

Treasures from Our Archives

John Leeder

Thirty Years Ago

Bulletin 19.4 (December 1985). In addition to the minutes of the 1985 AGM in Regina and a photo-essay thereon by Bill Sarjeant, this issue contained articles “About Song Writing” (Denise Larson), “Singing Our Dreams” (David Spalding), “Tracking Down the Chapeau Boys” (I. Sheldon Posen), “George Cook: Canadian Extraordinaire” (Billy Hill) and “Back to the Source” (John Leeder). Two songs about the Baie-Ste-Anne disaster were contributed by Charlotte Cormier – “La complainte de Baie-Sainte-Anne” by Jeremie Hébert, and “Baie-Sainte-Anne, 24 années passées” by Conrad Martin – and Monique Jutras’s song “La complainte de Julie” joined them. Reviews of recordings *Ma mie tant blanche: Chansons folkloriques acadiennes* (Charlotte Cormier), *Garnet Rogers* (eponymous), *The Great Lobster Boil* (Lem Snow) and *Woodnight Moon* (Gordon Quinton) put the finishing touches on the issue.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Bulletin 24.4 (Winter 1990). Two songs started things off, Howard Kaplan’s “The Farmer’s Carol” and Ian Robb’s “Song for the New Year”. Next came Vladimir Simosko’s article “World Music Appreciation: 1990”, then Bill Sarjeant wrote on the Society’s Archives and the Folk Music Collections of the University of Calgary Library. Ethnomusicology News and Musical Notes were followed by a review of Edward D. Ives’ book *Folksongs of New Brunswick*, obituaries of Barbara Cass-Beggs and Helen Creighton (both by Edith Fowke), and a final song, “Penman’s Combinations” by Farrell M. Boyce.

Twenty Years Ago

Bulletin 29.4 (December 1995). A couple of major features kicked off this issue: “Pop, Rock & Coca-Colonization”, by no less a revered personage than Pete Seeger, and an interview with Bob Bossin, “That’s what folk songs have always done...”. Bob’s songs “Sulphur Passage” and “Look What’s Become of Me” accompanied the interview. There were more songs: Ian Robb’s “They’re Taking It Away”, and “Some Political Parodies from Alberta’s *Common Front*”, contributed by George W. Lyon. The festival directory, “News, Views, & Stuff”, letters, the new product listing and lots of reviews concluded the is-

sue.

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 34.4 (December 2000). This was George W. Lyon’s and my last issue as co-editors. George contributed an extensive interview with Calgary musician Johnny V. Mills, and an essay, “Making an Effort” by Lindsay Schonfelder, followed on. Vera Johnson’s song “Just Like You” and fiddle tune “A Mabou Strathspey in D”, columns, letters, the festival directory and many pages of reviews made up the balance.

Ten Years Ago

CFM 39.4 (Winter 2005-06). With the Society’s AGM having been held in New Westminster that year, much (but not all) of the issue had a British Columbia flavour: the minutes of the AGM, with the various officers’ reports, plus articles “From the New President” by Rika Ruebsaat, “May Day in New Westminster, British Columbia” by Norman Stanfield, and “Fiddle Teaching in Vancouver” by Jon Bartlett. “God’s Spell” by Norbert Ruebsaat obviously had at least a connection to B.C., while Lorne Brown from Toronto contributed “Gramophones, Virtual and Real”. Rosaleen Gregory’s Child Ballads column included four songs, and a letter, the usual columns and nine reviews completed the issue..

Five Years Ago

CFM 44.4 (Winter 2010-11). Another monumental issue, the last from co-editors David and Rosaleen Gregory. The issue’s title, “Browsing Our Back Pages: Hints on Studying Canadian Folk Music” says it all. It’s basically a guide to sources, arranged partly geographically, partly by subject matter. Chapter titles include “An Overview of Regions, Collectors and Song-Types”, “Aboriginal Musics of Canada”, “Newfoundland and Labrador”, “The Maritimes”, “Franco-phone Song in Quebec and Ontario”, “Ontario”, “The Prairies and British Columbia”, “Ethnic Minorities”, “Canadian Folk Song Revival: Beginnings to Boom”, “Canadian Folk Music in the Late Twentieth Century”, and “Canadian Traditional Music: The Contemporary Scene”, all authored by David Gregory. Anyone learning about Canadian folk music will find this an essential resource. (Despite the information below, it’s available by emailing leeders@nucleus.com.)

These issues (and all back issues up to 2013, 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

cstmsctm@ualberta.ca. Cumulative Tables of Contents 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]



Canadian Society
for Traditional Music

Société canadienne pour
les traditions musicales