

Cradle of Forestry Events for 2006

April 15 Cradle opens for 2006 season

The Cradle of Forestry Historic Site will open its doors on April 15th to begin the 2006 Season and to host its Appalachian Spring Celebration. The site will be open daily 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. from April 15—November 5. On opening day come learn about **Old-Time Plowing and Planting** from 11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Go back in time as a horse team plows the Cradle's garden. Learn plowing and planting skills of days gone by, see old tools used, enjoy gardening folklore and weather permitting, you can help plant the season's bounty.

April 30 Deadline - Appalachian Spring Photography Contest **Sponsored by: Ball Photo, Cradle of Forestry, and the U.S. Forest Service**

Theme: *Spring in the Appalachian Mtns.* **Size and Medium:** Color print, no smaller than 8"x10" which is matted, mounted, and/or framed so that it can be hung. **Criteria for judging:** Spring theme, technique, interest, value and composition. Photos will be on display at the Cradle of Forestry historic site from April May 3- June 6. Call 828-884-3265,ext 206 for an entry form.

April 29 Walk to the Wetlands 10:30 am

Participants will have the chance to see the results of past beaver activity while enjoying the late spring woods with dragonflies in flight and wildflowers in bloom. This approximate 3-4 mile walk along the Pink Beds Trail will offer the opportunity to experience beaver evidence, wetlands, forest succession and wildflowers. Bring water, snacks or lunch, and wear good hiking shoes. The trail tends to be wet and muddy at this time of year, so visitors may bring a pair of water shoes for those sections. Meet at the Forest Discovery Center at the Cradle of Forestry at 10:30 a.m. to get ready for this adventure.

May 14 Mother's Day and Trees in May 12:00 pm-5:00 pm

A celebration of moms and the spring forest with craft and interpretive activities. Enjoy guided walks, tree identification, a nature craft and visit with traditional crafts people at the historic buildings on the site. At 3:00 p.m. young families are invited to enjoy discovering the spring woods together during a guided "stroller strut" along one of the paved trails. Pack a picnic and treat mom to a day in the forest. Mom's in FREE on Mother's Day! For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

May 20 Migratory Bird Day

Family oriented activities for Migratory Bird Day will be from 1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. and include on-going games that show the wonder of birds. In *Risky Business*, participants experience the challenges birds face during migration. Visitors can learn about bird adaptations and needs by playing *Fill the Bill* and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's *Bird Jeopardy* game. Make a colorful mobile to hang outside your window to help prevent birds from colliding with the glass. Young children can enjoy a craft activity making their first pair of binoculars. Folk musician and Cradle songbird Cindy Carpenter will offer a forest oriented music program, *Songs of the Big Outdoors*, at 4:00 p.m.

June 10 Bug Day and Twilight Tour

We invite kids of all ages to come learn about the bugs of Pisgah National Forest on Saturday, June 10th from 11:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. This event will be held in and around the Forest Discovery Center at the Cradle of Forestry. Activities include a hands-on table, guided bug hunts, bug activities and a program on the hemlock woolly adelgid.

June 10 Twilight Firefly Tour

A sure sign of summertime is the blinking of fireflies or what some call lightning bugs. Join the Cradle of Forestry from 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. for an easy, slow paced walk to learn more about the natural history of fireflies and enjoy the evening forest. Park and meet at the Pink Beds Picnic Area on Hwy. 276, located next to the Cradle of Forestry.

The firefly walk will be lead by a ranger from the Cradle of Forestry. The group will meet to discuss the life cycles of the firefly and then walk about looking for them. Enjoy an evening exploring the summer forest. Please bring along a flashlight and your sense of wonder. Cost for this special evening program is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.50 for youth. For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

June 18 Father's Day in the Forest 12:00 pm-5:00 pm

Grab Dad and spend the afternoon at the Cradle of Forestry Historic Site. Learn the basics of using a compass and reading a topographical map, and try the compass challenge course. Dad's in FREE on Father's Day. For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

June 24 SAWA Pro Lumberjack Meet 12:00 pm-3:00 pm

Sponsored by Stihl, Inc. and the South Atlantic Woodsmen's Association—Cheer as professional lumberjacks compete in six events. Some of the events include: Underhand and Standing Block Chops, Two Man, Jack and Jill, and Single Handed Sawing. Admission for this event is \$5.00 for ages 16 and older; youth 15 and under and Golden Age and Golden Eagle Passports get in for ½ price on this special day. (\$2.50) For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

July 2 Songcatchers Music Series – Dana and Susan Robinson

Enjoy the colorful music of Appalachian heritage at 2:00 p.m. each Sunday in July. Concerts take place in the new outdoor amphitheatre when weather permits, otherwise in the Forest Discovery Center. Picnics welcome. Admission for this event is \$5.00 for ages 16 and older, youth 15 and under and Golden Age and Golden Eagle Passports get in for ½ price on this special day. (\$2.50) For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

Dana and Susan Robinson tastefully blend old sounds with new in their interpretations of traditional songs and tunes. Fiddle, banjo, guitar, and mandolin take turns combining with vocals to convey the feel of old-time music to original compositions as well. To learn more visit www.robinsongs.com.

July 8 Train History Day

Come learn about the 1915 Climax logging train on display at the Cradle of Forestry and how it wound its way through the forest coves of western North Carolina for over 40 years. Come learn about the old logging trains of our region. Enjoy a powerpoint program at 10:30 a.m. and again at 2:00 p.m. presented by WNC train historian Jerry Ledford. After each program walk out to see the Cradle's 1915 Climax logging locomotive. Climb on board and ring the bell!

July 9 Songcatchers Music Series- Cary Fridley with Steve Trismen

Enjoy the colorful music of Appalachian heritage at 2:00 p.m. each Sunday in July. Concerts take place in the new outdoor amphitheatre when weather permits, otherwise in the Forest Discovery Center. Picnics welcome. Admission for this event is \$5.00 for ages 16 and older, youth 15 and under and Golden Age and Golden Eagle Passports get in for ½ price on this special day. (\$2.50) For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

Cary Fridley's strong, clear voice and song repertoire express the respect she feels for old-time singers long gone. Drawn to old southern country music since a teenager, she collects songs from North Carolina field recordings and 78s from the late 1920's and 30's, making them her own. Cary plays guitar and banjo, and will be joined by fiddler Steve Trismen of the band Jupiter Coyote. To learn more about Cary visit www.caryfridley.net.

July 16 Songcatchers Music Series- Sheila Kay Adams

Enjoy the colorful music of Appalachian heritage at 2:00 p.m. each Sunday in July. Concerts take place in the new outdoor amphitheatre when weather permits, otherwise in the Forest Discovery Center. Picnics welcome. Admission for this event is \$5.00 for ages 16 and older, youth 15 and under and Golden Age and Golden Eagle Passports get in for ½ price on this special day. (\$2.50) For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

Noted musician, storyteller, and author Sheila Kay Adams learned ballads the old "knee-to-knee" way. She sings songs that have been part of her family for seven generations in the same intense style in which they were handed down to her. Her powerful voice, clawhammer banjo playing, and amusing stories about her childhood and community in Madison County, North Carolina delight her audiences. To learn more visit www.jimandsheila.com.

July 22 Wash Day the Old Way

Get your hands in the water and on the washboards to wash clothes the un-plugged way- with your own energy! Visit the washplace on the wheelchair accessible Biltmore Campus Trail between 11:00 and 4:00 for this activity.

July 23 Songcatchers Music Series – Reed Island Rounders

Enjoy the colorful music of Appalachian heritage at 2:00 p.m. each Sunday in July. Concerts take place in the new outdoor amphitheatre when weather permits, otherwise in the Forest Discovery Center. Picnics welcome. Admission for this event is \$5.00 for ages 16 and older, youth 15 and under and Golden Age and Golden Eagle Passports get in for ½ price on this special day. (\$2.50) For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

The Reed Island Rounders' music making means variety: foot-stomping dance tunes of the Blue Ridge, romantic waltzes, lonesome mountain tunes played on solo fiddle or in duet with the banjo, and chilling ballads. Members of this talented trio bring together their individual accomplishments for a fine performance of traditional music. To learn more about them visit www.reedisland.com.

July 30 Songcatchers Music Series – Laura Boosinger

Enjoy the colorful music of Appalachian heritage at 2:00 p.m. each Sunday in July. Concerts take place in the new outdoor amphitheatre when weather permits, otherwise in the Forest Discovery Center. Picnics welcome. Admission for this event is \$5.00 for ages 16 and older, youth 15 and under and Golden Age and Golden Eagle Passports get in for ½ price on this special day. (\$2.50) For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

Laura Boosinger's concerts offer a step back to a simpler time, awakening memories for the old and instilling cultural lessons for the young. Through her old-time banjo, dulcimer, autoharp, and sweet voice, she invites audiences to participate in the richness of

the Southern Appalachian region's musical heritage. Visit www.lauraboosinger.com to learn more.

August 5 Smokey Bear's Birthday Party

Games, singing, fire fighting equipment, birthday cake and of course, Smokey Bear. The party will last from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. A program "Fire in the Forest" will follow the festivities. Admission for this event is \$5.00 for ages 16 and older; youth 15 and under and Golden Age and Golden Eagle Passports get in for ½ price on this special day. (\$2.50) For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

August 12 - 27 Inspirations from the Forest

"Inspirations from the Forest," an exhibition produced by the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, will travel throughout the country during 2006.

The exhibition developed from the 2005 Smithsonian Folklife Festival program "Forest Service, Culture and Community," which commemorated the 100th anniversary of Forest Service by highlighting the occupational and cultural traditions of those who live and work in our nation's forests and rangelands. The 16-panel exhibition illustrates how artists, writers and musicians draw inspiration from the world of nature

Sept. 2 Terrific Tree Day

Learn about the trees in your forest. Tree identification and nature crafts are featured on this special day. For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

Sept. 16 Afternoon Tea with Llamas

The Cradle of Forestry will host two guided walks with llamas on Saturday, September 10. Hikes will be offered at 11:00 a.m. and again at 2:00 p.m. This walk will be on the Discovery Trail at the Cradle of Forestry site and is approximately two miles roundtrip. Participants are asked to bring a snack or lunch which the llamas will carry and the Cradle of Forestry will provide the cold tea and cups for this picnic in the woods. During the walk children will have the chance to lead the llamas. Come out and learn about these low impact animals.

September 30: Aldo Leopold Celebration

Enjoy National Public Lands Day at the Cradle of Forestry with a celebration of Aldo Leopold, influential conservationist and author of the influential book, *A Sand County Almanac*.

October 7 Forest Festival Day and Woodsmen's Meet (college lumberjack competition)

Sponsored by STIHL

More than 50 traditional craftsmen, exhibitors and entertainers gather at the Cradle of Forestry to celebrate our forests and forest heritage. Highlights include: traditional mountain music, wood carvers, weavers, a quilter, a potter, blacksmith, a toy maker, and a Woodsmen's Meet—old time lumberjack competition. This event is sponsored by STIHL, Inc. Admission to the Cradle of Forestry for this event is \$5.00 for ages 16 and older; youth 15 and under and Golden Age and Golden Eagle Passports get in for ½ price on this special day. (\$2.50) For more information call 828-877-3130 or go to www.cradleofforestry.org.

October 14 Guided Hike to Soapstone Ridge

Want to experience fall color up close and personal? Then join the Cradle of Forestry on Saturday, October 15 at 11:00 a.m. as they offer a guided hike to Soapstone Ridge. This is a moderate hike in the lovely fall forest of about 5 miles roundtrip. The hike will start at the Cradle of Forestry and travel on the Mountains to Sea Trail to the Pink Beds Trail and back to the Cradle again. Participants are

asked to pack water, lunch, rain gear, and wear good hiking shoes.
The walk will be lead by the Cradle's Interpretive Specialist Gaye
Owen.