

Our Back Pages

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 18.4 (December 1984). The cover and editorial of this issue celebrated CSTM's first LP project, **Songs of the Newfoundland Outports**, featuring Newfoundland traditional singers from Kenneth Peacock's field recordings (still available even today, for those with LP capability). Moving to substantive content, articles by Tony Stephenson, Murray Shoolbraid and Tim Rogers continued to explore the "Lukey's Boat" controversy; Tim also introduced The CFMS Mail Order Service, with its very first catalogue. Roland Boutot contributed "La musique traditionnelle au Québec"; David Watts' article "Singing and Second Language Learning" concluded with Part II; Judith Cohen wrote on two Canadian performing groups illuminating "The Medieval-Folk Connection," and David Spalding on the "Edmonton Singer's Circle." The minutes of the 1984 AGM were included, as was Murray Shoolbraid's "Folk Notes and Queries" column. Songs: as well as the "Lukey's Boat" variants, Edith Fowke contributed two Canadian "macaronic" (bilingual) songs, "Dans un Salon Chic" and "I Go Yesterday All Aboard Les États," and my own "The *Segwun* is Steamin' Again" appeared. Records reviewed were Claude X. La Brecque's **Bubblegum** and Stan Rogers' posthumous **From Fresh Water**.

Ten Years Ago

Bulletin 23.4 (December 1989). This was the last issue of my first stint as editor, before I gratefully threw the torch to Lynn Whidden; the feature article was "My Life Was Not Wasted in Useless Things," reminscences of old-time musician Ernie T. Yardley as edited by GWL. The issue included a couple of BC songs, Patrick Smith's "Gold-Dust" (about train-robber Bill Miner). and Bill Farmer's steamboat song "The SS *Minto*."

Other songs were "No More Pickin' Coal," by Valerie Hope MacDonald, daughter of Springhill mine disaster hero Maurice Ruddick, and Daphne Rackstraw's topical song anticipating the GST, "Mister Wilson." In "A Potpourri of Canadian 'Celtic' Recordings", I wrote about **Orealis** (the first recording of that group), **Raking the Coals from Under the Moss**, and **Mullingar** (also an eponymous LP). Also reviewed were the Regina Folk Festival and **Doug McCarthur with Garnet Rogers** (yet another self-titled disc).

Five Years Ago

Bulletin 28.4 (December 1994). The main article featured reminscences from accordionist Olaf Sveen, "I'm Olle Myself!", as well as "Journal Notes" on Judith Cohen's musical travels in Iberia, Robert Ollikkala's "Is Music a 'Social Text'?", on Indian Ghazal singing, and "Canadian Musics," an overview of the Society's projected Multicultural Project. A Centrefold column appeared, as well as a Festival Directory (the winter ones were pretty small, in those days). The first Poley Mountain Folk Festival and a concert by Judith Cohen in conjunction with the AGM in Calgary were reviewed, as were books **Raven Tales** (Peter Goodchild, ed.) and **Jack in Two Worlds** (William B. McCarthy, ed.), and recordings **Bandaline** (eponymous, again), **Bob Bossin's Gabriola VOR 1X0**, **Tanglefoot's A Grain of Salt**, **Dave Foster's On That Christmas Day** and **Nancy White and Bill Johnston's Homely for the Holidays**. A "Schottische" played by Olaf Sveen constituted the only musical offering this time.

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