

Ars longa, vita brevis

Art is long, life is short

Casino Night: An Evening in Smokey Joe's Café at the Pair-o-Dice Hotel!

What do Ireland's exclusive Adare Manor, *The Color Purple*, Brunch at the Court of Two Sisters, and Texas Hold 'Em have in common? All will be part of the action on March 28, 2009 at "Casino Night in Smokey Joe's Café at the Pair-o-Dice Hotel." The event will take place at Wintergreen Resort, and proceeds benefit WPA and the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival and Academy.

The excitement begins at 6:00 pm in Pryor's

Porch with a Pre-Party Round-Up and rousing live auction. On the bidding block will be a week-long "Golf Trip to County Limerick, Ireland." Three lucky couples will play a legendary Robert Trent Jones course and explore the ancient Limerick and Adare Village countryside. If city sights are preferred, put in an offer for the "Washington, DC Theater Package" for four. Check in to the gracious L'Enfant Plaza Hotel on June 30. Enjoy an afternoon cruise on the Potomac River and an evening at the Kennedy Center for a performance

of *The Color Purple* on July 1. Or choose to cruise for a week on the high seas with Holland America Line or to trundle down the trolley line in historic New Orleans. Closer to home, culinary queen Ellen English will satisfy the palates of five fortunate couples, guests of the winning bidder for "Classic Cocktails and Fine Dining." Enjoy appetizers and wine while making a move for one – or more – of these enticing live auction items.

Continued on p. 2

2009 WSMF: What to expect . . .

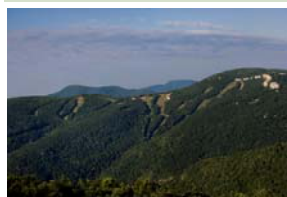
Look for . . .

- A celebration of the Appalachian Mountains – the land and the people – past and present
- Programs that highlight the cultures of those who settled the Appalachian Mountains
- Many different styles of American Music

- Topics related to Appalachia as a whole
- Events that honor the existence and meaning of the Appalachian Trail. We will symbolically start our journey at Springer Mountain in Georgia on Opening Night (July 8), and each week, we will move north until we reach the summit of Mount Katahdin in Maine on

August 2. The 2,175-mile journey will be full of wonderful surprises, rich artistic experiences and the numerous opportunities to be extraordinarily proud of all things *Appalachian*.

LAS

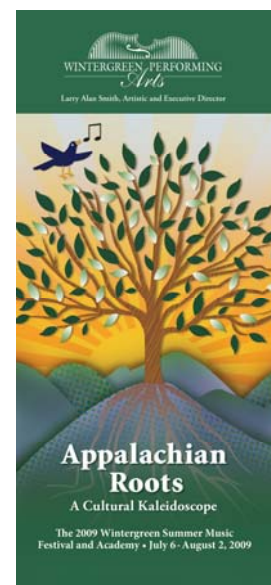


Larry Alan Smith
Artistic and Executive Director

The Official
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Wintergreen
Performing Arts

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June 20, 2009 – The Festival of Wines Returns

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 20, 2009 when Wintergreen Performing Arts hosts the annual Festival of Wines from 12 noon until 5:30 pm in the Evans Center at Wintergreen. This event has become a favorite among WPA supporters, as each year it brings together a different collection of Virginia wineries, each of which brings five to seven wines for festival-goers to taste.

Expect to see at least one or two new wineries, in addition to some local "regulars." Stu Harvey, who organizes the event each year, typically invites 10 to 12 wineries, so there's a choice of 60-80 wines to sample (and buy), all under one tent. Rotating some of the wineries means each

festival is different from the previous year's, and introduces the crowd to new labels – and sometimes, new varietals.

This year's Festival of Wines is once again scheduled for Father's Day weekend, when Wintergreen is planning several activities in honor of "Dear Old Dad," including a Scotch tasting and a Father-Son golf tournament.

Admission to the festival is \$20 and includes a souvenir glass. Tickets can be purchased online, by phone [(434) 325-8292] or at the door.

Whether you come early or later in the day, plan to join us for an after-

noon of wine, jazz, light fare and the cool mountain air!

NFT



Casino Night: March 28, 2009

Continued from p. 1 . . .

Afterwards, get energized for the "Night of Gaming for Amusement" ahead with a light dinner. The buffet and cash bar will open at 7:30 pm in the Wintergreen Ballroom – transformed for the evening into Wild West's Smokey Joe's Café at the Pair-o-Dice Hotel. For the \$60 price of admission, each lucky guy and gal receives 5 stage prize tickets and \$10,000 in fun money to join in the action at state of the art gaming tables – Black Jack, Roulette, Craps, or Texas Hold 'Em. And hear the hootin' and the hollerin'? That's at the Horse Racing table where 30 classic beauties are galloping from post to finish.

Minimum casino cash bets at the tables will be \$1000, and for each additional \$5, guests will receive 5 more chances for the spectacular stage prizes, plus an extra \$10,000 in gaming money. Rugs, wine glasses, picture frames, photographs or



paintings, interior design consultation, pedicures, yoga, or fishing weekends – any or all could be yours with the lucky tickets. Door prizes will be awarded every hour. For added amusement, take your chances on a "Barrel of Fun" filled with wine, liquor, and an assortment of cheeses and crackers. Or write a name on a \$5 bill and put it in the "50/50 Cash Jar." The owner of the lucky fiver pulled from the jar will split the winnings with Wintergreen Performing Arts. At the end of the

evening, you won't want to miss the drawing for the great Grand Prize – a seven-day vacation in San Diego's charming Gaslight District.

Dress is casual and Western wear is invited – but no pistol-packin' allowed, just pockets of dollars in support of Wintergreen Performing Arts, Inc., producer of the highly-acclaimed Summer Musical Festival held at Wintergreen Resort. Tickets for Casino Night are available at www.wintergreenperformingarts.org or by calling (434) 325-8292. LVC



LAS: An ever-present jack-of-all-trades

Most WPA supporters know that Artistic and Executive Director Larry Alan Smith is an ever-present jack-of-all-trades during the Summer Music Festival. But his schedule in the past several months has been equally varied – and intense.

In November, the International Music Center of America (IMCA) announced that Larry had joined its artistic roster as both composer and conductor. IMCA is an international center for production, development and promotion of classical music. IMCA's website (www.imca.us) includes photos of both Larry and 2007-2008 WSMF guest conductor Christopher Zimmerman on its home page, and WPA is listed as a collaborator. Larry says this affiliation "will lead to some interesting opportunities for my career as composer and conductor . . . and, in turn . . . for WPA." Zimmerman, by the way, recently became affiliated with IMCA . . . providing even more opportunities for collaboration.

On sabbatical leave last fall from the University of Hartford's Hartt School, where he is Professor of Composition, Larry traveled to Croa-



tia to make his conducting debut with the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra on Oct. 23, 2008. The performance was given at Dubrovnik's 16th century Fort Revelin theater (see photo above) and included music of Handel, Schubert and Schumann. Also on the program was Larry's *Serenade* (1976) for strings, which received its Croatian premiere. The work drew an enthusiastic response from Dubrovnik's artistic community and the press and was praised for its invention and "quintessential Americanism."

Larry returned to Croatia and made his first trip to Serbia in early December to present two workshops on American Music and Composition at the University of Belgrade (Serbia)

and University *Jurja Dobrile* in Pula (Croatia). He will once again travel to Pula following the 2009 WSMF to teach an international composition masterclass from August 10-24, 2009.

Meanwhile, he's back to his normal teaching duties for the spring semester at Hartt and has also been busy writing lots of music and preparing for several upcoming premieres of his works. *Symphony No. 3* will be premiered in Paris on May 28 and 29, 2009 by l'Orchestre de la Cite Internationale . . . the French equivalent of Florida's New World Symphony. *Concertino for Soprano Saxophone and String Orchestra* will premiere on August 19, 2009 in L'Aquila, Italy. Gaetano Di Bacco will be the soloist. And *Berge Psalmen* (2004) will receive its premiere in the fall at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ.

Larry is, of course, scurrying to put the final plans in place for the 2009 WSMF, *Appalachian Roots – A Cultural Kaleidoscope*, so the ticket brochure can go into production. Look for it in early May!

NFT

Music • Dance • Theatre • Literary Arts • Visual Arts • Film

OK . . . 25 words to describe the 2009 Wintergreen Summer Music Festival and Academy:

- 1) BIG
- 2) exciting
- 3) varied
- 4) Appalachian
- 5) cool
- 6) inspiring
- 7) refreshing
- 8) thought-provoking
- 9) moving
- 10) entertaining
- 11) American
- 12) mountains
- 13) Trail
- 14) art
- 15) Agee
- 16) students
- 17) hike
- 18) Graham
- 19) talent
- 20) seminars
- 21) nature
- 22) Copland
- 23) breathtaking
- 24) sonorous
- 25) beautiful

LAS



A map of Appalachia

WSMF Opening Night Reception and Events Fair Kick-Off on July 8, 2009

Opening Night for the 2009 Wintergreen Summer Music Festival will take place on Wednesday, July 8. The Opening Night Reception will feature the Events Fair Kick-Off at 6:00 pm in the Skyline Pavilion, and the Opening Night Concert will follow at 7:30 pm in the Evans Center. Quite an evening is planned!

The Events Fair offerings will include parties and events to be held between late-July 2009 and June 2010 at local homes and venues. During the Opening Night Reception, attendees will enjoy *hors d'oeuvres* and drinks as they review the offerings and decide which events to purchase. Each event will have a predetermined theme, date, time, number of guests to be accommodated, and cost per person. That information will be displayed on sign-up sheets for each event. Guests attending the Reception may buy as many spaces as they wish or even an entire



party. Attendees will have first crack at purchasing the events. Any spaces not filled that night will be sold at concerts throughout the WSMF and

on the WPA website. Last year's events filled up quickly and included a Bocce tournament, Mexican Fiesta, Christmas party @ Skylark Farm, an antique car cruise, an Austrian progressive dinner and a Chili Hoe Down just to name a few!

All brought rave reviews, and this year's offerings will be just as lively and diverse. Look for a game night, gourmet dinners prepared by members of the Wintergreen Festival Orchestra, a garden tour, a beach party, a day in Lexington, a Moroccan Night, a progressive dinner with a twist, historic lectures and tours and much more! Two weeks prior to Opening Night, those who have purchased Opening Night tickets will be sent a list describing this year's Events Fair offerings.

Don't miss this opportunity to attend Opening Night and take advantage of the fun offered at the Events Fair!
DMW

2009 WSMF: The excitement builds

If you visit the Wintergreen Performing Arts website, you will easily find your way to the primary webpage for the 2009 Wintergreen Summer Music Festival. Throughout the month of March, everything that has been planned will be added to the master schedule. Once all of the events and performances are listed, they will start to appear as "live" links. This will happen during April. By clicking on the links, you will find detailed information about



programs, guest artists, prices, times, etc. At the moment there are over 120 events listed, but many more will be added by March 31.

Soprano Caroline Worra (pictured here) will be with us for Weeks I and II singing a variety of works. In addition to her Opening Night performance (July 8), she will sing on Chamber Music I (July 14) and Classics II (July 18 and 19). Caroline, and guest conductor Steven Osgood with the

Wintergreen Festival Orchestra, will perform Samuel Barber's masterpiece, *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of James Agee. Barber used Agee's writing as the text for his work. Agee will also be featured prominently during the Wintergreen Appalachian Film Festival (July 13-26).

The Film Festival will be held in the Nelson Room of Trillium House and the films will include *The Dollmaker* (starring Jane Fonda), *The Songcatcher* and many films about the Appalachians. There will even be films for children that will be shown on Saturdays and Sundays. LAS

WPA is Making a Splash!

After two fabulous Summer Music Festivals, the word is getting out – something remarkable happens on Wintergreen Mountain in July. Let's look at the evidence:

- We are proud to report that *Symphony Magazine* has chosen our orchestra as part of a feature on summer music festivals that create their own orchestras. *Symphony Magazine* is the journal of the League of American Orchestras. The article will appear in the May-June issue.

- Wintergreen Performing Arts has been selected by Virginians for the Arts as an outstanding example of how the arts build communities and help the economy. Their feature showed how WPA brought tourists to Nelson County who, in addition

to enjoying the music, shopped at local stores, ate at local restaurants and stayed at local hotels and bed-and-breakfasts.

- Virginia is for Lovers! This slogan has been part of Virginia's message to the world for 40 years and The Virginia Tourism Corporation is celebrating that milestone. As part of the celebration, the Virginia Tourism website will feature Wintergreen Performing Arts' and Wintergreen Resort's Summer Travel Package, a joint effort to bring tourists "to the Mountain."



- Wintergreen Performing Arts has been getting plenty of air time these days as well. Fifteen-minute segments featuring John Claman and Sarah McCracken have appeared on the PBS programs *Virginia Currents* and *Charlottesville Inside Out*.

DMB

Do you have any Appalachian Roots?

Many of us do! My paternal grandmother, Rose, was born in Parkersburg, WV in the 1880's. She was married three times (once to a Smith!) and had a total of eight children. She was a pistol . . . something I witnessed as a child when she would get wildly excited while listening to the Cleveland Indians' games on the radio. She loved her Indians . . . especially Rocky Colavito!



The Appalachian Mountains, and Appalachia as a whole, are in many ways the backbone of the United States. Our earliest history is directly tied to the region, and the immigrants who settled the land provide many of us with colorful and inspiring stories to tell about our ancestors.

How do the WSMF themes take shape? Well . . . Appalachian Roots came about during a conversation with WPA Board Member and Treasurer Don Burland. He said the words, and they immediately stuck in my mind. The rest, as they say, is history.

And what about 2010 and 2011? Planning for both festivals is already underway. The theme of the 2010 WSMF will be *Vienna* . . . as in Austria . . . not Virginia! The 2011 festival will explore the cultures surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. An exact title is not yet in place, but we already have some "finalists". And what about 2012? It is not set, but a few ideas are floating around.

However, let's not get ahead of our-

selves! The 2009 theme is extraordinarily rich, and I have learned a great deal during the planning process. The challenge . . . how to pay tribute to our collective *Appalachian Roots* in 28 days.

Come and see how we do it . . . from the very first music on Opening Night to the final piece on August 2. By the way, that final piece on August 2 will be something very special . . . Martha Graham's extraordinary choreography of Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring* danced by Martha Graham II. The dance company will be traveling from New York City to Wintergreen for the final weekend of the Festival. Add to that collaborations with the Wintergreen Nature Foundation, Black Rock Gallery and many others, and you will have a summer to remember.

LAS

The Official Newsletter of Wintergreen Performing Arts

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*The 2009
WSMF: July
6th-August 2nd*



Zvonimir Hačko
will conduct the
Wintergreen Festi-
val Orchestra on
July 25 and 26 in
the Evans Center

Located in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, Wintergreen Performing Arts is a non-profit organization that produces a high-quality summer music festival featuring symphonic and chamber concerts, as well as other performing arts programs throughout the year. Education is a major part of our mission, reflected both in the Wintergreen Summer Music Academy and in outreach programs for those living in the surrounding area. By attracting first-rate musicians to participate as performers and educators, we strive to enrich the lives of all – residents and visitors alike – who share the unique Wintergreen experience.

*For detailed information and tickets, visit
www.wintergreenperformingarts.org*



The James Piano Quartet, Ensemble-in-Residence at the WSMF.

Notes from the President

As you've undoubtedly noticed by now, this issue of WPA's Newsletter is chock-full of good news. It provides descriptions of some exciting upcoming events (Wintergreen now has a Pair-o-Dice Hotel? Who knew?). It reports on several examples of WPA's increasing recognition and acclaim at the state and national levels. And it introduces what promises to be a best-ever 2009 Wintergreen Summer Music Festival!

I'm happy to say that I have some additional good news to report. As many of you will remember, late in 2005 WPA's Board of Directors conducted a national search for a new Artistic and Executive Director. We were greatly impressed by the number and quality of our applicants. Once all of the customary search procedures – checking references, telephone and on-site interviews, etc. – had been completed, however, we were unanimous in our conclusion that the right person for the position was Larry Alan Smith. Much to our delight he accepted our offer, and a

three-year contract, running through September 30 of 2009, was negotiated and signed.

So here's the good news: both Larry and the Board of Directors have agreed to a new three-year contract, running to September 30, 2012! This bodes well for the continuation of high-quality programming over the next several years.

Space constraints don't allow me to list here all the contributions that Larry has made to the organization since his arrival. Here, however, is one indicator of those contributions. During his first year with us, we prepared a ten-year Strategic Plan for WPA, outlining where we would like to be by the year 2016. As it turns out, however, many of our ten-year objectives have been accomplished in a mere three years! As a result, we will soon be revising our Strategic Plan – and it will be considerably more ambitious than the last one – reflecting the possibilities that have opened to us as a result of having

Larry Alan Smith in our midst. Thanks, Larry; it has been a great three years, and we're looking forward to even greater times ahead!

Needless to say, the nation's financial crisis continues to present performing arts organizations with serious challenges, and WPA is not immune to this situation. If you are as pleased as I am with Larry Alan Smith's renewed commitment to first-rate performing arts programming at Wintergreen, you might consider expressing that pleasure by means of a financial contribution to the organization! We do indeed need your help and are deeply grateful to those of you who have continued to provide assistance in these difficult times.



Mike Brooks, President
Wintergreen Performing Arts