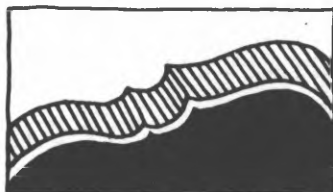


**The  
Folklore  
Society  
of Greater  
Washington**



Box 19303, 20th Street Station, Washington, DC 20036

# **NEWSLETTER**

VOLUME X, No. 8

April 1974

Editor: Marietta Plank

## **PETER BELLAMY CONCERT**

On Saturday, March 30, the FSGW will sponsor a special event concert featuring Peter Bellamy. Peter is an English folksinger from Norfolk and Kent. Before singing alone he was with an English group called the Young Tradition, who performed for us a few years back. Prior to singing with them, Peter was an art student. Now he is on his own, most of his music taken from the Copper Family, and his style influenced by the late Harry Cox. Later in this issue is one of Peter's songs, Bright Gold, or The Old Miser.

The program will be held at 8:30 p.m. at the Ethical Society, 7750 16th St., N.W. Admission is \$2.00 for FSGW members and \$3.00 for non-members.

## **SAMPLER CONCERT**

The Sampler Concert is going to be a big one this time. It will be on Friday, April 6th at 8:30 p.m. at the Ethical Society. The admission is \$1.00 for FSGW members and \$2.00 for non-members. The entertainers include Joe Hickerson, Sam Rizetta, Tom McHenry, Marv Reitz (sorry for the mis-spelling last month), and Joe Bossom.

Joe Hickerson is one of the founding members of the FSGW, and has held many board positions, including President from 1970-1972. He sings a wide variety of material, both traditional and contemporary folksongs. He has been an archivist and reference librarian at the Library of Congress, Archives of Folk Song since 1963. Occasionally he is accompanied by his wife, Lynn, either singing or playing the flute. He has recorded for Folk Legacy and is a member of the Golden Ring recording group.

Sam Rizetta is the hammer dulcimer player in the Greasy Run Toad Trompers. He has been a member of the FSGW for about three years, coming here from Michigan. Although he currently lives in Charlottesville, Va. (making guitars and dulcimers, both appalachian and hammer) he stays active in the FSGW, playing for our square dances and other events in town. Sam likes to play and sing lumbering songs, particularly those from Michigan, and also plays reels, quadrilles, and other dance tunes.

Tom McHenry, a native of West Virginia, began singing folk and country songs as a student about ten years ago. He is one of the more eclectic singers in the FSGW and can't resist a jam session of any type. He sings for his church, for barn dances, and occasionally sings songs in Welsh.

Marv Reitz is a new member of the FSGW. He is a native of eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, coming to the Washington area about three years ago. Marv comes from a musical family and plays dozens of instruments though concentrating on the guitar, clarinet and jug. He was a member of a blues band

and a jug band while in school in Indiana. He likes to sing country songs, and plays lots of jug band and ragtime music.

Joe Bossom, who has just returned to the Washington area after several years in New York, plays the bagpipes. Having played the bagpipes for over ten years, he has written many articles on them, including one for Sing Out. He also plays the banjo and sings occasionally.

#### ANDY COHEN

This month's program will feature Andy Cohen. Andy plays many instruments, one of his early instruments being the piano, on which he played jazz as a child. In college Andy learned to play guitar, and since then, the banjo. On all these instruments he plays old-timey, cowboy, blues, ballads, and ragtime music. He is currently living in Cullowhee, North Carolina. People may remember him from our Getaway last Fall.

The program will be at the Ethical Society on Friday, April 12, at 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$1.50 for non-members, and FSGW members get in free.

#### NO SMOKING DURING PROGRAMS

The Executive Board of the FSGW requests that there be no smoking during any concerts. All smoking must be done outside the buildings or in the lobbies of the buildings where the concerts are held. This is being requested as a favor, or a right, to all performers, but also for the audiences. We ask that all comply with this request.

#### HOUSE CONCERT - MURRAY CALLAHAN

Murray Callahan, a Philadelphian who has appeared from California to New York, will be performing for the FSGW at Ted Strader's home in Bethesda. Murray sings a lot of ballads, nonsense and a variety of other folksongs. Some may remember Murray from the Getaway last Fall. Murray also plays the guitar and occasionally sings unaccompanied.

The program will be on Saturday, April 20th at 8:30 p.m. at Ted Strader's, 7903 Glenbrook Rd., Bethesda, Maryland, 657-8708. A \$1.00 donation is suggested to cover any costs of the program.

#### FSGW SPECIAL CONCERT - HIGHWOOD STRING BAND

The Highwood String Band will be at the Cedar Lane Unitarian Church on Friday, April 19th at 8:30 p.m. Admission will be \$2.00 for members and \$3.00 for non-members.

The Highwood String Band, formerly the Fat City String Band, has been together for about three years now. They include five musicians, playing two fiddles, guitar, banjo and bass. They play primarily old-time string band music, mostly from the repertoire of southwestern Virginia and Georgia bands.

A pottery show and sale will be taking place in the lobby of the church if anyone is interested.

#### OPEN SING

This month's Open Sing is being organized by Merle and Carly. Their topic is of interest to many, but let's hope not too many, too seriously -- BABIES, Pro and Con. It's a good bet that everyone has an opinion on this subject. Bring those opinions in the form of a song.

The Open Sing will be at the Ethical Society at 9:00 p.m. Friday, April 5. Admission is \$1.00 for both members and non-members; refreshments will be served.

### SACRED HARP AND POT LUCK SUPPER

The month's Sacred Harp sing has not yet been arranged. It will probably be held on Easter Sunday, April 14th. If you are interested in coming to sing or interested in bringing some food for the Pot Luck Supper, call Arlene Rodenbeck, 337-4353.

### JOHN JACKSON

In a somewhat folklore manner, here is another, hopefully more accurate story of John Jackson, than the description given for last month's program.

John Jackson was born in 1924 in Rappahannock County, Virginia. He came to Fairfax County in 1950 to work on a farm. He worked mainly around the house as cook, butler, chauffer, and general caretaker. He was also a grave digger at Arlington Cemetery and cut grass, cut wood, and hauled firewood.

John was found by Chuck Perdue in a gasoline station in Fairfax in 1964. Through Chuck, he began to perform in the Washington area, and since then has become familiar to many.

### NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1974/75 ELECTIONS

It's time to start thinking about the FSGW Executive Board elections. At the April program meeting, the current slate of candidates will be announced. Additional nominations may be made and seconded from the floor at that meeting. Immediately after that meeting, authorized ballots, and a brief description of the candidates listed on the ballots will be mailed to all FSGW members -- one to individual members and two to families. The completed ballots may either be mailed to the FSGW, P.O. Box 19303, 20th St. Station, Washington, D.C. 20036, or they may be brought to the May program meeting. At the May meeting all authorized ballots will be counted. The results of the election will be announced during the meeting.

Meanwhile, you may want to consider those already running or whether you would like to run against them. Besides taking care of their particular areas of concern, these people would constitute the Executive Board, which meets once a month to tell each other what they've been doing and make decisions on new events or policies. Most of the positions require more of a willingness to get involved than any particular skill or experience. If you're interested in any of the positions, or want to know more about them, call Debbie Hutton at 652-2692.

The following is a list of those presently nominated:

President	Helen Schneyer	Publications	Nan Goland
	Mike Rivers		Peter Dean*
	Dick Rodgers*	Publicity	Betty Hamman
Vice-President	Debbie Hutton	Members-at-Large	Lars Hanslin (incum.)
	Bob Clayton*	(2 will be	Les Caraher
Treasurer	Rich Galloway (incumbent)	elected)	Mary Cliff
Secretary	Pat Chambers		Allan Astrov
Program	Jonathan Eberhart		Gene Anderson*
Special Events	Bill Destler		

\* Nominated from the floor at the March meeting.

### WORKSHOPS

BANJO WORKSHOP, on April 4, Thursday, at the home of Jane Pruit, in the Carderock area of Maryland at 7:30 p.m. For information concerning the exact location, call 469-7424.

HYMN SING WORKSHOP, on April 28, Sunday, at Nan Goland's, 2853 Ontario Rd., N.W. #504 (near 16th and Columbia) at 7:00 p.m. For any further information, call Nan at 332-0232.

### SPRING MINIFESTIVAL

We're having another all day workshop, dinner, and square dance on Sunday, April 21, starting at 1:45 p.m. This will again be held at the Cedar Lane Unitarian Church, 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, Maryland.

The Instrument and Song Workshops will run from 1:45-5:00 p.m. The workshop leaders will include: Joe Hickerson, Ralph Rinzler, Mike Quitt, Murray Callahan, Bruce Hutton, Johathan Eberhart, John Winikates and many others. Please come early so that the workshops can get started on time.

Dinner will be served from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Reservations are necessary for dinner. Fill in the form below or call Debbie Hutton at 652-2692, if you are late in responding.

The Square Dance will be from 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Admission will be \$1.50 for any one part (workshop, dinner or dance); \$1.25 each for any two parts and \$3.00 for the whole day. Advance registration is necessary for the dinner only. Please fill out the form below and return it to Debbie Hutton, 4753 Bradley Blvd., #206, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015.

---

#### DINNER RESERVATIONS

Names \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please enter the total number having dinner \_\_\_\_\_

---

Help is needed all through the day. Anyone interested in assisting Debbie with things like registration, kitchen, or clean-up, contact Debbie, as soon as possible.

### FOLKLORE IN AMERICA

During the Summer, the Dept. of Anthropology, George Washington University, in cooperation with the National Folk Festival Association will again be offering an intensive three-week seminar and workshop course covering the various aspects of traditional cultures in the United States. Folklore topics presented from both historical and contemporary points of view include narrative, song, music, dance, religion, games, proverbs; folk art, architecture, crafts; library/field methodology in folklore research, and a number of other aspects of folklore.

The course is being taught by Charles L. Perdue, Jr., Asst. Professor of Folklore at Univ. of Virginia, and member of the Board of the NFFA. Students will receive 6 semester hours of credit for the course. Classes will meet Monday through Friday from 9 to 12 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. on the campus of Marymount College of Va., Glebe Rd., Arlington, Va. Enrollment is limited; tuition is \$402.00, payable on the first day of class. In order to reserve a place, applications must be filled out and returned to George Washington Univ. by May 1, 1974.

For application forms and additional information, write or telephone: Victor K. Golla, Dept. of Anthropology, George Washington Univ., Washington, D.C. 20006, (202) 676-6075.

### SQUARE DANCING

After much ado and minimal planning, John Winikates is beginning a weekly square dance every Friday night. It will be held at Sumner School Basement, 17th and M Sts., N.W. There is limited parking on the school grounds. The cost is \$ .75.

If enough people will want to dance regularly, the more complicated figures and dances, particularly contras, will be considered more often. What

eventually develops will depend upon the interest of the group. Music will either be live or taped.

John is also looking for more dance materials, especially old dance manuals containing descriptions, calls, etc. for traditional American dances, and books, articles on the history of dance. Anyone in touch with this type of material should contact John Winikates at P.O. Box 3382, Columbia Heights, Washington, D.C. 20010 or call 234-8624.

#### RECORD REVIEWS

We have a new Record Review Editor, Al Rango. Anyone who has a good review ready for publication should direct them all to Al. He can be reached at 593-3065 or mail the reviews to him at 127 Southwood Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20901.

**SLIM CRITCHLOW: COWBOY SONGS.** Arhoolie 5007.

The Crooked Trail to Holbrook; Borax Bill; The Trail to Mexico; The Brazos River; D-Bar-2 Horse Wrangler; Windy Bill; Goodbye Old Paint; Bucking Bronco; Buffalo Skinners; Snagtooth Sal; The Trusty Lariat; John Garner's Trail Herd, Whiskey Bill; and five others.

Slim Critchlow was Pennsylvania born, but grew up in Iowa, Utah, and finally Oklahoma where, in his horse-riding debut, he fell off his horse and broke his arm. He went on from there to be a wrangler, National Guard horse regiment member, deputy sheriff, park ranger, and rodeo rider. Even though he gave up cowboying in 1936, he still continued to sing his cowboy songs and accompany himself with an eight string guitar (top two strings doubled) until he died in 1969. Fortunately, Chris Strachwitz of Arhoolie Records recorded some of his songs before he died.

Slim had an amazingly rich voice and combined it with strikingly simple guitar accompaniment. Included in the album are three trail drive songs, and a period protest song about the Borax freighting business in California. Brazos River accurately describes the kinds of streams in the arid Southwest, but Slim convinced himself of the existence of the Nacodoches River while modifying the song, when in thuth, none exists. Bucking Bronco does not leave much to the imagination, but in the excellent liner notes that Slim wrote, he states that he had some other verses not fit to record. Buffalo Skinners is an interesting tale of the way things were in the late 1800's, and probably the finest performance on the album is the MacMcClintock song, Trusty Lariat. It is somewhat unusual to hear cowboy ballads that deal with exploitation and hard times rather than the glories of the Old West. For my taste, this album makes for more interesting listening than the RCA Vintage Series (LPV-522) cowboy album.

Al Rango

#### BOOK REVIEW

**How to Use Folk Songs.** [By] David Dufty and John Anthony Scott. Washington: National Council for the Social Studies (1201 16th St., N.W., 20036), 1969. (How To Do It Series, No. 25.) 8 pp. Guide to Further Study. \$0.25, paperbound.

For the teacher of social studies, English, music, or the primary grades, who is looking for suggestions for the use of folksong in the classroom, this bulletin by David Dufty and John Anthony Scott should be a valuable resource material. Teachers who have been using folksong in their classes will be able to utilize this booklet for comparisons of methods and approaches.

While this publication is aimed primarily at the social studies teacher (there is a great deal of attention given to the use of folksong in U.S. History and World Geography), any teacher who wants to utilize folkmusic in the school will find it of interest. How to Use Folk Songs points out the importance of traditional songs in the early development of the child, and urges that the values and lessons of the folk learned in the home be reinforced by formal education.

One interesting heading in this booklet is "Using Folk Songs - Some General Principles"; there is nothing new or startling about this section, but it serves as a "methods" review for the experienced teacher and as a "methods" suggestion for the new teacher interested in presenting traditional music in the classroom. While these are not hard and fast principles, they are well worth consideration.

The booklet contains a "Guide to Further Study" which contains a list of educational literature, a bibliography, and a list of record companies specializing in folk materials. I should point out that Folk-Legacy Records is located in Sharon, Conn., not Sharon, Mass. as stated in the booklet.

This is a handy bulletin to keep in your lesson plans, to glance at from time to time in the course of the school year. It is well worth the price of \$ .25, and discounts on lot orders are available.

Jerome J. Bielizna  
Danbury, Connecticut

#### CALENDAR

March 30	Saturday	FSGW Special Concert - Ralph Bellamy, 8:30 p.m.	
	Saturday	AU Coffee House, Donal Leace & a Bluegrass group (by ticket only)	
March 31	Sunday	Travelin' Blues Workshop, 3:00 p.m.	9:00 p.m.
April 4	Thursday	FSGW Banjo Workshop, 7:30 p.m.	
April 5	Friday	FSGW Open Sing, 9:00 p.m.	
April 6	Saturday	FSGW Sampler Concert, 8:30 p.m.	
	Saturday	AU Coffee House - Local Talent, 9:00 p.m. (Outside, weather	
April 12	Friday	FSGW Program, Andy Cohen, 8:30 p.m.	permitting)
April 13	Saturday	AU Coffee House, Hickory Wind, Earl Williams Bluegrass Band,	
April 14	Sunday	FSGW Sacred Harp & Pot Luck Supper	9:00 p.m.
April 19	Friday	Highwood String Band, FSGW Special Concert, 8:30 p.m.	
	Friday	Sweeney-Todd Presents, Helen Schneyer, 8:30 p.m.	
April 20	Saturday	Highwood String Band, Red Fox, 8:00 p.m.	
	Saturday	FSGW House Concert, Murray Callahan, 8:30 p.m.	
	Saturday	American University, Special Concert Weekend	
April 21	Sunday	FSGW Minifestival, 1:45-10:00 p.m.	
April 26	Friday	Northern Maryland Council of Folk Arts, Folk Concert, evening.	
		Harford Community College, Belair, Md., (301) 939-0800	
April 28	Sunday	FSGW Hymn Sing Workshop, 7:00 p.m.	
May 3	Friday	FSGW Open Sing, 9:00 p.m.	
May 10	Friday	FSGW Program, 8:30 p.m. -- Elections	
May 17	Friday	Sweeney-Todd Presents, Michael Quitt, 8:30 p.m.	
June 23	Sunday	Tentative date for FSGW Picnic	

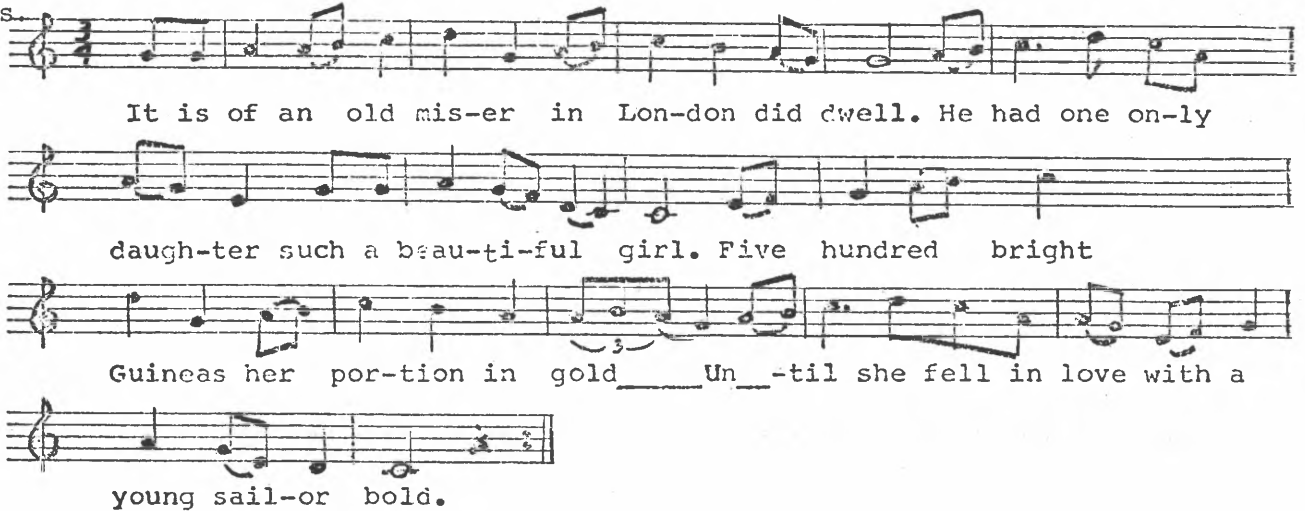
#### AROUND TOWN

Folk Hoot is another good place in town for good folk music. Every Wednesday and Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. there's a hootenany at The Singer's Studio, 4614 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. (at Brandywine, next to the Studio 1-2-3). Wednesday nights are specially for new performers and Thursday nights are for experienced performers. It's "...an intimate place for music where singers can be heard, where talent can be encouraged and emotions expressed" according to their flyer. The total cost for the evening is \$1.50 For more information call Bill Flanders, 244-2552 or 966-1344.

For Information on the AU Coffee House, see the calendar for events or call Dave Zinn (686-0827). The only special event at the Red Fox this month is Saturday, April 20th at 8:00 p.m. when the Highwood String Band will perform.

BRIGHT GOLD OR THE OLD MISER

This ballad is known in England in various forms and by several titles. This version comes from Harry Cox, via Peter Bellamy, who recorded it for Vanguard Records.



It is of an old mis-er in Lon-don did dwell. He had one on-ly  
daugh-ter such a beau-ti-ful girl. Five hundred bright  
Guineas her por-tion in gold. Un-til she fell in love with a  
young sail-or bold.

Now when the old miser heard about this affair,  
All on the young sailor he would curse and would swear,  
"No more shall that young man go and plow the salt sea,  
And before tomorrow morning his butcher I'll be."

Now when that pretty fair maid heard her father say so,  
It filled her eyes full of tears and her heart full of woe.  
"Oh Willie, dear Willie, I wish you was here,  
How quickly I would warn you of the danger that's near."

So she dressed herself up then so rare and complete  
For she was determined her sailor to meet,  
She had pumps on her feet and a cane in her hand  
And she met her own true love as he walked down the strand.

"Oh Willie, dear Willie, from this place you must flee,  
For me father, he's determined your butcher to be.  
Go quickly to Dover, I would have you go there,  
And in less than eight and forty hours I will join you there."

Then up spoke this pretty fair maid with a tear in her eye,  
Saying, "I will have him or else I will die."  
Straightway then she gave him two handfuls of gold  
And she walked down along the strand like some young sailor bold.

Now as that pretty fair maid walked along down the strand,  
She met her own father crying, "You are that man!"  
And a sword from his side he most instantly drew  
And into her body he pierced it quite through.

And when that old miser saw what he had done,  
He tore of his hair and his fingers he wrung,  
"Oh wretched, cruel monster, what have I now done!  
I've killed me only daughter, she's the flower of London!"

And then that old miser, he took it so hard,  
He put his sword to his breast till it pierced his own heart.  
"Forgive me!" he cried, as he drew his last breath,  
And then he closed his eyes in the cold hand of death.

And when that young sailor heard about this affair,  
He came quickly from Dover and died in despair.  
There was father and daughter and the young sailor bold,  
All died an untimely death for the sake of bright gold.



## MEMBERSHIP

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

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

Would you be interested in helping the Society in any way?

WASHINGTON  
MAR 25 '74  
D.C.

U.S. POST  
10

PERMIT NO. 872997

ARLENE RODENBECK  
2322 40TH PL NW  
APT 204  
WASHINGTON DC 20007