Mail Order Service News

Exciting developments from our Mail Order Service! You can now order Canadian folk music books and recordings from the MOS on the Internet; the new website of the service can be visited at


(Note that the address uses "csmt" after the old name of the Society.) From this main page the whole catalogue can be accessed. The old catalogue is currently accessible; the new catalogue will be added as soon as it's completed; updates will follow as they become available. This is a secure service, i.e., it's safe to use your Visa. Gord Sherret deserves a great deal of credit for setting up our Internet presence, which will no doubt be joined by other components of the Society as time goes by.

And that's not all! The new proprietor of the Mail Order Service is Dave Foster, who's in the process of grasping the torch thrown by Rosemary Reed. Rosemary still remains as a volunteer, and deserves our thanks for her years of yeoman (or is there such a word as "yeowoman"?) service with the Service. The address will not change; it's CSTM Mail Order Service, Box 65066, North Hill PO, Calgary, Alberta T2N 4T6.

And a third individual who merits our gratitude is Joel Vecchione, who's been toiling away on the new edition of the Mail Order Service catalogue. It's almost done! Thanks to Joel for persevering through all the changes the Service has been going through.

Lettres/Letters

Thank you very much ... for the comments about my work.... As you might know, I'm not playing with Ad Vielle Que Pourra anymore.... I keep myself busy here in Vancouver and around. I set up a trio, Cordes en Folie, with Andre Thibault, who also plays with Asza (spanish guitar, oud, percussion), and Steve Lazin (percussion). I also play solo and have ten to twelve regular students in Seattle. But my two sons and the renovation of my house keep me pretty busy as well.

Do you know the CD La Vielle en France (Hurdy-Gurdy in France) (Silex) that I've produced? These are recordings from old players from 1930 to 1991; it is all about traditional playing. I'm expecting some any day.

Pierre Imbert
Vancouver, BC

According to your editorials in the last two issues of the Bulletin, the Society is in somewhat of an impoverished state and soliciting donations.... I really know what volunteerism is all about. I have spent the past eleven years as a volunteer programmer and sometime board member with CHMA, the local university/community radio station. Also I spent some forty years as an adult leader in Scouts-Canada; from 1970 to 1990, I served on the New Brunswick Provincial Council of Scouts-Canada in charge of all aspects of leader training (and including five years as Provincial Commissioner). I know at first hand the concerns of motivating volunteers!! We tried to impress on new volunteers that once they had volunteered, they were no longer volunteers, but were committed. (Sometimes they should have been "committed" elsewhere.)

I guess all this sounds familiar to you, John. It seems that in any volunteer organization, those individuals who are really committed pick up the slack and then have little time to recruit new people. Thanks, John, for what you and George are doing as editors of the Bulletin, and thanks to all members of the board for their concerns for musical traditions in Canada. From my viewpoint as a radio programmer, I am particularly delighted with the content of the Bulletin; it serves as an inspiration and source for new programming ideas and to keep me aware of new discs.

I have attached my renewal of membership for 1997 with a money order for $15.00 senior membership. (I am currently reaching that golden year of three score years and ten.)

I have also included another donation—please pass it on to the appropriate people, so that I might receive a receipt for tax purposes.

Thank you again, and keep the Bulletin rolling.

Clifford M. Allen
Sackville, New Brunswick

I once asked Graham [Townsend] what he does in his spare time. His reply was, "Listen to fiddle music." "And besides that?" I enquired. "Play fiddle music!"
Frank H. Ferrel Canada Folk Bulletin 1.5 (September/October 1978)