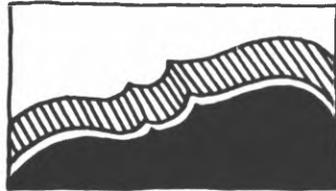


The
Folklore
Society
of Greater
Washington



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

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XII, No. 10

JUNE 1976

Nan Goland, Editor

PROGRAM AND PICNIC END THE SEASON/START THE SUMMER WITH SPIRIT

FINAL PROGRAM: FRIDAY, JUNE 11

ANNUAL PICNIC: SATURDAY, JUNE 12

THE SPIRITUAL WAY QUARTET

It's hard to resist introducing the FSGW's June program with a quote from a member who's been around traditional music all her life, and who described them as "the best gospel group I've ever heard!" THE SPIRITUAL WAY QUARTET is actually six people--four singers, an accompanist, and Brother Leslie Hauskins, who offers the "recitations". Part of the White gospel music tradition from the Franklin, Kentucky area, they're coming nearly 700 miles just to sing for us, and you'd better have your singin' shoes on! Remember the feeling of the black tradition of the Gospel Harmonizers at their program a year ago, then blend that strength with the Carter or Phipps family vocal styles, and maybe add a dose of the close harmony of the Clinch Mountain Boys' less-bluegrassy numbers, put it all backin a Missionary Baptist church and you'll have the idea. Gracie Hauskins' strong lead will amaze you, James Albert Porter's bass will bring out the harmony from right down in your feet, and Gerald and Dorothy Ray help to fill the room with sound. Brother Hauskins' recitations are not sermons--he's a preacher, says Gerald Ray, but he doesn't "hold appointments" any more--so much as gospel story-telling. But come prepared for an evening that's mostly singing, including such highlights as "Searching" (no relation to the Coasters' number but twice as strong) and hopefully an absolute stopper called "Stormy Weather".

continued on page 4

The annual FSGW picnic will be held Saturday, June 12, from noon to dark, at the home of Dick and Cherry McCulloch, in Glenelg, Maryland. Bring food and drink. There are no grills, shelters, tables, or playground facilities, so bring blankets or something to sit on, frisbees and toys for kids, and sweaters or jackets for evening. There is a small softball area available; there is some POISON OAK to watch out for. The two streams are gorgeous, but keep little kids under surveillance! The streams and pine groves will be beautiful for pickin' and singin'.

In case of rain, we'll have the picnic on Sunday, June 13. If weather's debatable, call the FSGW phone number--we'll have a recording on.

See page 4 for map and directions. If problems arise on picnic day you may call the McCullochs at (301) 489-7058.

-Mary

NOTE: Those who are interested in sharing pot-luck at the picnic, join the *Sacred Harp* singers (see page 2).

HAVE A BANG-UP SUMMER!



OTHER FSGW HAPPENINGS...

OPEN SING/JUNE 4

The first Friday Open Sing on June 4 will be led by Mary Cliff, who says, "bring all your rotten, mean, vindictive, and nasty songs. We'll get it all out of our systems together...." A donation of \$1 includes refreshments at Open Sings, held at the Ethical Society, 7750-16th Street N.W. at 9:00 p.m. on the first Friday every month. Remember, though, THERE WILL NOT BE AN OPEN SING IN JULY.

-Nan

SACRED HARP SING/JUNE 12

This month's *Saored Harp* sing will be held at the annual FSGW picnic on Saturday, June 12. Singing will start at 2:00 p.m. Bring food to share, but bring your own drinks, eating utensils, paper plates, etc. (See page 1 for more information about the picnic, and page 4 for directions.)

Both the *Sacred Harp* and *Christian Harmony* books are now available, and I'll have some with me at the picnic.

We don't have any *Saored Harp* sings scheduled during July or August, but anyone who wants to can organize a sing. Call me at 462-3667 if you're interested in having one, or to see if any are planned.

Note: There will be a *Saored Harp* group from the South at the Smithsonian festival, probably July 7-11, though their schedule isn't definite yet. Check newspapers for the final schedule.

-Arlene

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING/JUNE 1

The combined old and new boards will meet on Tuesday, June 1 at 8:00 p.m. at the office of the National Folk Festival Association, Suite 1118 of the Dupont Circle Building, 1346 Connecticut Avenue N.W. Board meetings will continue through the summer on the first Tuesday of each month, same time and place, and are open to interested members of the Society.

OTHER FSGW MATTERS...

ELECTION RESULTS

Your newly-elected 1976-77 Executive Board, which takes office on July 1 according to our by-laws, is as follows:

- President
Bill Destler 699-5816
- Vice President
Mary Cliff 536-6900
- Treasurer
Lars Hanslin 393-1574
- Secretary
Mia Gardiner 573-8111
- Program Chairman
Dave Olive 265-7011
- Special Events Chairman
Jonathan Eberhart 667-0778
- Membership Chairman
Dolores Nichols 938-4564
- Publications Chairman
Al Kehs 935-5412
- Publicity Chairman
Nan Goland 332-0232
- Members-at-Large
Wally Macnow 546-3771
Tom McHenry 554-8535

SINCE THERE WILL BE NO MORE NEWS-LETTER TILL SEPTEMBER, REMEMBER TO CALL THE FSGW HOT-LINE THIS SUMMER FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT SPECIAL EVENTS.

FSGW PHONE NUMBER: (703) 920-2067

Thanks to Pete Hoover and Pete the Spy for preparing the tasty treats that followed the May program. The ginger beer recipe was adapted from A West African Cookbook by Ellen Gibson Wilson (M. Evans & Company, Inc., 1971).

FSGW BREWMASTER DIVULGES GINGER BEER RECIPE

In response to public demand, the Galumphing Gourmet is pleased to present GHANIAN GINGER BEER (as served at the May program):

Grate, mash, blend or otherwise entirely disintegrate 2 oz. fresh ginger (available at oriental grocery stores). Do the same thing to 2 limes or lemons (peel, seeds, the works). Combine the two above ingredients with 4 tbsp. cream of tartar (yes, tbsp.). Add one gallon boiling water. Stir vigorously; cover, let stand until lukewarm. Add 1/2 tsp. dry baker's yeast. Stir vigorously; cover, let stand at least six hours. Strain through several thicknesses of cheesecloth. Add 3 cups granulated sugar (or more to taste) and stir to dissolve. Let stand until fermentation is well under way. Makes about one gallon. The original recipe is vague at this point: it suggests putting the concoction into jars and bottles, but does not suggest drinking it. It does however state that it goes well with rum.

-Peter R. Hoover

WHAT SOME FOLKS ARE DOING...

SCOTTISH FIDDLE CHAMPIONSHIP/JULY 17

The first U.S. National Scottish Fiddling Championship will be held (rain or shine) at Episcopal High School, 3900 Braddock Road in Alexandria, on July 17 as part of the annual Virginia Scottish Games. Prizes will be offered in five categories: best strathspey, best reel or jig, best slow air, best overall (Grand Champion), and a special category for old-time-style performance of Scottish reels or jigs. Interested competitors should write: Paul R. Brockman, Scottish Games, 200 Forest Drive, Falls Church, Virginia, 22046.

The Virginia Scottish Games and Gathering of the Clans features individual bagpipe, drum, and band competitions, Scottish dance competition and athletic contests. Demonstrations of Scottish Country dance and the sheepdog display are also part of this day-long event, which begins at 8:30 a.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

Volunteers are needed to help with the 38th National Folk Festival, Friday through Sunday, July 16-18, at Wolf Trap. In exchange for two or three hours work each day, you will receive free admission to one of the finest traditional folk festivals in the country. Office help is also needed before the festival. Call Debbie at 270-2217 or leave your name and address with the festival office, 296-0068.

-Debbie

SMITHSONIAN OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Smithsonian Outreach Program on American Folk Instruments will need more volunteers for fall. This workshop program is designed for presentation in classrooms rather than at the museum. Thus, volunteers can work fairly close to home, two mornings or afternoons a month. The program introduces traditional American folk instruments to small groups of elementary school children. Previous playing experience is NOT necessary; a training session in September is provided. A little spare time and the enjoyment of folk instruments and children are all one needs to participate in this outstanding program. For further information, call Mia Gardiner at 573-8111.

-Mia

FOLK INSTRUMENT WORKSHOPS

Two month-long series of workshops on the music and instruments of Appalachia will be offered by Appalachiana, 315 Cameron Street in Alexandria on Thursdays from 7 to 9:00 p.m. Each session will focus on the history and development of a particular instrument and includes a demonstration of it. The cost is \$20 per series. For more information, contact Richard Mathews at 683-6100 days. The schedule is:

- July 8 - Mandolin, Mike Holmes
- 15 - Harmonica, Richard Mathews
- 22 - Banjo, Mike Holmes
- 29 - Fiddle, Dave McKelway
- Aug. 5 - Instruments in jug bands and country blues, Bruce Hutton
- 12 - Concertina, Greg Artzner
- 19 - Dulcimer, Keith Young
- 26 - to be announced

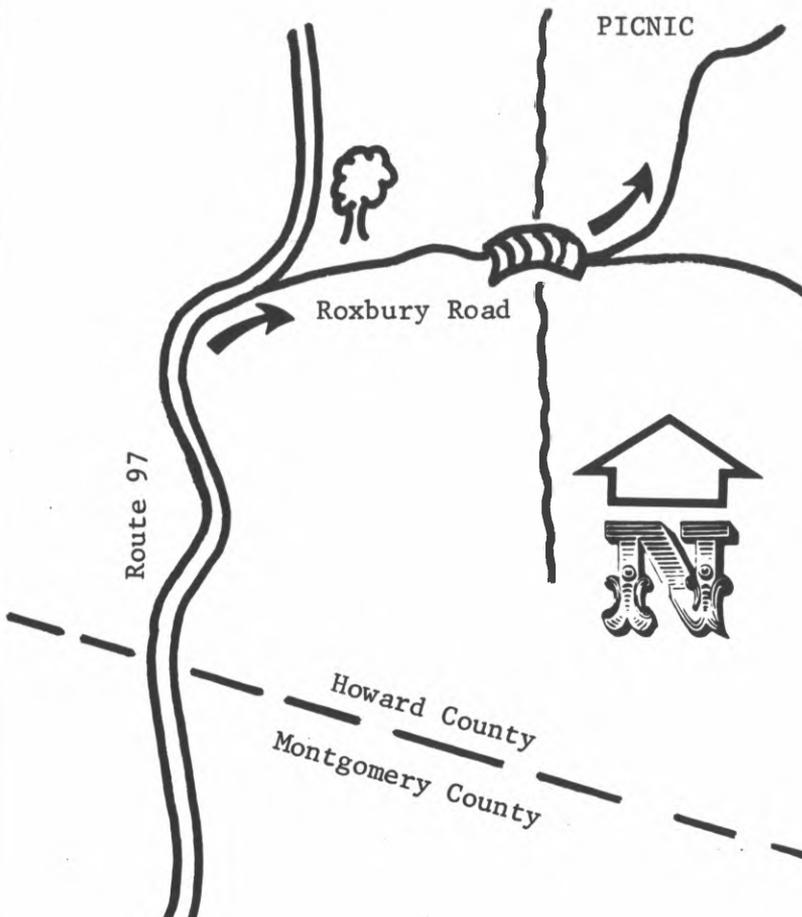
SPIRITUAL WAY QUARTET, continued from page 1

Anyone who saw The Spiritual Way Quartet at the 1973 Festival of American Folklife will tell you not to miss them this time, otherwise you may never get to hear them outside the Kentucky-Tennessee area (such as once a month on WSKN radio). They'll be here Friday, June 11, at 8:30 p.m. in the Washington Ethical Society auditorium, 7750-16th Street N.W. (north of Walter Reed Hospital and south of the DC-Maryland line). Admission for FSGW members is free, \$2 for others, and again thanks to the National Endowment for the Arts for helping to make it possible. It will be the last regular FSGW program until the autumn, so please come out in force, and we'll sing up a storm together.

-Jonathan

DIRECTIONS TO FSGW PICNIC, JUNE 12

From DC or the beltway, take Route 97 (Georgia Avenue) north, through Brookville, Maryland. About two miles north of the boundary between Howard and Montgomery Counties, turn right on Roxbury Road. Bear left at the first crossroad a half mile later. Picnic is at the first driveway on the left.



THE AMERICAN FOLKLIFE PRESERVATION ACT

On January 2, 1976, President Ford signed the American Folklife Preservation Act. This bill established an American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress: the purpose of the center will be to provide for the "preservation and dissemination of American folklife through a broad range of activities, including research, performances, exhibitions, workshops, publications, archives, and recordings." The Center will be directed by a Board of Trustees that includes: Librarian of Congress, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Director of the center, plus David Voight, Lib, Prof. K. Ralph Toole, David E. Drapper, Phd, Prof. Don Yoder, Ray Virginia Allen, Prof. emeritus Wayland Hand, Edward B. Dansen, St. John Terrell, plus four members to be appointed by the president (Ford, not Destler) from Federal departments and agencies.

The principal functions of the center will be:

1. Contracting with individuals and groups for:
 - A. Initiation, encouragement, support, organization, and promotion of research, scholarship, and training.
 - B. Performances, festivals, exhibits, workshops, displays, publications, and presentations.
 - C. Purchase, arrangement for, and support of production of exhibitions, displays, publications, and presentations including materials designed for classroom use.
2. Establishing and maintaining a national archive and center for American folklife.
3. Collecting for preservation and making available creative works, exhibits, objects, manuscripts, and publications, and other materials which represent or illustrate some aspect of American folklife.

An initial appropriation of \$72,000 has been requested for July-September 1976 to support eight positions including a Director, Deputy Director, and related costs, including contractual services. An appropriation of \$284-000 for fiscal 1977 has also been requested, including \$180,000 for eight positions and \$104,000 for other costs and services.

FEIS/JUNE 19-20

The area's first Bicentennial Feis (pronounced fesh) will be held on Saturday and Sunday, June 19-20, at the Walter Johnson High School, 10400 Old Georgetown Road in Bethesda. The Feis is a combination of Irish traditional folk dancing, music, and native Irish contests and games. Music, dance, and art competitions are planned, with contestants expected from throughout the U.S. and Canada. A concert Saturday evening will feature such entertainers as soprano/harpist Mary O'Hara, The Irish Tradition, The Jesse Owens Trio, Liz Carroll and James Keane (the 1974-75 all-Ireland Champion fiddle and accordion players). For more details write Sean Coakley, Chairman, Irish-American Bicentennial Committee, Suite 427, 1825 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

FAIRFAX COUNTY SEEKS TEACHERS

The Fairfax County Recreation Department is interested in starting some classes in the playing of folk instruments, and is presently looking for teachers. If you are interested in being one, call Bill Yeargo at 691-2671 (before July 1, please).

BERWYN CAFE/SATURDAY EVENINGS

Live entertainment is featured at the Berwyn Cafe, 5010 Berwyn Road in College Park, on Saturday evenings at 9:30. No admission is charged; the hat is passed for performers. Call the cafe at 345-2121 for more information. The June schedule:

- 5th - Gaurang Yodh - classical sitar.
- 12th - Cobalt Blue - mellow folk jazz.
- 19th - Sweetwater String Band - back by popular demand, and I mean it.
- 26th - Joel Andrews & Dusty Young - A combination of a classical harpist and a composer-percussionist.

-Jeff

Thanks to those who contributed to this issue of the Newsletter: Mary Cliff, Jeff Deitchman, Jonathan Eberhart, Mia Gardiner, Peter Hoover, Debbie Hutton, Al Kehs, Richard Mathews, Arlene Rodenbeck, Bill Yeargo.

--CONCISE CALENDAR OF EVENTS--

- JUNE 1 - BOARD MEETING
- 4 - OPEN SING
- 11 - PROGRAM
- 12 - PICNIC
- 12 - SACRED HARP SING
- 16 - SMITHSONIAN FEST. BEGINS
- 19-20 - FEIS
- JULY 6 - BOARD MEETING
- 17 - SCOTTISH FIDDLE CONTEST
- 16-18 - NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL
- AUG. 3 - BOARD MEETING
- 6 - OPEN SING
- SEPT. 3 - OPEN SING
- 7 - BOARD MEETING
- MONDAYS - RED FOX OPEN STAGE
- SATURDAYS - BERWYN CAFE

RED FOX INN/MONDAY EVENINGS

Open Stage for traditional folk music at the Red Fox Inn, 4940 Fairmont Avenue in Bethesda, will continue every Monday evening at 8:30 right through the summer. Hour-long guest sets on the first and third Mondays will give us a chance to hear more than the usual two songs from a performer. (A cover of \$1 is taken till the guest set is over, about 10:30.) Summer plans already include:

- June 7 - Bill Vanaver and Livia Drapkin
- 21 - Joe Hickerson
- July 5 - Andy Wallace
- Aug. 23 - Lou Killen and friends

FOR SALE: Handsome dulcimer and custom case. Four strings, heart-shaped sound holes. Asking \$100. Call Louisa Spottswood at 832-5472 (before 10:00 a.m.'s best)....

FOR SALE: Craftsman fiddle, beautiful tone. (Owned by Mack Magaha, formerly with Reno and Smiley.) Case and bow included. Call Dave at 948-0460 weekdays.... FIDDLE LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS: It is possible to learn to play the devil's instrument, and I'm the living proof! Call Riki at 882-0512 evenings and weekends.

This Newsletter is published by the Folklore Society of Greater Washington, a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to preserving and promoting traditional folk arts in the greater Washington, DC area. Membership in the Society is open to all who wish to help pursue these goals. Membership benefits include free admission to programs, reduced admission to special events, the Newsletter by first class mail, plus workshops, sings, and more. To join, fill out the form below, enclose your check and send to the Folklore Society, PO Box 19303, 20th Street Station, Washington, DC, 20036.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

I/we want to join! Enclosed is:

_____ \$6 - One year, Individual

_____ \$18 - Three year, Individual

_____ \$9 - One year, Family

_____ \$27 - Three year, Family

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CHECK ONE: New Membership _____ Renewal _____ Is this a change of address? _____

Are you interested in helping the Society in some way? _____

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Enclosed is \$2 for a one-year, out-of-town FSGW Newsletter subscription:

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