

2026 Berry Patch Jam

Friday, October 9 – Monday, October 12

8727 US Highway 211 W
Luray, VA 22835

Contact: Nancy Truax at (ph) 703-286-9417 or (e-mail) nancyjtruax@gmail.com

Welcome to The Berry Patch! (The name Aerie didn't stick – the locals all know this place as the Berry Patch).

As of this writing, the bedrooms are all spoken for. For those die-hards who still want to camp, there is plenty of space to set up tents. There will also be *limited* space for campers or trailers - please coordinate with Nancy before showing up with a camper. There are scores of Airbnb's in the area as well. And, as always, we will never ask anyone to leave, so if you're too tired (or whatever) to drive home, you're welcome to crash wherever you can find a place to lay down. We have a few cots and lots of floor space; I just can't guarantee any privacy. Folks who have been here before will be amazed at the changes - we did another major renovation project!

Food for expected attendees will be purchased in advance with preparation, serving and cleanup continuing to be a cooperative group effort. Food is purchased in advance as if no one will bring anything extra (so it is not requested nor required), but everyone enjoys the bounty if it arrives. Cost will be **approx. \$7/meal**. I won't be counting beans. Please donate what you think is fair based on what you consume in the envelope by the door.

Please RSVP to Nancy at 703-286-9417 or nancyjtruax@gmail.com and let her know your expected arrival date and number of attendees.



Campout History From the inception of The Folk Club in 1985, friends first gathered for overnight and weekend outings along the Potomac or in the meadows of Bluemont, bringing instruments, voices, tents, sleeping bags and food. Eventually, Dave Hurd (never a camper, always a partier) offered use of a vacation cabin on the side of Massanutten Mountain near New Market, VA and a summer tradition of campouts emerged.

In 2000 Beth and Dave relocated to their Double Trouble Estate near Winchester (Stephenson), VA, and the campout transitioned to their private five acre homestead. For over a decade the campouts continued: out of twice a summer outings (Memorial and Labor Days – and sometimes 4th of July) developed many stories,

friendships and relationships. These opportunities allowed folks seen briefly on a weekly basis to enjoy more time together.

In 2014 a new tradition began, with the Memorial weekend campout relocating to Virginia's Northern Neck at Blue Bayou, the Kilmarnock home of Barbara and Craig Keeler. In 2019 Nancy Truax hosted the Labor Day campout in Fort Valley, Virginia. In 2020 the Keeler's requested a switch, so the Memorial Day campout was held at The Berry Patch, Nancy and Wayne Truax's new home on Massanutten Mountain above the town of Luray, Virginia, looking down on beautiful Page Valley.

The Truaxes found that Indigenous Peoples Day worked better for the Jamboree than Labor Day. Fall is coming early this year, so there should be lots of fall color.

Directions to The Berry Patch

From Reston-Herndon (about 1 hour and 40 minutes)

Take I-66 West to Front Royal, then take Exit 13 toward Linden. Turn left onto VA 79, then right on VA 55. Turn left onto US 340, and follow that for about 22 miles. Turn right onto US 211W toward Luray Caverns. Stay on 211 W for about 9.5 miles; we're on the left.

From I-81

If you're coming from the west, you can take I-81 (Exit 264) to New Market, follow the signs to 211, then follow 211 over the mountain, and we're on the right, about a mile from the top.



