



# Newsletter of the Folklore Society

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

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MARCH 1973

Arlene Rodenbeck, Editor

## LARRY JOHNSON

Our March program features the prince of fingerpickers, Larry Johnson, a protege of the legendary bluesman Reverend Gary Davis. Though Larry's country blues style is distinctive and individual, he was clearly influenced by the music of Davis and others, such as Blind Lemon Jefferson, Blind Boy Fuller, Charley Patton, Memphis Minnie, Fats Waller and James P. Johnson. Program Chairman Robin Johnson first heard him in England, while Larry was doing a tour there, and decided that this was someone we'd all like to hear. Larry has two records out: Fast and Funky on Blue Goose (L-200) and Country Blues on Biograph (12028).

Now for the details: The program will be held on Friday, March 9th, beginning at 8:30 p.m., at the Washington Ethical Society, 16th St. at Kalmia Rd., NW. FSGW members are admitted FREE and non-members for \$1.50, children for 50¢. By the way, did you know that it's possible to join FSGW and get in free to the program on the same night? Just come a few minutes early so you can take care of the business at the membership table before the program.

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## JON WILCOX

We have a special treat in store for us on Saturday, March 3rd, when Jon Wilcox will be presented in an informal house concert at the home of Helen Schneyer, 3908 Prospect St., Kensington, Md. It'll begin about 8:00 p.m. and will be \$1.50 at the door. Jon has been making the Washington scene for the past couple years and we're growing rather fond of him. In 1971 (summer) he toured with the Portable Folk Festival and exactly a year ago he presented our March program for us. Last fall Jon shared a whole weekend of music with us at our Getaway. He writes a lot of his own material in a warm, personal style, yet he doesn't hit you over the head with his beliefs and feelings; he's simply sharing some of himself and his music with us. And that's what we're all about.

## RECORDER AND TIN WHISTLE WORKSHOP

By popular request, a workshop on the above named instruments has at last been scheduled. It will be held on Friday, March 16th, beginning at 8:30 p.m. in Hillcrest Heights, Md. Call Dennis at 423-3871 to get directions. Celtic music will be the predominant theme of the workshop, though not exclusively. Inexpensive tin whistles will be available there, so if you've been thinking about getting one, why not come and learn something about the instrument at the same time?

We're still looking for ideas about what kind of workshops you want, volunteers to host them, and volunteers to lead them. If you have any of the aforementioned to offer, please call Debbie Hutton at 652-2692, evenings and weekends.

OPEN SING--Friday, March 2nd, is the date of this month's free-for-all, to be held at the Ethical Society, 7750 16th St., NW., beginning at 9 p.m. As usual, admission is \$1 a head with refreshments provided. The 2nd is far enough away from the 17th so we're not even going to suggest thinking about Irish music.

BILL MONROE  
The Father of Bluegrass

A concert of traditional bluegrass music, featuring Bill Monroe with Don Reno and Bill Harrell, will be held on March 9, beginning at 8:30 p.m., at Lisner Auditorium, 21st and H Sts., NW. The concert is being presented by Fox on the Run Productions and sponsored by yours truly, the Folklore Society of Greater Washington. Regular ticket prices are \$4, \$4.50, \$5, and \$5.50, but FSGW members will receive a 25% discount if they mail order their tickets immediately. The discount prices are \$3, \$3.40, \$3.75, and \$4.15. Use the form found on page 3 of this newsletter and be sure to include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Tickets are being sold at several places around town, but you can only use your discount privilege by mail ordering them. Among others, tickets are being sold at GW University, Montgomery Wards, Orpheus Records, Empire Music.

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SINGING FROM THE SACRED HARP AND POTLUCK SUPPER will be held March 18th or March 25th, probably, but we don't know where yet. How about at your place? We'll try to announce the date and location at our other March events. Meanwhile, if you'd like to offer your home or want to find out where we're gathering, call Arlene at 337-4353, evenings and weekends.

The FSGW Executive Board will meet on Tuesday, March 6th, at 8:00 p.m. in Room 718 of the Dupont Circle Bldg., 1346 Connecticut Ave. Everyone's invited. If you're thinking about what it would be like to be on the Board, this would be a good time to stop by and look us over.

In case you haven't heard, the CLANCY BROTHERS concert that was announced in last month's newsletter has been cancelled due to a confusion in booking dates. If you have already sent in an order for tickets, your money will be returned to you promptly. Supposedly, there will be a Clancy Brothers concert on March 9th at the Kennedy Center, but it is being presented under auspices other than FSGW and Stanley-Williams Presentations. Sorry about the mix-up, but it's just one of those things.

The Smithsonian Institution has issued an invitation to FSGW members to attend a JAZZ GUITAR WORKSHOP on Saturday, March 24th, at 5 p.m. in the Natural History Museum auditorium. The workshop will feature Tiny Grimes and Jim Hall, who will also be giving a concert later in the evening (8 p.m.). The workshop is free, but you must write in advance for an admission pass. Write to Department DPA, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560, and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The concert tickets will be \$3.25 for the general public and \$2.75 for students and Smithsonian Associates members.

Remember in January when some of the people from the Songmakers of Virginia came and presented that fun program for us? Well, this month some of our FSGW people are going down to Virginia Beach to do a concert for them. The tentative list includes Robin Johnson, Andy Wallace, Mike Rivers, Mike Holmes, Bob Clayton, Judy Hough, and Sam Rizzetta. The concert is scheduled for March 18th, at 3 p.m., at the College Park Information Center, Providence & Indian River Rds., in Virginia Beach. If you're in the area, you might like to drop in.

A National List of Coffeehouses and Other Folkie Places is being compiled and information is needed about what's going on in this area. Does anyone know if a complete list of such places in this area exists? Is anyone interested in compiling such a list? If you can answer yes to either question or can be of any help, please contact Giles W. Riesner, Jr., 5506 Clifton Ave., Woodlawn, MD 21207. Apparently a preliminary listing of folk music clubs has been compiled by Wildflowers. It is available for 75¢ from Wildflowers, P.O. Box 24, Dartmouth, Massachusetts 02714.

NOMINATIONS

Yes, it's that time already--time to start thinking about the FSGW Executive Board and who we want to be on it. The election procedure goes like this: At the April program meeting the Nominating Committee will present a slate of candidates. Additional nominations may be made and seconded from the floor at that meeting and at the first half of the May meeting. Then during the intermission of the May meeting we'll vote by printed ballot (write-ins permitted) and the results will be announced at the close of the program.

Meanwhile, you may want to consider whether you would like to serve the Society as an officer. The positions are as follows: President, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, membership chairman, program chairman, special events chairman, publicity chairman, publications chairman, and two members-at-large. (Actually we should have been using "chairperson" in that sentence.) Besides taking care of their particular areas of concern, these people constitute the Executive Board, which means they meet once a month to tell each other what they've been doing and to decide things. Most of the positions require more of a willingness to get involved than any particular skill or experience. If you're interested in any of the positions or want to know more about them, call Arlene Rodenbeck at 337-4353, evenings and weekends.

Fox on the Run Productions  
5428 MacArthur Blvd., Suite 203  
Washington DC 20016

TICKET ORDER FORM

Enclosed is a self-addressed stamped envelope and a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for tickets to the BILL MONROE concert at Lisner Auditorium on March 9th. I have specified the number of tickets requested at each price:

FSGW members:	_____ @ \$3.00	_____ @ \$3.40	_____ @ \$3.75	_____ @ \$4.15
Non-members:	_____ @ \$4.00	_____ @ \$4.50	_____ @ \$5.00	_____ @ \$5.50

FSGW MEMBERSHIP is still available at the low cost of \$5 per year for an individual and \$7.50 a year for a family membership. You'll get 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, etc.

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON  
P.O. Box 19303, 20th Street Station  
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Membership Form

I (We) wish to join the Society; enclosed is \$5 (individual) \_\_\_\_\_ \$7.50 (family) \_\_\_\_\_ for a years membership. Renewal \_\_\_\_\_. Address change \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

May we call on you occasionally to help with the Society's activities? \_\_\_\_\_

FOLK FESTIVALS, FIDDLERS CONVENTIONS, ETC., from the list being patiently compiled by Joe Hickerson, reference librarian at the Archive of Folk Song, Library of Congress. The events listed below are for March and April and are within 500 miles of here (more or less). If you want the complete list or more information, call Joe at 426-5510.

- March 3 46th Annual O'Time Fiddlers Convention, Star, North Carolina  
" 10 Old-Time Fiddlers Convention, Catawba, North Carolina  
" 10 Old Time Fiddlers Convention, Highfalls, North Carolina  
" 17 6th Annual Fiddler's Convention and Bluegrass Festival, Rock Springs  
School, Denver, North Carolina  
" 23-24 Niskayuno Festival of Traditional Music and Crafts, Niskayuno High  
School, Schenectady, New York  
" 24 Old-Time Fiddlers Convention, Seagrove, North Carolina  
" 27- Festival of World Music, University of Maryland, College Park  
April 6 (tentative dates)  
March 31 33rd Annual Old Time Fiddlers Convention, Mooresville, North Carolina  
April 6-8 Folk Fair, Stockton State College, Pomona, New Jersey  
" 7 Fiddle and banjo contests (part of Mountain Heritage Weekend)  
Potomac State College, Keyser, West Virginia  
" 12-15 38th Annual Mountain Folk Festival, Berea College, Kentucky  
" 13-15 Penn State University Folk Festival, University Park  
" 19-21 49th Annual World's Championship Fiddler's Convention, J.P. Van Hoy  
Farm, Union Grove, North Carolina  
" 19-22 Old Time Fiddler's and Bluegrass Festival, Fiddler's Grove, Union  
Grove, North Carolina  
" 21 Albemarle-Stanley County Fiddlers Convention, North Carolina  
" 23 Old Time Fiddlers Convention, Advance, North Carolina  
" 23 Old-Time Fiddlers Convention, Oak Ridge, North Carolina

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