

For Immediate Release:

GREY FOX BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

“A Who’s Who of Bluegrass Music”

JULY 16-19, 2009

On the Walsh Farm, Oak Hill, NY 12460

In Greene County NY’s Beautiful Catskill Mountain Region

For bluegrass fans, the arrival of summer means it will soon be time to pack up the family and head for Oak Hill, NY where a normally quiet, out-of-the-way farm in rural Greene County will be transformed, quite magically, into a community of world-class artists, fun-loving fans, devoted volunteers, non-stop jam sessions, funky campsites, scrumptious food and booths filled with crafts, instruments and clothing. A colorful tent city overflowing with laughter and music, cooperation and good will!

Long-time Grey Fox fans say it is a homecoming: a cherished reunion of friends who may see each other just once a year. Newcomers are struck by how warm everyone is as they are quickly befriended by those around them. “There may be several thousand people in attendance, but it feels like a small town where you know everyone,” said Australian, Jason Nicholas, a new camper last year.

The Northeast’s largest bluegrass festival moved to Oak Hill in 2008 after being held for decades in nearby Columbia County. To the new location, organizers brought all the components for which it is famous: multiple stages, hands-on learning workshops, festive foods, rustic camping, round-the-clock jamming and thousands of fans from all over the U.S., Canada, Europe and the Far East. In 2008, fans attended Grey Fox from 37 states and 14 countries.

Often called a “Who’s Who of Bluegrass Music,” Grey Fox is a gathering of the best of the best in bluegrass, which happens to be America’s fastest growing musical genre (according to a recent Simmons Research study). “It just doesn’t get any better than this. Everybody I want to see is here. I’ve smiled so much my face hurts!” beamed Mark Granger, a long-time bluegrass fan and guitar picker from San Antonio, Texas.

Grey Fox is famous for presenting a wide range of bluegrass styles—from old time and traditional bluegrass to contemporary and “new grass.” Performing on the Main Stage at this year’s event are such bluegrass luminaries as Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder, Marty Stuart and His Fabulous Superlatives, The David Bromberg Quartet, the Del McCoury Band, Tim O’Brien, Peter Rowan’s Bluegrass Band, The SteelDrivers, Mountain Heart, Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum, the Claire Lynch Band, The Gibson Brothers, The Waybacks, The Kruger Brothers and Pete and Joan Wernick with Don Rigsby.

Hot young rising stars such as King Wilkie, Crooked Still, The Boston Boys, The Lee Boys, Josh Williams, Sierra Hull, Sarah Jarosz, The Farewell Drifters and the Maybelles will fire up the Main Stage as well. Standing ovations and encores galore are bound to happen. Rounder Recording artists, Dry Branch Fire Squad will hold court as host band all weekend long as they have for nearly thirty years. A list of who plays when and on what stage can be found at www.greyfoxbluegrass.com

In addition to the Main Stage, Grey Fox offers an always-hopping Dance Pavilion, an intimate Masters Workshop Stage and a grin-producing Family Stage for kids of all ages. And, true to form, there will be something new this year: a showcase series at the Masters Stage on Friday and Saturday evenings featuring talented emerging musicians from the Northeast including Kelleigh McKenzie from the Hudson Valley and Boston's "Red Hot Black Top" featuring Etienne Cremieux on fiddle. Etienne, who will be headed to Berklee College of Music in the fall, is the 2009 recipient of the Grey Fox Bill Vernon Memorial Scholarship.

The Dance Pavilion starts strong each day with its morning yoga stretches to hip live music and continues long into the night with live music and dance performances by Footworks Dance Ensemble (celebrating their 30th anniversary), the sizzling Red Stick Ramblers from Louisiana, dance instructors John Kirk & Trish Miller, the old-timey band Fiddlestyx and many more.

In addition to performance venues, Grey Fox is pleased to offer hands-on learning sessions at the Grass Roots Tent (with instructors such as six-time bass player of the year, Mike Bub and banjoist and former Bluegrass Boy, Bill Keith); the Slow Jam Tent (a great place for beginning pickers) and the Grey Fox Bluegrass Academy for Kids (a four-day music camp for kids age 8 and up). Pre-registration is recommended for the kids' academy, as class size is limited and some classes are already filled. To register a child, visit: www.greyfoxbluegrass.com.

One of the endearing qualities of bluegrass is that it is so accessible. Many fans play instruments. Jam sessions appear everywhere all weekend and workshops are very well attended. Some fans even come early to attend Pete Wernick's Bluegrass Jam Camp, which takes place at the Oak Hill Fire Hall across from the entrance to the festival. For information and to register for Jam Camp, visit www.drbanjo.com.

Grey Fox full festival camping tickets and day passes are available on line and by phone. Camping opens Wednesday, July 15 at 9:00 am. Day gates open at 8:00 am Thursday thru Sunday. Main Stage music: 2:00 pm to midnight Thursday; 11:00 am to midnight Friday; 11:00 am to midnight Saturday; and 10:30 am to 3:00 pm on Sunday.

The entrance to Walsh Farm is located on Greene County Route 22, Oak Hill, NY. For door-to-door directions, Google 1 Poultney Road, Oak Hill, NY 12460. Oak Hill is about 20 miles west of the NYS Thruway I-87 Exits 21 (Catskill) and 21B (Coxsackie).

DRIVING TIMES to OAK HILL, NY:

30 mins West of Catskill, NY

45 mins from Albany, NY

2.5 hours from NYC

2.5 hours from Hartford, CT

3.0 hours from Bridgeport, CT

3.25 hours from Boston, MA

3.25 hours from Providence, RI

5.0 hours from Buffalo, NY

5.5 hours from Baltimore, MD

Tickets and Information: Day and Full-festival tickets available on line:

<http://www.greyfoxbuegrass.com> or by calling 888.946.8495.

Press Contact: Mary Burdette 607-330-1727; burdette@greyfoxbuegrass.com

Photos upon request.