Old time jam coming to Cumberland Furnace

History Day • June 4, 2005

About halfway between Dickson and Clarksville, as the crow flies, sits a tiny town ripe with artifacts and architecture from Tennessee's most famous ironworks. Land purchased by James Robertson and William Sheppard in 1793 would become Cumberland Furnace, the state's first iron plantation village.

Montgomery Bell paid \$16,000 for the 640 acre furnace tract in 1804; he would supply cannon shot to General Andrew Jackson in War of 1812. In 1925 Anthony Van Leer purchased the iron works for \$50,000 and operated the furnace until the Civil War in 1863 when his granddaughter, Mary Florence Kirkman, and husband Major James P Drouillard, a Union officer, took over the ironworks til 1889. The furnace operated on-and-off under various ownership and remained in use until World War II when it was dismantled and sold for scrap.

The Village of Cumberland Furnace was placed on the National Historic Register in 1988. On June 4, the local Historical Society will hold their annual **History Day** along with an invitation to all Middle Tennesseans who play Old Time Music to set the musical scene. InTheWoods and NOTSBA members are meeting their picking friends in Cumberland Furnace for a full-day jam in the quiet little town.

TOP 10 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER ATTENDING....

- 10. Is there anything better than pickin' under a tree on a summer's day?
- 9. Two words: FREE FOOD.
- 8. This town is full of Grannies. Now think about Granny's cooking. Return to No. 9.
- Ron Ault must have another new instrument to show us by now.
- 6. No annoying bluegrass.
- 5. We can share the joy of Old Time Music, particularly with the old folks, many of whom who may remember an uncle or neighbor who played these same tunes way back when.
- 4. We can broaden our knowledge of Old Time Music by meeting new pickers and hearing new tunes and new styles.
- 3. We can help the grannies with the Cumberland Furnace Historical Society throw a hip party.
- $\label{eq:contact} \textbf{2.} \quad \text{We can take great publicity shots at the cool historical sites.}$
- 1. Bela said so.



The Cumberland Furnace Train Depot is one of 23 historical sites in the town. Next Saturdays' History Day Celebration will feature free tours for all pickers and their families.

Here's the deal....

- An ongoing Jam will begin at 11am, ending around 5pm.
 Get there when you can and join in. If you can't stay the whole day, okay. Feel free to drift in and out of the jam.
 See the sights. There are lots of 'em.
- If you'd like to play for the BBQ luncheon, please be there by 11 a.m. We will meet at the Community Center in the middle of town and move to the tent.
- Musicians eat free. You may eat before or after you play.
- All beverages for the day will be free for pickers.
- They will provide wood folding chair seating. Bring your own if you want something more comfortable to sit on..
- We'll pick rain or shine; they will have a large tent erected.
- Historical tours will be free. Bring your family.
- Tips will be shared as fairly as possible among pickers.

Cumberland Furnace is located 10 miles north of Dickson on Highway 48.

For a GoogleMap to Cumberland Furnace, copy the link below and paste into your browser:

http://maps.google.com/maps?q=4900+Old+Highway+48+North,+Cumberland+Furnace,+TN+37051&spn=.781250,1.116253&hl=en

For more information, call Susie Coleman at 662-5577.