



Newsletter of the Folklore Society OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Bx 19303 20th Street Station, Washington D. C. 20036

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Arlene Rodenbeck, Editor

SONGMAKERS OF VIRGINIA

Our program this month will be on Friday, January 12th, at 8:30 p.m., at the Washington Ethical Society, 16th St. at Kalmia Rd., NW. As usual, FSGW members will be admitted FREE and non-members for \$1.50; children for 50¢.

We're doing something a little bit different this time. Our performers are a group of people from the Songmakers of Virginia, which is a folk music society, like ours, located in the Virginia Beach-Norfolk, Va., area. Program Chairman Robin Johnson hopes that this will be the first of series of exchange concerts; like, maybe a group of our people will go down and do a concert for them sometime. There are a number of folk music clubs within driving distance of us (Philadelphia, for example) and it would be fun to establish closer contacts with them, find out what others are doing, etc. At any rate, this month's program should be informal and enjoyable. The people who are coming are: Bob Zentz, who does contemporary and traditional things; the Original Cast of 12,000, which is in fact a trio that does contemporary, bluegrass, and traditional things; Ken Hicks, who sings funny songs; and Claude Carmichael, who plays folk piano and guitar.

JEAN REDPATH

We are pleased to present this month a Very Special Event--a concert of Scottish ballads and folk songs by Jean Redpath, a native of Fife, Scotland. The date is Saturday, January 27th, beginning at 8:30 p.m. The program will be held at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, Constitution Ave. and 10th St., NW., and is cosponsored by FSGW and the Division of Performing Arts, Smithsonian Institution.

Jean is deeply concerned with the cultural identity of Scotland and for that reason is faithful to the traditions of her music, singing in the vernacular when appropriate. She gives a lot of background on the songs she sings, giving us the benefit of her study and experience with the music. Jean is noted for her pure soprano voice and her lilting Scots accent.

This is certainly a not-to-be-missed event. Admission will be \$1.50 for FSGW members and \$3.00 for non-members.



JOE HICKERSON IN CONCERT

The Washington Ethical Society presents Joe Hickerson in an informal concert on Saturday, January 6th, beginning at 8:30 p.m., at the Ethical Society, obviously, 16th St. at Kalmia Rd., NW. Joe is a past president of FSGW and a librarian at the Archive of Folk Song in the Library of Congress. Most of us are familiar with Joe and his sardonic sense of humor, but we don't get to hear him sing as often as we'd like. He'll be doing lots of old and new favorites and there'll be lots of audience participation. January 6th happens to be Twelfth Night so he'll probably throw in some seasonal things. Lynn Hickerson will also be there to help out on a few things.

OPEN SING--Start off the new year with an evening of singing and listening at this month's Open Sing on Friday, January 5th, beginning about 9 p.m., at the Ethical Society. These sings are really open--anyone can sing or play either an old favorite or something new to us. Admission is \$1.00 each and refreshments are served.

WORKSHOPS--We don't have any scheduled for this month. Right now we're looking for people to lead workshops that other people have asked for. If anyone can do so for a workshop on the autoharp, mandolin, or on political and labor songs, please call Debbie Hutton at 652-2692. Also we are hoping to schedule a full day session of workshops sometime in February that would conclude with a square dance in the evening. If you have ideas or suggestions for that event, Debbie would like to know about it.

SINGING FROM THE SACRED HARP AND POTLUCK SUPPER will be held on Sunday, January 21, beginning at 4 p.m., at the home of Mary Helen Shortridge, in the Brookmont area of Glen Echo Heights, Md. Phone 229-1412 evenings and weekends to find out how to get there and what to bring.

The FSGW Executive Board will meet on Tuesday, January 2nd, at 8:00 p.m., presuming they have all recovered by then. As usual it will be held in Room 718 of the Dupont Circle Bldg., 1346 Connecticut Ave., NW. Everyone is invited. The address, by the way, is the home of the National Folk Festival Association, which graciously continues to let us use its office for our meetings. Thank you, NFFA.

There will be a FREE folk concert on Sunday, January 28th, beginning at 2 p.m., at the Interior Department auditorium, 19th and C Sts., NW. It will be cosponsored by the National Folk Festival Association and the National Capital Parks division of the Department of the Interior. Unfortunately, as of press time it wasn't certain who would be performing, but it's sure to be someone good. Why not check the newspapers' events columns for that day or just come on down.

The annual election meeting of the MARYLAND FOLKLORE SOCIETY will be held at 1 p.m., Thursday, January 25, 1973, in the meeting room, Hall of Records building, Annapolis. Those of you interested in joining the Society should send a check (\$5, individual; \$10, supporting; or \$25+, patron) for a years membership to Box 724, Salisbury State College, Salisbury MD 21801.

THE FAT CITY STRING BAND will be our guests at the February 9th program. This is the old-time string band that swept the Smithsonian Folk Life Festival last summer. Everybody loved them and so will you. We'll have more details on them in next months newsletter.

NEEDED: One soprano, one counter-tenor, two high tenors, and one deep bass for group specializing in 18th century English and American music (patriotic, religious, filthy, clean, folk, semi-cultivated, vocal & instrumental, catches, glees, dance tunes, and music from the origins of Sacred Harp). If you're interested, contact Gill Anderson at 543-8083.

The Smithsonian Institution needs volunteers who are interested in string instruments and can donate about 2 free (unpaid) hours a week to teach museum programs for elementary schools during the school year. An interest in folk music, a bit of playing ability, and a car are all that's necessary. Familiarity with dulcimers and banjos is helpful. Instruments and training are provided by the museum. For information call Joan Madden, 381-6471 weekdays or talk to FSGW member Sam Rizzetta.

FLORA MOLTON, streetsinger around Washington since 1942, is the subject of a TV documentary being prepared by WETA-TV. Flora has participated in a couple FSGW programs (most recently in May of 1971) & is often seen on the corner of 7th & F Sts., NW., across from Hecht's, playing her guitar and singing traditional gospel songs as well as her own compositions. The producers of the documentary have plenty of audio material of Flora, but are in need of visual material, particularly photographs. If you have anything that you can contribute (they don't think they'll be able to return your work) please send it to Dave Deutch, WETA-TV, 3620 27th Rd. S., Arlington VA 22206.

The Archive of Folk Song in the Library of Congress has just issued a double-LP recording entitled "Music of Morocco" (L63-L64), edited by the noted writer and composer Paul Bowles. The album features a wide variety of Moroccan music, from the music of the mountain-dwelling Berbers and the varieties of "town" music to the Sephardic Jewish traditions and the Andaluz "classical" music of the country. The recording may be obtained in person for \$7.50 or by mail for \$7.95 from the Recording Laboratory, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington DC 20540.

AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC is the subject of an informal, non-credit course being offered by the University of Virginia's Northern Virginia Regional Center, School of Continuing Education. The discussion leader is none other than Joe Hickerson. The course meets in eight Thursday evening sessions, 7:30-9:30 p.m., beginning on February 8th, at the Woodrow Wilson Branch Library, 6100 Knollwood Drive (Baileys Crossroads area), Falls Church. Tuition is \$20 per person or \$30 per family couple. Registration is by mail; deadline is January 24, 1973. Send the form found on page 4 with your check made payable to the University of Virginia to: Mrs. Carolyn Ely, U. of Va., 400 North Washington St., Falls Church VA 22046. For more information, call 532-5800, Ext. 45 or 46.

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HAVE YOU RESOLVED to make 1973 a more enjoyable and meaningful year? Well, there's no better way to start than to become a member of FSGW. Membership entitles you to a whole year's worth of free admission to our monthly programs, half-price at Special Events, first-class postage on the Newsletter, the Society Journal, access to the tape archives and exchange publications, discounts at programs sponsored at Lisner Auditorium, and other good things.

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Membership form

I (We) wish to join the Society; enclosed is \$5.00 (individual) \$7.50 (family) for a years membership. This is a renewal / address change.

Name: Phone:

Address: Zip:

Would you be interested in helping the Society in any way? Yes No Maybe

REGISTRATION FORM - AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC

Name _____ Address _____

Soc. Sec. No. _____ Bus. Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Have you registered before with the Northern Virginia Regional Center?

No _____ Yes _____ Credit _____ Non-credit _____ Currently _____ or Semester/year _____

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