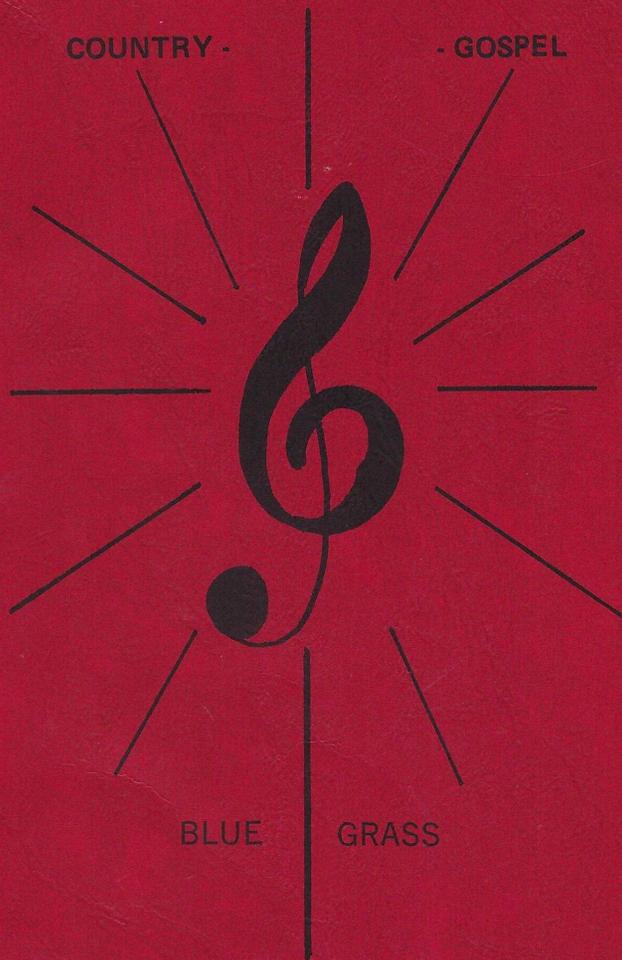


Crossroads Music Park

BEDLIE, INC.

ROUTE 3, KINGS MOUNTAIN, N. C.

Phone 704-739-2958





NOV • 71 •

Crossroads Show Attracts 2500

Country music fans are abundant in the Kings Mountain area.

Proof was the week-end crowd of 2,500 at Cross Roads Music Park in the Oak Grove community.

The feature attraction was Freddie Hart, Nashville recording artist, whose "Bless Your Heart" is No. 1 on the country Music hit parade. Enjoying long-running popularity are two other hits by Hart, his first, "Easy Loving" and "My Hang Up Is You."

A native of Phoenix City, Ala., Hart told Sunday afternoon's audience that he was born in a family of 15 and had only a third grade education.

He got into the country music business in the early 50's and after "Easy Loving" the road up was easy. He gave his Sunday audience a preview of several new songs he's written and recorded: "I've Got The All Over For You All Over Me" to be released by Capital Records the first of the year; and "Unbelievable Love" to be released Sept. 18.

Hart was accompanied by his six-piece band, "The Hart Beats."

Willard Boyles, promoter and organizer with Tom Brooks of Crossroads, said, in addition to Hart, Crossroads favorites have been Loretta Lynn, Conway Twitty and Del Reeves, all of the Grand Ole Opry who have drawn capacity audiences of 3,500. Miss Lynn is booked for October shows at Crossroads.

Crossroads, a 15-acre music park owned by B & D Welding, was the brainchild of Tom

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MORE ABOUT Crossroads

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Brooks who patterned "Crossroads" after "Show Creek" in Lavonia, Ga. He built the park, which includes a covered area and bandstand surrounded by bleacher seats, in a wooded setting between Oak Grove and Bethware communities near Kings Mountain. The showplace is in its second year of year-round entertainment.

Willard Boyles, of Kings Mountain, emcees the shows and goes to Nashville to book the artists, in addition to inviting local talent to perform.

Mr. Boyles said some now well-known performers got their start at Crossroads. The Carolina Chaperels, who won a talent show here, were signed by the Wilburn Brothers and later appeared on the Grand Ole Opry. The Bradford Sisters, who won a June talent contest, will be guests of Ernest Tubb for his Midnight Jamboree in Nashville in September.

"We encourage local talent to perform at Crossroads," said Mr. Boyles. "This gives them exposure before the public. A talent scout may hear them and give them a break."

Two shows this Saturday (at 7 p. m. and 9:30 p. m.) will feature the A&M Three of South Carolina; Jim Young and Country Showmen; and Sugarloaf Ramblers of Taylorsville.

A big Blue Grass Festival is set September 1-3 with over 50 Blue Grass bands expected to participate. "Camping in the rough" is available free to participants and spectators.

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OVER 30,000 READERS

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Country Music Festival at Cross Roads Music Park in Kings Mountain, North Carolina.

Music Festival Big Success

The Big Country Music Festival at The Cross Roads Music Park in Kings Mountain, North Carolina was a huge success. The three day affair put on by park owner, Tom Brooks, had a great line up of talent that included Wayne Kemp, Peggy Sue and Sonny Wright, Carl Phillips, Jimmie Helms, Billy Walker, The Kendalls, Judy Kestner, The Wilburn Brothers and The Carolina Chapperels. Lots of local bands participated also in afternoon and night performances that ran from Friday June 23, through Saturday June 25th.

Wayne Kemp was the headliner for Friday's show, and he and his band did a fantastic job of entertaining the North Carolina folks who are avid country fans. Many out of state cars were noticed in the parking area every day, with good crowds and fine weather.

The entire undertaking was the biggest such event ever held in the area. Much of the show was broadcast over WKMT Radio of Kings Mountain, and everyone agreed the quality of the remote broadcast was outstanding. Using an "Opry" type format, the radio portions ran smoothly, and proved that WKMT was certainly a credit to country music. Fiddle star Gordon Terry dropped by Sunday night to say hello and do his great rendition of "Johnsons Old Gray Mule." It was evident that everyone had a great time, and promoter Tom Brooks plans to have the Festival again next year, which promises to be even bigger. If you in the Kings Mountain, North Carolina area on a Saturday night your going to have a ball at one of the great shows put on at the Cross Roads Country Music park, there's never a dull moment.

Kings Mountain Herald

Oct. 5, 1972



COUNTRY MUSIC ENTERTAINER HONORED — Loretta Lynn, Country Music, was honored with a plaque recognizing her as "Entertainer of the Decade" by Crossroads Music Park in the Oak Grove community Sunday. Making the presentation is Kings Mountain Mayor John Henry Moss, right. Miss Lynn and her "Coal Miners" band (in background) presented two shows to capacity crowds. A television personality and star of the Grand Ole Opry of Nashville, Tennessee, she is a housewife and the mother of twin girls. (Herald Photo by Walter Bess, Jr.)

Reflections

by Rodney Dodson



"The Coalminer's Daughter," Loretta Lynn, the biggest female name in country music today, was back at Crossroads Music Park again for her long awaited show Sunday. Some fans had bought their tickets months earlier, and the music park was filled almost to capacity.

The weather couldn't have been more perfect for anything outdoors. Some fans chose the center isle seats in the shade, while others preferred the bleachers in the warm October sunshine. They were entertained by several groups, including the Coalminers, Loretta's own back up band.

She came on stage greeted by a wildly cheering crowd went into her first song, and after the fourth, Willard Boyles stopped the show for a special presentation by Crossroads Music Park to Loretta Lynn, presented by Mayor John Henry Moss. The Mayor was very gracious in his presentation, but Loretta got a chuckle when he got a little tongue twisted on her name one time, but she rewarded him with a big kiss when it was over. By that time some folks in the audience

had come to the stage with a cake they had baked for the star. "Oh a cake, I'm about to starve," she said with a smile.

Loretta sang without accompanying herself on the guitar as she used to. She projects a sophisticated image, with her long black hair and long dresses. This was the first time I've seen her in person and she seemed somewhat shorter in height than I had imagined. She joked with her audience, and exchanged barbs with members of the band, obviously enjoying it very much... "How do you know I'm not woman enough?" she quipped when someone requested her song by that name.

What about those rock music fans who attended the Leon Russell Revue in Charlotte Sunday, and parked their cars blocking streets and people's driveways. Well, they towed away about 150 vehicles. It was quite a job for the police and wrecker people, but worst of all those fans who shellied out \$5-\$6 for a ticket, found themselves paying twice to

See Page 10-Column 1.

By JIMMIE HELMS

One thing that has always amazed me is that no matter where you travel in this great Country of ours you'll see some fantastically beautiful scenery. Where your in Texas, California or Tennessee you'll run into what seems to be at the time, the most beautiful country you've ever seen. I guess breath taking scenery and Country Music are my two loves, and its seldom that I find them together, but I just did.

Climbing up the mountains of North Carolina (by car) my ear's began to pop from the high altitude, along with my eyes from the breath taking view that you can only find in North Carolina. I don't know how many people take their vacation in North Carolina, but if they were aware of the great things to see and unusual places to go, I'm sure they'd plan their next two week vacation in North Carolina.

The place I was headed was Kings Mountain North Carolina, home of the Crossroads Country Music Park. The Kendalls, Jay Lee Webb, Sharon Higgins and myself played there recently. Hospitality is a word thrown around a lot in the South, but I have never met two people that the word would apply better to than Mr. and Mrs. Tom Brooks, who run the Crossroads Country Music Park. As a matter of fact the whole country is filled with devoted Country Music Fans that come out every Saturday Night for a great Show that includes everything from square dancing to being entertained by just about ever Star in Country Music. Tom has booked them all, and continues to put together one of the best Shows you'll find anywhere. The park itself sets on a beautiful hill side, most of the seats are covered by a large awning that

Crossroads Music Park



sweeps all the way down to a well lit stage that boasts of the best P.A. set and lighting arrangement I've seen in a long time. Even back stage are several extra nice dressing rooms for the guest entertainers. This fall Tom has closed in a portion of the seating area so you can still enjoy the show all winter. Looking around the grounds of this beautiful park it was evident the hard work and planning that must have went into such a venture as this. The entire area was landscaped with plenty of room to picnic, a modern Concession building and rest rooms, all setting on a hillside in beautiful North Carolina.

What makes a park like this successful? You might think you can run out anywhere and throw up a stage, and book a couple of Nashville acts, and have a big crowd every Sat. WRONG. The secret of

any venture like this is the folks behind it. Loretta Lynn remarked to me long before I met anyone from Kings Mountain North Carolina "Tom Brooks and his lovely wife are two of the nicest folks I've ever met anywhere." Just about everyone I run into that has played The Crossroads Country Music Park comments on how much "fun" they had. And when your talking about Stars that travel 100,000 miles a year and play dozens of Parks, you know that the folks at Kings Mountain must be something special.

So the next time your planning a vacation or a few days "away from it all", give some thought to visiting the beautiful mountains of North Carolina, and The Crossroads Country Music Park. Both attractions go together like country biscuits and saw mill gravey, and what ever you do, don't forget your camera.



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WILLARD BOYLES, EMCEE FOR CROSSROADS, ASSISTS LORETTA LYNN AS SHE PRESENTS JAY ASHLEY, OF THE KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR, WITH AN AWARD FOR HIS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF COUNTRY MUSIC.



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