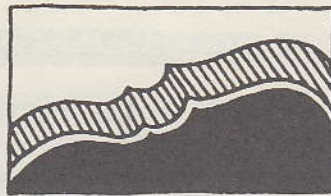


# The Folklore Society of Greater Washington



Box 19114, 20th Street Station, Washington, DC 20036

# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XVI, NO. 3

NOVEMBER, 1979

PHONE (703) 281-2228

Nancy Schatz, Editor

## FSGW NOVEMBER PROGRAM FEATURES MUSIC FROM WEST VIRGINIA



Three exceptional musicians from West Virginia will be featured at the Folklore Society's November program. On Friday, November 9, we'll have the pleasure of hearing fiddler/banjo player Woody Simmons, guitarist/fiddler Blackie Cool, and hammered dulcimer player Sam Rizzetta in what promises to be a truly unique concert of traditional music.

Woodford ("Woody") Simmons has played fiddle for over 50 of his 67 years. He grew up--and still lives--in Mill Creek, W. Va., 16 miles south of Elkins. At age 13, he earned the \$15 he needed to buy his first fiddle by building the fire each morning in the schoolhouse. He won his first fiddle contest in Elkins at the age of 19, and continues to win prizes at contests all over the state. Woody's

first banjo was made by his father, and had 5 frets made of fencing wire, a groundhog-hide head, and strings made of unraveled screen wire. He developed his unique two-finger banjo style partly from listening to the 1920's gramophone recordings of Fred VanEpps. In the '30s and '40s, Woody played fiddle on numerous radio shows with such groups as the Leary family and Joe Phillips and the Dixie Pals. A record of Woody's music, titled All Smiles Tonight, will be released by the W. Va. Dept. of Culture & History this fall.

Blackie Cool is an eager and energetic musician who is ready to play music with anyone at any time. Many listeners on the CB around Point Mountain, W. Va., have heard the open invitations from "Texas Blackie" for musicians to stop by and play. Blackie plays an astonishing variety of music in several surprisingly different guitar styles. His flat-picking and spicy runs add just the right touch to accompany old-time fiddling. As a solo player, Blackie will often play old-time guitar pieces, rags, blues, polkas, waltzes, and popular tunes. He has also adapted a number of "classical" banjo pieces to his guitar style. He is also a fine fiddler, and plays many of the tunes popular among central West Virginia fiddlers during the '30s. He has played music with Woody since around 1940.

Sam Rizzetta is well known to Washington audiences as a splendid hammered dulcimer player, a member of "Trapezoid," and a maker of handcrafted guitars, hammered and mountain dulcimers, and other stringed instruments. He lives in Valley Head, W. Va., about 10 miles from Blackie and Woody. The three musicians first played together at local square dances and now get together whenever they can, mostly for their own enjoyment.

The program will begin at 8:30 p.m., Friday, November 9, at the Washington Ethical Society Society auditorium, 7750 - 16th St., N.W. (at Kalmia Rd.) Admission is free for Folklore Society members; admission for nonmembers is \$2.00.

A rare opportunity has come to us to hear one of the foremost Welsh folksingers, Dafydd Iwan, in a house concert on Tuesday, November 6, at 8 p.m., at the home of Lars and Becky Hanslin in Chevy Chase, MD. An architect by trade, Iwan is a champion of the Welsh language and traditional Welsh music. In past years jailed for his activism, he has more recently been honored officially for his contributions to the Welsh culture, and is a member of the Order of Druids. As a teacher of the language, he is experienced in leading group songs for "non-speakers." Dafydd Iwan is a linguist, musician, entertainer (and, I understand, very charismatic). Welsh song is rarely heard here and we welcome him--and you--to this house concert. Admission is \$2 for FSGW members, and \$3 for nonmembers. For directions, call Lars and Becky at 654-4317.

DANCE: SOMETHING OLD AND SOMETHING NEW

Once again, FSGW is going to start its monthly family dances, but this year we're going to try something new. To better accommodate families with children, we are going to begin the dances earlier--4:00 p.m. to be exact. And to keep all of us happy, we'll have a pot-luck dinner halfway through the evening (you're invited to bring instruments, voices, and songs to share during dinner). For this month's dancing pleasure, FSGW is proud to present Bernard Chalk, one of England's most popular callers. Bernie does American squares, some English stuff, and who-knows-what-else. The Boss-Town Buzz-Steps will be playing.

Admission is \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12. So bring your children, your dancing shoes, and something to eat to the Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School on East-West Highway (a few blocks east of Wisconsin Ave. in Bethesda) on Saturday, Nov. 17, at 4:00 p.m., and join the fun!

GOSPEL SING

The November Gospel Sing will be held on Sunday, November 18, at Kathy Condon's new home in the Mount Pleasant section of D.C. Singing will begin at 4 p.m., and a pot-luck supper will be served. Be sure to call Kathy (462-2875) for directions, and to let her know what you'll be bringing. See you there!

Debbie McClatchy, well-known singer of traditional American and Irish songs, will present a house concert in Takoma Park, MD, on November 3, at 8:30 p.m. Debbie has researched gold rush songs in the mountains of California and has toured Ireland, learning a great many songs there. She has recorded for Philo, and performed with the Red Clay Ramblers in the New York production of "Diamond Studs." In addition to singing, Debbie plays banjo, concertina, pennywhistle, dulcimer, guitar, spoons (bring along a couple of spoons and we'll see if we can get a short course in the fine art of spooning ...) and sundry other instruments.

Debbie, who last appeared here in May '78, is planning to move back to the West Coast soon, and her visits here will be less frequent from now on, so don't miss this chance to see her! Admission will be \$2 for FSGW members, and \$3 for non-members. Call Debbie and Bruce Hutton at 270-2217 for information and directions.

A NOTE ON HOUSE CONCERTS

If you've been to house concerts in the past, you know what a wonderful chance they present to hear and see (you're close enough so you can hear and see) a performer in a relaxed and informal setting. Concert halls are great--and certainly often necessary--but there's really nothing like a living-room for getting to know a performer. This is the way folk music should be shared. So if you've never been to a house concert before, do try to come out to hear Debbie McClatchy on Nov. 3, and/or Dafydd Iwan on Nov. 6. You won't regret it, we promise!

SACRED HARP SING

Hymn-singing from The Sacred Harp, and a pot-luck supper, will be held on Sunday, November 25, at 4:00 p.m., at the home of Lisa Kornberg and Mary Chor in Northwest Washington. Let's try to start on time, so we won't conflict with the Sunday night dance. Call Lisa or Mary at 362-6983 for directions and to let them know what you'll be bringing. This seems an ideal way to use up your Thanksgiving leftovers!

NOTES OF IMPORTANCE

SUNDAY NIGHT DANCES

BOARD MEETINGS: The November FSGW Board meeting will be held Nov. 7, at 8 p.m., at the home of Nancy Schatz, in Kensington, MD. Board meetings are open to the membership and your participation is encouraged. For directions, call Nancy at 933-3073.

The December meeting will be at Mia Gardiner's home in Falls Church, VA, on Dec. 5.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The deadline for the December Newsletter is Nov. 14. PLEASE get your items in on time; mail them to Nancy Schatz, 3312 Glenway Dr., Kensington, MD 20795. Please include your name & phone no.

KUDOS: Debbie and Bill send many thanks to all those who helped make the 1979 Getaway such a big success. We'll try to have some pictures of the Getaway in the next Newsletter (let Nancy know if you have some).

CLASSIFIED SECTION

FOR SALE: Autoharp, Oscar Schmidt, 15-chord, case, excellent condition, \$100. 301/299-7527.

IRISH DANCING CLASSES: Children, teens, & adults are welcomed! Contact instructor Jeanne McGrath at 703/471-6371.

FOR SALE: Guitar, folk-classical, 3/4-size, case -- \$70. Mountain dulcimer by Theil, case -- \$100. 301/299-7527.

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FSGW Newsletter will run your classified ads for LOST & FOUND (free), or WANTED/FOR SALE (\$1 for 15 words) items. Ground rules: (1) You must be an FSGW member; (2) Ads must be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication; (3) You must send in new copy if you want your ad repeated (3 issue limit)--ads will not be held over; (4) The fee must be enclosed; (5) Ads must be within the 15-word limit; (6) Ads must include a phone number (with area code) in the copy and be accompanied by a name and phone number for the Editor; AND (7) Ads must be relevant to FSGW's purpose (see back page). Send your copy to Nancy Schatz, 3312 Glenway Dr., Kensington, MD 20795.

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\* FSGW Hot-Line: 281-2228 \*  
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As you may already have figured out, a few changes have been made in the schedule printed last month. Here's the latest update for your calendar:

Nov. 4 - Lisa Kornberg will call; the Easy Street String Band won't be able to make it after all.

The rest of the month, as of press time, still holds to the original schedule, so be sure to join us each Sunday evening at 8:30 in the large social hall of the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, on the East side of Chevy Chase Circle at the intersection of Patterson St. Admission is \$2 for FSGW members, \$2.50 for others. For more information, call Lisa at 362-2983.

SNEAK PREVIEW: We know that Sandy Bradley will be here in February. If you know of other guest callers passing through town, please call Lisa at 362-6983.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

For over a year now, we have talked about publishing a membership directory. Well, now it is a reality. Here, at last, is a listing of all FSGW members. "How do I get a copy?" you ask. Just send 50¢ and your name and address to our Membership Chairman, Don Nichols, 307 Broadleaf Dr., Vienna, VA 22180. The only restrictions are that you be a members of FSGW (one directory per membership) and agree not to give your copy to non-members or use it for commercial purposes (nobody wants more junk mail). Please send us your request before December 1, 1979, as there is a limited number of copies available.

NOVEMBER OPEN SING

On Friday, November 2, the monthly Open Sing will return to the Ethical Society building. The leader will be Lois Bruckner with her autoharp. Her topic is "Houses, Homes, Buildings, & Other Structures." The singing begins about 9 p.m. with refreshments available. The Ethical Society building is at 7750 - 16th St., N.W., in D.C. Hope to see you there!

For the December Open Sing, Alan and Carly Mackall will lead, and their topic will be "Gods and Other Beings of Power."

IN MEMORIAM -- MOTHER SCOTT

Washington singer Esther Mae "Mother" Scott died October 16 following a stroke. She had sung blues and gospel music for most of her 86 years. In the 1960s she began composing and singing professionally in this area, having spent most of her life as a housekeeper in her native Mississippi, in Baltimore, and in New York. For many years, Mother Scott sang gospel music at St. Stephen and the Incarnation Episcopal Church in Washington, where she was a member. She also performed in services at other churches, including the Washington Cathedral, and in shows at nightclubs, colleges, and on radio and TV. She was also a member of the Traveling Blues Workshop. She will be sadly missed and long remembered.

EARLY DANCE & MUSIC WEEKEND

The Country Dance and Song Society (New York) and the American Recorder Society will sponsor an Early Dance & Music Weekend November 9-11 at Hudson Guild Farm near Netcong, New Jersey, about 55 mi. from New York City. Among the classes to be offered are Renaissance and Baroque Dance Music, and English and American Country Dance. For information, call CDSS at 212/594-8833 or American Recorder Soc. at 212/675-9042. No deadline date was given in the announcement sent to FSGW, but we suggest you call NOW.

IRISH DANCING CHAMPIONS

The Washington D.C./Baltimore Irish Dancing Championships are sponsored by the Irish-American Club of Washington, D.C. Eleven schools from the Washington/Baltimore area participated this year, and the winners and their schools are as follows:

Minor girls: Alexandra Tydings (McGrath); Junior Girls: Maureen Hanley (McGrath); Intermediate Girls: Kathleen Bohan (McGrath); Senior Girls: Nancy O'Flaherty (McGrath); Minor Boys: Patrick McGrath (McGrath); Junior Boys: Fred James (James); Senior Boys: Sean Culkin (O'Neill). No intermediate boys competition was held this year.

FESTIVAL CONFERENCE IN BALTIMORE

A Regional Festival Conference, sponsored by the National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs and the Smithsonian Institution Folklife Programs, and focusing on festival planning and production, will be held in Baltimore on November 17. Cost for an individual is \$20 (\$35 for an organizational representative). For more information, call 202/232-3600.

NEW JOURNAL FROM VA. FOLKLORE SOCIETY

The Virginia Folklore Society, based in Charlottesville, has recently published the first volume of its journal, Folklore and Folklife in Virginia. Among the articles included in this very attractive scholarly journal are "The Black Banjo-Playing Tradition in Virginia and West Virginia," "Insult and Slander in Seventeenth-Century Virginia," and more. If you'd like a copy of Folklore and Folklife in Virginia, vol. 1, 1979, send your name and address and \$4.00 (\$2.50 for V.F.S. members) to Virginia Folklore Society, 115 Wilson Hall, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22903.

AUTUMN CRAFTS FESTIVAL

The 4th annual Autumn Crafts Festival will be held at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in Gaithersburg, MD, on Nov. 16, 17 and 18. 200 artists and craftspeople from across the nation will be displaying and selling their original work. On-going craft demonstrations and a delicious assortment of food and drink will add to the fun. Admission is \$2.50 for adults (children 12 & under free with adult), and there's lots of free parking. Hours are: Fri. noon-9 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The show is indoors and will be held rain or shine. For information, call Sugarloaf Mountain Works, 301/831-9191.

HUNGARIAN FOLK-ART EXHIBIT AND BAZAAR

On Sunday, November 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Cardinal Mindszenty Society will sponsor a Hungarian Folk-Art Exhibit, Bazaar, and Food Festival, at the Franciscan Monastery Pilgrimage Hall, 1400 Quincy St., N.E., Washington, D.C. Here's a chance to enjoy a day of native Hungarian folk art, beautiful costumes, embroidery, and pottery; watch Hungarian and other folk dancers; eat delicious Hungarian food and pastries; and buy hand-crafted gifts. Admission is free. For more information, call Ildiko Berger, at 593-9164.

CLANNAD AT GASTON HALL

The Irish Music and Dance Series will present its 7th concert with the exciting new vocal harmony and instrumental group from Ireland: Clannad. A family group from the Donegal Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking district), Clannad is especially well known for its unique harmony arrangements of traditional Sean-nos songs from the Donegal area. The concert will be at Gaston Hall, Georgetown University, on December 2, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

OLD-TIME BANJO CLASS

An intermediate old-time banjo class is now forming in Camp Springs, MD. The instructor will be Carey Howlett and we will be meeting four times on alternate Thursday evenings beginning November 1. For more information, call Jean Smith, 868-7306.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BALTIMORE?

Our neighbors in the Baltimore Folk Music Society put on a number of fine programs each month and would be glad to see folks from Washington there. To find out what the latest news is from BFMS, call their hotline at 301/727-0548.

GOSPEL MUSIC ON RADIO

If you can't get enough of traditional gospel music, you might try listening to "New Horizons," a program which its host and producer, Chuck Sanders, calls "a collage of poetry, music, and dialogue." It's on WYCB, 1340 on the AM dial, from noon to 2 p.m. on Sundays.

EAT, DRINK, AND BE MERRY, FOR TOMORROW THERE'S MORE!

All who attended the Sunday night dinner at this year's Getaway, and/or who partook of the punch at the FSGW Anniversary Party, know that we have some real talent (besides the obvious musical talent) in our midst. So that you'll know what you were eating and drinking (or if by some misfortune you missed it all and would like to try it yourself), here are the recipes for some of the more exotic yummies. The quantities in the Vietnamese dishes can be multiplied, of course, but keep in mind that wok cooking (stir-frying) works best with small amounts at a time. As for the punch, it was created especially for this event, and the recipe makes a lot. If you want to cut it down, though, you'll have to use partial bottles--the smallest amount used here is a fifth. Try it for a big party--it's good!

Many thanks to Pete the Spy and Jonathan Eberhart.

Thit kho (Caramel pork)

- 1 lb. fresh pork butt (with fat on), cut in 1" cubes
- 2-3 scallions, copped
- 1 tsp. oil
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 Tbs. nuocmam (fish sauce). In Philippine markets this is known as "patis"
- 1 tsp. sugar or, preferably, caramelized sugar
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- Water almost to cover

Saute scallions in oil over medium heat, add pork, and brown in deep pot. Add salt, pepper, sugar & water. Simmer uncovered 1 hour. Add nuocmam and simmer another hour. Don't let it boil, or it will get stringy and mushy. The liquid should cook down to practically nothing (don't burn it) and the meat cubes should retain their structural integrity. Serve on rice.

Gà chiên sả (Chicken with lemon grass)

- 1 lb. frying chicken, cut in manipulable chunks
- 1 Tbs. dried citronella (lemon grass), powdered
- 3 scallions, sliced in thin round sections
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. pepper
- 1/2 dried red chile pepper, seeded, in 1/4" lengths
- 1 Tbs. oil
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 2 Tbs. chopped dry-roasted peanuts
- 1 Tbs. nuocmam (see pork recipe)

Coat chicken pieces with citronella, scallions, salt & pepper; let stand 20 minutes. Heat a wok or skillet to high or medium high heat. Add oil. When oil is hot, toss in chicken and fry, stirring constantly. After a couple of minutes, add red pepper. Saute about 8 minutes more, still stirring, then add peanuts, a little more black pepper, sugar, and nuocmam, and cook another minute or so, still stirring.

RIOS DE BABILÓN

(A potable tour far south of the border, devised by Pete the Spy and Jonathan Eberhart for the FSGW Fifteenth Anniversary Party, October 13, 1979)

SECTION I. De la Tierra

- A. Nectar de guayaba (guava)--Puerto Rico--1.5 gal.
- B. Nectar de papaya--Puerto Rico--1.5 gal.
- C. Nectar de albaricoque (apricot)--Puerto Rico--1.5 gal.
- D. Fresh orange juice--U.S.A.--2 gal.

SECTION II. Del Agua (bubbly)

- A. Ginger ale--England--3 gal.
- B. Club soda--U.S.A.--3 gal.

SECTION III. Del Fuego (alcoholic)

- A. Pitú (Caxaça)--Brazil, 84 proof--0.2 gal.
- B. Curaçao (Senior brand, made from Laraha green oranges from Curaçao), 62 proof--0.2 gal.

SECTION III. Del Fuego (alcoholic) --continued

C. Rums

- 1. Rhum Negrita (very dark)--Haiti, 88 proof--0.6 gal.
- 2. Ron Viejo de Caldas (3 yrs. old)--Colombia, 80 proof--0.2 gal.
- 3. Diamond Reserve Demerara--Guyana, 86 proof--0.2 gal.
- 4. Old Sea Dog (extra rich)--Jamaica, 97 proof--1.2 gal.
- 5. Mount Gay (golden)--Barbados, 90 proof--0.2 gal.
- 6. Lemon Hart Demerara--Guyana, 151 proof--0.2 gal.

Net proof = 18.04 (9.02 % alcohol)

November	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	1 THURSDAY	2 FRIDAY	3 SATURDAY
SUNDAY					OPEN SING 9pm	HOUSE CONCERT- DEBBIE McCLATCHY 8:30
4 FSGW DANCE 8:30	5	6 HOUSE CONCERT- DAFYDD IWAN 8pm	7 BOARD MEETING 8pm	8	9 Early Dance + Music Weekend - thru Sun. PROGRAM - RIZZETTA/ COOL/SIMMONS 8:30	10
11 Hungarian Bazaar 10-5 FSGW DANCE 8:30	12	13	14 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	15	16 Autumn Crafts Festival - thru Sun.	17 Regional Festival Conference FAMILY DANCE 4pm
18 GOSPEL SING 4pm FSGW DANCE 8:30	19	20	21	22 Happy Thanksgiving!	23	24
25 SACRED HARP 4pm FSGW DANCE 8:30	26	27	28	29	30	

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, c/o 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? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

WE WANT TO JOIN! ENCLOSED IS:

<u>Individual</u>		<u>Family</u>	
1 year	\$8 ( )	1 year	\$12 ( )
3 year	\$24 ( )	3 year	\$36 ( )
1 yr. contr.	\$25 ( )*	1 yr. contr.	\$25 ( )*
1 yr. sust.	\$50 ( )*	1 yr. sust.	\$50 ( )*
Life	\$150 ( )*	Life	\$225 ( )*
Out-of-town membership (see below)		\$4	( )

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

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**FIRST CLASS**