THE WASHINGTON FOLK FESTIVAL

JUNE 2nd AND 3rd AT GLEN ECHO PARK IN MARYLAND, RAIN OR SHINE AND FREE

IT'S HERE! Five stages of music and dance, bringing together a host of American traditions along with those of nearly three dozen other countries—yet all representing the amazing variety of the greater Washington area. There'll be a broad sampling of traditional crafts, with live demonstrations & even some chances to try your own hand. The dancing will include some to watch, to learn and to simply join in. There'll be children's programs, workshops ranging from fiddle styles to songs about Washington, and lots more. And it's all free, because everyone involved in making it happen is doing so gratis. The festival will run from noon to 10 p.m. on Saturday, June 2nd and from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, June 3rd, rain or shine, and is presented with the cooperation of the National Park Service. Glen Echo Park is located on MacArthur Blvd. at Goldsboro Rd., and for more information you can call the park's information number, 492-6282. There are lots of festivals around, but you ought to try this one, because if you find something unexpected that you like—and you will—You'll be able to find more of it later on, in your own backyard.

THE BAULS OF BENGAL—SPECIAL EVENT—FRIDAY, JUNE 9th, 8:30 P.M. ————

If your experience with India's music is confined to Ravi Shankar's sitar-playing, come hear a surprisingly different side in the Baul music of Bengal. If sitar music is analogous to that of, say, the classical violin, the Bauls of Bengal are more like a sort of spiritual, ecstatic jugband. Unusual instruments, beautiful singing and an approach that has influenced people from Allen Ginsburg to Bob Dylan will all be part of their performance on June 8 at 8:30 p.m. at the Washington Ethical Society auditorium, 7750 16th St. NW at Kalmia Rd. Admission is $2 for FSGW members and and $4 for non-members. (continued on p. 2...)
"Baul" is a Bengali word meaning "afflicted with the spirit of the wind." It's a reference to madness, and indeed, these itinerant musicians were ostracized for many years for their philosophy and house-to-house, village-to-village ways.

The principal performer at the concert will be Purna Das Baul, a remarkable singer and performer on the khamak, an instrument that looks like a drum but which is actually plucked, producing its pitches by changing the tension on a string attached to one of the drumheads. Hita Brata Roy will play the four-stringed dotara, Eadal Roy (known from his recordings with jazz trumpeter Miles Davis!) plays the tabla, and Manju Das plays the tiny, bell-like cymbals known as kartal.

You don't have to know--or maybe even care--about Indian music to enjoy the music of the Bauls. "I rejoice in song and I dance with one and all," says one of their songs. "That is why, brother, I became a madcap Baul."

Jonathan

**AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER OUTDOOR CONCERT**

The Folklife Center's 1979 outdoor concert series presents Ron Thomason and the Dry Branch Fire Squad, an Ohio band that "lives and breathes bluegrass". The Fire Squad performs classical bluegrass, often interpreted in the traditional forms of duet and a capella singing. The band combines fine musicianship with an appreciation of the traditions that nurture bluegrass music. 12 noon to 2 p.m. on the Neptune Plaza, Library of Congress. No tickets required.

The Outdoor Concert Series will continue on July 26th with a performance by the Louisiana Aces, playing traditional Cajun music. The Aces include D.L. Menard, Marc Savoy, and Dick Richard. The group will be joined by Dewey Balfa and his nephew, Tony Balfa. 12 noon to 2 p.m. on the Neptune Plaza, Library of Congress. No tickets required.

**CONGRATULATIONS...** go to Reed Martin who won 1st place in the banjo contest at Union Grove, North Carolina this spring.

**FSGW SUNDAY NIGHT DANCES**

The Society's regular Sunday night dances are held at the Masonic Temple Hall, 3501 12th St. NE at the corner of Monroe St., about 6 blocks east of the Brookland-CU metro stop. The dances are from 8-10:30 p.m., with a $2 admission for FSGW members and $2.50 for non-members.

June 3rd - Bob Dalsemer calling
June 10th - Lou Shapiro calling
June 17th - Mary Roadee calling
June 24th - Boss-Town Buzz-Steps calling

Music for all the June dances will be by the Boss-Town Buzz-Steps.

There will be no Sunday night dances during July and August. They will resume in September. Watch your newsletter for exact date and place.

**MCRE DANCE:**

Polish up your dancing shoes, 'cause a lot's going on: On Wednesday night, June 6, Bob Dalsemer will be calling a dance at All Souls' Church, 16th and Harvard Sts. NW in D.C., with music by the Boss-Town Buzz-Steps. It's a benefit for the Winchester Summit Tenants Association, and admission is $2.50. For more info, call Richard Schuman at 265-3946.

Then there's a big schedule at the Spanish Ballroom in Maryland's Glen Echo Park, where the dances run from 6:30 to 11:30.

June 2 - A square dance, FREE, as part of the FSGW's third annual Washington Folk Festival. Calls by Lou Shapiro with Hambone Sweets. The rest have a $2 admission:
June 9 - Square dance: calls by Nina Perkins and Bruce Strand, music by Hambone Sweets.
June 16 - Squares and contras: Lou Shapiro with the Chicken Spankers.
June 23 - New England contra, English country and squares: five callers, music by Peascods Gathering.
June 30 - Scandinavian couple turning dances: led by Bill Warren with Peascods Gathering.
OPEN SING

There's nothing like a topic that fits the occasion, and we sure have one this month. The Open Sing is the night before the Third Annual Washington Folk Festival and we're going to celebrate like mad with songs about parties, holidays, anniversaries and whatever merrymaking comes to mind. All this revelry will happen on Friday, June 1, at about 9 p.m., at the Washington Ethical Society auditorium, 16th and Kalmia Rd. N.W. Admission is $1 for everyone and includes wine and punch. Beer is available for a bit extra. So get into a carousing mood and join leader Tom McHenry for "Songs for Festive Occasions!"

Next month's topic fits, too-- the Sing will be July 6th, (two days after July you-know-what), and Peter Verdier will be leading "Songs of Revolution, Uprising and Protest." Join us!

GOSPEL SING

The June Gospel Sing will be on Sunday, June 10th, at 4 p.m. The location can be obtained by calling Kathy Condon, 234-5115.

HOW 'BOUT A HAND?

The Washington Folk Festival is BIG, and the folks putting it on need some more help that Sat. & Sun. If you're willing to volunteer, just a couple of hours, call Linda now at 526-0584. Thanks.

FSGW BOARD MEETING - JUNE 6th, 8 p.m.

Board meetings are open to the membership. The June meeting will be a joint meeting of the old and new board. If you are interested in attending call the FSGW hot-line 281-2228 for location.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

At press time there was not yet an established deadline date for the summer newsletter(s). Therefore mail any articles, notes etc. for summer publication as soon as you have the info. to 3313 Hemlock Dr., Falls Church, Va. 22042.

1979 - 1980 FSGW BOARD--ELECTION RESULTS

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Congratulations to the new Board Members. They will take office on July 1st, 1979.

IN MEMORIAM

Regrettfully this is becoming a regular column, as many old friends in the folk-music world leave us. It re-emphasizes how precious are the moments when they share their music with us.

John Ashby was born in 1915 in Free State, Fauquier Co., Va., long known as a very independent-thinking mountain-farm community. He learned country style fiddling from his uncle, Joe Ashby, and John L. Sullivan. Together with his band, the Free State Ramblers, John set many a foot tapping. His family requests that any memorial contributions be sent to the Bluemont Concert Series, Rte. 1 Box 135, Bluemont, Va. 22012, which will be setting up a traditional music concert series in John's name.

EDITOR'S CORNER

It would be impossible to thank all the people by name, in this article, who have helped with the newsletter the past two years. You know who you are; those who contributed articles and information, those who helped with the mail-outs, my family who put up with thousands of pieces of paper strewn about - Thanks to all of you - I really enjoyed being newsletter editor. Good Luck Nancy!

Mia
FOR SUMMER LISTENING PLEASURE.....

.....And the rest of the year too.....

Here is an updated list of tapes available from the FSFW archives. Copies of the tapes (3 3/4 ips mono on 7" reels) are available to members for rental at a charge of $2 per month. You can arrange to pick one up at a monthly program and bring it back the following month. Copies can be made for members in any reasonable format, including cassettes, for $2.50 per hour (which usually means $5 per program) plus the tape. Call FSFW hotline, 280-2228 to make arrangements for rental or duplication.

11/64 Chuck & Nan Perdue
12/64 John Putnam
1/65 Local blues singers
1/65 Folk sing
3/65 McPeake Family
4/65 Elizabeth Cotten
7/65 Piknik
9/65 Local folk performers
11/65 Sampler Concert
12/65 Tossi & Lee Aaron
1/66 Student papers
4/66 Pham Duy
4/66 Local fiddlers
6/66 Buddy Moss
6/66 Memorial Concert for Frank Proffitt
7/66 Piknik
9/66 Getaway I
11/66 Sara Cleveland
12/66 No. Va. High School Festival
1/67 Des & Juliet Rainey
2/67 Pennywhistlers
2/67 Sampler Concert
3/67 Local blues singers
4/67 Folklore papers
5/67 Getaway II
6/67 Piknik
12/67 Norman Kennedy
3/68 Louis Killen
4/68 Sampler Concert
5/68 Getaway III
5/68 Yank Rachell & Shirley Griffith
6/68 Dildines, Hickersons
9/68 Sampler Concert
9/68 Labor Day Program
10/68 Joe Heaney
11/68 Dan Smith
11/68 The Young Tradition
12/68 Bill Vanaver

1/69 Peter & Polly Gott
2/69 Tom Paley
3/69 Sampler Concert
5/69 Frank Goodwin (tall tales)
9/69 Getaway IV
10/69 Barn Dance music
1/70 Norman Kennedy
1/70 Bessie Jones
3/70 Golden Ring
4/70 Valley Players
6/70 Piknik
10/70 Bob White
10/70 Getaway V
11/70 Aly Bain, Mike Whellans
12/70 Kilby Snow
1/71 Ola Belle Reed
2/71 Franklin George
2/71 Southern Folk Festival Tour
2/71 Lincoln’s Day Program
3/71 John Roberts & Tony Barrand
4/71 Franklin George
4/71 Margaret MacArthur
5/71 Local blues & gospel singers
6/71 Piknik
9/71 Labor Day Program
9/71 Getaway VI
10/71 Sampler Concert
10/71 Alan Stowell
11/71 Grant Rogers
11/71 Malvina Reynolds
12/71 David Bromberg (not for duplication)
1/72 Alan Jabbour & Peter Hoover
3/72 Jon Wilcox
4/72 Dave & Toni Arthur
5/72 Bill Vanaver
6/72 Rick & Lorainne Lee
6/72 Bessie Jones Benefit Concert
6/72 Piknik
9/72 Labor Day Program
9/72 Sampler Concert
9/72 Getaway VII
10/72 Tracy Schwarz & The Old Home String Band
11/72 Roscoe Holcomb
12/72 Louis Killen
1/73 Jean Redpath
1/73 Songmakers of Virginia
2/73 Lincoln's Day Program
3/73 Larry Johnson
4/73 Margaret MacArthur
5/73 Bennie & Vallie Cain
5/73 Sampler Concert
6/73 Hazel Dickens & Michael Quitt
9/73 Labor Day Program
10/73 Terry Gould
10/73 Sampler Concert
10/73 Getaway VIII
11/73 Mother Scott & Archie Edwards
11/73 Jean Redpath & Norman Kennedy
12/73 Ed Trickett
1/74 Perdues, Rye Straw Chit Tickers
2/74 Common Ground
2/74 Lincoln's Day Program
3/74 John Jackson, Herb Smoke
3/74 Peter Bellamy
4/74 Sampler Concert
4/74 Andy Cohen
4/74 Highwoods String Band
6/74 Dan Gellert
8/74 Martin Carthy
9/74 Labor Day Program
9/74 Chief Ellis
9/74 Alistair Anderson
10/74 Getaway IX
10/74 Bill Price
11/74 Mick Maloney & Gene O'Donnell
11/74 Founders Concert
12/74 Red Clay Ramblers
12/74 Dollon Bustin & Cathy Restle
1/75 Lou & Sally Kilien
1/75 Sampler Concert, (D.Olive, KC King, J.Cole, D.McKelway, Arkward Years.)
2/75 Gospel Harmonizers
2/75 Lincoln's Day concert
3/75 Gordon Bok
3/75 Fields Ward & Dwayne Thorpe
4/75 Getaway - Sat. nite concert
4/75 Getaway - Sun. nite concert
4/75 Central Park Sheiks
4/75 Barbara Carms (house concert)
5/75 International music
6/75 Hank Schwartz
9/75 Almeda Tiddle
10/75 Getaway - Sat. nite concert
10/75 Getaway - Sun. nite concert
11/75 Neil Rossi
12/12 Hedy West
1/76 Frank Warner
1/76 Sampler Concert, (B. Clayton & E. Franke, W. Macnow, R. Schneyer, Dr. Kilmer's Jug Band.
2/76 Jean Carnigian
2/76 Louisiana Aces
3/76 Edith Wilson
4/76 Kendall Morse
5/76 International music
6/76 Spiritual Way Quartet
8/76 Heather Wood & Royston Wood
9/76 Bruce Phillip
10/76 Glen Ohrlin
11/76 Johnny Shines
11/76 Sampler Concert, (Magpie, H. Schneyer, C. Hoover, Sweetwater Band)
12/76 Larry Elder
12/76 Snuffy Jenkins & Pappy Sherrill
1/77 Rick & Lorraine Lee
2/77 Eric Schoenberg & Magpie
3/77 Walter & Ethel Phelps
4/77 Red Rector & Bill Clifton, The Little Wonders
4/77 Sampler Concert, (T. Straeder, J. Deitchman, Ancient Orpich, FFV.)
5/77 Joe Heany
5/77 Arnold Keith Storm
6/77 Jody Stecher & Hank Bradley
9/77 Sampler, (L. Hanslin, E. Trickett, R. Martin, Forecastle.)
10/77 Daniel Womack
10/77 Getaway-Sat. concert
10/77 Getaway-Sun. concert
11/77 Utah Phillips & Rosalie Sorrels
11/77 Don Stover
12/77 Lewis Lamb
12/77 Xmas Party (J. Eberhart, M. Callahan, J. Hickerson, R. Martin, L. Barnes & others.)
1/78 Kenny & Marta Hall & The Long Haul String Band
2/78 Cilla Fisher & Artie Trezise
SEEGER, DICKENS IN MINERS’ BENEFIT

Pete Seeger and Hazel Dickens will give a benefit concert on June 8 at 8 p.m. in George Washington University’s Lisner Auditorium for striking coal miners of Stearns, Ky. The Stearns miners have been on strike against the Blue Diamond Coal Co. for almost 3 years in a fight for safer working conditions, following the deaths of 26 miners in one of the company’s mines. According to the Appalachian Caucus of Antioch School of Law (one of the concert’s sponsors), Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration statistics show that “the Stearns miner rate 31% higher in non-fatal injuries and 72% higher for disabling injuries than the national average.” Tickets are $5 in advance at GWU’s Marvin Center, or $6 at the door of Lisner, 730 21st St. N.W. For ticket info, call Marvin Center at 676-7110, or for more about the strike or the concert, call Norman (162-2907), Jeff or Tony (829-0912), or Mike (667-4906).

JOE HICKERSON CONCERT

Joe Hickerson, whose vast repertoire and wit (and three Folk Legacy albums) have made and kept him well-known to audiences in Washington and elsewhere, will appear in concert on Friday, June 15, in Baltimore. It will start at 8:30 p.m., at Lovely Lane Church, St. Paul and 22nd Sts., sponsored by the Baltimore Folk Music Society. Admission (to non-BFMS members) is $2.50. For more information, call 301-467-6211.

WEEKLY PICKIN’ IN TAKOMA PARK

The Takoma Park Bluegrass-Folk Association announces that free weekly pickin’ sessions are being held every Saturday afternoon from 1 to 5 p.m. in the park at the corner of Sligo Creek Parkway and Kennebec Avenue in Takoma Park (weather permitting). All are invited to come and play. For more info, call Phil Gillespie at 507-5082.

FESTIVALS, FAIRS AND SUCH

Numerous large-scale folk events—far too many to describe fully or even list completely—are scheduled for the summer months. Here are some, with sources of more info:

June 1-3 -- The fifth annual Frederick Craft Fair, with more than 500 craftspeople from 33 states at the Frederick, Md., Fairgrounds. $2.75 for adults, free for under-12s.

June 15-17 -- The 19th annual Mariposa Folk Festival on Toronto’s Centre Island in Canada. $27 for the weekend. Info and tickets from the Mariposa Folk Foundation, 525 Adelaide St. East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5A 3W4.

June 17-23 -- Appalachian Folk Week, with traditional dancing, singing, playing and crafts at Hindman Settlement School, Hindman, Ky. 41822. Families are encouraged. $50 for one adult, $75 a couple, and both rates are the same if one child comes too. Room and board double the amount.

June 24-29 -- Appalachian Celebration at Morehead State University, Morehead, Ky. Subtitled Heritage Arts Week, it’s workshops ranging from balladry to dance-leading to quilt-making. $50 per person, with housing available for $21. Heritage Arts Week, c/o Music Dept., Morehead St. U., Morehead, Ky. 40351.

June 29-July 2 -- Pinewoods Weekend, with dancing of many kinds sponsored by the Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, 57 Roseland St., Somerville, Mass. 02143. $77, with a $20 deposit in advance.

July 6-8 -- The 6th annual Winnipeg Folk Festival at Birds Hill Provincial Park in Manitoba. $22 in advance, $25 at the gate, under-12s free. Info and/or tickets: 171 Lilac St., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3M 1S1.

July 9-27 -- Augusta Heritage Arts Workshop with summer courses in Appalachian music and traditional dance. Same info source as:

July 30-Aug. 3 -- Augusta Dance Week, focusing on American Dance styles. Write: Augusta Heritage Arts Workshop, Box 1725, Elkins, W. Va. 26241
BALKAN SINGING CLASSES

For those of you who would like to learn the exciting and dramatic singing techniques of Balkan music (have you heard the Pennywhisters, or the recent concerts by Zenska Pesna and Laduvane?), a new series of 8 beginners' classes is being organized now. The classes will consist of 5 to 8 students and will stress both individual vocal technique and group singing. They will be held on Mondays or Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., beginning the week of June 10th, with a cost of $32 for the series. For more information, call Anne-Louise Schaeffer at 245-1092 (home) or 342-3265 (work).

CONCERT/PICNIC AT SUGARLOAF

A concert and bring-food-to-share picnic, featuring the music of the Ancient Orphic Mystery Band and the Baltimore Sacred Harp Singers, will be held on Sunday, June 23rd, at Bealls Chapel at the base of Sugarloaf Mountain in Maryland. The event, held at the beautiful, frontier-like chapel, will begin at 5:30 p.m., with a $3 donation requested. To get to the chapel, take I-270 West and get off at the exit for Comus, Route 109 South. In Comus, turn right onto Route 95, Sugarloaf Road. Stay on this for 3 miles (it eventually becomes a dirt road), and Bealls Chapel is on the left. For more info on the event, sponsored by Concerts in the Country, call Ric Wagner in Boyds, Md., at 301-972-1161.

DULCIMER GATHERING, JUNE 9th

Historic Belle Grove Estate in Middletown, Va. is the setting for a dulcimer gathering featuring workshops, music-sharing, an open stage and an evening performance. Cost is $5 for the day, $3 for the evening concert only. For more info, contact Maddie MacNeill, c/o Dulcimer Players News (a magazine full of dulcimer music, interesting articles related to dulcimers and more, which is co-sponsoring this gathering), P.O. Box 157, Front Royal, Virginia 22630. Tel: (703) 667-3704.

LIST OF TAPES CONTINUED:

3/78 Jack Wright & Friends
4/79 Ed Trickett, Ann Mayo Muir, Gordon Bok
4/78 Michael Cooney
5/78 Rumi Sonko
6/78 Sparky Rucker
6/78 Jean Redpath
6/78 Sampler
7/78 Sampler
7/78 Waterseons/Carthy
8/78 Alan Stivell
9/78 Tom Gibney
9/78 Killen, Warner, Davis
10/78 Sampler
11/78 Tom Paley
11/78 John Cohen
1/78 Phillip/Wolf
12/78 Dalglish/Larson

1979 Tapes will be listed in the next newsletter.

MONDAYS AT THE RED FOX — FOLK HOOT

The Red Fox Inn on Fairmont Ave. in Bethesda, Md., has an open stage for traditional folk music on Mondays at 8:30 p.m. Occasional feature sets are from 9:30 - 10:30 p.m. ($1 cover charge on those nights). Come and share your songs and tunes from the open stage. For more info, call Bruce Hutton at 270-2217.

June 11 - Cathy Fink & Duck Donald Band
A 4-piece band from Canada playing old-time music including early bluegrass styles, with tight vocal harmonies.

June 18 - St. Regis String Band - Old-time string band from the Adirondacks.

July 9 - Art Theime, from Chicago, with a wide variety of instruments and folk styles—a "one-man folk festival."

July 23 - Alan Block and friends. The very best old-time fiddle music.

TUESDAYS AT THE RED FOX—STRINGBANDS

June 5 - To be announced.
June 12 - Cathy Fink & Duck Donald Band
June 19 - Double Decker String Band
June 26 - To be announced

And bring your feet! The tables are moved aside on Tuesday nights to make room for clogging. For more info, call Bruce Hutton, 270-2217.
MORE FOLK MUSIC ON RADIO, NOT LESS!!

(My first editorial, in my last newsletter!)

Washington D.C., with its environs, is one of the most active folk music places in the country. Many thousands of people attend the various concerts and festivals presented by the Folklore Society of Greater Washington, the American Folklife Center and the Archives of Folksong at the Library of Congress, the National Council for the Traditional Arts, the Northern Virginia Folk Festival Society, several Irish groups, Bluegrass groups and others. Therefore, there are many potential listeners for a folk music radio program, especially one with a variety of styles of folk music.

Surprising as it may seem, there have been few of these and "Folk Weekend", hosted by Mary Cliff on WETA - FM (90.9), has been on the air for the last nine years. It is thus disturbing to hear that this program is now going to be cut from four hours to two hours and broadcast on a weekday afternoon rather than during weekend hours.

"Folk Weekend", recently renamed "Traditions", is unique in what it offers, including "Who's Where", a 10 minute listing of various folk-music events occurring in the area. Then there is "Charter Flight", a program presenting international music, both traditional and modern, which will be off the air by the time you get this newsletter.

WETA calls itself a public broadcasting station, yet it seems to be narrowing its scope and scorning the "music of the people". By cutting back the already small fraction of its programming time allotted to folk music, WETA will be losing a large listening audience, while the listeners lose hours of good music.

There should be more folk music on the air, not less, and at a time where most of us can choose to listen to it, which means during the weekend, not a work-day afternoon. The Folklore Society membership, which includes over 1600 adults, ought to be able to have a significant voice in expressing concern at the cutting back of folk music on the air.

If you feel that folk music needs support, and that radio is an important place for it to be, write to WETA and encourage them to have "Traditions" retain its present length and weekend position and not be shortened and moved to a relatively inaudible spot. Send your letter to: Dean Boal, Program Director, WETA FM Box 2626 Washington D.C. 20013.
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 D.C. 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 of Greater Washington, Don Nichols, 307 Broadleaf Dr. N.E., Vienna, Virginia 22180.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Is this a new address? Yes _____ No _____ (If more than one last name, please indicate preferred name for alphabetical filing.)

Is this a renewal or a new membership? Renewal _____ New _____

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City ____________________________ Zip Code _____________
State ____________________________

Phone (home) _______ (work) _______

Are you willing to help the Society in some way? ______

Interests (music, dance, crafts etc.) __________________________________________

Anyone living outside the Greater Washington area may subscribe to the FSGW newsletter only, in lieu of getting full membership, if they do not plan to vote or have free admission to programs. The cost for out-of-town membership is $4.

* A portion of the contributing, sustaining and life memberships is tax deductible.

FSGW HOT-LINE: (703) 281-2228