



Newsletter of the Folklore Society

OF GREATER WASHINGTON
Box 19303 20th Street Station, Washington D. C. 20036

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NOVEMBER 1971

Arlene Rodenbeck, Editor

GRANT ROGERS

On Friday, November 12, at 8:30 p.m., our regular monthly program will be held at the Smithsonian's Museum of History and Technology on Constitution Ave. between 12th and 14th Sts., NW. It will be cosponsored with FSGW by the Division of Performing Arts, Smithsonian Institution. Grant Rogers is a singer, songwriter and fiddler from Walton, New York, in the Catskill Mountains. He began playing the fiddle at age six and within a year was playing for local square dances. He later learned to play the guitar and read and write music, and has composed more than two hundred songs and fiddle tunes. In the 1940's, Grant formed the Delaware County Ramblers and appeared regularly on radio station WVOS in Liberty, N.Y. Later, he became a regular at Norm Studer's Folk Festival of the Catskills where he met Pete Seeger. From his association with Seeger, he appeared as an old fiddler in the film Indian Summer, the story of the destruction of a town in the Catskills to provide a new reservoir for New York City.

Grant Rogers has appeared at many folk festivals including the Smithsonian Institution's Festival of American Folklife and Festival Tour, the Philadelphia Folk Festival, Fox Hollow, and several Hudson River Sloop festivals and picnics. He is no stranger to the Folklore Society, having presented a program for us four years ago, and being one of our featured guest artists at this year's Getaway.

As in October, it is suggested that FSGW members arrive before 8:00 to assure seating. The hall will be open to the public after 8:00. And as usual the program is free to FSGW members and \$1.00 for non-members.

MALVINA REYNOLDS

On Friday, November 19, at 8:30 p.m., we are presenting a Special Event at the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History at 10th St. and Constitution Ave. NW. Cosponsoring this event with FSGW is the Division of Performing Arts, Smithsonian Institution. Our performer is Malvina Reynolds, a swinging 70-year-old grandmother who writes songs, lots of them, and sings them as well. In fact, she has written a song a day for the past 25 years, among them such favorites as "Little Boxes" and "What Have They Done to the Rain?" Her songs have been sung by Pete Seeger, Joan Baez and others like them. Malvina has two song books out by Oak Publications and has recorded two albums for Columbia. Admission for the concert is \$1.00 for FSGW members and \$2.00 for non-members.

BENEFIT FOR APPALACHIAN PEOPLE'S MARCH FOR SURVIVAL

On Monday, November 8, 7:30 p.m. at the ballroom in the George Washington University Student Union, 800 21st St. at H St., NW., a concert will be presented to help a group of miners who plan to join other welfare rights and poor peoples organizations in a march on Washington to protest unfulfilled promises. Performing will be Hedy West, Mike Seeger, Alice Seeger, John Jackson, Hazel Dickens, Mike Cline (from West Virginia, and the Ring Shouters. A \$2.00 donation will be requested. Your attendance will be most appreciated and the concert promises to be most enjoyable as well!

SINGING FROM THE SACRED HARP and potluck supper will be held this month at the home of Mary Helen Shortridge, in the Brookmont area of Glen Echo Heights, Md., on Sunday, November 21, at 4:00 p.m. Phone 229-1412 evenings and weekends to make arrangements for food and to get directions and things like that.

PETE SEEGER AND THE HUDSON RIVER SLOOP SINGERS

Two concerts will be presented at Lisner Auditorium, 21st and H sts., NW., Friday and Saturday, November 12 and 13, at 8:00 p.m. Seeger will be joined by eight crew member-singers of the sloop Clearwater, the anti-pollution ship which plies the inland waters of the East Coast calling public attention to ecology problems. On Earth Day, 1970, the sloop sailed into the Washington Channel, and became a focal point for the observance here. Among the group are three FSGW members--Jonathan Eberhart, Mike Rivers, and Andy Wallace. The two performances, sponsored by FSGW and Stanley-Williams Presentations, will benefit the Hudson River Sloop Restoration, Inc., a non-profit educational corporation.

Tickets are \$5.00, \$4.00, and \$3.00, but FSGW members are entitled to a 25% discount if you mail-order your tickets in advance. Use the form on the next page of this Newsletter. The tickets are also available at the Talbert Ticket Agency in the Washington Hotel and at Learmont Records in Georgetown, but you won't be able to use your discount there. In any case it would probably be wise not to procrastinate.

Following the concerts each evening, a meeting will be held in Lisner Auditorium for those interested in forming a local branch of the ecology group, to help in cleaning up the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay.

AMERICAN FOLKLORE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

November 11-14 (Thurs.-Sun.) at the Hotel Washington, 15th and Penna., N.W. Registration is free, and will be available at the Hotel beginning Wednesday evening Nov. 10. Printed programs will be available, and may be perused in advance at the Library of Congress Archive of Folk Song or at the Smithsonian Institution Division of Performing Arts. Alan Jabbour is the Program Chairman; Ralph Rinzler is Local Arrangements Chairman; and FSGW is a co-sponsor. Look for the FSGW display at the meeting, where back issues of the Journal will be available for purchase. (Jeremy Sachs may still need help at the display; call him at 244-2-90 (home) or 896-9214 (work).) SOME OUT-OF-TOWN FOLKLORE STUDENTS are seeking non-hotel accommodations for the weekend. If you can house a student or two (or more), call FSGW Board member Margot Greig who is coordinating this effort: 332-8453 (home) or 833-1230 (work).

The sessions (usually three at once) at the meeting will run from 9:00-10:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and 2:30-4:00 p.m., with film sessions at 4:30-6:00 p.m. on Thursday and 8:00 p.m. on Friday. Folk music papers are scheduled for 11:00-12:30 Thursday, 9:00-10:30 Saturday, and 9:00-10:30 Sunday. A SPECIAL CONCERT OF WASHINGTON-AREA FOLK MUSIC will be presented to meeting registrants on Thursday, Nov. 11, at 8:00 p.m., at the Smithsonian Institution Museum of Natural History, 10th and Constitution, NW. Cosponsored by the FSGW, the American Folklore Society, and the Smithsonian Institution Division of Performing Arts, the program will be free to all registrants (and remember, registration itself is free--see above). The evening program is being planned by Joe Hickerson and Guthrie Meade, and will feature John Jackson, Elizabeth Cotton, Tony Alderman (of the original "Hillbillies"), and Virginia-fiddler John Ashby and the Free State Ramblers. Chuck Perdue will be on hand to introduce John Jackson and Archie Green will introduce Tony Alderman.

FOLK-GRASS CONCERT

On Sunday, November 7, a concert will be presented by the Virginia Society of Folk and Country Artists at the Virginia Theatre, 1st St. and George Washington Parkway, in Alexandria. There will be two performances, 12 noon and 7:30 p.m., each 5½ hours long. Featured in this mixture of traditional and electric sounds will be (in order of appearance): The Bluegrass Alliance, Cliff Waldron and the New Shades of Grass, Mac Wiseman, the Lewis Family, Jimmy Martin and the Sunny Mountain Boys, the II Generation, the Country Gentlemen, the Dillards, the Osborne Brothers, and Earl Scruggs with Randy and Gary. Tickets are \$6.00 and \$7.50 and can be ordered by mail addressed to Folk-Grass Concert, P.O. Box 186, Fairfax, Va. 22030. Make checks payable to "Va. Bluegrass Concert." Tickets are also available at Orpheus Discount Records, 3225 M St. NW., and at all Giant Music Stores.

TAPE ARCHIVE--The phone number listed as the one to call if you're interested in borrowing tapes was incorrect in both the September and October newsletters. So forget that one and call 524-5061, evenings and weekends, instead.

RADIO SMITHSONIAN (Sundays, WGMS-AM and FM, 9-9:30 p.m.) is broadcasting, about once a month, excerpts of the programs the Society holds in Smithsonian auditoriums. We will announce specific dates in the Newsletter when we have the information. When the Newsletter doesn't give specifics, call Paul Johnson, Radio Smithsonian, 381-5166, for information. The program is also heard on WAMU-FM, Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.; WETA-FM, Mondays at 9:30 p.m.; and in New York City on WNYC-AM and FM.

AMERICAN FIDDLE TUNES

The Library of Congress has issued a new LP recording entitled "American Fiddle Tunes" for sale to the public. It consists of instrumental tunes played by American folk musicians and recorded in the field in the 1930's and 40's and provides a representative sampling of the stylistic and repertorial variety of oldtime fiddling in the United States. Alan Jabbour, Head of the Archive of Folk Song, edited both the LP and the 36-Page pamphlet accompanying it, which includes notes on the tunes' histories and stylistic traits, as well as a bibliography of relevant printed collections, manuscripts, and monographs. The record (L62) may be purchased by mail from the Recording Laboratory, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540, for \$4.95 (includes shipping and handling). All orders must be pre-paid; make your checks payable to the Music Division, Library of Congress.

A catalog listing the entire series of documentary LP's of folk music and folklore available from the Library of Congress may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, for 40 cents, or in person from the Information Counter, located in the Main Entrance lobby of the Library.

FOLK MUSIC FOR CHILDREN

A Montgomery County school is looking for someone who has done or is interested in putting together a folk song program for elementary school children. If you are so inclined or want to find out more about it or want to suggest someone else, please call Mrs. Richard Dosik at 229-3095 after 6 p.m.

Sam Rizzetta, a member of FSGW, instrument maker, and Staff Associate at the Smithsonian, has just written an instruction leaflet for the Smithsonian on making and dancing a limber-jack. Copies are available without cost upon request. Contact Sam in the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Natural History Building, Room 41, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560. Sam is also working on a hammered dulcimer leaflet, which he hopes to have ready in a couple of months.

Stanley-Williams Presentations
1715 37th St., NW.
Washington, DC 20007

TICKET ORDER FORM

Enclosed is a self-addressed, stamped envelope and a check (\$_____) for ticket(s) to the PETE SEEGER AND THE HUDSON RIVER SLOOP SINGERS concert.

Friday, November 12_____	Saturday, November 13_____
FSGW members: _____ @ \$3.75	_____ @ \$3.00 _____ @ \$2.25
Non-members: _____ @ \$5.00	_____ @ \$4.00 _____ @ \$3.00

PLEASE SPECIFY DATE AND NUMBER OF TICKETS AT EACH PRICE

FOLK MUSIC FESTIVALS, FIDDLERS' CONVENTIONS, ETC.

Here is an up-to-date list of some within 500 miles that are scheduled for November. The Washington Blues Festival originally planned for November has been postponed to next April. For a complete list contact Joe Hickerson at the Archive of Folk Song in the Library of Congress, 426-5510.

- November 5-6 Piedmont Craftsman's Fair, Winston-Salem, N.C., Memorial Coliseum
" 6-7 Sing Out! Folk Festival, Mid-city YWCA, Philadelphia, Pa.
" 19-20 Old Time Fiddlers Convention, Collinsville, Va., Recreation Center
" 20 8th Annual North Carolina State Fiddlers Championship, Cleveland, N.C., Cool Springs High School
" 25 Lake Norman Fiddlers Convention, Terrell, N.C., Lake Norman Music Hall
" 25-28 2nd Annual South Carolina State Bluegrass Festival, Myrtle Beach, S.C., Convention Center
" 27 Old-Time Fiddlers Convention, Courtney, N.C.

NOTICE TO EVERYONE ON MAILING LIST

The December Newsletter will carry the designation "RETURN REQUESTED." This means that if you have moved but have not sent us your new address, the Newsletter WILL NOT BE FORWARDED but will be returned to us, at a cost of at least 10 cents per return. So PLEASE let's help both of us out: Help us avoid losing 10 cents or so, and help yourself avoid missing the December Newsletter. PLEASE SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS (and phone no.) by November 12 (or bring it to the Nov. 12 program), or call our mailing-list editor: Kathy Clucas, 483-6146 (evenings and weekends), by November 12.

WANT TO JOIN? Membership in FSGW entitles you to free admission to monthly programs, half-price at special events, Newsletter mailed first-class, the Society Journal, access to the tape archives, discounts at programs sponsored at Lisner, etc., etc.

Folklore Society of Greater Washington
Box 19303, 20th Street Station
Washington, DC 20036

I (We) wish to join the Society. Enclosed is \$5.00 (individual) _____ \$7.50 (family) _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

I would like to help the Society with _____

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Arlene