Dear Friends, Feb. 2, 1974

There is a rare opportunity to bring up a whole southern string band "festival" for one week after May 8th.

This would consist of two OLD TIME bands;

① RED CLAY RAMBLERS:
BILL HICKS – FIDDLE
TOMMY THOMPSON – BANJO
JIM WATSON – MANDOLIN
MIKE CRAVER – BASS
(OLD TIME, EARLY BLUEGRASS SOME BLUES, FIDDLE TUNES)
(THESE PEOPLE HAVE PLAYED WITH: FUZZY MT. STRING BAND, HOLLOW ROCK " ".)

② NEW RUBATONIC ENTERTAINERS
*FRED COCKERHAM – FIDDLE
BARRY & SHARON POSS – BANJO, GUITAR
(OLD TIME, FIDDLE TUNES VOCALS
FRED IS OF COURSE, FAMOUS THROUGH HIS COUNTY RECORDS,)

they figure they would need to make about $2000 for the entire trip to make it worthwhile. Hence what I need to know in order to work out a concert tour of the northeast is;

① CAN YOU COMMIT YOURSELF TO DEFINITELY GIVING THEM A CONCERT? (WEEK OF MAY 8TH OR AFTER)

② HOW MUCH MONEY CAN YOU SAFELY SAY THEY WILL MAKE AT THAT ONE CONCERT?

③ CAN YOU SEE THEM PUT UP FOR THE NIGHT? (FLOORS ARE FINE EXCEPT FOR FRED)

④ IS THERE A CERTAIN DAY OF THE WEEK OR WEEKEND THAT THEY MUST GIVE THE CONCERT ON?

I'll ask anyone who is interested to respond by MONDAY FEB. 25TH so I can write to Bill Hicks to tell him whether the tour can or cannot be arranged.

Hope this will work out.

all by best,
Ray Alden

IF THIS WORKS OUT, WE'LL PUT THEM ON IN N.Y.C. AT THE FOLKLORE CENTER.

yours —
Ray Alden