

Treasures from Our Archives

John Leeder

Thirty Years Ago

Bulletin 19.1 (December 1985). Several articles formed the backbone of this issue: “Le désastre de Baie-Sainte-Anne d’Escuminac” by Charlotte Cormier; “About Song Writing” by Denise Larson; “Tracking Down the Chapeau Boys” by I. Sheldon Posen; “George Cook: Canadian Extraordinaire” by Billy Hill; “Back to the Source” by John Leeder; and “Singing Our Dreams” by David Spalding (part of the You and I and Nobody Knows series of columns). The song “The Chapeau Boys” accompanied Posen’s article; two songs, “La complainte de Baie-Sainte-Anne” by Jerenie Hébert and “Baie-Sainte-Anne, 25 années passées” by Conrad Martin, accompanied Cormier’s. Also included were the minutes of the 1985 Annual General Meeting, accompanied by a montage of Bill Sarjeant’s photos from the event, plus reviews of recordings *Ma mie tant blanche* (Charlotte Cormier), *The Great Lobster Boil* (Lem Snow), *Woodnight Moon* (Gordon Quinton) and *Garnet Rogers*.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Bulletin 24.1 (June 1990). The first issue under the aegis of editor Lynn Whidden was a theme issue, appropriately enough given Lynn’s expertise in the area of First Nations and Métis music. Lynn contributed “A Note on Métis Music” and “Native and Métis Songs from the SMEA Project”, and Anne Lederman did not stray from the field, authoring “‘The Drops of Brandy’: Several Versions of a Metis Fiddle Tune”. The news column consisted of a collection of mini-articles on the Brandon Festival, NAFA, Tamarack, Nicole Beaudry’s fieldwork, and a tribute to the late D.K. Wilgus by Edith Fowke.

Twenty Years Ago

Bulletin 29.1 (March 1995). The feature of this issue was a major memoir by Vera Johnson (who later was made an Honorary Life Member of CSTM), “Genesis of a Folksinger/Songwriter”; a prodigious memory, copious notes and a penchant for getting into interesting places and situations gave us a very informative overview of Vera’s life as a performer. Several of her songs, “Bald Eagle”, “The Fountain” and “Our 25th Birthday”, accompanied the article. Several other songs made their appearance: “The Free Slave” from

Edith Fowke’s collection; Hilda Thomas’s “The Condom Song”; and “The Northwest Logger” by Hilda along with her husband, Phil (who later was made Honorary President of CSTM); and “We’re in the Same Boat Now”, by no less a personage than former Ontario premier and later federal Liberal leader Bob Rae (he missed his calling ...), accompanying “Rea-Day in Jaffa” by Judith Cohen. On a sadder note was an obituary of CSTM director Hugh Hendry by Bill Sarjeant. Karen Bennett contributed an EthnoFolk Letter; The Centrefold column dealt with several magazines. Craig Mishler’s book *The Crooked Stovepipe* was reviewed, as were recordings *Danses d’ici* (Jean-Pierre Joyal), *The Brule Boys in Paris* (Tickle Harbour), *One Evening as I Rambled* (Moira Cameron), *Yellowknife Evening* (Ceilidh Friends), *Look to the Sea* (Irish Descendants) and *Ain’t Life Sweet* (Penny Lang).

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 34.1-2 (March/June 2000). This was a double issue; I’ll write about it next time.

Ten Years Ago

CFM 39.1 (Spring 2005). Articles on various topics highlighted this issue: “Chinese Traditional Music in Greater Vancouver” by Huai Sheng Qiu; “Finding Local Identity: Great Big Sea, Trad-Pop and Folk-song” by Sarah J. Moore; and “Is There Still Traditional Music in Canada? Part 2,347” by Lorne Brown (accompanied by labour anthems “Solidarity Forever” and “Hold the Fort”). In addition to the Child ballads expounded in Rosaleen Gregory’s Singing the Child Ballads column, two composed songs on the topic of traditional music were included: Shelley Posen’s “The Old Songs’ Home” and Clary Croft’s “Still the Song Lives On”. In addition to reviews and other columns, the 2004 Cumulative Table of Contents wrapped up the issue.

Five Years Ago

CFM 44.1-2 (Spring/Summer 2010). Another double issue; I’ll write about it next time

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ty 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 cstmsctm@ualberta.ca. Cumulative Tables of Con-

tents of all issues since 1982 are available on the website as well, as are scans of issues from 1973 to 1999 (<http://cfmb.icaap.org/>). [JL]