



Newsletter of the Folklore Society OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Box 19303 20th Street Station. Washington D. C. 20036

VOLUME VIII, Number 5

JANUARY 1972

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MONTHLY PROGRAM

On Friday, January 14, at 8:30 p.m., our regular monthly program will be held in the Smithsonian Institution Museum of History and Technology between 12th and 14th Sts. on Constitution Ave., NW. Cosponsored by FSGW and the Division of Performing Arts, Smithsonian Institution, the program is FREE to FSGW members and \$1.00 for non-members, 50¢ for children. So don't forget your membership cards.

Now normally in this space we go on to rave about our performer and about how he or she plays half-a-dozen instruments and knows every song there ever was. Also we explain how he relates to this or that current in the folk music scene and in addition has a marvelous personality and is really a nice person. While we hasten to add that all of these things are true of this month's performer, we must confess that we don't know who it will be. It seems that Pam Ostergren, who was planning to come, won't be able to make it, and as of press time for this Newsletter, our Program Chairman Mike Rivers was still hard at work looking for someone who could come and give a program of the high caliber to which we have become accustomed. So it will be a SURPRISE, but if you're wary of surprises you might want to check the newspapers around the fourteenth to see if they have the word. Whatever you do, don't stay home--you might miss the best program of the season.

OPEN SINGS

After floundering for the past couple years, the Open Sings have been reborn. The Society has made an arrangement whereby we will hold our Open Sings at the Ethical Society Coffee House, which is held the first Friday of every month beginning at 9 p.m. (i.e. January 7). Admission is \$1.00 a head and refreshments are furnished (wine, etc.). It will be like the old Open Sings, where everybody brings their instruments, songs, etc., and lounges around and sings. The Ethical Society is located at 7750 16th St., NW., at Kalmia Road.

An exhibition of the works of the artist JOHN STEUART CURRY is currently on view at the National Collection of Fine Arts, 8th and G Sts. NW. Now you may wonder what that statement is doing in our Newsletter. Well, on January 8th at 3 p.m. (That's a Saturday) FSGW is presenting a small concert of songs related to the work of this artist. Curry (1897-1946) was a regional artist of the 1930's whose major concerns were with the land and the people who worked with the land--the farmers. So, by extrapolation, the concert will be of songs that deal with the 1930's era and what was happening to the people and the land at that time. Sounds like it should be pretty good, doesn't it? The concert will take place at the Collection, probably on the second floor where the Curry exhibit is.

SINGING FROM THE SACRED HARP AND POTLUCK SUPPER--Sunday, January 23, beginning at 4 p.m. This month our happy little bunch will meet at the home of Ruth Huber who lives in Mount Ranier, Md. For directions to her house and coordination of food ideas, call Ruth at 779-1493. Left-over Christmas cookies will not be considered an adequate contribution.

And, or course, you're invited to attend the FSGW Executive Board Meeting which meets this month on Tuesday, January 4, at 8 p.m. in Room 718 of the Dupont Circle Bldg. Free parking on the 19th St. side of the building.

FSGW BY LAWS AMENDMENT--At the January 14th program meeting we'll be voting on a proposed amendment to the by laws of the Society. The proposal is to change paragraph A of article X of the by laws--

From: The funds of the Society shall be kept in a checking account only to the extent needed for current operation. Additional funds and all reserve shall be kept in interest-bearing accounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the particular bank or banks being selected by the Board.

To: The funds of the Society shall be kept in checking accounts only to the extent needed for current operation. Additional funds and all reserve shall be kept in interest-bearing accounts insured by an agency of the Federal Government, the institution to be approved by the Board.

Passage requires a 2/3 majority of the members voting that night. By the way, extra copies of the complete by laws will be available at the meeting for those of you interested in that sort of thing.

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Sunday, February 6, a program of Folksongs of Abe Lincoln and the Civil War will be presented at Ford's Theatre. It will be cosponsored by FSGW, the National Park Service, and the National Folk Festival Association, and is FREE! It will be similar to the one held last year; see the February Newsletter for details on performers, etc.

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING--Free sessions are now being held regularly at the following locations. The sessions are for all ages and run from 8 to about 11 p.m. For more information call Vera Mae Duerksen at LA9-0845.

1st Saturday of every month--Florida Ave. Friends Meeting, 2111 Florida Ave., NW.

2nd Saturday of every month--Adelphi Friends Meeting, 2303 Metzert Rd., Adelphi, Md.

3rd Saturday of every month--Sandy Springs Meeting, Meeting House Rd., Sandy Springs, Md.

MARGARET MacARTHUR, who did a program for the Society last April, has a record out on the Living Folk Records label. It is \$5.00 and is available from Bob Clayton, who has been selling it for months, so we finally decided to put something in the Newsletter about it. Bob has a couple of other things available too, among them a new banjo instruction book which he has written. This is strictly old-time, traditional style banjo, not blue grass or Pete Seeger or anything like that. The first part of the book is the text-instruction part and the last part is a collection of more complex, difficult tunes which you should be able to play if you've complete the first part. It's a 20-page book containing 20 songs in all and sells for \$1.00. In addition, Bob gives lessons in banjo and guitar in his home and in several music stores in the area. If you're interested in any of the above, you might also be interested in Bob Clayton's phone number and here it is: 332-5050.

"AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC" is the name of a non-credit course being conducted by FSGW President Joe Hickerson for the University of Virginia Center for Continuing Education. The Spring session begins March 9 and runs every Thursday for 8 weeks. The classes are held 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Woodrow Wilson Branch Library, 6100 Knollwood Drive (Baileys Crossroads area), Falls Church. The 8 sessions are roughly divided as follows: Introduction to American folklore; the ballad; American folk instruments; the sounds of American folk music on Library of Congress recordings; American Negro folk music; American Negro religious folk-song and gospel music; topical and contemporary themes in American Folk music; the folksong revival and the popular uses of folk music. Several guest performers or lecturers will appear: the Fall session's guests were Geraldine Johnson, John Jackson, Kathy Goldman and Joel Shimberg, Wayne Shirley, and Michael Cooney. For information and registration forms call or write Mrs. Carolyn Ely, Study-Discussion Coordinator, University of Virginia Center for Continuing Education, 200 Park Ave., Falls Church, Va. 22046 (phone: 532-5800 ext. 44). Deadline: February 15.

TAPE ARCHIVE

The Society has tapes of a number of programs since its inception, and continues to tape programs when performers permit. (Most do.) Tapes in the Archive are now available for circulation to members, or for duplication by the archivists for members. Rental fee: 50¢ per week or portion thereof, with a minimum of \$1.00, per program. Fee for duplication by archivists: \$2.50 per hour of recording time, with member supplying tape. Members are asked not to duplicate or allow others to duplicate further, to protect the performers, and are asked to sign a form to this effect. Arrangements for obtaining tapes from the Archives may be made with the archivists. To rent a circulating tape, phone 522-0648, evenings and weekends; to arrange for duplication of a tape, phone 524-5061, evenings and weekends.

Here's an up-to-date list of the programs in the Tape Archive:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Performer(s)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Performers</u>
11/64	Chuck & Nan Perdue (1st FSGW program)	11/68	Dan Smith
12/64	John Putnam (dulcimer program)	11/68	Young Tradition
1/65	Negro Blues	12/68	Billy Vanaver
1/65	"Folksing"	1/69	Peter and Polly Gott
3/65	McPeake Family	2/69	Tom Paley
4/65	Elizabeth Cotton	3/69	Sampler Concert
7/65	First Annual Picnic	5/69	Frank Goodwyn
9/65	"Home Folks" (Don Leace, John Jackson, Alice & Hazel)	9/69	Getaway IV
11/65	Sampler Concert	10/69	Barn Dance
12/65	Tossi and Lee Aaron	1/70	Norman Kennedy
1/66	5 Student Papers	1/70	Bessie Jones
4/66	Phan Duy	3/70	Golden Ring
4/66	Fiddlers	4/70	Valley Players
6/66	Buddy Moss	6/70	Sixth Annual Picnic
6/66	Frank Proffitt Memorial	10/70	Bob White
7/66	Second Annual Picnic	10/70	Getaway V
9/66	Getaway I	11/70	Aly Bain and Mike Whelans
11/66	Sara Cleveland	12/70	Kilby Snow
12/66	Thomas Jefferson High School Festival	1/71	Ola Belle Reed and Family
12/66	Barn Dance	2/71	Franklin George
1/67	Des and Julie Rainey	2/71	Southern Folk Festival Tour
2/67	Pennywhistlers	2/71	Lincoln Period Program II
2/67	Sampler Concert	3/71	John Roberts and Tony Barrand
3/67	Negro Music (John, Amos, Willy Mae, Lawrence)	4/71	Margaret MacArthur
4/67	Folklore Papers	4/71	Franklin George
5/67	Getaway II	5/71	Washington Area Blues and Gospel
6/67	Third Annual Picnic	6/71	Barry O'Neill
12/67	Norman Kennedy	6/71	Seventh Annual Picnic
3/68	Lou Killen	9/71	Labor Day Program
4/68	Sampler Concert	9/71	Getaway VI
5/68	Getaway III	10/71	Sampler Concert
5/68	Yank Rachell and Shirley Griffith	10/71	Alan Stowell
6/68	Friends of the Paton's	11/71	Grant Rogers
9/68	Sampler Concert	11/71	Malvina Reynolds
9/68	Lincoln Period Program I	???	Howie Mitchell
10/68	Joe Heaney		

MUGWUMPS' INSTRUMENT HERALD is the name of a new classified want-ad publication which will contain only ads which are related to folk instruments. As currently envisioned the publication will be bimonthly, an ad will cost one dollar per item advertised, and the entire list will sell for one dollar per issue. However, for a limited time only, a pre-publication package deal is being offered which includes a one year's subscription (six issues) plus three free ads in each of the first three issues, all for only \$5.00. If you're interested, send that amount to Mugwumps' Instrument Herald, 4623 Roxbury Dr., Bethesda, Md. 20014.

FOLK FESTIVALS--Here's a few in the next couple of months that you might be interested in:

University of Chicago Folk Festival, January 28-30, 1972.

New York Pinewood Folk Music Club Winter Weekend, Solway House, Saugerties, N.Y.,
January 28-30, 1972. Limited registration. Info from Adele Harris, 115 E. Mosholu
Pky. No., Bronx, N.Y. 10467 (Phone OL2-6689).

Kent State University Folk Festival, Kent, Ohio, February 3-5, 1972.

COMING UP--Our February 11th program will feature Bill Williams (95% definite) doing mostly blues and our March 10th program will feature John Wilcox (definite) who does mostly modern stuff and writes a lot of his own material. Both of these will be in the Smithsonian Natural History Museum, 10th & Constitution, beginning at 8:30 p.m. FSGW members free; non-members pay \$1.00.

WANT TO JOIN??

Membership in FSGW entitles you to free admission to monthly programs, half-price at special events, Newsletter mailed first-class, the society Journal, access to the tape archives and the exchange publications, discounts at programs sponsored at Lisner, and some other good things that we can't mention here.

Folklore Society of Greater Washington
Box 19303, 20th Street Station
Washington, DC 20036

I (We) wish to join the Society. Enclosed is \$5.00 (individual) _____ \$7.50 (family) _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

I want to get involved. Please call me if you need help _____

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