

## **Rode West Band**

The Rode West Band kicks off the Trousdale County Fair on Thursday, August 3, with a dance from 6-9 pm in the Eleanor Ford Theatre. The dance will also feature clogging and buck dancing at the 7 pm break and a line dance lesson at the 8 pm break.

Rode West plays a variety of music ranging from traditional Country music with three-part harmony to "Back to the 50's" music and more.

Admission is \$5 and food will be available for purchase from the Chapel Hill Concession stand.

The band members include: Clayton Claxton, bass & vocals; Monty Clay Claxton, lead guitar & vocals; Tim Boone, drums & vocals; and Buddy Ellithorpe, keyboard.

Monty Clay was a teenager when his dad, Clayton Claxton, worked the Grand Ole Opry with Little Jimmy Dickens, Stonewall Jackson, Jean Shepard, Hank Snow and Tommy Cash. Clayton & Monty Clay formed "Rode West Band" with the help of their friends, Buddy Ellithorpe, and Tim Gilko (Boone). Tim is known as one of the best harmony singers in the business. Buddy has been playing piano since he was around 3 years old, starting by picking out TV commercial tunes on the keys. In his teens, Dottie West heard Buddy play at a school talent show and she had him on the Opry stage with her the next weekend. He's played with many others including Tommy Cash, Vern Gosden, Billy Walker Stonewall Jackson, Clyde Beavers, and Jim Glasier.

Clayton, Tim and Buddy picked together with some country stars in the 80's and have continued to play together.