

MILK AND HONEY

Vol. 1, No. 3

The Craddock Center
(Enriching Lives through Service)

April, 2004

BOILED PEANUTS, ANYONE?

Are we still on track to purchase a commercial vehicle to be customized, painted brightly, filled with children's books, and commissioned to take books, singers, and storytellers to everywhere in the area where there are children?

You better believe it! The word is spreading and interest is growing, wherever *Milk and Honey* is read, wherever our web site is seen. I want so much to say to the children: Do you know who bought the "Story Express" for you? People from everywhere who love children, people from Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, Pennsylvania, Texas, Kansas, Kentucky, North Carolina, Alabama, Virginia, New York, (Have I named your state yet? You can correct that easily.)

Have we gotten enough money yet? No, but we will. We must be able to order the vehicle and prepare it soon so that the "Story Express" can start rolling this summer. We will publish pictures of it when it is ready.

Be sure to indicate on your check "For the Story Express." Our finances are like Captain Kangaroo's coat, with dozens of pockets. We want your check to go in the right pocket.

And my promise still stands: If gifts fall short, we will get the vehicle even if I have to set up a roadside stand and sell boiled peanuts.



THE POETRY OF DON WEST

The following is from West's first collection of poetry entitled *Crab-Grass* published in 1931.

Dedication

To
My mother and father,
Mountain woman and man
Who dug crab-grass
And sour-wood sprouts
From between the corn rows
With a goose-necked hoe
While, as a baby, I lay
On my back in a
Deep-plowed furrow
Kicking at the dirt,
This humble volume of verse
Is affectionately dedicated.



If you'd like to read more of Don West's poetry, pick up a copy of *No Lonesome Road* by Jeff Biggers and George Brosi, University of Illinois Press.

If you'd like to hear Mr. West's poetry beautifully read, plan to attend Appalachian Weekend September 25-26 when Jeff Biggers of National Public Radio will be our guest.

OUR CUP RUNNETH OVER

Thanks to the generosity of a number of folk in the community our storage unit is almost full. We have chairs, a loveseat, a futon, hutch, household wares including dishes, as well as wheelchairs, walkers and a few sickroom supplies.

We rent this storage unit in order to have available answers to emergency needs. If you or someone you know needs what we have, call the Craddock Center (706) 632-1772.



QUESTIONS WE ARE OFTEN ASKED

Is the Craddock Center in the budget of Cherry Log Christian Church?

No. We are housed in a dwelling on the property the church purchased for its new building and we pay no rent. For this we are most grateful. We share the building with the church's Clothes Closet and we pay the utilities, etc. However, since the church is entering a major financial campaign, we avoid making any appeals to the church budget.

Does the Craddock Center receive any money from state or federal agencies?

No. We operate entirely on gifts from supporters.

How much is the budget of the Craddock Center?

We are operating this year on an adjusted budget of \$120,000.00. This does not include the campaign to purchase a vehicle to be our "Story Express".

Who does your fundraising?

Our Director, Fred Craddock, who has no experience in fundraising and who demonstrates daily that he does not know what he is doing. His one qualification is his commitment to the program and his firm belief that the Center has the blessing of God.

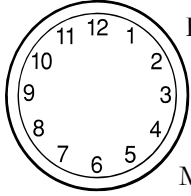
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Dr. Fred B. Craddock, Director
Kay R. Zimbrick, Administrator

IT'S NOT TOO SOON



For ministers to register for the Fall Preaching Workshop. In the Spring, we almost reached the limit of 85. The date, which is traditionally the first Monday of October, will be one week later, Monday, October 11. On October 4, Dr. Craddock will be with a group of like-minded souls near Franklin, North Carolina.

- So, the date: October 11, 2004
- the time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- the place: Cherry Log Christian Church,
Cherry Log, Georgia
- the topic: "What Do I Do with My Old Sermons?"

OUR COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEERS

Any program that depends heavily on volunteers needs a coordinator and we now have one: Ron Zimbrick.

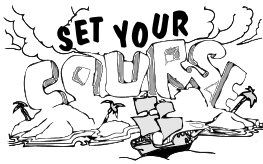
From the beginning of the Center, Ron has been the "whatever needs to be done" guy. In addition, he is a volunteer reader at Head Start. Now Ron will match volunteers and tasks in both short term and long term projects of the Center. I predict that nothing will fall through the cracks..

COME SEE US!

With summer approaching, friends of the Center from across the country are threatening to come see us.

Great. We have comfortable chairs, restrooms, coffee and tea, and stories to share. But give us a ring before you come; we not only want to set aside time for conversation but also run the sweeper. We clean up for company.

And where is Cherry Log? For those **very few** of you who have not yet heard of our fair "city" in connection with the famous Pink Pig BBQ, we are located in the mountains approximately 1 1/2 hours north of Atlanta, following I-575. Look for us on the map between Ellijay and Blue Ridge. Hard to find – but worth the trip!



THE ANSWER IS YES

- 1. Will the Craddock Center sponsor Appalachian Weekend again this year?
- 2. Is everyone invited?
- 3. Will it be held September 25-26?
- 4. Will it be at the Kiwanis Building in Blue Ridge?
- 5. Will the Arts and Crafts exhibits, the covered dish dinner, and the evening program all be at that place?
- 6. Will the public be informed later about the schedule of events?
- 7. Will Jeff Biggers, reporter with national Public Radio, be there to read the poetry of Don West?
- 8. Will Donovan Cain of Berea, Kentucky be there to sing protest songs of coal miners, farmers, and factory workers?
- 9. Will Sonny Houston and the Blue Velvet Band be back this year?
- 10. Since I now live in Detroit and have no car, should I leave immediately in order to be there by September 25?

WE WANT YOU TO MEET

Robin Parks: Robin prepares our financial statements, makes financial reports to the Board, handles records filed with state and federal revenue offices, audits our books, and in general keeps us out of jail. Robin has her MBA and is almost a CPA. Robin lives south of Blue Ridge and works for Land and Associates in Ellijay. She is a volunteer with the Craddock Center and a very valued one.

Amanda Galloway: Amanda works with Pam Lindsey in our program of music for Head Start/Pre-K children. Amanda takes the program to Gilmer, Pickens, and Union Counties. She is a graduate of Fannin County High School and is a student at Dalton State. Amanda is also very active in her church. She lives with her (new) husband Chad in Cherry Log. Amanda has a beautiful voice and a love for children. They, of course, love her.

Sue Canady: Sue works with Betsy Doty in our storytelling program. She founded the Blue Ridge Mountains Storytellers in 1997 and serves as its president.. Her latest project is gathering oral histories in this area. The project is called "Memories of Fannin and Its Neighbors." The plan is that this will be an ongoing project with a room in the renovated courthouse where future generations can come to do research or listen to a tape of their ancestors. Sue and her husband Bill live in Morganton where they are both active in their church and

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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