



A brief history

As part of our 25th Anniversary Celebrations !



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Origins

34 people signed the By-Laws of the Rhythm Bones Society (RBS), organized on the back porch of the home of the late Russ Myers and his wife Wilma on September 23, 1999.

RBS is an organization whose purpose is “to preserve, educate, communicate and foster development of rhythm bones sounds and music.”

We are a non-profit IRS 501(c)(3) society.

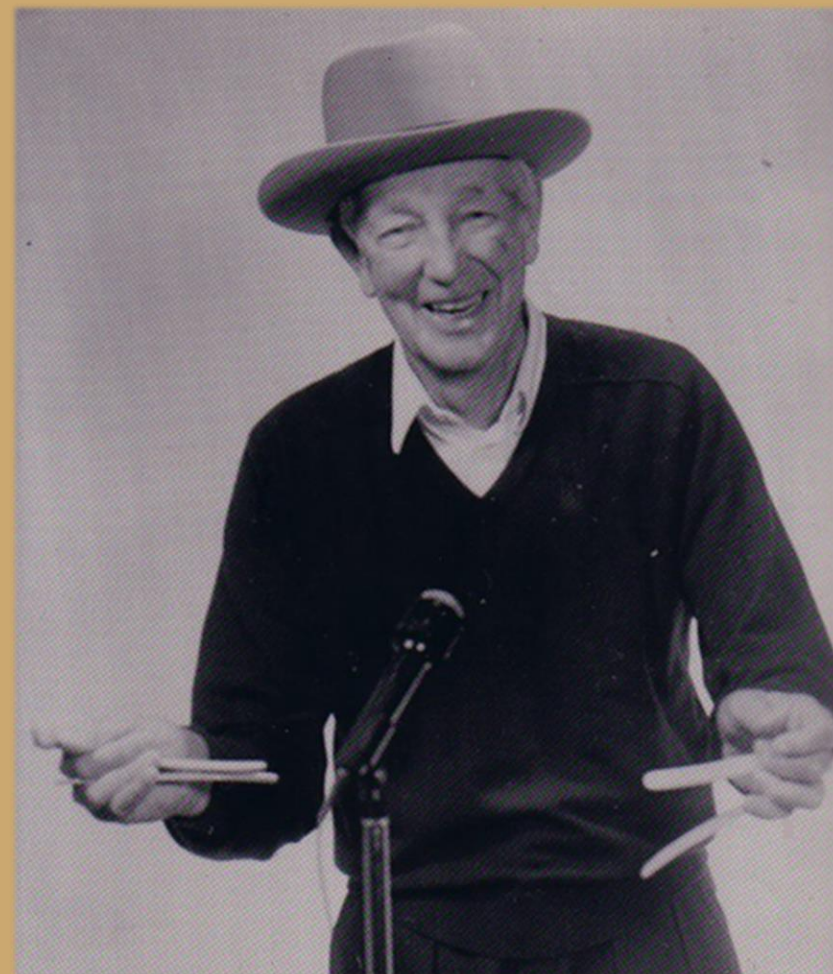


Origins

Dr. Fred Edmunds

Rhythm Bones Society Grandfather

The man who might be called the grandfather of RBS, Dr. Fred Edmund, maker and seller of rhythm bones and creator of a great instructional video.





Origins

Everett Cowett

RBS Father



A rhythm bones festival was the vision of the father of the RBS, Everett Cowett.

Urged on by the afore-mentioned Dr. Fred Edmonds, Ev organized the first annual Bones Fest in 1997.



Origins

Martha Cowett

First Webmaster

What to give a father who doesn't want anything?
For Martha Cowett, on December 4, 1998, it was
the Rhythm Bones Central website!



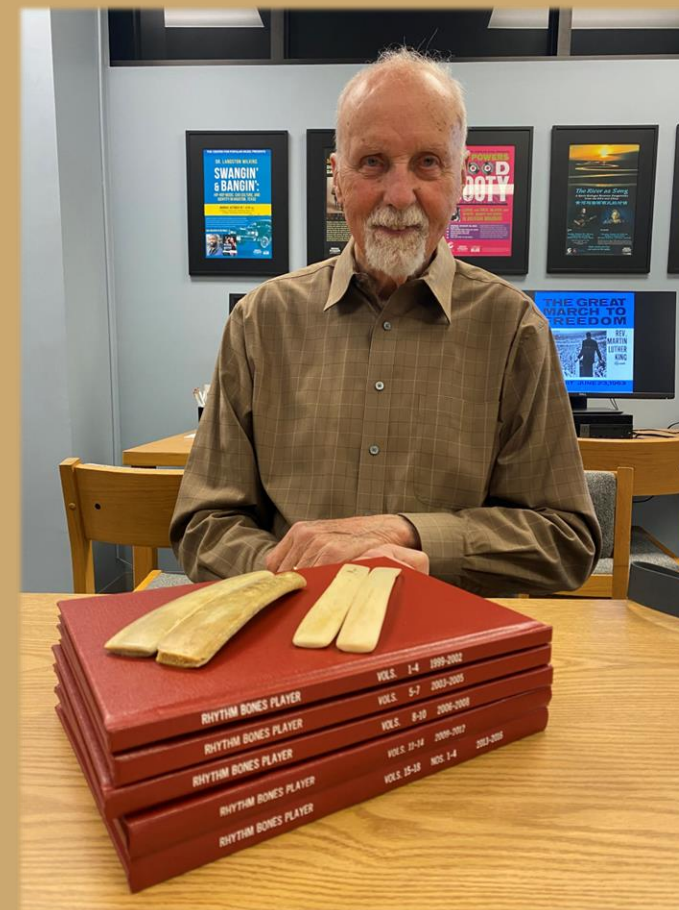


Origins

Steve Wixson

Champion of the **Rhythm Bones Player***

The man who has kept the show on the road for all these years, creating and maintaining an outstanding treasure of information about rhythm bones and the eclectic cast of characters who love them!



** The Rhythm Bones Journal is held in the Library of Congress*



Origins

The New England Folk Festival (NEFFA) has welcomed rhythm bones players for more than 30 years! The venerable Steve Brown has frequently featured, and many more RBS members have also performed and taught there including Percy Danforth, John "Mr Bones of Boston" Burrill, Johnny Muise, Everett Cowett, Russ Myers, Shorty Boulet, Ernie Duffy, Sky Bartlett, Jonathan Danforth, Skeff Flynn, Ari Urlbaum, Tim Riley, Bruno Giles, Adam Klein, Jeremy Brown, Kule Forstoff and Tom Welden.

Steve Brown at NEFFA





People of note

Percy Danforth

A legend.

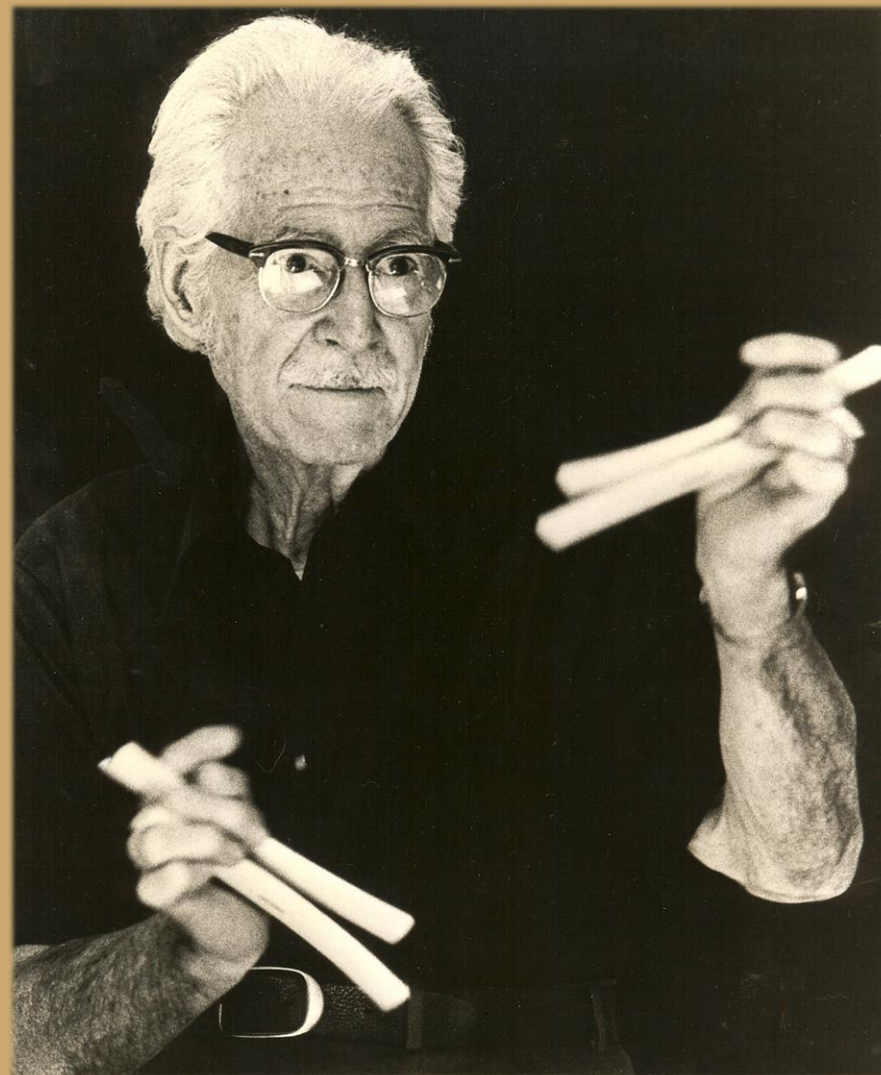
A rhythm bones artist.

A teacher.

A maker.

Credited with keeping the art and craft of rhythm bones alive in the latter part of the last century.

Thank you, Percy.





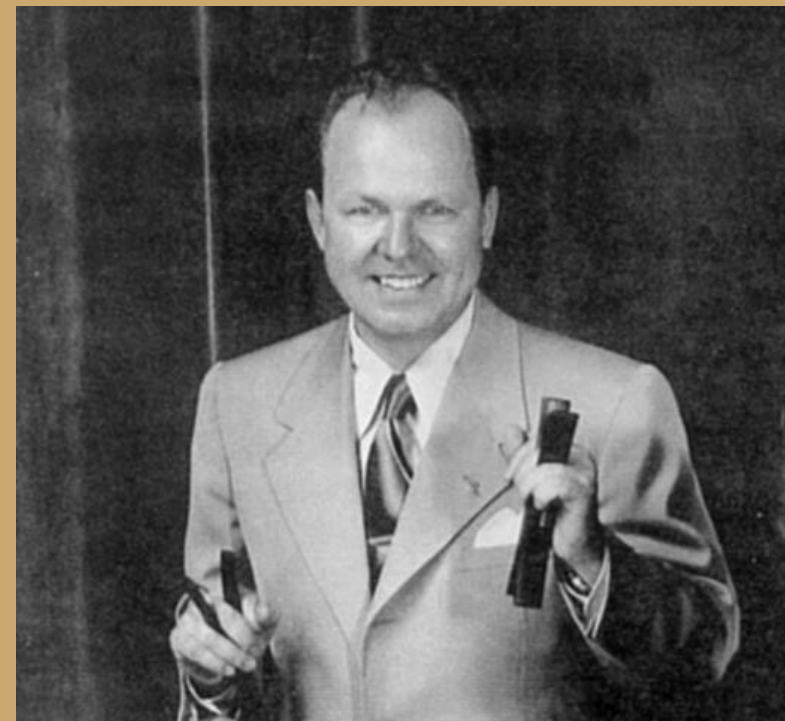
People of note

Freeman 'Brother Bones' Davis



1950's recording artists

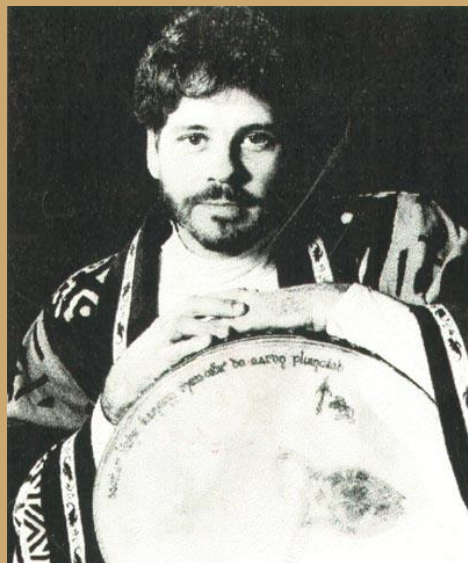
Ted 'Mr Goon Bones' Goon





People of note

Aaron Plunkett



Played bones in the
Leonardo Di Caprio
movie "Titanic"

Dom Flemons



Scott Legato@copyright2009

formerly of The Carolina Chocolate Drops

Barry Patton



Winner of the 25th
Fleadh by the Feale,
Abbeyfeale Ireland



People of note

Joe Birl teaching
at Bones Fest VI



Paddy "Sport" Murphy
Abbeyfeale, Ireland



The Mescher Trio
Sharon Mescher, Jerry Mescher
and Bernie Worrell



Joe Birl's
patented Bakelite
rhythm bones

Shorty Boulet



Master of
tones



Jerry & Bernie
flying the flag!



People of note – RBS awards

Ted Goon	– Honorary Member	– 2001
Russ Myers	– Fellow	– 2002
Paddy 'Sport' Murphy	– Special Recognition	– 2004

Meritorious Service

Everett Cowett	– August 2002
Martha Cowett	– August 2002
Steve Wixson	– August 2002
Steve Brown	– July 2003
Joe Birl	– August 2004
Mel Mercier	– August 2004
Al Cowett	– 2006
Dan Cowett	– 2006
Mary Lee Sweet	– August 2016

Community Enrichment

Mitchell Boss	– August 2016
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Board Members

Ev Cowett

Russ Myers

Mel Mercier

Steve Wixson

Steve Brown

Jerry Mescher

Sally Carroll

Jonathan Danforth

Sky Bartlett

Gil Hibben

Skeffington Flynn

Dennis Riediesel

Bill Vits

Sharon Mescher

Tim Reilly

Kenny Wolin

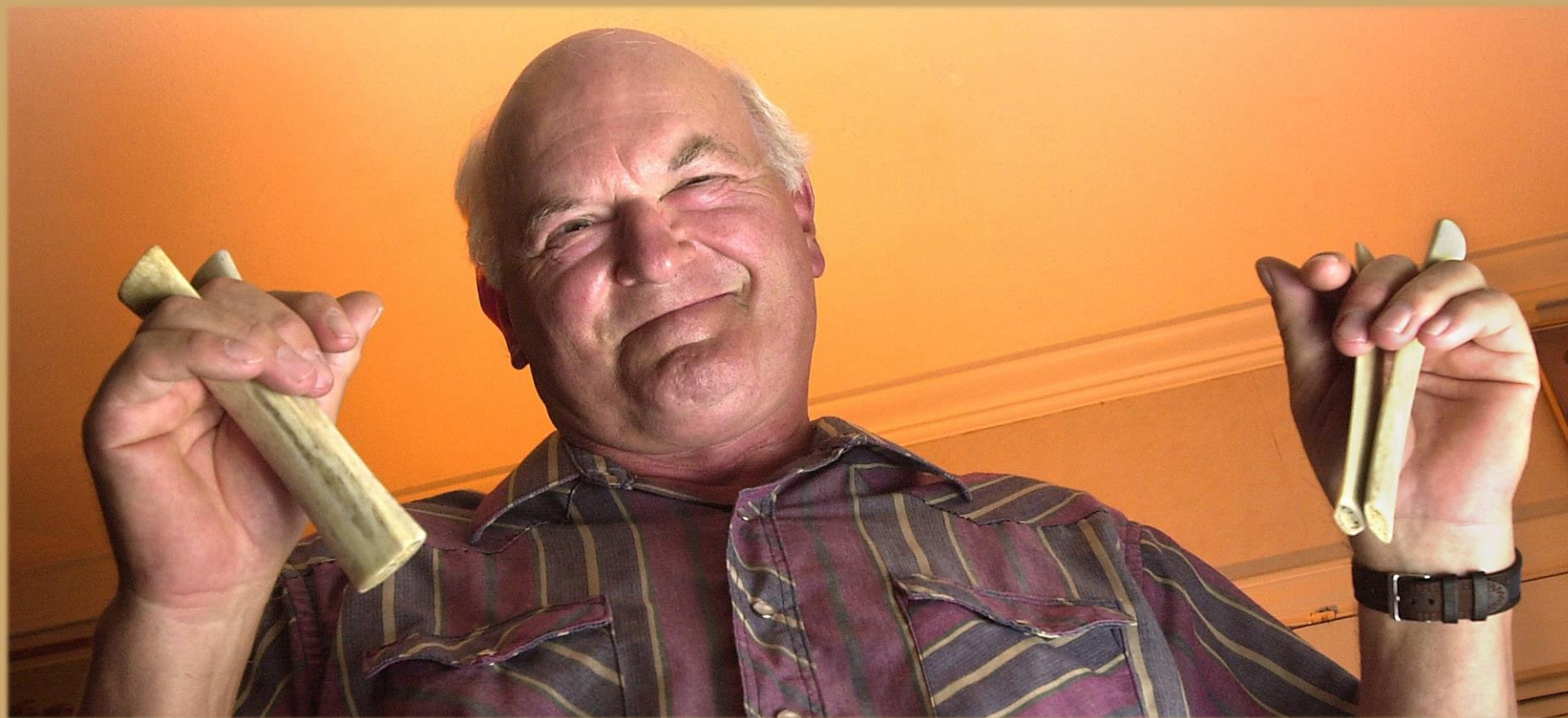
Dean Robinson

Tom Connolly



Board Members

Ev Cowett





Board Members

Russ Myers





Board Members

Mel Mercier





Board Members

Steve Wixson





Board Members

Steve Brown





Board Members

Sharon Mescher
Jerry Mescher





Board Members

Sally Carroll





Board Members

Jonathan Danforth





Board Members



Sky Bartlett



Board Members



Gil Hibben



Board Members



Skeffington Flynn



Board Members



Dennis Riediesel



Board Members



Bill Vits



Board Members



Tim Reilly



Board Members



Kenny Wolin



Board Members



Dean Robinson



Board Members



Tom Connolly



In memory...

We remember those who have graced us with their presence in the Rhythm Bones Society and we dedicate this presentation to them with love and gratitude.

Joe Birl
Shorty Boulet
Dave Boyles
John Cahill
Vivian Cox
Dan Cowett
Everett Cowett
John Davis
Nicholas Driver
Paul Duhon
Dan Dwyer
Dr. Fred Edmunds
Norris Frazier

Guy Gillette
Mel Harvey
Carl Hedrick
Ann Hoffman
William Kear
Yirdy Machar
Matteo
Jean Mehaffey
Jerry Mescher
Russ Myers
John Perona
Tom Raisbeck
William Rexroad

Paddy 'Sport' Murphy
Jim Steakley
Walt Watkins
Cliff Wood
Bill Vits
Jeremy Brown
Bernie Worrell
Tommy Cowett



BONES FESTS



CELEBRATING ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY



Bones Fest I

1997

Greensboro, NC





Bones Fest II

1998

Greensboro, NC





Bones Fest III

September 25th 1999

Brightwood, VA



Bones Fest III

September 25, 1999

The Rhythm Society is founded.



Rhythm Bones Society Founders





Bones Fest III

September 25th 1999

Brightwood, VA



Bones Fest III

September 25, 1999

The Rhythm Bones Society is born!
Brightwood, VA



Rhythm Bones Society Founders



Bones Fest IV

September 22nd to 24th , 2000

Chattanooga, TN



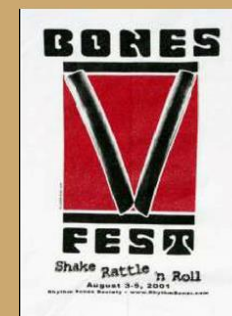




Bones Fest V

August 3rd to 5th, 2001

Phillipston, MA



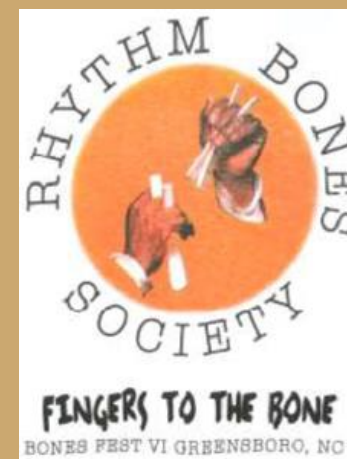




Bones Fest VI

August 2nd to 4th, 2002

Greensboro, NC







Bones Fest VII

July 25th to 27th, 2003

Louisville, KY

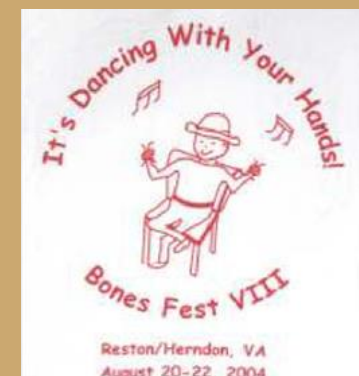




Bones Fest VIII

August 20th to 22nd, 2004

Reston/Herndon, VA





Bones Fest IX

July 8th to 10th, 2005

Chattanooga, TN





Bones Fest IX

July 8th to 10th, 2005

Chattanooga, TN





Bones Fest X

July 28th to 30th, 2006

New Bedford, MA





Bones Fest XI

August 18th to 20th, 2007

Milwaukee, WI





Bones Fest XI

August 18th to 20th, 2007

Milwaukee, WI





Bones Fest XII

October 17th to 19th, 2008

St. Louis, MO



CELEBRATING ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY



Bones Fest XII

October 17th to 19th, 2008

St. Louis, MO







Bones Fest XIII

August 28th to 30th, 2009

Louisville, KY



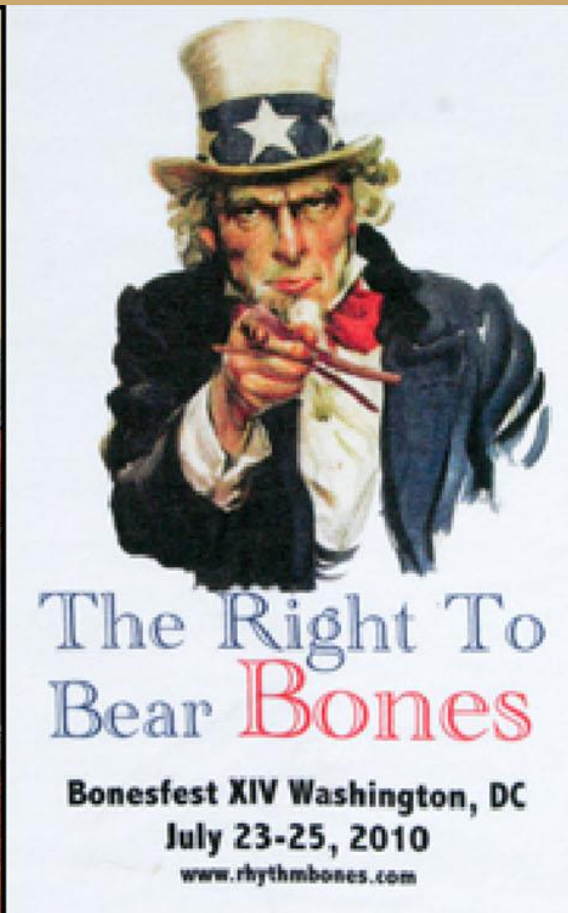




Bones Fest XIV

July 23rd to 25th, 2010

Old Town Alexandria, VA





Bones Fest XV

June 10th to 12th, 2011

San Antonio, TX





Bones Fest XV

June 10th to 12th, 2011

San Antonio, TX

9 hours of public stage time!

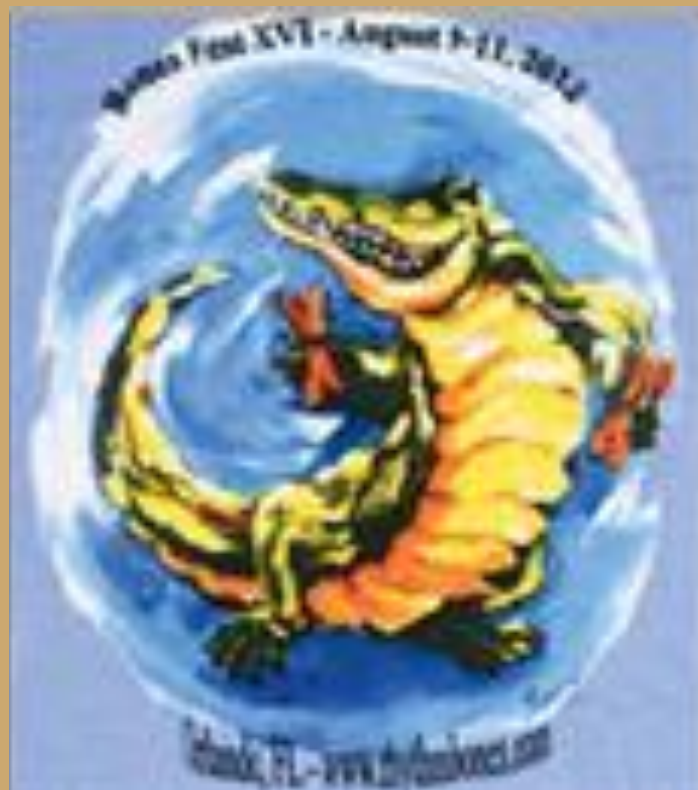




Bones Fest XVI

August 9th to 11th, 2012

Orlando, FL



Rhythm Bones Society

Bones Fest III
September 25, 1999
The Rhythm Bones Society is proud to present...

Bones Fest IV
Chattanooga, TN
September 22 - 24, 2000
The first full weekend Bones Fest!

BONES FEST V
2001 Louisville, KY
Shirley Gaskin, Jr. Hall

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST VII
2003 LOUISVILLE, KY
FINGERS TO THE BONE

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST VIII
It's Dancing With Your Hands
Bones Fest VIII
Barnes/Hamden, VA
August 20-22, 2004

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST IX
2005 CHATTANOOGA, TN

BONESFEST X
2006 LOUISVILLE, KY
NATURE CENTER - REMEMBRANCE

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XI
OCTOBER 17-19, 2008
ST. LOUIS RIVERFRONT

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XII
2009 LOUISVILLE, KY
"You can feel it in your Bones!"

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XIII
2010 WASHINGTON, DC
The Right To Bear Bones
Bonesfest XIV Washington, DC
July 23-25, 2010

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XIV
JULY 26, 2010
Streaming Rhythm Bones Around The World

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XV
August 9-11, 2012
Orlando, FL - www.bonesfest.com

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XVI
August 9-11, 2012
Orlando, FL - www.bonesfest.com

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XVII
Leominster, MA
August 9-11, 2013

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XVIII
RATTLES IN THE RAPIDS

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XIX
SHEPHERDSTOWN, WV
AUGUST 6-9, 2015

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XX
2016

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XXI
2017

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XXII
RATTLES FREE OF DIE
June 7-10, 2018
Lincoln, New Hampshire

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XXIII
2019

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XXIV
2020

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XXV
2021

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XXVI
2022

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XXVII
2023

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XXVIII
2024

25 YEARS
Bones Fest XXV, July 24, 2021

CELEBRATING ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY



Bones Fest XVI

August 9th to 11th, 2012

Orlando, FL







Bones Fest XVII

August 9th to 11th, 2013

Leominster, MA





Bones Fest XVIII

August 7th to 10th, 2014

Grand Rapids, MI





Bones Fest XVIII

August 7th to 10th, 2014

Grand Rapids, MI





Bones Fest XIX

August 6th to 9th, 2015

Sheperdstown, WV





Bones Fest XIX

August 6th to 9th, 2015

Sheperdstown, WV





Bones Fest XX

August 4th to 7th, 2016

Homer, NY





Bones Fest XX

August 4th to 7th, 2016

Homer, NY





Bones Fest XXI

August 24th to 26th, 2017

San Antonio, TX





Bones Fest XXI

August 24th to 26th, 2017

San Antonio, TX





Bones Fest XXII

June 7th to 10th, 2018

Lincoln, NH





Bones Fest XXII

June 7th to 10th, 2018

Lincoln, NH



June 7-10, 2018
Lincoln, New Hampshire



Bones Fest XXIII

May 2nd to 5th, 2019

Clarksdale, MS





Bones Fest XXIII

Clarksdale, MS

May 2nd to 5th, 2019



Rhythm Bones Society

Bones Fest III
September 25, 1995
The Rhythm Bones Society is born!
Birmingham, AL

Bones Fest IV
Chattanooga, TN
September 22-24, 2000
The first full weekend Bones Fest!
By Cassie & Penny

BONES FEST V
Fall 2001
Birmingham, AL

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST VII
2003 LOUISVILLE, KY
"You can feel it in your Bones!"

It's Dancing With Your Bones!
Bones Fest VIII
2003
Northern/Hamden, VA
August 20-22, 2004

BONESFEST IX
2003
Birmingham, AL

BONESFEST X
2003
Birmingham, AL

BONESFEST XI
2003
Birmingham, AL

BONESFEST XII
OCTOBER 17-18-19, 2003
ST. LOUIS RIVERFRONT
"You can feel it in your Bones!"

RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY
BONESFEST XIII
2003 LOUISVILLE, KY
"You can feel it in your Bones!"

BONESFEST XIV
2003
Birmingham, AL

BONESFEST XV
2003
Birmingham, AL

BONESFEST XVI
2003
Birmingham, AL

BONESFEST XVII
2003
Birmingham, AL

BONESFEST XVIII
2003
Birmingham, AL

BONESFEST XIX
SHEPHERDSTOWN, WV
AUGUST 6-9, 2015

Bones Fest XXIV July 26, 2020
Streaming Rhythm Bones Around The World

Bones Fest XXV
25th Anniversary
Rhythm Bones Society
2000-2024

Bones Fest XXVI
2024
Rhythm Bones Society

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXVII
SEPT. 7-12, 2023
CAMPTON, NH

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXVIII
AUGUST 7, 2022
STEARLING AROUND THE WORLD
ARIZONA
TWO-DAVED CONTESTS
WE WANT MORE!
DOUBLE VIRTUAL
KIMMY AND TONY WILSON
RHYTHM BONES SOCIETY

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXIX
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXX
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXXI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXXII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXXIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXXIV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXXV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXXVI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXXVII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XXXVIII
JULY 24, 2021

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JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
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BONES FEST XLIV
JULY 24, 2021

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BONES FEST XLV
JULY 24, 2021

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BONES FEST XLVI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XLVII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XLVIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST XLIX
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BONES FEST LIV
JULY 24, 2021

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BONES FEST LV
JULY 24, 2021

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BONES FEST LVI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LVII
JULY 24, 2021

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BONES FEST LVIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LIX
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LX
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXII
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Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXIV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXVI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXVII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXVIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXIX
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXX
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXIV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXVI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXVII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXVIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXIX
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXX
JULY 24, 2021

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BONES FEST LXXXI
JULY 24, 2021

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JULY 24, 2021

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BONES FEST LXXXIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXIV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXVI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXVII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXVIII
JULY 24, 2021

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BONES FEST LXXXXIII
JULY 24, 2021

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BONES FEST LXXXXIV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXVI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXVII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXVIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXIX
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXX
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXXI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXXII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXXIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXXIV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXXV
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXXVI
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXXVII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society
BONES FEST LXXXXXVIII
JULY 24, 2021

Rhythm Bones Society



Bones Fest XXIV

May 2nd to 5th, 2020

The Whole Wide World!





Bones Fest XXV

July 24th, 2021

The Second Virtual Bonefest

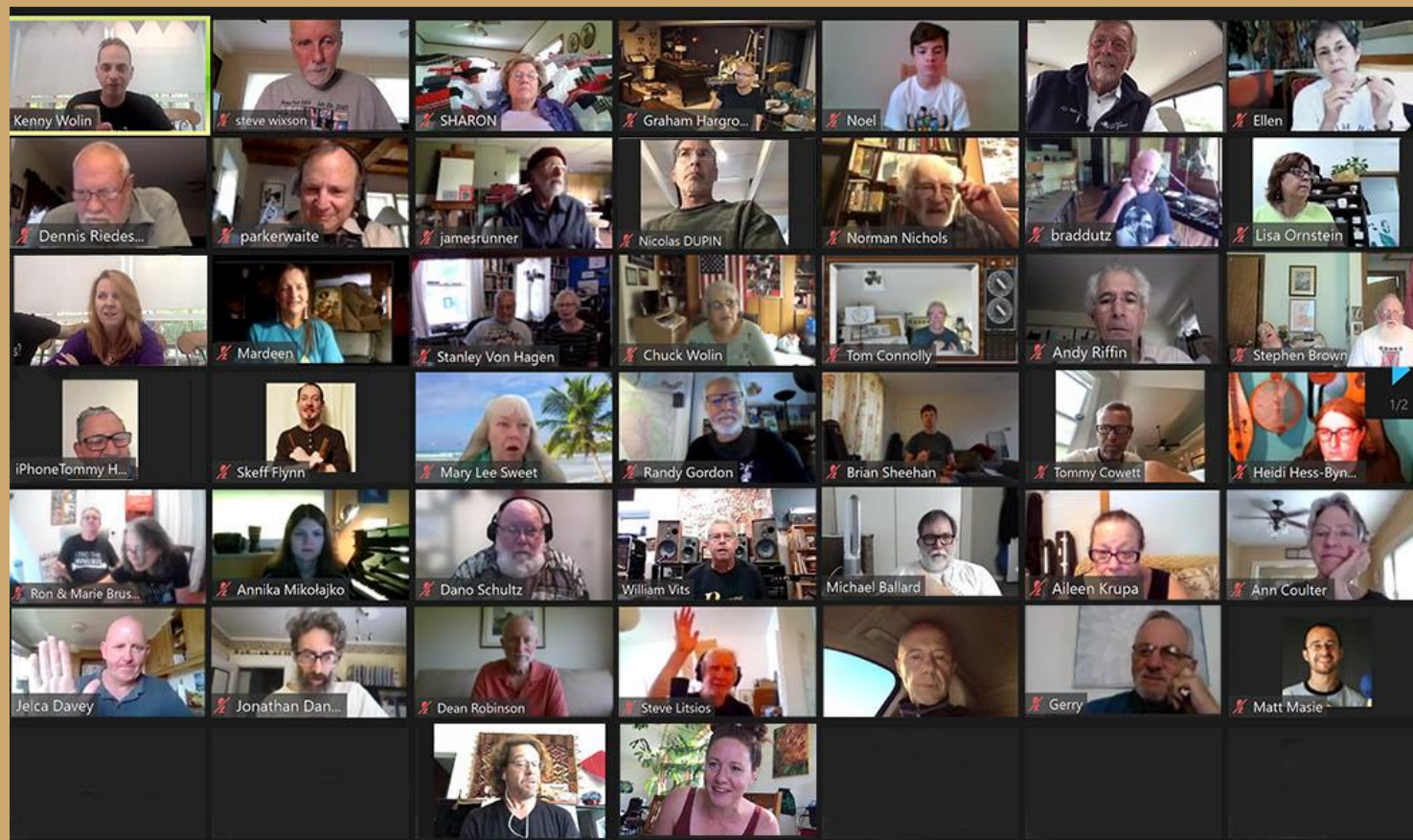




Bones Fest XXV

July 24th, 2021

The Second Virtual Bonefest





Bones Fest XXVI

August 6th and 7th, 2022

Alexandria, VA



CELEBRATING ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY



Bones Fest XXVI

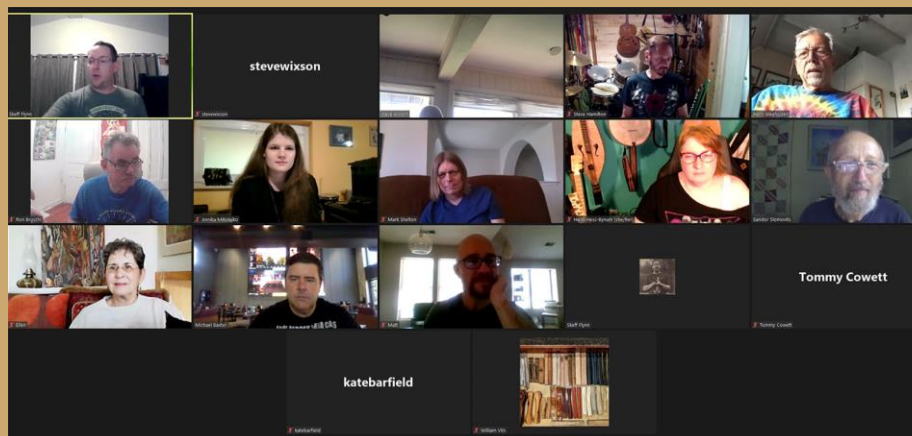
August 6th and 7th, 2022

Alexandria, VA

August 6th, 2022



August 7th, 2022



Welcome to Bones Fest XXVI

Welcome to Bones Fest XXVI
In-Person Highlights

BFX XVI was a small
In-Person event on
August 6, 2022 and a
Virtual event the next day

The In-Person Fest was
hosted by Kenny and Teri
Wolin, and was an informal
get together in their home
and backyard.

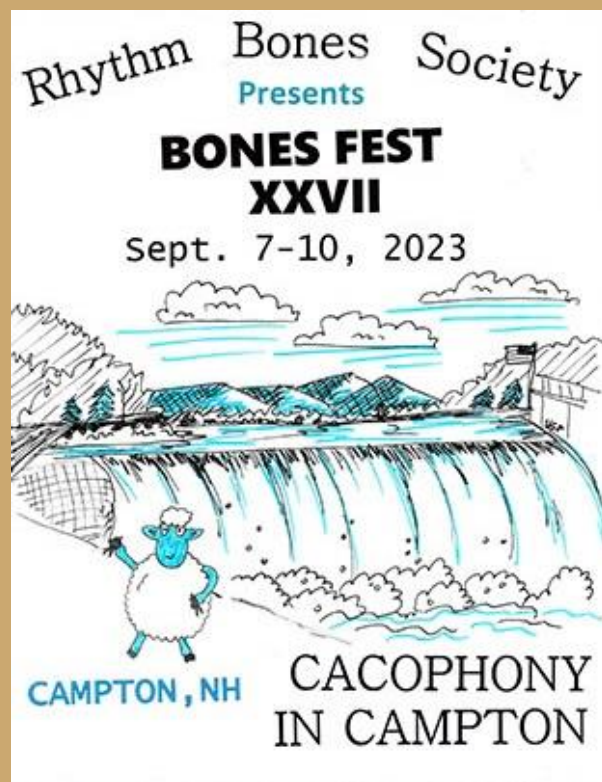




Bones Fest XXVII

September 7th to 10th, 2023

Campton, NH

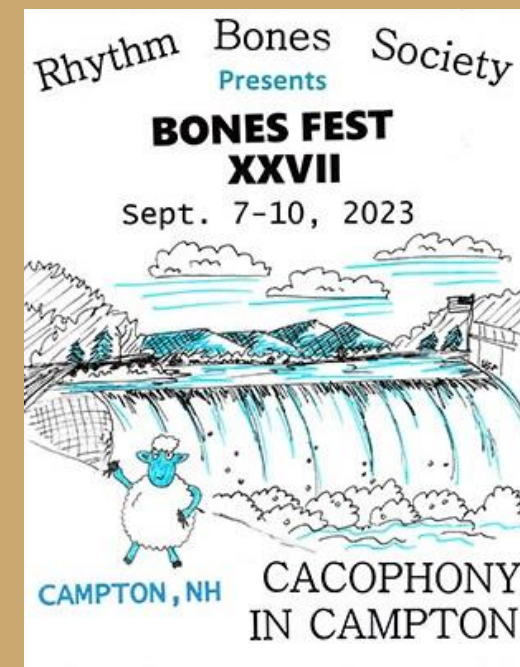




Bones Fest XXVII

September 7th to 10th, 2023

Campton, NH







Bones Fest XXVIII

May 2nd to 5th, 2024

Clarksdale, MS





We hope you enjoyed the show!