

# *Rare Gold*

to perform at the Highland County Fair Dance

Saturday, August 25 @ 8:00 pm at the Bingo Pavilion



The Rare Gold band of Highland County, VA plays an eclectic mix of Old Time, Bluegrass, and Classic Country material. The band is currently comprised of lead singer, guitarist, and band leader John Simmons from Bluegrass, VA. Playing banjo and steel guitar is Bill Wheeler from Headwaters, VA. The bass player, Wayne "Buck" McClung is from Stuarts Draft, VA and Gene McConnell from Circleville, WV, plays fiddle.

Two of the band members have formerly played professionally. Bill Wheeler has played with various bands in the Northern Virginia area, including Cliff Waldron and the New Shades of Grass and once did a guest appearance on the Grand Ol' Opry as a guest of Grandpa Jones. Bill currently has one of his original compositions, "Crossing the Blue Ridge", being played on XM radio and is featured on the CD, "The Patuxent Banjo Project". Wayne "Buck" McClung has played with Ralph Stanley's Clinch

Mountain Boys, having been the replacement for Ricky Skaggs, playing mandolin, when Ricky left the Clinch Mountain Boys. He has also played with various area bands.