



Newsletter of the Folklore Society

OF GREATER WASHINGTON
Box 19303 20th Street Station, Washington D. C. 20036

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 11

MAY, 1970

STEVE WINTERS, EDITOR

PEGGY SEEGER/EWAN MacCOLL

SPECIAL EVENT/May 3rd

CERTAINLY FEW folk enthusiasts need be acquainted with PEGGY SEEGER & EWAN MacCOLL, featured performers for the FSGW's May Special Event, co-sponsored this month with the Smithsonian Institution. The concert will take place Sunday, May 3rd at 8 p.m. in the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum Auditorium, Constitution Avenue, at 12th Street, Washington, D.C. Tickets will be \$2.50 for FSGW members and \$3 for non-members.

PEGGY SEEGER, daughter of musicologists Charles Seeger and Ruth Crawford Seeger and Peter Seeger's half-sister, picked up folk singing training at home, from records, from study, and from friends and relatives to become one of the finest folk ballad singers in the world. She once summed up her musical philosophy when she wrote: "I have found a musical area in which I feel completely at home: those ballads and songs from the northern and eastern states of America and from Nova Scotia. I sing them because they are more than just songs to me, because they tie two parts of the world together for me: Britain, where I now live, and America, my home country."

IT WAS IN Britain, in 1956, where she became a member of a folk singing quartet, with one of the other members being EWAN MacCOLL, whom she later married in 1958. Considered by many critics as the foremost interpreter of traditional singing in the English-speaking world, Ewan MacColl, in the 1950's, along with A.L. Lloyd, helped prepare the ground for the English folk song revival of the 1960's and the still popular success of British folk song clubs. He has done a great deal of writing and collecting, especially of English and Scottish folk songs and ballads, since the 1930's and has published several collections of folk songs.

FSGW MEMBERS should get to the Natural History Museum early because of the expected heavy demand for seats. And please note that the special event will take place in the Natural History Museum rather than the History and Technology Building, the society's regular monthly meeting site.

(over)

Folklore Society of Greater Washington
P.O. Box 19303, 20th Street Station
Washington, D. C. 20036

Enclosed find my check in the amount of \$5 (individual membership) or \$7.50 (family membership). Memberships run for one year from the month of joining.

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____

I am interested in helping the FSGW with _____

OTHER FSGW MAY EVENTS

MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETING/May 8th

A "PAPER PROGRAM" on the general subject of Negro Folklore will highlight the FSGW May program meeting which will also include a general election of society officers. Guest speaker will be DR. JOHN LOVELL, professor of English at Howard University, who will offer a presentation on the Negro Spiritual. Dr. Lovell wrote "The Social Implications of the Negro Spiritual" as a journal article in 1939 and today it remains the best document in the field of Negro spirituals. He has recently returned from Europe and Africa where he interviewed foreign scholars and folk performers who have used the Negro spiritual in their work.

THE PROGRAM will take place Friday, May 8 beginning at 8:30 p.m. in the Smithsonian's History and Technology Building, Constitution Avenue, between 12th and 14th Streets. Admission will be free to members and 50 cents for non-members. Members should arrive early because the Smithsonian building is open until 9 p.m. and last month the auditorium became rapidly filled with interested tourists.

FSGW ELECTIONS WILL follow the meeting. Floor nominations will be accepted before the balloting. If you missed April's meeting the nominees are: President, Joe Hickerson; Vice-President, Frank Daspit; Secretary, Kathy Goldman; Treasurer, Gene Anderson; Membership Chairman, Roni Bowie; Program Chairman, Bob Clayton; Special Events Chairman, Mike Rivers; Publicity Chairman, Dick Rogers; Publications Chairman, Dr. George Carey; and Members-at-large: Andy Wallace, Mike Quitt, Joel Shimberg, and Dave Long.

AND TWO OLD REGULARS-----

OPEN SING, Saturday, May 23 at 8:30 p.m. in the Union Methodist Church, 814 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. Free to all.

SACRED HARP SING & POT LUCK SUPPER, Sunday May 24 in the home of Mary Helen Shortridge in Brookmont, Maryland. Starting time is 4 p.m. and anyone wishing to attend may call the hostess evenings at 229-1412. She'll give detailed directions and you can discuss what type of food to bring---and how much.

* * * * *

FSGW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, June 3 at 8 p.m., Room 710 of the Dupont Building, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. All society members welcome.

THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON
P.O. Box 19303, 20th Street Station
Washington, D.C. 20036