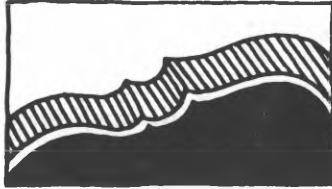


**The
Folklore
Society
of Greater
Washington**



Box 19303, 20th Street Station, Washington, DC 20036

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME X, No. 3

November 1973

Co-editors: Marietta Plank
Valarie Thomas

ESTHER MOTHER SCOTT

Our November program will feature Esther Mother Scott, an 80 year old woman who sings blues and gospel songs. She was born in 1893 in Warren County, Mississippi. At the age of 16 she moved to New Orleans. While there she joined the Rabbit Foot Woolcott Minstrel Show and worked with Ma Raney and Bessie Smith. Mother Scott is currently living in Washington, D.C. She performs regularly in the Washington area and around the country through Unicorn Productions.

Mother Scott currently has a record out -- "Mama Ain't Nobody's Fool". Hopefully, copies will be available for sale during intermission.

Playing back-up guitar with Mother Scott will be Archie Edwards. Archie is also a local blues singer and guitar player. He was featured a few years ago in a Blues Guitar Program sponsored by the FSGW. He will also entertain us with a few of his favorite blues songs.

The program begins as usual at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, November 9th. FSGW members get in free, non-members pay \$1.50. It will be held at the Ethical Society, 7750 16th St., N.W.

UTAH PHILLIPS CONCERT

Singer, song-writer and trained nut...so they say! If you've heard him before, you know Utah (Bruce) Phillips is a strange person...so he's got to be entertaining.

Utah will be appearing at the Ethical Society on Saturday, November 24th at 8:30 p.m. It should be a full house, but we'll try and get everyone in. Like always, get there early to get yourself a good seat. The charge will be \$2.00 to members, and \$3.00 to non-members.

For those of you who don't know Utah Phillips (we're sure there are few) he's a singer, song-writer, tall tale teller, IWW organizer, whose interests and songs center around the labor movement and cowboy life. He has been a regular part of the labor section of the Smithsonian National Folklife Festival for the past few years. Utah has a record out which will be on sale at the concert, but most of his songs have been recorded by others.

We promise an interesting evening. How can you miss with a character like this who has supposedly lied and punned his way through folk festivals, coffee houses and bars. Utah also gives tips on how to catch moving box cars without breaking your guitar. You wouldn't want to miss that!

WORKSHOPS

Blues Guitar Workshop and Jam, on Saturday, November 10th in Bethesda. For more information and directions call Ted (657-8708) evenings or weekends.

Old Timey Banjo, on Sunday, November 18th from 2:00-5:00 p.m. on Capitol Hill. Work on picking out a tune and share in "Song Swap". For information and directions call Bob or Carolyn (546-7604).

For general workshop information call Debbie or Bruce Hutton at 652-2692. They would really like some input or feedback on workshops. Suggestions, ideas, volunteers to help organize are all welcome.

An all day workshop is coming up in late January. Call if you're interested in planning any part of it. Remember, these programs don't organize themselves.

SACRED HARP AND POT LUCK SUPPER

This month's Sacred Harp singing will be held on Sunday, November 18th at the home of Dale Pagano in Takoma Park. Because this is a pot luck dinner, everyone is asked to participate in the food and refreshments. For directions on how to get to Dale's house and what to bring for supper, call Dale at 270-8526, evenings and weekends. Don't forget to bring your Sacred Harp song books.

OPEN SING

This month's Open Sing will take place on Friday, November 2nd at the Ethical Society at 9:00 p.m. Come and share your favorite folk songs with everyone else. Refreshments will be served; all you need to bring is yourself. Admission is \$1.00 for both members and non-members.

JOSHUA RIFKIN CONCERT

Prepare yourself for another good concert. The Folklore Society of Greater Washington and Stanley-Williams Presentations are co-sponsoring a program featuring Joshua Rifkin, an excellent ragtime pianist on Saturday, November 17th at Lisner Auditorium, GWU, 21st and H Sts., NW at 8:00 p.m.

Regular ticket prices are \$4, \$5, \$6, but FSGW members are entitled to a 25% discount if you mail order your tickets in advance. Use the form below and don't forget to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Tickets are available elsewhere in the Washington area, but you will not be able to use your discount at those places.

Stanley-Williams Presentations
1715 37th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

TICKET ORDER FORM

Enclosed is a self-addressed stamped envelope and a check for \$ _____ for _____ tickets to the Joshua Rifkin Concert at Lisner Auditorium on November 17th, beginning at 8:00 p.m. I have specified the number of tickets at each price:

FSGW members:	_____ \$4.50	_____ \$3.75	_____ \$3.00
Non-Members:	_____ \$6.00	_____ \$5.00	_____ \$4.00

The FSGW executive Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 6th in Room 718 of the Dupont Circle Building, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. (above Discount Book and Record Store) at 8:00 p.m. The meeting is open to all members and guests.

STRING BANDS, OLD AND NEW

"String Bands, Old and New" will be added this year to the Performing Arts Series at the Smithsonian.

Hear music from fiddles, guitars, mandolins, five-string banjos and string bass. Techniques in plucking, hitting and strumming will be discussed in free workshop-demonstrations before each performance.

The program will be held in a three-part series at 8:00 p.m. in Baird Auditorium, National Museum of Natural History, 10th and Constitution.

Part I: Bill Monroe and the BlueGrass Boys - November 11

Part II: Henry Miles' Jug Band and the Balfa Brothers - January 27

Part III: Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys - March 10

Workshops begin at 4:30 p.m. Programs begin at 8:00 p.m.

Series tickets are \$15.00. Tickets per event are \$5.50. Send checks with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Smithsonian, Central Box Office, P.O. Box 14196, Washington, D.C. 20004. Make checks payable to the Smithsonian Institution.

Other programs in the Performing Arts Series include Jazz Heritage, Musical Instruments, and Music from Marlboro. For more information concerning date, time or tickets, call 381-5395.

THE HAMMONS FAMILY - A NEW LC RECORDING

The Library of Congress has available the two record set of The Hammons Family: A Study of a West Virginian Family's Tradition. This includes the stories, music and conversation of a single Appalachian family.

The record set is accompanied by a 36-page booklet providing a concise, yet comprehensive history of the family since its arrival on the Allegheny frontier about 1880. Also included are transcripts of the recorded material, a bibliography-discography, and a series of historical and contemporary photographs of the family.

You may purchase the record at LC for \$10.00 or mail \$10.45 to the Recording Laboratory, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540. Make checks payable to Music Division, Library of Congress.

A free catalog and order form for all LP's in the Library folk music/folklore series is available from the Recording Laboratory upon request.

More news about LC. You might find some really good recordings in the Archives of Folk Song at LC. The Archive was established in 1928 and now holds over 20,000 recordings dating back to that time. They include folksong, folk music, folklore, oral history, etc. There is also a reading room with books and periodicals dealing with folk music and folklore.

The Archives is located in Room G-152 of the main building at LC. Hours are 8:30-5:00, Mon.-Fri. Telephone no. 426-5510. You could probably find many of the very special types of things not easily available. Visit when you get a chance. Good for Browsers!

Interested in joining the FSGW. Membership is available for only \$5.00 per year for an individual and \$7.50 per year for a family membership. You'll get free admission to the monthly program, half-price at special events, first-class postage on the Newsletter, access to the tape archives and exchange publications, discounts at program which we co-sponsor, etc.

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

P.O. Box 19303, 20th Street Station

Washington, D.C. 20036

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? _____

GETAWAY VIII

Wine and music, food and music, more food and more music, music, music. That just about covers the GETAWAY weekend, except for a few meager hours of sleep to revive the troops. It might be safe to guess there were those who got no sleep at all.

It was unanimously agreed that the food was excellent this year. We have Betty Hammond to thank for the delicious menu. There was more than enough to feed everyone plus all the snacks and goodies around.

The music was continuous. Everyone participated in some type of workshop. A lot of people got together on their own to swap tunes or pick up tips for banjo, guitar or whatever. The open concert on Saturday night was the highlight of the weekend followed by a midnight snack, which was then followed by an all-night sing...everything from Bulgarian Boogey to Mother's Anything Stew.

Aside from the fun-of-the-mill crises like over-flowing johns or finding someone has already claimed your bunk, things went smoothly. The whole weekend was a bargain at the price. We couldn't have asked for better weather!

If anyone's interested in organizing something for the Spring similar to the GETAWAY, make yourself known. Contact Andy Wallace 301-934-2595.

FSGW JOURNAL

Do we want to continue the FSGW Journal? That is up to you. We have to have some support for the Journal or it will cease to exist.

Please answer and return the following questionnaire. We need some indication of interest and HELP. The Journal could be published once or twice a year. It deals with all aspects of folklore, presenting special and more lengthy articles. Copies of old issues are available for ideas. Journals published by societies in other cities seem to be very strong publications. FSGW can do it if we get the necessary editorial backing.

Are you interested in seeing the Journal continue? Yes No

Would you work on the Journal in any capacity? Yes No

Check what area you would prefer working in, i.e. writing (), layout (), book reviews (), record reviews (), distribution (), other _____

Can you make suggestions as to the content and style you might like to see? _____

Do you have any suggestions for changing or adding to the Newsletter? _____

Take just a few minutes to fill this out and mail it back to the FSGW to the attention of Marietta Plank. We need your opinions and ideas.

Folklore Society of Greater Washington
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