



Newsletter of the Folklore Society

OF GREATER WASHINGTON

P. O. Box 19303 • 20th Street Station • Washington, D.C. 20036

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George A. Simpson, Editor

SHIRLEY GRIFFITH AND YANK RACHELL, OLD-TIME BLUES PERFORMERS HERE FOR FIRST TIME FRIDAY, MAY 10

Yank Rachell, who has been making commercial blues records since the 20's, and Shirley Griffith, who has played with some of the most famous blues singers of all time, give their first Washington performance at 8:30 p.m., Friday, May 10, in the Washington Ethical Society auditorium, 7750 - 16th Street NW. The pair, now living in Indianapolis, have been playing together for ten years, accompanying themselves on mandolin and guitar.

Shirley Griffith, born in Brandon, Mississippi, learned guitar from Tommie Johnson, and played with Ishman Bracey, Leroy Carr and Scrapper Blackwell. He has made a recent solo Prestige/Bluesville lp, and one with J.T. Adams.

Yank Rachell, from Brownsville, Tennessee, first recorded with Sleepy John Estes in 1929 for Victor, and they've been playing together ever since. He has also recorded with Sonny Boy Williamson and Big Joe Williams, and has a recent lp on Delmark. In addition to two European tours, one with John Estes, he has appeared at the Newport Folk Festival.

Admission is free to Society members, one dollar for non-members, and fifty cents for children.

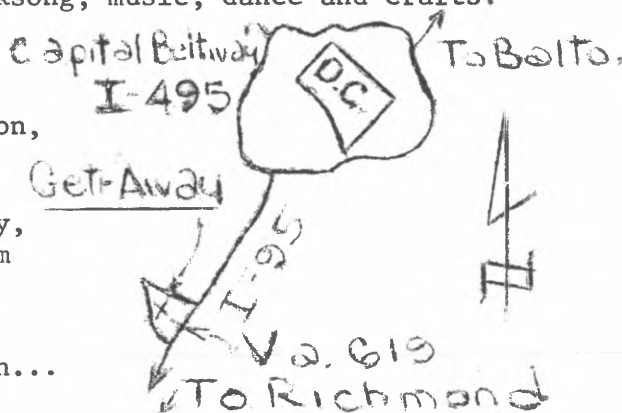
A Society business meeting, at which officers for next year will be elected, will immediately follow the performance. Nominations, in addition to those submitted by the nominating committee, will be accepted from the floor. Society memberships, at five dollars single and seven-fifty for family, will be available at the door.

FOLK GET-AWAY, FRIDAY THROUGH MONDAY, MAY 3-6, PRINCE WILLIAM FOREST PARK, TRIANGLE, VIRGINIA

For the third year, Society members, friends and kindred spirits from far-away places will retreat to the piney recesses of Prince William Forest Park at Triangle, Virginia, for a weekend of folksong, music, dance and crafts.

On hand will be Society regulars John Jackson, Andy Wallace, Jon Eberhart, Mike Rivers, Gerry Parsons, Joe and Lynn Hickerson, John and Ginny Dildine, and Sol and Helen Schneyer. Out-of-town participants include Chuck and Nan Perdue, Mike Cooney, Sara Grey, Josh Dunson, and Des and Juliet Rainey (from Auckland, New Zealand).

To quote from SING OUT! on last year's Get-Away: "It has the germ of an idea which... could initiate a new kind of folk-singing



event all over the country....There were singing and workshops all weekend long, all held cozily before two warm fireplaces....These people, who had met together and sung their favorite songs all year long, warmly accepted the new-comers, making them feel right at home, while Helen Schneyer, Joe Hickerson and Andy Wallace led the group singing that made them all into one." (XVII: 4, p.3)

Registration will open at 6 p.m. Friday, May 3. There will be movies at 9, followed by a sing. Saturday, May 4, there will be two sessions from 11 a.m. to 12:30, one on instrumental folk music and one on folk dance. From 2:30 p.m. to 4, there will be a fiddling and country music session, and from 4:30 to 6 a square dance. Saturday night at 9 there will be a formal concert, followed by an informal sing.

Sunday, May 5, there will be Sacred Harp singing from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30, and from 12:30 to 2:30 a religious folk music session. From 2:30 to 4 a country blues session, and from 4 to 5:30 a contemporary songs session. Sunday night there will be movies, followed by a ceilí with ballads and shanties. Monday, May 6, there will be no programmed activity, but informal music-making, socializing, munching, cleaning-up, packing-up and moving-out.

There will be many other events, including music programs for children on Saturday morning and afternoon, and Sunday afternoon, and crafts and story-telling.

The general public is cordially invited either to come for the day or to stay overnight in the park campgrounds by arranging with park officials. Events fees are two dollars for Saturday, and one dollar and fifty cents for Sunday all day. People coming for the day and other visitors should bring their own food.

To get to the park, take Interstate 95 south toward Richmond from the Capital Beltway (Interstate 495). Go south about 20 miles to Virginia Route 619. Turn west on 619. The park entrance is about a half mile farther on the right. (See map on page one.)

COLLECTANEA:

For next year's officers the nominating committee has selected John R. Dildine, President; Mike Rivers, Vice-President; Frank Daspit, Treasurer; Richard Rodgers, Special Events; Joe Hickerson, Membership; Andy Wallace, Program; Rosemary Moyer, Secretary; Roni Bowie, Publicity; George Simpson, Publications; and Gus Meade, Stephan Michelson, Helen Scheneyer and Bob Clayton, At-Large. Also nominated for At-Large were Gene Anderson and George Carey. At 10:30 a.m. and 8 p.m., Mondays, May 6, 13, 20 and 27, in B1048, Museum of History and Technology, Smithsonian Institution, there will be lectures on American folklore and folk music, with Ralph Rinzler and Mike Seeger, May 6; Malcolm Watkins (Pottery Making), May 13; Henry Glassie (General Applications of Folklore), May 20; George Carey (Field Research), May 27; and also Archie Green (Labor Folklore), June 3; admission is three dollars. Sandy and Caroline Paton, 8:30 p.m., Friday, June 14, Washington Ethical Society.

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