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The Canadian Folk Music BULLETIN de musique folklorique canadienne
Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 20.1 (March 1986). This was a special issue on folk clubs and other grass-roots events; I guest-edited (shades of things to come...). Organizations around the country were profiled in articles by their organizers. There were also general articles on "House Concerts" (Barry & Lyna Leff) and "Running a Folk Club: One Performer's Opinion" (Charlie Maguire). Two songs suitable for folk club finishers were included, the traditional "And Say Will We Yet" and my "Safe Home", as was Grit Laskin's "Port Alfred". Murray Shoobbridge's column "A Plac for Waifs and Strays" appeared; items reviewed were Irving Pohl's Folk Record Sources, the MUN Folklore & Language Archive, and LPs Jim Payne & Kelly Russell and Tradition (a Pigeon Inlet sampler).

Bulletin 20.2 (June 1986). The Folk Festival Directory took up much of this issue, which was produced in a time of editorial transition. An article on "The Miramichi Folksong Festival" by Susan Butler enhanced the festival content. The minutes of the 1986 Board Meeting (one of the few times we were able to afford a mid-year meeting!) were included. Don Hansen wrote "The Singers" column this time, and Murray Shoobbridge's "Folk Notes & Queries" column also appeared. There were lots of songs, including "Pleasant and Delightful" and two parodies of it, "Cosmic and Freaky" by Grit Laskin and "Weird and Dynamic" by Rona Altrows. Other song parodies in the issue were "The Frozen Jogger" by David Spalding, extra verses by John Dwyer) and "A Tune to Parse Away the Hours"; Kathy Palm's award-winning song "Where the Skeena Comes Down to the Sea" was a non-parody song inclusion. Reviews of Richard Johnston's Folk Songs North America Sings, Robert Cantwell's Bluegrass Breakdown and Neil V. Rosenberg's Bluegrass: A History (all books), Margaret Christl's recording Looking Towards Home and the CSTM Mail Order Catalogue finished things off.

Ten Years Ago

Bulletin 25.1 (Spring 1991). Two articles graced this issue: "We Didn't Explode in Calgary!", President Gregg Brunskill's retrospective on the 1990 AGM, was accompanied by WA.S. Sarjeant's photo montage from the event; Neil V. Rosenberg's "Maurice Ruddick: In Memory"