

# MOUNTAIN ECHOES

Connecting with the spirit and history of Townsend, Cades Cove, and the Great Smoky Mountains.



■ THE ENTERTAINMENT ISSUE 2022

## We have lots to do in 22!

Join us for the *Fiber Fair*, the *Dillards Concert* and our new annual *Fundraising Celebration* featuring *Carlene Carter*!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS PAGES 4-5



### New Format for Annual Fundraiser

**T**he GSMHC is pleased to announce that our **2022 Fundraiser Celebration** (formerly the Gala) will take place at the Heritage Center on **Saturday, June 18, from 4 pm to 9:30 pm ET**. We are hoping to make the event a less formal gathering offering good food, unique fun and friends.

The **Heritage Center** is a special place to hold events where, for a few minutes or a few hours, our guests can see what's current, new, and on the drawing board. While mingling with living history demonstrators, attendees will walk through the Appalachian Village, **enjoy gourmet**

**food and drink pairings** (included with ticket), and catch up with old friends at a leisurely pace from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

At 7:00 we gather at the amphitheater for the opening musical act, **Dusty Leigh**, followed around 7:45 by our headliner, **Carlene Carter and her Trio**, who will entertain us until around 9:00 pm. It should be a magical evening in a magical place. **We hope to see you there!**



CARLENE CARTER



DUSTY LEIGH

*Carlene Carter is the daughter of June Carter Cash and country star Carl Smith, and stepdaughter of Johnny Cash.*

*Emerging country music artist, Dusty Leigh, will open the evening concerts at 7:00 pm.*

See ticket details on page 4

IN CONCERT @ FIBER FAIR

### THE DILLARDS

In 1963, *The Andy Griffith Show* introduced the world to the **Darling Family**. The Darling boys were actually members of a family band called **The Dillards**.



*The Dillards became influential on the West Coast and are considered one of the founding groups of "Country Rock". The band influenced, jammed, or worked with Elton John, The Byrds, The Eagles, Buffalo Springfield, and The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band.*



**Rodney Dillard** carries on the legacy of the Dillard Family who performed as "the Darlings" on the *Andy Griffith Show* in 1963.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN

### FIBER FAIR

FRI-SAT APRIL 22 & 23

THE DILLARDS WILL BE PERFORMING FRIDAY, APRIL 22 AT 7 PM, BEFORE HEADING TO NASHVILLE WHERE THEY WILL APPEAR AT THE GRAND OLE OPRY.

## MUSEUM STAFF

**Brent Lambert**, Executive Director  
**Jill Cable**, Administrative Assistant  
**Lorna Keathley**, Associate Curator  
**Trevor Lanier**, Curator  
**Logan Hull**, Director of Operations  
**Sarah Share**, Educational Assistant  
**Sherry Harris**, Business Development  
**Zee Johnston**, Sales Associate

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Lamar Dunn** | Vice Chair  
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**Emily Mantooth**  
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**Mark Oldham**  
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**Christy McDonald Slavick**  
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**Jeff Jopling**  
**Baird Todd**



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**A**lthough everyone experienced the ups and downs of 2021, we had a very successful year for the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center. Our staff owes a debt of gratitude to everyone who helped us reach new heights – our Board of Directors, members, volunteers, artists, vendors, performers, and of course, all of those who chose to spend their time visiting with us.

We hope you will be a part of the memory-making in 2022. The spring issue of **Mountain Echoes** presents our **2022 Calendar of Events** and shares some of our recent accomplishments. We believe these efforts are laying the foundation for an enriched Heritage Center experience – all guided by responsible strategic planning for the future.

The opportunities to join us are plentiful, whether that be through volunteering, attending special events, becoming a member, or by providing financial support. If you have questions or would like additional information about the Heritage Center, you are welcome to contact our office at **865-448-0044** or visit us at **gsmheritagecenter.org**. We hope to see you soon!



— BRENT LAMBERT

## IN MEMORIAM

*The Heritage Center would like to recognize recent memorial contributions and Honor Garden recipients.*



### In memory of Cole Piper by:

- Priscilla Albright
- Chuck & Donna Alexander
- Alda Brickey
- Mr. & Mrs. Larry Chesney
- Bryan Coker
- Richard D. Coleman
- Mr. & Mrs. Mike Crawford
- Mr. & Mrs. Joe Dawson
- Suzette Donovan
- David & Janet Dugger
- Lamar & Mary Ann Dunn
- Carolyn Forster
- Clara Hardin
- Lane Hays
- Lowell Headrick
- Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Hodge
- Mr. & Mrs. Carl Koella III
- Frank March
- Robert Nicholas
- Jim & Betsy Norton
- Ron & Barbara Penn
- Louise Presley
- Jim Proffitt
- John & Nancy Ray
- George & Dotty Smith
- Dr. & Mrs. John Wendelken

### HONOR GARDEN:

SGT CARL BROWN	USA VIETNAM
CPL TOMMY FAGG	USA KOREA
SGT GORDON LANE	USAF VIETNAM
TSGT CHUCK LANGSTON	USAF VIETNAM
A1C ROBERT M RUSH	USAF KOREA
A1C CLYDE R. SHULER	USAF KOREA

### MEMORIAL GIFTS:

- In Memory of **Otis Beavers**  
*by Tom Boyd & Sandi Burdick, and Tennessee 25 Year Club (ALCOA)*
- In Memory of **Joe Gorman, Robert Breazeale, Sidney Lee Myers, Willie Brickey, Jack Norton, David Woods, Jodie Johnston**  
*by Lowell Headrick*
- In Memory of **Marilyn Davis** *by Rex Davis*
- In Memory of **Jodie Johnson** *by Whitney Erickson*





*Thanks to our patrons and benefactors, the Davis Cabin and new Heirloom Garden are poised for visitors in 2022.*

# WE SAVED THE DAVIS & KELLER CABINS!

## The Heritage Center Saves two Historic Cabins of the Smokies

**T**he **Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center** has successfully preserved two historically significant structures in 2021-2022. Our experts moved and reassembled two Appalachian cabins at the Center where our visitors and patrons can connect with the spirit and history of these priceless artifacts.

The **Davis Cabin** was disassembled, stored, and reconstructed at the entrance to the GSMHC campus. The Davis Family built it about 200 years ago, not long after statehood. The cabin was owned by the same family on its original site until it was donated to the GSMHC in 2021.

The **Keller Cabin** is the original homeplace of Samuel Keller, who was possibly the best known and most prolific gunsmith in this area. *See more on Page 7.*

SEE KELLER CABIN PAGE 6-7



**Freddie Haun** and his team prepared “new” logs to replace a handful of original logs that were too damaged to be reused. When we say “new,” we actually mean new to the structure. The logs themselves are from the correct time period and are the correct wood type.

*Footers were poured in October 2021 and the Davis Cabin was constructed during the winter months.*







▲ Carlene Carter



▲ The Ultimate Eagles Tribute



▲ Nicholas E. Williams



▲ Dom Flemons



▲ Wild Blue Yonder

## THE ENTERTAINMENT ISSUE 2022

# Familiar Faces and Fantastic First-Time Acts

*GSMHC is working to continuously improve the quality of our music and events programming.*

**T**he GSMHC is pleased to share our 2022 concert schedule and it's packed with awesome talent and variety. We have GRAMMY Award winners and Hall of Famers plus up-and-comers and local favorites. Sign up today!



The concession stand will open each evening at 5:30 pm and will remain open through intermission. The menu will include **hamburgers, hot dogs, barbeque, ice cream novelties, Coca-Cola products, and beer.**

### New policy changes taking effect in 2022.

- The Heritage Center will provide seats for all shows, which means that no outside chairs are allowed in the amphitheater.
- Seating will be on a first come, first serve basis unless guests have purchased preferred seating with their tickets.
- Informally reserving seats before 5:30 pm will not be permitted and items placed in or on seats during regular business hours will be removed prior to the show.
- Parking areas will be clearly marked, and all guests must enter and exit through the gift shop/front desk area.

## NEW ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AND CARLENE CARTER CONCERT TICKETS

### GSMHC Pricing for Fundraiser Event and Concert

**Early-Bird Fundraiser Only Ticket (Prior to May 31)**

Member

Non-Member

**\$65.00**

**Early-Bird Fundraiser with Concert Ticket (Prior to May 31)**

**\$95.00**

**\$100.00**

**Fundraiser Only Ticket (June 1 and later) -**

**\$75.00**

**Fundraiser with Concert Ticket (June 1 and later) -**

**\$105.00**

**\$110.00**

To order your tickets call 865-448-0044 or visit our website at [www.gsmheritagecenter.org](http://www.gsmheritagecenter.org)

▼ Rebel Railroad



▼ Grizzly Goat



▼ Steve Kaufman



▼ Appalachian Road Show







▲ Pistol Creek

▲ Angela Easterling

▲ Tall Paul

▲ Jim Curry

▲ Jerry Butler Band

▲ Fleetwood Gold

## 2022 WEEKEND CONCERT CALENDAR

Date	Event	Member	Non-Member
May 6	On the Border: The Ultimate Eagles Tribute	\$30	\$35
May 27	Tall Paul	Free	\$10
June 3	Grizzly Goat	Free	\$10
June 10	Jerry Butler Band	Free	\$10
June 17	The New Dismembered Tennesseans	\$10	\$15
Sat. June 18	Carlene Carter	Fundraiser	Fundraiser
June 24	Drift Boat Cowboys	\$10	\$15
July 1	Dom Flemons and Nicholas E. Williams	\$20	\$25
July 8	Rebel Railroad	\$20	\$25
July 15	Angela Easterling	\$10	\$15
July 22	Pistol Creek Catch of the Day	Free	\$10
July 29	Appalachian Road Show	\$30	\$35
September 2	Acoustic Eidolon	\$10	\$15
September 9	Wild Blue Yonder	\$10	\$15
September 16	Tennessee Sheiks	Free	\$10
September 23	Jim Curry: The Music of John Denver	\$30	\$35
September 30	Steve Kaufman	Free	\$10
October 7	Fleetwood Gold	\$30	\$35



▲ Dom Flemons captivates the audience in 2021 with authentic musical arrangements from olden times.



▲ Renowned singer song-writer Dean Dillon plays to a packed house in October 2021

► To order your tickets call 865-448-0044 or visit our website at [www.gsmheritagecenter.org](http://www.gsmheritagecenter.org)

▼ Driftboat Cowboys

▼ Tennessee Sheiks

▼ Acoustic Eidolon

▼ Dismembered Tennesseans





HISTORY ON DISPLAY

# Keller Cabin to be the Centerpiece of a New Gallery



**T**he first step in creating this gallery is to reassemble the Keller Cabin inside the new gallery space.

The Heritage Center was fortunate to have some famous friends who were willing to help — **Mark Bowe** and the cast and crew of the **Barnwood Builders** television show. Members of the Barnwood Builders team made a site visit in the summer of 2021 to see the cabin and the space to assess how difficult the reassembly would be.



Based on what they saw, Mark and his team accepted the challenge. They returned in February of 2022 to complete the project, which will be featured in a Season 13 episode of the show.



**Barnwood Builder Johnny Jett** (shown at right) helped guide the reconstruction of the Keller Cabin at the Heritage Center in February.





# How it happened...

**A** renowned figure in the world of gunsmithing, Samuel Keller was one of the most prolific gun makers in the Smoky Mountain region during the mid-1800s. Keller spent most of his life in Blount County. However, the exact location of his home and shop had long been a mystery to historians.

Enter **Ben Barrington** and **Randal Pierce**. After a great deal of research, the former State Preservation Officer for the Tennessee Historical Commission, Ben Barrington, and Kentucky Rifle (Long Rifle) Association Board member, Randal Pierce, tracked down the location of the Keller Cabin.

Working with Ben and Randal, a group of Keller family descendants purchased the cabin and donated it to the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center. The cabin will be the centerpiece of a new gallery covering the East Tennessee frontier of the late 1700s through the mid-1800s.



RANDAL PIERCE



BEN BARRINGTON

**Samuel K. Keller** was born May 16, 1817 in Virginia. In 1850-60 the U.S. census reports he was a gunsmith in the 8th district, Six Mile area, of Blount County. His personal net worth was \$600 and he held real estate valued at \$600. He is believed to have served an apprenticeship with **John Hood**, who lived in the adjacent house in 1850.

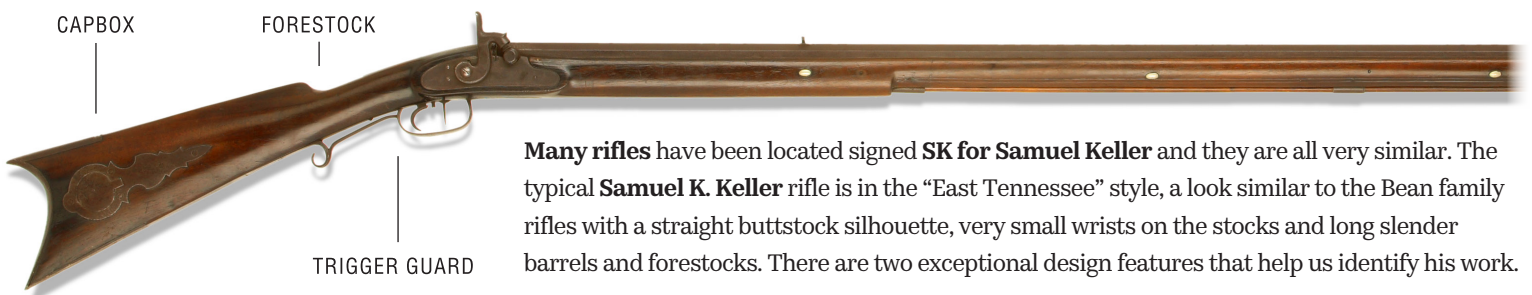
Samuel represents a third generation of gunsmith's in Blount County. The first generation, **Joseph Bogle Jr.** trained his nephew, also named Joseph Bogle. Joseph (the nephew) and **John Hood**, the second generation, worked roughly during the same period. **John Hood** or possibly **George Duncan** then trained Samuel. By this time, judging by Samuel's work, there was a typical "East Tennessee" style rifle being produced in Blount County.



Keller Cabin on its original site.



*The Samuel Keller Cabin, shown during reconstruction (left), is the foundation of a new gallery being designed in the Heritage Center. The cabin is where Keller crafted his famous guns.*



Many rifles have been located signed **SK for Samuel Keller** and they are all very similar. The typical **Samuel K. Keller** rifle is in the "East Tennessee" style, a look similar to the Bean family rifles with a straight buttstock silhouette, very small wrists on the stocks and long slender barrels and forestocks. There are two exceptional design features that help us identify his work.

*The first* is a distinctive cap box composed of semicircular elements put together in a pleasing design, which is believed to be developed or at least refined by Samuel.

*The second* design feature is a forestock molding composed of a narrow concave area with an incised line on each side.

Keller, and other Blount County rifles, are the only East Tennessee rifles consistently carrying a forestock molding.

Keller rifles feature deeply curved buttplates, trigger guards featuring a closed loop or curl at the rear, and long, extended breech plug tangs.

*Great Smoky Mountains*  
**HERITAGE CENTER**

GSMHERITAGECENTER.ORG

*Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center  
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PERMIT NO. 1

Connect with the spirit and history of Townsend, Cades Cove, and the Great Smoky Mountains. Our museums offer something for everyone, from hands-on activities to tours of original 19th-century buildings and our Cherokee Native American collection.



Call Today: 865-448-0044

**DON'T MISS: FRI-SAT APRIL 22 & 23**

VISIT  
**TOWNSEND**  
TENNESSEE

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN  
**FIBER FAIR**

Two days of fiber classes, sales, and demonstrations plus you'll see traditional crafts like blacksmithing and woodworking. The Fair features **The Dillards** for a **Friday night concert** and museum gallery tours with additional live music on site!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS **INSIDE**

**Admission = \$7 for a one-day pass and \$10 for a two-day pass.**

Standard museum admission is in effect. **Tickets for the concert** are \$20 for Heritage Center members and \$25 for non-members. To order your tickets, contact our office at **865-448-0044** or visit [gsmheritagecenter.org](http://gsmheritagecenter.org).



The Dillard Family performed as "the Darlings" on the Andy Griffith Show.