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**“Harmony and G.R.I.T.S.” dulcimer club shares musical talent with visitors
at the Living Heritage Museum**

ATHENS, Tenn. (June 14, 2010)—Members of the “Harmony and G.R.I.T.S.” dulcimer club are now holding weekly practices at the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum—and Museum visitors are reaping the benefits of these talented ladies’ musical abilities.

The club meets each Monday at 10:30 a.m. on the Museum’s third floor, and their music filters down throughout the rest of the building, providing an historically-appropriate accompaniment for guests to view exhibits.

“Our name comes not only from the harmonious music we are trying to make, but also the fact that we are all ‘Girls Raised In The South,’” explained Audie Dennis, Living Heritage Museum Office Manager and member of Harmony and G.R.I.T.S.

Founded on June 12, 2008, the group is made up of players with varying levels of experience, but all share a passion for the tranquil tones of the dulcimer.

“I always loved the sound of the mountain dulcimer,” said club member Becky McGrew. “Since I joined the dulcimer group, I feel my playing has improved. Everyone adds some element of music to our playing, and by sharing ideas we all benefit.”

“Playing with a group, we enjoy learning skills while developing a fellowship,” agreed club member Audrey Davis.

In addition to hosting Harmony and G.R.I.T.S., the Living Heritage Museum provides monthly meeting space for the Heritage Rug Hooking Guild and the Museum Guild.

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Founded in 1982, the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum is a private, nonprofit organization housing more than 7,000 artifacts in 30 permanent exhibits that represent the culture and history of Southeast Tennessee from the 1700s to 1940s. The Museum also offers several changing exhibits as well as numerous special events and programs throughout the year and is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information or to make a donation, visit www.livingheritagemuseum.com.

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