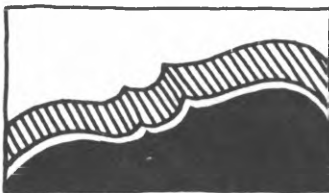


# The Folklore Society of Greater Washington



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

# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XIV, NO. 3

NOVEMBER, 1977

PHONE (703) 281-2228

Mia Gardiner, Editor

## DON STOVER TO PERFORM AT NOVEMBER PROGRAM !

The November program of The Folklore Society of Greater Washington will feature Don Stover, noted banjo player and raconteur. Don grew up in West Virginia near the heart of the coal mining country. He worked in the mines for years and played banjo on weekends for social events and radio stations. Banjo playing was a tradition in Don's family and both of his parents played. The Stovers had one banjo at home but "Us kids weren't allowed to touch it until we got so big". At the age of 7

Don used to get to it for 10 or 15 minutes while his parents were out in the fields on the farm, but would put it back quick when they came in for lunch.

He developed an amazingly dexterous driving 3 finger style, as well as playing the authentic drop thumb or 'clawhammer' style. Don Stover has played with some of the greatest names in Bluegrass including Bill Monroe, Frank Wakefield, Bill Harrell, Buz Busby & Doc Watson, but he is best known for his work with the Lilly Bothers and Tex Logan, a partnership that lasted 18 years.

Don's music can be heard in the Baltimore area with his band, but he is such a dynamite solo performer that I thought it would be nice if he performed solo for us. He tells some of the funniest stories I've ever heard and writes some of the nicest songs. Please come out and hear a truly fine gentleman and a great musician. Concert will be held at the Washington Ethical Society, 7750 16th St. (at Kalmia Rd.); Admission is free to FSGW members, \$2 for non-members; Nov. 11th, 8:30.

\*\*\*\*\* Dave

SPECIAL EVENT, NOVEMBER 6TH:

See article on page 2.

**Utah Phillips \* Rosalie Sorrels**

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Note: The FSGW program is made possible by a grant from the Nat'l Endowment of the Arts.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11th, 8:30 P.M.

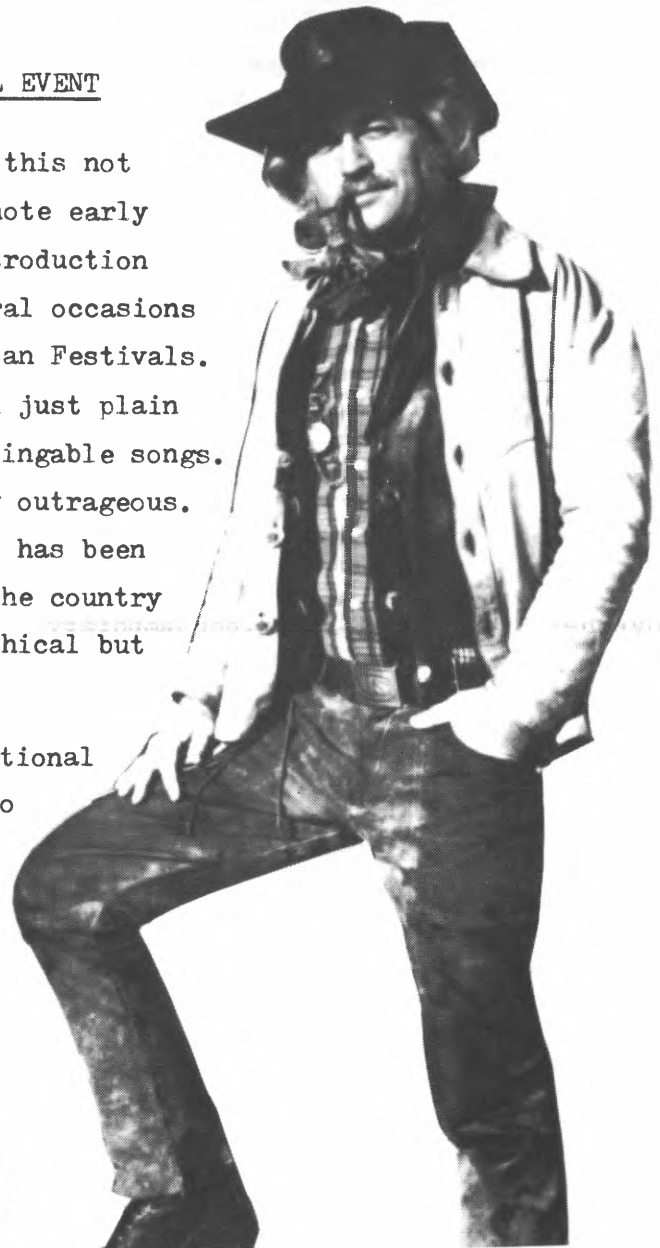


UTAH PHILLIPS & ROSALIE SORRELS--A SPECIAL SPECIAL EVENT

Songs and stories will probably get equal time at this not to be missed concert on Sunday Nov. 6th at 8:00 (note early starting time). Bruce Phillips should need no introduction to FSGW members. He has performed for us on several occasions as well as being a fixture at the summer Smithsonian Festivals. Railroad bums, cattle drives, union organizers and just plain folks are the inspiration for Phillips extremely singable songs. His stories range from the poignant to the utterly outrageous. His partner for the evening is Rosalie Sorrels who has been singing her songs and telling her stories around the country for many years. Most of her songs are autobiographical but the universal themes will speak to all of us.

Both Phillips and Sorrels are well versed in traditional American folklore which they have incorporated into their lives and music. This concert will be held at the Washington Ethical Society, 16th & Kalmia, N.W. Admission is \$2.00 for members and \$3.00 for non-members.

Debbie



THE TELLING TAKES ME HOME

By Bruce Phillips



Let me sing to you all the old songs I know,  
Of wild windy places locked in timeless snow,  
And wide crimson deserts where the muddy rivers flow,  
It's sad but the telling Takes me home

OPEN SING, FRIDAY NOV. 4th.

Many good songs simply aren't meant to be sung by just one person, and don't sound quite right when sung solo. Some, like shanties and drinking songs, are group songs by their very nature. Others have choruses that demand participation, or construction (such as question and answer) that requires at least two people, or harmonies that are too good to miss. At this month's Open Sing we'll concentrate on these "Songs That Ought Not To Be Sung Alone". Casey King will lead the group on November 4th., at about 9 p.m., at the Washington Ethical Society, 16th & Kalmia Rd., N.W.. Admission is \$1 and includes wine and/or punch.

December's Open Sing will be on Dec. 2nd and will be led by Peter Sailer, whose topic is "Marriage and Other Living Arrangements."

Nancy

SACRED HARP

Singing from the Sacred Harp will be held this month at Stephanie Faul's place on November 20th, in Silver Spring, Md. near Flower Ave. and Piney Branch Rd. Of course, we will have our usual delicious pot-luck supper. Call Steph at 589-3535 so that she knows how many are coming and who's bringing what. (4 p.m.)

Karen, 585-7065

FOLK ART EXHIBITION

"Beyond Necessity: Art in the Folk Tradition", an exhibition of Folk Art objects at the Brandywine River Museum, Rte. U.S. 1, Chadds Ford, Pa. This exhibit consists of 225 objects of folk art, from scrimshaw to weathervanes, attractively displayed and grouped according to style, makers and purpose. The rustic elegance of Brandywine River Museum, an old former grist mill now a modern museum known for its collection of Wyeth paintings, provides the ideal setting for a display of American Folk Art. For further information call (215) 388-7601. The exhibit is open through November 16th with daily hours of 9:30 to 4:30.

CHRISTMAS FUN

I) CAROLING--An FSGW tradition for many years has been to gather in one another's homes for an evening of caroling. Usually the night begins with some not very serious rehearsal and ends with some hot drinks and snacks. It's a nice way to get to know your fellow members and provide a treat for your neighbors. If you'd like to open your home for such an evening please call Debbie at 270-2217. A list of addresses and dates will appear in next month's newsletter.

II) CHRISTMAS TREATS--Last year's bread making workshops were such a success that I wondered if anyone usually made special Christmas goodies that would lend themselves to a group project. Cookies, Candies, and Breads can all be demonstrated and/or sampled on a snowy pre-Christmas Sunday. Please call Debbie at 270-2217 if you would like to host a food workshop.

III) CHRISTMAS CRAFTS--Another workshop idea for the holiday season is the making of traditional Christmas decorations or ornaments. Do you have any family traditions you would like to share with FSGW members? Popcorn and Cranberry stringing can even be done while practicing those Christmas carols. If you have any ideas please call Debbie at 270-2217.

CAROLING NOTE: 1) Do you have any song sheets or small booklets that could be duplicated so that everyone could have the same words? 2) Does anyone know any unusual carols that could be printed in the newsletter and taught at the December program?

EARTH CRAFTS

The Washington Ethical Society presents its annual craft exhibit and sale, 'Earth Crafts! Pottery, jewelry, weavings, leather, batik, puppets, ocarinas, dulcimers, patchwork, woodwork, macramé and many other crafts. Plus music, mime performances, baked goods, tasty refreshments. Admission is free. Saturday and Sunday, November 12-13, noon to 5. 7750 16th St. N.W.. Tel: 882-6650

## DANCE

The weekly FSGW dances have been changed to Sunday nights and will resume the first Sunday in November. Dances are being held in the New Rehearsal Hall on the second floor of the music building at Catholic University( the music building is located just North of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at 4th and Michigan Ave. N.E.). Dances begin at 8 p.m. and last until 10:30 p.m.. Admission is \$1.50 for FSGW members,\$2.00 for others. Live music is provided at all dances by the Boss-Town Buzz-Steps (Steve and Linda Hickman, David Shorey, Dennis Boxer & Laurie Anders).Callers for November are:

Nov. 6th - Steve Hickman & David Shorey  
Nov.13th - Jim Morrison (from Charlottesville)  
Nov.20th - Steve Hickman & David Shorey  
Nov.27th - Jack Wright (tentative)  
Dec. 4th - Jim Morrison(tentative)

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The Dance Exchange, a non-profit studio and community dance center, is holding an evening of Old English and Country Dancing on Saturday, November 12th. This fund-raiser is intended to be the first of a series of cross-cultural dance events to be held in the recently opened dance studio at 1443 Rhode Island Ave. N.W.. Families are welcome. Admission is \$3 for adults; children under 12 half price. Refreshments(non-alcoholic) will be available. The evening will begin at 6 and run until 10. Call 797-7029.

\*\*\*\*\*

November 18th(Friday), 8 p.m.

The Plank Road Stringband from Lexington,Va.,with a caller from the Green Grass Cloggers,will present a concert which will be followed by dancing for all who are interested. Andy Williams, Brad Leftwich,fiddle; Al Tharp,banjo; Michael Kott,cello; Steve Gendron, guitar. The location is the Hall of Musical Instruments,Museum of History and Technology, Constitution Ave. at 14th St..All tickets are \$1.00.Call 381-5395 for reservations.

## KUDOS

Last month two of our FSGW members received top recognition at the West Virginia Country Fling, Harpers Ferry, Va.. Reed Martin won first prize in the banjo contest and Dave McKelway did the same in fiddling. Three Cheers!!! Reed and Dave will be playing at the Red Fox on November 28th. Come and hear their outstanding music for yourselves.

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## CONCISE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOV. 1-16,Folk Art Exhibit,Chads Ford,Pa.  
Nov. 4- Open Sing, 9p.m.,Ethical Society  
Nov. 6- Utah Phillips & Rosalie Sorrels, 8:00 p.m.,Ethical Society  
Nov. 11-FSGW Program,Don Stover, 8:30, Ethical Society.  
Nov. 13-Guitar Workshop,Peter Kairo,4 p.m.  
Nov. 12-13- 'Earth Crafts',Ethical Soc.12-5  
Nov. 12- English & Country Dance, Dance Exchange, 6-10 p.m.  
Nov. 14- Peter Kairo, Red Fox Inn,8:30  
Nov. 16- Newsletter Deadline  
Nov. 18- Plank Road Stringband,Smithsonian, concert and dance, 8 p.m.  
Nov. 20- Sacred Harp, 4 p.m.  
Nov. 28- Reed Martin, Red Fox Inn, 8:30 & Dave McKelway  
Saturday nights: Berwyn Cafe & Community Cafe  
Sunday nights: FSGW dance,Catholic U., 8 p.m.  
Monday nights: Red Fox Inn Open Stage,8:30 p.m.

## SPECIAL GUITAR WORKSHOP

Peter Kairo(who is coming into town to appear at the Red Fox) is a superb ragtime & blues picker. He also happens to be an experienced teacher,and has agreed to offer a 2 hour workshop on Sunday, Nov. 13th. He will cover learning by ear, playing with others,as well as providing lots of ragtime & blues tab. The workshop will be held at the Hutton's,#6 Pine Ave., Tacoma Park,Md.20012 at 4:00p.m.. The fee is \$5.00. To reserve a space(class limit is 12), send a check (made out to Peter Kairo) to the Huttons or call 270-2217.

MUSIC LESSONS: Guitar, Banjo, Mandolin, and Autoharp.

Mike Holmes, whose instruction record on Folkways was released this month, is accepting a limited number of private and semi-private students on the above instruments. Lessons begin in November at his home in Silver Springs, Md. and are limited to teens and adults. For more information, call Mike at 946-2243; leave a message if a machine answers, & a real person will call you back.

Ed. Note: Notices re musical instruction by FSGW members will be printed in the newsletter on a first come, first served basis, if space is available.

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\* FSGW PHONE NO.:(703) 281- 2228 \*  
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Gordon Bok, Ann Mayo Muir, Ed Trickett  
Folk Legacy FSI-56

Monday nights at the Red Fox Inn, Fairmount Ave., Bethesda, Md. has Open Stage for traditional folk music starting at 8:30 p.m.. Guest sets for November are dynamite. For more information call 270-2217

November 14th - Peter Kairo, a superb blues, ragtime guitarist from the Boston area.

November 28th - Reed Martin, old-time banjo  
Dave McKelway, fiddle & guitar.

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Berwyn Cafe, Berwyn Rd, (off Rte. 1), College Park, Md.. Saturdays, 9:30 p.m., \$1.50 cover charge, light refreshments available.  
For further info., call 345-2121

November 5th - Daryl Beard, contemporary folksinger-guitarist.

Wizard, poet-humorist

November 12th - Jeff Deitchman, Traditional and contemporary folk singer & guitarist.

November 19th - John Cain, contemporary folk.

November 26th - Richard Sales, original, off-beat piano and guitar.

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Community Cafe and Book Store, 4949 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, Md.. Saturdays at 9 p.m., \$1 donation requested, natural vegetarian food available.

November 5th - Fingers, Latin music and jazz group.

November 12th - Doug Stevens, Contemporary folk, Dillon type music, guitar & harmonica.

November 19th - Jeff Deitchman, traditional & contemporary folk.

The Community Cafe and Bookstore is a part of the Bethesda Ave. Co-Op, primarily a non-profit collective. For further information call 986-0848.

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Plank Road Stringband concert at the Smithsonian Institution Hall of Musical Instruments, Friday, Nov. 18th, 8 p.m.  
For more information look under Dance

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The FSGW Executive Board meets on the first Thursday of each month in Suite 1118, 1346 Connecticut Ave. N.W.. These meetings are open to all members. The next board meeting will be on Nov. 3rd., 8 p.m..

SONG.....

"The Telling Takes Me Home" is from 'Starlight on the Rails and Other Songs', by Utah Phillips. Words will be available at the next meeting (see out of space sorry!)

This album is a labor of love from the Patons and three musicians who can each fulfill solo engagements but who enjoy adding to each other's arrangements. The result is an excellent introduction to the music of Gordon, Ann, and Ed individually, with the additional fullness one gets from a musical "group."

Gordon wrote a couple of the songs, "Isle Au Haut Lullaby" and the title song, which is a real gem. Ann sings lead on the lullaby, and Gordon sings "Turning Toward the Morning" since it is a very personal song. In both cases, though, the harmonies on the choruses are very nice.

Ann also sings (solo) a Noel Stookey song, "Sunday Morning." Her voice can be heard on most of the other songs, rounding out the choruses. She also plays "Bokwhistle" and 12-string guitar.

Ed has collected several choice traditional songs from such people as Joe Hickerson, Michael Cooney, and Cliff Haslam. To each song, he lends his strong but gentle voice and a guitar accompaniment which is neither simple nor overbearing.

There are also some fine instrumentals, "St. Anne's Reel and Over the Waterfall," where Ed plays hammered dulcimer, and "Slow Dance from Machu Picchu," a Peruvian flute melody.

It's a great album to sing along with or just listen to if you want. Either way, it's a thoroughly enjoyable album that you won't tire of.

Gary Rand

Folk Song Society of Greater Boston

#### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE DATE

Deadline date for the December newsletter will be Wednesday, November 16th. If you would like to contribute an article, it would be most welcome. Record reviews, book reviews, tips on instrument use and repair, and general comments are all possible subjects. Mail articles to 3313 Hemlock Dr. Falls Church, Va. 22042, or give them to me at FSGW events. Remember, deadline date is Nov. 16th. - Mia

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 D.C. 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 of Greater Washington, P.O. Box 19303, 20th Street Station, Washington D.C. 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

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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Anyone living outside the greater Washington area may subscribe to the FSGW newsletter only, in lieu of getting a full membership, if they do not plan to vote or have free admission to programs. To subscribe to newsletter only fill out the form below and send to FSGW, Box 19303, 20th St. Station, Washington D.C. 20036.

#### NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION FORM

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

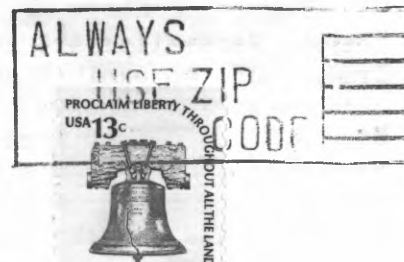
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Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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