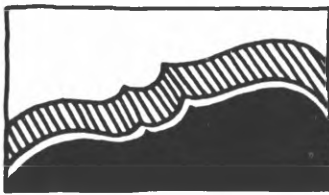


**The
Folklore
Society
of Greater
Washington**



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

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME ~~X~~, No. 1

SEPTEMBER, 1975

XII

Nan Goland, Editor

ALMEDA RIDDLE TO OPEN SOCIETY'S FALL SEASON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

What a way to start our fall season! On Friday, September 12 at 8:30 PM, the Folklore Society will present Almeda Riddle in a special concert at the Washington Ethical Society, 7750-16th Street NW. Admission is \$1.50 members, \$3 non-members.

Almeda Riddle is a renowned and respected ballad singer from the Ozarks. For a number of years, "Granny," as she calls herself, has devoted much of her time to travelling thousands of miles for guest appearances at various folk festivals such as Newport, the University of Chicago, and the 1972 National Folk Festival at Wolf Trap (remember?). She sings traditional songs, unaccompanied, in a traditional vocal style.



Folklorist Roger Abrams several years ago issued a book about Almeda and her music called *A Singer and Her Songs*. She has appeared on albums of the Atlantic Southern Heritage Series and Prestige's Southern Journey Series, both recorded by Alan Lomax. She has a fine solo album on Rounder. An earlier one on Vanguard is now, unfortunately, out of print.

Almeda is a great musician, and, in addition, one of the nicest people I know. She's on the staff at Pinewoods Camp in Massachusetts this summer, which is why we are able to present her--she's stopping here on her way home. You'll enjoy meeting her. Come hear her talk about herself and her home in the Ozarks and sing songs from her remarkable repertoire. I promise you a memorable evening.

-Alan

OTHER FSGW HAPPENINGS...

LABOR DAY PROGRAM/SEPTEMBER 1

Our Labor Day Concert this year will be held at WOLF TRAP, not Sylvan Theater as in years past. It will be part of an all-day Labor Day program. Our part of the day, from 3 to 5:00 PM on the Meadow Stage, will feature, among others, Bob Clayton, Joe Glazer, Mike Holmes, John Jackson, and Tom McHenry. Other times during the day there will Country & Western, colonial music, the Billy Taylor Trio, Bill Roberts' jazz group, Dixieland jazz, and an evening program featuring Theo Bikel, Oscar Brand, and Odetta! Plus, it's all free! Monday, September 1 at Wolf Trap. Don't miss it.

-Alan

FIRST FRIDAY OPEN SING/SEPTEMBER 5

As usual, the Open Sing will be held on the first Friday of the month, September 5, at 9:00 PM, at the Ethical Society, 7750 16th Street NW. I'll host this one myself, to get things rolling again after a slow summer. The topic is "Wanderers." Bring guitars, banjos, ukelins, voices (do you have more than one?) and help us sing about gypsies, tinkers, roustabouts, roving gamblers, etc. Use your imagination. There will be the usual assortment of games plus coffee, wine, and punch. Bring your own beer, if you like. A donation of \$1 at the door is all you pay.

-Alan

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING/SEPTEMBER 2

Tuesday, September 2 is the date for the monthly board meeting, beginning at 8:00 PM. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at the office of the National Folk Festival Association, 1346 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 1118. Thanks to the NFFA for the use of their office for our meetings.

SACRED HARP & POTLUCK DINNER/SEPTEMBER 21

The first sing of this season will be held on Sunday, September 21, beginning at 4:00 PM at the home of Jane and Joel Rosenbloom in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood in DC. Call them at 667-5344 to get directions and coordinate food.

The Sacred Harp and *Christian Harmony*, the books we use at these sings, are collections of Southern hymns, arranged in four-part harmony. The harmonies are unusual and the texts are interesting. Some are really beautiful and some are really corny. It's mostly the fun of singing together (and of eating together) that brings people to these events. You don't need to have the books--we all share and there's a box of extras to pass around.

Speaking of books, we are ordering a new supply of both books. They are \$3.75 each, and, when they arrive, will be available from Arlene Rodenbeck.

-Arlene

OTHER FSGW MATTERS...



RENEW NOW TO SAVE!!

Remember that FSGW dues are going up as of October 1, 1975. You can join or renew--it doesn't matter when your renewal comes due--before Oct. 1 at the old rates. Don't delay! Your envelope must be postmarked before Oct. 1 to qualify! GOOD IDEA: Renew for three years before Oct. 1 to save extra \$\$.

The new rates will be as follows:

	1-year	3-years
Individual	\$6	\$18
Family	\$9	\$27

Note: Program admissions for non-members will also increase from \$1.50 to \$2 at the same time.

YOUR FSGW MEMBERSHIP IS A REAL BARGAIN!!

WHAT SOME FOLKS ARE DOING...

BLUEGRASS OPEN SING/SEPTEMBER 19

The third Friday every month is reserved for pickin' and grinnin' at the Ethical Society, 7750-16th Street NW. It's similar to the first Friday Open Sing, but with more emphasis on group than individual efforts. It starts at 9:00 PM. There's a donation of \$1 at the door, with refreshments free inside.

SMITHSONIAN DOCENTS NEEDED

The Smithsonian Institution is looking for volunteers to spend two mornings a month introducing traditional American instruments to elementary school classes. Previous playing experience is NOT necessary. Training will be provided for demonstrating a banjo, plucked dulcimer, and hammered dulcimer. Training starts in late September. Call Bruce or Debbie Hutton for more information at 270-2217.



--CONCISE CALENDAR OF EVENTS--

- SEPT. 1 - LABOR DAY PROGRAM
2 - BOARD MEETING
5 - OPEN SING
12 - ALMEDA RIDDLE CONCERT
19 - BLUEGRASS OPEN SING
21 - SACRED HARP SING
- OCT. 3 - OPEN SING
7 - BOARD MEETING
10 - PROGRAM
17 - BLUEGRASS OPEN SING
24-26 - GETAWAY

MONDAYS - RED FOX INN

SATURDAYS - BERWYN CAFE

BERWYN CAFE/SATURDAYS AT 9:30 PM

Hi Everybody: This season the Berwyn Cafe will host some more fine entertainment every Saturday night at 9:30 PM. Admission is free; we pass the hat for the musicians. There's generally some good munching available and the atmosphere is relaxed. Starting in October, the last Saturday of each month will be an open sing, so bring whatever you play or just yourself. Here's the order for September:

6th - Leigh Oben - Leigh gave us one of our most memorable concerts last year. He plays classical guitar like you've heard maybe on records. Only seeing him up close is 23 times better.

13th - Carly Gewirz and Friends - Carly sings well and with feeling. She does mostly traditional stuff, accompanying herself sometimes on dulcimer.

20th - Bruce Hutton - Think of a stringed instrument, quick! Betcha Bruce can play it. It's hard to "get used" to Bruce's "sound" because he changes instruments every other song.

27th - Luci & Vgo - Spirituals, Pan American music, unaccompanied ballads, on and on, these folks is quality. Vgo plays dulcimer and guitar, Luci sings and sings and sings.

-Jeff

RED FOX INN/MONDAY EVENINGS

The Red Fox Inn at 4940 Fairmont Avenue in Bethesda, Md., has an open stage every Monday evening between 8:30 and 12:30 PM. Each performer sings two songs. The emphasis is on traditional folk music. If you'd like to perform, check in with Bruce Hutton, the MC, when you come in. There's no cover charge on Mondays.

SPECIAL NOTE: The Red Clay Ramblers will be at the Fox on September 9 and 10.

FSGW PHONE NUMBER: (703) 920-2067

WEEKEND REGISTRATION

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PLEASE LIST ALL PERSONS WHO WILL BE ATTENDING:

NAME	AGE GROUP	PRICE
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

IDEAS FOR WORKSHOPS? _____

ARE YOU A MEMBER? _____ TOTAL \$ ENCLOSED _____

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE A CABIN WITH SOMEONE IN PARTICULAR?

WHO MIGHT THAT BE? _____

ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO HELP ON FRIDAY? _____ MONDAY? _____

DAILY REGISTRATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PLEASE LIST ALL PERSONS WHO WILL BE ATTENDING:

NAME	AGE GROUP	# OF DAYS	WITH DINNER?	PRICE
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

IDEAS FOR WORKSHOPS? _____

ARE YOU A MEMBER? _____ TOTAL \$ ENCLOSED _____

GETAWAY X: OCTOBER 24-26

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GETAWAY WILL BE HELD THE LAST WEEKEND
IN OCTOBER AT PRINCE WILLIAM FOREST PARK NEAR DUMFRIES, VIRGINIA

Concerts, workshops, good food, and good friends are the main ingredients in FSGW's annual Getaway Weekend. Workshops on beginning and advanced instrumental techniques, song types and styles, and maybe some crafts will be held throughout the weekend. Square and contra dancing workshops will be offered as well.

The campsite provides cabins and cots, so you must bring sleeping bags or bedding. Bring warm clothes, too, since it is sure to be cold much of the weekend. There is cold water only in the johns, so don't figure on getting a hot shower. FSGW members get first crack at the available cabin spaces, but after September 24 it's first come first served, so get your registration in early. Cabin assignments will also be made with preference to those who register early. Payment in full must accompany your registration, and no refunds can be made after September 24. Cabin assignments and maps will be mailed at a later date.

Inflation has forced a modest increase in the costs for the weekend, with fees set at \$22 for adults and \$12 for kids under 14. All meals on Saturday and Sunday are included. Babies and toddlers who don't require bunk space and who don't eat much will be admitted free.

For those who wish to drive down for the day either Saturday or Sunday, costs for daily registration are \$2.50 per day for adults and \$1.50 per day for kids under 14. A limited number of day-with-dinner registrations are available at \$6 per day for adults and \$3 per day for kids under 14. You may register for the day until October 17, but it is important to register and pay in advance, since no money can be collected at the park.

Preconditions: All weekend registrants must help with chores at some point during the weekend, and everyone must abide by park regulations. ABSOLUTELY NO PETS will be allowed.

If you want to come, fill out the form, enclose full payment, and send both, right away, to FSGW Getaway, PO Box 19303, 20th Street Station, Washington, DC, 20036.



Thanks to the folks who contributed to this issue: Jeff Deitchman,
Bill Destler, Alan Mackall, Arlene Rodenbeck.

Deadline for the October Newsletter is Friday, September 19. Items
can be given to me at Society events, or mailed to me at 2853 Ontario
Road NW, #504, Washington, DC, 20009.

-Nan

This Newsletter is published by the Folklore Society of Greater Washington, a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to preserving and promoting traditional folk arts in the greater Washington, DC area. Membership in the Society is open to all who wish to help pursue these goals. Membership benefits include free admission to programs, reduced admission to special events, the Newsletter by first class mail, plus workshops, sings, and more. To join, fill out the form below, enclose your check and send to the Folklore Society, PO Box 19303, 20th Street Station, Washington, DC, 20036.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

I/we want to join! Enclosed is:

_____ \$5.00 - One year, Individual _____ \$15.00 - Three year, Individual
_____ \$7.50 - One year, Family _____ \$22.50 - Three year, Family

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CHECK ONE: New Membership _____ Renewal _____

Are you interested in helping the Society in some way? _____

MULTIPLE CRAFTS EXHIBIT AT RENWICK GALLERY

An exhibit of traditional and contemporary crafts using a wide variety of materials is now on display at the Renwick Gallery at the corner of 17th and Pennsylvania Ave. NW. The show features the work of craftsmen who produce ten or more copies of the same object. One of our own members, instrument maker Sam Rizzetta, is one of the craftsmen whose work is being shown. The gallery is open daily (except Christmas) from 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM. Admission is free. The crafts exhibit runs through February 16.

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

Arlene