



# Newsletter of the Folklore Society OF GREATER WASHINGTON Box 19303 20th Street Station, Washington D. C. 20036

Volume VIII, Number 8

APRIL 1972

Arlene Rodenbeck, Editor

## DAVE AND TONI ARTHUR AND JOHN HARRISON

Direct from Great Britain comes this husband-and-wife team plus an original member of the Watersons folk group to present this month's program on Friday, April 14th. Dave and Toni have been professional singers for six years, and have performed in all the major folk clubs in Great Britain, as well as at most of the major British folk festivals. They sing British traditional songs both unaccompanied and with guitar, recorder, melodeon, anglo-concertina, and drum. In addition, Toni does clog-dancing and Dave does some solo traditional dancing as well. Besides their singing and lecturing, both Dave and Toni are into other things. Toni presents two children's television series for the BBC and also runs her own photographic business, specializing in folksingers. Dave writes articles on all aspects of folk-life, song, dance, customs, etc., and is on the editorial board of the Folk Song Journal of the English Folk Dance and Song Society. John Harrison has been performing with Dave and Toni since last November. He sang with the Watersons folk group until it broke up about three years ago, and also is a fiddler. Dave and Toni have several albums out and John appears on the Watersons albums.

The program will take place at the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum, 10th St. and Constitution Ave., NW., and begins at 8:30 p.m. It is cosponsored by FSGW and the Division of Performing Arts, Smithsonian Institution. FSGW members are admitted free; non-members, \$1.00; children \$.50.

## SPRING SAMPLER

The second sampler concert of this season will be presented Saturday, April 8th, beginning at 8:30 p.m., also at the Natural History Museum and also cosponsored by FSGW and the Division of Performing Arts, Smithsonian Institution. The line-up of performers is as follows: Joe and Lynn Hickerson, who know oodles of songs and ballads; Helen Schnever, whose specialty is singing spirituals that are guaranteed to bring you back into the fold; and Howie and Ann Mitchell, who are best known for their dulcimers, but play lots of other instruments also. Sounds like a really great program is in store for us. FSGW members will be admitted for \$1.00; non-members for \$2.00.

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OPEN SING--The first Friday falls on the 7th this month, so around 9 p.m. you'll want to trot on up to the Ethical Society for another fun-filled evening of singing and listening. Admission is \$1.00 a head and refreshments are provided. That's at 7750 16th St., NW. at Kalmia Road.

SINGING FROM THE SACRED HARP AND POTLUCK SUPPER--Sunday, April 30th at 4 p.m. This month we've been invited to invade the home of Ruth Schallert, who lives in Accokeek. Call Ruth at 283-3345 (after 5 p.m.) to get directions and talk about food. By the way, Gene Anderson would like to get a group of Sacred Harp-types together to go sing at the Friendly High School Folk Festival on May 6. If you are interested, talk to Gene at this month's get-together or call him at 382-4024 (office) or 578-1025 (home).

#### BENEFIT FOR THE COUNCIL OF THE SOUTHERN MOUNTAINS

On Saturday, April 29th, a benefit concert will be presented at Lisner Auditorium for the above named group. Plans were somewhat tentative at press time so watch for flyers and announcements in the paper for details as to time and performers. We'll probably hear some mountain music of one sort or another. The Council of the Southern Mountains is the oldest organization working for social concerns in the Appalachian region. It is based with people who actually live in the mountains and has tackled almost every problem affecting the area--welfare, strip mining, black lung, education, etc., etc. It formerly existed on foundation support, but that source has dried up, so the Council is flat broke and really needs our help.

The Department of English of the University of Maryland is presenting a series of programs on folksong. These each begin at 4 p.m. in the Francis Scott Key Hall at the University--

Wednesday, April 12--Michael Quitt and Reed Martin, "Traditional Folk Music"  
Thursday, April 27--Alan Jabbour, "Old Time Fiddling"  
Thursday, May 4--John Jackson, "The Country Blues"

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING--Tuesday, April 4th, beginning at 8:00 p.m. sharp, in Room 718 of the Dupont Circle Bldg., 1346 Connecticut Ave., NW. Why don't you come around and see what's going on? Particularly if you're interested in becoming an officer next year.

A social group of square and very cordial people would enjoy hearing a short program of British folk songs. If you would be interested in presenting such a program, please contact Rachel Hecht at 426-7188 (office) or 737-5379 (home).

COMING UP--We can't give any definite names for our May and June programs yet, but we can tell you that they'll both be held at the Natural History Museum beginning at 8:30 p.m. That's Friday, May 12, and Friday, June 9, so mark your calendar.

We are pleased to announce the existence of the MARYLAND FOLKLORE SOCIETY and to wish it a long, happy, and successful life. If you are interested in the Society or want to become a member (\$5.00, individual, a year) write to Box 724, Salisbury State College, Salisbury, MD 21801. For an idea of what they'll be doing, see the next item here.

THE MIDDLE STATES CONFERENCE ON FOLK CULTURE will be held Saturday, April 22, at the Tawes Fine Arts Center, University of Maryland. It is being cosponsored by the Maryland Folklore Society, the Pennsylvania Folklore Society, and the English Department, Univ. of Md. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. (\$2.00 fee) and the program begins at 9:00.

The morning session will be devoted to Maryland folklore and folklife. Scheduled to speak are Mary R. Miller on place names, Ralph Rinzler on field experience in Maryland preparing for the Smithsonian festival this summer, Geraldine Johnson on ex-slave narratives from Maryland, Paul Dowell on witchcraft on the Eastern Shore, and Frank Mentzer on the Catoctin Mountain Folk Culture Center. Alta Schrock with woodcarver Claude Yoder and potter Esther Miller from Western Maryland is also scheduled to appear. A luncheon on the campus will feature a program of traditional folk performers from the area. The afternoon session, led by Robert Byington of the Pennsylvania Folklore Society, will be a panel discussion on State folklore societies of the region. Scheduled to appear are Francis Lee Utley of the Ohio Folklore Society; Joe Hickerson, Folklore Society of Greater Washington; Roderick Roberts, New York Folklore Society; George Simpson, Maryland Folklore Society; and Robert Bethke, representing Delaware. For further information about the conference call George Simpson, 530-0970.

## NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS--

Last month we talked about what is happening elections-wise, but perhaps some of you would like to know a little bit more about what each particular officer is supposed to do. The President presides at Executive Board meetings and generally is responsible for what's happening in the Society. The Vice-President takes over for the President when necessary and is also responsible for hanging around at all our programs to make sure we don't wreck the place. The Secretary takes the minutes for the Board meetings and prepares copies for all the Board members, as well as being responsible for the Society records, etc. The Treasurer takes care of the financial dealings of the Society, writes checks, and things like that. Those jobs are fairly standard; now for the rest: The Membership Chairman keeps the membership lists, collects dues, and issues membership cards. The Program Chairman is responsible for planning the monthly programs, and introducing the performers. The Special Events Chairman is responsible for planning special concerts, sampler concerts, the Picnic, the Getaway, etc. The Publicity Chairman is in charge of publicity and advertising of our events and of the Society in general. The Publications Chairman oversees the preparation and printing of the Journal and the Newsletter and usually is the editor for one of them. The Members-at-Large are voting members of the Board and do extra odd jobs that nobody wants to get stuck with.

The above is sort of a cursory explanation of what each officer does, but use your imagination to fill in the vague places. If you think you'd be interested in any of the above or have any questions, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee, which consists of Jeremy Sachs (Chairman), Arlene Rodenbeck, Rich Galloway, Mike Holmes, and Helen Schneyer. They are working on preparing a slate of candidates, at the April meeting, where we'll also have nominations from the floor. The voting will take place at the May program meeting.

to present

JOURNAL--Good news! Volume III of the FSGW Journal is on the horizon. Esther K. Birdsall, professor of English at the University of Maryland, is assembling an issue on oral history for us. She has some interesting material and lots of ideas for it, so it should be good. This will be an oversize issue and will comprise the entire Volume III (Numbers 1 to 3), got that? Watch this space for further announcements.

## ATTENTION !!!

Each year at this time we trim our NONMEMBERS mailing list of those who are no longer interested in receiving the Newsletter. If you wish to continue receiving the Newsletter FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND MAIL IT TO US BY MAY 15, 1972. If we do not hear from you by May 15, we will take your name off the list. EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS AND MEMBERS: You will, of course, continue to receive our mailings, unless your dues are due or your address has changed.

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

Survey/Membership Form

## CHECK APPROPRIATE SPACES

I am a nonmember receiving the Newsletter and wish to continue receiving it (    ).  
Address change (    ). Renewal (    ). I wish to join the Society; enclosed is  
\$5.00 (Individual) (    ); \$7.50 (Family) (    ).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

FOLK FESTIVALS, ETC., IN APRIL AND EARLY MAY

This month we've narrowed the list to those within 500 miles (roughly). The full listing of the year's festivals, compiled by Joe Hickerson, should be available sometime in April from the Archive of Folk Song, Library of Congress. Call 426-5510 for additional information.

- March 30- 48th Annual Old Time Fiddler's Convention, J.P. Van Hoy Farm, County  
April 1 Road 1849, Union Grove, N.C.  
March 30- Old Time Fiddler's and Bluegrass Festival, Fiddler's Grove, Hwy. 901,  
April 2 Union Grove, N.C.  
April 3 Old Time Fiddler's Convention, Shady Grove School, Advance, N.C.  
" 3 Old Time Fiddler's Convention, Oak Ridge, N.C.  
" 6-9 Mountain Folk Festival, Berea College, Berea, Ky.  
" 8 Oldtime Fiddlers Contest, Franklin County Maple Sugar Festival, St.  
Albans, Vt.  
" 12-15 1st Annual International Country Music Fan Fair, including Bluegrass  
Spectacular, Nashville, Tenn.  
" 14-16 Folk Fair, Convention Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.  
" 16 Folk Festival, East Carolina University, Greenville, N.C.  
" 17-18 Portable Newport Folk Festival, Dickinson University, Carlisle, Pa.  
" 19-20 " " " " Susquehanna Univ., Selinsgrove, Pa.  
" 21-22 " " " " Lycoming College, Williamsport, Pa.  
" 21-22 28th Annual New England Folk Festival, Wellesley High School, Mass.  
" 21-23 5th Annual Lake Norman Bluegrass Festival, Catawba Fair Grounds, N.C.  
" 21-23 Buffalo Folk Festival, SUNY at Buffalo, N.Y.  
" 21-24 St. Andrews Folk Festival, St. Andrews College, Laurinburg, N.C.  
" 26-27 Portable Newport Folk Festival, Juniatta College, Huntingdon, Pa.  
" 28-29 " " " " Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa.  
" 28-30 Tennessee Crafts Fair, Centennial Park, Nashville  
May 5-7 Bluegrass Festival, Bluegrass Grove, Amelia, Va.  
" 5-7 New York Pinewoods Folk Music Club Spring Weekend, Camp Freedman,  
Falls Village, Conn. (Limited registration)  
" 5-7 2nd Annual Low Country Bluegrass Festival, Varnville, S.C.  
" 6 Friendly Senior High School Folk Festival, Friendly, Md. (12 noon to  
10 p.m. Music and Crafts)

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*Arlene*