

Rackensack Folklore Society

Pulaski County

Rackensack Folklore Society Newsletter

Next Meeting:

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Jess Odom Community Center

1100 Edgewood Drive

Maumelle, AR 6:30 pm

Our mission is to promote and preserve old-time traditional folk music through performance on acoustic instruments.

Rackensack Monthly Meetings - New Location for 2024!

The Officers of the Rackensack Folklore Society, Pulaski County are very pleased to announce that beginning January 1, 2024, our monthly Rackensack meetings will be held *on the first Monday of each month*, at the **Historic Cox Building** at 120 Rivermarket Avenue, Little Rock. The parking lot and entrance to the building is accessible at 100 Rock Street, on the campus of the Main Library (CALS-Central Arkansas Library System). We are extremely grateful to CALS for their support and vision for the future of Rackensack. We are excited to return to the downtown Little Rock area, where Rackensack Pulaski County was birthed 60 years ago this year, through the vision of George Fisher and the encouragement of his friend, and founder of the parent chapter of Rackensack in Mountain View, Jimmy Driftwood.

This extraordinary offer from CALS to host our meetings at the Cox Building will allow Rackensack to be re-connected to the vibrant arts community in Central Arkansas. The space provides us with a beautiful and historic setting for our music and mission to continue and grow, and at no cost to Rackensack.

Thirty-three of our regular musicians and about 15 listeners visited the building during our two trial runs on September 14th, and October 19th. The Officers solicited feedback from all of the attendees. There was much excitement about the venue and quality of sound during our music presentations.

We are especially grateful to the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Maumelle for renting us the space at the Community Center at a discounted rate, which provided us with a temporary home for 2 ½ years, during the renovation of the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, where Rackensack met for 56 years! We plan to continue the outdoor concerts on the Lake when weather and scheduling permit. We will continue to meet at the Community Center through the end of 2023.

We know that relocating our monthly meeting place is challenging and we encourage everyone to contact us if there are questions or concerns. If you need any help with directions, please let us know. We hope you will come and be a part of this new chapter of Rackensack Folklore Society, Pulaski County!

Mark Your Calendars!

Rackensack Fall Folk Circle

Thursday, November 16th, 6:30 pm

All Musicians (and listeners) are invited to a special **"Folk Circle"** music event at the **Historic Cox Building**. Enjoy a casual evening of sharing music in a jam style format in our future home. We will have coffee, apple cider and hot chocolate, and tempting goodies to enjoy in a cozy atmosphere!

100 Rock Street, Main Library Parking Lot (Bring in your parking ticket for validation).

Rackensack Christmas Party

Saturday, December 9th

Whole Hog BBQ, 2516 Cantrell Rd

Music starts at 4:00, Dinner around 5:00

\$10/Members - \$15/ Guests

Bring a dessert to share if you are able.

Wear your best (or worst) Christmas Sweater for the **BEST CHRISTMAS SWEATER CONTEST!**

Please RSVP to Janet Watkins by December 4th. Phone or text: 501-680-1700.

Buffet Menu: Pulled Pork, Chicken, Beans, Slaw, Potato Salad, Tea, Lemonade.



Christmas Party 2022

Rackensack Happenings- October Recap

October was a busy month for Rackensack! We enjoyed TWO regular meetings, one at the Community Center in Maumelle and the other at the Cox Building later in the month. We had our annual **Rackensack Retreat** in Mountain View, and some returned at the end of the month for **Beanfest!** Rackensack was also asked to perform at events such as, **The Quapaw Quarter Association's** Annual fundraising event City Garden, Beer & Ice Cream, at the MacArthur Museum of Military History, and **The Ozark Society's** fundraising event at the Old State House.

We also lost a dear friend and fellow musician this month, David Cardwell.

Friday Evening Jam- Rackensack Retreat, Mountain View



We had a record crowd of musicians at the Friday Night Pizza Jam. Over 50 folks came and went throughout the evening and we had hours of great music and fellowship! Make plans to join us next year on October 4th and 5th, 2024.



We celebrated Charles Barfield's 95th Birthday!

Dinner! We put away about 15 Pizzas!



6th Annual Rackensack Run/Walk- Sponsored by Jim Munns

It was an early and cold start to the 1 mile Rackensack Run/Walk but these brave souls soon warmed up as they made their way through the quiet streets of Mountain View. A hearty breakfast at the Rainbow Café was relished by all.



Denise didn't really win!



Rackensack Retreat Continued...

Saturday continued with a fun jam on the patio of Mi Pueblito Mexican Restaurant. Lots of passers-by stopped to hear the music. Then we enjoyed a buffet lunch inside the restaurant. Later that evening Rackensack gave a concert at the Mountain View Meeting Place that was live-streamed on Facebook. It was a tribute to Jimmy Driftwood with songs and stories and many of our Rackensack favorites.



← Rackensack Concert at the Mountain View Meeting Place



Also in October, Rackensack provided music on the lawn of the Old State House for an event by the Ozark Society.

← Rackensack musicians braved 95° weather at the Quapaw Quarter City Garden Beer and Ice Cream Social at the MacArthur Military Museum Parade Grounds. →



**Beanfest 2024
Mountain View**

Due to rain, performers were set up in the historic courtroom of the Stone County Courthouse during BEANFEST. The courtroom was packed wall to wall as Rackensack kicked off the day's entertainment! The rain didn't stop the cooking of the Beans, or the annual Outhouse Races!

