

# The Folklore Society

OF GREATER WASHINGTON

P. O. Box 19174 • 20th Street Station • Washington D. C. 20036

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November, 1966

Linda Brennan, Editor

## SARAH CLEVELAND PRESENTS CONCERT AT NOVEMBER 18TH MEETING

Sarah Cleveland, an excellent ballad singer from upper New York State, will be presenting the program for the Friday, November 18 FSGW meeting at Union Methodist Church, 814-20th St., N.W. Mrs. Cleveland is a widow and mother of two married sons. Her husband was a bridge worker, and she traveled considerably with him in Vermont, Pennsylvania, and New York during the thirty years of their marriage. Her home was Hudson Falls, N.Y., although she now lives in Brant Lake, N.Y. She was one of nine children--born to parents of Irish ancestry. Her mother was born in this country, her father in Ireland. She sings songs which she learned from both parents, however, her mother was the real tradition carrier in the family. Most of the songs which her mother sang were written down by Mrs. Cleveland when she was about fifteen. Mrs. Cleveland says: "These songs are worthwhile...I want others to learn them...I want the songs to go on after I'm gone."

The story of Mrs. Cleveland's discovery by folksong circles is an unusual one. Several years ago one of Mrs. Cleveland's sons made a tape recording of some of her songs for himself. He became so convinced that his mother and her songs should be heard by people outside the family that he began to speak to people about getting a record made. At LENA'S, a coffeyhouse in Saratoga, N.Y., he spoke to Lawrence Older, a traditional singer and fiddler who has a record on Folk Legacy Records. Mr. Older suggested that Sandy Peyton of Folk Legacy should be contacted. Mr. Peyton recognized the importance of Mrs. Cleveland and her songs. He has collected a version of Child Ballad Number 52 from Mrs. Cleveland which she calls "Queen Jane". He says that this ballad has not been reported in any North American collection that he can find and has not been reported from the British Isles since the early 1900's in Gavin Grieg's collection. A record is now being recorded; a book of Mrs. Cleveland's songs is being compiled by another folklorist, and she has appeared publicly several times, including the Beers Family Fox Hollow Festival.

As usual, the program meeting will be free to members with membership cards. The public is invited and admission for non-members is \$1.00; students, 50¢. Memberships can be obtained at any meeting.

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FSGW SPONSORS CLANCY BROTHERS AND TOMMY MAKEM NOV. 26

The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem, Ireland's folk-singing foursome, will return to Washington on Saturday, November 26, for one performance only at Lisner Auditorium, George Washington University at 8:30 p.m.

Presented under the auspices of the Folklore Society of Greater Washington, in association with Stanley-Williams Presentations, the popular group will be making a triumphant return engagement. Their last performance here in February was completely sold out.

Pat, Tom and Liam Clancy, all from County Tipperary and veterans of the I.R.A., along with Tommy Makem, the only member from North Ireland (County Armagh), perform

rebel songs, drinking songs, ballads and sea chanties. They accompany themselves with the guitar, banjo, penny whistle, harmonica and bagpipes. One critic has said: "They look and sing like men who discovered their voices in a County Tipperary pub with their mitts firmly gripping pints of Guinness. Together they run through a robust, good humored repertoire that, while Irish-flavored, doesn't include any of the usual dreary things that Americans like to think Irishmen sing."

In addition to their nationwide concert tours and numerous network television appearances, The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem record for Columbia Records. Their latest hit albums include "The First Hurrah" and "Recorded in Ireland".

Tickets for the November 26 performance at Lisner are priced at \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50 and \$4.00, and may be obtained at the Talbert Ticket Agency in the Willard Hotel, Learmont Records in Georgetown, or by mail order from Stanley-Williams Presentations, 1715-37th St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20007.

A special 25% discount is available for members of the Folklore Society and may be obtained by mail order only. Please fill out the form below and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you wish to order tickets.

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for reserve tickets to the Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem Concert, sponsored by the Folklore Society of Greater Washington, in Lisner Auditorium at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, November 26.

<u>No. of tickets at Regular Price</u>	<u>No. of tickets at FSGW Member Discount Rate</u>
_____ \$2.50	_____ \$1.85
_____ \$3.00	_____ \$2.25
_____ \$3.50	_____ \$2.60
_____ \$4.00	_____ \$3.00

Mail this form along with self-addressed stamped envelope to: Stanley-Williams Presentations, 1715-37th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20007

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING FSGW EVENTS

NOVEMBER 1--Executive Board Meeting/ 8:30 p.m./ home of Mike Rivers, 3702 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia/ all invited to attend.

NOVEMBER 11--"Shadows of Long Ago and Far Away" is the title which Peter Seeger has given to one hour and 40 minutes of folk music film which he has edited from his extensive library. The FSGW will be showing this film at 8:30 p.m. in Union Methodist Church, 814-20th St., N.W. The film contains rare material of legendary American singers Leadbelly and Woody Guthrie, plus music from many other countries. Mr. Seeger has compiled the film from his personal library at the request of many people in this country who have been wanting to see this material. The film is in rough form and is available only to folklore groups, so this is a rare opportunity to see material not generally available. The following people also appear in the film: Brownie McGee and Sonny Terry, Josh White, Big Bill Broonzy, O. J. Abbott, Jean Caragan, Jimmy Driftwood, Pete Steele, Fred Proffitt, the McPeake Family, Jean Ritchie, Dick and Mimi Farina, Jack Elliott, the Beers Family, Stanley Brothers, Cousin Emmy, Len Chandler, and Donovan.

NOVEMBER 15--Executive Board Meeting/ 8:30 p.m./ home of Jo Peterson, 3412-10th Place, S.E., Apt. 2C/ all invited to attend.

*The*  
**CLANCY BROS.**  
*and*  
**TOMMY MAKEM**

*In Person*



**SATURDAY, NOV. 26, 8:30 P.M.**  
**LISNER AUD., GWU**

**TICKETS: 2.50, 3.00, 3.50, 4.00. AT: TALBERT'S,  
WILLARD HOTEL & LEARMONT RECORDS, GEORGETOWN**

**By mail: Send stamped, self-addressed envelope and check or money order  
to: Stanley-Williams Presentations, 1715 37th St. N.W., Washington, D. C. 20007**

**Sponsored by Geo. Wash. Univ.**

DECEMBER 3--Open Sing to be held at 8:30 p.m. in Union Methodist Church, 814-20th St., N.W. Members 25¢; non-members, 50¢.

DECEMBER 9--"Barn Dance Music and Song" featuring Tony Alderman and Fields Ward (possibly others) at Pierce Hall, 16th and Harvard Sts., N.W. Both Tony Alderman and Fields Ward played in early country string bands. Admission is free to members; non-members, \$1.00; students, 50¢.

UPCOMING EVENTS OF THE PHILADELPHIA FOLKSONG SOCIETY INCLUDE programs by Roger Abrahams on Sunday, November 13, and Roger Sprung on December 11. The Philadelphia society meets on the second Sunday of each month. (In the future it is hoped that we will have more definite information on the Philadelphia Folksong Society's functions.)

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Schedule for John Dildin'e Folk Music Radio Program during November on Station WAMU-FM 88.5 mc, Fridays at 9:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 4--Pete Seeger, Mike Seeger, Jean Ritchie and Oscar Brand.  
" 11--"From John Henry to Irish Ballads".  
" 18--Concertina and vocal harmony from the British Isles.  
" 25--Colonial songs.

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SQUARE  
DANCING

Detailed news of square dancing in the Washington area, as well as a list of beginners classes, open dances, and special events, can be found in MIKE AND MONITOR; NATIONAL CAPITAL SQUARE DANCE NEWS LETTER, published quarterly by the National Capital Area Square Dance Leaders Association, Inc. A subscription is \$1.00 per year, to cover postage and handling, from the editors: Aubrey and Emma Wilkins, 9907 Sutherland Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20901.

BLUEGRASS

A local monthly publication devoted solely to bluegrass music is now available for an annual subscription of \$3.00. The address is "Bluegrass Unlimited", P. O. Box 1611, Wheaton, Maryland 20902. Two members of the Folklore Society are helping direct the publication. They are Pete (Roberts) Kuykendall, chairman, and Dick Spottswood, vice chairman. Other officers of the group are Dick Freeland, vice chairman; Gary Henderson, treasurer, and Dianne Sims, secretary. Bluegrass available in clubs all along the East Coast and as far west as the Mississippi; bluegrass on personal appearance shows; bluegrass on radio; reviews of bluegrass on record; bluegrass publications; bluegrass fan clubs, and articles on bluegrass, all are included and kept up to date. Membership also entitles one to substantial discounts on some records of country music featuring a combo playing unamplified guitar, Scruggs-style banjo, base, mandolin and sometimes fiddle and sometimes dobro.

FOLKSONG  
ARCHIVE

The earliest and most authentic field recordings of American folk music, housed for 35 years in the Library of Congress Archive of Folk Song, will obtain a new lease on life through a generous gift to the Library of Congress from the Martha Baird Rockefeller Fund for Music, Inc. This gift will enable the Library's Music Division to transfer about half of its Archive of Folk Song discs to magnetic tape so that they will be preserved for future generations. Over 15,000 American folksongs, contained on more than 4,000 10-inch, 12-inch, and 16-inch disc recordings, will be preserved in a more permanent form.

PHAM DUY

Pham Duy, Vietnamese folk music scholar and folksinger who appeared this spring under FSGW auspices at the Smithsonian Institution, is represented by two new recordings. His song, "The Rain on the Leaves", has been recorded both by Mitch Miller and His Chorus for RCA Victor and by Addis and Crofut for Columbia.

The KICKIN' MULE...

The Second Annual Georgia Festival of Folk Music was the most enjoyable folk festival I have ever attended. On September 15, Helen and Riki Schneyer, John Jackson, and Nan and I went down for the Festival, which is held every year at Unicoi State Park in the North Georgia mountains. It was small, intimate, relaxed, and fun. There were no "big time" performers. Dock Boggs was probably the widest known singer there. Most people stayed in cabins and ate in the camp mess hall. About the only time that singing wasn't going on was while food was going down. The atmosphere was warm and casual; the cliqueishness found at most festivals was not present; the performers and audience mingled so freely that it was sometimes difficult to tell who was what. For information on the Festival, write the Atlanta Folk Music Society, P.O. Box 7813, Atlanta, Georgia 30309.

To those of you who went to the FSGW folk get-away September 30-October 2, what you saw and heard at Prince William Park was very much the way things were in North Georgia. There were more out-of-town visitors to the Georgia Festival and there was a bit more structure (and higher cost tickets to pay for the out-of-towners). Otherwise...little difference.

Chuck Perdue, President

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