



Treasures from Our Archives

I've been doing this column for over five years now. If some of the descriptions seem familiar to those of you who've been around for that long, it's because I'm recycling.

John Leeder

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 21.1 (March 1987). The 1987 festival directory formed much of the content of this issue, but not all: there were articles, songs and reviews as well. Songs included "Hard Tack, Come Again No More" (a Riel Rebellion parody), Vic Bell's "Snap the Line Tight", the traditional "Tous le long de ces côtes" from Îles de la Madeleine, and Cape Breton tune "Còta Mór Ealasaid (Elizabeth's Big Coat)". Reviews were of Paddy Tutty's *Who Liveth So Merry*, a self-titled recording from Clan, dance tune recording *Off With the Good St. Nicholas Boat* from George Wilson and Selma Kaplan, and Kate Dunlay and D.L. Reich's book *Traditional Celtic Music of Cape Breton*. There's an article on "The 'Centre de valorisation du patrimoine vivant'" (it had just acquired its new name and focus at that point), a photoessay on the 1986 AGM in Vancouver, and an article by then President Bill Sarjeant on "Future CFMS Elections — A Change of Approach?".

Ten Years Ago

Bulletin 26.1 (Summer 1992). I was guest editor of this issue, foreshadowing my return to harness in tandem with George Lyon. It consisted mostly of the 1992 festival directory. There was as well a provocative article, "The Function of Folk Festivals", by Gary Cristall, then Artistic Director of the Vancouver Folk Festival, and an article by Michael Taft, "A Response to Mr. Podolak", reacting to a previous provocative article by another folk festival artistic director, Mitch Podolak. Thus a fine furious festival focus was felt. [I couldn't resist alliteration in those days. — JL]

Five Years Ago

Bulletin 31.1 (March 1997). Jay Rahn contributed an article "Using Single-Chord Pieces in Elementary School Music", with a couple of accompanying songs, "My Dame Has a Lame Tame Crane" and "Lord Gregory" (an Ontario version from LaRena Clark); Daniel Thonon's tune "Evit Gabriel" supported an interview with him and other Ad Vielle Que Pourra members, entitled "That's World Beat, For Sure!", which had a sidebar on "The Hurdy Gurdy, Old & New"; Bruce

Paproski's article "...a regular sound in the morning..." described Dan Brann's grassroots radio show emanating from Hudson Bay Junction, Saskatchewan; there were photos of "Field Work in Iberia" from Judith Cohen and others; and Phil Thomas contributed a piece on the "First All-Canadian Folk Song Book?". Lots of reviews, and the festival directory, made up the balance of the issue.

These issues are available from CSTM Back Issues, 224 20th Ave. NW, Calgary, Alta. T2M 1C2. See the Mail Order Service catalogue or the website (www.yorku.ca/cstm and follow the links) for pricing. [JL]