



Newsletter of the Folklore Society

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

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JANUARY 1971

JOAN PETERSON, EDITOR

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1971

OLA BELLE REED AT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION's History and Technology Auditorium located on Constitution Avenue between 12th and 14th Streets, NW. Time-8:30PM; Admission-free to members and \$1.00 to others (children .50). Ola Belle is a gifted singer and talker, a masterful song-maker, and a giant in the same way that Bill Monroe, Pete Seeger, and Woody Guthrie are giants--their scope as musicians is inseparably linked with the drive to get others to understand and accept the beauty and emotions that pulsate through their souls." That last sentence comes from Josh Dunson as printed in SING OUT!. Ola Belle and her brother Alec Campbell live in Oxford Pa. where they have a general store. From this store they broadcast every Sunday over WCOJ. You might as well know that I've never heard her. I have been informed by reliable sources that she does bluegrass and old-time music, she plays the banjo (by frailing) and has also written a few songs. So I guess I'll go find out what I've been missing. You come too.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 1971

BESSIE JONES! A SPECIAL EVENT PRESENTED BY THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON! Place-Washington Ethical Society Bldg., 7750 16th NW, Washington, DC; Time-8:00 PM Admission-\$1.00 to members, \$2.00 to non-members at the door (at the door means we don't print tickets so we can't sell them in advance). Bessie Jones has been making the rounds of folk festivals and such ever since she appeared at the Newport Folk Festival in 1962 (or maybe it was 1963) with the Georgia Sea Island Singers. She sings spirituals and play party songs and there's usually a lot of hand clapping going on -for rhythm not just applause. Now I've heard her- and she's good, but it's beyond my powers of description to try and describe how or why she's good. Like trying to describe fresh strawberries with cream to someone whose never had them, or even to those who have. You just sit there drooling with the memory and say "You really must try some."

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 1971

SACRED HARP SINGING AND POT-LUCK SUPPER, 4:00 PM at the home of Mary Helen Shortridge, Brookmont Glen Echo, Maryland. Call 229-1412 (evenings and weekends) for directions and food instructions.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 1971

OPEN SING AND POT-LUCK SUPPER, 4:00 PM at the home of Roni Bowie, Arlington, Va. Call 522-0648 for directions and what to bring.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

February 12, 1971 Franklin George, March 12, 1971 John Roberts and Tony Barrand, April 9, 1971 Margaret MacArthur, 5/7/71 Washington Area Black Folk Music, June 11, 1971 Kate McGarrigle and Roma Baran.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1971

FORD'S THEATRE: FOLKSONGS OF ABE LINCOLN AND THE CIVIL WAR, organized and mc'ed by Joe Hickerson The program is offered by the FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHING, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, and the NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION. And wonder of wonders it's FREE!

MISCELLANEOUS NEW NOTES

" The Library of Congress Folk Archive as a Source for Folk Music Materials," will be presented by Alan Jabbour and Joe Hickerson as the program for Session II at a meeting of The Music Library Association. The program starts at 8:30 PM on Thursday, January 28, 1971 in the Capitol Plaza Room of the Hotel Continental, 420 North Capitol St. Registration fee for the meetings is \$5.00.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING OF THE FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON, FIRST TUESDAYS OF MONTH in Room 710, Dupont Circle Bldg., 1346 Connecticut Ave. NW, 8:00 PM. Total membership in FSGW is now 420. All exchange publications received by the Society are available for perusal in George Carey's office at University of Maryland. FSGW also has a tape ~~of~~ archive which contains tapes of many of our programs and the Getaways. These tapes may be rented for a nominal fee. Call Kathy Goldman at 524-5061.

"Festival of American Folklife," a long-playing phonograph recording composed of musical selections recorded at the Smithsonian Institution's Festival of American Folklife, is available for \$3.50 each from the Institution's Division of Performing Arts, Washington, DC, 20566. Performers represented on the record include Grandpa Jones, the Monroe Brothers (Bill, Charlie, and Birch), Bernice Reagon, Skip James, Muddy Waters, and Billie and Dede Pierce with the Preservation Hall jazz band. Specify stereo or monophonic when ordering.

There is an association for the advancement of the guitar, mandolin, banjo and kindred fretted instruments called the Fretted Instrument Guild of America. The dues are \$7.50 a year but I don't know what you get for \$7.50. If you're interested write to F. I. G. A. c/o Ann Pertoney, Secretary-Treasurer, 2344 South Oakley Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60608.

And of course for \$7.50 (family) or \$5.00 you can also join our happily little bunch. If you have read the Newsletter this far you should have some idea of what you get for your money.

Folklore Society of Greater Washington
P O Box 19303, 20th Street Station
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Enclosed find my check in the amount of \$5(individual membership) or \$7.50(family membership) Memberships are for one year from the month of joining.

Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____ Zip _____

I am interested in helping FSGW with Publicity _____ Newsletter _____ Programs _____

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