**Heritage Festival 2014 Band Bios and Pics**

**The Boomchux** - String Band / Old Time Western / Swing Revival

The Boomchux perform regularly at the Lake of the Ozarks and are a well known band for their old time sound with guitar, upright bass and steel guitar.

**Swampweed Cajun Band** - The Swampweed Cajun Band plays traditional, foot-stompin’, accordion-squeezed, French-howlin’ tunes from the swamps. Ehren Oncken is on button accordion, Dierik Leonhard is featured on Cajun fiddle, Jane Accurso sings Cajun French vocals and is on guitar, Matthew Bossaller sets the dance groove on bass and Jimmy Joe Culbertson drives the rhythm on drums and percussion. Only the finest in Cajun Dancehall music.

**Ironweed Bluegrass Band** - With meandering roots from the Missouri Ozarks all the way to Tubingen, Germany, Ironweed brings you only the finest in bluegrass, vintage country and good ol’ hillbilly twang. The band features champion, Kelly Jones on fiddle, Joe Wieneman on mandolin, Jane Accurso on guitar and lead vocals, Dierik Leonhard on banjo, and Matt Bossaller on upright, slap bass. From Jimmy Martin to Hazel Dickens, you can expect a bucketful of tunes about trains, moonshine, dirt, heartache, pigs and girls named Sophronie.

**Haskell Indian Nations Dancers** - The Haskell performers are Native American dancers from Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas. Haskell is honored to present these dancers who are chosen from a select group of students. They are considered professionals in their chosen dance styles. They travel extensively throughout the pow-wow world and compete with other dancers nationally. They are considered the “best of the best.” The performers are dressed in traditional dance regalia and explain their particular dance style.

**Professor Farquhar Medicine Man Show** - sets entertainment back more than a century, to the days of the old-time “medicine show.” Unlike yesteryear’s snake oil hucksters, Farquhar peddles no elixirs or patent pills. Instead, he freely dispenses copious amounts of laughter, surely the best medicine of all.

**Spike Bones 19th Century Minstrel** - Darryl “Spike Bones” Muhrer show represents American entertainment from the era of 1840 to 1940. He includes singing, dancing, juggling, puppets and audience participation in addition to bones playing. Spike goes from cow bones to Vegetarian (American wooden) bones commonly used today.
**Paul Fotsch**- toured nationally for 25 years as part of Paul & Win Grace & Family. He has played at places as diverse as New York’s Lincoln Center, Winfield, The Winnipeg Folk Festival and craft fairs, music festivals, community concerts and other events and dances too numerous to mention. As a solo performer now, he is skilled on the fiddle, guitar, mandolin and harmonica and has a lifelong love of singing. He brings a vast repertoire of songs and tunes, ranging from traditional old time to more contemporary.

**Missouri Crossroads**-Missouri Crossroads features local father & son duo, David and Sam Currey, combined with local father and daughter trio, Tim, Elisa and Mikaela Morris, performing a down-home family-friendly variety of roots country, bluegrass, gospel and blues tunes.

**Helen Russell & Company**-For many years Elvis and Helen Russell have been providing great music and entertainment for your listening and dancing pleasure in and around Lake of the Ozarks area at Osage Beach, MO. With Elvis providing bass and adding in some humor, we also feature keyboard, banjo and drums. It will be an entertainment experience that you are sure to enjoy.

**The Boone Howlers**-can be seen around mid-Missouri from time to time playing a mix of country, bluegrass and sometimes all in the same song. But mostly you’ll find them in the studio working on the sound that will make them uniquely The Boone Howlers.

**Hometown Cloggers**-The Hometown Clogging team offers a place for families to enjoy a wholesome activity in a family friendly environment. They currently have five levels to accommodate the newest dancers all the way up to advanced competition level. They are always accepting new cloggers and welcome visitors to come see what makes clogging so much fun! The instructor, Jaime Wake, has been clogging for about 25 years. She started clogging at a very young age - thanks to her mom - and began teaching her own group at the early age of 16.

**Ehren Oncken & Marilyn Loehnig with the Rhineland Wurstjaegers**-(German Music and Dance) Ehren Oncken and Marilyn Loehnig provide German music for the dance group that was started by Fritz and Betts Theissen of Rhineland, a neighboring town to the north of Hermann.
200th Anniversary of Frances Scott Key Music - 2014 marks the 200th anniversary of our nation’s beloved national anthem, “The Star-Spangled Banner.” In September 1814, after a 25-hour long battle, U.S. soldiers at Baltimore’s Fort McHenry raised in victory a 42-foot American flag sewn by Mary Pickersgill. A young Francis Scott Key was aboard a ship in the harbor and was so inspired by the patriotic sight that he wrote “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

Community Band - The Columbia Community Band was founded in 1981 as part of the Columbia Public Schools Adult Education Program. It is comprised of a group of dedicated volunteer musicians. Since its inception, the Columbia Community Band has become one of the Midwest’s premier symphonic concert bands, and has grown from an initial membership of approximately twenty, to seventy musicians today.

Cathy Barton & Dave Para - Cathy Barton and Dave Para give dynamic performances acclaimed for their variety and expertise in both vocal and instrumental styles. Their repertoire and informal audience rapport are marked by a special affection for traditional music. Their more than 35 years of playing together have taken them to festivals, clubs, concert halls, schools and recording and media studios across the United States and five European tours. Their audiences are as diverse as their repertoire.

Pablo Baum - Storyteller-Pablo is a historically based Storyteller on topics as Paleo-America, Early Western Trappers, Santa Fe Trail, Trail of Tears, Civil War, Wild West, Historical Ghost Stories, and Adventures of General Black Jack Pershing. He will be featuring the stories THE UNRULY WARRIOR and THE BATTLE AT ISLAND MOUND, and also portraying General Black Jack Pershing in THE HORRORS OF THE MEUSE ARGONNE-WORLD WAR ONE

Johnny Kendrick and the Branchy Boys
Johnny Kendrick is a farmer-stockman who lives and works the family farm on Midwestern tallgrass prairie land at the western edge of central Missouri. Lifelong passions for songs and the American West feed his desire to trace the history of the Cowboy through music. He is a co-founder and mainstay of “Echoes of the Trails: A Western History Conference and Cowboy Poetry Gathering” held annually in Fort Scott, Kan. He also performs regularly at gatherings, festivals, schools and other events around the country. With his sons, who grew up listening to stories and songs about the West, he also performs as “The Branchy Boys.” With Sam on fiddle and Jackson switching off on guitar and bass, they perform a variety of bluegrass, gospel, and western songs with strong individual and harmony vocals, and acclaimed musicianship.

For more information or music samples: www.johnnykendrick.com
**Midwest Country Connection Dance Club**-formed in July of 1991 and is a Missouri not-for-profit corporation. All operations of the club are done by the generous donation of time by the members.