

# MILK AND HONEY

Vol. 2, No. 8

The Craddock Center  
(Enriching Lives through Service)

August, 2005

## APPALACHIAN WEEKEND: WHAT YOU DO NOT KNOW

You already know, of course, that the annual event will be held Sept. 24-25 in the Lions Club buildings at the fairground in Ellijay (Sat.) and at Cherry Log Christian Church at 9:45 a.m. (Sun.). You also know there will be food and drink all day Sat. and craft displays between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Yes, the Story Express will be there with songs and stories and books for children. And everyone knows that the program all day will be about the Cherokee presented by the Cherokee.

What you do not know, and really want to know, is the program schedule for the day. At what time is the dancing, the storytelling, the music? When do weavers weave? When do the carvers carve? You can't stay all day but you do not want to miss your favorite thing.

Well, here's the deal. I have not yet received from Cherokee, NC the names of those coming and their individual skills. My hope was to have that information for publication in this issue. Since I do not, the program schedule will be in the Sept. Milk and Honey and prior to that, on our website, on the radio, in newspapers, on posters and flyers. I have even considered going up in a plane with an arm load of leaflets and dropping one in your front yard. But then, what if it is windy that day? The leaflet lands in your neighbor's yard, there is the charge of littering, and I sit in the Gilmer Co. jail while you have all the fun at Appalachian Weekend. That is simply not fair.



### REMEMBER JEFF BIGGERS?

Some of you will remember Jeff from National Public Radio, some will remember his book about Don West, No Lonesome Road, and some will remember his powerful reading of Don West's poems at our Appalachian Weekend last year.

Well, Jeff has a new book coming out very soon. In fact, you can order it now from Amazon. The title is intriguing: The United States of Appalachia: How Southern Mountaineers Brought Independence, Culture, and Enlightenment to America. I have ordered several copies for the Center, but very likely you will want your own copy, especially if you've been exposed to The Dukes of Hazzard and are searching for a cure.

### I'VE BEEN HAVING TROUBLE

Retiring. I am now in my third retirement and it is not working out. With all this work, when did I have time to work when I was working? And I am just a volunteer, for goodness sake! I don't get it.

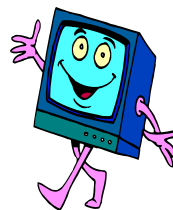
I talked with a friend of mine who is an expert on retirement. He retired the day he finished his schooling. How he has managed to be on the payroll of various churches I don't know. He is now retired from those long years of retirement. It seemed natural to seek his counsel about my problem.

"Don't retire all at once" he said, "Ease into it." "And how do I do that?" "Just don't show up. If you show up, people will think you are willing to work, and before you know it, there are phone calls, appointments, trips, speeches, etc. Just don't show up."

I am going to try it. Starting in September, every Friday I am not going to show up. I'm serious; I will not be here. Ask Tammy and she will tell you I didn't show up.



### DISCOVERY CHANNEL CAME TO CHERRY LOG



About two weeks ago. They made an appointment but were late; they were lost. Cherry Log is not New York. There were five of them with a van full of cameras, microphones, batteries, lights, etc. They were young, courteous, full of questions.

Discovery Channel will broadcast a series "Only in America". One program will focus on religion in Southern Appalachia. We talked for two hours and filmed at the Center and at Cherry Log Christian Church. They were not trapped in stereotypes. The time with them was refreshing although the two hours will probably be two minutes when aired, if that much.

When? They will let me know and I will let you know.

### WHAT? YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE STORY EXPRESS?

Well, we can cure that. Come to Appalachian Weekend; it will be there in all its glory. In fact, it will provide the public address system for the programs at the pavilion. Betsy Doty or Pam Lindsey will be there, show you how it functions, etc. Bring the children; they will love it.

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## WE CAN HELP YOU DOWNSIZE

If you will give to the Center that table, chair, sofa, bed or kitchenware that you really do not need. Simplify your life; be happy.

Since January we have helped 7 families who lost all or much of their furnishings by fire. Now our storage unit has a low inventory and we are again able to help you help someone else. Here's how it works: call Tammy at the Center; Tammy calls Joe Wells, manager of the storage unit; Joe meets you at the storage unit and helps you unload. Please do not just drop off furniture at the Center. It breaks my heart seeing Tammy trying to move it. If it weren't for my delicate condition ———.

Thanks



## THANKS FOR LETTING US KNOW

That you had to cancel your reservation for the Preaching Workshop; that freed up a place for the first name on the waiting list. We are full, you know; 90 places have been reserved and we have begun the waiting list.

For those coming, a reminder:

9:00 a.m.—Continental breakfast. Free

9:30—12:00 noon—Sessions

12:00—Deli lunch. Free

## WE CAN MAKE IT EASY FOR YOU

More and more, friends of the Center are making gifts in the form of stock. With the information below, your broker can contact our broker, you will be notified of the transfer, we will be notified of the transfer, you will receive from us a note of thanks for the amount of your tax-exempt gift, and, lo, it is done. Some say the process is easy, but I think of it as gracious. Thank you.

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## SLOWED BUT NOT STOPPED

In a nutshell, that's where we are in the Step Up Program. In case you are a new reader of Milk and Honey, the Step up Program is our effort to secure 75 of the mobile homes which FEMA placed in Florida as temporary housing for hurricane victims. We want a few of them (there were over 17,000) to be given to families in our area now living in substandard housing.

From our first phone call until now, there has been from GEMA, FEMA, and GSA nothing but encouragement and efforts to help. But we have to get a Yes from the decision makers in Washington. FEMA is now under the Office of Homeland Security. Sympathy abounds as phone calls are re-directed to this person and that. I do not sense we are getting the run around, but our government is a rather large outfit, in case you haven't noticed.

So, we are calling on our senators from Georgia and Tennessee to help us, thanks to the initiatives of Doug Leman and the political connections of Bob Short and Tom Gilliland. Senators Isaacson and Chambliss have sent staff persons to the Center for information. They were encouraged and encouraging. Senators Frist and Alexander of Tennessee have been contacted. We expect meetings with their staffs in Chattanooga within two weeks. We have confidence well-placed words from them will carry weight in Washington.

So, we are slowed but not stopped. Hang on and be ready to Step Up to help locally. No one has yet said No.



## YOU ARE INVITED



To visit a Headstart School to observe the Children's Enrichment Program of the Craddock Center. We are very proud of our 8 singers, dancers, storytellers; their skills, commitment, and love of children will be evident.

Remember it is your program because your gifts make it possible.

We are in Gilmer, Fannin, Pickens, Dawson, Lumpkin, and Union Counties in GA, Polk Co., TN and Cherokee Co., NC. Call the school first to get the program schedule.

You will enjoy it.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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