

YOU KNOW YOU'RE IN

Carolina country if...

...your huntin' dog costs more than the truck you drive him around in.

Michael Taylor

**From Michael Taylor**

- ... You know what a boxed pine is. (A pine tree that has cuts in the trunk to collect pine sap and tar.)
- ... You think that potted meat on a saltine is an hors d'oeuvre.
- ... The directions to your house include "turn off the paved road."
- ... You think that John Deere Green, Ford Blue, and Primer Gray are three of the primary colors.
- ... You have to cross the state line to buy real fireworks.
- ... You say "cut off" the light instead of "turn off" the light.

From Chasidy Williams, Elkin

- ... Your grandma washes her car in the rain for "free water."
- ... When you go to Wal-Mart you know just about everyone there.
- ... Over half the students in your high school are your cousins.

From Melissa Heath, Harrells

- ... You need to stob them maters with 'bakker sticks and panty hoses.
- ... You dig them there taters with a tablespoon.
- ... You plant oakies.
- ... You tell your young'ns to get in the house right now or you'll tear their tails up.
- ... You don't work on Sunday unless the ox is in the ditch.

From Sharon Hardin, Rutherfordton

- ... Your grandpa says, "Let's go put our feet in that thar crik yonder."
- ... Your grandparents' big garden on a hill is full of their grown children and little grandchildren picking up taters barefooted.
- ... You look outside one snowy winter day and see your cousin riding a dirt bike on the road with another cousin tied behind him sliding down the road on an old car hood.
- ... Your grandparents met the preacher on the road and got married in a side ditch.
- ... When you're surprised, you say, "Law mercy!"

From Jill Lambert, Lexington

- ... You can still make a late night ice-cream run in your pj's up to the local store and actually meet someone doing the same.
- ... You've crawled under a shopper's car at Food Lion to help identify the source of their antifreeze leak.
- ... You dwindle away at least 40 hours a season squirrel-proofing your feeders.
- ... A piece of broken equipment is not fit for the landfill until it's passed through at least four neighbors to pick it for parts.
- ... Your mama still believes you don't smoke or drink, but your father has always assumed otherwise.

From Betsy Herron, Wadesboro

- ... As a preacher, you work on your sermon while in a deer stand.
- ... Your wife feeds deer meat to the visiting revival preacher, but she doesn't let on that's what it is, even when he asks for seconds.
- ... You have prayed with someone while working in your garden.
- ... You don't have preachin' on the fifth Sunday because you serve at least three churches on your charge.
- ... Your church has a sangin' to raise funds for someone in need.
- ... You have funeralized someone who passed away.
- ... Your men's group fixes chicken and dumplin's for a fundraiser.
- ... Your women's group has pounded someone in your church.
- ... Your parsonage is within 50 yards of a turkey farm.
- ... You travel through three counties to visit folks in the hospital for surgery.
- ... A parishioner gives you a gallon of homemade scuppernong wine and wants to know if you can use it for communion.

From Iris Gentry, Lowgap

- ... You go to the Surry-Yadkin Electric Membership meeting in October and get a refund check and a ticket that might win you a nice prize.

From Lakola Cook, Shannon

- ... To help someone is to "hope" them.
- ... Those sand nants will eat you alive.
- ... When the woods catch "far," you don't call the fire department, you run those buckets down yonder.

From Jeremy and Heather King, Mount Olive

- ... Your husband and two of his cousins have the same middle name.
- ... Your wife ain't afraid to bait her own hook or take the fish off.
- ... The whole family gets together to pick ice taters.
- ... Your Granny chased you with a fly swatter.
- ... When all the family gets together you do a little pickin' and grinnin'.

From Jami Chambers, Bear Grass

- ... You know the Cypress Grill in Jamesville has the best herring around.
- ... You refer to Washington, N.C., as Little Washington.

If you know any that we haven't published, send them to:

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