



GEAR & Music Camp 2024

The theme for GEAR this year is "Autumn in the Appalachians" and will take place at the Western North Carolina Agricultural Center in Fletcher, NC. More details will be forthcoming following the planning meeting that will be held onsite in May, but for now, put the week of October 21st on your calendar and in your travel plans.

This is the busiest month of the year in Western North Carolina due to the annual pilgrimage of fall foliage seekers, so the Eastern area was fortunate in being able to secure the WNC Ag Center for GEAR.



The 18th Annual Music Camp will be in Gaffney, SC this year the week

Music Director Ron Hazelett reacts to the news that he will be directing both Music Camp & GEAR this fall.

prior. See the Music Camp & GEAR Key Dates box.

This will be the first time in several years that Music Camp has been at a different location. The WNC Ag Center is booked solid the week of our Music Camp so we will need to caravan from Gaffney, SC to Fletcher, NC on Monday, October, 21st. Because of this, our Music Camp arrival date was moved to Tuesday the 15th instead of Monday and Music Camp will run Wednesday through Saturday (October 16th-19th). Also, since

we cannot locate to the WNG Ag Center until Monday, we will have our first GEAR rehearsal while still in Gaffney on Sunday the 20th. Confused? See Key Dates Box—right.

Even though Music Camp is still seven months away, there is a matter that requires action sooner than later if you plan to participate. The urgency arises from the need to get your reservation for Music Camp made with the Peach Haven Campground. They will only guarantee sites for us through March 31st.

MUSIC CAMP COMMITTEE 2023—2024

 Cliff Freed
 610 972-2888

 Philip Fuller
 803 556-1813

 Secretary: Kathy Fuller
 803 467-2594

 Music Director: Ron Hazelett
 330 701-7523

 President: Bruce Taylor
 706 255-4081

Making a Reservation

- Our contact is Victoria (Tori) Rulle at Spacious Skies: 862 777-0319 x369
 - * M-W-Th 11 am to 7 pm * Tue. 11 am to 5 pm * Fri. 11 am to 8 pm
- Let her know that you are with the Frustrated Maestros Music Camp at Peach Haven in Gaffney, South Carolina in October. Tori will help you choose a site that best fits your needs.
- A map of the campground can be found on page 3 of this Newsletter.
- You may also contact Spacious Skies Peach Haven directly at 864 489-4022 if you wish.
- ♦ You can make a reservation for any early arrival date you wish (if available) but as a minimum you should plan on arriving October 15th and departing October 21st (6 nights if planning to go to GEAR).
- Payment must be made at the time of your reservation.
- ♦ Cancellation Policy
 - * A week or more prior to arrival: full refund less 10%
 - Less than one week: no refund
- Spacious Skies will hold sites for us through the first quarter (March 31st). Reservations can be made after that date only if sites are available. We strongly recommend you make reservations before the end of March.

Music Camp & GEAR Key Dates

October 15 th October 16 th -19 th October 20 th	Tues Wed-Sat Sun	Normal Music Camp Arrival Date Music Camp Rehearsal for those going to GEAR Departure for those not going to GEAR
October 21 st October 22 nd October 23 rd October 24-26 October 27 th	Mon Tuesday Wed—am Thurs-Sat Sun	GEAR Rehearsal GEAR Rehearsal Morning Coffee Performances Departure

Making a reservation with the campground is all you have to do since there is no other Registration form or fee for Music Camp this year. Please <u>do</u> let Bruce Taylor know you are coming after you make your camping reservation by emailing or texting him at <u>bet426@comcast.net</u> or 706 255 4081.



Avast me hearties: Find yer treasure at Lakeland!

Blimey! Lakeland's a fer piece from any pirate seaport. Non-the-less the word got out and the place was overrun with pirates.

What booty say ye? Arrrr!!! But treasure there was indeed during that second week of February, as nearly 400 FMCA families descended on Sun'N Fun for five days of seminars, entertainment, food, music and camaraderie.

For "ye olde Frustrated Maestros" it was yet another chance to meet with Maestros from around the area and around the country. A total of 15 Maestro coaches made the trek across dry land to begin rehearsals on Sunday afternoon, continuing on through Wednesday morning. Instrumentation was great with a flute, four trumpets, a tenor sax, an alto sax, a baritone, a trombone, a French horn and a tuba. A guitar, a bass guitar, and a banjo made up the rhythm section with Music Director, Ron Hazelett completing the ensemble on the Keyboard. The chorus numbered only four but got some additional boost from the rhythm section.

Ron put together groups of music utilizing the Marston Library, the Red Books, and the Gear Library. The groupings covered Music Theatre, Patriotic Music, American Folk, Spiritual & Inspirational, and Pop Music from the 1920's through the 1970's. In addition to the 45+ selections that were rehearsed, other selections came from solos and small ensembles. Walt Porter led a combo with several bluegrass selections, a Dixie Combo performed Do You Know What it Means to Miss New Orleans?, and a duet featuring Ari Siegler (Trumpet) & Paul Monat (Cornet) played A Trumpeter's

Prayer. Maestro newcomer, Rick Robertson, sang Kawliga and a Brass Quintet made up of Ari Siegler (Trumpet), Bruce Taylor (Trumpet), Walt Porter (Trombone), Bonnie Porter (French Horn) and Paul Monat (Tuba) performed the Canadian Brass Arrangement of Three Spirituals. Ron Hazelett did solo honors on What a Wonderful World with band and chorus accompaniment. No Maestro event would be complete without a couple of polkas. In response to the question "Hey gang, what time is it?" the band offered up the Beer Barrel Polka (of course) and the Hoop Dee Doo Polka. Last but not least, the band played Button Up Your Overcoat with Walt Porter singing a solo in an old time radio style.

The Maestros performed every morning for the Coffee & Donut time, as well as for the Dilly Bar Social. Following our tradition, the Saturday morning performance featured a Military Salute honoring active and retired members of each of our armed forces. Each of the service songs was played along with the *Military Escort March* and God Bless America.



Bonnie Porter, Walt Porter, Rick Robertson and Ron Hazelett Singing a little Bluegrass in the Sunshine State while Pat Murton and Ira Miller look on

A Short Note

From Our Director

Hello everyone

I hope you're all safe and sound in your travels. We are back in Davenport, Florida until April 1st, when we will return to northeast Ohio. Again, I want to Thank all of you who were with us at the SEA Rally in Lakeland. I am always honored to be the director of such a Fantastic group of musicians. The ensemble was full, we had quite a few parts covered!! We made an impressive sound, but the real show piece of this group is your willingness to work hard and never give up. Special Thanks to Bruce and Gail Taylor for keeping us up to date with song lists and extra copies of music!! For me, each Maestros experience gets better and better. I can't wait until the next.

Until then, Happy Trails

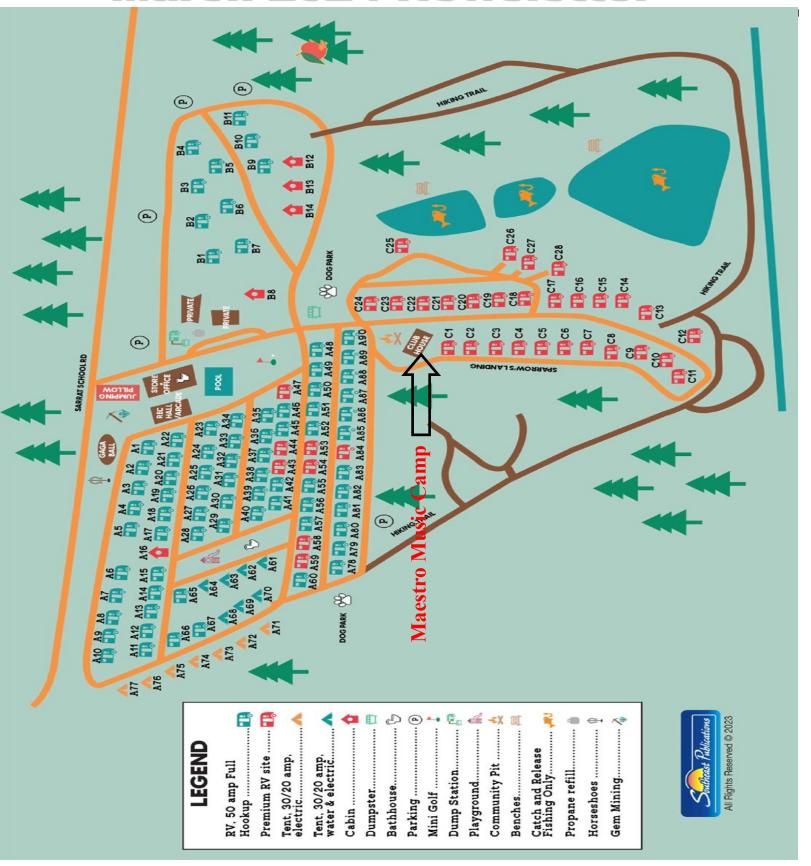
Ron Hazelett

FUSITALED VARSITO

s-Eastern Starps & Hats



March 2024 Newsletter





Marstons Honored for Their Years of Service to Maestros

Charles and Roxie Marston were recognized for their years of service to the Eastern Sharps & Flats and the Frustrated Maestros in total during an impromptu jam session at their RV Park in Leesburg, Florida on January 20th.



Pictured Left to Right: Cliff Freed, Ron Hazlett, Pat Murton, Gail Taylor, Rosemarie Ladue. Roxie Marston, Charles Marston, Dale Averill, Nick Hefner, Paul Monat, Bruce Taylor, and Rick Taylor



More Photos from SEA



Kathy & Philip Fuller Have you ever asked someone to tell something about themselves that no one would know? ARRR!!!



On Stage at SEA



It must be 5 O'clock somewhere



Bassman: Ira Miller