

7th Annual 'Gathering in the Gap' Music Festival and Celebration of the SWVA Museum Historical State Park's 65th Anniversary

by *Elizabeth Stapleton*

The Southwest Virginia Museum Historical State Park held its 7th Annual 'Gathering in the Gap' Music Festival and celebrated its 65th Anniversary on May 25, 2013.

<http://gatheringinthegapmusicfestival.com>





The **Gathering in the Gap** was created with the intention of preserving and celebrating the musical culture of Southwest Virginia. Always hosted on Memorial Day weekend in Big Stone Gap, Virginia, the Museum sees an increase in attendees each year with a growing diversity of people from all across the nation and the world!



The festival really does have something for everyone!

The festival includes a pass to visit the Museum and the Annual Quilt Show, a main stage evening show, an Acoustic Arbor where local musicians play, a competition stage for Old-Time and Bluegrass musicians and bands, a songwriting competition in which the winner wins a free recording session at the **Grammy-Award winning: Maggard Studio in Big Stone Gap, VA**, workshops, food, art, and antique vendors as well as a view of the astoundingly beautiful Appalachian Mountains!

In honor of the **Museum's 65th Anniversary**, ten inductees were added to the Southwest Virginia Museum Historical State Park's **Walk of Fame: Maybelle Carter, Peggie Castle, "Bullet Bill" Dudley, Carrol Dale, Honorable Cynthia Fannon Kinser, Dr. Miriam Morris Fuller, Jim & Jesse McReynolds, Dr. Joseph Smiddy, Frank Rowlett, and Dr. Ralph Stanley.**

The Walk of Fame honors those from Southwest Virginia that have made an unforgettable contribution to not only the region, but the world.

Virginia Delegate Terry Kilgore and the Director of the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation were both present to award the inductees.

(Stay tuned for a comprehensive blog on the Walk of Fame).

[John Carter](#) Cash accepted the award for legendary musician Maybelle Carter:



"Papa" Dr. Joseph Smiddy: Chancellor of Clinch Valley College

(Pictured with Alumni: Museum Director Sharon Ewing and Virginia Delegate Terry Kilgore)







The Annual Quilt Show:

(Below: the names of all 9/11 victims were embroidered.)









The Main Stage performers this year were: John Carter Cash: son of legendary John R. Cash and June Carter Cash, Dale Jett and Hello Stranger, Mountain Heart, and world famous musician: Dave Eggar and Deoro with Amber Rubarth.

John Carter Cash with Dale Jett and Hello Stranger:





Dave Eggar and Deoro:







The Acoustic Arbor:

Jordan Allen and the Bellwethers:





Gathering with Friends and Family Every Year!





The Gathering in the Gap is always truly a 'gathering' for me. Especially after I went to college ~6 hours from home, the gathering serves as a day for me to catch up with the locals of Big Stone Gap, VA as well as my family.



My aunt and I (Elizabeth Carter Stapleton) ;) spoke with John Carter Cash and snapped a picture together:



My mother and father both work very hard as Friends of the Museum Volunteers each year at the festival. My mother is one of the cooks for the musicians of the festival. Dad helps with the admissions gate or wherever he is needed.









And to give you a glimpse of the festival from previous years:



Ron Short and the Possum Playboys:









Dave Eggar and Deoro:







Marty Stuart:

Gathering in the Gap
Music Festival
May 26, 2012
MARTY STUART
Tickets: 276-523-1322
www.gatheringinthegapmusicfestival.com



Southwest Virginia Museum
Historical State Park

Friends of the Southwest Virginia Museum Historical State Park

Gathering In The Gap

6th Annual ROOTS MUSIC Festival

May 26, 2012

Big Stone Gap, Va

Tickets:
\$10 pre-purchase
\$25 gate
Kids 12 & under FREE



Marty Stuart

& His Fabulous Superlatives

**DON'T MISS!
5 TIME GRAMMY WINNER**



Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives



Saturday, May 26, 2012

Competitions:

- Bluegrass Guitar
- Bluegrass Mandolin
- Fiddle
- Banjo
- Cap Dulcimer
- Bluegrass Band
- Old Time Band
- Songwriting

Workshops:

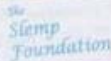
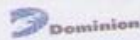
- Music: Dave Eggar
- Dulcimer: Rhody Jane Meadows
- Shape Note: Alexander Garden

Children's Area
Artisans
Antiques
Quilt Show



Dave Eggar & Deoro-Dale Jett & Hello Stranger
Ron Short & the Possum Playboys

Rich & The Poor Folk-Sonny Houston-Fire In The Kitchen-My New Favorite
TV Barnett & His Roan Mountain Moonshiners-Travis Kern-Town Branch Bluegrass



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276-523-1322







The Whitetop Mountain Band:





Performing My Forensics Competition Storytelling Piece at the Children's Tent:











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