of seven years and can remember this meeting. William Jasper Lawson was moderator for a time and he passed away in 1926. Burl Adams became moderator

in 1927. He remained the head of this Singing until around 1990 when he was unable to attend due to poor health.

Some of the earliest families who were the backbone of this Singing were the Lawsons, Headricks and Kings. Luke Headrick remembers one of the first "dinner on the ground." It was at the Newt Lawson farm (which is across the road from the Baptist Church) and was located in the cow field. A fence was torn down and dinner was spread on the ground.

Later memories include the church being so full of singers that people were peering in the open windows to see who was leading and children were walking in and out as they pleased. A bus filled with Knox County Singers was always in attendance. Some people think there were buses from other counties also.

Late in the afternoon of these Singings, Burl Adams would be asked to gather his Adams quartet to sing one or two of their favorite tunes. That has not been done for some time now. There are wonderful memories of the people and great Singings of old.

About ten years ago, the Wears Valley Harp Singing was moved from the Baptist Church to Wearwood School. A few years later, the location was moved to Valley View Baptist Church. This is a small Chapel and the music has a nice sound. Bruce Wheeler and Henry Lawson have been moderators for several years. Wears Valley Harp Singing is a historical sing and is worthy of the support of all singers.



Information gathered from Luke Headrick, Johnnie Lawson Autrey, and Eleanor Adams Patty.

Article by Lois Luebke

INFORMATION FOR THOSE STARTING IN OLD HARP

For people not too sure of the shapes and wanting to fit in a bit faster.

Songs sung most often:

#11. "Old Hundred." A fifth verse is added "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," also known as the "Doxology." Nine out of ten, Singings now end with that lesson.

14, 35, 51, 53b, 56t & b, 68t, 107, 115, 117, 139, 144, 181, are all songs in major will have a 90% chance of being sung and everyone will know. With these tunes, one who has never led before can get up and lead and the choir will carry you no matter what your ability.

Lessons that are not sung as much or are harder to lead are 16, 21t, 22t, 23b, 42, 43, 46, 48, 57, 60, 65, 66, 67t, 80b, 81b, 84, 85, 87t, 89, 98, 112, 119, 183. The key here is everyone does know these tunes real well so if you are daring, have a go at these lessons.

There are some minors that everyone sings. They are the following: 143, 99, 30, 18, 180, 44, 47, 110, 163. These are also about in order of how they are hard to get the choir to follow you if one is a beginner at leading.

For those of you who are interested in folk tunes that one does not hear anywhere else. try the following lead lines in lessons 15, 21t, 22t, 24, 43, 46, 48, 56t, 61, 65t, 67t, 68t, 71t, 81b, 83, 84, 85, 87t, 89, 95, 99, 105, 109, 119, 124, 131, 132, 134, 141, 163, 169, 183, 206.

Marching or cavalry tunes are: 24, 56b, 71, 83, 85, 89, 95, 99, 105, 119, 132, 141, 146, 169, 206, Dirges are: 18, 30, 38, 44, 45, 61, 73 t, 110, 134, 143, 163, 180, 211, 219.

Pensive tunes are: 15, 21t, 22t, 39t, 43, 48, 56t, 80, 120b, 124, 125b, 131t, 181b, lullabies: 56t, 67t, 68t, 81b, 84, 87, 94, 104, 109, 112, 113, 139, 183.

If you watch the game show on TV called Jeopardy, try lesson #65. 69b is "Amazing Grace" or "New Britain."

The above is what I have picked out and may not be completely correct. I will surely get feedback and corrections. It is meant to draw interest to those who are new. As a new singer and also part of the tradition, a non singer may request a Lesson be sung or that a member of

the Class get up and lead any tune of his or her choice. Some people will also do this as a memorial to a relative or friend that is passed away. Everyone at an Old Harp Singing has their moment. You have rights only if you exercise them.



OLD HARP TRADITION

If you read through these articles, you can find history going back 150-200 years. Please notice that some traditions and or Singings are only just beginning. Tradition has a start. It begins when people do something that pleases them enough to do it again. It brings back memories. It is open to create new ones.

The assets of starting to learn to sing Old Harp are: 1. It is a non-expensive form of entertainment; 2. It stimulates the mind; 3. It stimulates the soul; 4. You interact with people from many walks of life; 5. You may find that the harmony lies not as much in the music as in the people.

I come because I like the music. What it takes to become a Harp Singer is the ability to put all your guilt and fears away, to be able to enjoy the music, enjoy the people, enjoy the harmony within the group.

The most important thing about Old Harp singing is the ability to become aware of the harmony and peace within yourself, to know that this is where you belong for this moment in time with these people to have an Old Harp Singing.

OLD HARP NEWS AND INFORMATION

About the cover: New York City, May 20, 1950. From left to right: Front row: Mrs. Joe Adams, Mrs. Burl Adams (Mae), Mrs. Earl Adams (Cora), Mrs. A. V. Adams (Sally), Mrs. Luke Headrick (Lena), Mrs. Roy C. Patty (Eleanor), Mrs. Cecil Headrick (Nola). Top row: Burl Adams, Luke B. Headrick, A. B. Shields, Earl Adams, Cecil Headrick, John Rule, Joe Adams, Roy C. Patty, A. V. Adams, Mel Helton. All were from East Tennessee and 14 of 17 were members of the same family. Selections included "Wondrous Love," "Morning Trumpet," "Greenfields," and "Whitestown."

Sunday, March 19, 6:00 PM at First United Methodist Church, Gatlinburg, TN.

Directions: Take Rte. #441/#321 through Pigeon Forge to Gatlinburg, the church is at Stoplight #7. For more information, call Larry Olszewski at 865-584-6633 or by email at larryoharp@aol.com

History: We had a presentation at this church ten years ago. Penny Embry is Helen Hutchison's (a matriarch of the Epworth Old Harp singers) daughter. Jim and Penny Embry have sung with us before. The choir director is from Virginia and has a strong interest in the Old Harp

The Old Harp singers have been asked to perform up at First Baptist Church in Oliver Springs, TN. As of this date a critical mass has not been found to do so. It would be at 6 o'clock on a Sunday evening. If you are interested in participating, please call Larry Olszewski at 865-584-6633.

We are negotiating with UT Press on reprinting another **HARDBACK** edition of the *New Harp of Columbia*. We want back in the previously deleted songs as well. The book would have a quality binding and cloth cover. We hope to have a proposal to UT Press by the end of the month. We would like to have the book reprinted by late this year or early 2001. Marion Hatchett from Sewanee has submitted his Companion to the Harp and New Harp of Columbia to UT Press. The book would cost \$25-\$30. To help estimate how many books should be printed, we want to know how many people would purchase them for use or as gifts. This is not a commitment of any kind, but need your feedback.

CHRISTIAN HARMONY SINGINGS

January 2000 - open

February

Feb. 6, - Cullowhee Baptist Church
Dinner on the grounds & afternoon singing.

March

Sat. before the 1st Sun. - Brevard College,
Brevard, NC. - Susan Schmidt - 828-833-8292
10-4; Dinner on the grounds.

April

Sat. before the 1st Sun. - Webster United Methodist,
Webster, NC 10-3:30, Dinner on the grounds.
Will Peebles - 828-586-6673.

Sat. before the 2nd Sun. - William Walker Memorial
Singing - 10-3; [So.H., SH, CH] Wofford College,
Spartanburg, SC. Dinner in the cafeteria.

Sat. before the 3rd Sun. - Faith Primitive Baptist;
Toccoa, GA. 10 a.m., Dinner on the grounds.

Sat. before the 4th Sun. - Dunkard Church, 4 mi. So.
of Rutherfordton, NC 10-4; Dinner on the grounds.

May

1st Sun. - Etowah Elem. Sch. - Etowah, NC. 10:30 -
3:30 Dinner on the grounds.

Sat. before the 2nd Sun. - 'Nan Herring Singing';
Furman University, Greenville, SC. Jean Osteen,
964-246-5690. 10-3:30; Dinner on the grounds.

June - open

July

2nd Sat. - John C. Campbell Folk School; Brasstown,
NC. 10:30 - 3:30; Dinner on the grounds.

5th Sun. WK Shop; Cashiers Comm. Library, Cashiers,
NC.; 2-5 p.m., Becky or Steve Walker

August

1st Sun. - Blue Ridge Primitive Baptist, Chatsworth,
GA. Ralph Parker 706-695-2644.

2nd Sun. - Folk Art Center; Asheville, NC. 10:30 -
3:30; Dinner on the grounds.

4th Sun. - Tickanetty Primitive Baptist; Ellijay, GA.
10-11 Singing; 11-12 Worship; Dinner on the grounds;
1-3 Singing.

September

1st Sun. - Etowah Elem. Sch. - Etowah, NC;
10:30 - 3:30; Dinner on the ground.

2nd Sun. in Sept. - "Old Folks' Day" - Morning
Star Methodist; Canton, NC. [at Dutch Cove]
Worship service at 11 a.m., followed by dinner
on the grounds & Singing in the afternoon.

Last Sat. in Sept. - Mountain Heritage Day
at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee,
NC - [SH 10-12; CH 1 p.m. until] lunch
available.

October

Sat. before 2nd Sun. - Dunkard Church, On
Hwy. 221; 4 mi. So. of Rutherfordton, NC
10-4; Dinner on the grounds.

Sat. before 3rd Sun. - Morning Star Moravian;
Asheville, NC; 10-3; Dinner on the grounds.

November

Sat. before 2nd Sun. - Swannanoa Valley
Singing; Lakeview Center, Black Mt., NC
10:30 - 3:30; Dinner on the grounds.

December

Sat. before 2nd Sun. - St. John's Lutheran;
Rutherfordton, NC. 10-3; Dinner on the grounds



Monthly Singing! 1st Tues. of each Month 7-9 p.m.
Calvary Episcopal in Fletcher, NC (the south side of
Buncombe Co.) contact: Dan Huger

5th Sun. Introduction/Beginners Wk Shop; 2-5 p.m.
In Jackson Co. NC, & Oconee / Pickens Co. SC;
Location TBA call: Becky or Steve Walker Phone:
394-456-6899

West Carolinas & North Ga. Christian Harmony Singings in 2000

For more info: directions/maps
contact:

Larry Beveridge; 828-287-9757

larryb@blueridge.net

Dan Huger; 828-274-8899

dehuger@mindspring.com

Willie Israel; 828-245-1330

jerrwill@gateway.net

Sharon Kellam; 828-263-0905

kellam@boone.net

WHERE WE COME FROM

Changes since publication of the 1978 edition of the *New Harp of Columbia*.

1978

University of Tennessee edition of the *New Harp of Columbia* was printed. Singings that were listed in Table 2 of the "East Tennessee Harp Singing" have changed a lot. Tuckaleechee Methodist is still going in the afternoon. Headrick's Chapel is still the 4th Sunday in September. Wears Valley Singing at Wears Valley Baptist has moved to Wearwood School. Maryville College Singing is still the 4th Sunday in October. All the rest of those Singings have not survived. **John Wright Dunn, Nan & Tom Taylor, and Bruce Wheeler** are the only ones listed that are alive still attending the Singings.

1980

Ron Peterson runs a 3-day Singing School at the Laurel Theater. Epworth Old Harp Singers meet informally every Sunday night at **Helen Hutchinson's** house on Highland Ave. in Knoxville.

1988

Rusty Whitehead celebrates his 100th birthday with a Harp Singing at Hill Haven Rest Home in Maryville. Rusty said it was a surprise birthday party since his birthday was two days before! *New Harp of Columbia/Old Harp* newsletter is started, modeled after the national *Sacred Harp Newsletter*, the *Chicago Sacred Harp Newsletter* and Mrs. **Thelma Teffeteller's** cardboard schedule of the Old Harp Singings. **Terry Faulkner** assists in the art work and the proofreading. Wears Valley Singing moved to Wearwood School. New Singings were occurring at The Laurel Theater with the Epworth Old Harp Singers, and at the Blue Mountain Mist Inn. Presentations to the public were at the

Sevierville Courthouse, Gatlinburg Methodist Church, and the East Tennessee Historical Society at the Custom House in Knoxville.

1989

Burl Adams, Otha Henry, Lillian Lamon, and Helen Hutchinson pass away. New Singing presentations at Cades Cove Missionary Church, Eblin's Cave in Loudon County, the Sugarlands Visitor Center of the Great Smoky Mountains Park. **John O Clabo** calls for a singing to start in September at the Wears Valley Methodist Church. **Ann Strange** moves onto the Old Harp Newsletter staff along with **Alan and Sharon Hjerpe**. Sunday night Singings move to the Laurel Theater for the Epworth Old Harp Singers.

1990

Jubilee Community Arts, under **Janie Wilson** Gets an Expansion Grant to subsidize the *Old Harp Newsletter*. New singing started at Gethsemane Primitive Baptist Church in North Knoxville by Elder **Art Godfrey**. New Old Harp Presentations for this year at Little Greenbriar School House in the Great Smoky Mtns. National Park, and at Dollywood (Silver Dollar City) The floppy Edition of the *New Harp of Columbia* was printed by UT Press. **Montgomery** Family Reunion, Glenwood Baptist Church (4 Harp Singers showed up). **Larry Gordon's** Bayley Hazen Singers from Vermont sang with the Old Harp Singers in Nov. *UT Alumni Magazine* has an article on the Old Harp Singers. The Library of Congress asked to have copies of the newsletter for their archives.

1991

A new Old Harp Singing is started at Oldham's Creek

Missionary Baptist Church by the Preacher **Tom Wilson**, his sister **Veta King** and **Artie Schultz**. **Gene McCammon** conducts Singing Schools at Epworth and at Oldhams Creek.

1992

New Old Harp Presentations were held at Museum of Appalachia, and for the East Tennessee Historical Society. A story was written and published in the *Oak Ridger* by **Michael Frazer** on Old Harp. **Dorothy Horn**, an anthromusicologist writes articles for the *Old Harp Newsletter*. A four note Singing School is started at Erin Presbyterian Church by **John Wilkins** and taught by **Gene McCammon**. Epworth Old Harp Singings moved from every Sunday to 2nd and 5th Sundays. Newsletter includes Old Harp Tunes that were edited out of the Harp of Columbia when the New Harp of Columbia was reprinted.

1993

A presentation at Jonesville Methodist Church outside of Oliver Springs. The annual Thanksgiving Eve Singing is started by **Gideon Fryer** at the Laurel Theater in Knoxville. **Nola Hannah Godfrey** passes away as well as **James Alvin Autrey**.

1994

The **Hymn Society** comes to Maryville where the highlight is 400 members singing with 80 Old Harp singers. 300 used books were obtained for use by Old Harp Singers after the conference was over. **Gene Kirk**, Minister at St. John United Methodist in Maryville, sponsors a Singing School. National *Sacred Harp Newsletter* folds. **Kathleen Mavournin** weds **Bob Richmond** in a ceremony including Old Harp. Singers. **Bates Elliot**

returns to East Tennessee.

1995

A bus load of Old Harp Singers met another 45 or so Singers in Chattanooga, TN, for the National Folk Life Festival. Another presentation was made for the Park Service at the Worlds Fair Park Site.

1996

Old Harp Presentations at Blackberry Farm where we overwhelmed the food service staff, and at Middle Settlements United Methodist Church in Friendsville. Also another East Tennessee Historical Singing at Market Square that moved indoors.

1998

Old Harp Presentation for the National Park Service Convention, New Salem Methodist Church. **Karen Harp** writes an article for September's Southern Living issue. Old Harp funeral for **Reford Lamon**. The **Hjerpes** move to California.

1999

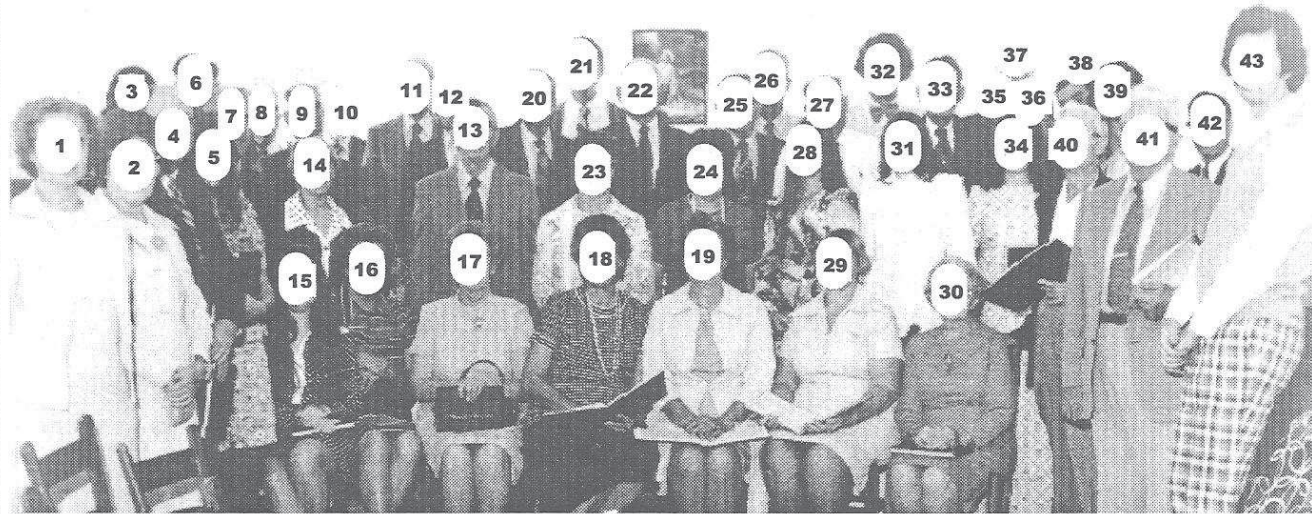
Singing School again by **Gene McCammon** at **Kathleen Mavournins** house in West Knoxville. Northern Harmony with **Larry Gordon** run through Knoxville at the Epworth Old Harp Singing and at Messiah Lutheran. **Jeff Farr** starts a group in Greeneville, TN. Organ Masters Guild has an Old Harp Singing Presentation at Headrick's Chapel. The *New Harp of Columbia*, floppy edition runs out of print. There are plans to get it republished with UT Press possibly including the Old Harp tunes edited out of the *Harp of Columbia*. **Marion Hatchett** in conjunction submits a concordance to the *Harp/New Harp of Columbia* to UT Press

Headrick's Chapel, 1976



We know who most of you are!

(Please contact the *Old Harp Newsletter* with corrections.)



- 1-Anna Headrick Burns
- 2-Lena Headrick
- 3-Lois
- 4-John Wright Dunn
- 5-Mary Yoder
- 6-Stanley Burns
- 7-Luke Headrick
- 8-Davis
- 9-Jim Headrick
- 10-?
- 11-Mathis Dunn
- 12-Bates Elliot
- 13-Walter Clabo
- 14-Alice Wilson

- 15-Alice Beth Cook
- 16-Rose Gregory
- 17-Mrs. Godfrey
- 18-Mrs. Ruth Williams
- 19-Martha Graham
- 20-?
- 21-Bruce Wheeler
- 22-Otha Henry
- 23-?24-HW?
- 25-Frank Carter
- 26-Granville Pate
- 27-?
- 28-Nan Taylor
- 29-Kate Headrick

- 30-Mae
- 31-?
- 32-Doug Cox
- 33-Otha Jeffries
- 34-Ann Briggs ?
- 35-?
- 36-?
- 37-Burl Adams
- 38-Arthur Jeffries
- 39-?
- 40-?
- 41-Russell Whithead
- 42-Calvin Dunn
- 43-Tom Taylor