THE BOADSIDE

VOLUME I, No. 11

Boston, Massachusetts

July 27, 1932

THE SEARCH FOR CRITERIA

This article is actually a contradiction in terms: it is a protest against talking about folk music which protests by talking about folk music.

Wherever and whenever folk music is played we inevitably ask ourselves and/or our companions "Is so and so good?". But we cannot ask this without automatically considering the question "What do we mean by'good'?" We seem to feel the lack of established criteria for judging and evaluating folk music, for this is the subject of our discussions. We put down the Kingston Trio because they are not ethnic, but feel that someone is "coming on" if they adapt a hill-billy twang or negro pronunciation. We say that Joan Baez has no emotional empathy with her music because she fails to weep hysterically for Old Blue, but let someone crack their voice or shed a tear over the hardships of prison life and we demand to know whether or not they spent two years in Angola. If you repeat a song verbatim you are nothing more than a tape recorder, but heaven help you if you omit a verse.

... And so we talk and argue, tossing about three terms-Ethnic, Empathy, and Authenticity - which are really nothing more than pseudo-criteria (What else can one call them? They cannot have any intrinsic worth if they swing so helplessly between pro and con). And for those who realize the meaninglessness and insecurity of these there yet remain two "rules of thumb". The first is Background, or to put it more bluntly, if you're not black you can't sing blues, but if you're from New York, you had better not try to sing anything at all. Those who feel the need for this crutch (a synonym for "rule of thumb") must then be content to eliminate Rick Von Schmidt from the ranks of the blues singers or Bill Keith and Jim Rooney from the blue grass and western. cont.pg.2

TERRI'S PLACE TO OPEN IN HYANNIS

A new Coffee Shop with folk entertainment will be opened in Hyannis by the time this edition is published. TERRI's PLACE will open across from the Hyannis Theatre on Main Street. The atmosphere we are told will be "continental" with a rather unusual decor, and there will be a unique line of beverages, pastries and tid bits. Folk entertainment will be presented every evening and will draw from the name talent appearing at the Ballad and Banjo Room and from local performers. TERRI's PLACE will be open daily from 5 PM to 1 AM. Plans are to charge a nominal minimum rather than a cover charge.

BOSTON BLUEGRASS GROUP GAINING FAME

It is interesting to note that all of a sudden there is a rash of folk festivals in colleges and major cities in the New England area featuring traditional music. To illustrate this, Don Stover and the Lily Brothers, originally from Virginia, who play regularly at the Hillbilly Rance in downtown Boston have been invited to play at both a Folk Music Festival at Cornell University and at the Annual Sing Out Carnegie Hall Concert (put on for the benefit of the publication "Sing Out!" and m.c'd by Pete Seeger).

Five years ago, Mike Seeger became very interested in this fine Bluegrass Group and last year was aided by Manny Greenhill in an attempt to bring them to the public's attention. The result of their efforts is not only the invitations to the Festivals, but also an album entitled "Don Stover and the Lily Brothers" which was recorded at the Boston YMCA and just recently released on the Folkways Label.

The second is technical. This is by far the safest since it provides a yardstick for measurement: he who can stretch his fingers over eight frets is obviously better than the man who can only cover five, just as the man who can Travis-pick all forty eight verses of Barbara Allen in less than a minute is better than the one who requires two for the same feat. But even this has its drawbacks: Lightnin's long fingers manage to find all the right notes within relatively the same area, and a flashing technical display of Barbara Allen inevitably leaves the listener wondering what song was being played in the first place.

... And so we talk and argue tossing about five empty terms, trying by means of arbitrary and external words to pass intellectual value judgements on a very real, internal, and above all personal expression. There are of course criteria; they exist among the Folk, and they can and will exist among us - once they are allowed to grow in the same natural way. But we have tried to establish them without first finding our what our personal preferences are. If you like the Kingston Trio and don't like the Carter Family, fine! Let's listen to folk music, play it, enjoy it, but let's STOP talking about it.

(from a Broadside Reader)

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MARTHA HEYWOOD GIVES SERIES OF CONCERTS

Martha Heywood, who recently excited many admirers in her single Boston Appearance is giving a series of small concerts in small schools throughout Maine and Canada while she is enroute to her research project in Saskatchewan.



TARRIERS IN FOR FIFTH WEEK & WHISKEYHILL SINGERS IN FOR SIXTH AT BALLAD AND BANJO

The musical perspective will change once more at the Ballad and Banjo as they play host to two of the nation's leading folksinging groups. The Tarriers who will be recognized by many of their Boston friends have appeared here in concert several times as well as having played at the now defunct Golden Vanity. The Tarriers are considered by many to be THE group, insofar as their musical ability, and the integrity with which they approach their music. They recently appeared at the Boston Arena with Bobby Darin, and the Count Basie Band. The Tarriers will probably best be remembered for their hit record of a few years ago: "Day-o".

Dave Guard with his Whiskeyhill Singers will entertain the following week. Dave was the organizer of the original Kingston Trio, but left a year ago to form his own group. With him will be Cy Faryar, and Dave, "Buck," Wheat who was the former bassist with the K3. Previous to their engagement at the Ballad and Banjo, the group has been filling clubs and concert halls all over the country.



BROADSIDE

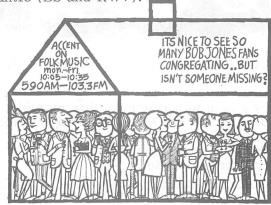
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ON LETTERS

We would appreciate it if some of you people who write letters to us would sign your name. We like to know who the people are who take enough interest in us to drop a note of encouragement or criticism. The initials at the bottom of one letter are still driving us a little frantic (BS and RW?).



CAFE YANA MOVES

The CAFE YANA, now the NEW CAFE YANA, has moved to 50 Brookline Ave. Ted Rosenberg, YANA Manager informs us that with any luck they will be open for business this weekend. The schedule will remain essentially the same.

NEW FOLK FANS IN FALL RIVER

SYLVIA MARS just recently finished playing at "Jerry's" in Fall River, Mass. She was in a considerably harder position than most folk performers, for she was facing an audience full of jazz fans, but from the way they received her, it's obvious that Fall River wants to see alot more of Sylvia and folk musicians.

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FOLK GROUPS SCHEDULED FOR CANE RIDGE

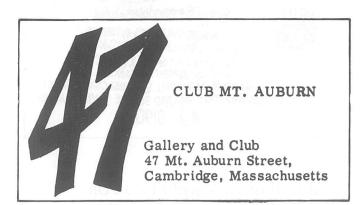
Cane Ridge, formerly the Red Barn Theatre on Route 9 in Westboro has announched the following folk groups will appear there this summer. The Highwaymen will sing Saturday July 28th. Dave Guard and the Whiskeyhill Singers will be there Sunday August 5th, and the Weavers will finish up Friday night August 10th.

RICK VON SCHMIDT PRODUCING RECORDING FOR CHILDREN

Rick Von Schmidt is producing in cooperation with Pathways of Sound, a recorded album of folksongs for children. The artists appearing on this record should create a great deal of excitement. Besides Rick, Jackie Washington, Rolf Cahn, Carolyn Hester and Jack Elliot have contributed their talents.

MIKE SEEGER AT 47

Mike Seeger will be in Cambridge performing solo for three nights. Mike will appear Sunday through Tuesday nights, July 29th - 3lst. Many of who are not used to Mike playing anywhere but with the New Lost City Ramblers will be pleasantly surprised. He is not a musician alone, in that he has researched his material as would a scholar. He is a folklorist of a high order. Combine this with his musical ability and you can be sure that attendance at his performances will be highly rewarding, both in entertainment and in education.



VILLAGER RETURNS TO BOSTON

Ben Ritter, of the Villagers, is returning to Boston after recuperating from an emergency appendectomy. After a very short convalescence, we expect to see the Villagers back on stage.

ADVERTISEMENTS

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FOR EARLY RISERS

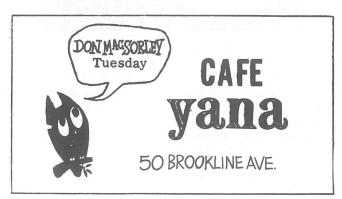
Ramblin Jack Elliot will appear on the TODAY Show on NBC's WBZ-TV the Morning of August 2nd.





JUDY HENSKE LEAVES WHISKEYHILL SINGERS

According to a report in this month's Los Angeles BROADSIDE, Judy Henske has left the Whiskeyhill Singers. As far as we know, there has not been a replacement made.



TOM RUSH TO TORONTO

Tom Rush will be performing at the Purple Onion in Toronto, Canada from July 25th through July 29th. He will be returning the following week for his regular slot at Club 47.

... AND COFFEE TOO



At the CLUB JOLLY BEAVER, you are apt to find some very pleasing informal entertainment from the Moonshiners or other local folk who continue to drop in. With the way business is going, we doubt if the Beaver is going to get any vacation at all. By the way, next time you stop down there, ask the pretty blond waitress to put her tray down and sing some blues for you. Her name is Penny Freeman and we'd like to hear more of her.

Festival of
Folk Music
Saturday 6:05-7:00pm
with
Davelyman&MartyGillen

Well, the YANA has made its move and should be open by the time we come off the press.

If you missed closing night at the old YANA you missed quite a performance. Jeff Gerber and Greg Hildebrand led a hammer song with real sledge hammers to give the destruction crews who were to follow the next day a real head start.

NEW CAFE YANA SCHEDULE:

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday
TANA SCHEDULE
Ann Harrington
Don McSorely
Greg Hildebrand
Ruth Ellen
Jeff Gerber
Greg Hildebrand

JACKIE TO PLAY FOR CHILDREN

Evidently strains of "Wee Wee Tot" and "Tantaloday" have floated pretty far North, for Jackie Washington has been asked to perform August 6th at Camp Joseph in Maine, a camp for children sponsored by the Jewish Welfare Board of New England.



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authentic and ethnic

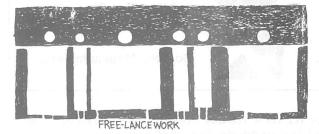
Be sure to catch Mike Seeger on one of his three nights at CLUB 47. We suggest that you get to the club early to get a seat for it has been filling up quickly recently. People are still talking about the nice performances Miss Bonnie Dobson gave at CLUB 47 not long ago.

CLUB 47 SCHEDULE:

July 27 Eric Von Schmidt 28 Dayle Stanley 29 Mike Seeger 30 Mike Seeger 31 Mike Seeger Aug. 1 Tom Rush 2 Dayle Stanley Bobby Jones 3 Rick Von Schmidt 4 Charles River Valley Boys Tom Rush (guest set)

Check the front of 47 for continued August Schedule.

Hootenany



TO THOSE WHO WISH TO ADVERTISE: GENIOUS IDEASONEW AND GLORIOUS PRODUCTS O SELF-CRAFTS MANSHIP CAN RELY ON NOVELDESIGN, CREATIVE LETTERING AND LAYOUT FROM J. BUJNOWSKIOBROADSIDE ARTISTO CALL KE 61217



For a moment we had a new coffee house in Cambridge, THE CROCODILE, which was located at 264 Western Avenue. It is closed for the nonce, but we hope to see it open again soon.

The UNICORN continues with it's summer program of hootenanies and solo performers. Since Dave Greenberg jammed his finger in a car door, Zola has been replacing him on Friday nights. Many of you will remember Zola's fine performances in years past at the Salamander, The Place and at Club 47. If you haven't had the pleasure of hearing her, be sure to drop in at the UNICORN on a Friday evening. It will be a pleasant surprise!

THE UNICORN SCHEDULE

Sunday

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Robert L. Jones (Folk Songs)
James Rizk (Classical guitar)
Hootenany and Audition
Hootenany and Audition
Naomi Ware and Guest
Hootenany and Audition
Dave Greenberg and Guest
Hootenany of selected performers



The KING's ROOK continues to provide the best coffeehouse atmosphere and service on the North Shore. Informal entertainment by patrons is welcome, and casual enjoyment is the order of the day.



COPY & ADS

If you have copy you would like us to print, or notice of upcoming folk music or coffeehouse events, or ads to place with us, please try to get them to us at least one week before our next publication date.

CLASSIC COFFEEHOUSE REMARK # 2

Bonnie Dobson, after being dubbed Miss Funkless Wonder of 1962 by Tom Rush at Gerde's Folk City: "I swing in my own rectangular way!"

BROADSIDE would like to extend best wishes to Miss Lana Pih, Publicity Director of Club 47 Mt. Auburn, and her fiance, Mr. Victor Jocquel, who are to be married this Saturday, July 28, 1962.

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DOWNTUNING

This issue we introduce a new column which will be included from time to time in BROAD-SIDE. DOWNTUNING will be a capsuled comentary solicited from major performers who come into town, and it will attempt to create a personalized portrait of the individual. We are pleased that our first in this series will present someone as personable as Bonnie Dobson.

DOWNTUNING

NEE: Mary Ann Dobson CALLED: Bonnie

ORIGIN: Toronto, Canada

AGE: 21

IF I COULD I WOULD LIKE TO: MUSICALLY: Sing the lead in Tosca GIVE TO THE WORLD: Peace STOP: People acting without thinking AS AN ENTERTAINER: Give Pleasure

I SING:

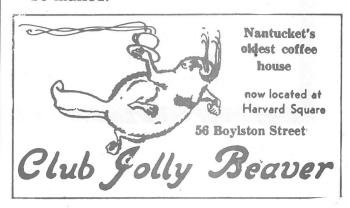
FOLKSONGS: Because they are honest LOVE SONGS: To try to fill the lack of love in our mechanized age.

DICK STERNBACH JOINS 47's BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We have been informed that Dick Sternbach, Program Director of the Folk Song Society of Greater Boston has joined the Board of Directors at Club 47.

NEW RECORD AVAILABLE

The Charles River Valley Boys have recorded an album of their best bluebrass and old timey music on the new Mt. Auburn label. This LP, first in a series of limited edition recordings of local folk talent, will be available in about four weeks. When issued, it will run \$4.90, however, it is being offered at a pre-publication price of \$3.98. Any copies purchased before publication will receive this discount price pays free delivery to any part of the United States. Checks should be mailed to the sponsering organization, The Club Mt. Auburn 47 at the same address. Don't forget to include the address to which the record should be mailed.



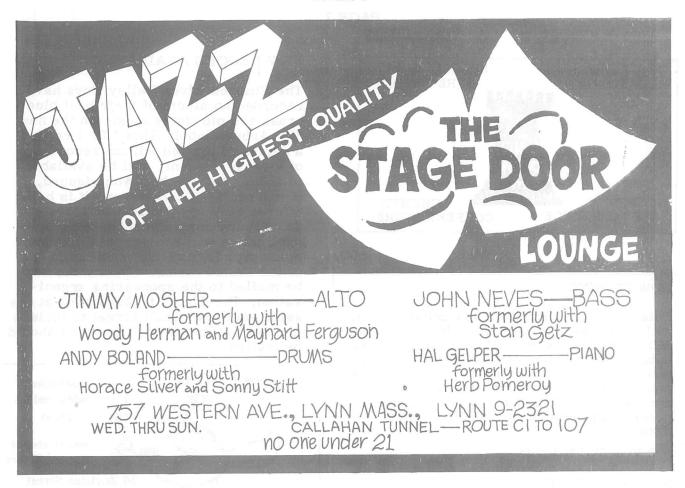
PETER, PAUL & MARY TO TOTEM POLE

Peter, Paul and Mary will be performing at the Totem Pole in Newton on Friday and Saturday Nights, the 17th and 18th of August.

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