

*Carter Family Memorial Music Center, Inc.*

*A nonprofit organization  
P. O. Box 111, Hiltons, VA 24258*

**P**ress  
**R**elease

for release November 17, 2010

HISTORIC TAPE COLLECTION RETURNED TO THE CARTER FAMILY FOLD

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has returned to the Carter Family Memorial Music Center, Inc., in Hiltons, VA, the collection of audiocassettes and DAT tapes of live performances recorded at the Carter Fold from 1981 through 2004, that had been given to the University. The legality of the "gift agreement" transferring the collection from the Carter Fold to the university had been the center of controversy since 2007.

Howard Klein, president of the CFMMC board, expressed relief at having the collection returned.

"We are glad they are back," he said. "The Carter Fold tapes are a rich legacy of music at the Fold covering a 25-year period. They are a priceless record of Original Carter Family songs and of Appalachian culture. They document the tireless work of our founder, Janette Carter, who fought to preserve her family's music and their place in history. The performers on the tapes are a Who's Who of Blue Grass and Old-Time music. They include Janette Carter, singing and accompanying herself on the autoharp, her brother Joe, her Uncle Ermine and her Aunt Sylvia. We hope to be able to share these recordings widely, once they have been preserved and transferred to stable formats."

Other performers on the tapes include Johnny Cash, June Carter Cash, Marty Stuart, the Red Clay Ramblers, Marc Pruitt, the Home Folks, The McLain Family Band, John McCutcheon, Bryan Bowers, Elizabeth Cotton, David Morris, Doc Smiddy & Reedy Creek, Doc Watson & Blueridge Express, Dixie Dewdrops, White Top Mountain Band, and the Stevens Family, to name but a few.

The 5 boxes of tapes were received in Kingsport on November 10, and will be stored in a climate controlled facility. The collection consists of 1,250 audiocassette tapes and 390 DATs made during performances at the Carter Family Fold from 1981 through 2004. These include Saturday night shows as well as annual Festivals and special concert events.

A "Receipt and Release Agreement," co-signed by Richard L. Mann, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration at UNC, and by Howard Klein, President of CFMMC, states, in part,

"The parties agree that the Gift Agreement signed April 2, 2007 by Dale Jett and April 26, 2007 by Steven Weiss is null and void and shall have no effect."

The board of directors of the Carter Family Memorial Music Center, Inc., is grateful to the University of North Carolina for returning the collection and is making plans to preserve the tapes and DATs and transfer them to CD format. Once the transfers are complete, it is our hope to be able to share the collection with other non-profit and scholarly institutions such as UNC, ETSU, the Library of Congress and others, for research and study.

For Further Information contact:

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