

## Upcoming Museum of Appalachia Events

- Fisk Jubilee Singers: February 3, 2012
- Sheep Shearing Day: April 27, 2012
- July 4th Celebration & Anvil Shoot: July 4, 2012
- "A Simple Life" Antique Show: September 14-15, 2012
- Student Heritage Day: October 11, 2012
- Tennessee Fall Homecoming: October 12, 13, & 14, 2012
- Christmas in Old Appalachia: December 1-24, 2012

Watch our website for additional events throughout the year.

## Join the "Museum of Appalachia Family"

Your membership supports the non-profit Museum of Appalachia and its preservation and education missions.

Membership also provides:

- Unlimited Museum visits for a year.
- Membership discount on Tennessee Fall Homecoming ticket.
- Free admission to special events and concerts throughout the year.
- Periodic newsletters.



Smithsonian Institution  
Affiliations Program

Smithsonian In Your Neighborhood

### Christmas Special!

Beginning Jan. 1, 2012, membership fees will include Smithsonian membership. As our Christmas gift to you, join or renew in Dec. 2011 and receive free Smithsonian membership now—at 2011 prices!

Museum memberships make wonderful gifts for special people on your list!

### Museum of Appalachia

2819 Andersonville Hwy.

Clinton, TN 37716

(865) 494-7680

[museum@museumofappalachia.org](mailto:museum@museumofappalachia.org)

[www.museumofappalachia.org](http://www.museumofappalachia.org)

A non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization

### Membership Form - December 2011

CA11

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to: Museum of Appalachia

Visa  American Express

Mastercard  Discover

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print legibly

Membership Fees:

Family \$80 .....

Adult \$50 .....

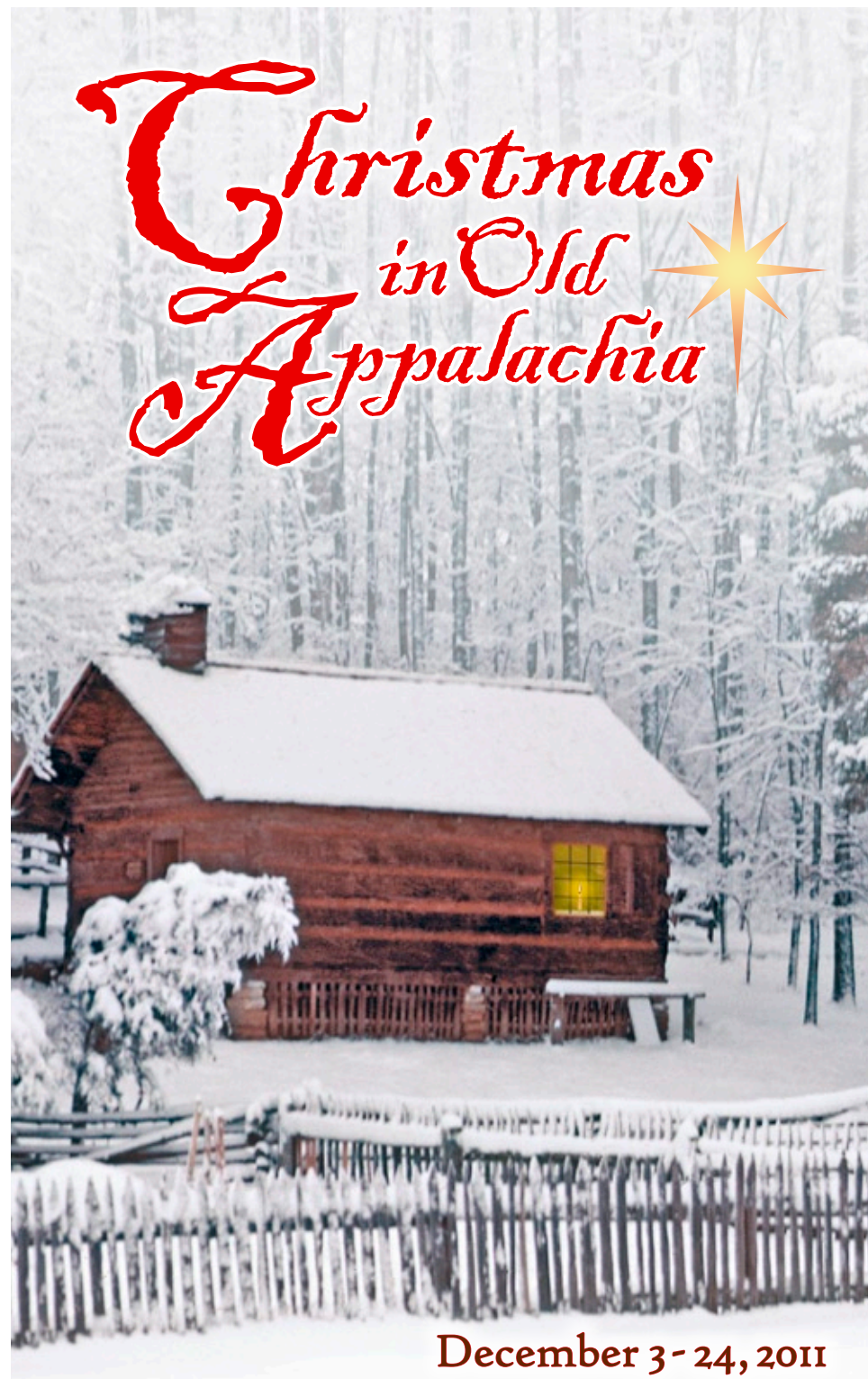
Senior (65 or older) \$40 .....

Endowment Fund Donation .....

Smithsonian Membership.....*included*

Thank you for your support,  
and Welcome to the Museum  
of Appalachia Family!

TOTAL



December 3 - 24, 2011

# Merry Christmas from the Museum of Appalachia family!

The simple Christmas traditions of Southern Appalachia conveyed the timeless sentiments of the season. Although money was often in short supply, the ever-practical people of Appalachia found ways to make Christmas meaningful.

On Christmas Eve, chores were put aside and families visited friends and neighbors to share stories, cider, and the joy of the season. The men would fire their muskets simultaneously, making the mountains ring with exuberant cheer.

Join us as we celebrate, as our forebears did, the sweet and simple miracle of Christmas in Old Appalachia.

## Hall of Fame

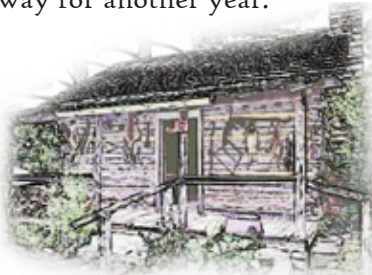
**“Old Cedar”-** is a rather plain, rough cedar horse with a scruffy tail. But no horse was ever more dear to a little boy. In 1922, when Luther Pyles was four years old, he showed his grandfather a picture of a rocking horse he had seen in a catalog. The next day his grandfather went to the woods, cut down a cedar tree, and made Old Cedar for Luther. In his later years, Luther fondly recalled playing with Old Cedar. “They’d let me bring him in the house around Christmas, but most of the time I’d keep him in the barn. I rode that old horse all over Anderson County.”

**Alex Stewart-** “The first present I ever remember Pap getting us for Christmas was a little candy and an orange. I’ll never forget that. I wasn’t over four or five years old. I saved that candy and just took a little bite off it every once in a while. I don’t know how long it lasted me. And they didn’t have no decorations along back then. That came in later on.”

**Granny Irwin’s Christmas Quilt-** “I always thought it was the prettiest quilt I ever saw. But the only time she ever used it was around Christmas time. She’d get it out a few days before Christmas and use it as a bed cover til around the first of the year; then she’d put it away for another year.”  
Glenn G. Irwin (father of John Rice Irwin)

## Mark Twain Family Cabin

The Buck family, the last to inhabit this isolated cabin, lived here until the late 1940s. There was no store nearby to buy gifts or ornaments, so the family “made do” with



what they had. Their Christmas ornaments were sweet gum and sycamore balls and pine cones dipped in water & flour, all things natural hanging on the tree. The children were always pleased to receive a handmade doll or wooden toy; however, sometimes the only gifts a child might receive were an orange and a stick of peppermint candy.

## Arnwine Cabin

Wes Arnwine raised his large family of eleven in this one-room cabin. Many years Wes & his wife could not afford to buy gifts, so their children had to be content with pictures of their heart’s desires snipped out of a mail order catalog.



## McClung House

The family that lived here enjoyed using the colorful hydrangeas, cedar, and bittersweet growing outside their door for holiday decorating. Postcards from family and friends were sometimes the only adornments on their Christmas tree. Christmas was made special by the fellowship of friends and family living nearby.



## Tater Valley School House

The school children of Appalachia past and present love the tradition of making paper chains, stringing popcorn, and making simple ornaments. The silver star that tops the tree was typically made of cardboard and foil from chewing gum paper which was saved by the children throughout the year. Our School House ornaments and artwork were made by local school children from nearby Norris Elementary School.



## The Peters Homestead

The Peters Family was fortunate enough to have money and was able to order gifts for their children through a mail order catalog. Lucky they were to get books, toys, and new shoes for the year. The tree is decorated with garlands from a local school teacher who saved and used the garland on her classroom tree for more than fifty years.

