

Treasures from Our Archives

John Leeder

Thirty Years Ago

Bulletin 17.3 (April 1983) celebrated the centenary of the birth of Marius Barbeau and thus carried lots of material on that theme, including a photo-essay and articles on Barbeau by Tim Rogers (“Marius Barbeau”) and Donald Deschênes (“Le legs de Barbeau?”) and a song collected by him (“La complainte des bâlus”). Other music in the issue: Lem Snow’s “The Great Lobster Boil”; three versions of “St. Anne’s Reel”; and Jim Payne’s “The Shoe Cove Station Communication Shutdown”. The issue also boasted the very first Folk Festival Directory and “Copyright in Musical Works”, by law professor Peter Mercer; Marc Dobbie interviewed luthier Mario Lasmarre. Columns this time were Murray Shoobraid’s Folk Notes and Queries, and The Singers, this time by Margaret Christl. The following were reviewed: Paddy Tutty’s first cassette; the book *Mon violon* from Maurice Cellard; two albums from Tom Mawhinney, *Await the Time* and *Highway #1*, Eritage’s recording *La ronde des voyageurs*, and the review section of *Canadian Folklore canadien*.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Bulletin 22.2-4 was published in December 1988; a description will appear next issue.

Twenty Years Ago

Bulletin 27.3 (September 1993). This was the last of the “newsletter-style” issues. It featured Robert Rodriguez’s article “The Devil at the Dance” (with French translation by André Gareau), and a directory of Yukon folk contacts. For the EthnoFolk Letters column, we treated the world to Judith Cohen’s actual handwriting; the radio column, Over the Waves, and the magazine column, The Centrefold, both showed up as well. There was just one review, of the CD *Six Mile Bridge*, by the group of the same name. Songs “The King William’s Town Brides” by Jim Dauncey and “Oran Bhanncùbhar (Song of Vancouver)” and some “housekeeping” features completed the issue.

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 32.3 (September 1998). This issue had a radio focus; it included David Gregory’s memoir about the CKUA radio series *Ragtime to Rolling Stones*, and a triple-headed editorial on the CBC’s attitude to folk music, with George Linsey, David Spalding and George Lyon expressing views. In non-radio-related matters, two reminiscences about the late Joe Adams were accompanied by his song (with

Rona Altrows) “The Last of the Wild Ones”; three blues songs by Canadian women, “Women’s Liberation Blues” (Vera Johnson), “November Blues” (Penny Lang) and “Two and Twenty Blues” (Linda Morrison), followed up the Canadian blues theme of two issues earlier. An EthnoFolk Letters column, and lots of news, reviews, letters and regular compilations, rounded things off.

Ten Years Ago

Bulletin 37.3 (Fall 2003). Two major articles led off this issue: a reassessment of Edith Fowke by Pauline Greenhill, entitled “Radical? Feminist? Nationalist? The Canadian Paradox of Edith Fowke”; and David Gregory’s “The Elisabeth Greenleaf Collection at MUNFLA: An Overview”. David also contributed a review essay of two books, *The English Traditional Ballad* by David Atkinson, and *Rainbow Quest* by Ronald D. Cohen. Rosaleen Gregory’s Singer’s Workshop column featured the song “Lovers’ Farewell”, and there were also reviews of two folk festivals, Calgary and Canmore (the latter including an interview with Martyn Joseph by James Prescott), as well as several CDs and a storytelling book. Abstracts of papers from the 2003 Annual General Meeting in Athabasca, Alberta, and the usual columns were included.

Five Years Ago

CFM 42.3 (Fall 2008). Co-editors David and Rosaleen Gregory kicked the issue off with “*Canadian Folk Music: A Renewed Statement of Purpose*”, and David contributed “Song Collecting in Newfoundland: Maud Karpeles, 1929”, accompanied by no less than nine songs collected by Ms. Karpeles there, while Rosaleen’s column Singing the Child Ballads included four more songs. In addition, six songs on the subject of the outlaw Bill Miner accompanied Tim Rogers’ “Postscript to ‘Bill Miner in Song’”. Reviews of the Calgary Folk Festival, a book of fiddle tunes, and six recordings made up the balance of the issue.

These issues (and all back issues, either in original form or as photocopies) are available from CSTM, c/o folkwaysAlive!, 347 Arts Bldg., University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alta. T6G 2E6. For pricing, see the Mail Order Service catalogue or website (www.yorku.ca/cstm and follow the links), or contact cstm@cstm.ualberta.ca. Cumulative Tables of Contents of all issues since 1982 are available on the website as well. [JL]