



Newsletter of the Folklore Society

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

VOLUME IX, Number 8

APRIL 1973

Arlene Rodenbeck, Editor

BENNIE AND VALLIE CAIN

We are pleased to present this month some old-fashioned country-style bluegrass. The Cains, originally from West Virginia, have been living and making music in the Washington area for over 20 years. Currently they can be heard at Ruby's, a place in Lorton, Va. Bennie plays mandolin and guitar and Vallie plays guitar and of course they both sing. Rounding out the group is Johnnie Whisnait on banjo and Don Mulkie on bass. These four people have been playing together for a long time. They do practically every bluegrass standard including some Carter family and Jimmie Rodgers songs and have a record out on the Rebel label.

Theirs is the type of bluegrass that doesn't get much exposure, so it's great to have the opportunity to become acquainted with the Cains and their friends. The program will be held on FRIDAY, APRIL 13th, at 8:30 p.m., at the Ethical Society, 7750 16th St. NW. As usual, FSGW members are admitted free and non-members for \$1.50. Come early if you want to join and get in free at the same time.

THE BOYS OF THE LOUGH

Join your friends on Sunday, April 8th, at the Ethical Society, as FSGW presents the Boys of the Lough, a group that performs traditional Irish and Scottish music in a refreshing and joyful way that you'll find infectious, to say the least. The "boys" include--Aly Bain, a fiddler par excellence from the Shetland Islands; Cathal McConnell, who plays flute and tin whistle and is from Ireland; Robin Morton, who plays bodhran (a single headed Irish drum with a really neat sound) and concertina and comes from Scotland; and Dave Richards, who plays banjo, mandolin, and guitar and comes from Northumberland, England. A British United Nations, you might say.

The concert begins at 8:30 p.m. FSGW members will be admitted for \$1.50 and non-members for \$3.00. It should be lots of fun.

APRIL WORKSHOPS

We have a couple of good ones coming up this month. These will both be held in Chevy Chase and will begin at 8 p.m. Call Debbie at 652-2692 for directions. On Saturday, April 7th, there will be an autoharp workshop. Bring along your own tuning key and then at midnight when everyone's in tune..... On Saturday, April 14th, there will be a workshop devoted to blues and ragtime guitar. That sounds neat. Remember, these workshops are informal and relaxed and designed to help you learn something about your favorite instruments while meeting others with similar interests.

OPEN SING--Friday, April 6th, is the date of this month's sing. It'll start about 9 p.m. and is held at the Ethical Society, 16th St. at Kalmia Road, NW. Admission is \$1 each and coffee, cookies, wine, cheese, etc., are served. Bring your instruments, bring your songs, or just bring yourself--you're sure to have a good time.

SINGING FROM THE SACRED HARP AND POTLUCK SUPPER will be held on Sunday, April 22nd, beginning about 4 p.m. at the home of Abby Hadley in Arlington. That being Easter, the mind reels with food and song possibilities. To find out where Abby lives, call her at 671-8510, evenings and weekends.

The FSGW Executive Board will meet this month on Tuesday, April 3rd, at 8:00 p.m. in Room 718 of the Dupont Circle Bldg., 1346 Connecticut Ave., NW. (Above Discount Book and Record Store). All members and friends are invited to attend.

MAY SAMPLER CONCERT--Coming up next month is another one of those fun concerts featuring some of your favorite FSGW'ers. It will be held on Saturday, May 5th, beginning at 8:30 p.m. at the Ethical Society. FSGW members will be admitted for \$1.00; non-members for \$2.00. Performers will be (ta-ti-da) Andy Wallace, Judy Hough (tentative), Mike Holmes, and Carly Gewirz and Merle Schlesinger.

FIRST "ANNUAL" PHILADELPHIA SPRING FOLK FESTIVAL

The Philadelphia Folksong Society, sponsor of the ever-popular Philadelphia Folk Festival held every summer, has decided to double our pleasure by holding a spring festival from Friday evening, April 27th, through Sunday, April 29th. The daytime events on Saturday and Sunday will be at the Ambler campus of Temple University and the evening concerts on Friday and Saturday will be at the Ambler Theatre, 108 Butler Pike. Among the performers will be Saul Broudy, John Cohen, Hazel Dickens, Alice Garrard Seeger, Ken Goldstein, Joe Heaney, John Jackson, Lou Killen, New Lost City Ramblers, Jean Redpath, Tracy Schwarz, Mike Seeger, Dan Smith, Rosalie Sorrels, and Jon Wilcox.

Apparently there are only 900 tickets available for the evening concerts, so if you want to go better order them quick. We have a reciprocal agreement with the Philadelphia Folksong Society whereby FSGW members are entitled to the discount price of \$7 for the entire weekend (\$10 general or regular admission). Tickets for just the evening concerts are \$4 regular and \$3 for members; for just the daytime workshops admission is \$3 regular and \$2 for members. Send your order to: Philadelphia Folk Festival, 7113 Emlen St., Philadelphia PA 19119. Phone 215-CH7-1300 for more information. We have been asked to announce that no camping (or crashing) facilities will be available at the campus, so please make other arrangements.

On Sunday, April 15th, you might want to tune in to the 6 p.m. folk show on WETA-FM radio (90.9 on your dial). They're going to be playing a tape of some of the people that have given programs for us (FSGW) over the past couple years. The tape was put together by Mike Rivers from the material that we have in the Tape Archives of the Society. It should take up about one hour of the two-hour show.

ELECTIONS to determine the makeup of the FSGW Executive Board for the 1973-74 season are coming up in May at the program meeting. Meanwhile, the Nominating Committee is busy preparing a slate of candidates which they will present at the April program. The members of the committee are Kathy Clucas (chairperson), Bob Clayton, Kay Cothran, Lars Hanslin, and Debbie Hutton. If you have any ideas or suggestions about who should be on the Board, or want to offer yourself, call Kathy at 483-6146, evenings and weekends. In addition, nominations from the floor will be accepted at the April meeting and at the first part of the May meeting, which is election night.

The Monday evening folk music things are in full swing at the Red Fox Inn, with Mike Holmes hosting them and making sure things keep happening. The music starts at about 8:00 p.m. and there's no cover charge. The Red Fox is located at 4940 Fairmont Ave., Bethesda, just off Old Georgetown Rd., a couple blocks above Wisconsin Ave.

SING OUT! has another dynamite issue out currently (taking into account the bias of your editor). It features songs from the women's workshops held at last summer's festivals, including songs by Hazel Dickens, Alice Gerrard, and Ola Belle Reed. In addition there are lots of articles about folksy performers, book and record reviews, columns by Mike Cooney and Pete Seeger, and lots of interesting ads. Also they attach a "soundsheet" which is a little record with a sample of each song that's in the issue. That way you can hear what it's supposed to sound like, as opposed to how you make it sound the first time through. Which is not to say that you want to sound just like the people on the record, but at least you can learn the melody that way.

At any rate, you'd probably agree that SING OUT! is well worth the subscription price of \$6 for one year and \$10 for a two-year subscription (6 issues a year). If you're interested write to SING OUT! Inc., 595 Broadway, New York NY 10012. Even mcp's like SING OUT!.

One of the prime movers behind the above plugged magazine has always been Pete Seeger. Now Pete has come out with a book, The Incomplete Folksinger, that traces his experiences over the past twenty or so years. It is primarily a compilation of writings that have appeared elsewhere, many from the pages of Sing Out! itself. It sounds like a really interesting collection of things by one of our favorite people. The book is being published by Simon and Schuster, is 600 pages long, and costs \$12.50. Apparently a paperback version will be out sooner or later, but you know how that goes.

A summer seminar called FOLKLORE IN AMERICA will be held from July 9 through the 29th at the Madeira School (close to Wolf Trap Farm Park). The 6-credit, 3-week workshop will be sponsored jointly by the National Folk Festival Association and George Washington University. The course will stress the cultural and interdisciplinary approach to folklore and will culminate with a study of the 35th National Folk Festival to be held at Wolf Trap. Developing the course are Chuck Perdue, Assistant Professor of Folklore at the U. of Virginia, and Victor Gella, of the Anthropology Dept. of GWU. For further information, write to the NEFA, 1346 Connecticut Ave., NW. # 718, Washington DC 20036. Enrollment is limited so move quickly.

ATTENTION !! 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, 1973. 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 address has changed or your dues are due.

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 ().
I wish to join the Society; enclosed is \$5 (individual) (); \$7.50 (family) ()
for a years membership. Address change (). Renewal ().

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

FOLK FESTIVALS, FIDDLERS CONVENTIONS, ETC., coming up in the next couple months, from the list being compiled by Joe Hickerson at the Archive of Folk Song, Library of Congress (426-5510). These are just the ones that are more or less within driving distance.

April 6-8	Folk Fair, Stockton State College, Pomona, New Jersey
" 7	Fiddle and banjo contests (part of Mountain Heritage Weekend) Potomac State College, Keyser, West Virginia
" 12-15	38th Annual Mountain Folk Festival, Berea College, Kentucky
" 13-15	Penn State University Folk Festival, University Park, Pennsylvania
" 19-21	49th Annual World's Championship Fiddler's Convention, J.P. Van Hoy Farm, Union Grove, North Carolina
" 19-22	Old Time Fiddler's and Bluegrass Festival, Fiddler's Grove, Union Grove, North Carolina
" 21	Albemarle-Stanley County Fiddlers Convention, North Carolina
" 23	Old Time Fiddlers Convention, Advance, North Carolina
" 23	Old-Time Fiddlers Convention, Oak Ridge, North Carolina
" 27-29	First Annual Philadelphia Spring Folk Festival, Ambler, Pa. (see page 2)
" 28-29	Green Grass Festival, Juniata College, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

The following are just a sampling of what's being held in May. The complete list wasn't available as of press time. We'll have more next month.

May 4-5	Cobb Bluegrass Festival, North Georgia Fairgrounds, Marietta, Ga.
" 4-6	Bluegrass Festival, Bluegrass Grove, Amelia, Virginia
" 5-6	Folk Festival, Hampshire College, Amherst, Massachusetts
" 11-12	Ohio University Folk Festival, Athens, Ohio
" 11-13	Buffalo Folk Festival, S.U.N.Y. at Buffalo, N.Y.
" 25-27	Carter Stanley Memorial Bluegrass Festival, McClure, Virginia
" 25-27	Mountain Heritage Folk Festival, Carter Caves State Park, Olive Hill, Kentucky
" 25-27	17th Annual Pittsburgh Folk Festival, Civic Arena, Pittsburgh, Pa.
" 27	90th Big Singing (from the Southern Harmony), Marshall County Court- house, Benton, Kentucky

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

Arlene