

Press Release
For Immediate Release, April 13, 2009

Eleventh Annual Grand Old Dulcimer Day
A Celebration of the Mountain Dulcimer

Sunday, May 17, 2009 * noon until six * at Two Rivers Mansion, 3130 McGavock Pike

For information, contact: Sandy Conatser at sandyc@usit.net or 615-832-1945

Free Admission

Tradition continues at Nashville's **eleventh annual Grand Old Dulcimer Day on Sunday, May 17 at Two Rivers Mansion, 3130 McGavock Pike, from noon until six.** This free festival, sponsored by **Metro Parks and the Grand Old Dulcimer Club** with support from **Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music** will deliver a great day of music and family fun.

You will hear mountain dulcimers play music from Bach to Bluegrass, from traditional tunes to rock and roll, in a beautiful historical setting!! Bring your appetite too!! Great food will be available for purchase from Houston's Meat and Produce.

Main stage performances will feature local dulcimer artists. Nashville's dulcimer community boasts several nationally known artists and teachers, great singer-songwriters and even a national dulcimer champion!! An exhibit of historic dulcimers, video clips of dulcimer history and the career and contributions of David Schnauffer, Sacred Harp singing, jammin' on the porch ... you'll feel like you've stepped back in time!! Special areas for children and adults will provide the opportunity to play a dulcimer and learn a tune. Join us for a day of family fun on the grounds of beautiful Two Rivers Mansion.

Main Stage Schedule, noon until six.

Performers and times are subject to change.

- 12-1 - Monday Nighters, Ray Hunley, Sarah Elizabeth
- 1-2 - Lee Rowe, Sandy Conatser & Friends, White House Players
- 2-3 - Adie Grey, Joni Bishop, Stephen Seifert
- 3-4 - Rob & Peni Rowe, Tradition Continues Youth Performers, Dulcimer Dandies/Dixie Dulcimers
- 4-5 - Zada Law & Kort Nygard, Rob Percy & Donovan Carpenter, TJ Larkin
- 5-6 - Linda Sack and the Corn Pone Stars, Mountain Laurel, Grand Old Dulcimer Club

- **Tennessee Music Box and the contributions of David Schnauffer-** Learn about this 100-year-old dulcimer form that was plentiful in Tennessee!! The Tennessee State

Museum will display dulcimers from the David Schnauffer collection from 1:00-5:00. Special demonstration and presentation at 2:00.

- **The Harpeth Valley Sacred Harp Singers** -The singers will lead us in sacred harp singing. Each session will begin with a demonstration to help everyone join in this beautiful music. Sessions from 1:00-2:00 and 3:00-4:00
- **Hands-on introductions to the dulcimer** – Club members will be available from noon until 5:00 to individually teach you a tune. Dulcimers will be provided, or you can bring your own!
- **Children's area** - A special area for children will give them the opportunity to strum a dulcimer and pick out a simple tune. Suggested ages 4 and up. Available from noon until 4:00.
- **Jammin'** – Informal jams throughout the grounds and on the back porch will provide ample opportunities for both listeners and players. Bring your instrument and your favorite pickin' chair. All acoustic instruments are welcome. Noon until 6:00.
- **Area dulcimer clubs** - Players are invited to attend and join us in the jam tent. If you are looking for other dulcimer players in your area, you can probably find them at Dulcimer Day. Noon until 5:00
- **Sing along!!** Join club members in the Mansion at 4:00 and revive some of the old traditional songs you haven't sung in a while!
- **Dulcimer building** – Meet some local dulcimer builders in an informal display of the tools and techniques of dulcimer building. Noon until 5:00.

Two Rivers Mansion

Festival goers will be able to tour the historic Two Rivers Mansion, a Nineteenth Century home built by the McGavock family. The mansion has been restored to the 1870's period, the time when it was completed. Also open for tours is the 1802 house where Willie Elizabeth and David McGavock lived until the mansion was completed. In the 1880's, the estate became known as the Two Rivers Stock Farm with livestock, a dairy operation and grain crops grown to feed the livestock. At the death of Mrs. Spence McGavock in 1965, the property was left to Vanderbilt University who sold the house and 447 acres to the Metropolitan Nashville government. The historic Two Rivers Mansion occupies a 14-acre portion of this tract and is part of the Metropolitan Nashville Parks system.

The Grand Old Dulcimer Club

The Grand Old Dulcimer Club is a group of dulcimer players and musician friends who meet monthly to play, learn, and share. Beginners and new players receive special attention! Members

take their music, both individually and in large and small ensembles, into hospitals, nursing homes, and schools. We have grown from 8 members to over 40 and range in age from 12 to 60+. We are strong believers in the power of music and in the dulcimer's ability to put that music in the hands of us all. We meet at the Fort Negley Interpretive Center on the third Sunday of each month from 2 until 5. Come join us!!!

More info at

<http://grandolddulcimerclub.org>

or contact Sandy Conatser, sandyc@usit.net, 615-832-1945