

Steve and Ruth Smith Bio
(292 words)

From the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, Steve and Ruth play a heartwarming blend of acoustic Americana music featuring hammered and Appalachian mountain dulcimers, banjo and guitar. Steve and Ruth play and sing the music reminiscent of the old homeplace where family, love, faith, and sense of place are the foundations of heritage and traditions. Their charming original music warmly reflects mountain life and rural Appalachian values.

Known for her sensitive, expressive style on the hammered dulcimer, *Dirty Linen Folk & World Music Magazine* says, "Ruth Smith's touch on the hammered dulcimer is absolutely magical, with exquisite phrasing, highlighting the range of the instrument especially on her own pieces." *Dulcimer Players News* says Ruth's playing is "Lush and expressive . . . memorable, heart-felt."

Steve, an ASCAP award-winning songwriter, provides fingerstyle guitar, old-time banjo, and vocals to the duo. *Dulcimer Players News* says, "Steve is a master storyteller and the perfect vocalist to convey the meaning of his lyrics. His songs stand out for their imagery and melodic strength . . . on par with John Denver's songs." Ukulele is another of Steve's instruments, having played professionally in Hawaii for 15 years.

Steve and Ruth are former recipients of the "Americana Instrumental Group of the Year" award by the Appalachian Cultural Music Association. They have been featured several times on the PBS TV series *Song of the Mountains*, NPR's *All Songs Considered* and *Thistle & Shamrock*, in North Carolina's *Our State Magazine*, and in *Dulcimer Players News Magazine*.

Steve and Ruth have created 8 CDs, two of which are companion CDs to Ruth's popular hammered dulcimer arrangement books. They are also popular workshop instructors, teaching and performing at festivals, such as MerleFest and Walnut Valley Festival, and folk schools nationwide.

www.steveandruth.com

Contact:

Cabin Cove Music
Steve and Ruth Smith
157 Cabin Cove Road
Zionville, NC 28698
(828)297-1918
www.steveandruth.com
info@steveandruth.com