



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Carl Sandburg Home  
National Historic Site

81 Carl Sandburg Lane  
Flat Rock, NC 28731-8635

828/693-4178 phone  
828/693-4179 fax

---

## Carl Sandburg Home NHS News Release

Release date: Immediate  
Contact(s): Connie Hudson Backlund, Superintendent  
Phone number: 828-693-4178  
Date: May 12, 2008

### Carl Sandburg Folk Music Festival

(Flat Rock, NC) Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site will host the annual Carl Sandburg Folk Music Festival on Monday, Memorial Day, May 26 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The folk festival honors Carl Sandburg and his preservation of traditional folk music. At 10:00 a.m. Jhon Akers will be playing classical guitar reciting Sandburg's poetry. At 11:00 a.m. Jon Shain, a traveling professional musician, graces the stage with traditional acoustic and blues tunes. The Carawan Family Band performs traditional folk music at 12:00 p.m. Guy Carawan was instrumental in teaching songs such as "We Shall Overcome" to protesters of the 1960's. He teaches at the Highlander Folk Center in New Market, Tennessee, and plays guitar, banjo, hammered dulcimer and autoharp while his traditional folk songs tell the history of the southern struggle. At 1:00 p.m. the Buddy Davis Band plays string band music. Buddy was a folk musician interpreter at the Carl Sandburg Home in the 1970's when he presented programs for visitors and sang from Carl Sandburg's folk music collection. The Chuck Beattie Band will close out the festival with traditional Chicago-styled blues starting at 2:00. Chuck has worked tirelessly to preserve the culture and integrity of American Blues and his music is compared to Muddy Waters.

Steve and Jean Smith will be performing dulcimer music at the historic barn area from 1:00 -3:00 p.m. In the bookstore, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm, photographer BJ Condrey will have her custom made Connemara Note cards, special goat milk products will be available from Pyrwood Dairy, and author Galen Reuther will be signing her Images of America books: *Connemara*, *Flat Rock* and *Hendersonville*.

Sandburg began playing the guitar in the early 1900's to enhance his lectures. He played the guitar, banjo and harmonica and collected a series of folk songs, which he published in his book *The American Songbag*. Sandburg performed during the era of Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrey and was the mentor for Burl Ives. This event is supported by The National Park Service, Eastern National, the Friends of Carl Sandburg at Connemara, and a grant from the Henderson County Arts Council.

Carl Sandburg Home NHS was authorized October 17, 1968, and celebrates it's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. The site is located three miles south of Hendersonville, North Carolina, off U.S. 225 on Little River Road in Flat Rock, North Carolina. For additional information, visit our website at [www.nps.gov/carl](http://www.nps.gov/carl) or call the park at 828-693-4178. There is no charge to visit the grounds and barn. The house tour fee is \$5 for adults age 17-61, \$3 for adults age 62 and older, children fifteen and under are free.

-end-

---

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.