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HEADER: **2007 Sugar Maple Concert Series Takes Shape**

SLUG: **The Four Lakes Traditional Music Collective announces several concerts leading up to its' fourth annual festival**

Madison, WI - Organizers of Madison's annual Sugar Maple Traditional Music Festival plan to increase its music and dance offerings with the addition of several events through 2007.

Four Lakes Traditional Music Collective (FLTMC), the not-for-profit promoters of the festival, have announced the continuation of the 'Sugar Maple Concert Series' serving as a ramp-up to the early August festival.

"The concert series aims to celebrate the past, present and future of the annual Sugar Maple Festival," says Evan Murdock, president of FLTMC. "In essence, our traditional music fan base will have a chance to see performers that have played, or will play, the festival stage."

Murdock says the first three installments of the 2007 Sugar Maple Concert Series are scheduled at the High-Noon Saloon, 701A E. Washington Avenue in Madison. All shows are 21 and over.

On **Wednesday January 24, 2007**, old-time outfit **Foghorn Stringband**--who brought more than 600 folks to their feet at the 2005 Sugar Maple Festival--finds its way back to Madison from Portland Oregon. Kicked-up acoustic country quartet, **The Wilders** of Kansas City share the billing as do **The Honey Buckets**, Madison's folk/grass/country quintet in their farewell performance. Tickets are available in advance for \$10, or at the door for \$13. Visit www.high-noon.com for information.

On March 16, 2007, **Devil in a Woodpile** (Sugar Maple Fest 2006, 2004) return from Chicago. We're not yet sure if this incarnation of DIAW will feature Tom Ray on bass or Gary Shepers on tuba. But you can be sure Joel and Rick will tote every last one of their backporchy blues gizmos, guitars, clarinets, cazoos, washboards, and widgets. Duluth's country-blues standout **Charlie Parr** (Sugar Maple Fest 2005) will open with his raspy solo stomp. Show starts at 9:30, tickets \$10.

To help announce the 2007 Sugar Maple Music Festival lineup, on **Friday April 27, 2007**, FLTMC welcomes **Steppin' In It** from Lansing, Michigan. They are an acoustic quartet who pound out their own brand of roots combining old-time country, swing and blues playing what Performing Songwriter Magazine calls "some of the liveliest and most rocking acoustic roots music around." Sharing the bill is another 2006 Sugar Maple festival performer, **The Finders** (say finders). The duo blends acoustic bluegrass, folk and country styles with their award-winning original songs and superb singing. In 2005 they rose above 1,154 entries to win first place in the gospel category of the Chris Austin Songwriting Contest, Merlefest (NC). Madison's newest twang-around-the-collar, **The Dirty Shirts**, kick starts the night at 9pm

A portion of the Sugar Maple Concert Series' proceeds will help produce the 4th Annual Sugar Maple Traditional Music Festival set for August 3 - 4, 2007 at Lake Farm County Park in Madison. Contact www.fourlakesmusic.org or 608/227.8685 for more information.

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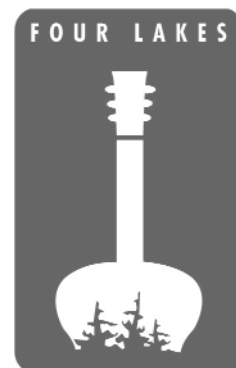
Our Mission Statement: Four Lakes Traditional Music Collective is a non-profit organization supporting the art of traditional music and dance throughout the greater Madison community. We provide educational and performance opportunities that bring together people of all ages to celebrate diverse musical traditions.



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