

FSGW Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, September 7, 1971

Present: Joe Hickerson, Andy Wallace, Jeremy Sachs, Joel Shimberg, Alan Mackall, Dick Rodgers, Arlene Rodenbeck, Executive Board. Gene Anderson, Kathy Goldman, Bob Clayton, George Simpson, non-Board FSGW members; Leonard Randolph, John Rochford, guests.

Absent: Mike Rivers, Kathy Clucas, Carter Rila, Margot Greig.

Meeting was called to order by President Joe Hickerson at 8:06 p.m.

Minutes, previously distributed by mail, were reviewed and approved, with minor correction: Date of program for AFS listed as Thursday, November 10 should be Thursday, November 11. The President requested that Board members be distinguished from non-Board members in the listing of who is present at the meetings.

President's Report: Joe Hickerson

Joe announced that Bob Banks, formerly of great service to the Society as Circulation manager, has returned from England and is living in Greenbelt, Md.

Secretary's Report: Joe Hickerson for Kathy Clucas

Joe passed out copies of a preliminary list of Board members and other useful people, and asked for corrections, per Kathy's instructions. He made a number of suggested additions to the list and will send the corrected copy to Kathy.

Membership Report: Jeremy Sachs

As of today, membership stands at 303 Individual, 215 Family, 518 total. This is an increase of 12 total from last month, not "seasonally adjusted." I.E., Jeremy will axe unrenewed memberships in October.

Jeremy needs stamped envelopes. As none were ordered and the Society's supply is depleted, Jeremy will order 2,000.

Jeremy presented a draft letter to various high school folk clubs inviting memberships. Board members perused this during the course of the meeting and made suggestions for changes or not. Jeremy will send the letter to 92 high schools in October and will include the October Newsletter.

Publications Report: Arlene Rodenbeck

Charles Ballinger is with whom we now deal at Batt Bates. The Society received a notice that Batt Bates wants to change their system of postage charges so that they don't have to pay in advance and then bill us. Of three possible methods for the Society to handle this, the Board voted unanimously for "postage advanced with job" -- i.e., the Society will issue a check to cover postage on each Newsletter mailing as it submits the copy for the Newsletter. Postage cost will be estimated on the basis of the preceding month's total mailing.

The check for this advance will issue from the Treasurer to the Publications Chairman at the Executive Board meeting immediately preceding the Newsletter deadline (which is the 15th of the month).

The October Newsletter overrun will be 400 (it is usually 300), so that Membership Chairman will have 100 to send out with his letter to high schools (see under Membership report).

The Journal article on black baseball was found and sent to Joe, who turned it over to George Simpson, editor of the forthcoming issue of the Journal. George reported that this forthcoming issue, Vol. II, No. 2, will exist within the next two months and will be ready for the American Folklore Society meetings in November (q.v.).

Treasurer's Report: Alan Mackall

Net Worth as of July 31:	\$1,723.52	
Income, August:	170.00	-- all from memberships
Expense, August:	<u>21.60</u>	-- all miscellaneous
Net Worth as of Aug. 31:	\$1,871.92	

Dick Rodgers raised again the question of a savings account for the Society. As noted in past meetings, the wording of the By-Laws will have to be changed to allow for an account insured by Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. as well as the regular account (checking) insured by Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. A By-Laws revision committee was supposed to have met during August to consider this change. (See below) When the By-Laws are changed, a savings account can be opened.

Special Events Report: Andy Wallace

The Society presented a Labor Day program in the Sylvan Theater on Monday, September 6, which was reviewed in Tuesday's Evening Star as "The Rambler Sings Along," by David Bratton. Andy read the review aloud; it was favorable to everything except the performers' muscle tonus. A propos, Joe noted that the Secretary is authorized -- and urged -- to pick up newspapers, clippings, etc., with notices of FSGW events, reviews, etc. for a scrapbook file, and to charge the costs to the budget.

The crowd at the Labor Day program was estimated at 200 to 1,000 persons. Fred Hoehler, Director of AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center, 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, worked with Archie Green to organize the program, for which the Society can expect to receive a check for \$400 from the Labor Studies Center to cover performers' fees and tape recording costs. Archie Green would like to have two copies of the tapes immediately, one for himself and one for the AFL-CIO, and would like to issue a record of the program. If the latter possibility materializes, performers' permission would have to be granted, via the Society's Recording Agreement forms, which were not signed in advance in this case. Such a venture should be put to Executive Board vote as well. No decision is necessary at this time, pending more definite plans from Archie.

*check  
received  
three*

The Sampler Concert originally scheduled for Saturday, October 2 has been rescheduled for Friday, October 1, due to a mixup in auditoriums on the part of the Smithsonian Division of Performing Arts. The concert will still be held in the Museum of Natural History. The Division of Performing Arts has taken care of sending, as its own expense, a notice of the change of date to the entire membership and general mailing lists, and the October first date will be listed in the Smithsonian's Calendar of Events.

If additional publicity is arranged for the Sampler concert, it comes out of Special Events budget rather than Publicity budget. Andy will decide whether or not to send additional publicity and will work with Publicity chairman if so.

GETAWAY: Andy will contact Roni Bowie, who has the statements on the Getaway account (separate from the regular checking account). He has completed the full roster of invited paid performers for the Getaway, September 17-20: Bessie Jones, Grant Rogers, and Lou Killen. Specific programming of events is still in the process. There will be an evening concert, probably Saturday night, but no marathon concerts -- four performers will be the most on the concert. There will be workshops during the day, possibly two simultaneously per workshop time because of limited space in the lodge, etc., but the workshops probably will not be very formal and are not intended to be the same old thing as occur at every festival. If weather allows, workshops could be held out of doors. Anyone with an idea for a workshop of something other than the same old thing is urged to contact Andy. Alan Mackall is handling food.

So many people have registered for the Getaway that some will have to sleep on the floor, and are being so notified. About 20 people had to be turned away as weekend registrants; these have been given information on nearby camping facilities and can pre-register as daytime Getters-away. Andy suggests that the Society consider having two Getaways due to the consistently increasing number of people wanting to attend.

Program Report: Joel Shimberg for Mike Rivers

The October 8 program will be Alan Stow<sup>e</sup>ll, funky fiddler. November and December are still uncertain. Dick Rodgers reported that Joe Heany was interested in giving a

program for the Society again; Dick was directed to convey the information to the Program chairman.

Joe Hickerson reported that he and Mike had discussed the possibility of letting in only FSGW members until a designated time when we must use Museum of History and Technology (the smaller) auditorium (e.g., October, November, December, 1971), and called for a motion. Jeremy moved that only members and one immediate guest be admitted until 8:20 (when programs begin at 8:30) when we are using M.H.T. auditorium, and that a notice be put in the Newsletter announcing this policy. Joel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Kathy Goldman and Mike will discuss this with Division of Performing Arts, soliciting their suggestions as to how best to handle the situation at the door, and alternative or additional measures (e.g., adding seating on the stage or in the aisles).

Joe suggested that Kathy Goldman try to arrange with Division of Performing Arts for the Natural History auditorium to be reserved now for all 1972-73 program dates, to insure the use of the larger auditorium.

These points will be discussed with Division of Performing Arts at a meeting on September 10 (see under Old Business).

Publicity Report: Dick Rodgers

A brief discussion was held concerning the Smithsonian's stipulations and requests, as set forth particularly in memo referred to below (under Old Business) and attached hereto. Because of the shortage of auditorium seating in the Museum of History and Technology, which we are using for October, November and December programs, it was recommended that the Publicity Committee not expend its energies and finances on further publicizing those programs.

Information concerning programs and special events should reach Kesa Sakai 381-5407, by the 4th of the month preceding the event, in order to be listed in the Smithsonian Calendar of Events and for press releases, which Division of Performing Arts will handle. Program and Special Events chairmen should note this also.

Tape Archive Report: Kathy Goldman

The Tape Archive has "earned" the first check of its current incarnation; the check was given to the Treasurer to deposit. The Archive Committee will give a list of all programs in the Archive to the Newsletter Editor before the September 15 deadline for the October Newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS

I. Joe Hickerson revisited the issue of the American Folklore Society meetings, to be held November 11-14 (Thursday through Sunday) at the Washington Hotel, 15th

Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. After talking to Ken Goldstein (permanent secretary of AFS) and D. K. Wilgus (permanent president of AFS), Joe feels the AFS will probably supply \$100 to match the \$100 voted by FSGW at the August Executive Board Meeting, to present a folk music program to the delegates during the meetings. Joe has requested from Ralph Rinzler that the Smithsonian Division of Performing Arts also offer a donation, in the form of payment for guard fees, auditorium costs, etc., for the use of the Natural History auditorium on the evening of Thursday, November 11. Joe has talked to Ralph on the phone about this and will put the suggestion in writing to D.P.A. The program will not be announced specifically to Society members, since the auditorium holds only 555 and about 450 attended the AFS meetings last year, but the Newsletter (October and November) will carry a notice that we are putting on a program for registrants to the AFS meetings and that registration is free, in case any Society members wish to attend AFS functions.

Ralph Rinzler's assistant, Sarah Lewis, 381-5407, would like volunteers to help with registration during the meetings, Wednesday night (November 10) through Sunday (November 14), especially Wed. night through Friday night. This will be put in the October and November Newsletters also.

There will be exhibit space at the meetings. Joe suggests that FSGW have a manned booth with membership information and forms, Newsletters, current and past Journal issues for sale, etc., especially after morning and before afternoon sessions. Jeremy Sachs will coordinate an exhibit booth or table. We may have to pay a slight fee.

Joe also suggested that Society members might offer to house out-of-town graduate students during the meetings, to save them the price of hotel accommodations. An FSGW coordinator is needed for this. Since no one present at the Board meeting volunteered to coordinate, Joe will try to locate someone in time to put a name and address in the October and November Newsletters.

## II. By-Laws Revision

The By-Laws Revision Committee met in August, but no one who could report was present at the Board meeting. The Secretary was instructed to ask Roni Bowie to make a report at the October Board meeting, and to list this piece of business on the agenda in sending out postcard announcement of October Board meeting.

## III. Program in connection with NCFAs exhibit.

Kathy Goldman clarified the nature of the program requested by the National Collection of Fine Arts in connection with their planned exhibit on John Stuart Curry, December 2 to January 16. The FSGW-sponsored program is to be on Saturday afternoon, 3:00 p.m., for about an hour in length, either January 1 or January 8. Eighth of January is of course very folksy. Andy will organize the program, get the performers, and act as M.C., and Kathy Goldman will be liaison between FSGW and NCFAs. There is a doubtful possibility that NCFAs could offer the Society a small amount of money for this performance. Kathy will check on this, and on refreshment as an inducement to performers.

#### IV. Co-sponsorship of FSGW programs by Smithsonian Division of Performing Arts

Joe read a copy of a memo to Division of Performing Arts staff from Marian Hope, D.P.A. Planning Officer (attached, with corrections). Kathy Goldman will apprise Marian of the corrections. A meeting will be held on Friday, September 10, at 2:30 p.m., between FSGW, represented by Mike Rivers (Program), Andy Wallace (Special Events), and Kathy Goldman (general liaison), and the D.P.A. staff headed by Jim Morris. (Ralph Rinzler will not be present, being out of the country.) Various details of the co-sponsorship will be worked out there. The most pertinent parts of the memo are those concerning a contract or letter of agreement to be signed by D.P.A. and Joe Hickerson as President of FSGW; the handling of press releases by D.P.A.; and the agreed upon fee of \$100 per program to cover auditorium and personnel expenses which the Smithsonian Buildings Managements Department is now charging the Smithsonian Division of Performing Arts.

\*See also under Program Report for other issues to be raised at this meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Joe Hickerson would like to write on behalf of FSGW to Jim Hightower of Citizens' Committee for an American Folklife Foundation, offering to solicit FSGW mailing list for support of CCAFF. Joe moved that the Board authorize \$20 for Batt Bates to address envelopes to FSGW mailing lists; CCAFF will supply contents and postage. Motion was seconded and carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Goldman  
Acting Secretary for Kathy Clucas