

## Our Back Pages

### *Fifteen Years Ago*

Bulletin 18.2 (April 1984). It used to be that the spring issue would contain a "Focus on Festivals" feature, with a number of articles on that topic; this one went one better, including the prototype Canadian Folk Festival Directory. (Hard to realize it's 15 years old!) The festival-oriented articles dealt with Marius Barbeau's Veillés du bon vieux temps, the Regina Folk Festival, the Tobermory Family Festival, the Saskatchewan Organization of Folk Arts, the Miramichi Folk Festival, Shelburne's Canadian Open Old Time Fiddlers' Contest, Morris Ales in Ontario, and the Northwind Folk Festival. Other articles in the issue were Cathy Fink's "Go South Young Person" (advising Canadian performers as to obtaining work permits for the US), the first of the series of articles on the song "Lukey's Boat" (this one by Tony Stephenson) and Billy Hill's piece on champion yodeller Stew Clayton. Ian Robb contributed "The Singers" column this time. In addition to "Lukey's Boat," songs included were "Paddy's Experiences in America" (a traditional song collected from my uncle, George Boice), Terry Pugh and Paddy Tutty's prairie version of "Hard, Hard Times," Lyn Luft's "Leave 'em Alone," and "Petit Chéticamp" from the Cape Breton village of that name. The reviews were of books *Guitar Owner's Manual* (Will Martin), *Musique et danses (Les Sortilèges)*, *Chansons d'Acadie (Chiasson et Boudreau)* and *En r'montant la tradition (Labelle et Léger)*, and recordings *For the Family* (Stan Rogers), *Pierre et le papillon* (Germain et Bédard) and *Pith and Pathos* (Don Freed).

### *Ten Years Ago*

Bulletin 23.2 (June 1989). This issue featured two articles, slightly allied: Edith Fowke's "Filksongs as Modern Folksongs"

and James Prescott's "Music of the SCA." ("Filksongs" are songs from science fiction fandom, while the "SCA" is the medieval re-creating Society for Creative Anachonism.) A song written by James, "Lady Hartley's Lament," accompanied the latter article (which I discovered posted on the internet the other day!), as did "The Brave and Bonny Host" by Roger Shell. A couple of traditional songs, "Depart pour les îles," from the singing of Allan and Léontine Kelly of New Brunswick, and "I'll be the Good Boy," collected in Newfoundland by Jim Payne, completed the issue.

### *Five Years Ago*

Bulletin 28.2 (June 1994). This issue mostly consisted of the Festival Directory (in those days it was published only once a year), but there was still room for some other material, including "The Jealous Lover" (a traditional song from Edith Fowke's collection), Bill Sarjeant's photo montage of the 1993 Annual General Meeting, an *EthnoFolk Letters* column, written by GWL this time, and reviews of a Cal Cavendish concert in Calgary, the 1993 Winnipeg Folk Festival, Richard Chapman's book *The Complete Guitarist* (I still see it in the Barnes & Noble catalogue), and recordings *Chansons judéo-espagnoles vols. I-III* (Gerineldo), *Worth All the Telling* (Larry Kaplan), *Bluesology* (The Whiteley Brothers) and five "Celtic" recordings: *The Mystic of Baja* (Uisce Beatha), *Draggin' the Days* (The Mahones), *A Month of Sundays* (Jimmy George), *A Welcome at Your Door* (Linda Miller and Nathan Curry) and *The Golden Dawn* (Loretto Reid and Brian Taheny).

These issues are available from CSTM Back Issues, 224 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, Calgary, Alta. T2M 1C2. [JL]