

Discography

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2. Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, Heaven's Joy Awaits, Sugar Hill, SGRH 137602B.
3. Leake County Revelers, Vol. 1, Document Records DOCD-8029, 1998.
4. The McGee Bros & Arthur Smith Milk 'Em in the Evening Blues, Folkways FT1007, 1968.
5. Sam McGee 1926-1934, Document Records DOCD-8036, 1998.
6. Old-Time String Band Classics, County 531.
7. Fiddlin' Doc Roberts Trio – Ragtime Chicken Joe, Perfect Records, 35-10-12 A, 1935.
8. Harry Smith, ed., Anthology of American Folk Music, Folkways Records, FA2951 – FA2953, 1952.
9. The Smithsonian Collection of Classic Country Music, Smithsonian Institution, RC 025.
10. Henry Thomas Texas Worried Blues, Yazoo 1080/1.
11. The Tillers, Hand on the Plow, Muddy Roots Music, 2013.
12. Uncle Dave Macon, Keep My Skillet Good and Greasy: The Complete Recordings Bear Family BCD 15978. 2004.
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THE NEW HOLLAND HONEY EATERS

present

Station *WYOY*'s

Farm and Fun Time



Introduction

Farm and Fun Time continues the *New Holland Honey Eaters*' love affair with early southern rural radio that started with our show *On the Air* back in 2009.

Since then, I discovered a half-brother, who lives in Bristol, Tennessee. His uncle was a musician named Roy Webb. In 1938 Roy began playing mandolin in a duo with Curly King (guitar) on radio station *WOPI* in Bristol. By 1940 the band had expanded to become *Curly King and the Tennessee Hilltoppers*.

1946 saw the opening of station *WCYB* in Bristol, and the band was the first of two "rustic string bands" hired. They originally worked the station's late afternoon *Thrift Supply Company Show*, described as a 55-minute "...program of country music which featured fiddle music, hymns, "heart songs" and early bluegrass tunes...". With the arrival of the second band – the *Stanley Brothers*—it became the noontime *Farm and Fun Time* show. The show continued well into the 1950s before changing times and tastes saw it cancelled. But times continued to change, and in 2015 the show was resurrected by *WCYB* as a regular live-to-air broadcast

The *New Holland Honey Eaters* are not trying to reproduce either the original *Farm and Fun Time* show, or its modern extension. We are trying to give you the feel of those early live-to-air broadcasts that saw bands in the studio every day for their program, and then on the road to towns and villages in the radio catchment for live shows (which, unlike the radio, saw them paid for their efforts), before driving back home in the early hours of the morning to be there in time for their next radio slot. Given my distant connection to the original show, we have borrowed the name, and we hope that *WCYB* will forgive us for that liberty.

The songs you'll hear are mostly of the period, and the sponsors' ads, crazy as they are, are the real thing. We take full responsibility for the jokes, which are, of course, corny.

By the by, Roy Webb eventually gave his Gibson mandolin to Ricky Skaggs, who plays it to this day.

Thanks to the Archives of Appalachia at East Tennessee State University for supplying several transcription tapes of several of the original *Farm and Fun Time* shows.

Stan Gottschalk
November, 2019

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