

# NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

100 Oregon Street • Vale, Oregon 97918 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/vale>

Vale District Office

BLM

News Release  
For Immediate Release

OR-038-2009-25  
July 1, 2009

News Contact: Brianna Candelaria 541-523-1827

## **Oregon Trail Music Fest brings music of the Old West to Interpretive Center**

Baker City, Oregon- Two full days of traditional American music of the old west will be featured July 11-12 at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center.

Starting at 10:00 am and continuing through 6:00 pm each day, hourly performances rotate between the Leo Adler Theater indoors, and the outdoor Amphitheater. Phillip Charette of Baker City will perform and discuss Native American flute music. Tim Misner of Corvallis composed a special symphonic piece “Sketches from the Oregon Trail” for Oregon’s 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and while he cannot bring a full orchestra along, he will perform the piece using electronic keyboard and synthesizer, with a multi-media presentation of images from the Oregon Trail. Balladeer Linda Russell of New York will perform music from the pioneer era, accompanied by guitar and dulcimer. Phil & Vivian Williams, from Seattle, are nationally known for their impressive repertoire of historic country dance tunes, and their research and efforts to preserve and revive this art form. They will perform “Fiddling Down the Oregon Trail” on fiddle and banjo.

Doug Tracy of Portland has researched political tunes of the Civil War era, and will present a program honoring Abraham Lincoln with songs about the 16<sup>th</sup> president. The High Strung Band of Cove, Oregon rounds out the roster with a spirited program of traditional fiddle music, western, bluegrass and gospel tunes.

On Saturday from 1:00-3:00 pm Linda Russell will provide a workshop on traditional pioneer songs, 19<sup>th</sup> century instruments, and basic singing techniques for leading sing-alongs. Pre-registration for the workshop is required; please call 541-523-1843.

The Trail Tenders volunteer group will offer a lunch of bratwurst and drinks for \$5.00. Trail Tenders is also offering free harmonicas to the first fifty youngsters attending the music festival. The harmonicas were donated by Phil Douglas of Utah, with the request that Trail Tenders use them to help introduce youngsters to traditional music.

The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, operated by the Bureau of Land Management, is located 5 miles east of Baker City, Oregon on Highway 86. Take Exit 302 from I-84. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Admission for adults is \$8. Seniors are \$4.50, and fee is good for two days. Children 15 and under are free. Federal passes are accepted. Visit [oregontrail.blm.gov](http://oregontrail.blm.gov) for more information about the Center, or call 541-523-1843 for updates on programs and events. For information on other events in Baker County, Oregon, call 1-800-523-1235.

