a glorified cowboy poetry gathering, tourists can visit an encampment of Buffalo Soldiers, ersatz African American cavalry troopers, recreating the ex-slaves who assisted in the "winning" of the West from the Native People. Not quite sure what to say about this.... [GWL]

Bob Blair, reviewing a reissue of John Kirkpatrick's Three In A Row in a recent issue of the Scottish magazine, The Living Tradition (an enjoyable read, available on your newsstands, surely), complained that the recording lasted only 46 minutes: "Such a running time might have been acceptable as an LP but for a CD it is well on the short side." On the other hand, our own Bill Sarjeant a few issues back (32.2, to be exact) offered this observation: "...they go on much too long, so one tends to hear a lesser variety of music in a greater time.... CDs are much likelier to become an only-vaguely-heard background than was the case with earlier modes of recording." I tend to side with Bill on this one. Who (apart from your friendly corporate representative—"Will that be fries with your greaseburger?") really believes that more is better? Three-quarters of an hour is a fair bit of time—I can think of performers who can't keep my attention that long even when I've got some visual stimulation. And I worry that musicians may be under pressure to fill up discs simply because the time is available.

Readers may remember in last fall's interview with Max Ferguson a reference to an odd recording of, of all things, an airport controller from Britain. We managed to track down discographical information on this disc through the Rare Cuts Music Club. While we certainly don't wish to undercut our own Mail Order Service, we think the Club is worth your attention. Their intent seems to be to make available whatever you hear on CBC. This means, of course, that their net is rather wider than ours (and, considering the editorials in our last issue, there's probably a great deal of material our readers are interested in that will never make it to CBC anyway). So, for your less traditional interests, you might want to get in touch with them.

Features of the club include a free quarterly review, Musical Notes, as well as the opportunity to "be a talent scout. Recommend independent CDs for review in Musical Notes. Tell us the artist, the title, and the record company. If we use your suggestion, we'll credit you in the review and send you a certificate for one free CD."

For more information, call toll free at 1-888-RARE CUT (727-3288) or write Rare Cuts Music Club Inc., Box 849, 124 Main Street East, Vankleek Hill, Ontario K0B 1R0.

Letters/Lettres

Your website is clear and easy to use from this distance, half way around the world. It should make subscriptions easier to pay (if we get email reminders), and is a good way to distribute minutes of AGMs and notices of society affairs. I appreciate the links to other websites of folkies, performers, and other folk music magazines.

As I sit here in the wet season heat and humidity of tropical Queensland, clicking away on the keyboard, Ian Tyson is on the stereo behind me singing about magpies and coyotes.

Gregg Brunskill
84 Alligator Creek Road
Alligator Creek, Queensland 4816
Australia

I am a radio programmer for McGill University radio CKUT here in Montreal. Presently I prepare to present diverse musicians and their music to listening audiences. A series of interviews is being planned by me of Canadian musicians and music groups. These recordings would be produced, then broadcast on national campus and community radio stations.

From Merlene Wehre at the National Library of Canada's Music Division I learned of the Canadian Society for Traditional Music. If possible, may I please receive a listing of performers who may be interested to participate in the recorded series?

Next, I will contact them individually to know more about their music, then schedule interviews over the telephone.

Noel Thomas
6807 Waverly
Montreal Québec
H2S 3H8
(514) 276-1344

[As we don't maintain such a listing, we urge our readers who are interested musicians to contact Noel directly.]

In the most recent issue of the Bulletin [32.4, p. 26] there is a request for more info on some of the small folk clubs in southern Ontario. Many of those listed have websites that can be located through Northern Journey Online, a great folk music resource. <www.interlog.com/~njo/> Here's a bit of information on ones I found that way:

Brantford Folk Club: regular open stages on Friday nights and some concerts; run by Brenda and Don McGeogh (519) 759-7676.

Black Walnut Folk Club: open stage the third Friday of each month, run by Jack Cooper (519) 578-2942.

Caledonia Folk Club: open stage on the 2nd Saturday each
month, with some concerts; for information: (905) 765-3576.

Hamilton Folk Club: open stage every second Tuesday; for information: (905) 529-8896.

Traditional Sessions at the Golden Kiwi are run by the Mill Race Folk Club, for which you indicated you had information.

Old Chestnuts Song Circle in Kitchener is a house singaround on the fourth Saturday of each month, run by Jack Cole (519) 578-6298; Jack also organizes house concerts.

Heritage River Folk Club I was unable to find, but I am sure it is run by Glen Reid in Burk's Falls, who organized the Heritage River Festival this past summer.

Also add to your list Acoustic Harvest, which does a monthly concert in Scarborough; Lillian Wauthier (416) 264-2235.

A member of our song circle, Jean Mills, recently pointed out a mention of the Old Chestnuts in your newsletter, saying that you would like to know more about us! I'm happy to oblige. For more information yet, please check the Website, <http://www.mgl.ca/~jhcole/>, where you can find lots of stuff, including copies of our newsletters for the past few years.

The song circle meets in Kitchener on the fourth Saturday of most months, September to May. (We also host house concerts two or three times per year.) The Song Circle format is pass/play/request, which means that everyone in the room gets several opportunities to lead a song, request a song, or just pass their turn. We have one fairly strict rule—all songs must have a participation part—either a chorus, response, or the words are handed out and the song taught. We have members from ages 8 to 70-something, and professional musicians and folks who just come to listen. It's a fun night, with lots of voices, instruments, food and drink and good community. On a typical evening we will have about 25 people, four or five rounds of songs, and a dozen songs handed out. Our biggest crowd was 44, which overflowed the living room!

If there is any more that I can tell you, or if you would like an article about the circle, we would be happy to oblige!

Jack Cole
Kitchener, Ontario

**Recordings**

Rik Barron. Bound for the Ice. ODD SOCK PRO 101. Rik Barron, St. Catherine's Road, RR#3, Bonshaw, P.E.I. C0A 1A0; <brarbon@interlog.com>

... Heel to the Toe. ODD SOCK KIDS 102. Rik Barron, St. Catherine's Road, RR#3, Bonshaw, P.E.I. C0A 1A0; <brarbon@interlog.com>

... A Sock Full of Holes. Re-Bop 105. Re-Bop Records, Box 955, Marshfield, VT 05658, USA; Rik Barron, St. Catherine's Road, RR#3, Bonshaw, P.E.I. C0A 1A0; <brarbon@interlog.com>

The Bowman Family. Sing for the Jannies. RDRC 1941. The Bowman Family, P.O. Box 774, Carbonear, Nfld. A1E 1C3

Margo Caruthers. Thistain nam Bhrd: Gaelic Songs from Nova Scotia. BRCD 0010. B & R Heritage Enterprises, P.O. Box 3, Iona, N.S. B0A 1L

Crooked Stovepipe. Pickin' on the Rock. TWPCD104. Third Wave Productions, Box 563, Gander, Nfld. A1V 2E1

Teresa Doyle. Celtic Songs for All Ages. TDCC 006. Redlam Records, c/o Teresa Doyle, RR#3, Belshaw, P.E.I. C0A 1A0; <teresadoyle@rogers.com>

Freedom & Leela. Mystic. of the F-aBt. MSP69312. MSP Productions, 9653 132nd St., Surrey, BC. V3T 1S2; <freedomleela@frontiernet.net>

Dave Harris. Slim’s Blue Dream. MIMCD009. Malahat Mountain Music, Box 10034, 2064 Comox Ave., Comox, B.C. V9M 1S5; <dsharris@interlog.com>;

Harvey Marcotte. Circle 'Round Me. HM0001. Harvey Marcotte, P.O. Box 224, Bear River, N.S. B0S 1B0

Diego Marulanda & Paciano. Por el Sol. PACA002. Diego Marulanda, P.O. Box 364, Sta. P, 704 Spadina Ave., Toronto, Ont. M5S 2J9; Festival Distribution, 1351 Grant St., Vancouver, B.C. V5L 2R7; <ligid@festival.bc.ca>; <www.festival.bc.ca>

Northern Cree Singers. It's Time to Round Dance! CR-6292. Canyon Records Productions, 4143 North 16th St., Suite 6, Phoenix, AZ 85016, USA; 1-800-268-1141; <canyon@canyonrecords.com>; <http://www.canyonrecords.com>

A Peak in Darien

Before amplification, [Cape Breton] fiddlers also strove for a full, continuous resonance. They achieved that sound by using altered tunings and long, light, spirited bowing.

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Paul Cranford Bulletin 19.3 (September/septembre 1985)