

CLINCH MOUNTAIN TRIBUTE

September/October

Mini Newsletter

1993

Dr. Ralph Stanley Fan Club

3368 Guernsey Ave

Memphis Tn 38122

DR. RALPH STANLEY



DR. RALPH STANLEY

IN 1946 RALPH AND CARTER, THE STANLEY BROTHERS
PIONEERED THE SOUND OF BLUEGRASS MUSIC.
AFTER CARTER'S DEATH IN 1966, RALPH WENT
ON TO BECOME A LEGEND IN BLUEGRASS.



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Well summer's almost over and I hate to see it go. It's been an busy summer for Ralph and The Clinch Mountain Boys and a exciting one for me. I hope most of you got to go and see them a lot this summer but the inside shows will be starting soon. So we can always see Ralph anytime of the year and and hear the best that Bluegrass has to offer



SPECIAL BULLETIN

Attention fan club members that are a member of the IBMA - International Bluegrass Music Association - the list is out for the 2nd level voting for the IBMA Awards. Ralph is nominated for a number of things this year. Also the Clinch Mt. Boys are being nominated separately, so be sure to vote for Ralph and boys in all possible categories.



CONCERT NEWS

I got a phone call from fan club member, Kathleen Wolfe, back in June and she reported that the June 26th show at Circleville, OH was terrific. Ralph and the boys sang a whole show of songs they have not done in a long time. Boy did they really get a treat! She also said that Art Stamper - Ralph's new fiddle

player - was really working those songs over and doing a great job of fiddling.

It was an exciting time for the people of Livingston, Tn, July 10th, when Ralph Stanley came to town at the Dale Hollow Bluegrass Festival.

The weather was pretty warm, as it has been for most of the summer, but that didn't stop the crowd of people who turned out to see Ralph on a Saturday afternoon.

Ralph did two outstanding shows and the crowd was very pleased. How could they not be, as the best in the business is performing for them. Songs included "Katy Daley", "Water Lilly", "Worned Man", "I'll Answer The Call", "Willing To Try", "Traveling The Highway Home", and "I'm Not Afraid" to name a few.

Art Stamper played "Kansas City Blues", and he even won the Clinch Mt. Boys dancing contest - that's a first! Ralph II sang lead on "Over In The Gloryland", "How Far To Little Rock" and he even performed Ray's song "Step It Up and Go". Jr. sang "Mary Ann" along with Ernie and Jack doing their favorites for us.

The crowd really gave a great response when Ralph stepped up to the mike and did his Clawhammer work on the banjo. No one can clawhammer like Ralph can. "Shout Little Lulie", "Mule To Ride", and "Rocky Island", and some of his best singing on "Man Of Constant Sorrow".

All in all the report is it was an excellent show with great harmony singing and playing

from Dr. Ralph Stanley and The Clinch Mt. Boys. I bet it won't be long till they have him back again.

The report from Shriner's Blue Grass Festival in Olive Hill, Ky was a great success and what other way could it be with Dr. Ralph Stanley performing there. Despite the 90 degree weather everyone had a great time.

Art Stamper was doing some of his best fiddling along with Jack Cooke doing some of his best singing for the people. Ralph II did a excellent job on "Just Because", and the bass part on "Will You Miss Me". Of course Ralph and Ralph II did "How Far To Little Rock". Ernie Thacker did some excellent lead singing as he always does along with Jr. doing an outstanding job on the lead guitar work. And lets not forget the master himself Ralph Stanley really outdid himself with his lonesome sounding tenor and exquisite banjo playing. The crowd really goes wild when he plays the clawhammer style.

Don, the fiddle player for the Bluegrass Cardinals, sung with Ralph on the last show. Also Hank Smith, the man who took Jr. place for a year while he was out did "Cannonball Blues". Sammy Adkins, Ralph's lead singer before Ernie, was also there and he did the classic "If That's The Way You Feel" with Ralph. Sammy also says that he is starting a new group so be looking for him in the future. Ralph will be back there next year so if you

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missed this one be sure to go to it next year.

There was also a "Pig Roast" put on by Mike (who is known for his famous apron) and Dena Nance. They had so much food that everyone in the campground got a least 2 servings. Now that's a way to have a cookout! Even Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mt. Boys were spotted eating there! No where else but a bluegrass festival can you be invited in to someone's camp, eat all you want with good friends, good music and sit next to a legend.

August 14th Dr. Ralph Stanley and The Clinch Mt. Boys were hard a work performing for the people at Bera, Ky, at the Bill Hill Bluegrass Festival. The weather was not to bad around mid 80s but that never stops the crowd that come out to see Ralph play. It was a great crowd and they were anxious to see Ralph perform.

Ralph did 2 extraordinary shows, the people got more than they expected. Ralph and the boys were in fine form except that Jack was still recuperating from his injury the following weekend, but he still was playing his best. Junior was home recuperating from a bad tooth, but the show went on and it was great. Ralph II sang lead on "Over In The Gloryland", "Just Because" and did some great rhythm playing. Fiddling Art Stamper was at his best playing "Kansas City" for us. There is one man who will fiddle at the drop of a hat. Jack did "Let Me Rest Of My

Journey". Erine did "Mt. Folks" and "Water Lilly". Of course Ralph stole the show with excellent banjo work and exquisite singing. No one can hold a crowd like him when he starts on his clawhammer playing. "Little Birdie", "Rocky Island" and "Shout Little Lulie" to name a few. He also sang "Room At The Top Of The Stars", one of my favorites, "Little Maggie", and the wonderful gospel number "I'll Wear A White Robe".

In between his shows he was called on stage with Larry Sparks and Charlie Sizemore to do a 15 minute show with his former Clinch Mt. Boys. It is always great to see history being made over again. Both of these gentleman are musicians in their own right but they also remember where they got their start from and are never to proud to tell you.

Ralph's last show was even better as the night grew on. The weather had cooled down and everyone was having a good time. At the end of the show Ralph did his clawhammer picking almost everyone got up to dance. He really gets your feet to moving when he cuts loose on that banjo. Then he told everyone good night and he received an standing ovation and was called out for more. He came back and did his "Tribute to Carter" and received another standing ovation. I believe that those people would have stayed there all night if Ralph would have kept singing and playing. After their last song Ralph and the boys left out for a 800 mile trip to another

show in Pennsylvania. Boys it's hard to be popluar but Ralph loves and believes in the music he plays and so they were off again to give a great performance for another crowd. A lot of people stopped by the bus as Ralph and the Boys were pulling out and wanted to spend more time with him. He took an extra few minutes, even though he had a long way to go that night, and took time to sign autographs and talk with them and then they were on they way. Word is that he will be back next year. Ralph is the best, always will be the best, and as far as I am concerned there is no other but Dr. Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mt. Boys.

While at the festival in Bill Hill, KY Donnie Ray Gadd received a very big surprise. His father had bought him one of the 40th Anniversary Banjos that Ralph has to sell for his birthday. He was not aware of what was fixing to happened to him as Ralph called him out out stage and presented the banjo to him and he was really proud. I would be too because these are extremely nice banjos. Ralph asked Donnie what he thought about it and he told Ralph that when he died he wanted to be buried with it.

For those of you that don't know the story behind these 40th Anniversary Banjo's I'll try my best to explain it to you. A few years ago a lot of Ralph's fans got together and asked Frank Neat to make a special banjo for Ralph for his 40 years in music. This is a beautiful banjo with a great

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sound and lot of you have probably have seen Ralph play this banjo. Some years before Ralph had Frank Neat to make him 100 of the Stanleytone banjo to sell to people who wanted one of Ralph's banjos. 50 gold and 50 chrome plated where made. After these where gone their where a lot of people who still wanted one so Ralph had Frank make 25 of the 40th Anniversary like the one he received from his fans. The are beautiful gold plated banjos with that great Ralph Stanley Sound that you can not find in any other banjo. The are engraved on the armrest and around the flange of the banjo. They have Ralph's name of the headstock and 40th Anniversary on the neck. He has only 20 of these left so if you want one of these contact Ralph. His address is in the article later on in the newsletter. And folks let me tell you this these are a collectors item. Don't miss getting a chance to get one of these cause after these are gone their won't be any more.

Al Domingue got to go on a trip of a lifetime. He went on a road trip with Ralph a few weekends ago and he wrote in to tell us about it.

The afternoon of July 16th in Xenia, OH was sunny and quite warm. The Ralph Stanley bus pulled into the Greene County Fairgrounds about 2 hours before the first of 2 scheduled shows. The crowd was light, as it was a Friday afternoon, but not lacking in enthusiasm.

As Ralph and The Clinch Mt. Boys started their first show with "Cotton Eyed Joe" the crowd really came to life and remained animated throughout the rest of the show.

By the second show time the crowd had grown and became quite large. Many crowed together near the front of the stage and really whooped it up. Ralph did an extra long show that night, finishing up with a series of clawhammer banjo tunes that the crowd kept asking for. It was Ralph at his finest on the banjo and everyone loved it.

The afternoon of July 17th found Ralph and The Boys at Whitmore Lake, MI for two shows. The weather was again sunny but cooler than the previous day. Great festival weather! The crowd for the first show was average size for an afternoon crowd. Ralph was very well received at the first show with many people showing up at the record table after the show. The second show was a night and the crowd had grown in size considerable. It was very lively and Ralph kept the pace that way throughout except to pause and slow down for some gospel songs about the middle of the show. The crowd really enjoyed that second show and expressed it with cheers and applause.

Late morning of July 18th found the Ralph Stanley bus in Hillsdale, New York, following a 13 1/2 hour non-stop journey from Michigan. After a hearty, late, breakfast, Ralph and the boys make their way from Hillsdale to the

site of the Winterhawk Festival, about 8 miles to the south. Again Ralph did two shows, afternoon and early evening. The Winterhawk crowd was quite large as usual, Ralph was surrounded by fans at all times when he was out around the record table and the tapes and CD's were going like hotcakes.

The crowd was really into it for both of Ralph's shows. He was as well received at Winterhawk as any other site on the festival circuit.

On August 6th and 7th Ralph and The Boys were near Plymouth, Oh. to perform one show on Friday and two shows on Saturday. The Friday crowd was a bit on the small side but Ralph and The Boys did a bang up show none the less. Saturdays crowd was much larger and did they get their moneys worth. Ralph and The Boys were at their best. Even Ralph II gave a delightful rendition of the gospel song "Traveling The Highway Home". It would be remiss not to mention what a fine sound the fiddle of Art Stamper has brought to the group. It reminds one of the ole-timey sounds of yesteryear when the Stanley Brothers had some of the great fiddle players of that era. And with Ralph and all the rest of the boys being just as good as if not better than ever: what a group, simply the best!

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STANLEY ON THE AIR

The National Bluegrass Survey has Ralph at #20 for "Down Where The River Bends", and #30 for "Miner's Prayer"

KFDI 1070AM in Wichita, Kansas had Ralph's Saturday Night - Sunday Morning at #8 for the month of June, up from 12 in the month of May. Also "Miner's Prayer" with Ralph and Dwight at number #11 for the top 20 bluegrass songs. There number to call is 316-838-9141.

KCLC FM in St. Charles, Mo., Lindenwood College, favorite pick for the month of June is "Down Where The River Bends" with Ralph and Dwight. There number is 314-949-2000.

Ralph has 2 songs on the top 30 of the National Bluegrass Survey. They are "Down Where The River Bends", with Ralph and Dwight, at number 17 and "Miner's Prayer", also with Ralph and Dwight, at number 28.

Here is a list of some of the stations that help make up the National Bluegrass Survey. It is very important to call these stations as they report in every month which artist is requested the most and for which album. This lets us know who is at the top of the charts each month. Be sure to call these stations and the

local bluegrass station in your area and request Ralph's music. Let's get him to the top where he belongs and keep him there. We all know who is the best! All I have is the call letters and the state but most of you should know the stations in your area. So get on those phone lines now and request, request, request your favorite Ralph Stanley Saturday Night-Sunday Morning cut off the new CD. Thanks!

NATIONAL BLUEGRASS SURVEY REPORTING STATIONS/SYNDICATORS

The following is the latest list of radio stations and their broadcasters who report each month their most played current bluegrass songs from which we tally the National Bluegrass Survey. We owe each a vote of thanks for participating and making these bluegrass charts a reality.

KANU KS—DICK POWERS
KBCS WA—SUSAN MADDEN
KCLC MO—GARY PRICE
KCSM CA—ED CIRIMELE
KCSN CA—FRANK JAVORSEK
KCSU CO—BOB TERRILL
KDHX MO—TERRY MOSES/NAOMI SEOLLE
KFDI KS—ORIN FRIESEN
KGLT MT—RIK JAMES
KGNU CO—ROBIN CLAIRE
KGRI TX—DAVE ROUSSEAU
KMOZ MO—RAY HICKS
KPIG CA—COUSIN AL KNOTH
KSON CA—WAYNE RICE
KUMB MO—WAYNE BLEDSOE
KUSP CA—LEIGH HILL
KVOO OK—DELL DAVIS
KXCI AZ—MILO SOLIJUI
KYRO MO—JACK SADLER
WAKM TN—CHRIS JONES
WCMS VA—JOE HOPPEL
WCNY NY—BILL KNOWLTON
WCXN NC—JOHN ANDERS
WDCB IL—LARRY ROBINSON
WDET MI—DAVE BLAKENEY
WICN MA—GENE PETIT/TOM BANYAI
WJMA VA—DAVE BLEVINS
WKCW VA—TOM REEDER
WLSA VA—JAMES BAILEY

WLTR SC—LARRY KLEIN
WMKY KY—PAUL HITCHCOCK
WMUB OH—JAN McLAUGHLIN
WNCW NC—RUSS JORDAN
WOMR MA—DAVID MANSKI
WOWQ PA—GENE ALLEN
WPAQ NC—SHERRY BOYD
WPCM NC—BUDDY MICHAELS
WPKN CT—CHRIS TESKY
WQDR NC—LARRY NIXON
WRFG GA—SHARON WIGGINS
WRIU RI—CHUCK WENTWORTH
WRVU TN—TRACI TODD
WSVQ TN—JADON GIBSON
WTQR NC—CHUCK WEBSTER
WUMB MA—BRIAN QUINN
WVMR WV—NORRIS LONG/DOUG VAN GUNDY
WVPE IN—NORM MAST
WWUH CT—KEVIN LYNCH
WYEP PA—JOHN TROUT
SYNDICATOR —JUDY MASTERS
SYNDICATOR VA—DOUG HUTCHENS
SYNDICATOR FL—COLONEL TOM RIGGS
SYNDICATOR SC—LARRY KLEIN
SYNDICATOR OR—MARLA GREER/TERRY HERD
SYNDICATOR FL—TOM HENDERSON

RECENT ARTICLE NEWS

July/August issue of Country Music Magazine had a wonderful article on Ralph and his new CD. I believe he is the only bluegrass performer I have seen them do one on. It's about time a country magazine give some credit to the backbone of the music industry and no other person deserves it better than the master himself Ralph Stanley!

The article was written by Rich Kienzle who I think did an great job of reviewing the project. The only thing that I saw incorrect was that he kept referring Larry Sparks as a banjoist, but other than that the review was great. He told how Ralph and Carter for 19

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years recorded for Rich-R-Tones, Columbia, King and other labels. He stated that they created a body of work that remains a touchstone for many on account of its bone chilling vocal harmonies and powerful rural compositions. In another part he says that today, Ralph's influence is felt through bluegrass and mainstream country alike. He goes on to tell about the people who performed on the album with Ralph and what songs they did. My favorite part was when he finished the review with this statement. "It's not just a bunch of superstar sing-alongs but a testament of faith in a style of music whose timelessness is proven by its beauty. And I wouldn't be afraid to bet that if you start with this one, you'll want to hear the originals. Quote and Unquote!

Dick Freeland sent me an interesting fax the other day. It comes for BBMA - British Bluegrass News, May 1993, written by Richard F. Thompson.. It is an excellent review on the "Back To The Cross" album. It talks about the different songs on the project and the different people that helped Ralph on this fine collection of gospel music. He indicates "Over The Sunset Hill" sung by Ralph has lost nothing when it comes to vocal expression and nobody can match his lonesome, haunting tenor. He also pays Ernie Thacker a nice complement as establishing himself as a very worthy successor to all the lead vocalists that Ralph has

employed in the past. Also Jr. is mentioned as doing great guitar break in "You'd Better Stop".

I quote him saying - "There is an excellent choice of songs and the performances match that Stanley has established over the years." He also states that the singing, picking, engineering, and production all shows the mark of great team effort.

The July/August issue of Bluegrass Canada had an excellent review on Ralph's latest gospel release BACK TO THE CROSS. The first paragraph set the review off to a good start. It was reviewed by Larry Robinson and I quote him saying - "I believe that if the Appalachian Mountains had a voice, they would sound like Ralph Stanley. There aren't many singers who inject as much raw emotion into a song as Ralph."

It goes on to tell of Dick Freeland's many years of experience as the head of Rebel records and how he tried retirement but couldn't stay away from the music. It goes on to say how great the project is from the first song to the last. Also how Ralph composed four of the songs himself "Over The Sunset Hill", "Silent Warden" and "You'd Better Stop" co-written with Larry Roark

The article gives everyone on the project a great hand such as Shelton Feazell who sang bass, Art Stamper and Curly Ray Cline with their twin fiddling, Jack Cooke, keeping the rhythm under control,

Junior Blankenship with his lead guitar work, and Ernie Thacker with the vocals, and mandolin work. He also says you can hear Ralph urging the music along with his banjo throughout the album.

Here's a magazine that you probably would never think about of doing a review on Ralph's CD Saturday Night - Sunday Morning. The September issue of Playboy Magazine had a review on the new CD and from what I am told this is the first bluegrass project that Playboy has ever done! It was written by Dave Marsh and I quote his as saying "This isn't desiccated (dried up) "newgrass" but music that unites the secular and the sacred in joyful celebration." Ralph is the first Bluegrass person that they have ever done a record interview on. It just goes to show you Ralph Stanley can add class to any magazine.

The September issue of Music City News had a quote from Vince Gill. He was asked what was his two favorite passions and he answered golf and music. When asked what his ideal foursome would be in singing with he said Emmylou Harris, Merle Haggard and Ralph Stanley.

NEW CD/TAPE



The new project that we have all been waiting for will be released October 15,

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1993. This makes the 3rd project from Freeland Recording Co. in Asbury, WV. The title of this excellent workmanship - as they all are - is CHRISTMAS TIME WITH RALPH. I have heard this project all the way through and it is superb! From the pen of Ralph Stanley comes "Christmas Is Near", Ernie Thacker is co-writing with Ralph on "Jesus Christ Is Born", and Micheal R. Kelley co-writes with Ralph on "I, Going Home, It's Christmas Time". I believe my favorite of the whole project is "Jesus Christ Is Born" but the greatness doesn't end there, all the cuts are great. "Christmas Is Near", which is a Ralph and Carter original, is great and no one can do "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem" like Ralph. The mountain gospel training that Ralph received from his mother and the primitive Baptist singing's really shows through. The excellent harmony and musical workmanship are outstanding. Along with Ralph on this project are The Clinch Mt. Boys, Ernie Thacker, Junior Blankenship, Jack Cooke, former fiddle player Curly Ray Cline along with Art Stamper, who is fiddling for Ralph now. Also Shelton Faezell is back filling in on the bass vocals. Be sure to put this one on your list of Stanley Music to buy. It will not only make great Christmas music to play at all those Christmas parties that you will have and be invited to but excellent music all year round. I will give you a list of all the songs at the end of the

newsletter. Don't forget October 15th is the release date!

OTHER NEWS

I hearing a rumor that the Bear Family Records in Germany will be releasing the Mercury recordings of The Stanley Brothers, and also I hear that the complete recordings of the King labels will be out sometime in the future. If you're like me you'll definitely want to get these in your collection.

On July 3rd I was clicking through the channels on my TV when I came to the Nostalgia Channel and behold a sight I did see. No other than Ralph Stanley! I almost broke the VCR trying to get a tape in to record it. Ralph and the boys were performing on Reno's Old Time Music Show at the Riverfront Theater. Ralph and the boys started out with "Mt. Folks" and the Ronnie Ronnie interviewed Ralph. Ralph and Ronnie then played "Little Maggie" together, just Ralph on banjo and Ronnie on mandolin. Another portion of the show featured Junior and the Reno Bros. playing "Wildwood Flower". Ralph and The Clinch Mt. Boys did "Water Lilly" and then everyone did "Rank Strangers" together. See you never know where Ralph might show up.

Here's some Ralph Stanley trivia for you. How many of you knew that Ralph is a 32nd degree Mason, he has been

in the Shriner's since 1972. Not only that but the Carter County Shriners Club in Olive Hill, KY made him a honorary member of their club.

Dwight Yoakam was traveling through east Tennessee last month either going to or coming from a concert and picked up the WAMU radio station in Big Stone Gap, Va. Most to you that have been to one of Ralph's festival knows where Big Stone Gap is. Dale Kennedy runs the bluegrass show and at the time Dwight heard it he was playing one of the cuts off of Ralph's new double CD Saturday Night - Sunday Morning. Well Dwight made a call to Dale and asked him to play the cut of him and Ralph, "Down Where The River Bends". So he did! I don't think you'll find too many country stars doing that.

In October Ralph will celebrate 47 years of being in the music business. Now people that's quite a long time and still be the top man! There's not many people that can claim that. Keep up the good work Ralph and we wish you many many more!

Don't forget the banjo tour coming up the last of October-November. Ralph along with some other banjo players will be making tour of the southern states and out west in Feb of next year showing everyone their style of playing. I myself think there is none better than Ralph at playing the Five. I will let you know as soon as I can as to

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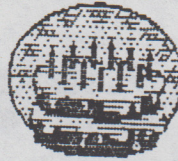
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where these will be held.

About 2 weekends ago I was listening to WEVEL Radio, one of the local radio stations that play bluegrass music, and I heard an outstanding piece of music by the Stanley Brothers. I cranked up the stereo as loud as I could get it. Ralph and Carter were doing "Who Will Call You Sweetheart", it was the best I've ever heard. It tore me up and made the hair stand up on the back of my neck. Ralph was really throwing in that lonesome tenor like no one else but Ralph can do. So I called up the Ridgerunner who host the show, and asked him where he found that great cut and he told me that it was on a 2 Mercury CD called The Best of Bluegrass Music, Vol 1 Standards. If a lot of you are like me you collect anything that has Ralph or Ralph and Carter on it. He told me there were 2 other cuts by Ralph and Carter on there with various other artist singing on the CD. The liner notes are not so good but if you collect Stanley Music like me the 3 Stanley Brother songs on the CD is well worth the cost of the CD.

Ralph says that the some people from Japan will be flying to the States to do a interview with him. This will happen around the 9th of 10th of September. This will be for a special TV show in Japan. I will let you know what when on as soon as Ralph lets me know.

UP ON THE MOUNTAIN



Happy birthday to Ralph II. He celebrated his 15th birthday August 20th. He has grown into a fine young man, and a very talented musician and singer. Ralph is going to have to bar the door to keep the girls from stealing Ralph II. Happy birthday II from all of us!

Nathan Edmond, Ralph's grandson celebrated his birthday in August also. He turned one August 16th. He's cute as he can be and he sure keeps the Stanley household busy.

We don't want to forget little Amber, she's still working hard at her beauty pageants and doing very well from what Lisa tells me. Keep up the good work Amber. She also starts Kindergarten this year. They sure grow up fast.

Ernie - Ralph's lead singer - and Dorothy Thacker are expecting another baby in January. Also their little girl Whitley Ncole is keeping them very busy. Ernie, being the proud father that he is, will be glad to show you a picture if you ask him. Ernie also tells me that Whitley has a bad temper (wonder who she gets that from) and the only way that she will go to sleep is if Ernie holds her in his arms and sings to her. That's the only way he can get her to stop crying. He says she loves music, he'll put a tape in and she'll just listen to it. She

really loves to hear her daddy sing.

Jack Cooke had a little accident when they got home from their trip up to Indianapolis, Ind August 9th. It was just before daylight when they pulled into Coeburn. Jack and Ralph were racing to see who could get off the bus first and Jack fell out of the door of the bus. His head hit the hard top and knocked him out. When he came to he didn't know where he was. It make a big knot on his head and he also hit his shoulder when he hit the ground. Ralph called the rescue squad and they came and took him to the emergency room with Ralph and II following behind them.

They checked him out and all the tests came out negative and that he'll be fine. I know Ralph and the boys are real glad of that. Jack went with Ralph to the next show the following weekend still a little sore which was to be expected.

MOUNTAIN MEMORIES



This month's Mountain Memories comes from Melvin Goins who used to work for the Stanley Brothers back in 1966. Today with his own group the Goins Brothers he still remains a true and faithful friend to Ralph. This will be in his own words, as I think that I could have not written it any better. He dedicates the column to his great friend Ralph Stanley!

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Hello friends, this is Melvin Goins and I thought I'd talk about the gentleman. I worked with him and Carter back in 1966. I went to work with them on Jan. 18th, 1966 during the last year that brother Carter lived. I stayed on about three years with Brother Ralph after Carter passed away. It was a great lost to the Stanley Brothers but I'm glad today that Ralph is still carrying the old time sound that the Stanley Brothers own. That he's bigger, poplar and greater than ever. It makes me feel good to have a friend like that.

He taught me a lot about the music. Of course I learned a lot about the business when I worked with the Stanley Brothers and Ralph. Of course me and my brother Ray have been in the business 24 years. I learned a lot of the good things to do in the Bluegrass business by working with the Stanley Brothers and Ralph Stanley and it's always good to be on festivals with him.

We've worked Ralph's festival at the Old Home Place in Dickenson County sense he started. We know that's always a homespot for us to go and be with all the folks in Dickenson County there at the Old Home Place were Brother Ralph and Carter were born and raised and run the Mountain when they were bare footed boys.

I always got a kick out of Ralph of how they talked when they first started out in the business. They started to work at WNVA Radio in Norton, Va. in 1946. Carter

had worked about 6 months with Bill Monroe and when Ralph came out of the service he told Carter "Well Carter, if you want to team up and do the circuit and do Bluegrass Music and Old Time Music that will be fine, if you don't I'm thinking about going to school to make a Veterinay." I'm so glad he didn't go on to school to make a Veterinay cause I think more people loves him now with the business he's in then they ever would have thought about. And just think of the great loss and singing they would have missed if the Stanley Brothers hadn't of went on in 1946.

Ralph is still going strong today. H's one of the hottest acts on the Bluegrass circuit today with the college campus, the Grand Ole Opry and all the big Country Acts. He just recorded this CD and it's hotter than a tater and it's great.

It's so great to be associated with a fellow that still carries the great sound of the Stanley Brothers that him and Brother Carter started back in 1946. I recall how I use to listen to them when they were on WCYB in Bristol, Va. on Farm and Fun Time. They had a two hour show there every day from 12:00pm till 2:00pm. Curly King & The Tennessee Hilltoppers, The Stanley Brothers, Lester Flat & Earl Scruggs & The Foggy Mt. Boys and Charlie Monroe & The Kentucky Partners.

The Stanley Brothers have always been favorites with all the folks across the country. If you made a survey I'd be

willing to say that you'll find as many or more Stanley Brothers and Ralph Stanley records in homes than anybody's on the Bluegrass circuit. It really good to work with people like that who put their life in Bluegrass Music.

I hope Ralph will be around a long time and we can be friends and still ride the same old roads and still pick the same good old lonesome sound of Bluegrass Music. Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mt. Boys, Goins Brothers and Larry Sparks. we've got the old traditional, I think we've got the kind that will be around a long time and the people will always like and will come out and see and support.

Thanks Melvin! No one could have said it better.

BANJO VIDEO

Smithsonian/Folkways has produced a video called THE BANJO OF RALPH STANLEY- taught by Ralph Stanley himself. This tape starts with the first tunes that Ralph learned from his mother in the old-time clawhammer style. There are about three different clawhammer styles that he shows us. Ralph also shows us his two finger style, then to the popular three finger style that Ralph now plays. This is not just an instructional tape, it is full of great music too. Some of the tunes on the tape, along with the Clinch Mt. Boys - even Ralph II is helping on a few of these - are Little Maggie, Hard

Clinch Mountain Tribute

MINI NEWSLETTER

Times, Dickenson County Breakdown, Little Birdie, Shout Little Lulie, Clinch Mountain Backstep, Train 45 and many many more. This is a 90 minute tape of classic Stanley Music. If you are a banjo picker like me you definitely want to get one of these. If not you still will want one of these in your video library. The music alone is worth the cost of the tape. It's not often that you get to see Ralph on tape playing that great Mountain music that he made famous. Ralph will be selling these on the road and you can also purchase one through Ralph at this address: Ralph Stanley, RT HCO5 - Box 576, Coeburn, VA 24230. If buying through the mail the cost of the video tape is \$40.00 plus \$3.00 shipping.

STANLEY BANJOS

Ralph still has a few of the 40th Anniversary Banjos for sale. These are a high quality banjo designed and crafted by Frank Neat. They have that Stanley Sound that you can't find in any other banjo. They are gold plated with engraving on the arm rest and on the flange of the banjo. They have Ralph's name on the headstock and 40th Anniversary on the fingerboard. If you are interested in one of these fine banjos contact Ralph at this address: RT HCO5 - Box 576, Coeburn, VA 24230.

Keep Ralph and The Boys in your prayers so they'll be

safe and keep all those letters coming. I'll be keeping you posted. Go and see Ralph as much as you can. Support them and show them you care and they will in return give you many happy hours of music in return. Cheryl

FROM THE DESK OF HOPE RANDOLPH

Dear friends,

Its been pretty quiet for a couple of months here. I attended the Opry this past Saturday night. Saw Bill Monroe, Wilma Lee and Steve Spence - also good friends of ours and Ralph Stanley. Betty and Bill McKenturf. You will remember them at Bean Blossom in the past. Betty was at the front gate in the daytime and Bill took the late night arrivals.

Our bumper stickers we had made "Give Me Ralph Stanley or Give Me Death" are really hot!! Everyone wants one! I gave one to Allison Krauss at the Station Inn, she is the one who said it, and a look of utter delight came over her face. We need T-shirts!!

Wade Jesson at WSM told me he is really enjoying the newsletter.

I've been helping to pick the bluegrass music for Bluegrass Express, a 3 hour bluegrass show on WSM am put together by Hairl Hensley and now hosted by Ed Hamilton. He said he's played the daylights out of Saturday Night - Sunday Morning!

I love the people I've met

through Bluegrass Music! When I feel like I don't fit in this world the thing that helps me get through is listening to bluegrass music by tapes or in person and Ralph Stanley music is the one I depend on to turn to. It reaches me and then I remember who I am! So go and see who Ralph is and find out who you are too! Reality check! Go to the festivals and see Ralph and The Clinch Mt. Boys as often as you can. If you don't you might miss something! Remember how jealous you feel when someone who went calls and tells you what you missed and the time can never be relived that you could have had there.

Lets get Ralph booked in Tulsa, OK at the big Bluegrass show and Chili cook-off next fall! How about that Del?? Book-em! PS Thanks everyone for our growing family of people in the fan club - but also for our love for Ralph and his music.
Hope

Whadyasay

Q. I would like to know more about Ralph Stanley's children. R. D. Cal.

A. Ralph has 3 children, 2 girls and one boy and 2 grandchildren. Lisa is 23, Tonya is 21, and Ralph II is 15. The two grandchildren are Amber, who is 4 and Nathan Edmond, who is 1.

Ralph II is the only one who plays music with his dad, but Nathan is trying to follow in him footsteps. When Ralph and Ralph II play music together at the house little Nathan rolls those fingers like he is imitating Ralph on the banjo. Nathan is the son of Tonya, and Amber is the daughter of Lisa.



Dan & Holly
BLUEGRASS BAND

JULY 10 - LIVINGSTON, TN



Charlie Sizemore, Ralph Stanley, Larry Sparks

AUGUST 14 - BEDA, KY



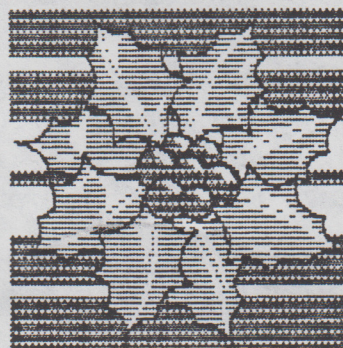
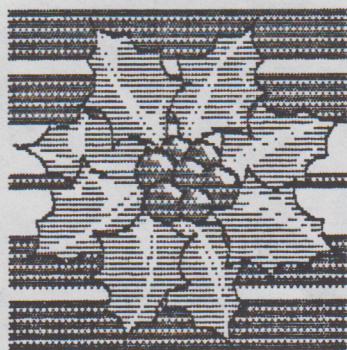
HOT! HOT!

NEW RELEASE

RALPH STANLEY AND THE CLINCH MOUNTAIN
BOYS

CHRISTMAS TIME WITH RALPH

CHRISTMAS PRAISE
THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT
3 DON'T MAKE US CRY ON CHRISTMAS DAY
JESUS CHRIST IS BORN
6 BRIGHT MORNING STAR
8 I'M GOING HOME, IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME
7 CHRISTMAS IS NEAR
6 THAT'S CHRISTMAS TIME TO ME
9 CHRISTMAS TIME'S A'COMIN'
10 BEAUTIFUL STAR OF BETHLEHEM
11 JUST A MOMENT NOW TO PRAY



WHERE YA LIVIN' AT NOW

R. RALPH STANLEY SHOW DATES

SEPTEMBER

- 3rd Delaware Festival - Salem County Fairgrounds - Woodstown, NJ
- 4th Aunt Minnie's Farm - Stumptown, WV
- 10th Russell County Fair - Castletown, VA
- 11th Clay City, KY
- 17th Raceland Meadows - Raceland, KY
- 18th Poppy Mt. Bluegrass Festival - Moorehead, KY
- 23rd IBMA Awards Show - Owensboro, KY (Ralph will be receiving awards)
- 25th Arcadia, MD

OCTOBER

- 1st Taylor, MI
- 2nd Flatgap Elementary - Flat Gap, KY
- 8th Raymond Fairchild's - Maggie Valley
- 9th Sugar Creek Park - Blue Ridge, GA
- 16th Waldo, Fla.
- 17th Branson, MO
- 22nd Hanover, Ohio
- 23rd Lancaster, PA
- Oct 28th - Nov. 23rd Banjo tour.

NOVEMBER

- 25th Myrtle Beach, SC

22nd Annual

Delaware
Valley

Bluegrass
Festival

1993

September 3-5, 1993

Labor Day Weekend
Salem County Fair Grounds
Woodstown, New Jersey

(US Route 40, 7 Miles East of Delaware Memorial Bridge)



Our 22nd Year of Presenting The Best of Bluegrass:

Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mountain Boys (Fri.)

California (Fri. & Sat.)

Laurie Lewis & Grant Street (Fri. & Sat.)

Front-Range (Fri. & Sat.)

Bob Paisley & The Southern Grass (Fri. & Sat.)

The Lewis Family (Sat.)

Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver (Sat.)

The Lynn Morris Band (Sat.)

Fiddlestix Cloggers with The Run Of The Mill String Band (Sat.)

Alison Krauss & Union Station (Sun.)

Norman Blake (Sun.)

Paul Adkins & The Borderline Band (Sun.)

Dry Branch Fire Squad (Sun.)

Paul Mullins & The Traditional Grass (Sun.)



Ticket Information

Friday 7PM-11PM \$15.00

Saturday Noon-Midnight \$20.00

Sunday 10AM-6PM \$20.00

WEEKEND TICKET \$50.00

ADVANCE WEEKEND TICKET \$45.00

Children under 12 FREE

Senior Citizens & Students 12-16 \$3 Discount per day

Covered Stage Area, Bring Lawn Chairs for Comfort

Free Rough Camping with Weekend Ticket

No Drugs, Pets, or Alcohol

ADVANCE TICKET DEADLINE JULY 31st; Mail payment to P.O. Box 3672, Greenville DE 19807

Sponsored by The

Brandywine Friends of Old Time Music

A Non-Profit Organization dedicated to the presentation and preservation of Traditional American Folk Music

Information: (302) 475-3454



AUNT MINNIE AND FAMILY

presents



ALMOST HEAVEN '93 BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

A FAMILY TRADITION RETURNS

5 DAYS — LABOR DAY WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6



AUNT MINNIE'S FARM PARK

Rt. 2 Rosedale Road - Box 66A Stumptown, WV 25280

LOCATION: Take Rt. 33 and 119 outside of Glenville State College
between Spencer and Weston, 11 mi. I-79 Exit, Glenville.



Ticket Information

Advance 4 Day Per Person.....	\$40.00
Advance Thur., Fri., Sat., or Sun.....	\$15.00
Advance Monday only.....	\$10.00
At Gate Weekend 4 Day.....	\$50.00

Free rough camping with weekend ticket only. NO REFUNDS!

MAIL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER
BEFORE AUGUST 20 TO:

ALMOST HEAVEN '93 BLUEGRASS

c/o Aunt Minnie's Farm, Box 66-A
Stumptown, WV 25280

Tickets available also at all area Ticketmaster
locations in West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana,
Tennessee, Maryland, Pittsburgh, PA.

CONTACT: Cindy, Diane 800-551-SEAT
for an outlet near you.... Phone Charge

All 4 Day Weekend tickets get the 5th day FREE
Children under 12 Free

Information (304) 354-7440



Featuring

BILL MONROE & The Blue Grass Boys (3)

THE OSBORNE BROTHERS (3)

JIMMY MARTIN and His Sunny Mtn. Boys (4)

THE COUNTRY GENTLEMEN (3)

RALPH STANLEY & The Clinch Mt. Boys (4)

THE KITTY WELLS FAMILY SHOW (5) **MIKE STEVENS** (6)

JIM AND JESSE and The Virginia Boys (6)

THE EDDIE ADCOCK BAND (4-5)

PAUL "MOON" MULLINS & Traditional Grass (6)

THE SINGING LEWIS FAMILY (6)

WILMA LEE COOPER & Her Clinch Mt. Clan (4)

BOYS FROM INDIANA (2) **LARRY STEPHENSON** (2)

NEW TRADITION (6) **JEFF & SHERI EASTER** (4)

THE STEVENS FAMILY (3) **THE HAZEL RIVER BAND** (4-5)

KENNY BAKER AND JOSH GRAVES (4-5) **FLY BY NIGHT** (2-4)

GARY FERGUSON BAND (5) **SOUTHERN RAIL** (3-4)

SOUTHERN COMFORT (4-5) **BIG AL WEEKLEY** (2-4)

BLUEGRASS UPRISING (5-6) **OLD DOMINION CLOGGERS** (4-6)

Special Guests: **GRANDPA JONES** (5) / **ELMER BIRD** (2-5)

"Star of 'Hee Haw' & The Grand Ole Opry"

Guests: **JETT WILLIAMS** with Hank Williams' Original Drifting Cowboys (4)

10:00 a.m. TIL 12:00 a.m. ★★★★★ and many more



Bring Lawn Chairs & Blankets

JOIN US LABOR DAY WEEKEND FOR WEST VIRGINIA'S
OLDEST AND LARGEST BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL THAT STILL
PROVIDES FREE CAMPING

THIS WILL BE A TRADITIONAL FAMILY MUSIC EVENT
Rain or Shine under the tent pavilion or open

NO DRUGS • NO DISPLAY OF ALCOHOL ALLOWED ON THE GROUNDS



Tickets available at all Ticket Master Outlets

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IN CASE OF RAIN



RAIN OR
SHINE

FOR INFORMATION CALL:
FOREST MEADOWS
(606) 663-4787
OR
MELVIN GOINS
(606) 928-2121

MEADOWGREEN PARK BLUEGRASS CLAY CITY, KY. FESTIVAL

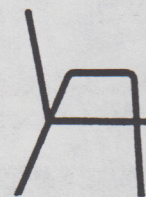
Sept. 9-10-11

Located 1 1/2 Miles off Mt. Parkway
Exit 16 - on Route 82

SHELTER
IN CASE OF RAIN

RAIN OF
SHINE

BRING LAWN
CHAIRS



FEATURING

RALPH STANLEY & THE CLINCH MT. BOYS - SATURDAY
GOINS BROTHERS - 3 DAYS

Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mt. Boys Sat
Jimmy Martin and the Sunny Mt. Boys Fri
Goins Brothers Thurs, Fri, Sat
Larry Sparks & the Lonesome Ramblers Sat
Bill Grant and Delia Bell Fri, Sat
Bluegrass Strangers Thurs, Fri, Sat
Timmy Cline Band Sat
Hart Brothers Sat
Bluegrass Mountaineers Thurs
Sam Wilson and Band Fri
FEATURED ATTRACTION SAT
Clinch Mt. Reunion



**GOINS BROTHERS
3 DAYS**

SOUND BY
BLUEGRASS STRANGERS

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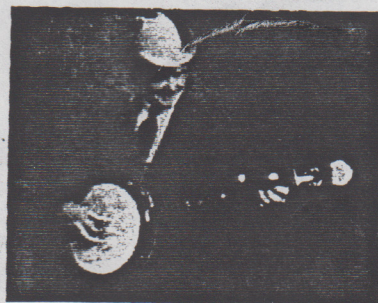
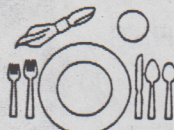


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BRING LAWN CHAIRS

FREE

BEANS'N CORNBREAD

WITH THURSDAY TICKET 5:30 P.M.
SHOW STARTS 7 P.M. THURSDAY



**RALPH STANLEY
SATURDAY**



JIMMY MARTIN

ADMISSION:

THURSDAY - \$5.00

FRIDAY - \$10.00

SATURDAY - \$10.00

STEVENS BROS. 1ST ANNUAL POPPY MNT. BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

SEPT. 16th, 17th, 18th

MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY - 1000 ACRE FARM

Rain or Shine 80x150 Inside Showroom In Case Of Rain

THURSDAY 16TH, 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

Horse Riding, Hay Rides, Fishing,
Hiking, Tenn. Walking Horses
Old Cars

5 P.M. TO 11 P.M.

Open Stage
11 P.M. TO ?
Fox Hunting

LIMITED BAND - CALL 784-2277

OR 286-6351 FOR BOOKING

FRIDAY 17TH, 9 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

Horse Riding, Hay Rides, Fishing,
Hiking, Tenn. Walking Horses
Old Cars

4 P.M. TO 11 P.M.

Osborne Bros.
Goins Bros.
Hart Bros.
Blue Grass Strangers
Stoney Creek

SATURDAY 18TH,

Hay Rides, All Day Horse Riding,
and Fishing

12 P.M. TO 11 P.M.

Ralph Stanley & Clinch Mtn. Boys
Larry Sparks & Lonesome Ramblers
The Bluegrass Strangers
Goins Bros.
Hart Bros.
Dixie Ryders
Stoney Creek

****SOUND BY BLUEGRASS STRANGERS****

24 HOUR SECURITY. CONCESSION STAND. \$10.00 FEE
FOR CAMPING FOR ALL 3 DAYS. HOOK-UPS ARE \$3.00 A
DAY FOR ELECTRIC. (LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE.) CLEAN
RESTROOMS & WATER.

RULES ***EVERYONE HAS A GOOD TIME. NO ALCOHOL
IN MUSIC AREA. NO BOTTLES OR CANS, PAPER CUPS ONLY.
BRING YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIR.

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CARROLL'S INN (606) 286-4141
CARTER CAVES STATE PARK (606) 286-4411

MOREHEAD

MOUNTAIN LODGE (606) 783-1555
HOLIDAY INN (606) 784-7591



RALPH

STANLEY

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ADMISSIONS

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FRIDAY	\$15.00
SATURDAY	\$15.00
AGES 7-12	HALF PRICE
6 & Under	FREE

ADVANCED TICKETS BEFORE SEPT. 1	\$25.00
WEEKEND TICKETS AT THE GATE	\$30.00

FOR ADVANCED TICKETS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL OR WRITE:

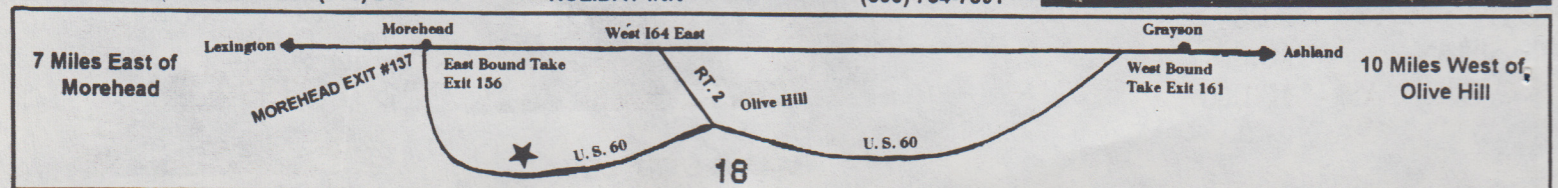
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SPARKS



ARCADIA 10th Annual

Bluegrass Festival

SEPT. 23 - 26
1993



Presented By: Arcadia Volunteer Fire Department, Arcadia, MD

FEATURING:

Plain & Fancy - Thurs.
Ernie Bradley & Grassy Ridge - Thurs. & Sat.
Carroll County Ramblers - Thurs. & Sun.
Sand Mountain Boys - Fri.
Warrior River Boys - Fri.
Jimmy Martin - Fri.
Bluegrass Image - Fri.
Dean Sapp & Harford Express - Sat.
Ralph Stanley - Sat.
Boys From Indiana - Sat.
The Boyd Brothers - Sat.
Redwing - Sat. & Sun.
The Osborne Brothers - Sun.
Gary Ferguson - Sun.

MC'S: RAY DAVIS - WAMU
MC'S: DENNY BINGAMAN - WPVG
SOUND BY: REDWING

Thurs. 7 P.M. Show Only
To 3-Day Ticket Holders
Fri. 4 P.M. - Mid.
Sat. 11 A.M. - Mid.
Sun. 10 A.M. - 6 P.M.

TICKETS:

3-Day Adv. - \$25.00
3-Day Gate - \$30.00
Friday - \$13.00
Saturday - \$15.00
Sunday - \$12.00

Under 12 FREE WITH ADULT
Camping in Rough \$3.00 per night
Electric Hook-up Limited:
\$2.00 per night extra
FIRST ARRIVAL BASIS ONLY
PAY ELECTRIC AT GATE
GATES OPEN TO CAMPERS WED. 9 A.M.

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ALL Ticket Mailing Ends: Sept. 11th
Orders By This Date Only: Held At Gate
For Tickets and Information
Send Self-Address, Stamped
Envelope To:

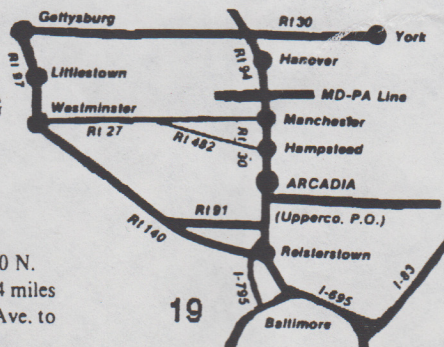
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(410) 374-2895 - Bill
(410) 374-4350 - Bud

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