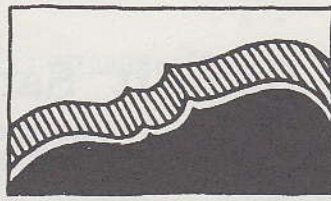


The
Folklore
Society
of Greater
Washington



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

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XVI, NO. 6

FEBRUARY 1980

PHONE (703) 281-2228

Nancy Schatz, Editor

Margaret MacArthur in concert February 8



"Margaret MacArthur plays breadboard harp and mountain dulcimer. She sings. She collects songs no matter where she goes...She is a loving and loved human being; she laughs with happiness and sometimes cries with sadness--and all of this background comes out in the kind of songs she sings and the manner in which she presents them. Since I have been in the United States, I have not met a finer song collector with a surer ear for all that is pithy and true in the songs of her country."

So says Irish singer Maggi Peirce, proprietor of the Tryworks Coffee Shop in New Bedford, Massachusetts. And her description couldn't be better. Margaret MacArthur, who will be featured in the Folklore Society's monthly program February 8, is an extraordinary person, instrumentalist, and singer. She comes from Marlboro, Vermont, and brings with her a wealth of American traditional song from a childhood in the Ozarks, collecting trips to the Appalachians, and many years lived in New England. She plays mountain dulcimer in an unusual and beautiful style. She has introduced the folksinging community to the "MacArthur" harp--a unique small folk harp copied from an antique she found. She does all these things with great personal warmth, making an evening of her singing a memorable and special thing indeed.

The concert begins at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, February 8, at the Washington Ethical Society auditorium, 7750 - 16th St., N.W. (at Kalmia Road). Admission is free to FSGW members, \$2.00 for non-members.

Silly Wizard to appear February 24

Silly Wizard will appear in Washington for the first time on Sunday, February 24. The FSGW will present the concert of traditional Scottish music in the Washington Ethical Society auditorium on upper 16th Street, in N.W. Washington.

This is Silly Wizard's second trip to this side of the Atlantic. The last time they came, they received rave reviews for New York club appearances and at the Philadelphia Folk Festival. In fact, three groups in Philadelphia fought to sponsor concerts on this trip.

Who? you ask... Well, Silly Wizard have worked together since 1973. In concert they lead with accordion, fiddle, and tenor banjo. Besides these, they bring bass, mandolins, bouzouki, harmonium, whistle, guitar, bodhran... Andy Stewart leads (Continued on p. 5)

F S G W to Present Benefit Sampler Concert for Michael Cooney on February 17

Michael Cooney, who was seriously injured in an auto accident last August, is out of the hospital and recuperating in Toronto. Doctors now say he may be able to resume performing in June. He still has major medical bills, at least one more operation to go through, and no means of income for the next several months.

Some FSGW members who know Mike and respect his work for traditional music are volunteering their time and talents to perform in concert for his benefit, at Gaston Hall on Sunday, February 17 (the day before the George Washington Birthday holiday). It'll be a fantastic concert, well worth hearing under any circumstances. That the admissions go to Mike's trust fund makes it even better.

JOE HICKERSON is head of the Archive of Folksong at the Library of Congress. (The Archive receives the "composer's royalties" for some of Mike Cooney's recordings.) Joe is never at a loss for songs to sing, from the utterly haunting and mesmerizing to the downright silly; from American and British ballads to parodies and topical music. Joining him will be KATHY WESTRA HICKERSON, singer of Child ballads and other traditional music. She also plays classical cello and has recorded as cellist with Archie Fisher.

HELEN SCHNEYER is a former FSGW president, and a favorite singer in Washington folk circles. She can reduce listeners to tears with a heart-wrenching ballad, yet hers is one of the few women's voices that can grab hold of a sea shanty and make it work. And when Helen intones a spi'tual, everybody within earshot is the congregation--you can't help but sing along.

ED TRICKETT often appears with Gordon Bok and Ann Mayo Muir. This time he'll be just back from a tour with Cathy Barton. Ed's music is mostly American traditional, with nods to the British Isles. He also sings some of the best of the new songs "in the traditions." You're sure to want to sing along, except when your feet are dancing to his hammered dulcimer tunes.

ALICE GERRARD appeared recently in the area as a member of the Harmony Sisters. In the last several years she has sung with her husband Mike Seeger, with Hazel Dickens, and the Strange Creek Singers. Alice plays guitar, fiddle, and banjo, and sings mostly old-time music. CATHY FINK was in the FSGW sampler last month. She's from Baltimore, and spent many years in Canada performing with Duck Donald. She's at her best on banjo, strong on harmony singing in old-time music, especially the early bluegrass.

Come and enjoy an evening of fine traditional music, and send a few \$\$ to keep the wolf from Mike Cooney's door. The benefit concert begins at 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 17, in Gaston Hall, on the 3rd floor of the Healy Building at Georgetown University, 37th and O Streets, N.W., Washington. Admission is \$3 for FSGW members, \$4 for non-members, and half-price for kids.



GOSPEL SING

The February Gospel Sing will be held on Sunday, February 17, at the home of Kathy Condon in the Mount Pleasant section of N.W. Washington. Singing will begin at 4 p.m., and a pot-luck supper will be served a bit later. Be sure to call Kathy at 462-2875 for directions and to let her know what you'll be bringing.

SACRED HARP SING

Hymn-singing from The Sacred Harp, and a pot-luck supper, will be held on Sunday, February 24, at 4:00 p.m., at the home of Stephanie Faul in Cleveland Park in N.W. Washington. Call Stephanie at 244-1449 for directions and to let her know what you're bringing.

BOARD MEETINGS: The February FSGW Board meeting will be held Wednesday, February 6, at 8 p.m., at the home of Susan Schwelling in Chevy Chase, MD. Board meetings are open to the membership and your participation is encouraged. For directions, call Susan at 657-8551.

The March meeting will be at Mary Cliff's home in Falls Church, VA, on March 5.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The deadline for the March Newsletter is Friday, February 15. This is the latest date material will be accepted. Please write your article out and mail it, as early as possible, to Nancy Schatz, 3312 Glenway Dr., Kensington, MD 20795. Please include your name and phone number.

POLICY NOTE: The FSGW does not "hire" its own members to perform concerts. We perform free for each other at various activities, but not generally for a fee. Exceptions have been made for some dance events. And, of course, all such policies invite exceptions --but just so you know...

KUDOS: Some thanks from your Special Events Chairman: To Dolores Nichols, for organizing the Christmas Party, which was a very comfortable evening. To Kathy Westra Hickerson for running the Metro-sing-- a couple hundred folks came out, we appeared on Channel 7 news, Metro's Cody Pfanstiehl was a solicitous guide, and maybe we can do it all again next year (the National Visitors' Center has great acoustics). To Linda Lieberman, Dave Olive, and Bill Day, a special thanks for organizing a very complex activity, the Mini-Festival.

PREVIEW--PEGGY SEEGER!

Hold open Sunday, March 2, for PEGGY SEEGER. It's been quite a while since she's performed here, and as things stand now, she'll be doing a benefit concert that night at the Ethical Society auditorium. Check the FSGW Hotline (703/281-2228) and next month's Newsletter for details (or changes).



FAMILY DANCE

Kate Charles, from New York, will call for the Family Dance on February 9th. Kate calls mostly squares, although her repertoire of dances is quite large. She will be accompanied by Steve Hickman and Laurie Andres.

The Family Dances, which include a pot-luck dinner, have been attended and enjoyed by families with teens as well as those with toddlers. So pack up your family, bring along some food or drink (and a hot-tray or hot-plate if you have one) and come join the fun.

This month's dance will be held at the Rosemary Hills Community School, Porter Rd. & Sundale Dr., in Silver Spring. Take East-West Highway to the traffic light at Sundale Dr. If you're coming from 16th St., you turn right at Sundale; if coming from Connecticut Ave. or Beach Dr., turn left--the school is directly ahead of you at the end of Sundale Dr.

The dancing begins at 4:30 p.m., ends at 7:30, and costs \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children.

Hope to see you there!



The New Year started off with a bang--first a very successful benefit for Michael Cooney (records are still on sale at the Sunday night dance while they last), and then a great evening of dancing with the Pine Hill Band from Maine.

February's schedule is:

Feb. 3 - Lou Shapiro calling.

Feb. 10 - Mary Rhodes will be back in town, calling an evening's worth of English country dances.

Feb. 17 - From Seattle, Sandy Bradley will be here, calling mostly squares.

Feb. 24 - Bob Dalsemer calling.

All dances begin at 8:30 p.m. (not 8:00 as erroneously stated in last month's Newsletter) and end at 11:00. They are held at the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church on Chevy Chase Circle, and cost \$2.00 for FSGW members and \$2.50 for non-members.

OPEN SING

Ride Old Paint to the February Open Sing and join Rita Ferrara in "Songs of the Wild and Woolly West--Cowboys, Indians, Gamblers, Miners, Hanging Judges, and Painted Women." The Sing takes place Friday, February 1, at 9 p.m., in the Ethical Society building, 7750 - 16th St., N.W., Washington. Admission is \$1 for everyone, and refreshments are available.

Tammy Zeheb will lead the March Open Sing with "Songs of Fantasy and the Fantastic."

CLASSIFIED SECTION

FOUND after FSGW Christmas party: one white plastic plate, floral design. Call Dolores Nichols, 703/938-4564.

RECORDS (slightly used)--folk, old-timey, blues, etc. \$2.50 each LP. Call Brad (Wheaton) 301/946-4927 eves.

APPALACHIAN DULCIMERS: one half-size (backpacking) \$25; one full size \$55. Both, \$80. Dolores Nichols, 703/938-4564.

BANJO LESSONS--Old-time and bluegrass, all levels. Call Cathy Fink, 202/882-0842.

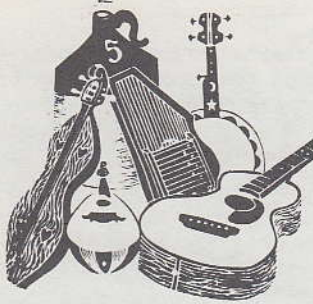
WANTED: Pete Seeger's "Hootenanny at Carnegie Hall, Vol. I" album to buy or borrow. Nancy, 301/933-3073.

4-STRING DULCIMER, NEW INSTRUMENT, concert quality; rosewood body, pegs, mahogany fingerboard. Will, 703/356-6494.

FOR SALE: 5-string BANJO; hand made; beech, rosewood; inlay; case; \$400 B.O. 202/686-0928.

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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) or address 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.



FOLK MUSIC HOOT EVERY MONDAY AT TAKOMA TAP ROOM

Beginning February 4, the Takoma Tap Room, 8210 Piney Branch Rd., Silver Spring, MD, will have a Folk Hoot (open mic' for folk music) every Monday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Bruce Hutton will host the hoots, both performing and emceeing.

For the present, no feature sets are being considered, so there will be ample time for everyone to perform, and there will be no cover charge.

Bring your traditional songs and tunes and your listening to share at the Tap Room. Your support for our first hoots at this new location will help to insure their continued success. For more information, call Bruce at 270-2217.

CAPITAL AREA BLUEGRASS AND OLD-TIME MUSIC ASSOCIATION (CABOMA)

Bluegrass and old-time music aficionados are invited to join CABOMA, a nonprofit, educational association dedicated to the preservation, appreciation, and enjoyment of bluegrass and old-time country music. CABOMA normally meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, from 2-6 p.m., for jam sessions and occasional mini-concerts, at the Lyon Park Community Center, corner of Fillmore St. and Pershing Dr. in Arlington, VA. For more information, call 528-7012 or 941-9282.

ABE BRUMBERG AT SINGER'S STUDIO

Abe Brumberg, whom many of us heard at the FSGW Sampler Concert last month, will be appearing at the Singer's Studio on Saturday, February 16, at 8:30 p.m. He will be performing a variety of Yiddish songs, and will be accompanied by Bob Jacobs. The Singer's Studio is at 3240 Prospect St., N.W., in Georgetown. For information, call 333-3933.

SATURDAY DANCES IN McLEAN

Dances are held on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month at the McLean Community Center, 1236 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA. The dances feature old-time music, squares, clogging, round dances, and contras. Lou Shapiro is the caller. Instruction for beginners is from 8:00-8:30 p.m., with the regular dance from 8:30-11:15. There's parking, good acoustics, and lots of room to dance. Upcoming dances will feature:

- Feb. 16 - Steve Hickman (fiddle) and Laurie Andres (piano).
 - Mar. 1 - Hobotoe Stringband tries again, after being snowed out last month.
- For more information, call 790-9248.

Square dancing and free-style clogging are featured on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Senior Center, 206 So. Commerce St., Centerville, MD, on the Eastern Shore. Old-timey music is provided by the High Tide Fish-Flappers, with guest musicians and clogging groups. A workshop for newcomers is held at 6:30 p.m., and a covered-dish dinner begins at 7 (bring a dish, utensils, and beverages; paperware and cups provided). Dancing starts at 8 and goes till 11:30. All ages are invited. Admission is \$3 for singles, or \$5 per couple; \$1 for senior citizens and teens; children free.

- Feb. 16 - No guest.
- Mar. 15 - Guest musician Pete LaBurge.
- Apr. 19 - Guest musician Steve Hickman.

Directions: From D.C., take Rt. 50 over Bay Bridge; then Rt. 301 to Rt. 213. Turn left to Centerville. You come into town on a 1-way street--keep left going up the hill, and the red brick church which houses the Senior Center is on the left.

For further information, call Dianna Bates or Elinor Waley at the Queen Anne's County Parks & Recreation Office, 301/758-0835.

OLD-TIME MUSIC WEDNESDAYS AT TAKOMA TAP ROOM

The Takoma Tap Room in Silver Spring is featuring old-time music on Wednesday nights. Featured performers for February will be:

- Feb. 6 - DON STOVER, a veteran old-time & bluegrass style banjo player & guitarist who has worked with many noted musicians including the Lilly Bros. and Mike Seeger. You may remember his excellent performance for FSGW a couple of years ago.
- Feb. 13 - HAMBONE SWEETS STRINGBAND.
- Feb. 20 - HOBOTOE STRINGBAND.
- Feb. 27 - DOUBLE DECKER STRINGBAND.

Notes for future Wednesdays: March 5 - THE AMBASSADORS, an old-time stringband from Maine; April 2 - THE HARMONY SISTERS, with Alice Gerrard.

The Takoma Tap Room is located at 8210 Piney Branch Rd., Silver Spring. The music goes from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Admission is \$2. Bring your clogging shoes!

* FSGW Hot-Line: 703/281-2228 *

CATHY FINK & BRUCE HUTTON AT COMMUNITY CAFE

On Thursday, February 21, Cathy Fink and Bruce Hutton will appear at the Community Cafe and Bookstore in Bethesda.

Cathy, who has recently moved to the D.C. area, worked for several years touring Canada and the U.S. with Duck Donald. Her most recent album is on the Flying Fish label. FSGW folk recently heard Cathy at last month's Sampler Concert.

Bruce Hutton is familiar to many folks as the host of the Monday Hoots held for several years at the Red Fox. He was a member of Dr. Kilmer's Jug Band and currently performs extensively as a solo and with the Double Decker Stringband. He has an LP on Folkways.

Together, Bruce and Cathy will perform a wide variety of material including old-time songs and tunes, ragtime, country blues, bluegrass, and early swing.

The music starts at 8:30 p.m. on Feb. 21. The Community Cafe is at 4949 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, MD. Admission is \$2. For more information, call 270-2217.

SILLY WIZARD (Continued from p. 1)

the singing, with songs and styles he learned from his family. The rest of the young band are Johnny and Phil Cunningham, Gordon Jones, and Martin Hadden. They are full-time performers, and have toured Europe more than a dozen times. In Britain they play folk clubs and headline festivals. They have also written and performed for the theatre, and subsequently for film. They have recorded three albums, each received well, critically and in sales.



Silly Wizard play traditional Scottish music, adding some of their own songs in the same styles. Among their European radio and television credits, they include a 20-week BBC radio series. Their concert will surely be an exciting one.

Look for SILLY WIZARD on Sunday evening, February 24, at 8 p.m., in the Washington Ethical Society auditorium, 7750 - 16th Street, N.W. (near Kalmia Rd.), in Washington. Admission is \$3 for FSGW members, \$4 for non-members. Advance tickets are available; send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and your check to FSGW - Silly Wizard, P.O. Box 5604, Preston King Station, Arlington, VA 22205. Or you can pay at the door.

FEBRUARY					1	2
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 CABOMA jam session 2-6 FSGW DANCE 8:30	4 Folk Hoot 9pm Takoma Tap Room	5	6 8 pm BOARD MEETING Don Stover 9pm Takoma Tap Room	7	8 FSGW PROGRAM: MARGARET MACARTHUR 8:30	9 FAMILY DANCE 4:30
10 FSGW DANCE 8:30	11 Folk Hoot 9pm Takoma Tap Room	12	13 9pm Hambone Sweets Takoma Tap Room	14 	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 Dance 6:30pm Centerville MD Dance - McLean 8pm Abe Brumberg Singer's Studio 8:30
17 CABOMA jam session 2-6 GOSPEL SING 4pm BENEFIT SAMPLER CONCERT 8:30 FSGW DANCE 8:30	18 Folk Hoot 9pm Takoma Tap Room	19	20 Hobotoe 9pm Takoma Tap Room	21 Bruce Hutton & Cathy Fink 8:30 Community Cafe	22	23
24 SACRED HARP SING 4pm SILLY WIZARD 8pm FSGW DANCE 8:30	25 Folk Hoot 9pm Takoma Tap Room	26	27 9pm Double Decker Takoma Tap Room	28	29	

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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