

# TriState Festival & Auction

## 14th Annual Benefit to Make a Difference July 20 & 21, 2012

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The TriState Festival, Auction & Cruise-In is a great two-day family affair to be held at the Garrett County Fairgrounds. Local volunteers of Mennonite and Brethren churches have been working year-round to create items for the auctions and craft tables. Celebrate the spirit of helping others as you enjoy the homemade specialty food items, browse the shopping and take a relaxing ride in a horse-drawn carriage operated by local Amish.

Ray Miller of Pleasant Valley Dream Rides, located in Garrett County, south of Oakland, MD, volunteers his time each year to provide horse-drawn pleasure rides both days. Coming from a strong service background with the Amish church, Miller states “I participate in the TriState Festival because I know where the funds go – to help people in disaster in the United States and around the world and I want to help when I can.”

Beginning on Friday evening, July 20th, a giant Silent Auction will be on hand to greet enthusiastic buyers. One-of-a-kind items including handcrafted wood and craft items, artwork, chain saws, gift certificates for local entertainment, and B & B stays will be offered. There will be something for everyone!

A market place will offer fair-trade handicrafts from around the world at the Ten Thousand Villages table as well as baked goods, plants, woven rugs, crib quilts, homemade jellies and both new and used books.

Saturday July 21st will begin with a delicious pancake and sausage breakfast and will follow with chicken BBQ, fresh-made doughnuts, strawberry shortcake and more. A classic auto cruise-in will be held on the grounds for your viewing pleasure. The cruise-in is sponsored by the Oakland, MD car club and they invite any antique or classic vehicle owner to participate. The first 50 entries will receive a free dash plaque.

At 10:00 a.m. the benefit auction will begin offering over 100 beautiful quilts and wall hangings including feed sack wall hangings, handmade by local Mennonites and Amish. You will find handcrafted furniture including children’s furniture, bentwood rockers and lawn furniture. Also presented will be John Deere pedal bikes, Husqvarna chain saws, and even a handcrafted three foot high wooden backhoe for the kid’s outdoor fun. A Cape Cod shed 6 ft. x 8 ft., made by Mennonites in Ohio, would make a perfect potting shed or playhouse.

Many pieces of beautiful one-of-a-kind art including hand-thrown Lais pottery and a wood-carved feather by 5-time International Waterfowl Champion carver Gary Yoder represent the local artists desire to help others, one at a time. Vacation lovers will wish to bid on the vacation opportunities from Washington DC, Laurel Highlands and Amish country.



Dozens of beautiful handmade quilts will be auctioned at the festival. Other handmade items will be for sale and also in the **SILENT AUCTION**.

Favorite foods and drinks will be available at vendor stands in the main building.

Train excursion tickets for the Potomac Eagle and Mountain Thunder runs will be available. Local naturalist and Garrett College professor Kevin Dodge will offer a guided nature walk in Garrett County or you will have the option to visit the Husky Power sled-dog kennel. Bid on an opportunity to take your friends or family to a local Amish farm for a day and enjoy horse-drawn wagon rides and a picnic.

There will be plenty of kid's activities including an auction just for them at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, hands-on creating comforters and scavenger hunts. Everyone can bring their pennies and small coin to help make a difference for this year's Penny Power project to support Mennonite Central Committee's meat canning project. If you lined in a row the cans of meat that the volunteers produce in the United States to feed those in need, it would connect New York City and Chicago!

All proceeds benefit victims of hunger, famine and war, both worldwide and in the United States through Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), the relief and development arm of Mennonite and Brethren churches, based in

Akron, PA ([www.mcc.org](http://www.mcc.org)). The American Institute of Philanthropy's Charity Watch gives MCC an "A" rating.

The benefit will be held at the Garrett County Fairgrounds, 270 Mosser Rd., McHenry, MD. Directions: Rt. 219S in McHenry, MD (Deep Creek Lake) 13 miles south I-68 exit 14A, 28 miles west of Cumberland, MD. For further information or to obtain a schedule of the Saturday auction, call (814) 442-4594 or go to [www.tristatesale.org](http://www.tristatesale.org) for a preview of sale items which will be continually updated. ***There is free parking & admission.***